## **Reporting June 2024**



## **Investment objective**

The Fund's objective is to outperform the JP Morgan EMBI Global Diversified Africa over the Fund's recommended investment horizon of 3 years. It offers investors geographic diversification of their bond investments and exposure to African transformation through a portfolio of debt securities issued by African countries, state-owned companies and supranational organizations, denominated in Hard currencies (USD, EUR) and listed on international markets.

### Investment team

frontoffice@qantara-am.com



#### James KUATE - CIO & Fund manager

25 years' experience as proprietary trader & fund manager in Fixed income and convertible Bonds.



### Martin Ley

Senior Fund manager - Analyst

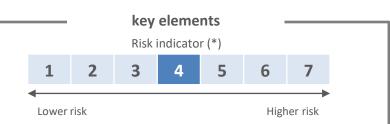
8 years' experience as Fixed income Fund manager.



### Perrine GUERIN

### **Chief Economist- Strategist**

6 years' experience as country risk economist on Africa



### Minimum recommended investment period : 3 years

Benchmark: JPM EMBI GD Africa Yield to maturity: 10,4% Duration: 5.4 Average rating: B+ (linear) Average coupon: 8.0%

SFDR Classification : Article 8 Domiciliation : France Legal form: UCITS - FCP Launch date: 22/12/2023 Assets under management: 3.7 M€ Fund currency: EUR

Isin code: FR001400FLD9 Income distribution: Capitalization Date of 1<sup>st</sup> NAV: 22/12/2023 Original NAV: 100 NAV at 28/06/2024 : 104.2 Currency: USD

Minimum % of Taxonomy alignment: 0% Minimum % of sustainable investments: 0%

### **Management comments**

June was marked by a weakening of economic indicators in the USA: first-quarter growth is expected to be weaker than initial estimates, and Q2 growth is now expected at +1.7%, compared with +2.7% at the end of May. The downturn in activity, the positive signals on disinflation dynamics which led to a drop in US long rates, combined with the good performance of commodities, should have had a positive effect on the asset class' spreads, but this was not the case. Apart from South Africa, the asset class experienced a general spread widening.

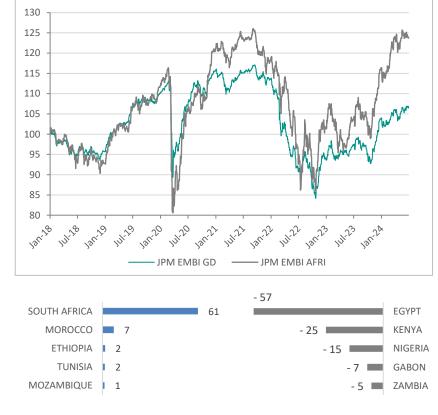
The benchmark index ended the month down -0.4% and is now up +6.3% year-to-date. Qantara ASB fund was down slightly more, due to its underweight in South Africa.

South Africa, whose spreads tightened by 60 bps in the month following the historic alliance between the ANC and the DA, which is an opportunity for the country to start some needed and awaited economic reforms. Gabon has experienced a significant spread widening due to its deteriorating fiscal situation, soaring debt and limited financing options. In Kenya, President W. Ruto withdrew the tax hike bill following the violent protests that followed its announcement. The target of reducing the deficit by 2.4 points to -3.3% of GDP by fiscal year 2024/25 now seems difficult to achieve. The cancellation of tax increases is expected to be offset by spending cuts, increased borrowing and a softening of the IMF's quantitative targets. Nigeria's foreign exchange reserves are at their highest level since end of March, thanks to World Bank financing, higher oil revenues and financial inflows into the country. Despite persistently high inflation, the naira remained relatively stable. Ghana's growth reached its highest level since Q4 2021 at +4.7%, prompting a review of the IMF's debt criteria and enabling a restructuring agreement with Eurobond holders, who will have the choice between a 37% haircut with faster repayment, or an extension of maturity with no reduction of nominal value. Senegal issued a 7-year Eurobond for \$750 million at a rate of 9.05% (coupon 7.75%).

Apart from Gabon and Kenya, this month's spreads widening are justified by nonfundamental reasons such as profit-taking or flows. We believe that Egypt, Nigeria, Angola, Côte d'Ivoire ( $\in$ ) and Senegal ( $\in$ ) are good buying opportunities at these levels. We are staying away from Gabon, Tunisia due to their high refinancing risk. The new Zambian securities also seem expensive to us.

| Perfs in USD         | MTD   | YTD   | 1 Y   | 3 Y    | 5 Y   | 10 Y  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| Qantara ASB (*)      |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| EMBI GD Africa       | -0.4% | 6.3%  | 19.4% | 0.0%   | 16.2% | 55.5% |
| EMBI GD Emerging     | 0.6%  | 2.3%  | 9.2%  | -7.6%  | -0.1% | 29.2% |
| IBOXX High Yield USD | 0.9%  | 2.3%  | 10.3% | 4.7%   | 17.4% | 44.1% |
| IBOXX Inv Grade USD  | 0.6%  | -1.2% | 3.8%  | -10.9% | 1.9%  | 27.2% |

(\*) As the fund is less than one year old, regulations do not allow performance to be published in periodic reports.



**Emerging Africa and Global Emerging benchmarks** 

Top 5 contributors (benchmark)

Bottom 5 contributors (Benchmark)

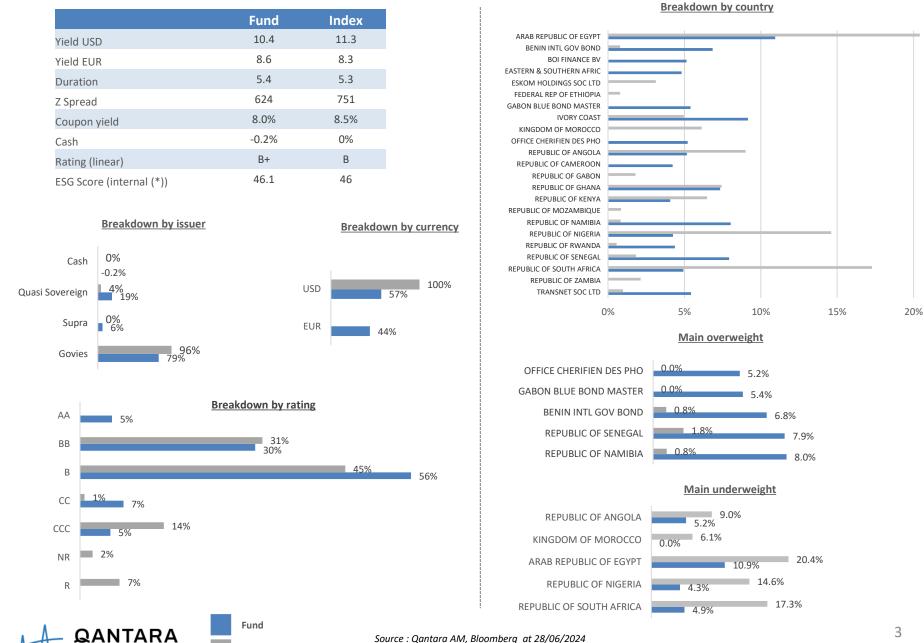


# MAIN PARAMETERS AND POSITIONING

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ASSET MANAGEMENT

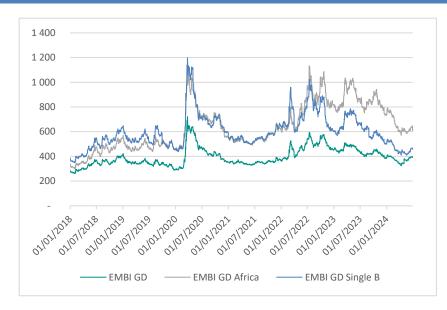
# June 2024



(\*) More information on ESG methodology is available at www.gantara-am.com

# June 2024

# UPDATE ON THE ASSET CLASS



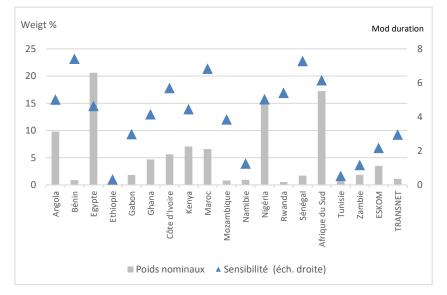
### Spreads evolution (Indexes)

| Issuer       | Spread end of last<br>month | Spread Variation |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| SOUTH AFRICA | 326                         | -28              |
|              |                             |                  |
|              |                             |                  |
|              |                             |                  |

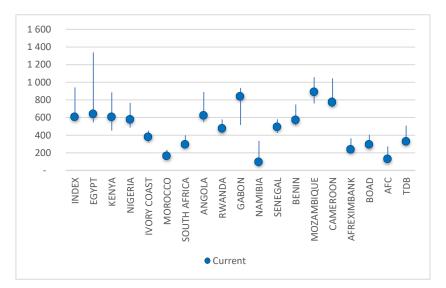
#### Main spread movements: Tightening

| lssuer  | Spread end of last<br>month | Spread Variation |
|---------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| NIGERIA | 535                         | 44               |
| BENIN   | 526                         | 45               |
| EGYPT   | 563                         | 77               |
| KENYA   | 503                         | 107              |
| GABON   | 680                         | 160              |

Main spread movements: Widening



#### Index breakdown by issuers & modify duration

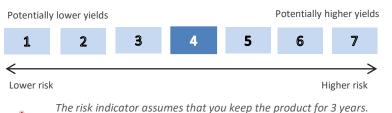


#### Spreads evolution year on year

## AA QANTARA ASSET MANAGEMENT

# SUMMARY OF FUND TERMS

| Denomination                     | QANTARA AFRICAN SOVEREIGN BONDS  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Domiciliation                    | France   |  |  |
| Juridical form                   | UCITS FCP under French law   |  |  |
| SFDR Category                    | Article 8  |  |  |
| Classification                   | Emerging markets Bonds   |  |  |
| Launch date / Original NAV       | 22 December 2023 / 100   |  |  |
| Last VL                          | 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 : 104.2   |  |  |
| Benchmark                        | JPM EMBI GD Africa   |  |  |
| recommended investment<br>period | 3 years  |  |  |
| ISIN Codes                       | FR001400FLB3 (Part I, EUR Hedged)<br>FR001400FLD9 (Part ID, USD Hedged)<br>FR001400FLC1 (Part R, EUR Hedged)<br>FR001400FLE7 (Part RD, USD Hedged) |  |  |
| Management fees                  | 1% (Share I) – 1,5% (Share R)  |  |  |
| Performance fees                 | None   |  |  |
| Front Load                       | 4% Max   |  |  |
| Redemptions fees                 | None   |  |  |
| Nav calculation                  | Weekly   |  |  |
| Income distribution              | Capitalization   |  |  |
| Custodian                        | CACEIS BANK  |  |  |
| Fund administration              | CACEIS BANK  |  |  |
| subscriptions / redemptions      | Orders centralized before 12 pm on<br>Friday   |  |  |
| Fund's auditor                   | PWC  |  |  |



**Risk indicator** 



ie risk maleutor ussumes that you keep the product for 5 years.

The real risk may be very different if you opt for an early exit, and you may get less in return. The synthetic risk indicator enables you to assess the level of risk of this product compared with others.

### Specific risks:

The value of investments and the income derived from them may go down as well as up, and the customer may not recover the full amount initially invested. This fund invests in emerging markets, which can be more volatile than more developed markets. This fund invests in bonds whose price is influenced by changes in interest rates, issuer credit ratings and other factors such as inflation and market dynamics. Generally, bond prices fall when interest rates rise. Default risk is a function of the issuer's ability to pay interest and repay the loan at maturity. Consequently, default risk may vary between issuing governments and entities. High-yield bonds are riskier. They present a greater risk of default, which can have a negative impact on the income and capital value of the fund investing in them. Given the greater risk of default, an investment in a corporate bond is generally less secure than an investment in a government bond. The fund may make greater and more complicated use of derivatives, which may result in leverage. In such situations, performance may rise or fall more sharply than in the absence of leverage. The fund may be exposed to a risk of financial loss in the event of subsequent default by a counterparty used for derivative instruments. The fund offers no guarantees or protection regarding performance, capital, net asset stability or volatility. Currency hedging is used to substantially reduce the risk of loss due to adverse movements in exchange rates on positions held in currencies other than the fund's trading currency. Currency hedging also has the effect of limiting the possibility of realizing foreign exchange gains.

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# GLOSSARY

Average rating : The average rating aggregates the ratings of issuers in the fund into a single rating by means of a weighted average.

**Classification SFDR** The Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) is a European regulation that requires asset managers to classify their funds as either "Article 8" funds that promote environmental and social characteristics, or "Article 9" funds that engage in sustainable investment with measurable objectives, or "Article 6" funds that do not promote environmental or social characteristics and have no sustainable objectives.

**Credit sensitivity** The Credit Sensitivity is a formula that expresses the measurable change in the value of a fixed income instrument in response to a change in credit spread. The credit sensitivity for the fund is calculated as the weighted average credit sensitivity of all underlying fixed income instruments

**Duration** The duration of a bond corresponds to the period after which its profitability is not affected by interest rate variations. Duration is defined as the average discounted life of all flows (interest and principal).

ESG : E- Environment, S- Social , G- Governance

**ESG methodology**: Qantara AM's ESG methodology is based on 3 pillars that represent major challenges for the African continent (Energy transition and adaptation to climate change, Education, Governance). A score is calculated using a proprietary method for each pillar, based on indicators from public sources.

ESG score calculation: Overall fund rating calculated according to Qantara AM's internal methodology: The final score ranges from 0 to 100, with 100 being the best score.

**Exposure**: The Exposure of a fund is expressed as a percentage of total portfolio holdings, considering the leverage of derivative instruments. It represents the amount an investor can lose from the risks unique to a particular investment.

**FCP**: "Fonds commun de placement" – Mutual funds

High Yield . An instrument is considered as a high yield instrument if its credit rating is below BBB-., because of its higher default risk. The rate of return on these securities is generally higher.

Investment grade : An instrument is considered as an investment grade instrument if its credit rating is above or equal to BBB-, indicating a generally relatively low risk of default.

**Modified duration** : The Modified Duration is a formula that expresses the measurable change in the value of a fixed income instrument in response to a change in interest rates The Modified Duration for the fund is calculated as the weighted average of all underlying fixed income instruments.

Net asset value (NAV) : Price of one share.

Rating : The rating is the financial rating used to measure the quality of the borrower's (bond issuer's) signature.

**Ratio de Sharpe** : The Sharpe Ratio measures the level of compensation an investment in the fund offered for the risk taken. It is calculated by subtracting the risk-free rate from the return of the fund and dividing that result by the volatility. The higher the Sharpe ratio the better, a negative ratio has no significance other than that the fund underperformed the risk-free rate.

**Tracking error**: Tracking error is a statistical measure of the dispersion of a fund's excess returns around the mean, which in effect is the volatility of the difference between the fund's performance and the performance of the benchmark index. A higher tracking error indicates a higher deviation from the benchmark.

UCITS Undertakings for Collective Investments in Transferable Securities is a European directive aimed at harmonizing markets (European passport).

VaR Value at risk (VaR) represents an investor's maximum potential loss on the value of a portfolio of financial assets, given a holding horizon (20 days) and a confidence interval (99%). This potential loss is represented as a percentage of the portfolio's total assets. It is calculated based on a sample of historical data (over a 2-year period).

**Volatility** : The Volatility is the statistical measure of dispersion of returns for a fund around the mean. A higher volatility means that a fund's value can potentially be spread out over a larger range of values and makes the fund a riskier investment.

Yield to Maturity : Yield to is the actuarial rate of return. At the time of calculation, it is the estimated rate of return offered by a bond if it were held to maturity by the investor. Note that the indicated yield does not consider the effect of currency carry and the Fund's fees and expenses.



# DISCLAIMER

## QANTARA ASSET MANAGEMENT – QAM

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