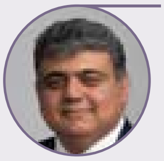
LetkoBrosseau
Emerging Markets Strategy



Rohit Khuller
*MBA, CFA*
Vice President,
Investment Management,
Lead Portfolio Manager


Mila Krassiouk
*MBA, CFA, FSA*
Co-Associate,
Senior Portfolio Manager


Yongai Xu
*CFA, FSA*
Co-Associate,
Portfolio Manager


# The Power of Dividends in Emerging Markets

*Emerging markets, often associated with promising rewards, also come with considerable risks, including economic, political, and currency instability.*

When navigating this environment, professional investors frequently seek strategies that not only offer growth opportunities but also shield capital from unforeseen downturns. Hence, investing in dividend-paying companies within emerging markets emerges as a prudent strategy, providing the added potential for stability and a buffer against market volatility.

Dividend-paying companies contribute to a stable income stream and downside protection for several reasons. A company that consistently pays dividends signals its financial health and managerial confidence in sustained profitability. It indicates a business model capable of generating profits, reinvesting in growth, and returning capital to shareholders. Amidst the tumultuous environments of emerging markets, this stability provides a welcome margin of safety for investors, ensuring a continuous return stream amid prevailing uncertainties.

Furthermore, during market downturns, dividend-paying companies tend to exhibit resilience. Dividend yields provides inherent support to the stock price, offering a floor that helps mitigate downside movements. Investors, perceiving consistent dividend payouts as a reliable income stream, are less inclined to sell these assets in a bear market, offering a natural defense against price depreciation. Additionally, dividends represent a tangible return, cushioning investors during periods of capital depreciation, often offering a positive total return even amidst declining market prices.

**“...during market downturns, dividend-paying companies tend to exhibit resilience....”**

What insights might an astute investor glean from emerging market companies that opt to pay dividends? Firstly, such companies could be interpreted as having attained a level of maturity and financial stability that allows them to share profits sustainably with investors without compromising growth and operational efficacy. Secondly, consistent dividend payouts could reflect robust corporate governance and management that prioritize shareholder return – crucial aspects in markets where regulatory frameworks may be developing or inconsistent.

For professional investors navigating emerging markets, considering dividend-paying companies as a strategic component harmonizes the pursuit of attractive growth prospects with prudent risk mitigation. This approach positions the investment portfolio to capitalize on the opportunities in emerging markets, while firmly anchored against inherent volatilities and uncertainties.

**"...This approach positions the investment portfolio to capitalize on the opportunities in emerging markets, while firmly anchored against inherent volatilities and uncertainties...."**

**Conclusion:**

Dividend-paying companies in emerging markets offer investors a blend of growth potential and risk mitigation. This strategy provides the potential for a reliable income stream, capital appreciation, and protection against the diverse risks inherent to these markets.

Incorporating dividend-paying investments into an emerging markets strategy can enhance diversification, providing both the pursuit of returns and resilience against market fluctuations.