

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund  
Form N-CSR  
August 07, 2015  
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM N-CSR**

**CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED**

**MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Investment Company Act file number: 811-22716

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

1290 Broadway, Suite 1100

Denver, CO 80203

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Adam J. Shapiro, Esq.

c/o Stone Harbor Investment Partners LP

31 West 52nd Street, 16th Floor

New York, NY 10019

(Name and address of agent for service)

With copies To:

Michael G. Doherty, Esq.

Ropes & Gray LLP

1211 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 623-2577

Date of fiscal year end: May 31

Date of reporting period: May 31, 2015

**Table of Contents**

Item 1. **Report to Stockholders.**

**Table of Contents**

**Table of Contents**

**Distribution Policy**

**May 31, 2015**

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund (the "Fund"), acting pursuant to a Securities and Exchange Commission exemptive order and with the approval of the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board"), has adopted a plan, consistent with its investment objectives and policies to support a level distribution of income, capital gains and/or return of capital (the "Plan"). In accordance with the Plan, the Fund began distributing \$0.1511 per share on a monthly basis in December 2012.

The fixed amount distributed per share is subject to change at the discretion of the Fund's Board. Under the Plan, the Fund will typically distribute most or all of its available investment income to its shareholders, consistent with its primary investment objectives and as required by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The Fund may also distribute long term capital gains and short term capital gains and return capital to shareholders in order to maintain a level distribution. Please refer to Note 3 on pages 27 and 28 for a description of this period's distribution. Each monthly distribution to shareholders is expected to be at the fixed amount established by the Board, except for extraordinary distributions and potential distribution rate increases or decreases to enable the Fund to comply with the distribution requirements imposed by the Code.

Shareholders should not draw any conclusions about the Fund's investment performance from the amount of these distributions or from the terms of the Plan. The Fund's total return performance on net asset value is presented in its financial highlights table. The Board may amend, suspend or terminate the Fund's Plan without prior notice if it deems such action to be in the best interest of the Fund or its shareholders. The suspension or termination of the Plan could have the effect of creating a trading discount (if the Fund's stock is trading at or above net asset value) or widening an existing trading discount. The Fund is subject to risks that could have an adverse impact on its ability to maintain level distributions. Examples of potential risks include, but are not limited to, economic downturns impacting the markets, investments in foreign securities, foreign currency fluctuations and changes in the Code. Please refer to the Fund's prospectus for a more complete description of its risks.

**Table of Contents**

**Table of Contents**

<b><u>Shareholder Letter</u></b>	2
<b><u>Summary of Portfolio Holdings</u></b>	4
<b><u>Growth of \$10,000 Investment</u></b>	5
<b><u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u></b>	6
<b><u>Statement of Investments</u></b>	7
<b><u>Statement of Assets &amp; Liabilities</u></b>	14
<b><u>Statement of Operations</u></b>	15
<b><u>Statements of Changes in Net Assets</u></b>	16
<b><u>Statement of Cash Flows</u></b>	17
<b><u>Financial Highlights</u></b>	18
<b><u>Notes to Financial Statements</u></b>	19

<b><u>Summary of Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u></b>	29
<b><u>Additional Information</u></b>	30
<b><u>Board Approval of Investment Advisory Agreement</u></b>	32
<b><u>Trustees &amp; Officers</u></b>	34
<b><u>Benchmark Descriptions</u></b>	38

**Table of Contents**

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

Shareholder Letter

May 31, 2015 (Unaudited)

Dear Investor,

The Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund ( EDI or Fund ) seeks to maximize total return, which consists of income on its investments and capital appreciation. The Fund invests in fixed income securities and related instruments that are economically tied to emerging markets (EM) countries, including sovereign external debt, local currency debt (non-U.S. dollar), and corporate debt from EM issuers. Additionally, the Fund may invest up to 20% of its assets in emerging equity markets.

Our investment thesis is straightforward - despite periods of high market volatility, we believe EM debt markets continue to offer attractive investment opportunities for total return investors. That investment thesis has been tested during the 12-month period ended May 31, 2015 that is covered in this report. Macroeconomic volatility combined with some idiosyncratic developments in key countries has created a challenging environment, especially for local currency denominated EM sovereign debt. Nonetheless, we believe most EM countries maintain prudent debt levels and substantially lower fiscal deficits relative to the developed world. Furthermore, in this era of near-zero interest rates and quantitative easing in the developed world, the majority of EM countries are pursuing orthodox monetary policies, in our view. In addition, we believe EM debt still offers higher yields than advanced economy debt, even though EMs have better fundamentals in most cases, based on our analysis. In our view, this combination of high yields and attractive fundamentals supports our efforts to seek to maximize total return.

We believe that a key advantage we have in managing EDI is the latitude to adjust the risk in the portfolio based on fundamental economic and credit views, as well as our assessment of the macroeconomic environment. Our investment process focuses on allocating to three distinct sectors of EM debt - hard currency sovereigns, local currency sovereigns and corporates - each of which tend to behave differently in various macroeconomic environments. We also can invest a more constrained portion of EDI in the EM equity markets. We believe these allocation decisions provide important diversification benefits.

In addition, we can vary the amount of leverage used by the Fund depending on our confidence in our return expectations. In general, we employ leverage to seek higher returns. However, when uncertainty rises, and with it greater perceived risks, we can also reduce leverage so that the Fund has less exposure to EM risk.

**Performance Review**

The total return on net asset value (NAV) of EDI for the 12 months ending May 31, 2015 was -12.18%, (net of expenses). For the same period, the Fund maintained an average discount to its NAV of 8.53% <sup>(1)</sup>. Market tracking indices for the three sectors of EM debt<sup>(2)</sup> - external sovereign debt, local currency debt and corporate debt - delivered total returns of 2.46%, -13.49% and 3.95%, respectively, during the reporting period. The relatively poor performance of local currency debt was driven by negative returns from foreign exchange. As discussed above, asset allocation is an important factor in our management of the Fund. Our allocation to local currency sovereign debt ranged from



approximately 22% to 32% of the total portfolio during the 12 month period. The allocation was substantially below our long term allocation to local currency debt.

In the Fund's exposure to sovereign debt, our holdings in U.S. dollar-denominated debt of Venezuela had a large negative impact on returns for the 12-month period. We invested in Venezuela based on our assessment of the country's ability and willingness to repay debt from U.S. dollar cash flows generated from oil exports. We also believed that Venezuela's government had strong incentives to prioritize oil export cash flows for servicing external debt in order to maintain relationships with integrated global oil companies that invest in Venezuela's Orinoco oil belt, which contains some of the world's largest proven oil reserves. Venezuela's political situation has been quite chaotic during the administration of President Maduro. In addition, economic growth has slowed and inflation has risen. This political volatility overwhelmed the country's solid debt fundamentals as the market sold off during the July to January time period. Weakness in oil prices put substantial additional downward pressure on Venezuela's debt during December and January. As oil markets stabilized in 2015, Venezuela has been among the best performers in the hard currency sovereign index but its weak performance earlier in the 12 month period made it a substantial detractor from the Fund's returns. Our allocations to Argentina and Russia contributed to the Fund's performance over the 12 month period. Our allocation to EM equities averaged slightly over 2% of Fund assets and contributed modestly to the Fund's performance.

Throughout the reporting period, leverage consisted primarily of short-term reverse repurchase agreements through which the Fund borrowed funds by selling securities under the obligation to repurchase them at a later date at a fixed price. The implied borrowing costs of the repurchase agreements averaged approximately 0.59% per annum. The level of gross leverage reached a maximum of 33.3% of total assets on November 6, 2014 and a minimum of 27.6% on May 8, 2015. By the end of the reporting period, leverage was approximately 33.0%. Net leverage (gross leverage less cash held) remained lower than gross leverage throughout the period. The Fund's management team varied borrowing levels to reflect the team's outlook on EM risk, increasing borrowings when it felt opportunities had improved and reducing borrowings when, in the team's judgment, macroeconomic risks had risen.

**Table of Contents**

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

Shareholder Letter

May 31, 2015 (Unaudited)

**Market Review and Outlook**

In our view, the total returns for EM indices for the reporting period reflected a combination of events in developed markets and emerging markets overlaid by valuations in emerging markets.

Macroeconomic developments in advanced economies are important inputs into our assessment of the outlook for EM debt returns. The impact of developments outside the emerging markets on emerging market valuations has been a critical variable in the performance of emerging market assets since the end of the 2008 financial crisis. These factors, including weaker-than-expected economic growth, a strong US dollar, and falling oil prices weighed on the Fund's performance during this 12-month period, in our view.

Despite these influences from advanced economies, our fundamental views on emerging markets have not changed. We continue to forecast that many EM country growth rates should improve in the next 12-18 months. In our view, expectations for improved U.S. growth, together with recent depreciation of emerging market currencies and prior monetary easing by EM central banks, will support EM growth in the months ahead. But we believe this process will take time. Government deficits in most EM countries remain at healthy levels, particularly compared to the U.S., Japan and many developed European countries, in our view. We believe markets will again focus on the relative strengths of EM fundamentals.

In the past, we have detailed some of the key risks to our constructive outlook for emerging markets debt. Today, those risks seem to emanate from both developed and emerging markets countries. The likelihood of increases in U.S. interest rates, the ongoing political and religious strife in the Middle East, weak growth in Europe and the potential for China's growth rate to fall short of expectations are all potential risks. However, our base case return scenarios for EM debt over the coming year remain positive. Our view derives from a disciplined investment process in which we review the ability and willingness of borrowers to repay their debts. We also assess whether current prices of emerging market bonds, currencies, local interest rates and equities reflect adequate compensation for risk within the current macroeconomic environment. Based on this process, we continue to believe that EM debt will generate the highest returns in the fixed income markets.

Other general risks of the Fund relate to our use of leverage and also to the longer-term prospects for a rise in global interest rates. Stone Harbor attempts to mitigate the risk of loss of principal due to the possibility of a general rise in global interest rates through our investment process that determines sector and country allocations, as well as security selection. We seek to reduce interest rate sensitivity during periods of rising interest rates. Notwithstanding these efforts, rising interest rates would increase the Fund's cost of leverage and could also decrease the value of its portfolio securities, adversely affecting Fund performance.

We continue to believe that investing in EDI may offer an attractive means of capitalizing on further improvements in credit quality in EM. We thank you for your confidence in our ability to invest in these challenging markets and look

forward to reporting on EDI in six months.

Sincerely,

Thomas K. Flanagan

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

- (1) *Performance on a market value basis, or at market price, will differ from its results at NAV. Although market price returns typically reflect investment results over time, during shorter periods, returns at market price can also be influenced by factors such as changing views about the Fund, market conditions, supply and demand for the Fund's shares, or changes in Fund dividends.*
- (2) *J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified, J.P. Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified, and J.P. Morgan CEMBI Broad Diversified.*

**Table of Contents**

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund Summary of Portfolio Holdings

May 31, 2015 (Unaudited)

**Fund Details**

Market Price	\$14.86
Net Asset Value (NAV)	\$16.70
Premium/(Discount)	(11.02%)
Current Distribution Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	12.20%
Net Assets (in millions)	\$161

**Country Allocation**

(as a % of total net assets)

Country Breakdown	% of TNA
Venezuela	19.26%
Brazil (Includes ETF)	18.81%
Argentina	15.38%
Mexico	13.84%
Russia	10.07%
South Africa	9.78%
Kazakhstan	8.17%
Turkey (Includes ETF)	7.69%
Indonesia	5.44%
Ecuador	5.05%
Ivory Coast	4.51%
Dominican Republic	4.05%
Iraq	3.79%
El Salvador	3.44%
Ghana	1.89%
Angola	1.85%
Nigeria	1.49%
Chile	1.32%
Colombia	1.17%
Jamaica	0.88%
India	0.69%
Guatemala	0.67%

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Panama	0.59%
Peru	0.54%
Israel	0.52%
Honduras	0.44%
China	0.43%
Costa Rica	0.34%
Sri Lanka	0.34%
Ethiopia	0.28%
Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets ETF	2.64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>145.36%</b>
<b>Short Term Security</b>	<b>1.34%</b>
<b>Other Liabilities in Excess of Assets</b>	<b>-46.70%</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Security Type Allocation<sup>(2)</sup>**

**Sector Allocation<sup>(2)</sup>**

Sovereign Local	31.6%
Sovereign External	47.2%
Corporate	16.1%
Equity	3.9%
Cash & Equivalents/ U.S. Treasuries	1.2%

**Regional Breakdown<sup>(2)</sup>**

58.35%

Latin America

Europe 17.53%

Africa 13.57%

Asia 4.63%

Middle East 2.96%

Multi 1.76%

Cash & Equivalents / U.S. Treasuries 1.20%

**Sovereign Local**

**Currency Breakdown<sup>(2)</sup>**

Brazilian Real 9.9%

Colombian Peso 0.3%

Indonesian Rupiah 3.6%

Mexican Peso 6.1%

Nigerian Naira 0.0%

Russian Ruble	0.7%
Turkish New Lira	4.3%
South African Rand	6.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.6%</b>

*(1) Current Distribution Rate is based on the Fund's current annualized monthly distribution divided by the Fund's current market price. The Fund's monthly distributions to its shareholders may be comprised of ordinary income, net realized capital gains and return of capital in order to maintain a level distribution.*

*(2) Based on managed assets and investment manager's sector classifications including derivative exposure. For purposes of this example, managed assets include total net assets plus any borrowings attributed to the use of reverse repurchase agreements and the notional values of credit default swaps and interest rate swaps as described on pages 12 and 13.*

**Table of Contents**

Growth of  
\$10,000 Investment

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

May 31, 2015 (Unaudited)

Comparison of Change in Value of \$10,000 Investment in Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund and the J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Indices: EMBI Global Diversified, CEMBI Broad Diversified, and GBI-EM Global Diversified (please refer to page 38 for detailed benchmark descriptions).

**Total Returns as of May 31, 2015 (Commencement of Operations, October 25, 2012)**

	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Since Inception (Annualized)
Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund NAV	2.35%	-6.36%	-12.18%	-4.37%
Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund Market Price	1.92%	-10.33%	-17.04%	-10.17%
J.P. Morgan CEMBI Broad Diversified	2.76%	2.63%	3.95%	4.05%
J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified	1.46%	0.89%	2.46%	2.50%
J.P. Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified	-2.73%	-9.42%	-13.49%	-5.83%

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance shown. Total return is calculated by determining the percentage change in NAV or market price (as applicable) in the specified period. The calculation assumes that all income dividends, capital gain and return of capital distributions, if any, have been reinvested and includes all fee waivers and expense reimbursements. Total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or broker commissions or sales charges in connection with the purchase or sale of Fund shares. Investment return and principal value will vary, and shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Total returns for a period of less than one year are not annualized. Index returns do not include the effects of sales charges or management fees. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.



Performance at market price will differ from its results at NAV. Although market price returns typically reflect investment results over time, during shorter periods returns at market price can also be influenced by factors such as changing views about the Fund, market conditions, supply and demand for the Fund's shares, or changes in Fund dividends.

An investment in the Fund involves risk, including the loss of principal. Total return, market price, market price yield and NAV will fluctuate with changes in market conditions. This data is provided for information purposes only and is not intended for trading purposes. Closed-end funds, unlike open-end funds, are not continuously offered. There is a onetime public offering and once issued, shares of closed-end funds are traded in the open market through a stock exchange. NAV is equal to total assets attributable to common shareholders less total liabilities divided by the number of common shares outstanding. Holdings are subject to change daily.

**Table of Contents**

Report of Independent

Registered Public

Accounting Firm

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

To the Shareholders and Board of Trustees of Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund:

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund (the Fund ), including the statement of investments, as of May 31, 2015, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the two years in the period then ended and for the period from October 25, 2012 (commencement of operations) to May 31, 2013. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of May 31, 2015, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers; where replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund as of May 31, 2015, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the two years in the period then ended and for the period from October 25, 2012 (commencement of operations) to May 31, 2013, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Denver, Colorado

July 29, 2015



**Table of Contents**

Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Total Income Fund

Statement of Investments

May 31, 2015

	Currency	Rate	Maturity Date	Principal Amount*	Market Value Expressed (in U.S. \$)
<b>SOVEREIGN DEBT OBLIGATIONS - 81.99%</b>					
<b>Angola - 0.81%</b>					
<i>Republic of Angola</i>	USD	7.000%	08/16/2019	1,268,000	\$ 1,301,285 <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Argentina - 12.95%</b>					
<i>Republic of Argentina:</i>					
	USD	7.000%	10/03/2015	13,557,603	13,338,421 <sup>(2)</sup>
	USD	7.000%	04/17/2017	5,547,864	5,403,928 <sup>(2)</sup>
	USD	6.000%	03/31/2023	1,700,000	2,040,000 <sup>(3)</sup>
					20,782,349
<b>Brazil - 13.64%</b>					
<i>Nota Do Tesouro Nacional:</i>					
	BRL	10.000%	01/01/2017	20,260,000	6,073,566
	BRL	10.000%	01/01/2021	30,000,000	8,574,453
	BRL	10.000%	01/01/2023	25,830,000	7,255,331
					21,903,350
<b>Colombia - 0.34%</b>					
<i>Bogota Distrio Capital</i>	COP	9.750%	07/26/2028	1,130,000,000	543,436 <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Costa Rica - 0.34%</b>					
<i>Republic of Costa Rica:</i>					
	USD	4.375%	04/30/2025	300,000	275,437 <sup>(4)</sup>
	USD	7.000%	04/04/2044	269,000	267,487 <sup>(4)</sup>
					542,924

**Dominican Republic - 4.05%**

*Dominican Republic:*

USD	7.500%
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