

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

Multi-Asset Credit Strategy

Performance returns (USD)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Multi-Asset Credit Strategy (net)	2.65	4.28	-	-	-	-	4.28
Multi-Asset Credit Strategy (gross)	2.76	4.44	-	-	-	-	4.44
GMO Multi-Asset Credit Blended Benchmark	3.06	5.09	-	-	-	-	5.09
Value Add vs. GMO Multi-Asset Credit Blended Benchmark	-0.42	-0.81	-	-	-	-	-0.81
SOFR Index Plus 3%	1.82	2.44	-	-	-	-	2.44
Value Add vs. SOFR Index Plus 3%	+0.82	+1.84	-	-	-	-	+1.84

MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

The GMO Multi-Asset Credit Benchmark (equal-weighted index comprised of Bloomberg U.S. High Yield, Bloomberg U.S. Corporate, Bloomberg U.S. Securitized, and J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified indices) returned 3.1% for the period. Spreads over Treasury tightened across sectors, while 2-year and 10-year Treasury yields fell by 11 and 8 bps, respectively, ending at 3.61% and 4.15%, contributing positively to interest rate returns. In corporate credit markets, High Yield (HY) outperformed Investment Grade (IG) on an excess return basis, 1.3% vs 1.0%, respectively, and underperformed on a total return basis – both sectors posted strong total (2.5% and 2.6%, respectively) and excess returns, benefiting from spread compression and an interest rate rally during the period. Emerging Debt generated a strong excess return of 3.3%, outperforming both HY (1.3%) and U.S. Securitized (0.8%) while also leading the way in total returns space with 4.8%, further benefiting from falling Treasury yields.

The portfolio underperformed the benchmark, primarily due to negative contributions from credit allocation and duration positioning, and partially offset by positive credit selection.

Within the credit allocation category, an underweight position in Emerging Debt detracted the most, followed by overweight positions in Structured Products and Agency MBS. Additional headwinds came from an overweight position in Cash/Cash equivalents. A positive allocation offset came from underweight positions in Corporate IG and HY.

RISKS

Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include: (1) Credit Risk: the risk that the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income investment or the obligor of an obligation underlying an asset-backed security will be unable or unwilling to satisfy its obligation to pay principal and interest or otherwise to honor its obligations in a timely manner; (2) Market Risk-Asset-Backed Securities Risk: the market price of asset-backed securities, like that of other fixed income investments with complex structures, can decline for a variety of reasons, including investor uncertainty about their credit quality and the reliability of their payment streams. Payment streams associated with asset-backed securities held by the Fund depend on many factors (e.g., the cash flow generated by the assets backing the securities, deal structure, and creditworthiness of any credit-support provider), and a problem in any of these factors can lead to a reduction in the payment stream GMO expected the Fund to receive when the Fund purchased the asset-backed security; and (3) Illiquidity Risk: low trading volume, lack of a market maker, large position size, or legal restrictions may limit or prevent the Fund from selling particular securities or closing derivative positions at desirable prices. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information.

Composite Inception Date: 31-May-25

Performance Returns: Performance for the year of inception is less than a full calendar year. Returns shown for periods greater than one year are on an annualized basis. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit www.gmo.com. **Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not predictive of future performance.** Net returns are presented after the deduction of a model advisory fee and incentive fee if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions and withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. Fees paid by accounts within the composite may be higher or lower than the model fees used. Gross returns are presented gross of management fees and any incentive fees if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions, withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. If management and incentive fees were deducted performance would be lower. For example, if, before fees, the strategy were to achieve a 10% annual rate of return above its hurdle rate each year for ten years, and an annual advisory fee of 1% and incentive fee of 20% of net returns above the hurdle rate were charged during that period, the resulting average annual net return (after the deduction of management and incentive fees) would be approximately 7.20%. **GMO does not yet have a GIPS-compliant report for this composite since it has not managed accounts in this strategy for a full year.**

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MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS CONT.

Duration positioning contributed negatively over the period, with the duration management partially mitigating the impact of lower-duration structured products exposure. We anticipate maintaining portfolio duration below that of the benchmark, which averaged 5.5 years over the period vs the portfolio's average of 3.8 years. This duration positioning may lead to a negative impact on alpha in rates rallies, as was the case in this period, and a positive one in rates sell-off environments.

Within the credit selection category, GMO Emerging Debt added value, driven by overweights in lower-quality sovereigns Venezuela, Colombia, Lebanon, and Kenya. Security selection in Argentina, Mexico, and Peru was strong, while positions in Brazil detracted. Additionally, GMO Structured Products exposure contributed positively to relative returns as selection in CMBS, ABS, and non-Agency MBS outperformed Agency MBS in excess return space. The reference benchmark, the Bloomberg U.S. Securitized Index, which has a heavy Agency MBS weighting, underperformed the GMO Structured Products diversified securitized exposure. Lastly, credit selection in GMO's Corporate IG was also additive, driven by strong credit selection within the Consumer Cyclical, Non-Cyclical, and Capital Goods sectors.

During the quarter, the portfolio reduced Emerging Country Debt and Corporate IG positions, shortened duration following the late-June rates rally, and initiated a tactical short position in leveraged loans via total return swaps (TRS). Additionally, we increased allocations to short-term U.S. Treasuries as we continue to be positioned conservatively in this environment of tight spreads.

At quarter end, approximately 69% of the portfolio was rated Investment Grade (BBB or higher), 43% of the portfolio was invested in Structured Products, 7.3% in Emerging Debt (including CDX hedge), 12% in High Yield, 7.2% in Investment Grade Corporates, 9.7% in Agency MBS, 5% in Credit Momentum positions, and 5% short position in leveraged loans via TRS, as well as 10.5% in U.S. Treasury securities.

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PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Multi-Asset Credit Strategy seeks to maximize alpha potential by harvesting the most attractively priced credit risk premia through a dynamic allocation process across the credit spectrum. Our team utilizes a robust research framework that combines top-down and bottom-up analysis along with fundamental and quantitative techniques across various fixed income markets, including Emerging Country Debt, Structured Products, High Yield, Investment Grade, Loans, and Mortgages. Our investment process places a strong emphasis on relative value analysis, allowing us to employ a benchmark agnostic investment style that sets us apart. We have the agility to capitalize on fleeting relative value opportunities across fixed income markets, ensuring we stay ahead of market dynamics. Our Strategy maintains a balanced approach between risk and return by focusing on capital preservation during market downturns, and avoiding premium priced securities in overvalued markets.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Benchmark(s): The Multi-Asset Credit Blended Benchmark is an internally maintained benchmark computed by GMO, comprised of (i) 25% Bloomberg U.S. Securitized Index, (ii) 25% Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Index, (iii) 25% Bloomberg U.S. Corporate Index, and (iv) 25% J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified.

The above information is based on a representative account in the Strategy selected because it has the fewest restrictions and best represents the implementation of the Strategy.

For private bank intermediaries in Singapore and Hong Kong, these materials are intended for institutional and Accredited/Professional Investors Use Only.

ABOUT GMO

Founded in 1977, GMO is a global asset manager committed to delivering superior performance and advice to our clients. We are privately owned, which allows us to singularly focus on our sole business – achieving outstanding long-term client investment outcomes. Offering multi-asset, equity, fixed income, and alternative strategies, we invest with a long-term, valuation-based philosophical approach.

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*GMO's West Coast Hub is comprised of members of Investment, Global Client Relations, and other teams located in and around the Greater San Francisco area

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