

# HORIZON GLOBAL MULTI-ASSET FUND

# At a glance

### Performance\*

The Fund returned -1.64%, the Index returned 0.45% and the Sector returned -1.92%.

#### Contributors/detractors

Equities and government bonds detracted most from fund returns while gold and macro-focused strategies made positive contributions.

#### Outlook

Peak interest rates should reduce the pressure on valuations but risks have broadened recently. We are focused on diversification given the range of potential outcomes.

# Portfolio management







Nick Harper, CFA

# Investment environment

- Global equities finished lower in October. The MSCI All Country World Index fell 2.4% in sterling terms and 3.0% in US dollars terms as the latter appreciated.
- The major equity regions all posted losses in local currency terms. The S&P 500 Index fell 2.1% and the FTSE All-Share Index fell 4.1%, the latter being weighed down by the underperformance of energy shares. Elsewhere, the MSCI Europe ex UK Index fell 3.4% and Japan's TOPIX fell 3.0%. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index fell 3.9% (in US dollar terms).
- Utilities was the only sector to avoid a loss. Of the others, technology and consumer staples held up best while consumer discretionary, industrials and energy sectors were the weakest. Growth-style shares posted smaller losses than value-style shares, helped in part by the outperformance of technology sector heavyweight Microsoft.
- In fixed income, US Treasury yields continued to rise (prices fell) amid further expectations of higher-for-longer interest rates. By contrast, German bund yields fell due to signs that a weaker European economy is bringing inflation closer to target levels. 10-year gilt yields rose slightly but yields on shorter-dated gilts fell. Corporate bond yields ended higher and credit spreads, especially in high-yield debt, widened in a sign that investors are expecting an increase in defaults.

- Gold prices ended 7% higher after an attack by Hamas on Israel led to further conflict. Concerns of a global recession were reflected in other commodity prices.
  Oil's four-month winning streak came to an abrupt end as Brent crude oil prices fell 8.3%, while copper prices - traditionally seen as a yardstick of overall economic sentiment - fell 2%.
- US Treasury yields rose again as investors priced in a higher likelihood of the Federal Reserve (Fed) delivering another rate increase. This came as core US inflation rose slightly in September and as the US labour market remained resilient. The yield on 10-year Treasuries rose a further 30 basis points, reducing the appeal of risk assets such as equities. Higher Treasury yields also led to further strength in the US dollar, which rose for a third successive month against the pound.
- Away from the US, there were further signs of an economic slowdown. In Europe, Eurostat released a lower-than-expected estimate for eurozone GDP growth over the third quarter. Meanwhile, Chinese factory activity unexpectedly contracted in October.

**Marketing communication** 

For professional and qualified investors only. Past performance does not predict future returns.

\*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.

## Portfolio review

In a tough month for most financial assets, the fund's equity and bond holdings both detracted from absolute returns. The alternatives allocation was flat overall as alternative strategies and gold made positive contributions but real assets struggled.

The fund's equity holdings detracted 1.0% from total returns. The emerging markets portfolio detracted most, followed by the allocations to UK, Japan and US equities. At the individual holding level, notable detractors included the S&P 500 Index and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

The fund's fixed income holdings detracted 0.4%. Government bonds, especially US Treasuries, were responsible for most of the losses. The allocation to investment grade bonds also made a negative contribution, while the high-yield portfolio was essentially flat.

Elsewhere, foreign exchange positions detracted 0.2%. This was largely due to positioning in the US dollar, which strengthened over the month. The fund's alternatives holdings were broadly flat as losses in real assets offset modest gains in macro-focused strategies and the fund's allocation to gold.

# Manager outlook

Markets have struggled as the higher-for-longer interest rate narrative has pushed up bond yields even further.

However, it appears that central banks are finally reaching the end of a large and rapid interest rate hiking cycle. It seems investors are only pricing in a 25% chance of a further increase from the Fed before the end of the year. It is likely that we will see greater impact in certain segments of the economy in 2024 from the increase in interest rates seen so far, with default rates already starting to rise. The focus is likely to switch back to the prospect for interest rate cuts, as long as inflation continues to slow.

However, investors also need to be cognisant of the broadening of risks, particularly political and geopolitical, that have occurred more recently. These offer a myriad of different scenarios, especially if they were to play out in the most negative ways. Against this backdrop, we think riskier asset valuations range from expensive to attractively priced, but that most developed equity markets remain at (or close to) peak earnings. In our view, this leaves an ongoing fragility in both equities and the more-leveraged credit markets. At the same time, government bonds look increasingly attractive to us as real yields are now at relative high levels compared to the last 20 years. Due to the range of potential outcomes from here, we believe that remaining well diversified is more important than ever for the fund.

# Performance (%)

	Cumulative				Annualised				
Returns	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since inception (28/07/15)	
A2 GBP (Net)	-1.64	-4.16	-2.91	0.42	-0.39	1.91	_	2.22	
Index	0.45	1.33	3.87	4.40	1.78	1.33	_	1.00	
Sector	-1.92	-4.14	-1.59	-0.09	0.63	1.25	_	2.68	
A2 GBP (Gross)	_	_	_	_	_	3.56	_	3.92	
Target		_	_	_	_	5.38	_	5.04	

Calendar year	YTD at Q3 2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015 from 28 Jul
A2 GBP (Net)	-1.30	-9.39	5.82	8.88	10.77	-4.56	6.17	7.44	-1.90
Index	3.40	1.43	0.05	0.39	0.82	0.67	0.34	0.52	0.25
Sector	0.33	-11.63	8.48	3.77	12.05	-7.42	8.59	13.59	-0.67

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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 <a href="https://www.janushenderson.com">www.janushenderson.com</a>.

# Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide a return, from a combination of capital growth and income, with volatility lower than that of equity market volatility, over the long term. Performance target: To outperform the SONIA by 4% per annum, before the deduction of charges, over any 5 year period.

For the fund's investment policy, refer to the Additional fund information on page 4.

Past performance does not predict future returns.

# **Fund details**

24 July 2015
12.98m
Mixed Asset
Luxembourg
SICAV
GBP
SONIA
GBP Flexible Allocation

## Additional fund information

Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may be subject to change. Please note the performance target is to be achieved over a specific annualised time period. Refer to the performance target wording within the objective. 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. 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 7 July 2023 Paul O'Connor no longer manages this fund. From 6 April 2021 the benchmark changed from the 3 month GBP LIBOR Interest Rate to SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average). The Fund's investment policy and performance target also changed. Past performance shown before 6 April 2021 was achieved under circumstances that no longer apply. 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 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. 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.

### Investment policy

The Fund invests in Collective Investment Schemes (other funds including those managed by Janus Henderson and Exchange Traded Funds) to provide diversified global exposure to a range of assets including shares (equities) of companies, bonds issued by companies and governments, and to a lesser extent, alternative assets such as property and commodities. The Fund may also invest in other assets including shares (equities), bonds, cash and money market instruments. The investment manager may use derivatives (complex financial instruments) to reduce risk or to manage the Fund more efficiently. The Fund is actively managed with reference to the SONIA, as this forms the basis of the Fund's performance target. For currency hedged Share Classes, the rate that corresponds with the relevant Share Class currency is used as the basis of the performance comparison. The investment manager has complete discretion to choose investments for the Fund.

## Investment strategy

The investment manager follows a strategy that combines strategic asset allocation (based on long-term return, risk and correlation expectations of various asset classes), dynamic asset allocation (giving the strategy the flexibility to reflect the team's shorter term market views and to react quickly in times of market stress), and careful underlying fund and instrument selection. The investment process is underpinned by a robust, multi-faceted approach to risk management. The strategy results in a portfolio with exposure to a wide variety of asset classes, both traditional and alternative, in the expectation that investors will benefit from the significant diversification benefits multi-asset investing provides.

### **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. Shares/Units can lose value rapidly, and typically involve higher risks than bonds or money market instruments. The value of your investment may fall as a result. The Fund invests in other funds (including exchange-traded funds and investment trusts/companies). This may introduce more risky assets, derivative usage and other risks associated with the underlying funds, as well as contributing to a higher level of ongoing charges. 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. If the Fund holds assets in currencies other than the base currency of the Fund, or you invest in a share/unit class of a different currency to the Fund (unless hedged, i.e. mitigated by taking an offsetting position in a related security), the value of your investment may be impacted by changes in exchange rates. 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.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT JANUSHENDERSON.COM

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## Horizon Global Multi-Asset Fund (as at 31/10/23)

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