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Commentary

March 2022

The Topix Total Return index rose 1.1% in GBP during March reflecting a strong rally intra-month in local currency terms partially mitigated by a weakening of the local currency. In recent years, global 'risk on' investor sentiment has been accompanied by a strengthening of the Yen however during the recent market sell-off, the Yen cross-rates were stable and then subsequently fell when the market rallied from mid-month. Two fundamental factors that may have contributed to this notably different trend are 1) the impact of higher oil prices of the foreign exchange market (given that Japan is an importer of energy raw materials) and 2) confirmation verbally and via market intervention that the Bank of Japan intends to continue with an accommodative monetary policy for the time being despite central banks in other regions indicating a withdrawal of components of their respective easy monetary programmes. At one stage the Yen weakened to Y125 against the US dollar, a level last seen in August 2015. A weak Yen on balance is still considered to be beneficial to the Japanese economy as a whole however the impact varies dramatically sector by sector and developments will consequently be monitored closely. Despite the recent currency move, we expect companies to use conservative assumptions in their forecasts for the new fiscal year when full year results for FY21 are announced in the coming weeks.

Analysis by Nomura Securities highlights the sharp pick up in share buybacks during FY21 to Y7.2trn, up almost 65% on the previous year. This represents the second highest annual total ever, falling just short of the Y7.3trn in FY19. Nomura estimate that the total amount of dividends announced during the year rose to Y15.2trn, a new record high. The report highlights that despite this record aggregate annual distribution to shareholders the total amount of cash and deposits held by Japanese corporations has also increased significantly from the level prior to the pandemic. Combined with a healthy earnings outlook for FY22, this balance sheet strength underpins the expectations for further new highs in FY22 and beyond. Companies may reflect their cautious short term outlook with conservative initial dividend assumptions as they have tended to do consistently in recent years. We do however believe new medium-term plans from a number of companies, including Hitachi for example, will indicate more favourable longer term distribution policies going forward reflecting the ongoing deepening and broadening of corporate governance improvements in Japan which are visibly and consistently benefiting long term investors.

Fund Statistics		Investment Objective			Dividend (in GBP)						
Market Value	£224m	To provide shareholders with dividend income combined with capital growth, mainly through investment in equities listed or quoted in Japan.			Dividends Declared	YE Oct 2021	YE Oct 2020	YE Oct 2019	YE Oct 2018	YE Oct 2017	YE Oct 2016
No. Ordinary Shares in issue	134,730,610				Jun/Jul	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.25	1.15	1.00
Launch date	Dec 2015				Jan/Feb	3.35	3.20	3.10	2.50	2.30	2.00
NAV per Ordinary Share cum Income GBP	166.13				Total	4.75	4.60	4.50	3.75	3.45	3.00
NAV per Ordinary Share ex Income GBP	163.70	Book Exposures			Discrete performance (%) full calendar years ⁽¹⁾						
Ordinary Share Price GBP	158.00		No. Stks	%	Total Return	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Premium (Discount)	(4.9%)	Dividend Growth	32	98.5	Ord Share Price	12.39	-9.09	10.79	-6.72	37.48	13.18
Subscription Share Price GBP	4.5	Special Situations	5	13.1	NAV (cum inc)	10.79	1.23	20.93	-10.96	30.49	21.13
Dividends Paid	Aug & Mar	Stable Yield	3	7.3	TOPIX TR in GBP	2.22	9.49	15.65	-8.89	15.50	23.63
Dividend Yield	3.01% ⁽²⁾	Total	40	118.9	Cumulative performance (%) ⁽¹⁾						
Active Share	79.07% ⁽³⁾				Total Return	1 mth	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	Inception
Financial Calendar Year End	31 October				Share Price	5.86	7.21	15.02	22.75	33.99	82.05
Company Fees:					NAV (cum inc)	3.50	-0.02	9.07	26.76	48.97	93.57
Ongoing charges ratio (OCR) per year (31.10.21)	1.05% ⁽⁴⁾				TOPIX TR in GBP	1.09	-3.98	-2.70	19.24	25.90	69.04
OCR includes Annual Management Fee:	0.75%				Notes						
AIFMD Exposure Calculation at 31.12.21		(1) Source: Independent NAVs are calculated daily by Sanne Fund Services (UK) Limited (by Northern Trust Global Services Limited pre 01.10.17.) From January 2021 Total Return performance details shown are net NAV to NAV returns (including current financial year revenue items) with gross dividends re-invested. Prior to January 2021 Total Return performance details shown were net NAV to NAV returns (excluding current financial year revenue items) with gross dividends re-invested. Ordinary Share Price period returns displayed are calculated as Total Return on a Last price to Last price basis. Past performance may not be a reliable guide to future performance. The price of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the full amount invested. All figures are in GBP or Sterling adjusted based on a midday FX rate consistent with the valuation point. Inception date 15th December 2015. Investments denominated in foreign currencies expose investors to the risk of loss from currency movements as well as movements in the value, price or income derived from the investments themselves and some of the investments referred to herein may be derivatives or other products which may involve different and more complex risks as compared to listed securities. CC Japan Income & Growth Trust plc (the Company) does not currently intend to hedge the currency risk. (2) The yield is calculated using the actual dividends declared during the past 12 months and the closing Ordinary Share price as at the date of this factsheet. This is rounded to 2 decimal places. (3) Source: Refinitiv Eikon (4) Source: OCR is calculated by Sanne Fund Services (UK) Limited. This is rounded to 2 decimal places.									
Gross	121.11 (% nav)										
Commitment	119.76 (% nav)										
Company Codes:											
ISIN - Ordinary Share	GB00BYSRMH16										
Sedol - Ordinary Share	BYSRMH1 GB										
Bloomberg - Ordinary Share	CCJI LN										
ISIN - Subscription Share	GB00BM90B010										
Sedol - Subscription Share	BM90B01 GB										
Bloomberg - Subscription Share	CCJS LN										

Top 10 Holdings	
Holding	(%)
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial	6.1
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial	5.8
Nippon T&T	5.4
Mitsubishi Corp	4.6
Itochu Corp	4.6
SBI Holdings	4.5
Toyota Motor	4.3
Tokyo Electron	4.2
Sompo Holdings	4.2
Softbank Corp	4.0
Total	47.7

Top 10 Sectors	
Sector	(%)
Info & Communications	20.1
Chemicals	13.1
Banks	11.9
Electrical Appliances	11.6
Real Estate	10.9
Wholesale	9.2
Services	8.0
Transport Equipment	7.5
Insurance	7.1
Sec&Cmdty	4.5
Total	103.9

Company Information

Launch date	15 December 2015
AIC sector	Japan
Fund manager	Richard Aston
Directors	Harry Wells (Chairman), June Aitken, Craig Cleland, Kate Cornish-Bowden, Peter Wolton.

Contact Details

Address	Coupland Cardiff Asset Management LLP 5th Floor, 31-32 St. James's Street London, SW1A 1HD.
Company Secretary	Sanne Fund Services (UK) Limited
Stockbroker	Peel Hunt
Market makers	Peel Hunt, Winterflood Securities.
Website	www.ccjapanincomeandgrowthtrust.com

Key Risks

Liquidity risk – The Company may encounter difficulties in disposing of assets at their fair price due to adverse market conditions leading to limited liquidity.

Credit and counterparty risks – the Company may be exposed to credit and counterparty risks in relation to the securities and counterparties it invests in and with whom it transacts.

Concentration risk – This Company holds a limited number of investments. If one of these falls in value, it can have a greater impact on the Company's value than if the Company held a larger number of investments.

Currency risk – Investing in assets in a currency other than your own exposes the value of your investment to exchange rate fluctuations. Changes in the exchange rate between Sterling and Yen may lead to a depreciation in the value of the Company assets as expressed in Sterling.

Derivatives – the Company may use derivatives as investments or to manage the risk profile of the Company. Their use may increase the risk of losses as well as enhance potential gains as compared to funds that do not use derivatives.

Sustainability Risk - Environmental, social and governance events or conditions could occur that have an adverse impact on the value of the Fund's investments, either directly, or by contributing to the impact or materiality of other risks.

The Company prospectus gives you further details about all the risks for this fund – see under “Important Information” for how to obtain a copy.

Important Information

The Key Information Document and the latest prospectus of the Company are available on the Company's website:

www.ccjapanincomeandgrowthtrust.com.

All data as at 31.03.2022 unless stated otherwise. All information is sourced from CCAM unless stated otherwise.

This factsheet is to provide you summary information about the Company and should not be taken as advice or a recommendation to buy or sell its shares. If you are unsure of the suitability of this product for your investment needs, please contact a financial adviser.

The value of the Company's ordinary and subscription shares will fluctuate. The price of the ordinary and subscription shares in the Company is determined by market supply and demand. The price of the ordinary shares may be different to the net assets of the Company.

The Company may enter into long only contracts for difference or equity swaps for gearing and efficient portfolio management purposes. It may also use borrowing to seek to enhance investment returns. This will exaggerate market movements both up and down. Generally gearing, through borrowings and/or entering into long only contracts for difference or equity swaps, will not exceed the net asset value by more than 20% at the time of drawdown of the relevant borrowings or entering into the relevant transaction, as appropriate. Where the Company utilises such instruments, it is likely to take a credit risk with regard to the parties with whom it trades and may also bear the risk of settlement default.

Each subscription share will confer the holder with the right (but not the obligation) to subscribe for one ordinary share on exercise of the rights attaching to the subscription shares and on payment of the subscription price, which is 161 pence (being the unaudited published NAV per ordinary share as at the close of business on 15 February 2021, plus a one per cent. premium to such NAV per ordinary share, rounded up to the nearest whole penny). Notice of the exercise of the subscription share rights may be given on the last business day of each calendar quarter commencing on 31 May 2021 and finishing on the last business day in February 2023, after which the subscription share rights will lapse except in the circumstances set out in the prospectus in respect of the subscription shares.

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This document is based upon information which Coupland Cardiff Asset Management LLP (CCAM) considers reliable, but no representation is made that it is accurate or complete and nor should it be relied upon as such. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance. You should note that your capital is at risk with this investment and you may get back less than you invested.

All information and research material provided herein is subject to change and this document does not purport to provide a complete description of the funds, securities or other investments or markets referred to or the performance thereof. All expressions of opinion are subject to change without notice.

Shareholders should read the Company's product documentation before investing, including the latest Report and Accounts, the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive Disclosure Document and the latest prospectus of the Company as they contain important information regarding the Company, including charges, tax and specific risk warnings and will form the basis of the investment.

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