

HORIZON STRATEGIC BOND FUND

At a glance

Performance*

The Fund returned 1.69%, the Sector returned 1.02%

Contributors/detractors

The fund's duration overweight position was a positive contributor, especially in the UK (which materially outperformed).

Outlook

All eyes seem to be on the employment markets as central banks are poised to cut rates when they feel justified in doing so.

Portfolio management



John Pattullo



Jenna Barnard, CFA



Oliver Bardot, CFA

Investment environment

- March was a strong month and rounded off a decent first quarter for riskier assets. Investors embraced the narrative of an economic 'soft landing' (versus a recession) and the notion of 'immaculate disinflation' (the idea that inflation, primarily driven by supply-side shocks, would subside without a corresponding rise in unemployment).
- A number of equity indices hit record highs. The S&P 500 Index rose over 10% during the quarter, marking the first time in over a decade that it has achieved back-to-back quarterly double-digit gains.
- Against this, bond yields generally drifted flat to lower (higher prices), with the UK and Europe performing well on the back of lower inflation and a softening in the stance of central banks. However, in the words of the Chairman of the US Federal Reserve (Fed), US inflation data has been "bumpy". US economic growth has been stronger than expected, and the good news is that the employment market is "more balanced".
- Optimists for a 'soft landing' point to a fading fiscal boost, productivity gains from artificial intelligence (AI) and favourable immigration dynamics easing worker shortages and wage inflation. Pessimists focus on the long lags of monetary policy and the inverted yield curve, which has historically signalled a recession.
- On 20 March, Fed Chairman Powell acknowledged that "January CPI and PCE numbers were quite high". He also said there is a reason to think that there could be seasonal effects involved, and that "the February number was higher than expectations, although not terribly high". However, the oil price - always crucial to the inflation outlook - rose significantly, as did implied inflation from the inflation-linked markets.
- We broadly believe that the global interest rate cutting cycle remains on track - possibly slightly delayed in the US and slightly sooner in Europe. Inflation continued to rise at a slower rate and has been experiencing some quite dramatic falls, not least in the UK among other countries (including Canada and Switzerland).
- While there might be some seasonal noise in the US data, the only niggle is the oil price, which is always hard to call - albeit with persistent OPEC production cuts and ongoing Middle East tensions.
- European economic growth - especially in the core - looks recessionary. The European Central Bank (ECB) has teed up a June interest rate cut with more to follow. Meanwhile, the Swiss set the ball rolling with a surprise rate cut in March.
- While it would be unusual for the ECB to cut rates ahead of the Fed, the Fed was slow to raise rates and the growth differential is significant. The ECB meeting

Marketing communication

For professional and qualified investors only.

Past performance does not predict future returns.

References made to individual securities do not constitute a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any security, investment strategy or market sector, and should not be assumed to be profitable. Janus Henderson Investors, its affiliated advisor, or its employees, may have a position in the securities mentioned.

*For benchmark and sector, if applicable, refer to Fund details on page 3. For relevant descriptions, risks and the Fund's investment policy statement, refer to Additional fund information on page 4.

is on 6 June, which is before the Fed meeting on 12 June (Canada is on 5 June and the UK on 20 June).

Portfolio review

Credit (corporate bond) spreads started the month tight and became even tighter. Both investment grade and high yield bonds performed better than the underlying reference sovereign bonds in America. This was not the case in the UK, where gilts stretched ahead of a firm corporate bond market given the changing inflation dynamics.

Investors seem to be moving money out of overnight deposit towards fixed income (and equities), and even if credit spreads are close to record tight the all-in yield level remains very attractive. We did see a few known over-levered structures start to suffer, in issuers such as Altice Europe (telecoms), Intrum (debt collector), Ardagh (packaging) and Thames Water in the UK. These are all large capital structures in the market. We expect to see an increased dispersion in performing issuers (from very low levels) going forward.

Bond volatility has been usually high this cycle. But as the direction of travel has become more transparent, this has started to fall, especially in Europe. Lower bond volatility is particularly helpful for our mortgage-backed securities (MBS) holdings, which have performed better of late. Lower volatility also supports mainstream credit spreads while the credit markets remain resilient. The growth of the

private credit markets often enables the re-financing of some marginal credits off market, which is a fairly new technical support. This, as well as many amend and extend re-financings, has kept defaults muted.

Over the month we kept the fund's duration position long, in predominately quality sovereign and investment grade bonds. We have moved some of the duration out of the US and into Europe, the UK, Australia and Canada (among others). Given the similar pricing of future cuts, but less growth and inflation risk outside the US market, this seems a good risk-adjusted trade to us. We continue to believe risk markets are priced for perfection. We also modestly increased the investment grade bond weighting by buying predominately select new issues in the middle- and shorter-end of the curve.

Manager outlook

All eyes seem to be on the employment markets as central banks are poised to cut rates when they feel justified in doing so. As Fed Chairman Powell recently said, "Fed officials are committed to both sides of our dual mandate, and an unexpected weakening in the labour market could also warrant a policy response". We expect Europe to lead the Fed in cutting rates this cycle, as recent European inflation data continued to be encouraging. This is also true in the UK and Australia (and elsewhere).

Performance (%)

Returns	Cumulative				Annualised			
	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since inception (26/07/17)
A2 USD (Net)	1.69	-1.71	-1.71	0.08	-4.03	0.06	—	0.79
Sector	1.02	1.14	1.14	7.37	0.25	2.19	—	2.19

Calendar year	YTD at							
	Q1 2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017 from 26 Jul
A2 USD (Net)	-1.71	5.62	-17.17	-0.20	10.68	10.13	-0.66	1.41
Sector	1.14	8.01	-8.56	0.11	5.59	9.48	-1.53	1.51

Performance is on a net of fees basis, with gross income reinvested. Source: at 31/03/24. © 2024 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. **Past performance does not predict future returns.** Performance/performance target related data will display only where relevant to the share class inception date and annualised target time period. **The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount originally invested.** Source for target returns (where applicable) - Janus Henderson Investors.

Fund charges will impact the value of your investment. In particular, the ongoing charges applicable to each fund will dilute investment performance, particularly over time. For further explanation of charges please visit our Fund Charges page at www.janushenderson.com.

Note that any differences among portfolio securities currencies, share class currencies and costs to be paid or represented in currencies other than your home currency will expose you to currency risk. Costs and returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency and exchange rate fluctuations.

Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide a return, from a combination of income and capital growth, over the long term (5 years or more).

For the fund's investment policy, refer to the Additional fund information on page 4. **Past performance does not predict future returns.**

Fund details

Inception date	26 July 2017
Total net assets	282.14m
Asset class	Fixed Income
Domicile	Luxembourg
Structure	SICAV
Base currency	USD
Index	Not Applicable
Morningstar sector	Global Flexible Bond - USD Hedged
SFDR category	Article 8

In accordance with the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, the Fund is classified as Article 8 and promotes, among other characteristics, environmental and/or social characteristics, and invests in companies with good governance practices.

Additional fund information

Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may be subject to change. Availability of share classes shown may be limited by law in certain jurisdictions. Performance records/scenarios are detailed within the fund's specific KIID/KID; fees and charges, and the respective risk rating may vary. Further information can be found in the fund's prospectus and KIID/KID, which must be reviewed before investing. Please consult your local sales representative and/or financial adviser if you have any queries. From 1 January 2023 Oliver Bardot also manages this fund. From 16 March 2023 the Fund changed its investment policy. Past performance shown before this date was achieved under circumstances that no longer apply. 100% of the Annual Management Charge is taken from capital. This is a Luxembourg SICAV Fund, regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). These are the views of the author at the time of publication and may differ from the views of other individuals/teams at Janus Henderson Investors. Any securities, funds, sectors or indices mentioned within this article do not constitute or form part of any offer or solicitation to buy or sell them. The information in this commentary does not qualify as an investment recommendation. Investment into the fund will acquire units/shares of the fund itself and not the underlying assets owned by the fund. The ongoing charge is calculated using the PRIIP methodology. The PRIIP methodology differs to the UCITS ongoing charge methodology, as the PRIIP methodology captures additional recurring charges, including but not limited to: Interest paid on borrowing (e.g. bank interest); Any fees incurred in relation to stock-lending activity (i.e. the fee paid to the lending agent); Any costs associated with holding closed-ended vehicles. Cash balances and exposures are based on settled and unsettled trades as at the reporting date.

Investment policy

The Fund invests in bonds of any quality, including high yield (non-investment grade) bonds, asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities and distressed debt, issued by governments, companies or any other type of issuer, in any country. The Fund may invest up to 50% in total return swaps. Where investments are made in assets in currencies other than the base currency of the Fund, the Fund will seek to hedge those assets back to the base currency to remove the risk of currency exchange rate movements. The Fund may also invest in other assets including perpetual bonds, convertible bonds, contingent convertible bonds (CoCos), company shares (equities), preference shares, cash and money market instruments. The Investment Manager may use derivatives (complex financial instruments), including total return swaps, with the aim of making investment gains in line with the Fund's objective, to reduce risk or to manage the Fund more efficiently. The Fund is actively managed without reference to a benchmark. The Investment Manager has complete freedom to choose individual investments for the Fund and to vary allocations between different types of bonds.

Investment strategy

The Investment Manager follows a flexible strategy that seeks to deliver total returns (capital appreciation and income) from investments across the entire spectrum of fixed income assets. Using careful macroeconomic research and credit analysis, the portfolio managers actively vary the allocation to different types of bonds to suit the prevailing economic environment.

Fund specific risks

When the Fund, or a share/unit class, seeks to mitigate exchange rate movements of a currency relative to the base currency (hedge), the hedging strategy itself may positively or negatively impact the value of the Fund due to differences in short-term interest rates between the currencies. The Fund could lose money if a counterparty with which the Fund trades becomes unwilling or unable to meet its obligations, or as a result of failure or delay in operational processes or the failure of a third party provider. CoCos can fall sharply in value if the financial strength of an issuer weakens or a predetermined trigger event causes the bonds to be converted into shares/units of the issuer or to be partly or wholly written off. An issuer of a bond (or money market instrument) may become unable or unwilling to pay interest or repay capital to the Fund. If this happens or the market perceives this may happen, the value of the bond will fall. When interest rates rise (or fall), the prices of different securities will be affected differently. In particular, bond values generally fall when interest rates rise (or are expected to rise). This risk is typically greater the longer the maturity of a bond investment. The Fund invests in high yield (non-investment grade) bonds and while these generally offer higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, they are more speculative and more sensitive to adverse changes in market conditions. Some bonds (callable bonds) allow their issuers the right to repay capital early or to extend the maturity. Issuers may exercise these rights when favourable to them and as a result the value of the Fund may be impacted. If a Fund has a high exposure to a particular country or geographical region it carries a higher level of risk than a Fund which is more broadly diversified. The Fund may use derivatives to help achieve its investment objective. This can result in leverage (higher levels of debt), which can magnify an investment outcome. Gains or losses to the Fund may therefore be greater than the cost of the derivative. Derivatives also introduce other risks, in particular, that a derivative counterparty may not meet its contractual obligations. Securities within the Fund could become hard to value or to sell at a desired time and price, especially in extreme market conditions when asset prices may be falling, increasing the risk of investment losses. Some or all of the ongoing charges may be taken from capital, which may erode capital or reduce potential for capital growth.

Janus Henderson
INVESTORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [JANUSHENDERSON.COM](https://www.janushenderson.com)

Source: Janus Henderson Investors, as at 31 March 2024, unless otherwise noted.

To Argentina investors: This document includes a private invitation to invest in securities. It is addressed only to you on an individual, exclusive, and confidential basis, and its unauthorised copying, disclosure, or transfer by any means whatsoever is absolutely and strictly forbidden. Janus Henderson Investors will not provide copies of this prospectus, or provide any kind of advice or clarification, or accept any offer or commitment to purchase the securities herein referred to from persons other than the intended recipient. The offer herein contained is not a public offering, and as such it is not and will not be registered with, or authorised by, the applicable enforcement authority. The information contained herein has been compiled by Janus Henderson Investors, who assumes the sole responsibility for the accuracy of the data herein disclosed. **To Brazilian investors:** The shares in the fund may not be offered or sold to the public in Brazil. Accordingly, the shares in the fund have not been and will not be registered with the Brazilian Securities and Exchange Commission (Comissão de Valores Mobiliários, the "CVM"), nor have been submitted to the foregoing agency for approval. Documents relating to the shares in the fund, as well as the information contained therein, may not be supplied to the public in Brazil, as the offering of the shares in the fund is not a public offering of shares in Brazil, nor used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of securities to the public in Brazil. A seller of the shares in the fund may be asked by the purchaser to comply with procedural requirements to evidence previous title to the shares in the fund and may be subject to Brazilian tax on capital gains which may be withheld from the sale price. Persons wishing to offer or acquire the shares in the fund within Brazil should consult with their own counsel as to the applicability of these registration requirements or any exemption therefrom. **To Chilean investors:** ESTA OFERTA PRIVADA SE INICIA EL DÍA DE LA FECHA DEL PRESENTE DOCUMENTO Y SE ACOGE A LAS DISPOSICIONES DE LA NORMA DE CARÁCTER GENERAL N° 336 DE LA SUPERINTENDENCIA DE VALORES Y SEGUROS, HOY COMISIÓN PARA EL MERCADO FINANCIERO. ESTA OFERTA VERSA SOBRE VALORES NO INSCRITOS EN EL REGISTRO DE VALORES O EN EL REGISTRO DE VALORES EXTRANJEROS QUE LLEVA LA COMISIÓN PARA EL MERCADO FINANCIERO, POR LO QUE TALES VALORES NO

ESTÁN SUJETOS A LA FISCALIZACIÓN DE ÉSTA; POR TRATAR DE VALORES NO INSCRITOS NO EXISTE LA OBLIGACIÓN POR PARTE DEL EMISOR DE ENTREGAR EN CHILE INFORMACIÓN PÚBLICA RESPECTO DE LOS VALORES SOBRE LOS QUE VERSA ESTA OFERTA; ESTOS VALORES NO PODRÁN SER OBJETO DE OFERTA PÚBLICA MIENTRAS NO SEAN INSCRITOS EN EL REGISTRO DE VALORES CORRESPONDIENTE." An English translation : This private offer commences on the date of the present document and it avails itself of the General Regulation No. 336 of the Superintendence of Securities and Insurances (currently the Financial Markets Commission). This offer relates to securities not registered with the Securities Registry or the Registry of Foreign Securities of the Financial Markets Commission, and therefore such securities are not subject to oversight by the latter; Being unregistered securities, there is no obligation on the issuer to provide public information in Chile regarding such securities; and These securities may not be subject to a public offer until they are registered in the corresponding Securities Registry. **To Uruguayan** Private Placement Distributors and/or Financial Institutions upon request. For information purposes only. Not for onward distribution. We make reference to the Private Placement Agreement and/or your request of information, in regards to Janus Henderson Funds. This document and the content within it, is for the purposes of covering the agreement established and/or your request, to supply updated information, but in no case will be considered as forming part, replacing or complementing the information that constitutes the Fund's prospectus and key information document, and their respective means of access, as well as any other that may correspond in case of subscription. This communication and the information contained is intended solely for professional use, and is addressed to you in a determined and direct manner, and not for further distribution. Is the responsibility of any persons distributing, advising, canalizing and/or investing in shares of the Funds, including any related literature used, to comply with all applicable laws and regulations of any jurisdiction the above mentioned takes place. Nothing in this document or the content within it shall constitute a communication to acquire, sell or exchange securities and does not imply an authorization for the distribution to any person by any means of the Funds mentioned or referred to in this email or the content within it (except as provided in the respective private placement agreement, if applicable), or any other information, which should be subject to Janus Henderson prior consent. In such regards, this email does not constitute an invitation or offer to contract, to which Janus Henderson will not be obliged. In any case, the Funds mentioned or referred to on the email and the content within shall not be offered or distributed to the public in Uruguay, and/or by any means or circumstances which would constitute a public offering or distribution under Uruguayan laws and regulations. The fund/s are not and will not be registered with the Financial Services Superintendence of the Central Bank of Uruguay. The shares correspond to investment funds that are not investment funds regulated by Uruguayan law 16,774 dated September 27, 1996, as amended. **To Colombian Investors:** This document does not constitute a public offer in the Republic of Colombia. The offer of the fund is addressed to less than one hundred specifically identified investors. The fund may not be promoted or marketed in Colombia or to Colombian residents, unless such promotion and marketing is made in compliance with Decree 2555 of 2010 and other applicable rules and regulations related to the promotion of foreign funds in Colombia. The distribution of this document and the offering of Shares may be restricted in certain jurisdictions. The information contained in this document is for general guidance only, and it is the responsibility of any person or persons in possession of this document and wishing to make application for shares to inform themselves of, and to observe, all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdiction. Prospective applicants for shares should inform themselves of any applicable legal requirements, exchange control regulations and applicable taxes in the countries of their respective citizenship, residence or domicile. **To Mexican Investors:** The shares in the fund have not been and will not be registered with the National Registry of Securities, maintained by the Mexican National Banking and Securities Commission and, as a result, may not be offered or sold publicly in Mexico. The fund and any underwriter or purchaser may offer and sell the shares in the fund in Mexico on a private placement basis to Institutional and Accredited Investors pursuant to Article 8 of the Mexican Securities Market Law.

For institutional investors in Peru: The Shares on this fund have not been registered before the Superintendencia del Mercado de Valores (SMV) and are being placed by means of a private offer. SMV has not reviewed the information provided to the investor. This communication and any accompanying information (the "Materials") are intended solely for informational purposes and do not constitute (and should not be interpreted to constitute) the offering, selling, or conducting of business with respect to such securities, products or services in the jurisdiction of the addressee (this "Jurisdiction"), or the conducting of any brokerage, investment advisory, banking or other similarly regulated activities ("Financial Activities") in this Jurisdiction. Neither Janus Henderson, nor the securities, products and services described herein, are registered (or intended to be registered) in this Jurisdiction. Furthermore, neither Janus Henderson or the securities, products, services or activities described herein, are regulated or supervised by any governmental or similar authority in this Jurisdiction. The Materials are private, confidential and are sent by Janus Henderson only for the exclusive use of the addressee, who declares that it qualifies as an Institutional Investor in accordance with the laws and regulations of private offer of securities in this Jurisdiction. The Materials must not be publicly distributed and any use of the Materials by anyone other than the addressee is not authorized. The addressee is required to comply with all applicable laws in this Jurisdiction, including, without limitation, tax laws and exchange control regulations, if any. For any other investor in Peru: The Shares on this fund have not been registered before the Superintendencia del Mercado de Valores (SMV) and are being placed by means of a private offer. SMV has not reviewed the information provided to the investor. This communication and any accompanying information (the "Materials") are intended solely for informational purposes and do not constitute (and should not be interpreted to constitute) the offering, selling, or conducting of business with respect to such securities, products or services in the jurisdiction of the addressee (this "Jurisdiction"), or the conducting of any brokerage, investment advisory, banking or other similarly regulated activities ("Financial Activities") in this Jurisdiction. Neither Janus Henderson, nor the securities, products and services described herein, are registered (or intended to be registered) in this Jurisdiction. Furthermore, neither Janus Henderson or the securities, products, services or activities described herein, are regulated or supervised by any governmental or similar authority in this Jurisdiction. The Materials are private, confidential and are sent by Janus Henderson only for the exclusive use of the addressee. The Materials must not be publicly distributed and any use of the Materials by anyone other than the addressee is not authorized. The addressee is required to comply with all applicable laws in this Jurisdiction, including, without limitation, tax laws and exchange control regulations, if any. Any investment application will be made solely on the basis of the information contained in the Fund's prospectus (including all relevant covering documents), which will contain investment restrictions. This is a marketing communication and is intended as a summary only and potential investors must refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the KID before investing. Information is provided on the Fund on the strict understanding that it is to - or for clients resident outside the USA. We may record telephone calls for our mutual protection, to improve customer service and for regulatory record keeping purposes. Nothing in this communication is intended to or should be construed as advice. This communication is not a recommendation to sell or purchase any investment. It does not form part of any contract for the sale or purchase of any investment. Past performance does not predict future returns. The performance data does not take into account the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units. Deductions for charges and expenses are not made uniformly throughout the life of the investment but may be loaded disproportionately at subscription. If you withdraw from an investment up to 90 calendar days after subscribing you may be charged a Trading Fee as set out in the Fund's prospectus. This may impact the amount of money which you will receive and you may not get back the amount invested. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise significantly. Some Sub-Funds of the Fund can be subject to increased volatility due to the composition of their respective portfolios. Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may change if those circumstances or the law change. If you invest through a third party provider you are advised to consult them directly as charges, performance and terms and conditions may differ materially. The Fund is a recognised collective investment scheme for the purpose of promotion into the United Kingdom. Potential investors in the United Kingdom are advised that all, or most, of the protections afforded by the United Kingdom regulatory system will not apply to an investment in the Fund and that compensation will not be available under the United Kingdom Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The Fund is a foreign collective investment scheme registered in the Netherlands with the Authority for the Financial Markets and in with the CNMV with the number 353. A list of distributors is available at www.cnmv.es. With effect from 1 January 2023, the Key Investor Information document (KIID) changed to the Key Information

Document (KID), except in the UK where investors should continue to refer to the KIID. The Janus Henderson Horizon Fund (the "Fund") is a Luxembourg SICAV incorporated on 30 May 1985, managed by Janus Henderson Investors Europe S.A. A copy of the Fund's prospectus and key information document can be obtained from Janus Henderson Investors UK Limited in its capacity as Investment Manager and Janus Henderson Investors UK Limited and Janus Henderson Investors Europe S.A. in their capacity as Distributors. Issued by Janus Henderson Investors. Janus Henderson Investors is the name under which investment products and services are provided by Janus Henderson Investors International Limited (reg no. 3594615), Janus Henderson Investors UK Limited (reg. no. 906355), Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited (reg. no. 2678531), (each registered in England and Wales at 201 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3AE and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) and Janus Henderson Investors Europe S.A. (reg no. B22848 at 2 Rue de Bitbourg, L-1273, Luxembourg and regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier). Copies of the Fund's prospectus, Key Information Document, articles of incorporation, annual and semi-annual reports are available in English and other local languages as required from www.janushenderson.com. These documents can also be obtained free of cost from the local offices of Janus Henderson Investors: 201 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 3AE, UK. The summary of Investors Rights is available in English from <https://www.janushenderson.com/summary-of-investors-rights-english>. Janus Henderson Investors Europe S.A. may decide to terminate the marketing arrangements of this Collective Investment Scheme in accordance with the appropriate regulation. This is a marketing communication. For sustainability related aspects please access Janushenderson.com. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the KID before making any final investment decisions. Janus Henderson is a trademark of Janus Henderson Group plc or one of its subsidiaries. © Janus Henderson Group plc.