

Retrospective & perspective

During July, government bond markets in developed countries have generally moved sideways, while emerging debt has continued on its upwards trend. The markets benefited both from the decline in USD-denominated yields and from higher commodity prices. Within advanced nations, dollar investments (0.2%) continued to outperform due to the narrowing of the cyclical gap between the United States and the rest of the world. CAD (-0.3%) and to a lesser extent CHF (-2%) bonds corrected the most. Under the influence of better-than-expected earnings announcements, credit premiums tightened further, as Euro-denominated bonds posted excess returns relative to their counterparts denominated in USD. The high-yield borrowing segment consolidated, penalized by the energy sector.

In the previous month, foreign exchange markets were characterized by the continuation of the decline of the USD against the EUR (-3.4%), which was caused by the narrowing in cyclical spreads. The currency environment was also marked by the overall strengthening of emerging currencies and the sharp rise in currencies linked to commodity price developments such as the CAD (3.3%), AUD (2.4%) and NOK (3.1%). In Europe, we witnessed the pronounced decline of the Swiss franc against the Euro (4.3%).

The fund appreciated by 0.30% vs. 0.33% for its benchmark.

With a still very expensive valuation, government bonds will continue on their downwards trend for the next 6 months. In the short term, bond markets will be affected by the increase in real yields linked to a more intensive use of inputs. In the longer term, they will be penalized by rising inflationary pressures. It is therefore necessary to reduce exposure to reach a more significant underweighting, and to further reduce durations. During the second half of the year, inflation-linked bonds will remain underweight. Conversely, variable-rate borrowings will be privileged. In terms of monetary allocation, assets denominated in AUD remain overweight due to the limited short-term economic recovery and low inflationary pressures in Australia. Investments in USD and NOK should be reduced to be moderately underweight, with the former being affected by higher valuations and the latter by the expected recovery of growth in Norway. Conversely, CAD and JPY commitments can be increased due to a more favourable monetary environment. Investments in EUR, and to a lesser extent in CHF and GBP, are still highly overvalued and must be further reduced in order to be more strongly underexposed and with durations close to their minimum level. Regarding debtor categories, corporate bonds remain overweight in view of the continued improvement in the financial health of companies. Private issuers in EUR continue to be privileged in view of the more marked improvement in their margins and their very low level of debt.

Burdened with a more expensive valuation following its recent increases, the EUR can now be reduced. It must however remain overweight due to the decrease in its risk premium and to the continued narrowing in currency spreads between the United States and the Eurozone.

Sources of return (in order of importance)

90%

- Market allocation
- Duration allocation
- Currency allocation
- Weighting categories debtor

10%

- Issuer selection
- « Yield enhancement »

Investment strategy

Generate regular income while giving special attention to capital preservation in periods of rising yields and appreciation of the US Dollar

Investment philosophy and process

Provide sustainable asset management, generating superior performances versus the domestic bond market through increased international diversification, without increasing risks thanks to dynamic risk management of interest rates, issuer categories and currencies. This dynamic risk management is provided by a multifactorial model (1875 MAP).

Glossary

<i>BM</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
<i>Citi WorldBIG</i>	<i>Citibank World Broad Investment Grade Bond index</i>
<i>PRI</i>	<i>Principles for Responsible Investments</i>

About 1875 FINANCE

1875 FINANCE is positioned as both an innovative company and a guardian of the Geneva financial tradition, building its difference on three business lines, Institutional Asset Management, Private Banking and Multi-Family Office. As a PRI (Principles for Responsible Investments) signatory, 1875 FINANCE provides effective sustainable asset management integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) criteria for all asset classes. Using a unique proprietary model, 1875 MAP, dedicated to dynamic tactical allocation management, and relying for the selection of securities on the analysis of partners, who are pioneers and key players in sustainable investing, 1875 FINANCE offers pension funds both balanced management and overlay services, but also global equity and global bond mandates.



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