



Factsheet at 30th September 2023

Month end NAV as at 29th September 2023

Investment Objective and Policies

CCFunds™

The Fund aims to maximise the total level of return for investors by investing, mainly in a diversified portfolio of bonds and other similar debt securities. In pursuing this objective, the Investment Manager shall invest primarily in a diversified portfolio of corporate & government bonds maturing in the medium term, with an average credit quality of "Ba3" by Moody's or "BB-" by S&P, although individual bond holdings may have higher or lower ratings. The Fund can also invest up to 10% of its assets in Non-Rated bond issues. The Fund is actively managed, not managed by reference to any index.

Fund Type	UCITS
Minimum Initial Investment	\$2,500

Sustainability

The Fund is classified under Article 6 of the SFDR meaning that the investments underlying this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Fund Details	
ISIN	MT7000030920
Bloomberg Ticker	CCHIBNC MV

Charges	
Entry Charge	Up to 2.5%
Exit Charge	None
Total Expense Ratio	1.75%

Currency fluctuations may increase/decrease costs.

Risk and Reward Profile

This section should be read in conjuction with the KIID

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Lower	Risk				Hig	gher Ris	k
Potential	ly lower re	eward		Pote	ntially hig	her rewar	·d
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

Portfolio Statistics

Total Net Assets (in €mns)	49.66
Month end NAV in USD	76.21
Number of Holdings	130
% of Top 10 Holdings	20.3

Current Yields

Last 12-m Distrib. Yield (%)	3.50
Underlying Yield (%)	5.45

Risk Statistics	3Y	5Y
Sharpe Ratio	-1.04	-0.61
Std. Deviation (%)	4.70%	7.68%

Country Allocation ¹	%
United States	24.1
Germany	11.7
France	8.5
Spain	5.3
Brazil	4.4
Italy	4.3
United Kingdom	3.7
Luxembourg	3.6
Netherlands	3.2
Malta	3.1
¹ including exposures to CIS	

Credit Rating ²	%
From AAA to BBB-	16.4
From BB+ to BB-	44.9
From B+ to B-	19.5
CCC+	2.2
Less than CCC+	3.0
Not Rated	3.1
Average Credit Rating	ВВ
² excluding exposures to CIS	

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Top 10 Exposures	%
iShares USD High Yield Corp	2.9
iShares Fallen Angels HY Corp	2.6
4% JP Morgan Chase & Co perp	2.3
iShares Euro High Yield Corp	2.2
7.5% Nidda Healthcare Holding 2026	1.9
7.913% Encore Capital Group Inc 2028	1.9
3.875% Allwyn International 2027	1.7
2.5% Hapag-Lloyd 2028	1.7
4.625% Volkswagen perp	1.6
3.5% Eircom Finance DAC 2026	1.6

Currency Allocation	%
EUR	62.9
USD	37.1
Others	0.0

Historical Performance to Date

Asset Allocation	%
Cash	3.3
Bonds	88.9
CIS/ETFs	7.8

Maturity Buckets ³	%
0 - 5 years	70.4
5 - 10 years	15.4
10 years +	3.2
3 hasad on the Next Call Date	

nistorical Performance to Date
Unit Price (USD) 80.00
72.00

Sector Breakdown ²	%
Banks	11.9
Telecommunications	10.0
Funds	7.8
Pharmaceuticals	7.2
Auto Parts&Equipment	6.5
Gaming	4.7
Debt Collectors	4.5
Chemicals	3.9
Auto Manufacturers	3.5
Media	3.1
Transportation	3.0
Oil&Gas	2.9



Source: Calamatta Cuschieri Investment Management Ltd.

Performance History** Past performance does not predict future returns							
Calendar Year Performance	YTD	2022	2021	2020	2019	Annualised Since Inception***	
Share Class D - Total Return****	0.74	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.15	
Total Return	1-month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month		
Share Class D - Total Return***	-0.51	0.11	1.74	0.74	5.69		

^{*} The share class C was launched on 21 May 2022.

^{**} Performance figures are calculated using the Value Added Monthly Index "VAMI" principle. The VAMI calculates the total return gained by an investor from reinvestment of any dividends and additional interest gained through compounding.

^{***} The Distributor Share Class (Class D) was launched on 01 September 2011. The Annualised rate is an indication of the average growth of the Fund over one year. The value of the investment and the income yield derived from the investment, if any, may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance, nor a reliable guide to future performance. Hence returns may not be achieved and you may lose all or part of

^{****} Returns quoted net of TER. Entry and exit charges may reduce returns for investors.

Introduction

Market Environment and Performance

Fund Performance

Market and Investment Outlook

Following a seemingly robust start to a second half of the year, market volatility - primarily reflecting the renewed stress on a weaker macroeconomic backdrop and sovereign bond yields heading higher - took centre stage. The latter, a consequence of uncertainty surrounding central banks' policy moves. Inflation, although not the sole indicator guiding policy decisions, remains a crucial factor in determining the duration of elevated interest rates. The mantra of higher rates for longer to-date sticks.

In September's policy meeting, the European Central Bank (ECB) hiked interest rates for a tenth consecutive time, yet signaled that it is likely done tightening policy as inflation has started to decline but it is still expected to remain "too high for too long". Consequently, setting the main refinancing operations rate at 4.5%, a 22-year high. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve kept the target range for the fed funds rate at a 22-year high of 5.25-5.5%, in line with market expectations, but signaled there could be another hike this year. Projections released in the highly anticipated dot-plot showed the likelihood of one more increase this year, then two rate cuts in 2024.

From a performance viewpoint, government bond returns were negative across developed markets as yields rose notably over the quarter. High yield bond markets remain the top performing sector this year, with European and US benchmarks returning c. 6.12% and 5.98%, respectively so far in 2023. In a rising yield environment, the shorter-dated profile of high yield bond benchmarks proved to be a source of resilience, with spreads broadly flat over the quarter.

Concerns of a potential recession, which had been somewhat dismissed earlier in the year due to the resilience of economic activity, have now reemerged. The downward revision of the Q2 GDP growth rate, mainly attributed to weak exports and stagnant domestic consumption, has contributed to these worries. The ongoing decline in private sector activity has further cast doubt on the likelihood of a positive Q3 growth rate figure. Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicators continued to show signs of weakness amid a second successive contraction in services (reading 48.7 v a previous month reading of 47.9) for 2023 and a continued downturn in manufacturing (reading 43.4 v a previous month reading of 43.5). Overall, new orders dropped while backlogs of work experienced the largest decline since June 2020. The rate of job creation was the joint second-slowest in the current 32-month sequence of growth. From an inflationary front, input prices accelerated, while selling prices rose the least in over a year consequent to a weak demand environment.

Despite a notable increase in oil prices, there were positive developments on the inflation front, as year-on-year core measures showed signs of easing in the majority of economies. Annual inflation rate in the Euro Area declined to 4.3%, reaching its lowest level since October 2021 and below market estimates of 4.5%. Prices increased at a slower pace for services, non-energy industrial goods, and food, alcohol & tobacco. Core inflation - a highly monitored figured by the ECB - eased, dropping to 4.5% from 5.3% in the previous month.

In the U.S., the economy – while still revolving in expansionary territory – nearly stalled due to a weaker expansion in the services (50.2 v 50.3 in August) and a sustained contraction in manufacturing (49.8 v 47.9 in August). Total inflows of new business declined the most since December 2022, and outstanding business dropped at the sharpest rate since May 2020. Meanwhile, the rate of job creation accelerated, amid some reports that staff retention was improving. Regarding prices, cost pressures ticked higher again, as input prices rose at a marked rate. The rate of output charge inflation however proved softer than those seen on average as weak client interest stymied firms' ability to hike selling prices.

Annual rate of inflation in the US remained steady at 3.7% in September, defying market expectations of a slight decrease to 3.6%, as a softer decline in energy prices offset slowing inflationary pressures in other categories. Core inflation which excludes volatile items such as food and energy however eased to 4.1%. From the employment front, hiring increased by 336k, well above an upwardly revised 227k in August, and above forecasts of 170k, signalling a resilient labour market despite the Fed's tightening campaign. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate and labour force participation rate remained stable at 3.8% and 62.8%, respectively. The nominal wage growth (4.2%) showed signs of easing, increasing below market estimates.

From a performance viewpoint, credit markets had a relatively weak month, with European investment grade pricing in a bleaker economic outlook, leading to negative total returns. US investment grade too saw losses; -2.45%, underperforming its relative counterpart. High yield credit – the riskier bonds as determined by credit rating agencies – outperformed, aided by the lower interest rate sensitivity. European and US high yield credit returned +0.32% and -1.16%, respectively.

In September, the CC High Income Bond Fund headed lower, recording a loss of 0.68% from the previous month's close.

Throughout the month the Manager continued to take opportunity by re-tapping selective names which do offer value, notably, those which have only recently sought to refinance with coupons now more aligned to the current market environment. Also, allowing to increase the portfolio's duration in a balanced manner. The manager has over the month increased its exposure to United Group, Loxam Group, and automotive manufacturing company ZF Friedrichshafen.

In-line with the fund's dividend policy, to distribute a dividend on a semi-annual basis, the Manager declared a distribution of 4.50% (annualised).

Investors entered the quarter optimistic that the Federal Reserve (Fed) had orchestrated a soft landing for the economy, and that the era of policy tightening rates would soon end. That enthusiasm withered at the tail-end of the quarter, however, as the prospect of a sustained period of higher rates sank in. This followed a revised Fed "dot plot" showing the likelihood of one more increase this year. The ECB, albeit acknowledging that inflation has started to decline, expects interest rates to remain elevated, and at sufficiently restrictive levels for as long as necessary.

From a monetary standpoint, the prevailing expectation is that any future interest rate hikes, if they occur, could potentially signal the conclusion of a relatively aggressive cycle aimed at addressing what was initially believed to be temporary inflationary pressures. The primary focus remains on the economic landscape and how such tight monetary policy will impact the economy. Previous positive sentiment now appears to be waning as the possibility of a more severe economic slowdown looms on the horizon.

As previously conferred, the fixed-income asset class remains an attractive investment proposition. Expectations of a decorrelation phase between bonds and equities augurs well for the segment in 2023. In terms of bond picking, the Manager will continue to assess the market landscape and capitalize on attractive credit stories. Similar to actions taken in recent weeks, the Manager will continue adjusting the portfolio to align with the prevailing yield environment. From a duration perspective, the Manager maintains the view that given the as-yet sticky inflation, duration-increases will only be implemented in a measured and gradual manner.

Important Information

This is a marketing communication prepared for information purposes and should not be interpreted as investment advice nor to constitute an offer or an invitation by CCIM to any person to buy or sell units in the UCITS fund. Please refer to the Prospectus of the UCITS and any Offering Supplement thereto and to the Key Investor Information Document before making any final investment decisions which may be obtained from www.ccfunds.com.mt or from the below address Investors are advised that an investment in the fund relates to the acquisition of units in the UCITS fund, and not in any of the underlying assets owned by the UCITS. CC Funds SICAV p.l.c. is licensed as a Collective Investment Scheme by the Malta Financial Services Authority under the Investment Services Investment Management Limited ("CCIM") is licensed to conduct Investment Services in Malta by the Malta Financial Services Authority under the Investment Services Act.

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