

GMO STRATEGIC SHORT-TERM FUND

Summary Prospectus
June 30, 2020

Share Class: Class I Class R6

Ticker: — —

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's prospectus, statement of additional information and other information about the Fund online at <https://www.gmo.com/north-america/investment-capabilities/mutual-funds/>. You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1-617-346-7646, by sending an email request to SHS@gmo.com, or by contacting your financial intermediary. The Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, each dated June 30, 2020, each as may be revised and/or supplemented from time to time, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

Important notice regarding delivery of shareholder reports. Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC ("GMO") expects that paper copies of each Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports by writing or emailing GMO Shareholder Services at the address below or by contacting your financial intermediary, such as a broker or agent. Instead, reports will be available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. If you are a direct investor, you may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Fund electronically by contacting GMO Shareholder Services or if you own your shares through a financial intermediary, you may contact your financial intermediary. Beginning January 1, 2019, you may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. If you invest through a financial intermediary, you can contact your financial intermediary to request to continue to receive paper copies of your shareholder reports or you can follow instructions included with this disclosure. If you invest directly with the Fund, you can contact GMO Shareholder Services at: Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC, 40 Rowes Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 or by telephone at 1-617-346-7646 (collect). Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all Funds held directly with the Trust.

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Investment objective

Total return in excess of the FTSE 3-Month Treasury Bill Index consistent with capital preservation and daily liquidity.

Fees and expenses

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you may bear for each class of shares if you buy and hold shares of the Fund.

Annual Fund operating expenses

(expenses that you bear each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

| | Class R6 | Class I |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Management fee | 0.15% ¹ | 0.15% ¹ |
| Other expenses | 0.05% ² | 0.15% ^{2,3} |
| Total annual fund operating expenses | 0.20% ² | 0.30% ² |
| Expense reimbursement/waiver | (0.00%) ^{1,2} | (0.00%) ^{1,2,3} |
| Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursement/waiver | 0.20% ² | 0.30% ² |

¹ Includes both management fee of 0.05% and class-specific shareholder service fee, if any, for each class of shares. For additional information about the shareholder service fee applicable to each class of shares of the Fund, please see the table included in the section of the Prospectus entitled "Multiple Classes and Eligibility." Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC ("GMO") has contractually agreed to reimburse the Fund for the portion of its "Specified Operating Expenses" (as defined below) that exceeds 0.05% of the Fund's average daily net assets. "Specified Operating Expenses" means only the following expenses: audit expenses, fund accounting expenses, pricing service expenses, expenses of non-investment related tax services, transfer agency expenses (excluding, in the case of Class I shares, any amounts paid for sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping and other administrative services provided by financial intermediaries with respect to Class I shareholders), expenses of non-investment related legal services provided to the Fund by or at the direction of GMO, organizational and start-up expenses, federal securities law filing expenses, printing expenses, state and federal registration fees and custody expenses. GMO is permitted to recover from the Fund, on a class-by-class basis, "Specified Operating Expenses" it has borne or reimbursed (whether through reduction of its fees or otherwise) to the extent that the Fund's "Specified Operating Expenses" later fall below the annualized rate of 0.05% per year or the lower expense limit in effect when GMO seeks to recover the expenses. The Fund, however, is not obligated to pay any such amount more than three years after GMO bore or reimbursed an expense. Any such recovery will not cause the Fund to exceed the annual limitation rate set forth above or the lower expense limit as is in effect at the time GMO seeks to recover expenses. GMO also has contractually agreed to waive or reduce the Fund's management fees and shareholder service fees to the extent necessary to offset the management fees and shareholder service fees paid to GMO that are directly or indirectly borne by the Fund or a class of shares of the Fund as a result of the Fund's direct or indirect investments in other series of GMO Trust ("GMO Funds"). Management fees and shareholder service fees will not be waived below zero. These reimbursements and waivers will continue through at least June 30, 2021 and may not be terminated prior to this date without the action or consent of the Trust's Board of Trustees.

² The amounts represent an annualized estimate of the Fund's operating expenses for its initial fiscal year.

³ Includes estimate of payments for sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping and other administrative services for Class I's initial fiscal year. GMO has contractually agreed to waive its fees with respect to and/or reimburse Class I shares to the extent that amounts paid by the Fund out of the net assets attributable to Class I shares for sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping and other administrative services provided by financial intermediaries with respect to Class I shareholders exceed 0.10% of the average daily net assets attributable to Class I shares. This reimbursement will continue through at least June 30, 2021 and may not be terminated prior to this date without the action or consent of the Trust's Board of Trustees.

Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated, regardless of whether or not you redeem your shares at the end of such periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same as those shown in the table. The one year amounts shown reflect the expense reimbursement and waiver noted in the expense table. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years |
|----------|--------|---------|
| Class R6 | \$20 | \$64 |
| Class I | \$31 | \$97 |

Portfolio turnover

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities. A higher portfolio turnover rate may result in higher transaction costs and, for holders of Fund shares subject to U.S. taxes, higher income taxes. These transaction costs, which are not reflected in Annual Fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. Because the Fund had not commenced operations as of the fiscal year ended February 29, 2020, the Fund has no reportable portfolio turnover rate.

Principal investment strategies

The Fund seeks total return (net of fees) in excess of the FTSE 3-Month Treasury Bill Index, consistent with capital preservation and daily liquidity. The Fund invests primarily in high quality liquid assets, including fixed income securities and floating rate notes issued by the U.S. government and its agencies and instrumentalities; fixed income securities issued by non-U.S. developed countries and their agencies and instrumentalities; money market instruments (including corporate debt and commercial paper); reverse repurchase agreements; and repurchase agreements. The Fund also may invest in other exchange-traded and over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives, such as forward currency contracts or other instruments intended to hedge non-U.S. currency exposure. The Fund has a fundamental investment policy to concentrate its investments in the fixed income securities of the governments, agencies or instrumentalities of the United States and other developed market countries.

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The Fund's fixed income securities may include all types of interest rate, payment, and reset terms. While the Fund primarily invests in high quality liquid assets, it may invest in securities that are not high quality and may hold bonds and other fixed income securities whose ratings were reduced below high quality after they were acquired. "High quality" liquid assets include securities and commercial paper that are rated Aa/P-1 or better by Moody's or AA/A-1 or better by S&P and other securities (including securities that are unrated or rated by ratings organizations other than Moody's and S&P) that GMO determines have comparable credit qualities. The Fund also may invest in agency and supra sovereign securities, such as those issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank and the World Bank, and in money market funds unaffiliated with GMO.

The Fund is not a money market fund and is not subject to the maturity, quality, diversification and other requirements applicable to money market funds.

GMO will normally seek to maintain a dollar-weighted average maturity of two years or less for the Fund's portfolio. GMO will normally seek to maintain an estimated interest rate duration of 365 days or less for the Fund's portfolio. For an additional discussion of duration, see "Additional Information About the Funds' Investment Strategies, Risks and Expenses — Bond Funds — Duration." GMO estimates the Fund's dollar-weighted average interest rate duration by aggregating the durations of the Fund's direct and indirect individual holdings and weighting each holding based on its market value.

In selecting investments for the Fund's portfolio, GMO focuses primarily on the relative attractiveness of an investment by examining its expected total return, liquidity, diversification and credit quality. The factors GMO considers and investment methods GMO uses can change over time.

Principal risks of investing in the Fund

The value of the Fund's shares changes with the value of the Fund's investments. Many factors can affect this value, and you may lose money by investing in the Fund. References to investments include those held directly by the Fund and indirectly through the Fund's investments in any underlying funds in which it invests. The Fund is a *non-diversified investment company* under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and therefore a decline in the market price of a particular security held by the Fund may affect the Fund's performance more than if the Fund were a diversified investment company. The principal risks of investing in the Fund are summarized below. For a more complete discussion of these risks, including those risks to which the Fund is exposed as a result of its investments in any underlying funds, see "Additional Information about the Funds' Investment Strategies, Risks, and Expenses" and "Description of Principal Risks."

- **Market Risk – Fixed Income** – The market price of a fixed income security can decline due to market-related factors, primarily rising interest rates.
- **Credit Risk** – The Fund runs the risk that the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income investment or the obligors of obligations underlying an asset-backed security will be unable or unwilling to satisfy their obligations to pay principal and interest or otherwise to honor their obligations in a timely manner. The market price of a fixed income investment will normally decline as a result of the issuer's, guarantor's, or obligors' failure to meet their payment obligations or in anticipation of such failure. Securities issued by the U.S. government historically have presented minimal credit risk. However, events in 2011 led to a downgrade in the long-term credit rating of U.S. bonds by several major rating agencies and introduced greater uncertainty about the repayment by the United States of its obligations. A further credit rating downgrade could decrease, and a U.S. credit default would decrease, the value of the Fund's investments. Securities issued by non-U.S. developed countries are subject to the same risks and associated decrease in value.
- **Non-U.S. Investment Risk** – The market prices of many non-U.S. securities (particularly of companies tied economically to emerging countries) fluctuate more than those of U.S. securities. Many non-U.S. securities markets (particularly emerging markets) are less stable, smaller, less liquid, and less regulated than U.S. securities markets, and the cost of trading in those markets often is higher than in U.S. securities markets. In addition, issuers of non-U.S. securities (particularly those tied economically to emerging countries) often are not subject to as much regulation as U.S. issuers, and the reporting, accounting, custody, and auditing standards to which those issuers are subject often are not as rigorous as U.S. standards. Transactions in non-U.S. securities generally involve higher commission rates, transfer taxes, and custodial costs than similar transactions in U.S. securities. In addition, the Fund may be subject to non-U.S. taxes, potentially on a retroactive basis, on (i) capital gains it realizes or dividends, interest, or other amounts it realizes or accrues in respect of non-U.S. investments; (ii) transactions in those investments; and (iii) repatriation of proceeds generated from the sale or other disposition of those investments. Also, the Fund needs a license to invest directly in securities traded in many non-U.S. securities markets, and the Fund is subject to the risk that it could not invest if its license were terminated or suspended. In some non-U.S. securities markets, prevailing custody and trade settlement practices (e.g., the requirement to pay for securities prior to receipt) expose the Fund to credit and other risks. Further, adverse changes in investment regulations, capital requirements or exchange controls could adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments. These and other risks (e.g., nationalization, expropriation or other confiscation of assets of non-U.S. issuers, difficulties in obtaining and enforcing legal judgments) tend to be greater for investments in the securities of companies tied economically to emerging countries. The economies of emerging countries may be predominantly based on only a few industries or dependent on revenues from particular commodities, and often are more volatile than the economies of developed countries.

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- *Large Shareholder Risk* – To the extent that a large number of shares of the Fund is held by a single shareholder (e.g., an institutional investor or another GMO Fund) or a group of shareholders with a common investment strategy (e.g., GMO asset allocation accounts), the Fund is subject to the risk that a redemption by those shareholders of all or a large portion of their Fund shares will require the Fund to sell securities at disadvantageous prices or otherwise disrupt the Fund’s operations.
- *Management and Operational Risk* – The Fund runs the risk that GMO’s investment techniques will fail to produce desired results. The Fund also runs the risk that deficiencies in GMO’s or another service provider’s internal systems or controls will cause losses for the Fund or impair Fund operations.
- *Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk* – Geopolitical and other events (e.g., wars, pandemics, terrorism) may disrupt securities markets and adversely affect global economies and markets. Those events, as well as other changes in non-U.S. and U.S. economic and political conditions, could reduce the value of the Fund’s investments.
- *Derivatives and Short Sales Risk* – The use of derivatives involves the risk that their value may not change as expected relative to changes in the value of the underlying assets, pools of assets, rates, currencies or indices. Derivatives also present other risks, including market risk, illiquidity risk, currency risk, credit risk, and counterparty risk. The market price of an option is affected by many factors, including changes in the market prices or dividend rates of underlying securities (or in the case of indices, the securities in such indices); the time remaining before expiration; changes in interest rates or exchange rates; and changes in the actual or perceived volatility of the relevant stock market and underlying securities. The Fund may create short investment exposure by taking a derivative position in which the value of the derivative moves in the opposite direction from the price of an underlying asset, pool of assets, rate, currency or index. The risks of loss associated with derivatives that provide short investment exposure and short sales of securities are theoretically unlimited.
- *Counterparty Risk* – The Fund runs the risk that the counterparty to a derivatives contract, a clearing member used by the Fund to hold a cleared derivatives contract, or a borrower of the Fund’s securities is unable or unwilling to make timely settlement payments, return the Fund’s margin or otherwise honor its obligations.
- *Currency Risk* – Fluctuations in exchange rates can adversely affect the market value of the Fund’s foreign currency holdings and investments denominated in foreign currencies.

Performance

Because the Fund had not yet completed a full calendar year of operations as of the date of this Prospectus, performance information for the Fund is not included.

Management of the Fund

Investment Adviser: Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC

Investment Team and Senior Member of GMO primarily responsible for portfolio management of the Fund:

| Investment Team | Senior Member (Length of Service with Fund) | Title |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Short Duration Strategies | Tracey Keenan (since the Fund’s inception in 2019) | Portfolio Manager, Short Duration Strategies Team, GMO. |

Purchase and sale of Fund shares

Under ordinary circumstances, you may purchase the Fund’s shares directly from GMO Trust (the “Trust”) on days when both (i) the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open for business and (ii) when markets in which the Fund has significant investment exposure are also open for business. In addition, some brokers and agents are authorized to accept purchase and redemption orders on the Funds’ behalf. Investors who have entered into agreements with the Trust may purchase shares of the Fund through the National Securities Clearing Corporation (“NSCC”).

Each of Class R6 shares and Class I shares are available for purchase by (i) eligible retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit-sharing and money purchase pension plans, defined benefit plans and non-qualified deferred compensation plans), (ii) section 529 plans and other omnibus accounts, and (iii) any other investors whose accounts are maintained by the Fund through third-party platforms or intermediaries. There is no minimum investment amount to purchase Class R6 shares or Class I shares.

Fund shares are redeemable. Under ordinary circumstances, you may redeem the Fund’s shares on days when both (i) the NYSE is open for business and (ii) when markets in which the Fund has significant investment exposure are also open for business. Redemption orders should be submitted directly to the Trust unless the Fund shares to be redeemed were purchased through a broker or agent, in which case the redemption order should be submitted to that broker or agent. Investors who have entered into agreements with the Trust may redeem shares of the Fund through the NSCC. For instructions on redeeming shares directly, call the Trust at 1-617-346-7646 or send an email to SHS@GMO.com.

U.S. tax information

The Fund intends to elect to be treated, and intends to qualify and be treated each year, as a regulated investment company (a “RIC”) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) for U.S. federal income tax purposes and to distribute net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders. These distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gain to U.S. shareholders that are not exempt from U.S. income tax or investing through a tax-advantaged account. U.S. shareholders who are investing through a tax-advantaged account may be taxed upon withdrawals from that account.

Financial intermediary compensation

The Fund makes payments out of the net assets attributable to Class I shares for sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping and other administrative services provided by financial intermediaries with respect to Class I shareholders. In addition, GMO pays brokers, agents, or other financial intermediaries for transfer agency and related services. These payments create a conflict of interest by creating a financial incentive for the broker or other financial intermediary and salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. GMO also makes payments to financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares, which creates a similar conflict of interest. Ask your salesperson or consult your financial intermediary’s website for more information.