

# AMP International Share Enhanced Index

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 December 2023

# **Aim and Strategy**

To provide a total return (income and capital growth) after costs and before tax, higher than the return from the benchmark on a rolling 12-month basis. The portfolio invests in international shares and partially replicates the MSCI World (ex-Australia) (ex Tobacco) Index. Some of the portfolio's underlying managers may use short selling with the aim of implementing the investment objectives. The investment option may be geared, but in normal circumstances, the investment option will be no more than 100% exposed to international share market movements, after taking into account derivative positions. In normal circumstances, the investment option is unhedged to Australian dollars.

# **Investment Option Performance**

To view the latest investment performances for this product, please visit <a href="www.amp.com.au/performance">www.amp.com.au/performance</a>

## **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Global Shares
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	7 years
Standard Risk Measure	7/Very High
Investment style	Enhanced Index
Manager style	Multi-manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
Global shares	100
Cash	0

Actual Allocation	%
Global Shares	97.16
Australian Shares	-0.20
Property	1.95
Cash	1.09
Sector Allocation	%
Information Technology	21.54
Financials	16.28
Industrials	11.60
Health Care	10.94
Consumer Discretionary	10.85
Communication Services	7.06
Consumer Staples	5.94
Energy	4.20
Materials	3.54
Futures	2.70
Utilities	2.33
Real Estate	1.95
Cash	1.09
Top Holdings	%
Microsoft Corp	4.22
APPLE INC	3.38
Alphabet Inc	2.58
Amazon.com Inc	2.26
NVIDIA Corp	2.17
Henderson Global Investors Ltd	1.87
Meta Platforms Inc	1.39
Tesla Inc	1.07
Broadcom Inc	0.86
UnitedHealth Group Inc	0.80

Region Allocation	%
North America	73.71
Europe ex UK	13.75
Japan	6.47
United Kingdom	4.32
Cash	1.09
Asia ex Japan	0.95
Australasia	-0.28

#### **Fund Performance**

This Fund is invested via three portfolios, managed by AQR Capital Management (AQR), Intech and Janus Henderson. Each is a low-tracking risk portfolio relative to the benchmark index, constructed using different approaches. These approaches are typically focused on identifying opportunities to add value relative to the benchmark, through risk-controlled, systematic processes. The three approaches employed are: factor signals, volatility capture and multi-strategy.

The Fund produced a strong absolute return, outperforming its benchmark. One of the three of the Fund's underlying managers outperformed their benchmark. Intech's relative volatility capture portfolio produced a positive return and underperformed its benchmark. The portfolio tends to overweight to small cap stocks, as due to their volatility they tend to provide more value capture opportunities. While the allocation effect was neutral, stock selection negatively impacted relative performance during the guarter.

AQR's factor signals portfolio produced a positive absolute return and underperformed its benchmark. Global stock selection detracted from performance, particularly Japanese holdings. Global asset allocation also hampered relative returns, primarily due to country selection. Longer-term performance from the manager remains strong. Finally, the allocation to Janus Henderson outperformed the benchmark slightly and produced a positive return on an absolute basis.

#### **Market Review**

After a poor September quarter, the December quarter was one of the strongest seen in recent years for international equities, with major developed markets up by almost 10%. (Returns were around 5.3% in Australian dollar terms due to a stronger Australian dollar). The main driver was significant further falls in inflation, particularly in the US and Europe where it is now finally nearing target levels, combined with some positive economic indicators and reasonable growth. With regard to the path of interest rates, by the end of the quarter, the market appeared to have shifted away from the 'higher for longer' thesis, to now expecting several rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) in the months ahead. Interestingly, while technology stocks were responsible for the majority of the markets' gains through 2023, the fourth quarter rally was more broad-based, with most sectors lifted by the rising tide of optimism.

Emerging market equities also rose very strongly, though underperformed developed markets largely due to falling Chinese shares amid continued growth concerns, deflation and lacklustre manufacturing readings. Further Chinese government stimulus remains likely. South American markets meanwhile were particularly strong, with central banks in the region more dovish than their developed peers

### Outlook

Interest rates around the world are largely accepted as being at their cyclical peak, on the back of significantly decreased levels of inflation. Economic growth remains low, but generally positive. The corporate environment remains tough, though strong businesses, as always, will likely move forward with increased market dominance.

We believe a diverse basket of businesses bought at reasonable prices, particularly those with strong competitive advantage that generate high amounts of cash from their shareholders' capital, will serve investors well over the long-term.

## **Availability**

Product Name	APIR
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 1)	AMP0994AU**
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 2)	AMP1396AU**

<sup>\*\*</sup>Closed to new and existing investors

#### **Contact Details**

Web: <a href="www.amp.com.au">www.amp.com.au</a> Email: <a href="mailto:askamp@amp.com.au">askamp@amp.com.au</a>

Phone: 131 267

INSIGHTS
IDEAS
RESULTS

What you need to knowThis publication has been prepared by AWM Services Pty Limited ABN 15 139 353 496, AFSL No. 366121 (AWM Services). The information contained in this publication has been derived from sources believed to be accurate and reliable as at the date of this document. Information provided in this investment option update are views of the underlying investment manager only and not necessarily the views of AMP Limited ABN 49 079 354 519 (AMP Group). No representation is given in relation to the accuracy or completeness of any statement contained in it. Whilst care has been taken in the preparation of this publication, to the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for any loss or damage as a result of reliance on this information.

The investment option referred to in this publication is available through products issued by ipac asset management limited ABN 22 003 257 225, AFSL 234655 (ipac). Before deciding to invest or make a decision about the investment options, you should read the current Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for the relevant product, available from the issuer or your financial planner.

Any advice in this document is of a general nature only and does not take into account your financial situation, objectives and needs. Before you make any investment decision based on the information contained in this document you should consider how it applies to your personal objectives, financial situation and needs, or speak to a financial planner. In providing any general advice, AMP Group receives fees and charges and their employees and directors receive salaries, bonuses and other benefits.

Any references to the "Fund", strategies, asset allocations or exposures are references to the underlying managed fund that the investment option either directly or indirectly invests in. The investment option's aim and strategy mirrors the objective and investment approach of the underlying fund. An investment in the investment option is not a direct investment in the underlying fund.

in the underlying fund.

Neither ipac, AWM Services, any other company in the AMP Group nor the underlying fund manager guarantees the repayment of capital or the performance of any product or particular rate of return referred to in this document, unless expressly stated in the PDS. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Any slight asset allocation deviations from 100% may be caused by rounding, asset categorisation and/or hedging.

For notices and disclaimers related to the MSCI Benchmarks within this document, please refer to www.msci.com/notice-and-disclaimer