# **Our Strategy**

Bond markets experienced a massive reset in 2022 when the US Federal Reserve embarked on the fastest interest rate hiking cycle in modern history, bringing great opportunities for long-term fixed income investors. The FAM Global Income (FGI) strategy is designed as a choice for investors who want to **receive regular income** but also recognize that the opportunity comes with a more unpredictable landscape going forward. **Beyond traditional markets and asset classes**, FGI aims to generate **multiple streams of truly diversified and solid income**, with potential capital appreciation to prepare for the uncertain world.



Multi asset holding **beyond traditional** fixed income and equity



Generate solid income targeted at **6% per annum** 



Focus on undervalued opportunities with good fundamentals in sustainable trends



## **Enhanced Income Solution**

Since July 2023, FGI has focused its strategy on taking advantage of the higher interest rate environment. By going beyond common Developed Markets into underappreciated Emerging Markets and Alternative assets, the strategy captures attractive solid income from diversified sources across global markets.

#### Embrace higher yields in underappreciated markets

Compared to more common Developed Market bonds, Emerging Market and Asia High Yield bonds are higher yielding options, providing solid income with potential upside.



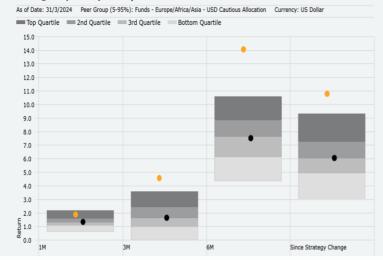
#### **Income potential from Alternative Assets**

Non-market related (-0.01 correlation) investment is giving around 10% income in years 2022 and 2023 compared to the average 3.3% average income over the past 13 years.



## **Performance Overview**

#### Peer group comparison



## Calendar performance

Class	1Month	YTD	Jul – Dec 23	Total Return <sup>2</sup>
A SGD	-2.48	1.46	4.77	6.30
A USD	-2.35	2.13	5.95	8.20
Yield To Maturity	11.49	-	-	

Since strategy launched in July 2023, the performance of FGI has been doing much better than the top quartile in Morningstar Peers comparison (refer to chart on the left), make the top 1% in ranking.

#### **Dividend information**

Class	Distribution date	Distribution frequency	Dividend per share
A SGD	08 January 2024	Semi-annual	\$2.60
A USD	08 January 2024	Semi-annual	\$2.80

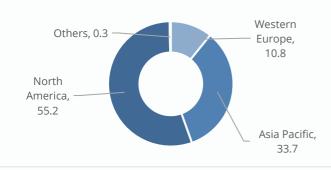
Source: Finexis Asset Management. Share class performance is calculated using NAV of the share class with income reinvested and including ongoing charges, excluding any entry and exit fees. <sup>1</sup>Peer group comparison data is updated on the last month of each quarter. <sup>2</sup>Total return since shift of strategy focus to an income strategy starting July 2023 onwards.



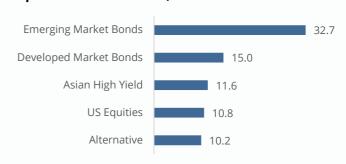


# **Strategy Characteristics**

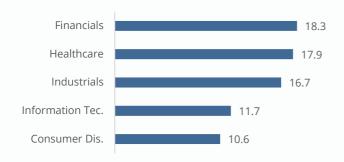
## **Equity Geographical Allocation, %**



## Top 5 Market Allocation, %



## Top 5 Equity Sector Allocation, %



### Top 5 Fund Holdings, %

Emerging Market Corporate High Yield Debt Fund	32.7
Lombard Odier Asia Value Bond Fund	11.6
Tabula Liquid Credit Income Fund	11.4
GS US Equity Strategy	10.8
PIMCO 25+ Year Zero Coupon Fund	3.6

Source: Finexis Asset Management. Top 5 market allocation and fund holdings are at fund level. Geographical allocation and top 5 sector allocation are at portfolio look-through level. For illustrative purposes only and does not constitute to any recommendations to invest in the above-mentioned country/sector/security.

# **Discerning The Signals From The Noise**

A three-pronged research process to identify signals that point us to **sustainable trends** which are underappreciated by the market, which come with **good fundamentals** and **attractive valuation**, with a higher likelihood of outperforming over the long term.





Fundamental

Study financial and economic data (e.g. GDP, unemployment rate, and inflation rate etc.) that may drive market movement to find opportunities with **good fundamentals** that are underappreciated.



Valuation

Picking the right valuation metrics (e.g. price-to-earnings, price-to-book, EV/EBITDA etc.) to spot <u>undervalued opportunities</u> and avoid overpaying for any investment with only good stories.



rend

Seek inflection points in <u>sustainable trends</u> to capture overlooked opportunities and avoid less recognised risks (such as the end of a bond supercycle).

# **High Level of Active Management**

Many actively managed funds underperform because they have a low active share. This happens when a portfolio's holdings are very similar to the referenced benchmark, a practice commonly referred to as 'benchmark hugging'. In contrast, **funds with a high level of active management may have greater potential for outperformance in the long run**, as there is no way any fund can outperform the market if they are investing like the market.

By investing in areas where we have the greatest conviction and applying it to our whole portfolio, we aim to provide better returns over risk through a full market cycle.





# **Market & Portfolio Developments**

### **Fund Commentary**

Markets saw a retracement in April after a strong Q1. In an ironic case of "good news is bad", this retracement came on the back of persistent inflation data which indicated that economies were more resilient than thought, which led to renewed jitters that not only would the Fed not cut rates as soon as expected, but they may even hike rates.

FGI was not immune during this retracement and gave back some of its recent performance. Nevertheless, it is still a top decile fund within its Morningstar peer group since the strategy re-focus to take advantage of high-income opportunities amid a more yield-rich environment.

The performance differential shows that it comes to income funds, they are not the same, and looking at the label is not enough. How then would an income investor be able to distinguish among different income funds so that they can get the income they expect?

One way is to look under the hood and identify where the risk, and ultimately the return is going to come from. There are many underlying risks but for simplicity we distill them into yield and duration. The table shows the typical income fund as in Morningstar (and most likely to be used by an investor) takes more duration or interest rate risk than FGI.

Income fund	Yield	Duration	
Income fund peer group*	4.78%	4.89	
FGI	11.19%	2.48	

Recent market behaviour shows how challenging it has been for any investor meaningfully exposed to duration risk. Last Tue, a gauge of labour costs rose by the most in a year, sending "safe" Treasury yields above 5%. Three days later, a Labor department report showed the smallest increase in wages since 2021, sending yields back down. In short, anyone who was trying to be active and responsive to short term data ended up being caught out.

This does not mean investors are not able to get return, they just need to focus on the appropriate areas, especially on metrics that are more telling of a portfolio's long-term return.

The table shows that FGI's yield is higher than the typical income fund. That means an investor in FGI should expect higher income over time. However, higher income is not for everybody. There is finite high income out there, and the markets' way to select who gets higher income is to shake out the weak hands through volatility. Such volatility and phases of underperformance are also ways for high income portfolios to accumulate energy to bounce higher.

## **Key Position Highlights**

We highlight positions that reflect the strategy's tactical asset allocation view, backed by our study of market patterns and trends over time. As a result, our strategies can be highly differentiated from conventional benchmarks, with the aim of long-term investment success.

# Emerging Market & Asian High Yield To Capture High Yields For Outstanding Total Return

 Yields have risen for bond investments due to the higher interest rate environment since Q4 2022. The current higher yield is an indication of good total returns in the coming 3 years:

Asian High Yield	Sep 2008	Oct 2011	Dec 2023
Starting Yield	13.6%	12.9%	11.4%
Next 3Y total Returns	42.1%	40.7%	?

- Today, yields for Emerging Market and Asia High Yield bonds are significantly higher than Developed Markets. No doubt, the opportunity comes with higher volatility, but we believe the margin of safety is there following meaningful declines in 2021.
- Our positions in EM and AHY have shown substantial rallies since October 2022, indicating the possible start of another EM season like the beginning of the year 2000.

# Alternative Assets To Provide An Attractive And Differentiated Source of Income

- Alternatives are an essential part of any income strategy going forward. FGI's alternative income provides stable and uncorrelated returns for investors.
- Traditional income investments experienced large price swings and declines in 2022 as the Fed embarked on one of the fastest interest rate increases in recent memory.
- Differentiated alternative income assets such as music royalties and assets with 'toll-booth' investment qualities (that offer significant recurring revenue for their investors) offer the potential to generate stable income independent of traditional equity and bond performance.
- FGI's current focus is on insurance-linked alternative assets due to the high-income potential offered (~10%) while being highly differentiated from market risks.





 $<sup>\</sup>star$  Source: Morningstar EAA Fund USD Cautious Allocation as at 30/4/2024

### **Fund Details**

Item	Class A
Currency	SGD, USD
ISIN (SGD Class)	SG9999019384 (Distribution Class)
ISIN (USD Class)	SGXZ71589303 (Distribution Class)
Min. Subscription	SGD 1,500,000 USD 1,000,000
Account Opening Fee (One-time)	N/A
Min. Subsequent Subscription	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000
Max Sales Charge	5%
Management Fee	1.5%
Targeted Distribution <sup>1</sup>	6% p.a.
Distribution Frequency	Semi-annually
Fund Name	Global Income Fund
Dealing Frequency	Daily
Base Currency	USD
Inception Date*	16 Aug 2018 (SGD) 18 Jul 2018 (USD)
Fund Focus	Global Multi-Asset
Fund Domicile	Singapore
Investment Manager	Finexis Asset Management
Fund Administrator	Standard Chartered Bank
Custodian	Standard Chartered Bank
Auditor	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Trustee	Perpetual (Asia) Limited

<sup>1</sup>Please note that the distributions at 6% p.a. (if any) may be declared semi-annually based on the Investment Manager's discretion. Distributions are not a forecast, indication, or projection of the future performance of the Fund.\*Income strategy is implemented from July 2023.

# **Highlights of Sub-Fund Managers**

# Lombard Odier Asian High Yield

Lombard Odier Investment Managers is part of the Lombard Odier Group, a global private bank managing \$300+ billion in assets across its wealth and asset management expertise. With a dedicated team of 180 professionals, it manages \$70 billion of assets across diverse strategies in equity, fixed income, multi-asset, convertible bond, alternatives, and private markets.

The Lombard Odier Asia Value Bond is one of the largest Asia credit fund today. Managed by a team of five investment experts as part of a 22-strong global fixed income team, the strategy has seen a long track record of outperformance against its peer group.

The strategy is underpinned by a 'value-biased strategy that leverages on rigorous top-down and bottom-up analysis to uncover value and fundamentally strong opportunities through market cycles; maintaining close interaction with companies and management. The strategy was awarded the Platinum award at the Fund Selector Asia Awards in 2020, in addition to Lipper awards for "Best Asia Credit Strategy in Hard Currency".



**50 years** investment experience



**70 billion** AUM Worldwide



**22 Global FI** professionals



Fund Selector Asia Awards 2020

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constantly improve our processes to complement our investment solutions. Constant evolution to fulfil our investor's needs is ingrained in our beliefs.

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