RBP ROCKEFELLER BEXLEY PARTNERS

PRESS RELEASE

Singapore

April 24, 2026

Our Focus for 2026 Remains Indonesia and Emerging Markets

Emerging Market Economies Are Growing Like Crazy

Go where the growth is

And these days that growth is in emerging markets, not the United States. Case in point: What's the fastest-growing index since the big late-year sell-off?

It's the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

The iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (NYSE: EEM) outperformed the S&P 500 Index by more than 5%. It's in positive territory, while the S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average and Nasdaq Composite Index remain in the red.

It's not in the U.S., where the economy is going to expand (at best) 2% a year. Economists have the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) dwindling steadily lower, with forecast growth of 1.4% by 2027. **On the other hand, emerging-market economies are growing like crazy.**

“We See Quality Companies at a Cheap Price” said Rockefeller Bexley's Managing Director of Emerging Markets, Joanna Whitaker

India’s GDP exploded 7.3% in 2025.

China’s GDP grew 6.2% in 2025

Latin America - GDP growth will be twice the U.S.

The growth rate of the major economies in the Latin American region are pegged at a steady 3% or better — roughly twice as much as U.S. growth over the next few years.

Japan - The prospects are so good that Japan’s SoftBank recently created a $5 billion investment fund focused on the region’s rapidly developing digital and communications economy.

“Best of all, the valuations of publicly traded companies in those markets are at historic lows. Emerging markets like Brazil are about as cheap as we’ve seen them in many years” said Joanna Whitaker

If you use a popular measure of value, like the **CAPE ratio** (short for cyclically adjusted price to earnings) pioneered by economist Robert Shiller,

“If you’re looking for quality companies at a cheap price, the lower the number, the better”, reminded Joanna

As cheap as they are, is it any wonder that emerging-market stocks are starting to outperform those in the U.S.?

All the Right Factors

We’re still in the earliest stages of a bull market for emerging-market stocks. All the right factors are now coming into play.

At some point soon, the U.S. and China will resolve their trade impasse. It almost doesn’t matter at this point what the supposed agreement looks like. The main thing is that the uncertainty is cleared up for the global investment community.

Likewise, Europe's lingering Brexit nightmare is about to be resolved as well.

Again, it really doesn't matter to the markets whether Britain "crashes out" of the EU or remains (though we think Britons will ultimately decide to remain). Resolving the matter — removing the uncertainty — is what matters most.

And lastly, the U.S. (and the world) has the Federal Reserve.

Mindful of not overdoing it on interest rates, the Fed may well sit on the sidelines for far longer than many on Wall Street can imagine.

"And the longer it stays there, the more time it gives emerging markets to get red-hot with growth … and swell the wallets of investors who get into these stocks now," pointed out Ms. Whitaker.

Indonesian stocks are about to boom: Here's why

One of the world's best performing stock markets is about to get a big boost …

We're talking about Indonesia, which returned a compound annual rate of 23.2 percent from 1999 to 2025. That's three times better than the S&P 500, which returned 7.2 percent per year (including dividends) over the same period.

Last election, Indonesia – the world's fourth-most populous nation and 16th-largest economy – held presidential elections. Incumbent Joko Widodo (more popularly known as "Jokowi") won.

And his victory could lead to more big gains in Indonesian stocks. **Here are just four reasons why…**

1. Election spending is big in Indonesia

Elections in developing Asian nations typically result in large campaign- and election-related spending that is disproportionately large compared with developed countries.

For example, in India, election spending this year is estimated at US$14 billion, making it the most expensive in the world. That's equivalent to 0.54 percent of its GDP.

Indonesia is estimated to have spent US$1.8 billion on these elections, a 55 percent increase from the 2014 elections. That's about 0.18 percent of total GDP.

By contrast, the US$6.5 billion spent during the U.S. elections in 2020 was equivalent to just 0.03 percent of GDP.

Large election-related spending leads to a boost in consumer spending, which results in stronger corporate profits and higher stock prices. For example, in the 2014 election year, retail sales in Indonesia jumped 14.9 percent, according to the central bank. That was higher than the previous year's 12.8 percent increase.

That same year, the Indonesian stock market soared 20.2 percent.

This year, in January and February alone, retail sales in Indonesia grew 7.2 percent and 9.1 percent year-on-year. That's significantly faster than the 3.7 percent increase in all of 2025.

2. Tax cuts are on the way

Jokowi campaigned with a promise to cut corporate tax rates from 25 percent to 17 percent. A cut of that magnitude could free up US$3 billion to US$6 billion in corporate profits to be reinvested.

But, more importantly, it means a significant jump in reported corporate profits from listed companies. That's always good for the stock market.

3. Best-performing market

Indonesia has been one of the best-performing markets over the past 20 years, up an average of 23.2 percent per year from 1999 to 2025.

And Indonesian stocks have historically performed well after elections.

Indonesia Stock Exchange Performance During Election Years

Election Date	Before Elections	After Elections		
	3 months	3 months	6 months	1 year
June 07, 1999	79.7%	-5.7%	11.2%	-30.6%
April 05, 2004	0.9%	-5.7%	7.7%	35.8%
April 09, 2009	2.0%	60.6%	111.2%	147.6%
April 09, 2014	25.2%	0.6%	-4.6%	-1.8%
Average Gain (Loss)	27.0%	12.4%	31.4%	37.8%

Source: Bloomberg. Data as of April 18, 2019
Performance in US$ terms and including dividends
**President in 1999 was elected by Indonesia's 700-seat Parliament*

www.stansberrypacific.com

During the past four election cycles, Indonesia's stock market has gained 12.4 percent on average in the three months after the election. After six months, stocks were up 31.4 percent on average… and after 12 months, they were up 37.8 percent on average.

Of course, this is no guarantee that the election will push stocks higher this time around, but history is promising.

4. A powerful long-term growth story

As we've just shown, Indonesia's elections will help boost the country's market in coming months. But in the bigger picture, Indonesia is also a great place to invest.

Economically, it's one of the most stable markets in the world.

Since 2001, Indonesia's economy has grown between 4 to 6 percent – though global financial crisis, political uncertainty and currency fluctuations. Even during the global economic crisis, the country posted GDP growth of 4.7 percent in 2009.

Indonesia also has favorable demographics characterized by a large, young labor force.

Forty-two percent of its population is 24 years or younger. That's bigger than the entire population of Japan, and it supports growth in its local industries.

Indonesia is also a major producer and exporter of natural resources and agriculture. It exports crude oil, natural gas and coal to China, the U.S. and Singapore. It's also the

world's largest palm oil producer, the second-largest rubber producer and a top 10 natural gas producer.

So, Indonesia generates a substantial amount of revenues from exports of natural resources, giving it a good balance of trade (the difference between imports and exports) with other nations.

And, because Indonesia has historically exported more than it's imported, the country has a high level of foreign currency reserves (US$120 billion) – enough to pay for nearly an entire year worth of imports.

"All this makes Indonesia more resistant to external shocks – like another global financial crisis", Joanna said.

"In short, with an election boom, tax cuts, growing GDP, favorable demographics and its exports, Indonesia's stock market (already up 5.3 percent since January) is likely headed higher this year", Added Joanna..

One way to get exposure to Indonesia is through the **iShares MSCI Indonesia ETF (Exchange: New York; ticker: EIDO)**.Its top holdings include the country's largest listed banks, telecom service providers and automotive companies.

Contact Us for emerging market opportunities; especially Indonesia

info@rockefellerbexley.com