

TAIWAN FUND INC
Form 8-K
June 14, 2004

Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

April 1, 2004

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported)

The Taiwan Fund, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

811-04893
(Commission
File Number)

042942862
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

02110
(Zip Code)

(800) 426-5523
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure.

SIGNATURES

Table of Contents

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure.

Pursuant to Regulation FD Rules 100-103, The Taiwan Fund, Inc. (the Fund) furnishes the April 2004 Monthly Review of the Fund s performance by the Fund s investment adviser.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: June 14, 2004

By: /s/Adelina Louie
Name: Adelina Louie
Title: Secretary and Treasurer
3

Table of Contents**THE TAIWAN FUND, INC. REVIEW****April 2004**

HSBC Asset Management (Taiwan) Limited
 24/F No. 99, Tunhwa S. Rd., Sec. 2
 Taipei 106, Taiwan

Tel: (8862) 2325-7888
 Fax: (8862) 2706-5371

Portfolio Review

The Taiwan Stock Exchange Index (TAIEX) fell sharply in April, declining 6.96% in US dollar terms. Fears of a reversal of the economic cycle emerged, as the world's two growth engines, the United States and China, seemed likely to start slowing down in coming months. China has started tightening monetary policies to slow its overheated economy, and U.S. interest rate increases are expected in August after recent strong economic performance. Global equity markets were influenced by these developments and a period of consolidation appears to be underway.

Regarding sector performance, the cyclical sectors performed poorly in April as concerns mounted regarding the strength of current economic cycle. The prospect of a slowing Chinese economy dampened investors' appetite for China-related stocks. Domestic consumption-related sectors were also hurt due to rich valuations and rising political tensions ahead of the presidential election vote recount scheduled for May. Within the technology sector, however, there were certain industries delivering good performance in April, specifically in handset and display areas.

In April, the Fund declined 7.53% in US dollar terms and underperformed the TAIEX, partially based on our focus on cyclical sectors. Looking ahead, we expect the market to bottom out after the recent selling pressure and profit taking. Although our top-down view of the market has turned more cautious for the near term, we still expect good potential for the market based on ample liquidity and attractive valuations. The market correction during March and April has provided a good opportunity for bottom up stock picking and we intend to invest accordingly.

Total Fund Sector Allocation

| As of 04/30/04 | % of Total Fund | % of TAIEX |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Semiconductor | 20.93 | 20.03 |
| Finance | 18.07 | 19.15 |
| PC & Peripherals | 12.61 | 13.43 |
| Electronics | 11.73 | 12.25 |
| Plastics | 8.27 | 9.31 |
| Telecommunications | 6.90 | 6.28 |
| Iron & Steel | 4.26 | 3.15 |
| Shipping | 2.91 | 2.42 |
| Automobiles, Tires & Accessories | 2.69 | 1.84 |
| Textiles & Apparel | 1.52 | 1.76 |
| Chemicals | 1.51 | 1.36 |
| Retail | 0.62 | 0.82 |
| Electrical Equipment | 0.60 | 1.34 |

Edgar Filing: TAIWAN FUND INC - Form 8-K

| | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Cement | 0.58 | 0.76 |
| Wire & Cable | 0.57 | 0.81 |
| Others + Miscellaneous | 2.97 | 5.29 |
| Total | 96.74 | 100.00 |
| Cash | 3.26 | |
| Tech | 52.37 | 52.44 |
| Non-Tech | 26.30 | 28.41 |
| Financial | 18.07 | 19.15 |
| Total Net Assets: US\$224.97Million | | |

Top 10 Holdings of Total Fund Portfolio

| As of 04/30/04 | <u>% of Total Portfolio</u> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. | 6.99 |
| United Microelectronics Corp. Ltd. | 4.15 |
| Cathay Financial Holding Co. Ltd | 4.03 |
| Au Optronics Corp. | 3.99 |
| China Steel Corp. | 3.47 |
| Hon Hai Precision Industry Co. Ltd | 3.46 |
| Taishin Financial Holdings Co. Ltd. | 3.26 |
| Chinatrust Financial Holding Co. Ltd. | 2.93 |
| MediaTek, Inc. | 2.34 |
| Benq Corp. | 2.27 |
| Total | 36.89 |
| NAV: US\$13.75 Price: US\$12.08 | Discount: -12.15% |
| No. of Shares: 16.4Million | |

Returns in US\$ (%)*

| | <u>The Taiwan Fund, Inc.</u> | <u>Taiwan Stock Exchange Index</u> |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| One Month | -7.53 | -6.96 |
| Fiscal Year to Date** | 7.24 | 11.36 |
| One Year | 50.16 | 54.72 |
| Three Years | 0.79 | 4.05 |
| Five years | -4.77 | -3.99 |
| Ten Years | 0.29 | -1.64 |
| Since Inception | 9.97 | 11.19 |

* Returns for the Fund are historical total returns that reflect changes in net asset value per share during each period and assume that dividends and capital gains, if any, were reinvested. Returns for the TAIEX are not total returns and reflect only changes in share price but do not assume that cash dividends, if any, were reinvested, and thus are not strictly comparable to the Fund returns. Past performance is not indicative of future results of the Fund. Returns are annualized, except for periods of less than one year which are not annualized.

** The Fund's fiscal year commences on September 1.



Table of Contents**Premium/Discount of TWN****Market Data**

| | <u>As of 03/31/04</u> | <u>As of 04/30/04</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| TAIEX | 6522.19 | 6117.81 |
| % change in NTD terms | -3.38 | -6.20 |
| % change in USD terms | -2.50 | -6.96 |
| NTD Daily avg. trading volume (In Billions) | 162.96 | 144.64 |
| USD Daily avg. trading volume (In Billions) | 4.95 | 4.35 |
| NTD Market Capitalization (In Billions) | 14247.20 | 13431.20 |
| USD Market Capitalization (In Billions) | 432.39 | 404.31 |
| FX Rate: (NT\$/US\$) | 32.95 | 33.22 |

Disclaimer: This report is based on information believed by us to be reliable. No representation is made that it is accurate or complete. The figures in the report are unaudited. This report is not an offer to buy or sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any securities mentioned.

The daily NAV of the Fund is available from Lipper and CDA Weisenberger, or you may obtain it by calling toll free (800) 636-9242.

Lead Fund Manager: Victor Shih
Deputy Fund Manager: Jovi Chen