BLACKROCK®

Rethinking Fixed Income

Scott Thiel, Deputy CIO of Fundamental Fixed Income

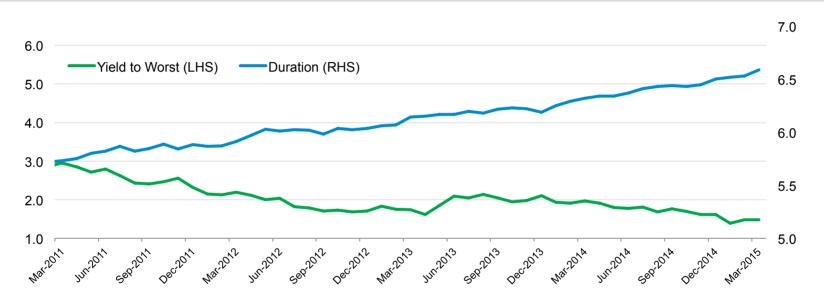
April 2015

Where next for global fixed income?

- ▶ The world is in an exceptionally low yield environment
- ▶ Global monetary policy looks set to truly diverge
- Normalisation of US interest rates is unlikely to be smooth for financial markets
- Risks and opportunities emerging markets
- How do we approach this new world?

Yields have fallen to record low levels

Global Aggregate Index yield and duration



Zero return 'breakeven' increase in yield = 22bps

Source: Barclays Live, BlackRock, Thomson Reuters



Yields have fallen to record low levels

Disappearing yields

Negative Yields in Government Bond Markets



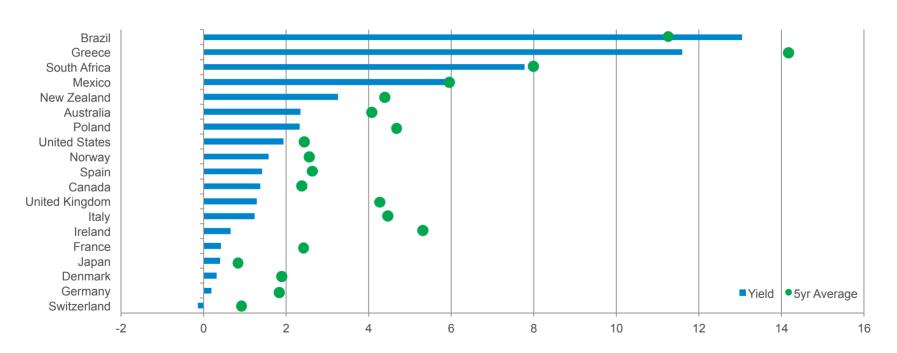
Positive Negative

BlackRock Investment Institute, Tomson Reuters, March 2015



Generating yield in fixed income without sacrificing principal protection is increasingly challenging

Global 10-year government bond current yields vs 5yr average

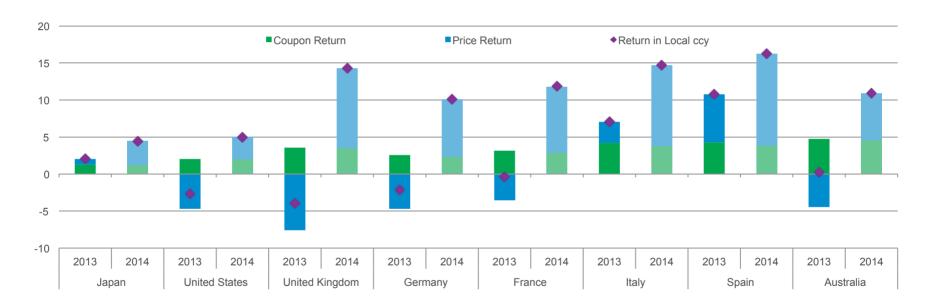


Source: Thomson Reuters and Bloomberg as of 07 April 2015



Generating yield in fixed income without sacrificing principal protection is increasingly challenging

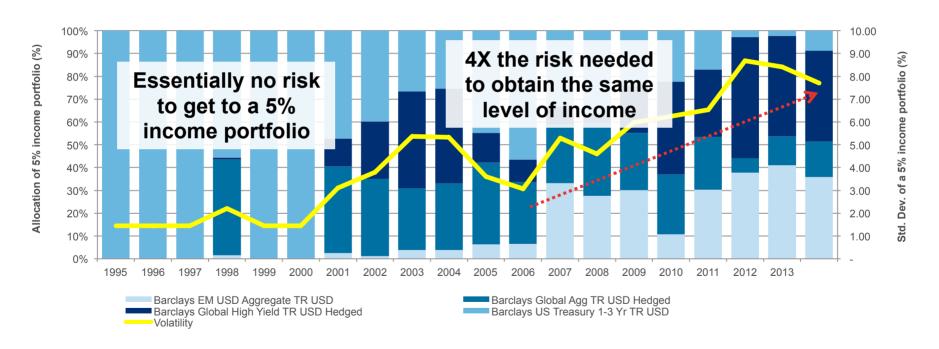
Global Treasury bond market performance (%)



Source: Barclays

Reaching for yield has its risks

The standard deviation of a 5% income portfolio has multiplied more than 4 times



Source: Morningstar, Inc and Barclays Capital. as of 31 December 2014. Risk represented by average standard deviation from 1995 – 2014 calculated using monthly returns. Yield represented by Yield to Worst



Growth and inflation are causing central bank monetary policies to diverge

Easing



ECB commenced QE programme this year



BoJ is a pioneer of QE: Size and Scale

Next step interest rate rise?



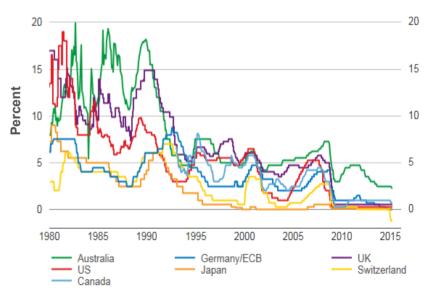
Fed expected to raise interest rates



Source: Thomson Reuters Datastream, BlackRock Investment Institute 26/03/2015

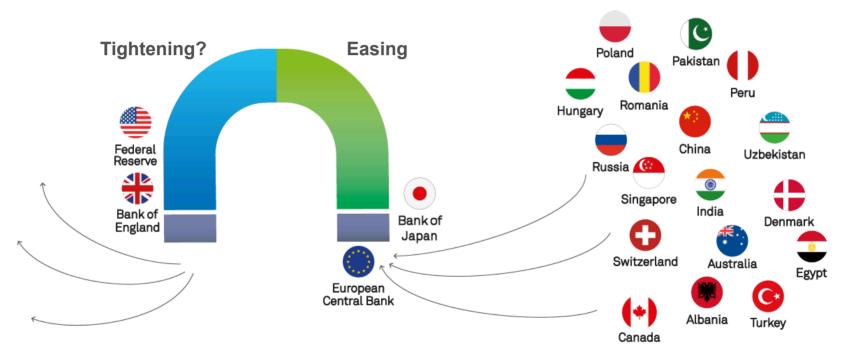
Historical central bank policy rates

Central Bank Interests Rates



But so far this year most central bank action has been on the easing side

Magnetic pull of easing



Source: BlackRock, March 2015. Note: for illustrative purposes only



Volatility has already increased – we can expect a bumpy ride to rate normalisation

Global FX Volatility

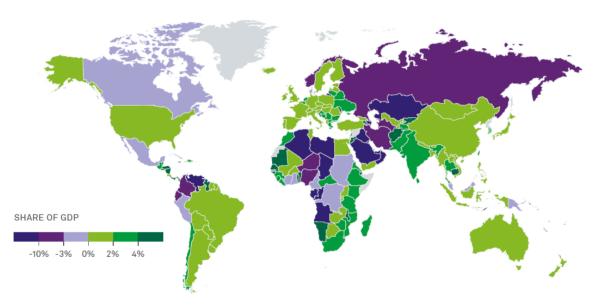
GDP weighted range-based FX volatility measure for 20 largest economies (difference between maximum and minimum in 26-week rolling window)



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research, March 2015

Lower oil prices create risks and opportunities within emerging markets

Oil spill-over: revenue impact of \$50 oil price fall, 2015



- Lower energy prices benefit many EMs due to improved trade balances, reduced government subsidies and lower inflation
- India for example should be a key winner
- Emerging oil exporters, on the other hand, have seen a sharp deterioration in their export and fiscal receipts
- ▶ These include Venezuela, Russia, Ecuador, and Kazakhstan

Sources: BlackRock Investment Institute, EIA and IMF, January 2015. Notes: the map shows estimated revenues gained or lost from a \$50 fall in the price of oil as a share of GDP. The impact is calculated by taking each country's 2013 net imports of oil, multiplying this by \$50 and then translating the total into a share of 2014 GDP.



For fixed income, this leads us to some principles for a new approach

Deliver consistent, high risk-adjusted returns in all environments

Be Flexible

Remove benchmark constraints

Retain the general risk profile of conservative fixed income investments

Be Diversified

Seek out best opportunities globally
Seek a low correlation to traditional fixed income indices

Retain "Tail-risk" hedge characteristics

Mitigate Losses

Aim to hedge tail-risk and control volatility to deliver attractive risk-adjusted returns



BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities ('FIGO')

BlackRock's flexible fixed income strategy is designed to:

- Generate consistent, attractive risk-adjusted returns across all market environments
- Retain the general risk profile of conservative fixed income investments

The platform:

Flexible Fixed Income Platform

Fixed Income Global Opportunities (Aust) (Australian Vehicle) Launched in Aug 2014 BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities (UCITS) US\$7.4 billion

US Mutual Fund
US\$29.3 billion

The strategy seeks the following objectives:

Flexible generation of fixed income alpha

Invests in diversified portfolio of fixed income return sources Sector allocation flexibility and wide duration band of -2 to +7 years Target performance return: Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index + 4-6 p.a. (net of fees)¹

Broad diversification, lower absolute risk and correlation

Seeks to provide lower absolute risk through diversified alpha and risk exposures Results in less correlation to traditional fixed income indices

Downside protection through dynamic risk budgeting

Unique process aims to hedge tail-risk and control volatility to generate better risk-adjusted returns

Data as of 31/03/2015

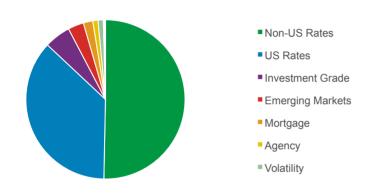
^{1.} The manager cannot guarantee that the intended target rate will be achieved. In addition, over time the target rate is subject to change.



FIGO is a diversified solution designed to perform in all rate environments

Flexible fixed income utilises an expanded opportunity set well beyond interest rate risk

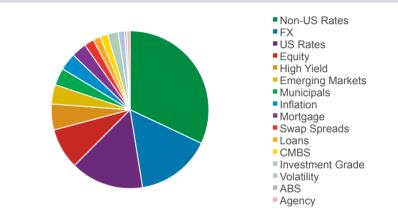
Risk allocation for Barclays Global Aggregate (AUD Hedged)



Duration	6.29 years
Yield*	3.39%
Risk:	276 bps

87% of the portfolio risk is concentrated in interest rates (i.e. duration risk)

Risk allocation for FIGO (AUD Hedged) Portfolio



Duration	0.91 years
Yield*	3.97%
Risk:	132 bps

Flexibility translates into attractive returns with lower overall risk

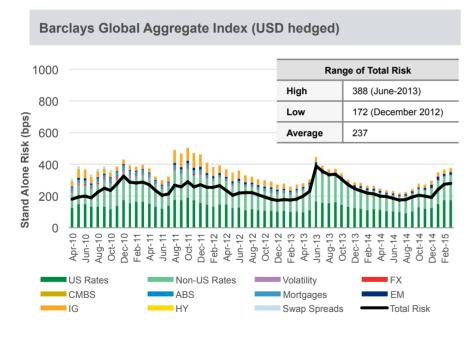
^{1.} Yield to Worst. Includes projected annualised yield impact based on current interest differentials between Australia and the US from currency hedging.

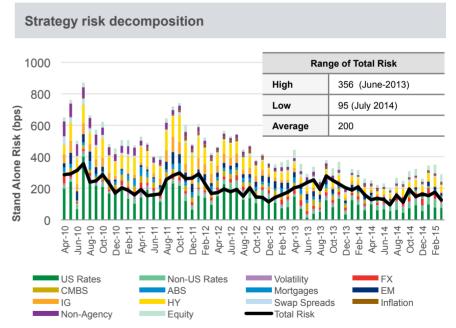
Source: BlackRock Solutions ('BRS') & Bloomberg. Ex-ante risk based on the BRS Portfolio Risk model; Pie charts show relative standalone risks of exposures. All data as of 31/03/2015.



The strategy provides greater diversification than the Barclays Global Aggregate

The strategy has the flexibility to manage risk exposures based upon the market environment and opportunity set





Source: BlackRock Solutions, Barclays as of 31 March 2015. Data shown is for a representative account for illustrative purposes only. The representative account is the BlackRock vehicle with longest tenure running the strategy. Strategy inception date March 2010. Strategy adopted by FIGO as of June 2013.



FIGO investment team leverages the full power of BlackRock's resources

Deep resources and specialized market insights enable unbiased focus on best investment opportunities

42 sector specialists



BlackRock's Fundamental Fixed Income Platform

Global sector specialists responsible for sector oversight, research, analysis, security selection, and trade execution

Global Rates Strategy	Agenc	y MBS	Muni	cipals	Securitiz	ed Assets	US IG Corporat	e Credit
16 sector specialists	11 sector s	specialists	34 sector	specialists	15 sector	specialists	17 sector spec	cialists
US Levera	ged Finance	Europea	n Credit	Asia P	acific	Emerging	Markets	

11 sector specialists

13 sector specialists

43 sector specialists



^{*}As of 31 December 2014 (Years at BlackRock / Years in Industry)

Unique process integrates macro, sector and security selection insights

Process employs best ideas across BlackRock's global fixed income platform to:

- ▶ Establish the macro investment regime
- ▶ Budget risk to the highest quality alpha sources that can provide diversified risk-adjusted returns

Portfolio Management

Daily investment and risk dashboard review helps the team monitor and understand risk/reward trade-offs

Security selection

Lead PMs direct sub-sector risk allocation with input from the sector teams

- Sector Specialists identify bottom-up opportunities based on extensive relative value analysis and local market expertise
- Sector Specialists implement trades for their sector based on assigned risk budgets

Regime identification

Lead PMs analyse level and trajectory of global economic growth and form macro view

- Examine global growth, inflation, and implications on economic policy
- Identify regime associated with market conditions, as well as pace and direction of regime changes
- Build thesis from deep fundamental research across the platform, resulting in CIO Monthly Call

Asset allocation

Lead PMs determine asset allocation based on economic regime and expected risk-adjusted returns

- Identify what assets perform well in current and historical regime
- Assess current valuation of those assets
- Optimally allocate risk to sector specialists, based on conviction in different sectors

Risk Management

Team leverages RQA and BlackRock's proprietary Aladdin® system for risk and scenario analysis, attribution, and hedging



Flexible process invests in the most attractive global fixed income opportunities

FIGO incorporates an optimal mix of traditional and non-traditional strategies

Opportunity set Flexible strategy risk budgeting 2013* 2014* Traditional US fixed income Expands traditional Core Bond opportunity set US Core Plus sectors Government bonds High vield Securitized products Investment grade credit Agency MBS Municipal bonds Traditional global fixed income Tactically allocates risk more diversely throughout the world Global Global **Emerging market** Sovereigns Sovereians Asian credit Credit European credit Non-traditional Fixed Income Implements macro hedges and long/short alternative strategies Non-traditional Macro Absolute return Duration / Yield curve Beta neutral Long. short relative value Sovereign / Credit Capital structure arbitrage FX Systematic trading Equity

Source: BlackRock. *The above pie charts show the distribution of Stand Alone Risk within the BGF FIGO fund at the respective year ends. Source: BlackRock Solutions (BRS); Ex-ante value-at-risk (1 standard deviation) based on the BRS Portfolio Risk model average contribution to risk. Data as of 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2014 respectively.



Flexible duration management is critical to generating return and controlling risk across different interest rate environments

Active duration management guides interest rate and credit exposure in the strategy

Typical duration range for the strategy spans the normal duration bands for most core and short duration funds



Source: BlackRock Solutions, Barclays as of 31 March 2015. Data shown is for a representative account for illustrative purposes only. The representative account is the BlackRock vehicle with the longest tenure running the strategy. Strategy inception date March 2010. Strategy adopted by FIGO as of June 2013



Case Study: The Investment Process in Action

Case study of macro research process: European peripheral sovereigns

	POLICY ANALYSIS	MACRO REGIME IDENTIFICATION	FINANCIAL STABILITY RISKS	EXTERNAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT
Identify Macro Investment Criteria	Monetary/Fiscal Policy Structural Reforms/Regulatory Change Geopolitical Risk/Institutional Change	Growth/Inflation Outlook Business/Credit Cycle Supply/Demand Shocks	Banking Sector Vulnerability Household/Corp. Sector Leverage Debt Sustainability	FX Regime Change Balance of Payments Dynamics Flow of Funds Analysis
Research process	 3-4x/year to Rome, Madrid, Lisbon, Berlin, Paris, Brussels Extensive 1:1 high-level dialogue w/ national authorities, ECB, EC, IMF Primary source, proprietary fundamental macro research 	 Internal 'Macro Working Group': P. Hildebrand, A. Bisat, J. Boivin, T. Boskovic, C. Carrillo, J. DiCenso, I. Mateos y Lagos, M. Pyle Firsthand experience in public policymaking 	Internal bank stress testing and capital adequacy/liquidity analysis Equity/credit analysts bottom-up sector recon Proprietary debt sustainability modeling	Tracking of portfolio flows in/out Europe
BLK Differentiation	 Direct partnership with sovereign issuers 'Brought Portugal back to market' after crisis BLK as 'Trusted Advisor' 	 BlackRock Investment Institute Global breadth of BLK portfolio teams/ analysts across FI, Equities, Alts 	Regular dialogue with ECB, EC, FSB, IMF BLK direct credit origination platform perspective on credit trends	▶ Developed BLK Sovereign Risk Index
Outcome	 Long Italy (2011-12) Long Spain (2012-13) Long Portugal (2013-15) Long Greece (2015) 	▶ Long Italian ILBs	 Long Slovenia Short Italian govts/long European banks Long France vs. Austria Long European Covereds/ABS 	➤ Short EUR (not currently)



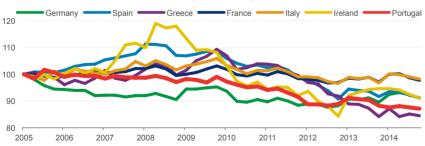
Portugal vs Italy - European compression trade (fundamental and technical drivers)

Greater fiscal consolidation in Portugal

	Fiscal Consolidation		Fiscal Balance		Primary Balance	
% of GDP	Total Planned	% Achieved	Actual	Target	Target	Target
	2009-2016	2009-2014	2014	2016	2014	2016
Italy	5.2	50%	-3.0	-0.9	1.6	4.5
Portugal	9.9	80%	-4.5	-2.0	0.4	3.1
Spain	10.8	69%	-5.7	-2.8	-2.5	0.8
Euro Area	5.5	74%	-2.6	-1.3	0.2	2.2

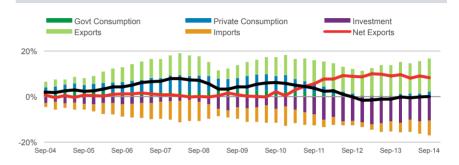
Unit labour cost is very low in Portugal

Inflation indexed unit labour costs (2005 =100)



Source: National MoFs, EC, DataStream, Haver, Bloomberg, BlackRock calculations. 31 March 2015

Exports increased much more than other components



Technical drivers: one of the largest beneficiaries of the ECB QE programme

- ▶ Portugal QE = 95% of gross issuance from Mar 2015-Sept. 2016
- Due to 'smaller' private debt stock b/c of Troika program, Port.
 QE is 28% of 2-30yr debt outstanding

Country	Purchase/ Outstanding	12m Purchase/ Net Supply	12m Purchase/ Gross Supply	
Portugal	18.5%	173.6%	88.1%	
Spain	13.3%	117.1%	44.1%	
Italy	8.2%	154.9%	32.8%	

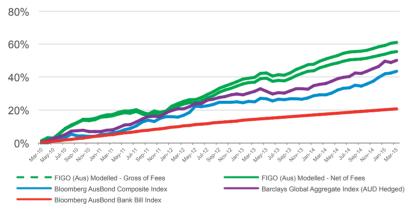
BLK estimates



Performance

The strategy has generated stronger returns relative to core fixed income with lower volatility and low correlations

Statistics Since Inception		Low correlation with major indices ¹			
	Ann return	Ann Std Dev	Sharpe Ratio		Correlation to US Mutual Fund (AUD Hedged)
FIGO (Aust) Modelled ¹	9.83%	2.81%	2.16	Barclays Global Agg Index (AUD Hedged)	0.25
Barclays Global Agg Index (AUD Hedged)	8.32%	2.53%	1.80	Bloomberg AusBond Composite Index	-0.12
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Index	7.38%	2.74%	1.32	Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.13



	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Year p.a.	Since Inception p.a.
US Mutual Fund (USD)	1.77%	2.63%	4.67%	5.82%	6.27% (Mar 2010)
BGF FIGO (USD)	1.13%	2.14%	4.11%	-	4.33% (Jun 2013)
Estimated Return from Hedge	0.53%	1.25%	2.57%	-	-
FIGO (Aust) Modelled	1.67%	3.39%	6.68%	8.70%	9.83% (Mar 2010)
FIGO (Aust) Actual	1.67%	3.39%	-	-	3.49% (Aug 2014)
Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.67%	1.36%	2.72%	3.02%	3.76% (Mar 2010)
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Index	2.67%	6.73%	11.13%	7.11%	7.38% (Mar 2010)
Barclays Global Aggregate Index (AUD Hedged)	2.56%	5.54%	10.25%	7.49%	8.32% (Mar 2010)

Source: BlackRock; data through 31/03/2015.

1. The BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (Aust) invests in and has the same underlying strategy as the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund. That strategy is also employed in a US mutual fund which has an inception date of March 2010. The philosophy and investment process is the same for the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund and US mutual fund, although some minor differences in investment exposures may occur due to the differences in regulatory requirements applying to the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund and the US mutual fund. Data shown includes actual AUD hedged performance since inception of the Australian vehicle on 31/08/2014 and a modelled representative account prior to that date. BlackRock has modelled the return of an AUD hedged vehicle by applying an AUD hedge to the USD return of the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund since its inception in June 2013 and applying an AUD hedge to the US mutual fund from May 2013 to its inception date in March 2010, thereby constructing a synthetic return profile for an AUD hedged vehicle so as to provide a longer-term view of investment performance. For consistency with the management fee applicable to the BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (Aust) – Class D Units, the modelled US mutual fund (AUD Hedged) Net of Fee returns have been calculated by applying a 0.70% per annum management fee and assume distributions have been reinvested. Modelled returns are no indicator of future returns.



Why BlackRock

Why BlackRock for flexible fixed income?

The scale and complexity of global flexible fixed income investing demands the investment platform, infrastructure and multi-faceted risk management capability unique to BlackRock

Unbiased focus on best global FI investment opportunities

Leverages the deep resources and specialised insights from our global FI platform

Distinct investment approach enhances decision making

Relies on the reach of our unique platform and sophisticated risk tools

Strong track record illustrates our flexible investing skill

Generated stronger returns relative to core fixed income with lower volatility and low correlations to traditional bond indexes (9.78% total return with 2.82% volatility as of 31/03/2015)¹

Source: BlackRock.

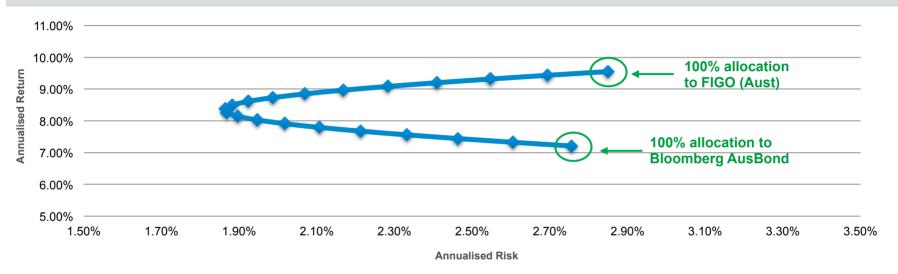
^{1.} Data shown includes actual AUD hedged performance since inception of the Australian vehicle on 31/08/2014 and a modelled representative account prior to that date. The representative account is a US Mutual Fund which has a comparable strategy to the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (inception date June 2013), into which the BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (Aust) will invest. The US Mutual Fund is the BlackRock vehicle with longest tenure running the strategy (March 2010). Modelled returns, performance and risk are not the same as actual returns, performance or risk. Modelled information contained in this publication is based on stated assumptions and variables. Actual returns, performance or risk may vary from modelled returns, performance or risk. Past returns, performance or risk (actual or modelled) are not indicators of future returns, performance or risk.



FIGO Implementation in Fixed Income Portfolios

Blending FIGO (Aust) with an Australian Bond portfolio has historically improved risk-adjusted returns

FIGO and Bloomberg AusBond Index



The above graph shows an efficient frontier produced by introducing 5% increments of FIGO (Aust) to the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index

Past returns, performance or risk (actual or modelled) are not indicators of future returns, performance or risk.

Source: BlackRock; data through 31/01/2015. Data shown includes actual AUD hedged performance since inception of the Australian vehicle on 31/08/2014 and a modelled representative account prior to that date. The representative account is a US Mutual Fund which has a comparable strategy to the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (inception date June 2013), into which the BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (Aust) invests. The US Mutual Fund is the BlackRock vehicle with longest tenure running the strategy (March 2010). Modelled returns, performance and risk are not the same as actual returns, performance or risk. Modelled information contained in this publication is based on stated assumptions and variables. Actual returns, performance or risk may vary from modelled returns, performance or risk.



Blending FIGO (Aust) with a Global Bond portfolio has historically improved riskadjusted returns

FIGO and Barclays Global Aggregate Index



The above graph shows an efficient frontier produced by introducing 5% increments of FIGO (Aust) to the Barclays Global Aggregate Index

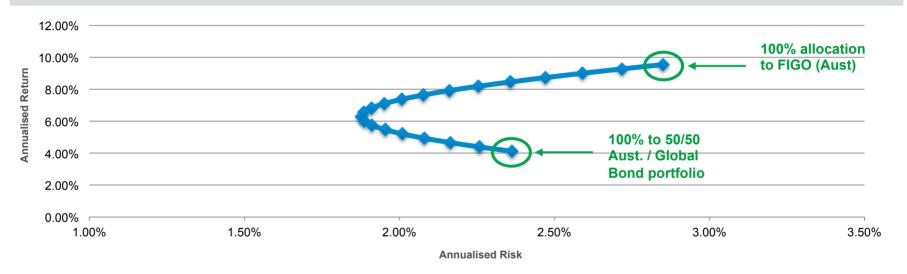
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Blending FIGO (Aust) with a composite Australian and Global Bond portfolio has historically improved risk-adjusted returns

FIGO and composite Aust & Global Bonds



The above graph shows an efficient frontier produced by introducing 5% increments of FIGO (Aust) to a portfolio comprised of 50% Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index & 50% Barclays Global Aggregate Index

Past returns, performance or risk (actual or modelled) are not indicators of future returns, performance or risk.

Source: BlackRock; data through 31/01/2015. Data shown includes actual AUD hedged performance since inception of the Australian vehicle on 31/08/2014 and a modelled representative account prior to that date. The representative account is a US Mutual Fund which has a comparable strategy to the BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (inception date June 2013), into which the BlackRock Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund (Aust) invests. The US Mutual Fund is the BlackRock vehicle with longest tenure running the strategy (March 2010). Modelled returns, performance and risk are not the same as actual returns, performance or risk. Modelled information contained in this publication is based on stated assumptions and variables. Actual returns, performance or risk may vary from modelled returns, performance or risk.

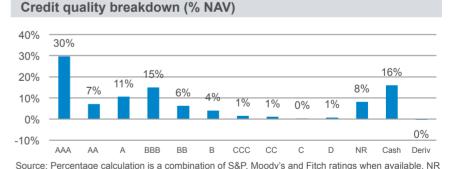


Appendix

BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities FundPortfolio positioning as of 31 March 2015

	31 March 2015				
Sector	% Net Assets	Duration Contribution			
Global Government*	-15.9	-0.40			
US Agency MBS	7.8	0.08			
US Municipals	4.3	0.32			
Global IG Credit**	4.6	0.30			
Industrial	2.6	0.14			
Financial	3.2	0.13			
Utilities	0.3	0.03			
Other	-1.6	0.00			
Global HY Bonds**	5.0	0.03			
Emerging Market Debt	10.9	0.51			
Securitized Assets	22.2	0.33			
Non-Agency MBS	4.3	0.02			
CMBS	6.9	0.18			
ABS	6.7	0.12			
CLO	4.3	0.01			
Equity***	2.2	0.00			
Net Derivatives****	42.9	0.00			
Cash & Cash Equiv's#	16.0	-0.25			
Total	100	0.91			





includes securities issued under rule 144A, Reg S, private placements, and other not rated securities.

Global Government exposure also includes the effect of global interest rate derivatives.

** Note that this sector includes the notional value of CDX overlay positions.

*** Equity contains equity related securities, convertibles and other non-classified securities. Keep in mind that FIGO is limited to 10% max exposure to equities.

**** Net Derivatives represents the approximate net notional value of the longs less the short derivatives held in the fund. Derivatives held in the fund include, but are limited to, futures, options and swap contracts.

Includes cash, cash equivalents and the market value of short dated swaps (such as Eurodollar futures) with a maturity date of less than 1 year.



BGF Fixed Income Global Opportunities Fund

Risk attribution as of 31 March 2015

	Risk Attribution (Al	bsolute SAR, bps)
	31 March 2015	28 February 2015
US	32	47
Duration	24	41
Agency MBS	1	2
IG Corp.	2	2
HY	17	37
ABS	2	2
Non-Agency MBS	7	7
CMBS	8	8
CLO	2	2
Municipals	12	15
Absolute	17	15
Europe	8	8
Credit	8	7
Absolute	1	2
Asia	15	19
EM	16	16
Global	47	50
Macro	49	62
Total	132	181

Performance highlights

March 2015

Positives

- Macro (FX & Equity)
- US Absolute
- Global (Portugal Rates)

Negatives

- Duration
- Short UK Rates
- Short Italy Rates

2015 YTD

Positives

- Macro (Rates & FX)
- Global (Peripherals)
- · Structured Products

Negatives

- Short Italy Rates
- Gold
- · Short UK Rates

Source: BlackRock



Biographies



Rick Rieder, Managing Director, is BlackRock's Chief Investment Officer of Fundamental Fixed Income, Co-head of Americas Fixed Income and a member of the Executive Committee of the firm-wide Alpha Strategy business, and is

a member of BlackRock's Global Operating Committee. Before joining BlackRock in 2009, Rick was President and Chief Executive Officer of R3 Capital Partners. He served as Vice Chairman and member of the Borrowing Committee for the US Treasury. He is currently a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York's Investment Advisory Committee on Financial Markets and was recently elected as the 2013 inductee into the Fixed Income Analysts Society Fixed Income Hall of Fame.



Scott Thiel, Managing Director, is BlackRock's Deputy Chief Investment Officer of Fixed Income, Fundamental Portfolios, and Head of European &Global Bonds. He is a member of the Fixed Income Executive

Committee and the EMEA Executive
Committee. Scott is a member of BlackRock's
Leadership Committee. Prior to joining
BlackRock in 2002, Scott was a Vice
President at Goldman Sachs & Co. During his
13 years there, he was responsible for
developing strategies in both US and
international interest rate and derivative
markets for institutional money managers.



Bob Miller, Managing
Director, is Head of the
Multi-Sector Retail & Rates
team within BlackRock's
Americas Fixed Income
Group and a member of
the Americas Fixed Income
Executive Team. He is a
portfolio manager of

BlackRock's Core Bond, Total Return, and Strategic Income Opportunities Funds. Prior to joining BlackRock in 2011, Bob was a cofounder and partner at the Round Table Investment Management Company, a multistrategy, research-based investment company, where he managed a global macro strategy.

As of 31 March 2015

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