

### **Pharus Asian Niches**

### April Portfolio Update

inagin.

Launch date: 15.02.2019

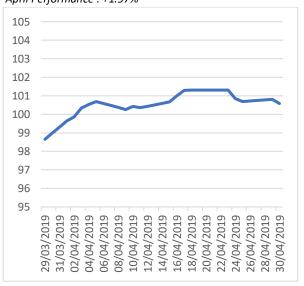
Total Net Asset al 30.04.19: € 17,234,869

Currency: EUR

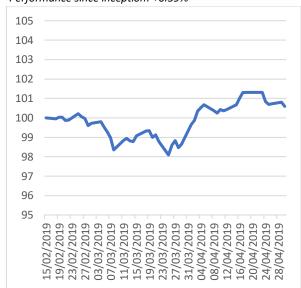
Net Asset Value	Classe A – Isin: LU1867072578	€ 100,44
per share As of 30/04/19: -	Classe B – Isin: LU1867072651	€ 100,60
A3 01 30/04/13. =	Classe Q – Isin: LU1867072735	€ 100,59

### Net Asset Value per share

April Performance: +1.97%



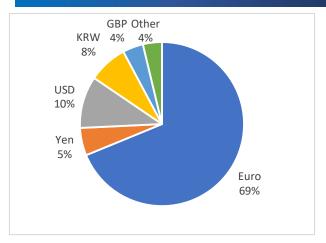
### Performance since inception: +0.59%



### Portfolio breakdown by asset class



### Portfolio breakdown by currency \*



<sup>\*</sup> approx. 45% JPY hedged

### **Monthly Comment**

Global equity markets rose in April, helped by economic data in USA, Europe and China and supported by Central Banks. MSCI Asia-Pacific was up by 1.7% in euro, trailing the MSCI World Index (+3.7%). Japanese equity market surged in line with the MSCI Asia-Pacific index, distracted by the start of the new Reiwa era and by the extended Golden Week public holidays. Korea and Indonesia underperformed, the former held back by the currency and the poor economic data and the latter on the back of the political elections. India and Malaysia stocks also trailed the index. Russia was strong, tracking upward a volatile oil price. China and Taiwan equities were higher, the latter led by technology. Turkey ended the month lower, on fading hopes for economic reforms and a more diplomatic political posture.

The fund Asian Niches was up by about 2% for the month. The best performing Niche was the "5G", boasted by the settlement between Apple and Qualcomm, while the worst performing Niche was the "Korea Reunification", still depressed by manufacturing cycle anxiety. The concerns related to the cycle have not completely disappeared but have faded somewhat. The global fiscal stimulus is ongoing and provides a safety net to the markets. The fund is invested in equity below 50% despite the attractive valuations we find in value stocks. We prefer keeping some dry powder to be able to be opportunistic in case of a new spell of volatility. While we find good opportunities on the value side of the equity market, we acknowledge that few growth sectors look frothy. Any pull back here could provide room to increase our exposure. We have now in the portfolio about 200 holdings spread over 9 equity Niches and 1 bond portfolio. Our portfolios have a contrarian and value bias, offering an enticing medium-term risk reward proposition.

### **Equity Niches performance in April**

	Aprile
Electric Mobility	+3.57%
5G	+5.52%
Internet Victims	+4.51%
Small Cap Indonesia	+0.69%
Korea Reunification	-0.80%
Close the Gap	+1.21%
Neglected Luxury	+3.21%
Orphan Companies	+0.51%
Steel Substitution	+3.57%

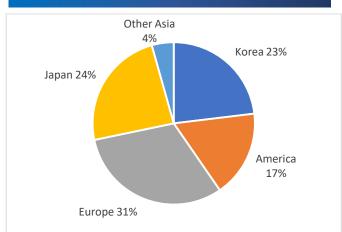
### Top holdings

Isin	Security	%	Portfolio
XS1708450561	Wind Tre 3.125	1,7%	Bond Portfolio
XS0519942139	Deutsche Bank Ag Float20	1,4%	Cash Management
XS0543111768	Macquarie Bank Ltd 20	1,3%	Cash Management
US48268K1016	KT Corp	1,2%	Korea Reunification Niche
FR0011615699	Eramet SA 4.5	1,2%	Bond Portfolio
JP3866800000	Panasonic Corp	1,2%	Electric Mobility Niche
XS1706202592	Europcar Mobility Group SA 4.125	1,2%	Bond Portfolio
XS1109959467	Arcelik 3.9	1,2%	Bond Portfolio
XS1619015719	UniCredit SpA 6.625	1,2%	Bond Portfolio
US7475251036	Qualcomm	1,1%	5G Niche

### Equity top holdings

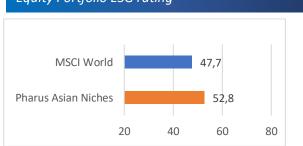
Isin	Security	%	Niche	Sub-Niche
US48268K1016	KT Corp	1,2%	Korea reunification	Telcos
JP3866800000	Panasonic Corp	1,2%	Electric mobility	Lithium cells
US7475251036	Qualcomm Inc	1,1%	5G	Telecom Equipment
US78440P1084	SK Telecom Co Ltd	0,9%	5G	Telecom Equipment
KR7006401004	Samsung SDI Co Ltd	0,8%	Close the gap	Preferred shares
KR7003551009	LG Corp	0,8%	Close the gap	Preferred shares
KR702826K016	Samsung C&T Corp	0,6%	Close the gap	Preferred shares
JP3401400001	Sumitomo Chemical Co Ltd	0,6%	Electric mobility	Cathode makers
JP3544000007	Teijin Ltd	0,6%	Steel substitution	Carbon fiber
FR0000131757	Eramet SA	0,5%	Electric mobility	Commodities
US91822M1062	VEON Ltd	0,5%	5G	Telcos
GB00BDVZYZ77	Royal Mail PLC	0,5%	Internet Victims	Postal services
JP3834050001	Heian Ceremony Service Co Ltd	0,5%	Orphan Companies	Funerary Services
FI0009005961	Stora Enso Oyj	0,5%	Steel substitution	Wood
US4989042001	Knoll Inc	0,5%	Neglected Luxury	High-End furniture
JE00B8KF9B49	WPP PLC	0,5%	Internet Victims	Advertising
US03965L1008	Arconic Inc	0,5%	Steel substitution	Alluminium
ID1000103609	Bank Bukopin Tbk PT	0,5%	Small Cap Indonesia	Banks
JP3691600005	Nippon Chemical Industrial Co Ltd	0,4%	Electric mobility	Cathode makers
FR0000062796	Vranken Pommery Monopole SA	0,4%	Neglected Luxury	Champagne & Wines

### Equity breakdown by geographical exposure



Source: Niche AM

### **Equity Portfolio ESG rating**





Electric Mobility	
5G	
Internet Victims	
Small Cap Indonesia	
Korea Reunification	
Close the Gap	
Neglected Luxury	17
Orphan Companies	19
Steel Substitution	21
Rond Portfolio	7:

# **Electric Mobility**

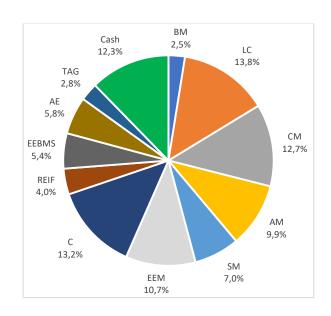
### Getting ready for a seismic change



# stocks: 49 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 9061 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 1735

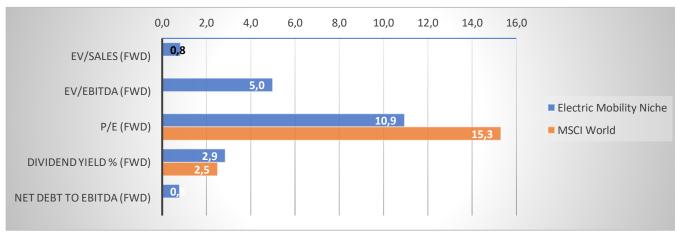
### Electric Mobility – segment breakdown

		Asian Niches Fund	EM Niche
Battery makers	BM	0,4%	2,5%
Lithium Cells	LC	2,1%	13,8%
Cathode makers	CM	1,9%	12,7%
Anode makers	AM	1,5%	9,9%
Separators makers	SM	1,0%	7,0%
Electrolytes and Elecfoils	EEM	1,6%	10,7%
Commodities	С	2,0%	13,2%
Rech. equip., infrast. & electric fleet	REIF	0,6%	4,0%
Electric engines & BMS	EEBMS	0,8%	5,4%
Adas electronics	AE	0,9%	5,8%
Automakers geared for EM	TAG	0,4%	2,8%
Cash EMN	Cash	1,8%	12,3%
Total		15,0%	100,0%



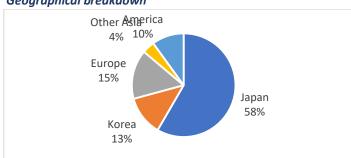
Source: Niche AM

### **Valuation Snapshot**

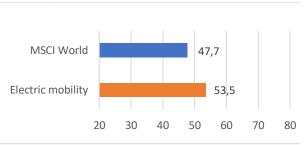


Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



ESG rating (Thomson Reuters)



Source: Niche AM Source: Niche AM. Thomson Reuters

# **Electric Mobility**

### Getting ready for a seismic change



### **Monthly comment**

The Niche gained 3.57% in the month of April. Commodities players were among both best and worst performers. Nickel, graphite, cobalt and manganese miners did extremely well, rebounding from depressed levels. Lithium miners were hit by the weakness of the underlining commodity price and the dispiriting short-term outlook released by one of the players. Lithium appreciated substantially in the past three years, creating a mini bubble, on expectation for the electric mobility take off. As usually happens, many were the new entrants in the sector, and this led to overcapacity. From extreme optimism we are now in the moderate pessimism court when it comes to lithium. We think the overcapacity will last a further 12/18 months and then we will move violently into under capacity. We deem the price of the lithium miners are now again attractive and we are accumulating weight on this. Coming to the other sub-Niches, it was not easy to distinguish a trend, and we can find good and bad performers in the month in each Niche. Anyway, we can note that the Electric Mobility players in Korea were generally weak, tracking the Korean market. Also, the anodes players underperformed, on fears of overcapacity in steel, as these players which specialise in carbon components supply steel mills with furnaces equipment components. The Electric Mobility Niche is trading at depressed valuation levels despite being pivotal to the next great transportation revolution.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)

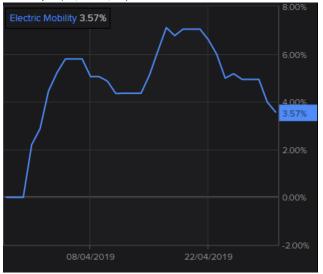
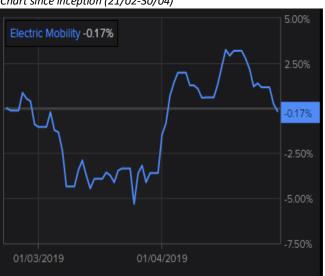


Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

#### Niche description

Electric mobility will grow dramatically in the next few years, with a speed still unexpected by most and changing the world for good. The electric mobility will be pervasive, affecting land, air and water transportation. The batteries stocks, just a part of the broader electric mobility sector, will overcome the semiconductor sector by total sales in few years. We deem the sector a great opportunity for those who have a firm understanding of it, and potentially hazardous for those who do not. Niche Asset Management team boasts a long and successful experience in the electric mobility investing. Niche aims to give the investor exposure to this exciting sector through its value approach.

# **5G**Moving to the next Internet investment chapter

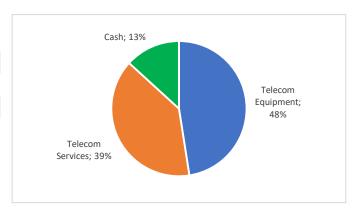


# stocks: 28 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 41913 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 15785

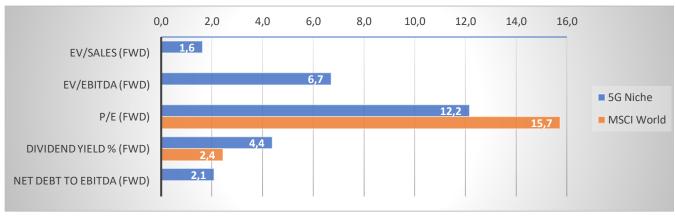
#### 5G breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	5G Niche
Telecom Equipment	4,8%	48%
Telecom Services	3,9%	39%
Cash	1,3%	13%
	10,0%	100%

Source: Niche AM

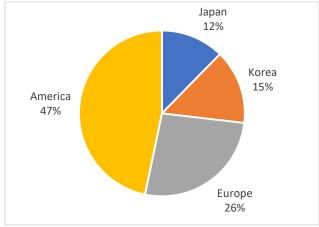


### **Valuation Snapshot**



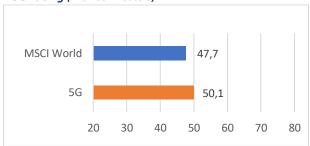
Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)



### **5G**





### Monthly comment

5G Niche did very well in April, increasing 5.5%. In general, the Telecom Operators underperformed the Niche, weighted down by, again, a difficult quarter and apparently the lack of catalysts. Actually, we do see several short-term catalysts, from the change of EU competition commissioner to 5G. Telecom equipment players, on the other hand, boosted the Niche. The settlement between Qualcomm and Apple set the microchip standard for the 5G handsets and triggered a powerful rerating of the former. At the same time, Nokia warned that the competitive environment is getting tougher. For a telecom equipment maker to start from scratch a 5G project with a Telecom Operator is strategic. Therefore, initially margins for telecom equipment makers will stay low as pricing tends to be aggressive. However, the volume of investments will be massive. Once started, the 5G will go fast, as no nation can stay behind as on it depends a wave of vital technologies.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)

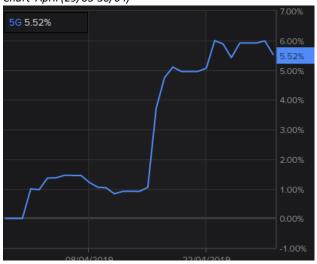
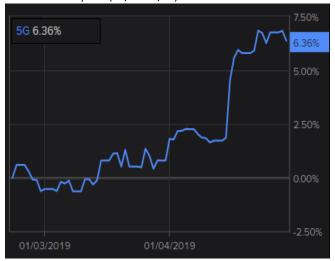


Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

### Niche description

The 5G is coming

- •This starts a 5 to 10 years journey leading to full 5G connectivity
- •The 5G will shape this century and will change the way we live for good
- •The 5G will open the gates to new business models, will greatly improve the productivity and will make the world smaller and safer

5G will make a broad and disruptive array of new technologies reality. IoT, AI, VR, AU, block chain, self-driving cars, smart living, smart homes, remote healthcare won't be possible without 5G. Nonetheless the companies that will make 5G possible are still neglected and offer great value.

The niche aims to give the investors an exposure to these 5G players.

# **Internet Victims**

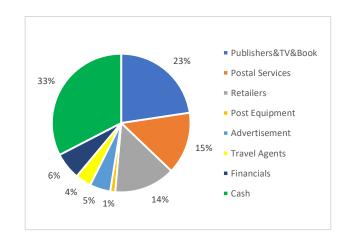
### **Chasing the survivors**



# stocks: 29 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 5920 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 2195

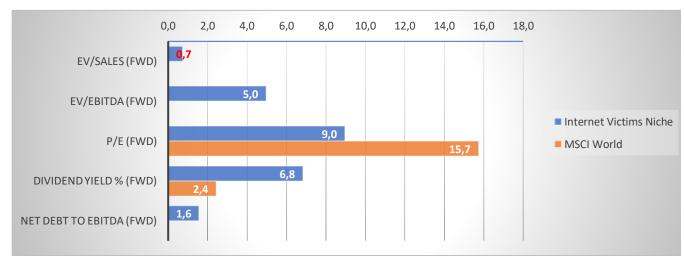
#### **Internet Victims breakdown**

	Asian Niches Fund	Internet Victims Niche
Publishers&TV&Book	2,3%	23%
Postal Services	1,5%	15%
Retailers	1,4%	14%
Post Equipment	0,1%	1%
Advertisement	0,5%	5%
Travel Agents	0,4%	4%
Financials	0,6%	6%
Cash	3,3%	33%
	10,0%	100%



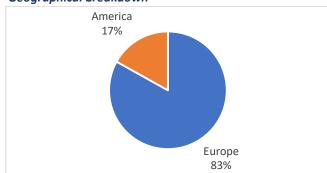
Source: Niche AM

### **Valuation Snapshot**



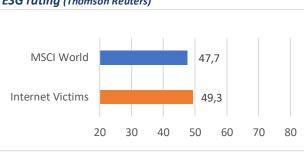
Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM Source: Niche AM. Thomson Reuters

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)



### **Internet Victims**

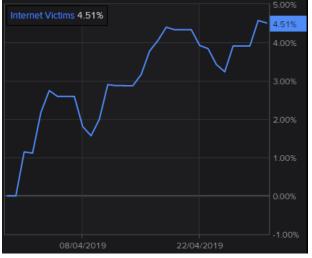
**Chasing the survivors** 



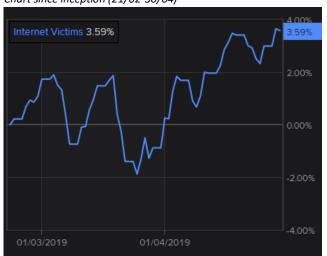
### **Monthly comment**

The Niche performed very well during the month, delivering a positive performance of 4.5% despite being invested only at 66%. Here retailers were the great underperformers, more than balanced by media stocks that surged significantly. Newspapers and TVs recorded an increase in the teens, starting some form of tentative stabilisation, after retracing for years. M&A and strategic transformation are helping the sectors to adapt to survive in the Internet era.

#### Chart April (29/03-30/04)



### Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

### Niche description

Every technology revolution, and the ongoing huge internet revolution is no exception, makes corporate victims; business models are replaced; many of the old players fail to adapt early, while new players are ushered in, thriving and gaining market share.

This slow and cruel process is well known by investors, who, however, normally tend to be late in fully understanding the depth and the breath of the shift.

Once the trend is established most of the investors sell the old players and gain exposure to the new ones. The old players have to live through a prolonged period of restructuring and reinvention; valuations are squeezed, failures and consolidation are common. We call them the (internet revolution) VICTIMS At the end of a technology revolution a new class of companies emerges; this class is composed by the old players which have learnt to live through the change, thriving in a less competitive environment and/or through an adapted business model. We call them the (internet revolution) SURVIVORS. Finding survivors can be even more rewarding than finding winners.

The niche aims to gain exposure to the survivors of the internet revolution.

# **Small Cap Indonesia**

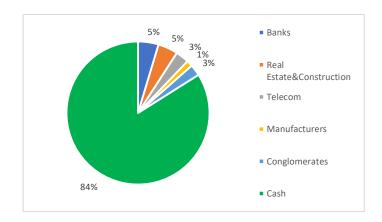
## A tremendous opportunity



# stocks: 9 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 550 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 471

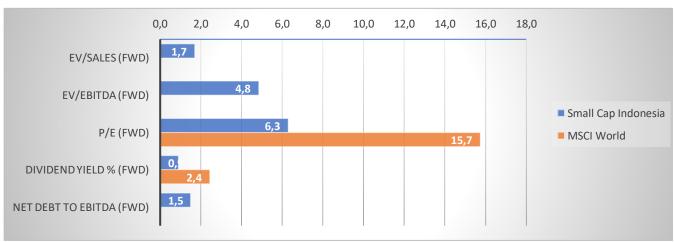
### Small Cap Indonesia breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Small Cap Indonesia Niche
Banks	0,5%	5%
Real Estate&Construction	0,5%	5%
Telecom	0,3%	3%
Manufacturers	0,1%	1%
Conglomerates	0,3%	3%
Cash	8,4%	84%
	10,0%	100%



Source: Niche AM

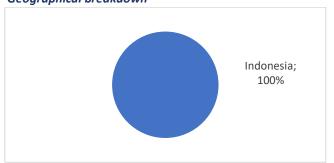
### **Valuation Snapshot**



Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown

Source: Niche AM



n.a.

**ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)

# **Small Cap Indonesia**

A tremendous opportunity



### Monthly comment

Despite being invested just at 15%, the Niche recorded for the month of April a performance of 0.7%. The Indonesian elections passed smoothly, confirming Widodo, and putting the basis for an acceleration of the infrastructure's projects necessary for the modernization of the country and the increase of its potential growth. The country is now failing to exploit its potential and we think that after this election, barring new global turmoil, it can start a new trend of sustained growth, leading to a rate of 6% for the 2020. We are now focusing on banks and real estate. We are also gradually increasing the investments of this Niche, accumulating manufacturers, insurances and telecom operators, taking advantage of the significative discount at which these companies trade versus to the bigger peers.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)

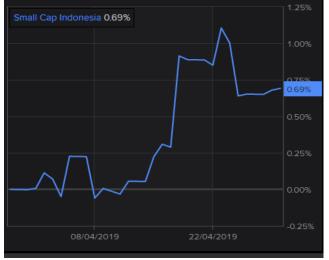


Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

### Niche description

Indonesia is a land with incredible potential. Its territory is huge, highly fertile and beautiful. The weather is ideal for agriculture and tourism. There are plenty of natural resources. The population is tame and friendly. Corporate governance is decent by emerging markets standards. The Central Bank is independent and from a political perspective the democracy system is maturing rapidly, while corruption is decreasing. The public debt is very low, inflation under control and growth is healthy. While this is well reflected in the valuation of big caps, it is not in small caps'. The discount of Indonesian small caps vs big caps is stunning, which is a legacy of the low visibility and reliability of those stocks in the past. Things have changed, and we expect a rapid catch up in the next few years, as it has happened in India.

Through this niche NAM aims to give the investor exposure to this resourceful country through an actively managed small caps portfolio that offers absolute low valuations and a huge discount versus the Indonesia big caps.

# **Korea Reunification**



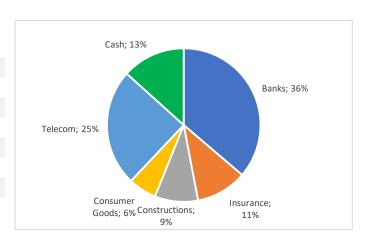
### A free option on an already attractive market

# stocks: 14 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 8691 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 7681

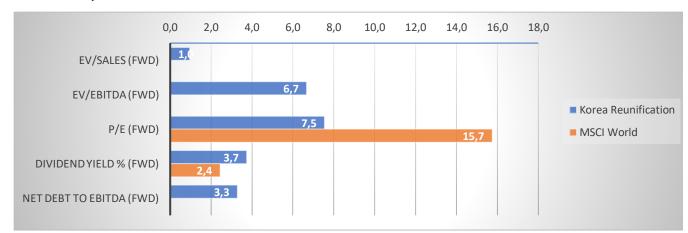
### Korea Reunification breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Korea Reunification Niche
Banks	1,8%	36%
Insurance	0,5%	11%
Constructions	0,5%	9%
Consumer Goods	0,3%	6%
Telecom	1,2%	25%
Cash	0,7%	13%
	5,0%	100%

Source: Niche AM



### **Valuation Snapshot**

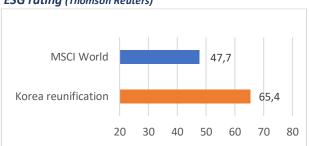


### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)



### **Korea Reunification**

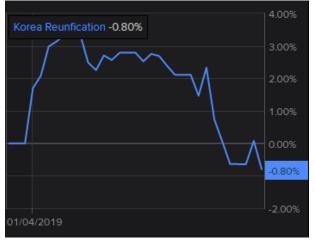




### Monthly comment

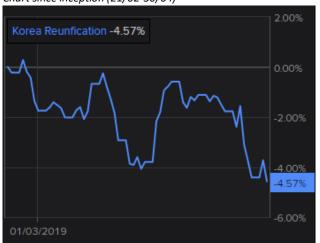
Korean market and our Niche Korea Reunification were down for the month. The Niche lost 0.8%, mostly due to the currency weakness. The clouds gathered on the global economy hit the confidence on the country as Korea is perceived as one of the most cyclical economy in Asian. However, in respect to the past, the Korean economy is more balanced, financially sound, technologically advanced and its equity market is one of the cheapest in the world, for no reason. The country has a sound financial position, great growth potential and a technological edge. We are invested in the Niche at 85%, reflecting the high level of confidence we have here. Banks, Telecoms and builders take good part of our allocation. On the reunification front the month did not see any tangible progress but we remain confident that the process will move forward.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



#### Niche description

South Korea is the ideal market to play through a value approach, as it is cheap, and its economy is growing healthy. Beside this, it has a terrific catalyst, this being a reunification or some form of rapprochement, with its half (North Korea). This event could be able to increase the long-term growth potential of the country and to free the market animal spirits. The Korea reunification is a way to add a free option to an already attractive market.

The niche aims to give the investor an exposure to the main beneficiaries of the reunification or of a rapprochement between the South and the North Korea.

# **Close the Gap**





# stocks:

11

Average Market Cap (mln \$)

9618

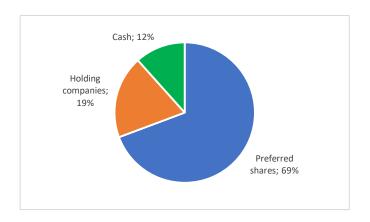
Median Market Cap (mln \$):

10581

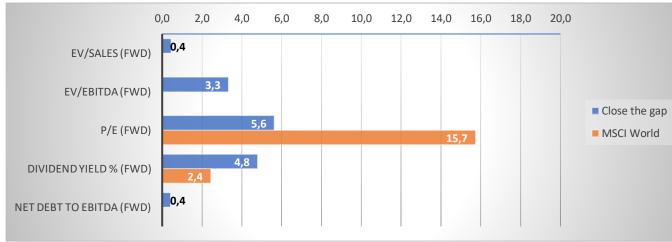
### Close the Gap breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Close the Gap Niche
Preferred shares	3,5%	69%
Holding companies	1,0%	19%
Cash	0,6%	12%
	5,0%	100%

Source: Niche AM

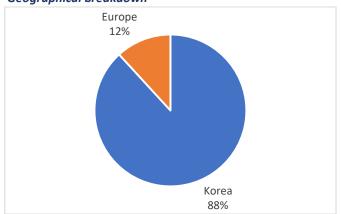


### **Valuation Snapshot**



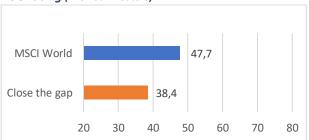
Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)



# **Close the Gap**

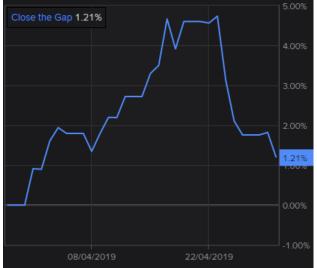
As simple as that ...



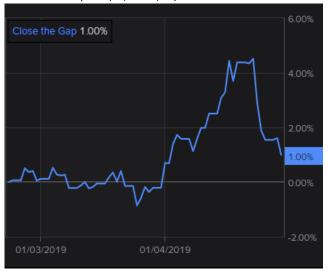
### **Monthly comment**

The Niche recorded a progress of 1.2% for the month of April. The good components of Korean stocks in the Niche held it back, as the Korean market was weak in the period. We are invested here at 90% in either in privileged stocks with sizable discounts vs the ordinary shares or in holding trading at a fraction of their sum of the parts. Almost all our stocks promote an incremental dividend policy. Those undue discounts give us the opportunity to hold quality companies at ridiculous valuations, cashing in the dividends while waiting for the rerating.

#### Chart April (29/03-30/04)



#### Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

#### Niche description

There are some classes of shares, like saving/preferred, or some companies' structures, like holdings or conglomerates, that can present huge discounts versus ordinary shares or the sum of the controlled companies. These discounts tend to close over time. Shares conversions, M&A, spin-offs, changes in dividend policies are normally the catalysts.

The niche aims to give investors an exposure to these shares' classes or companies structures.

# **Neglected Luxury**



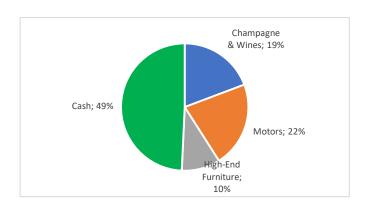


# stocks: 10 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 22746 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 3283

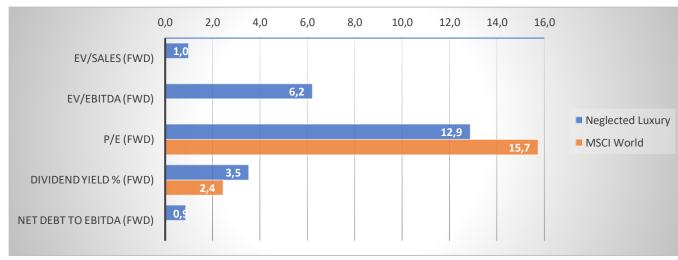
### Neglected Luxury breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Neglected Luxury Niche
Champagne & Wines	1,0%	19%
Motors	1,1%	22%
High-End Furniture	0,5%	10%
Cash	2,5%	49%
	1,0%	19%

Source: Niche AM

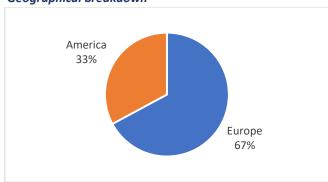


### **Valuation Snapshot**



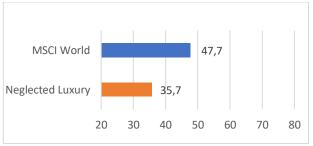
Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### ESG rating (Thomson Reuters)



# **Neglected Luxury**





### **Monthly comment**

The Niche rebounded 3.2% in April. Best performers were the high-end furniture producers and the prestigious vehicles. Wine&Spirits were stable. The Niche is invested at around 50%. The stocks in the Niche trade at low multiples despite boasting high-margins (or incuding high margins divisions) and having valuable brands. The Niche is sensitive to the economic cycle and a full re-rating is unlikely to happen till the global economic outlook clears up. However, the potential upside is substantial and worth some patience.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)



Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

### Niche description

Il settore del lusso è stato uno dei settori più sovra performanti delle ultime due decadi. La globalizzazione, la crescente diseguaglianza sociale e l'occidentalizzazione nei paesi emergenti sono alla base di tale fenomeno. Lusso non significa solo qualità ma anche riconoscibilità e esclusività. Il prezzo di vendita e/o la limitata disponibilità del bene determinano e garantiscono l'effetto rarità che accompagna il concetto di lusso. Alcune volte il mercato, erroneamente, non considera alcune società come appartenenti al settore del lusso. Diverse possono essere le ragioni: bassa profittabilità, sconto conglomerato, eccessiva offerta nel breve rispetto alla domanda, corporate governance, etc.

La nicchia offre esposizione a queste società uniche a valutazioni estremamente attraenti.

# **Orphan Companies**

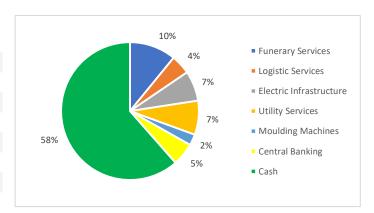


### Thinking outside the box

# stocks: 7 Average Market Cap (mln \$) 309 Median Market Cap (mln \$): 125

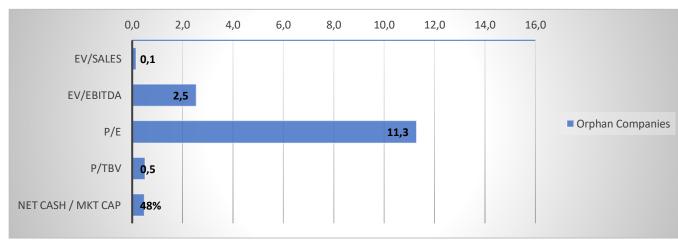
### Orphan Companies breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Oprhan Companies Niche
Funerary Services	0,5%	10%
Logistic Services	0,2%	4%
Electric Infrastructure	0,3%	7%
Utility Services	0,4%	7%
Moulding Machines	0,1%	2%
Central Banking	0,3%	5%
Cash	2,9%	58%
	5,0%	100%



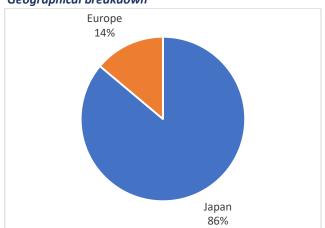
Source: Niche AM

### Valuation Snapshot (historical metrics)



Source: Niche AM, Thomson Reuters

### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)

n.a.

# **Orphan Companies**

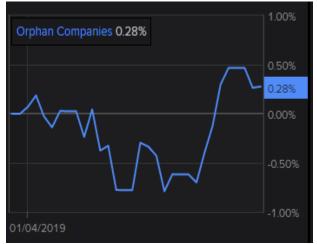


Thinking outside the box

### **Monthly comment**

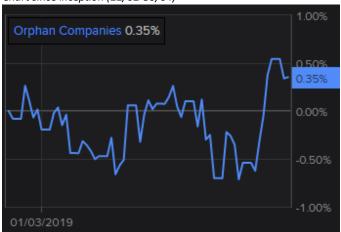
The Niche performance was mute in the period, gaining just 0.28%. The Niche is today invested at about 40%, keeping most of the cash to increase opportunistically the exposure. The dispersion was high, with industrials doing well and the rest generally weak.

Chart April (29/03-30/04)



Source: Niche AM

### Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



#### Niche description

Brokers coverage is essential when attracting investors interest, improving liquidity and valuations. However, there are many companies in Asia that don't have any coverage or are covered just by one local broker, we call them "orphan companies". Reason being coverage can be expensive, time demanding, brokers have cut the number of analysts and now focus on fewer companies, etc. As the result the uncovered or under-covered companies trade a huge discount versus their peers. Normally this undue discount will be closed by the restart of the broker coverage or by corporate action. Those are deep value opportunities; however, investor has to be patient to reap the reward.

The niche aims to give investors an exposure to deeply undervalued orphan companies.

# **Steel Substitution**

### Anticipating a trend



# stocks:

13

Average Market Cap (mln \$)

6500

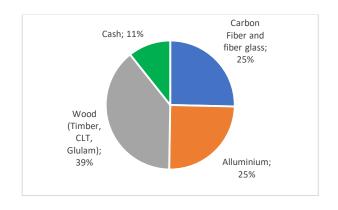
Median Market Cap (mln \$):

5735

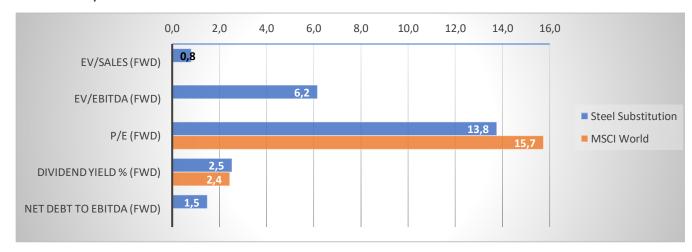
### Steel Substitution breakdown

	Asian Niches Fund	Steel Substitution Niche
Carbon Fibre and fibre glass	1,3%	25%
Aluminium	1,2%	25%
Wood (Timber, CLT, Glulam)	2,0%	39%
Cash	0,5%	11%
	5,0%	100%

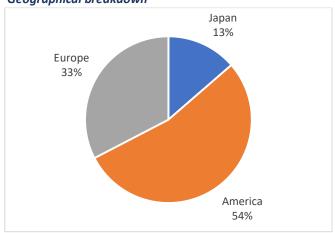
Source: Niche AM



### **Valuation Snapshot**

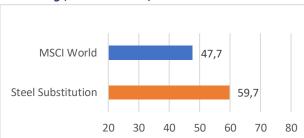


### Geographical breakdown



Source: Niche AM

### **ESG rating** (Thomson Reuters)



## **Steel Substitution**

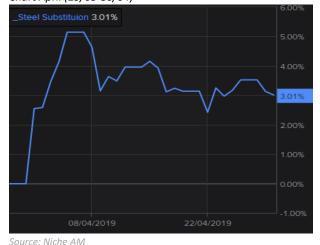
### Anticipating a trend



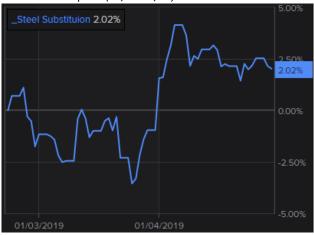
### **Monthly comment**

The Niche Steel Substitution was up by 3% in April. The Niche is invested at 85%, trying to benefit of the level at which wood, composites and aluminium are trading now. Composites are on their way up, as new airplanes require more these materials. In addition, we are at the beginning of the electric mobility revolution where vehicles will have to be lighter and resistant. However, on lumber and aluminium there is a heavy pressure and the gorillas of these 2 sectors pulled back significantly in the last 6 months, trading a valuation not far from tangible book level. While we don't see a global recession coming, this scenario is in big part baked in the prices.

#### Chart April (29/03-30/04)



#### Chart since inception (21/02-30/04)



### Niche description

Our infrastructures, our vehicles and our many devices are made partially of iron and its derivatives. Although materials such as plastic and aluminium have partially replaced it in some applications, it still plays a dominant role in our system. Its physical properties, the abundance of iron ores and its labour-intensive characteristic have kept its leadership solid and unchallenged. Up to a point though...Other materials are emerging with better qualities in terms of safety, resistance, weight and sustainability. As their prices will go down, steel will be gradually substituted and many of its mines and producing assets will go stranded.

The niche aims to give the investor the opportunity to gain exposure to this growing trend of attractive valuations as the market still doesn't appreciate it yet.

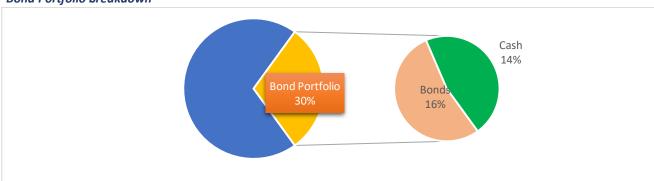
### **Bond Portfolio**

# securities: 19 Average Yield to Maturity 5,4% Duration 2.8

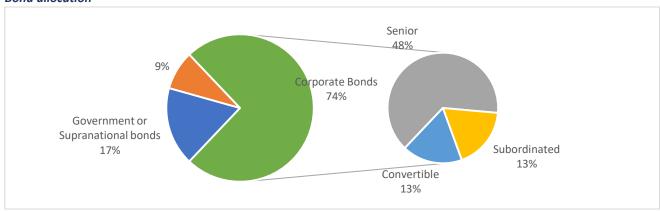
### **Monthly Comment**

We kept the bond portfolio mostly unchanged, adding just two new small positions. The portfolio is well diversified by issuer, sector and geography and boasts a good yield. It focuses on bonds of companies we know and track. Almost 90% of the bonds held are euro denominated. We have room to increase the portfolio if new opportunities arise.

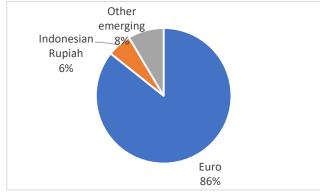
### Bond Portfolio breakdown



#### **Bond allocation**

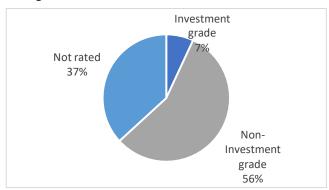


### **Currency Breakdown**

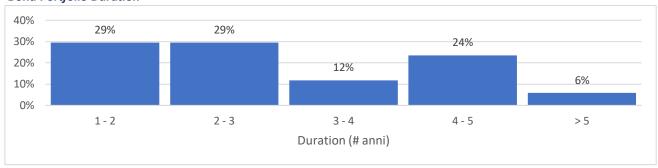


#### Source: Niche AM

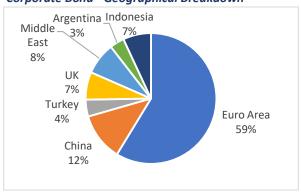
### Rating Breakdown



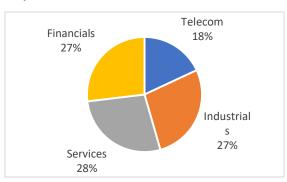
### **Bond Portfolio Duration**



### Corporate Bond - Geographical Breakdown



### Corporate Bond - Sector Breakdown



# Cash Management

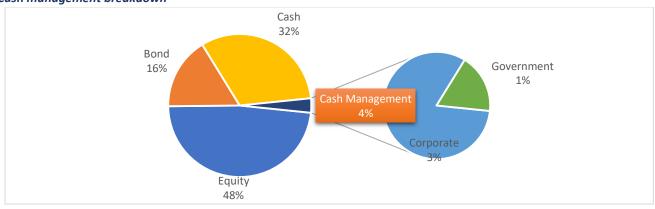
#securities: 3 Average Yield to Maturity 1,0% Duration 1.3

### **Monthly Comment**

We didn't add new securities during the month of April.

We will continue to scan through the universe, looking for opportunities that can provide a return matching the advantage of holding cash and the flexibility that goes with it.

### Cash management breakdown



Source: Niche AM

# **Appendix**

Equities - Indices: % price change

Indice	Price as of 30/04/19	% Price Change 1 month (local currency)	% Price Change 1 month (€)	% Price Change Since inception * (local currency)	% Price Change Since inception * (€)	% Price Change 10 years (local currency)	% Price Change 10 years (€)
Korea (.KS200)	285	3,1%	0,7%	-0,3%	-2,8%	65,6%	124,8%
Japan (.TOPX)	1618	1,7%	1,6%	1,0%	1,5%	99,3%	102,9%
Indonesia (.JKSE)	6455	-0,2%	-0,3%	-0,7%	-0,8%	292,6%	252,2%
China (.HSI)	29699	2,2%	2,3%	4,8%	5,7%	98,6%	132,0%
Russia (.IMOEX)	2559	2,5%	4,2%	3,5%	7,0%	177,6%	68,5%
Australia (AXJO)	6326	2,3%	1,7%	3,9%	3,5%	71,2%	96,7%
USA (.SPX)	2946	3,9%	3,9%	6,1%	6,9%	237,2%	298,8%
Canada (.GSPTSE)	16581	3,0%	2,7%	4,7%	4,3%	76,1%	87,2%
Europe (.STOXX50E)	3515	4,9%	-	8,3%	-	50,5%	-

<sup>\* 18/02/19</sup> 

Source: Reuters, Niche AM

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This document, any presentation made in conjunction herewith and any accompanying materials are preliminary and for information only. They are not an offering memorandum, do not contain any representations and do not constitute or form part of an offer or invitation to subscribe for any of Niche's funds (each, the "Fund"). Further they do not constitute or form part of any solicitation of any such offer or invitation, nor do they (or any part of them) or the fact of their distribution, form the basis of, or can they be relied on, in connection with any contract therefor. The information contained in this report has been compiled exclusively by Niche Asset Management Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (RN783048) and is registered in England & Wales 10805355. The information and views contained in this document are not intended to be complete and may be subject to change at any time. No representation, warranty or undertaking, stated or implied, is given as to the accuracy of the information or views in this document and no liability for the accuracy and completeness of information is accepted by Niche Asset Management Ltd and/or its partners. The investment strategy of the Fund is speculative and involves a substantial degree of risk of losing some or all of the capital invested. Market, political, counterparty, liquidity and other risk factors may have a significant impact on the investment objectives of the Fund, while past performance is not a guide or otherwise indicative of future results. The distribution of this document and the offering of the Fund's shares in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law and therefore persons into whose possession this document comes should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. The Fund is not yet available for distribution in all countries, it will be only subject to registration with the local supervisory Authority. Potential investors are invited to contact Niche Asset Management Ltd. in order to check registration countries. Any failure to comply with these restrictions could result in a violation of the laws of such jurisdiction. Any reproduction of this information, in whole or in part, without the prior consent of Niche Asset Management Ltd is also prohibited. This document may only be communicated or passed to persons to whom Niche Asset Management Ltd is permitted to communicate financial promotions pursuant to an exemption available in Chapter 4.12 of the Financial Conduct Authority's Conduct of Business Sourcebook ("COBS") ("Permitted Recipients"). In addition, no person who is not an authorised person may communicate this document or otherwise promote the Fund or shares therein to any person it the United Kingdom unless such person is both (a) a Permitted Recipient and (b) a person to whom an authorised person is permitted to communicate financial promotions relating to the Fund or otherwise promote the Fund under the rules in COBS 4.12 applicable to such authorised person. The securities referenced in this document have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act") or any other securities laws of any other US jurisdiction. Such securities may not be sold or transferred to US persons unless such sale or transfer is registered under the 1933 Act or exemption from such registration. This document is intended for professional investors only. Potential investors are recommended to read carefully the Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) before subscribing.