

ESG Matters - Global

\$18bn ESG bond fund inflows in 1H23**1H23: \$18bn ESG bond fund inflows recorded**

ESG bond funds recorded an inflow of \$18bn in 1H23, not far off full-year 2022 inflows of \$22bn. That said, non-ESG fund inflows were \$253bn in 1H. AUM in global ESG bond funds has increased to \$552bn, surpassing the previous high of \$546bn (Dec 2021). April, May and June have seen a strong recovery in ESG inflows, although ESG inflows are only 7% of total inflows. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds globally reached \$250bn, up by 18% YoY. By the end of June, 11.7% of global bond funds were ESG funds (by number of funds). By assets under management (AUM), about 5.6% of AUM was ESG-related, according to data from EPFR.

Europe: \$7.5bn in inflows to ESG bond funds

Western European ESG bond funds saw an inflow of \$7.5bn in 1H23 and remained the most important region for ESG fund flows, accounting for 42% of the global inflows for the period. As a result, ESG inflows accounted for 19% of total inflows in 1H23, which is the highest percentage across all regions. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds reached \$110bn, up by \$7bn YTD. By AUM, about 23.4% of European assets were in ESG-related funds. YTD inflows now accounts for 19% of total inflows to bonds.

US: \$1.7bn in 1H inflows to ESG is double the 5M23 figure

US ESG bond funds saw YTD inflows double in June, to \$1.7bn, compared to \$819mn through May. Fund flows reversed in June following two months of outflows. AUM in US bounced back to \$94bn, up from an October 2022 low of \$87bn. However, ESG inflows accounted for only 1% of total inflows in 2023, the lowest percentage across all regions. The number of ESG funds continued to grow, which is now 203, up by 17 in 1H23. Only about 1.5% of US bond fund AUM is ESG-related.

EM: \$133mn ESG inflows vs \$1.3bn non-ESG outflow

It was all outflows in emerging markets in June –for both ESG (\$50mn) and non-ESG funds (\$2.6bn). For the first half, EM ESG bond funds saw inflows of just \$133mn, while non-ESG bond funds suffered a much higher outflow of \$1.3bn (there were inflows in Jan-May). AUM in EM increased to \$32bn, up from an October low of \$25bn. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds in EM reached \$20bn. By the end of June, 6.2% of EM bond funds were ESG funds. The number of funds is up by 14 YTD. By the end of June 2023, 16% of global bond funds were ESG funds. About 5% of AUM was ESG-related.

Getting back to greenium during heightened volatility

Labelled bonds tend to have lower volatility compared to peers, so they tend to outperform in a sell-off but give that back in a rally. In fact, the EUR IG labelled bond index (ERGS) outperformed EUR IG in 1H23. Greenium – a slightly lower spread for green bonds – is back in Europe. We estimate the greenium in EUR IG at about 12bps (for the secondary market) as of end-May (see [ESG Matters - Europe: Getting back to greenium](#)). We expect greenium to remain meaningful in the near-term due to macro uncertainty.

Trading ideas and investment strategies discussed herein may give rise to significant risk and are not suitable for all investors. Investors should have experience in relevant markets and the financial resources to absorb any losses arising from applying these ideas or strategies.

BofA Securities does and seeks to do business with issuers covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

Refer to important disclosures on page 7 to 9.

12584578

27 July 2023

Environmental, Social and Governance



Kay Hope
Research Analyst
MLI (UK)
+44 20 7995 9301
kay.hope@bofa.com

Rupert Xu
Research Analyst
MLI (UK)
+44 20 7996 9135
rupert.xu@bofa.com

Related ESG research:

[ESG Matters - Europe: Getting back to greenium](#)

[ESG Matters - Global: The 2023 surveys said...](#)

[ESG Matters - Emerging Markets: EM labeled bonds? Do they outperform?](#)

[ESG Matters - Global: TNFD: double-materiality assessment of biodiversity investing](#)

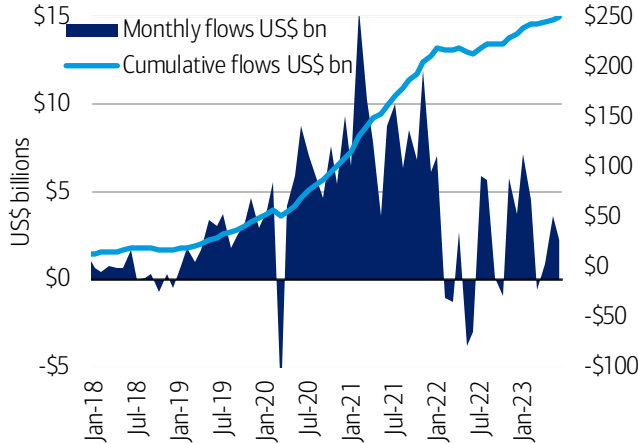
[ESG Matters - Global: ISSB: Setting the \(sustainability\) standards – conf call takeaways](#)

Global ESG bond fund flows

1H23 saw \$18bn inflows into ESG bond funds globally, 30 times more than the \$635mn inflows in 1H22. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds reached an \$250bn, up by 18% YoY. AUM in global ESG bond funds has increased to \$552bn, surpassing previous high at \$546bn reached in Dec 2021. ESG funds are now 11.7% of all bond funds by the end of June, up from 10.6% by the end of 2022. Both ESG and non-ESG bond funds recorded inflows in 2023 and ESG inflows accounted for 7% of total bond fund inflows.

Exhibit 1: Global ESG bond funds recorded \$18bn in inflows 1H23

Cumulative inflows to Global ESG bond funds reached \$250bn

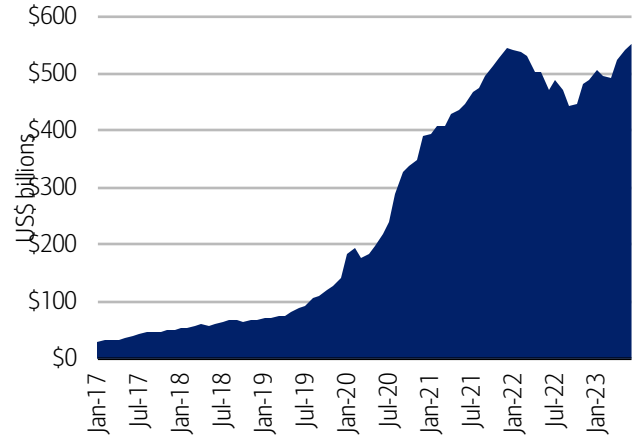


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 2: AUM in Global ESG bonds funds at all time high (\$552bn)

Previous high was reached in Dec 2021 at \$546bn

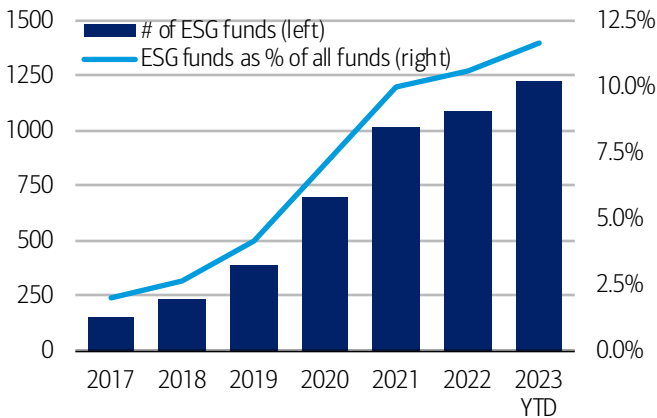


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 3: Today 11.7% of global bond funds is an ESG fund

The total number of ESG bond funds was 1,228 as of 1H23

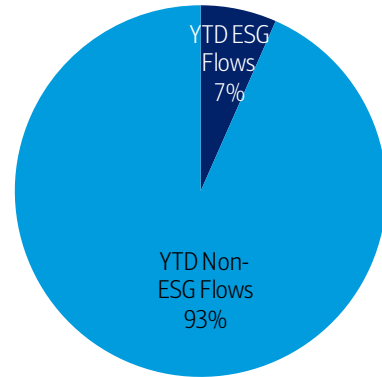


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 4: 7% of YTD global bond inflows went to ESG funds

Both ESG and non-ESG bond funds saw inflows in 1H23



Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

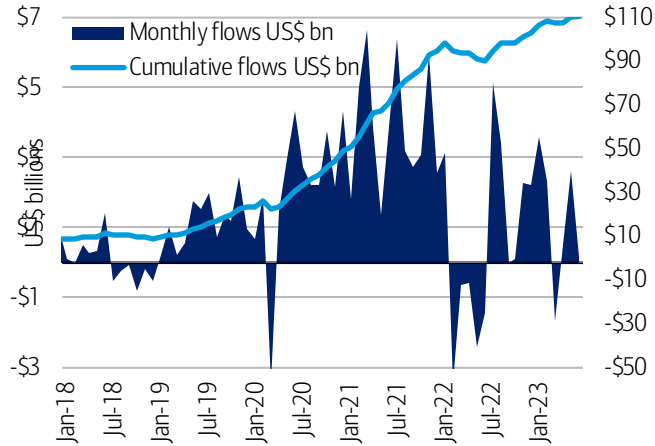


W. European ESG bond fund flows

Western European ESG bond funds saw an inflow of \$7.5bn in 1H23, accounting for 42% of the global inflow. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds in Western Europe reached \$110bn, up by \$7bn YTD. AUM in Western European ESG bond rose to \$294bn, surpassing previous high of \$292bn reached in Dec 2021. ESG funds are 20% of all bond funds as of June. The number of ESG funds rose by 44 YTD. Both ESG and non-ESG bond funds recorded inflows in 1H23 and ESG inflows accounted for 19% of total bond fund inflows, the highest percentage recorded across all regions.

Exhibit 5: Europe ESG bond funds saw \$7.5bn in inflows in 1H23

Cumulative flows into European ESG funds have reached \$110bn

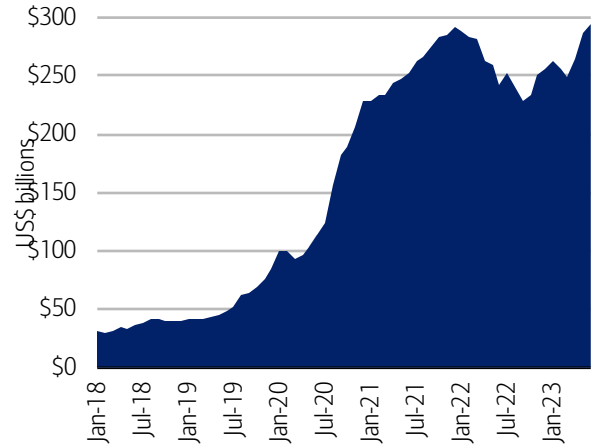


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 6: AUM in W. Europe ESG bond funds rose to \$294bn

AUM surpassed previous high of \$292bn reached in Dec 2021

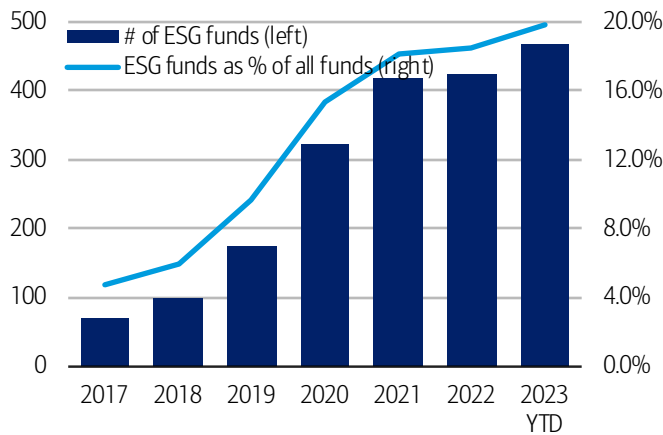


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 7: Today 20% of European bond funds are ESG funds

The total number of ESG funds was 468 as of 1H23

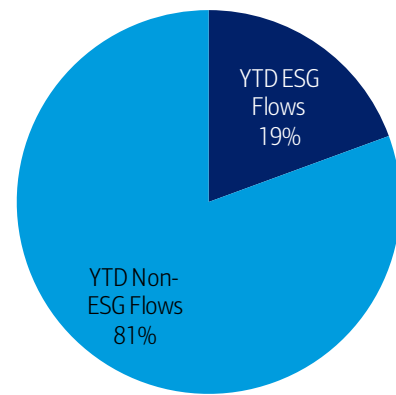


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 8: 19% of 1H23 flows went to ESG funds

Both ESG and non-ESG bond funds saw inflows in 2023



Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

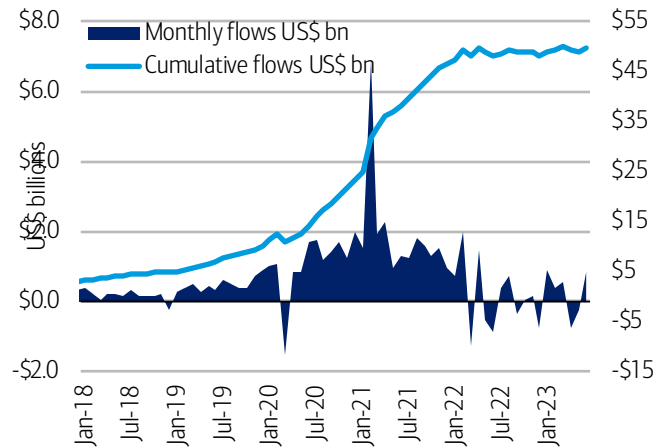


US ESG bond fund flows

US ESG bond funds saw a spike in inflows in June, almost doubling its YTD inflows from \$819mn by May, to \$1.7bn by June. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds in the US now reached \$50bn. AUM in US ESG bond funds has increased to \$94bn, up by \$4bn in 1H23. The number of ESG funds increased to 203 in 1H23, up by 17 YTD. Both ESG and non-ESG bond funds recorded inflows in 1H23, although ESG inflows only accounted for 1% of total bond fund inflows, the lowest percentage recorded across all regions.

Exhibit 9: \$1.7bn in inflows to US ESG funds as of 1H23

US ESG bond funds flows were mixed in 2023, but net positive

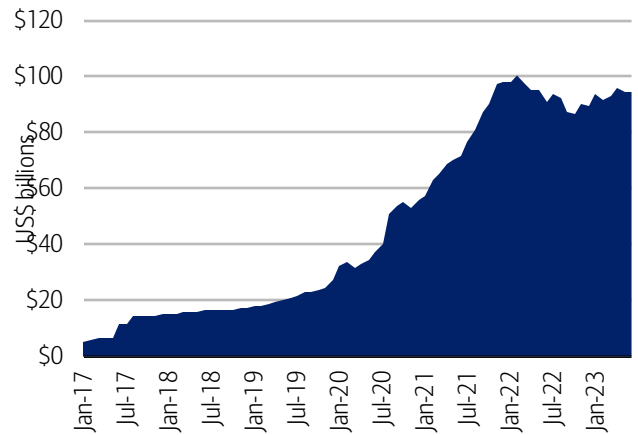


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 10: AUM in US ESG bond funds is \$94bn as of 1H23

AUM peaked in Oct 2021 at \$100bn

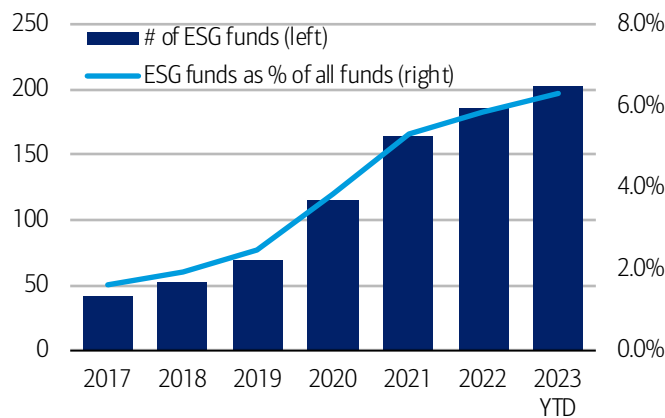


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 11: Today 6.3% of US bond funds is an ESG fund

The number of US ESG funds grew by 17 YTD

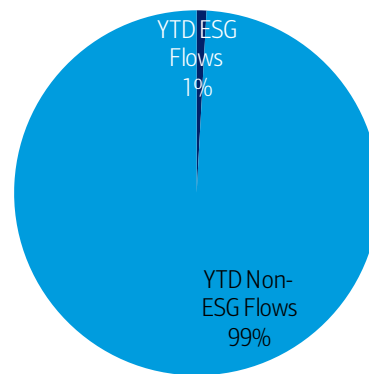


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 12: 1% of YTD flows went to ESG funds

Non-ESG bond funds saw inflows in 2023 much larger than ESG bond funds



Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

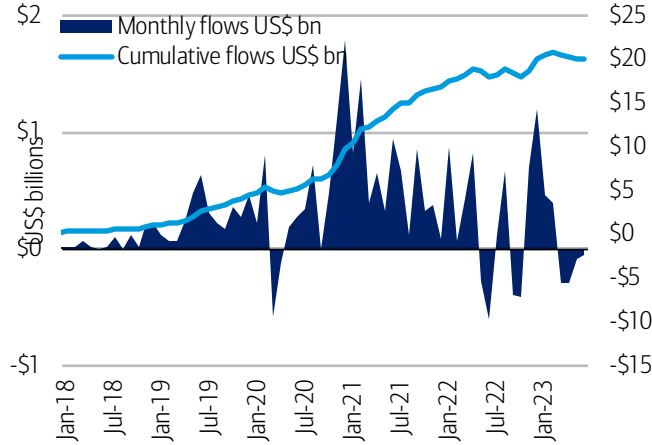


Emerging Markets ESG bond fund flows

EM ESG bond funds saw a 1H23 inflow of just \$133mn, but non-ESG bond funds suffered a \$1.3bn outflow. Cumulative inflows to ESG bond funds were \$20bn as of June 2023. AUM in EM ESG bond funds has increased to \$32bn, up by \$3bn YTD. ESG funds are 6.2% of all bond funds in 1H23, up from 5.7% at 2022 year-end.

Exhibit 13: EM ESG bonds funds recorded \$133mn in inflows in 1H23

EM non-ESG funds saw outflows of \$1.3bn in 1H23

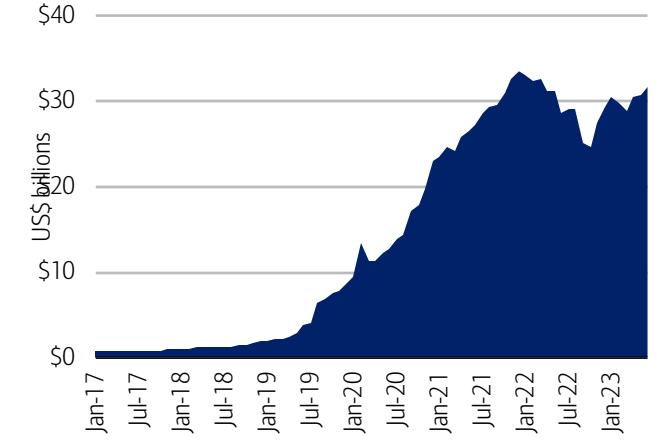


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 14: AUM in EM ESG bond funds is \$32bn, up by 3bn YTD

AUM in EM ESG bond funds recovered after fall in 2022

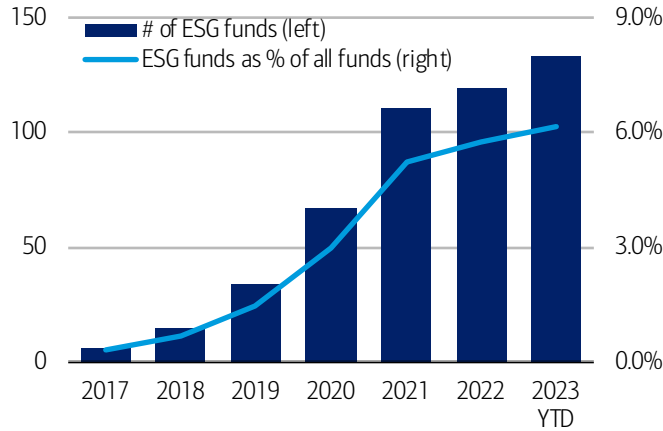


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 15: Today 6.2% of EM bond funds is an ESG fund

EM ESG bond funds rose by 14 to 133 in 1H23

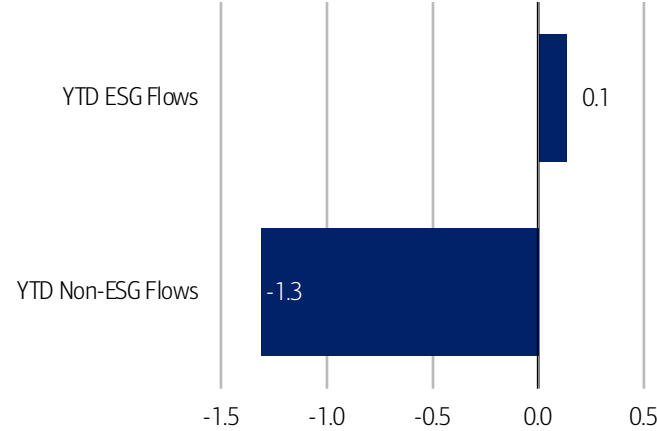


Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 16: EM ESG funds saw \$133mn in inflows in 1H23

EM non-ESG bond funds saw \$1.3bn in outflows in 1H23



Source: EPFR Informa Financial Intelligence, BofA Global Research

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH



Special Disclosures

Some of the securities discussed herein should only be considered for inclusion in accounts qualified for high risk investment.



Disclosures

Important Disclosures

BofA Global Research Credit Opinion Key

BofA Global Research provides recommendations on an issuer's bonds (including corporate and sovereign external debt securities), loans, capital securities, equity preferreds and CDS as described below. Convertible securities are not rated. An issuer level recommendation may also be provided for an issuer as explained below. BofA Global Research credit recommendations are assigned using a three-month time horizon.

Issuer Recommendations: If an issuer credit recommendation is provided, it is applicable to bonds and capital securities of the issuer except bonds and capital securities specifically referenced in the report with a different credit recommendation. Where there is no issuer credit recommendation, only individual bonds and capital securities with specific recommendations are covered. Loans, CDS and equity preferreds are rated separately and issuer recommendations do not apply to them.

BofA Global Research credit recommendations are assigned using a three-month time horizon:

Overweight: Spreads and /or excess returns are likely to outperform the relevant and comparable market over the next three months.

Marketweight: Spreads and/or excess returns are likely to perform in-line with the relevant and comparable market over the next three months.

Underweight: Spreads and/or excess returns are likely to underperform the relevant and comparable market over the next three months.

BofA Global Research uses the following rating system with respect to **Credit Default Swaps (CDS):**

Buy Protection: Buy CDS, therefore going short credit risk.

Neutral: No purchase or sale of CDS is recommended.

Sell Protection: Sell CDS, therefore going long credit risk.

BofA Global Research personnel (including the analyst(s) responsible for this report) receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of Bank of America Corporation, including profits derived from investment banking. The analyst(s) responsible for this report may also receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of the Bank's sales and trading businesses relating to the class of securities or financial instruments for which such analyst is responsible.

BofA Securities fixed income analysts regularly interact with sales and trading desk personnel in connection with their research, including to ascertain pricing and liquidity in the fixed income markets.

Other Important Disclosures

From time to time research analysts conduct site visits of covered issuers. BofA Global Research policies prohibit research analysts from accepting payment or reimbursement for travel expenses from the issuer for such visits.

Prices are indicative and for information purposes only. Except as otherwise stated in the report, for any recommendation in relation to an equity security, the price referenced is the publicly traded price of the security as of close of business on the day prior to the date of the report or, if the report is published during intraday trading, the price referenced is indicative of the traded price as of the date and time of the report and in relation to a debt security (including equity preferred and CDS), prices are indicative as of the date and time of the report and are from various sources including BofA Securities trading desks.

The date and time of completion of the production of any recommendation in this report shall be the date and time of dissemination of this report as recorded in the report timestamp.

This report may refer to fixed income securities or other financial instruments that may not be offered or sold in one or more states or jurisdictions, or to certain categories of investors, including retail investors. Readers of this report are advised that any discussion, recommendation or other mention of such instruments is not a solicitation or offer to transact in such instruments. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor for information relating to such instruments.

Rule 144A securities may be offered or sold only to persons in the U.S. who are Qualified Institutional Buyers within the meaning of Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. SECURITIES OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS DISCUSSED HEREIN MAY BE RATED BELOW INVESTMENT GRADE AND SHOULD THEREFORE ONLY BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN ACCOUNTS QUALIFIED FOR SPECULATIVE INVESTMENT.

Recipients who are not institutional investors or market professionals should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor before considering information in this report in connection with any investment decision, or for a necessary explanation of its contents.

The securities or other financial instruments discussed in this report may be traded over-the-counter. Retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these instruments are exempt from registration or have been qualified for sale.

Officers of BofAS or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments.

This report, and the securities or other financial instruments discussed herein, may not be eligible for distribution or sale in all countries or to certain categories of investors, including retail investors.

Information relating to Affiliates of BofAS, MLPF&S and Distribution of Affiliate Research Reports:

Refer to [BofA Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest](#).

"BofA Securities" includes BofA Securities, Inc. ("BofAS") and its affiliates. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor if they have questions concerning this report or concerning the appropriateness of any investment idea described herein for such investor. "BofA Securities" is a global brand for BofA Global Research.

BofAS and/or Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") may in the future distribute, information of the following non-US affiliates in the US (short name: legal name, regulator): Merrill Lynch (South Africa): Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd., regulated by The Financial Service Board; MLI (UK): Merrill Lynch International, regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA); BofASE (France): BofA Securities Europe SA is authorized by the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF). BofA Securities Europe SA ("BofASE") with registered address at 51, rue La Boétie, 75008 Paris is registered under no. 842 602 690 RCS Paris. In accordance with the provisions of French Code Monétaire et Financier (Monetary and Financial Code), BofASE is an établissement de crédit et d'investissement (credit and investment institution) that is authorised and supervised by the European Central Bank and the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers. BofASE's share capital can be found at www.bofam.com/BofASEdisclaimer; BofA Europe (Milan): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Milan Branch, regulated by the Bank of Italy, the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI); BofA Europe (Frankfurt): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Frankfurt Branch regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI; BofA Europe (Madrid): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Sucursal en España, regulated by the Bank of Spain, the ECB and the CBI; Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited, regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission; Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong): Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited, regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSF); Merrill Lynch (Singapore): Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd, regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS); Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch Canada Inc, regulated by the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada; Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch Mexico, SA de CV, Casa de Bolsa, regulated by the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores; Merrill Lynch (Argentina): Merrill Lynch Argentina SA, regulated by Comisión Nacional de Valores; BofAS Japan: BofA Securities Japan Co., Ltd., regulated by the Financial Services Agency; Merrill Lynch (Seoul): Merrill Lynch International, LLC Seoul Branch, regulated by the Financial Supervisory Service; Merrill Lynch (Taiwan): Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd., regulated by the Securities and Futures Bureau; BofAS India: BofA Securities India Limited, regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); Merrill Lynch (Israel): Merrill Lynch Israel Limited, regulated by Israel Securities Authority; Merrill Lynch (DIFC): Merrill Lynch International (DIFC Branch), regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA); Merrill Lynch (Brazil): Merrill Lynch S.A. Corretora de Títulos e Valores Mobiliários, regulated by Comissão de Valores Mobiliários; Merrill Lynch KSA Company:



Merrill Lynch Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Company, regulated by the Capital Market Authority.

This information: has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom (UK) to professional clients and eligible counterparties (as each is defined in the rules of the FCA and the PRA) by MLI (UK), which is authorized by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA - details about the extent of our regulation by the FCA and PRA are available from us on request; has been approved for publication and is distributed in the European Economic Area (EEA) by BofASE (France), which is authorized by the ACPR and regulated by the ACPR and the AMF; has been considered and distributed in Japan by BofAS Japan, a registered securities dealer under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act in Japan, or its permitted affiliates; is issued and distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) which is regulated by HKSCFC; is issued and distributed in Taiwan by Merrill Lynch (Taiwan); is issued and distributed in India by BofAS India; and is issued and distributed in Singapore to institutional investors and/or accredited investors (each as defined under the Financial Advisers Regulations) by Merrill Lynch (Singapore) (Company Registration No 198602883D). Merrill Lynch (Singapore) is regulated by MAS. Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ABN 65 006 276 795), AFS License 235132 (MLEA) distributes this information in Australia only to 'Wholesale' clients as defined by s.761G of the Corporations Act 2001. With the exception of Bank of America N.A., Australia Branch, neither MLEA nor any of its affiliates involved in preparing this information is an Authorised Deposit-Taking Institution under the Banking Act 1959 nor regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. No approval is required for publication or distribution of this information in Brazil and its local distribution is by Merrill Lynch (Brazil) in accordance with applicable regulations. Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is authorized and regulated by the DFSA. Information prepared and issued by Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is done so in accordance with the requirements of the DFSA conduct of business rules. BofA Europe (Frankfurt) distributes this information in Germany and is regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI. BofA Securities entities, including BofA Europe and BofASE (France), may outsource/delegate the marketing and/or provision of certain research services or aspects of research services to other branches or members of the BofA Securities group. You may be contacted by a different BofA Securities entity acting for and on behalf of your service provider where permitted by applicable law. This does not change your service provider. Please refer to the [Electronic Communications Disclaimers](#) for further information.

This information has been prepared and issued by BofAS and/or one or more of its non-US affiliates. The author(s) of this information may not be licensed to carry on regulated activities in your jurisdiction and, if not licensed, do not hold themselves out as being able to do so. BofAS and/or MLPF&S is the distributor of this information in the US and accepts full responsibility for information distributed to BofAS and/or MLPF&S clients in the US by its non-US affiliates. Any US person receiving this information and wishing to effect any transaction in any security discussed herein should do so through BofAS and/or MLPF&S and not such foreign affiliates. Hong Kong recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited in respect of any matters relating to dealing in securities or provision of specific advice on securities or any other matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. Singapore recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. For clients that are not accredited investors, expert investors or institutional investors Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd accepts full responsibility for the contents of this information distributed to such clients in Singapore.

General Investment Related Disclosures:

Taiwan Readers: Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes an offer or a solicitation of an offer to transact in any securities or other financial instrument. No part of this report may be used or reproduced or quoted in any manner whatsoever in Taiwan by the press or any other person without the express written consent of BofA Securities.

This document provides general information only, and has been prepared for, and is intended for general distribution to, BofA Securities clients. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or other financial instrument or any derivative related to such securities or instruments (e.g., options, futures, warrants, and contracts for differences). This document is not intended to provide personal investment advice and it does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of, and is not directed to, any specific person(s). This document and its content do not constitute, and should not be considered to constitute, investment advice for purposes of ERISA, the US tax code, the Investment Advisers Act or otherwise. Investors should seek financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in financial instruments and implementing investment strategies discussed or recommended in this document and should understand that statements regarding future prospects may not be realized. Any decision to purchase or subscribe for securities in any offering must be based solely on existing public information on such security or the information in the prospectus or other offering document issued in connection with such offering, and not on this document.

Securities and other financial instruments referred to herein, or recommended, offered or sold by BofA Securities, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and are not deposits or other obligations of any insured depository institution (including, Bank of America, N.A.). Investments in general and, derivatives, in particular, involve numerous risks, including, among others, market risk, counterparty default risk and liquidity risk. No security, financial instrument or derivative is suitable for all investors. Digital assets are extremely speculative, volatile and are largely unregulated. In some cases, securities and other financial instruments may be difficult to value or sell and reliable information about the value or risks related to the security or financial instrument may be difficult to obtain. Investors should note that income from such securities and other financial instruments, if any, may fluctuate and that price or value of such securities and instruments may rise or fall and, in some cases, investors may lose their entire principal investment. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Levels and basis for taxation may change.

BofA Securities is aware that the implementation of the ideas expressed in this report may depend upon an investor's ability to "short" securities or other financial instruments and that such action may be limited by regulations prohibiting or restricting "shortselling" in many jurisdictions. Investors are urged to seek advice regarding the applicability of such regulations prior to executing any short idea contained in this report.

This report may contain a trading idea or recommendation which highlights a specific identified near-term catalyst or event impacting a security, issuer, industry sector or the market generally that presents a transaction opportunity, but does not have any impact on the analyst's particular "Overweight" or "Underweight" rating (which is based on a three month trade horizon). Trading ideas and recommendations may differ directionally from the analyst's rating on a security or issuer because they reflect the impact of a near-term catalyst or event. Certain investment strategies and financial instruments discussed herein may only be appropriate for consideration in accounts qualified for high risk investment.

Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or financial instrument mentioned in this report. Investors in such securities and instruments effectively assume currency risk.

BofAS or one of its affiliates is a regular issuer of traded financial instruments linked to securities that may have been recommended in this report. BofAS or one of its affiliates may, at any time, hold a trading position (long or short) in the securities and financial instruments discussed in this report.

BofA Securities, through business units other than BofA Global Research, may have issued and may in the future issue trading ideas or recommendations that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented herein. Such ideas or recommendations may reflect different time frames, assumptions, views and analytical methods of the persons who prepared them, and BofA Securities is under no obligation to ensure that such other trading ideas or recommendations are brought to the attention of any recipient of this information.

In the event that the recipient received this information pursuant to a contract between the recipient and BofAS for the provision of research services for a separate fee, and in connection therewith BofAS may be deemed to be acting as an investment adviser, such status relates, if at all, solely to the person with whom BofAS has contracted directly and does not extend beyond the delivery of this report (unless otherwise agreed specifically in writing by BofAS). If such recipient uses the services of BofAS in connection with the sale or purchase of a security referred to herein, BofAS may act as principal for its own account or as agent for another person. BofAS is and continues to act solely as a broker-dealer in connection with the execution of any transactions, including transactions in any securities referred to herein.

BofA ESGMeter Methodology:

ESGMeter is a proprietary metric based on quantitative analysis and fundamental analyst inputs that reflects our assessment of a company's Environmental, Social and Governance-related attributes. The ESGMeter is intended to indicate a company's likelihood of experiencing stronger financial stability (higher return on equity and lower earnings and price volatility) over the next three years relative to peer group. There are three ESGMeter levels - Low, Medium, and High - which indicate whether a company has attributes most likely to translate into superior financial stability (in the case of a High level) or weaker financial stability (in the case of a Low level) over the next three years relative to its peer group. A Medium level suggests that a company exhibits ESG characteristics that are likely associated with financial stability results in line with its peer group over the next three years. Full details of our methodology, financial stability definition and disclaimers are available at [BofA ESGMeter methodology](#). ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of the BofA Global Research fundamental equity analyst's investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating or price objective for that company.

Copyright and General Information:

Copyright 2023 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. iQDatabase® is a registered service mark of Bank of America Corporation. This information is prepared for the use of BofA Securities clients and may not be redistributed, retransmitted or disclosed, in whole or in part, or in any form or manner, without the express written consent of BofA Securities. BofA Global Research information is distributed simultaneously to internal and client websites and other portals by BofA Securities and is not publicly-available material. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt and review of this information constitutes your agreement not to redistribute, retransmit, or disclose to others the contents, opinions, conclusion, or information contained herein (including any investment recommendations, estimates or price targets) without first obtaining express permission from an authorized officer of BofA Securities. Materials prepared by BofA Global Research personnel are based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material have not been reviewed by, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities, including investment banking personnel. BofA Securities has established information barriers between BofA Global Research

and certain business groups. As a result, BofA Securities does not disclose certain client relationships with, or compensation received from, such issuers. To the extent this material discusses any legal proceeding or issues, it has not been prepared as nor is it intended to express any legal conclusion, opinion or advice. Investors should consult their own legal advisers as to issues of law relating to the subject matter of this material. BofA Global Research personnel's knowledge of legal proceedings in which any BofA Securities entity and/or its directors, officers and employees may be plaintiffs, defendants, co-defendants or co-plaintiffs with or involving issuers mentioned in this material is based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material that relate to any such proceedings have not been reviewed by, discussed with, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities in connection with the legal proceedings or matters relevant to such proceedings.

This information has been prepared independently of any issuer of securities mentioned herein and not in connection with any proposed offering of securities or as agent of any issuer of any securities. None of BofAS any of its affiliates or their research analysts has any authority whatsoever to make any representation or warranty on behalf of the issuer(s). BofA Global Research policy prohibits research personnel from disclosing a recommendation, investment rating, or investment thesis for review by an issuer prior to the publication of a research report containing such rating, recommendation or investment thesis.

Any information relating to the tax status of financial instruments discussed herein is not intended to provide tax advice or to be used by anyone to provide tax advice. Investors are urged to seek tax advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax professional.

The information herein (other than disclosure information relating to BofA Securities and its affiliates) was obtained from various sources and we do not guarantee its accuracy. This information may contain links to third-party websites. BofA Securities is not responsible for the content of any third-party website or any linked content contained in a third-party website. Content contained on such third-party websites is not part of this information and is not incorporated by reference. The inclusion of a link does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with BofA Securities. Access to any third-party website is at your own risk, and you should always review the terms and privacy policies at third-party websites before submitting any personal information to them. BofA Securities is not responsible for such terms and privacy policies and expressly disclaims any liability for them.

All opinions, projections and estimates constitute the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Prices also are subject to change without notice. BofA Securities is under no obligation to update this information and BofA Securities ability to publish information on the subject issuer(s) in the future is subject to applicable quiet periods. You should therefore assume that BofA Securities will not update any fact, circumstance or opinion contained herein.

Certain outstanding reports or investment opinions relating to securities, financial instruments and/or issuers may no longer be current. Always refer to the most recent research report relating to an issuer prior to making an investment decision.

In some cases, an issuer may be classified as Restricted or may be Under Review or Extended Review. In each case, investors should consider any investment opinion relating to such issuer (or its security and/or financial instruments) to be suspended or withdrawn and should not rely on the analyses and investment opinion(s) pertaining to such issuer (or its securities and/or financial instruments) nor should the analyses or opinion(s) be considered a solicitation of any kind. Sales persons and financial advisors affiliated with BofAS or any of its affiliates may not solicit purchases of securities or financial instruments that are Restricted or Under Review and may only solicit securities under Extended Review in accordance with firm policies.

Neither BofA Securities nor any officer or employee of BofA Securities accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect or consequential damages or losses arising from any use of this information.