

# **Investment Policy**

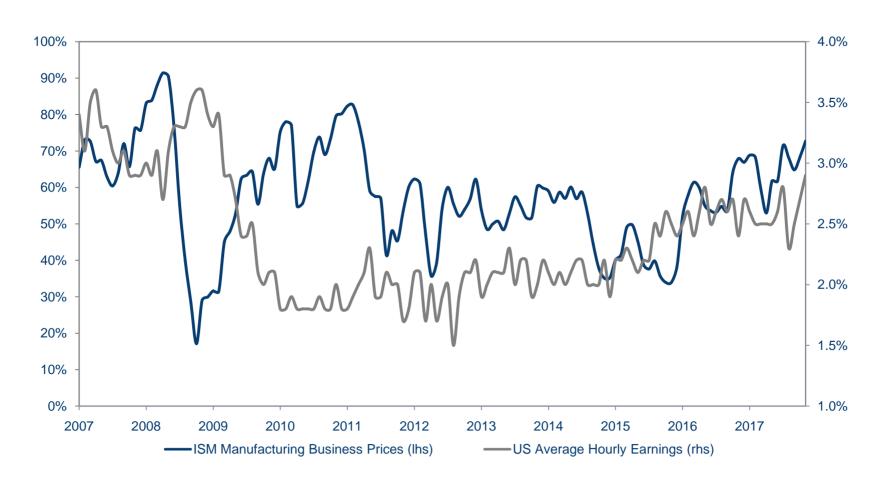


## Tactical positioning



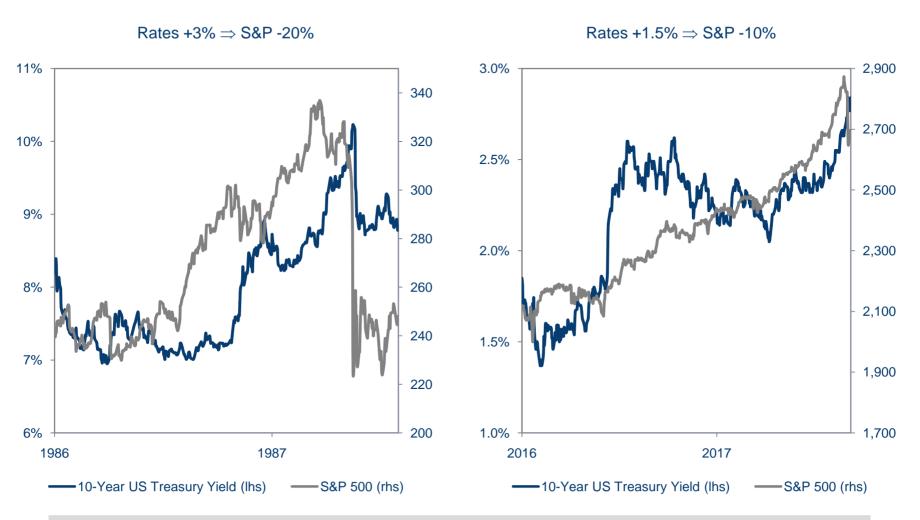
- We remain cautious in **fixed income** favoring **short to medium** maturities due to a very unattractive combination of risk and return in longer maturities. We have maintained **High Yield** and **subordinated debt** exposure as we think that the risk of recession in the US has abated. **High quality bonds in the US** particularly **corporate investment grade** remain attractive in relative terms, and **Treasury bonds** could protect the portfolios from a slowdown in growth, although the latter is now less likely. We also have a significant position in inflation-linked US Treasury bonds (**TIPS**) to get protection against an increase in inflation as a consequence of reflationary policies. Finally, we have also maintained our allocation to **convertible bonds**, as way to further diversify our portfolios
- Equity valuations in the US remain very high, mostly supported by low interest rates and high expectations of tax reform and deregulation. Combined with positive macro data from other main developed markets, we see a greater chance of a reacceleration in global economic growth. However, with the Fed potentially normalizing interest rates at a faster pace, there is a risk of returning to lower valuation multiples. Therefore, we recommend to take equity exposure in a non-directional way. From a relative valuation perspective, we favor European, Japanese and emerging markets equities, quality growth stocks, biotechnology and listed real estate
- Our **diversified commodities** and **gold** allocations, further help us to **increase diversification** and to position the portfolios for a scenario of **rising inflation**
- Alternative investments offer a much needed source of diversification. Besides cat bonds and private equity, we
  have recently increased the allocation to hedge-funds, by investing into liquid and low cost multi-manager/multistrategy fund of funds
- We have **reduced our cash allocation** as **negative interest rates** have been introduced in some of our reference currencies. We have also **reduced** the allocation to **short-term high quality bonds** that we held as an alternative to cash and increased credit exposure instead, with the aim of increasing the yield of the portfolio





- The latest **unemployment report** in the US showed a jump in **Average Hourly Earnings** of 2.9% on an annualized basis, confirming an upward trend that started in 2012
- In addition, the **prices paid component of the ISM report** also pointed towards increasing price pressures on top of a strong overall ISM number, which confirms the robustness of the American economy





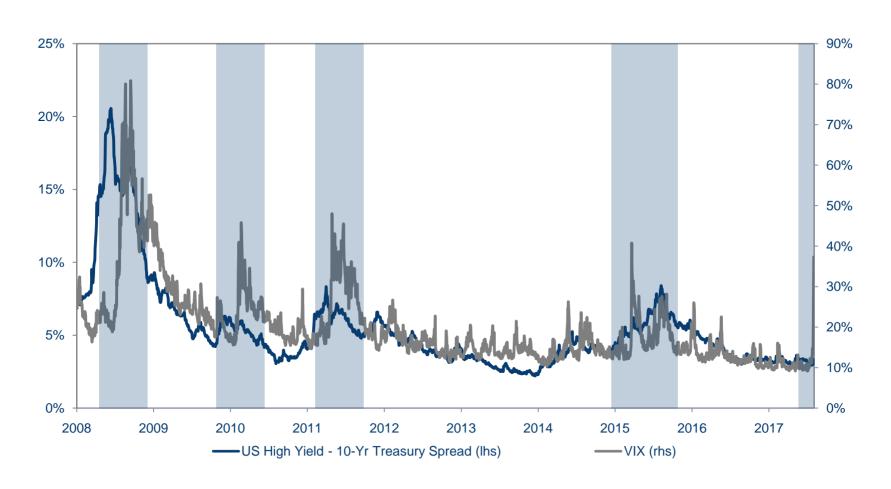
- All other things being equal, **rising interest rates are bad for equity markets** as higher **financing costs** hit the companies' bottom line, whilst at the same time **increase the discount rate** affecting their valuation
- If interest rates rise as a consequence of **higher economic activity** that translate in **higher corporate profits**, equities may not necessary react negatively. However, the larger the move in parallel, the higher the risk of a sudden repricing





- Another way to look at the impact of rising interest rates on stock prices is by assessing their relative attractiveness
- Since the Fed started to normalize interest rates, the **incentives for holding cash or short-term bonds have considerably increased**, a trend that is expected to continue as the Fed embarks in 3-4 more hikes this year





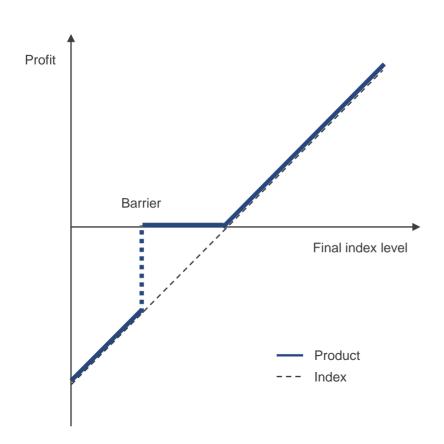
- As the rout in equity markets has **not been triggered by negative macro economic data** pointing towards a recession, **credit markets have remained relatively calmed**
- A worsening in credit spreads is usually associated to a higher probability of defaults, which originates from deteriorating economic conditions. The latter, is normally followed by a spike in equity markets volatility, although in some instances it is equity markets that anticipate





- Together with interest rates in the US, China remains the most important variable to watch over the next years
- Official statistics point towards a stabilization in economic growth. However, unofficial estimates tell a different story whereby growth was reignited by a credit and investment impulse, which may not be sustainable

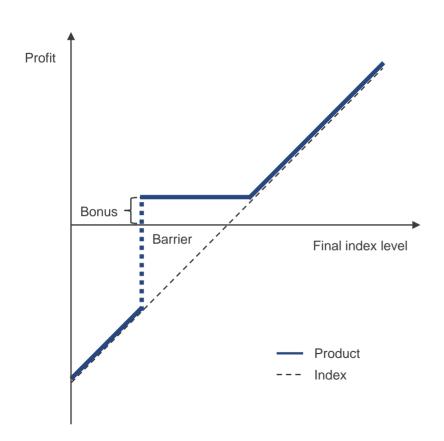




Final level of the underlying	Final product redemption	
160%	160%	
150%	150%	
140%	140%	
130%	130%	
120%	120%	
110%	110%	
100%	100%	
90%	100%	
80%	100%	
70%	100%	
60%	60%	
50%	50%	
40%	40%	

- At maturity, if the index is **above the barrier** level, the product pays the **100% plus the price appreciation** of the underlying, if the latter is positive, or **100%** otherwise
- If, on the contrary, the index closes below the barrier, the product redeems at 100% minus the negative performance

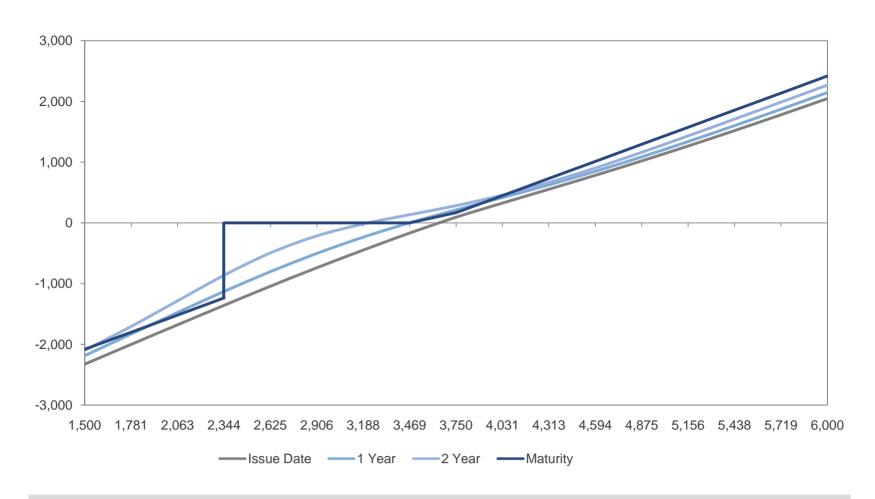




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100%	110%	
90%	110%	
80%	100%	
70%	110%	
60%	60%	
50%	50%	
40%	40%	
40%	40%	

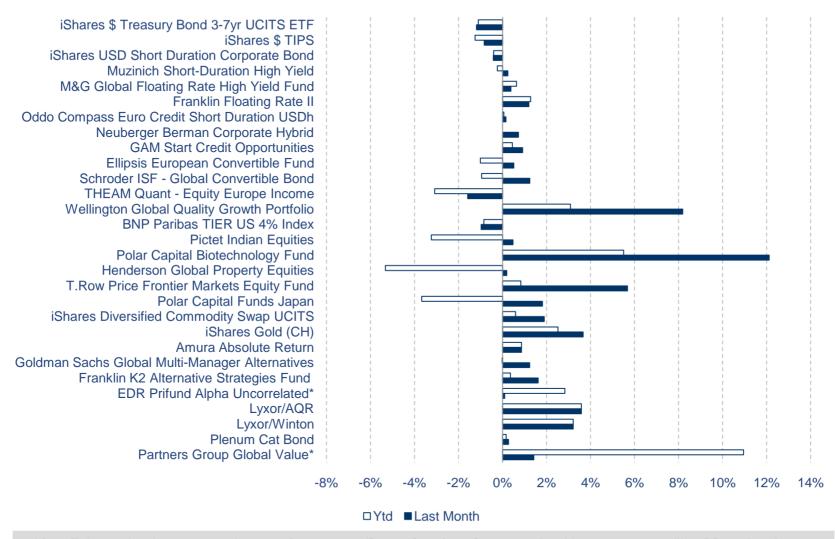
- At maturity, if the index is **above the barrier** level, the product pays the **100% plus the price appreciation** of the underlying, if the latter is positive, or **110%** otherwise
- If, on the contrary, the index closes below the barrier, the product redeems at 100% minus the negative performance





- At inception, the **price sensitivity** of the certificate is typically in the range of **70%-80%** (i.e., for a 10% rise of the index the product appreciates 7% 8%)
- This behavior makes the product suitable for being used as a trading instrument, replacing a directional investment
- Protection starts to kick in when the price of the underlying declines and time to maturity decreases





- After February's sharp correction. **performance dispersion has increased**, with some areas like **Biotechnology** or **Growth** stocks still in positive territory, whilst others like **Real Estate**, **Japan** or **Europe** are in the red
- Treasuries have performed poorly as treasury yields have continued rising, whilst other traditional safe heavens like gold appreciated. Alternatives and CTAs in particular, behaved relatively well in this volatile environment



	Scenario 1 Recession by political/policy accident	<b>Scenario 2</b> Goldilocks	Scenario 3 New regime
Drivers	<ul> <li>Global economic slowdown caused by political accidents or policy errors (Trade war with China, EU breakup, a too aggressive Fed, etc.)</li> <li>Deflationary scenario due to a combination of low growth and structural factors, although the rise of protectionism would be inflationary</li> <li>The Fed will have to reverse curse, which would be complicated if inflation is rising</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The fiscal stimulus in the US provides a short-term impulse to the global economy, but not enough to attain a higher growth trajectory</li> <li>Inflation, particularly in the US will pick-up, but remains subdued globally due to structural factors (demographics, low aggregated demand, deleveraging)</li> <li>The Fed will continue its normalization path</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Growth concerns dissipate, with economic activity accelerating in US, Europe and Japan</li> <li>Inflation in the US increases, as a consequence of president Trump's fiscal stimulus, and pulls other developed economies off deflation</li> <li>The Fed will have to step up the pace of rate increases and/or reduce balance sheet</li> </ul>
Market impact	<ul> <li>Correction in credit due to a rise in defaults and a widening of corporate spreads</li> <li>Correction in equities due to lower projected earnings, though low rates will offer support</li> <li>Sovereign and IG credit to profit due to flight to quality and the continuation of an ultra-loose monetary policy globally</li> <li>USD neutral to weak as flight to quality is counterbalanced by low interest rates</li> <li>Commodities will fall</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Equities appreciate moderately, with Europe and Japan catching up with the US</li> <li>Credit spreads remain stable as the credit cycle is further elongated</li> <li>Sovereigns suffer as monetary policy is progressively normalized</li> <li>USD appreciate moderately due to higher interest rate differentials</li> <li>Commodity prices will rise in the short-term, normalizing once the impulse vanishes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Impact on equities will depend on how much real economic growth is sustained, and how accommodative the Fed remains</li> <li>Sovereign and IG bonds will face steep losses due to higher rates, particularly if long-term inflation expectations rise</li> <li>Corporate credit will correct moderately if inflation comes together with higher growth</li> <li>The USD will appreciate, particularly against those currencies facing deflation</li> <li>Commodities will gain from higher inflation</li> </ul>
Probability	25%	40% (-5%)	35% (+5%)

#### **Short-term catalyzers**

Fiscal stimulus in the US, improvement in macro-data globally, oil price stabilization

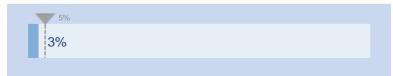
#### Other risks

Trade wars and EM slowdown, Spread of anti-establishment parties, EU Breakup (Frexit, Nexit ...), China, Terrorism

## **MWM Investment Policy**

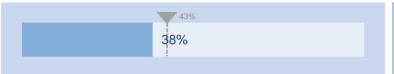


#### Cash



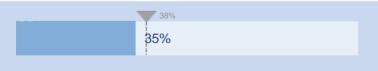
• In the current environment w holding cash is becoming costly. Hence, we prefer to invest in short-term high quality bonds as a substitute for cash

#### Fixed Income



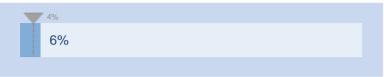
- Corporate debt and High Yield currently offer the best combination of risk and return. Treasuries can benefit from a slowdown in growth although this less likely with the expected fiscal stimulus in the US whilst TIPS offer protection against rising inflation
- We avoid emerging markets until there is more clarity on trade policy by the new US administration

#### **Equities**



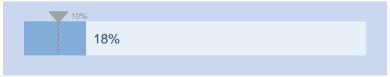
- The expected fiscal stimulus in the US will accelerate growth and postpone the fear of deflation, which will be supportive for equities as the top line will increase. However, it remains to be seen to which extend this comes along with an increase of interest rates, which will be a drag on valuations
- We favor investments in non-directional strategies, as well as in preferred companies and sectors

#### Commodities



- Commodity prices have recently stabilized. Reflationary policies, and in particular a boost in infrastructure spending, will further support energy and industrial metals
- Gold and precious metals will be dependent on the relative pace of increase in both inflation and interest rates, but offer in any case good diversification for the portfolio

#### Alternative Investments



- Alternative investments as a source of low volatility and uncorrelated returns are more attractive than ever in the wake of the current latent risks in the market
- However, there is always a certain degree of correlation with traditional asset classes and double digit positive returns cannot be expected in the current environment

▼ Strategic Asset Allocation

# MWM Model Portfolio Balanced (CH)



Cash	Cash	• Cash	3%	3%
	US Treasuries	• iShares Treasury Bond 3-7yr	3%	
	Short-Term Corporate Bonds	iShares USD Short Duration Corporate Bond	4%	
	US TIPS	• iShares \$ TIPS	5%	
	High Yield US	Muzinich Short Duration High Yield	3%	
	High Yield Europe	Oddo Compass Euro Credit Short Duration	3%	
Fixed Income	High Yield Floating	M&G Global Floating Rate High Yield Fund	3%	38%
	Leveraged Loans	Franklin Floating rate II	3%	
	Subardinated Daht	GAM Star Credit Opportunities	4%	
	Subordinated Debt  • Neuberger Berm	Neuberger Berman Corporate Hybrid	4%	
	Convertible Bonds	Ellipsis European Convertible Fund	3%	
	Convertible Bonds	Schroder Global Convertible Bond	3%	
	Volatility	Reverse Convertibles on Blue Chips	8%	
	Volatility	Bonus Certificate on Indices	8%	
Equities	Growth	Wellington Global Quality Growth Portfolio	4%	35%
	Japan	Polar Capital Funds Japan	3%	
	India	Pictet Indian Equities	3%	
	Frontier Markets	T.Row Price Frontier Markets Equity Fund	3%	
	Biotechnology	Polar Capital Biotechnology Fund	3%	
	Real Estate	Henderson Global Property Equities	3%	
Commodities	Diversified	iShares Diversified Commodity Swap	3%	6%
Commodities	Gold	iShares Gold	3%	0 70
Alternative	Multi-Strategy Multi-Strategy Multi-Strategy Multi-Strategy CTA. Diversified	<ul> <li>Permal Alternative Income Strategies</li> <li>Amura Absolute Return</li> <li>Franklin K2 Alternative Strategies Fund</li> <li>Goldman Sachs Global Multi-Manager Alternatives Portfolio</li> <li>Lyxor AQR Systematic Total Return</li> </ul>	2% 2% 2% 2% 2%	18%
Investments	CTA, Diversified CTA, Diversified	Lyxor Winton Fund	2% 2%	1070
	Cat Bonds	Plenum CAT Bond Fund	3%	
	Private Equity	Partners Group Global Value	3%	

# MWM Model Portfolio Balanced (US)



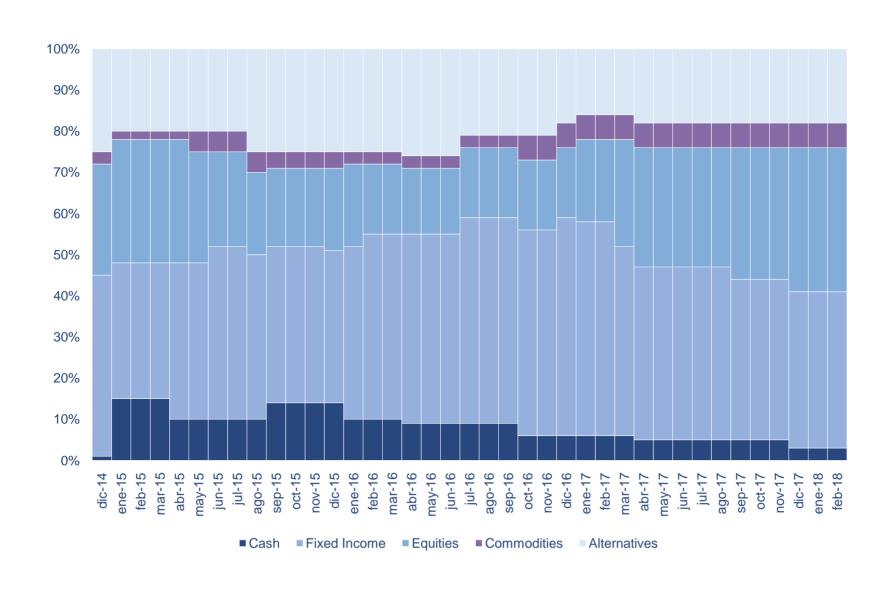
Cash	Cash	• Cash	3%	3%
	US Treasuries	MFS Meridian - U.S. Government Bond Fund	3%	
	Short-Term Corporate Bonds	Blackrock US Dollar Short Duration Bond Fund Class	4%	
	US TIPS	PIMCO Global Real Return Fund USD	5%	
	Global Investment Grade	Carmignac Portfolio - Global Bond	3%	
	High Yield US	Lord Abbett High Yield Fund	3%	
Fixed Income	High Yield Europe	Aberdeen Global - Select Euro High Yield Bond	3%	38%
	Leveraged Loans	Franklin Floating rate II	3%	
	Subordinated Debt	GAM Star Credit opportunities	8%	
	Convertible Bonds	Calamos Global Convertibles	6%	
	Volatility	Reverse Convertibles on Blue Chips	10%	
	Volatility	Bonus Certificate on Indices	10%	
	Growth	MFS Meridian Global Concentrated Fund	5%	
Equities	High Dividend Yield	Schroder Global Dividend Maximizer	5%	35%
	Japan	GAM Star Japan Equity Fund	3%	
	India	Franklin India Fund	3%	
	Frontier Markets	Templeton Frontier Markets	3%	
	Biotechnology	Franklin Biotechnology Discovery Fund	3%	
	Real Estate	Henderson Global Property Equities	3%	
Commodities	Diversified	iShares Diversified Commodity Swap	3%	60/-
Commodities	Gold	iShares Gold Trust	3%	6%
	Multi-Strategy	Franklin K2 Alternative Strategies Fund	5%	
Alternative Investments	Multi-Strategy	Blackrock Multi-Manager Alternative Strategies Fund	5%	18%
	CTA, Diversified	Permal Alternative Income Strategies	4%	
	Private Equity	iShares Listed Private Equity	4%	

### **MWM Investment Profiles**

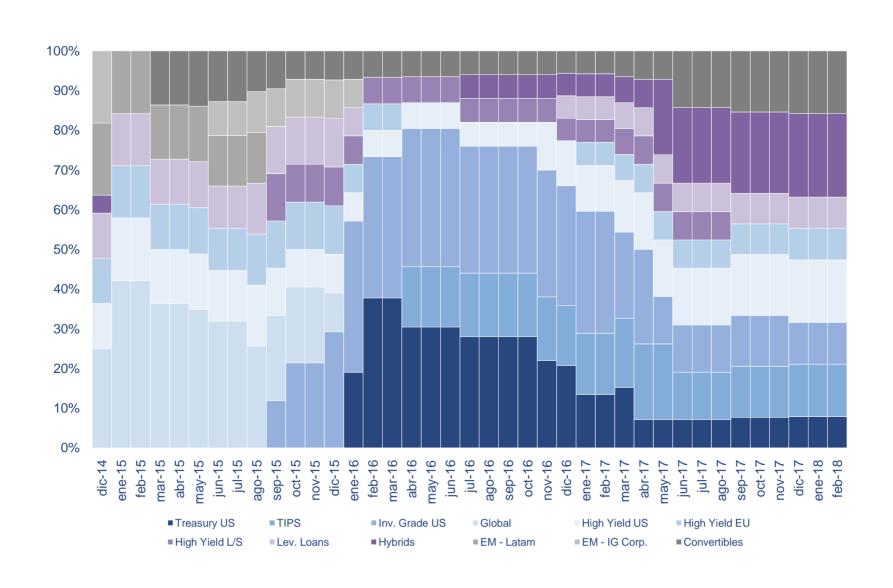




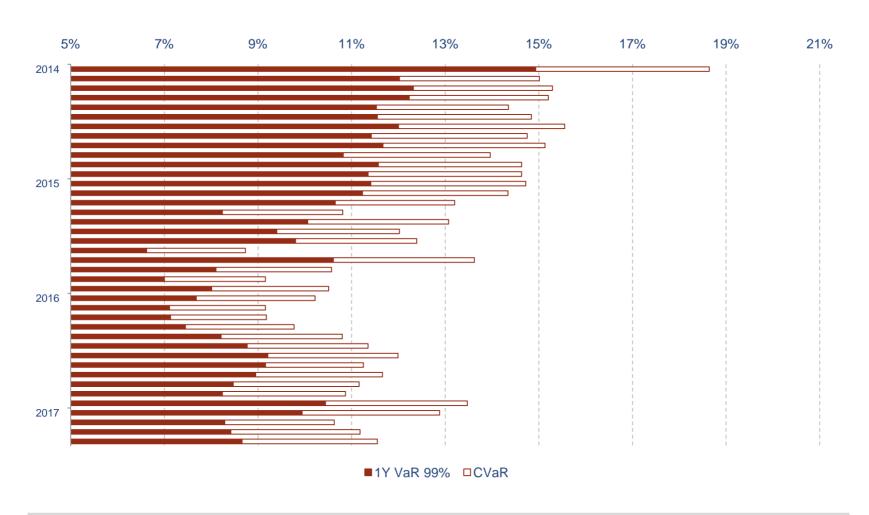






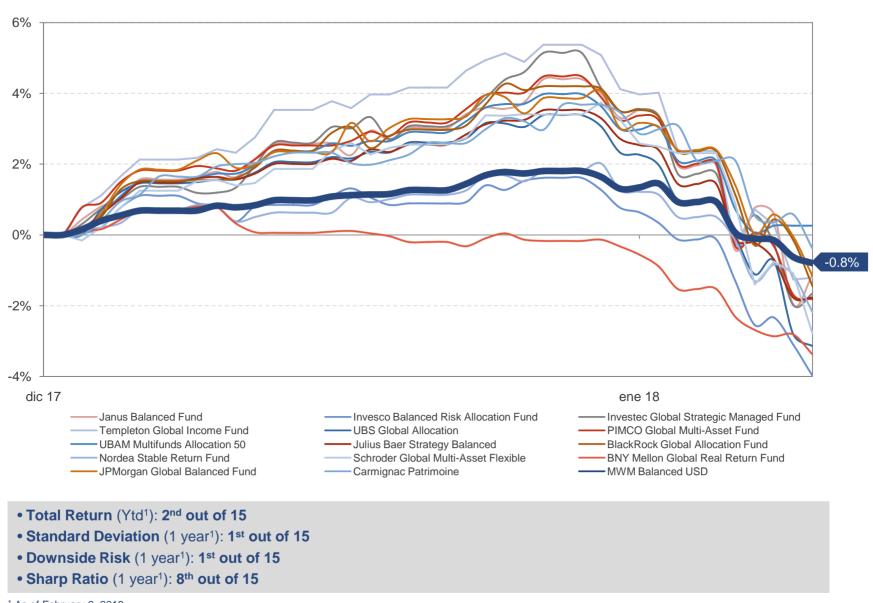






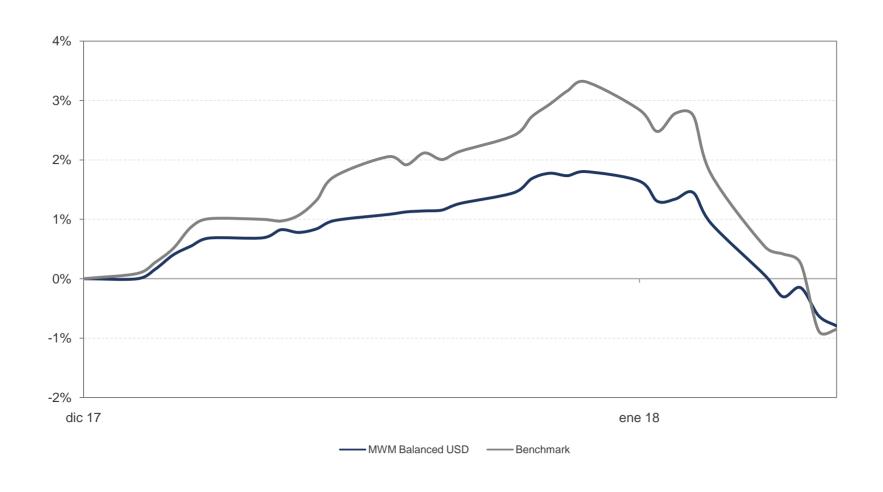
• The VaR of the portfolio has increased with the recent bout of volatility experienced in the market. Should the latter remain elevated, the VaR may experience a spike similar to that of 2016





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of February 9, 2018 Source: Bloomberg



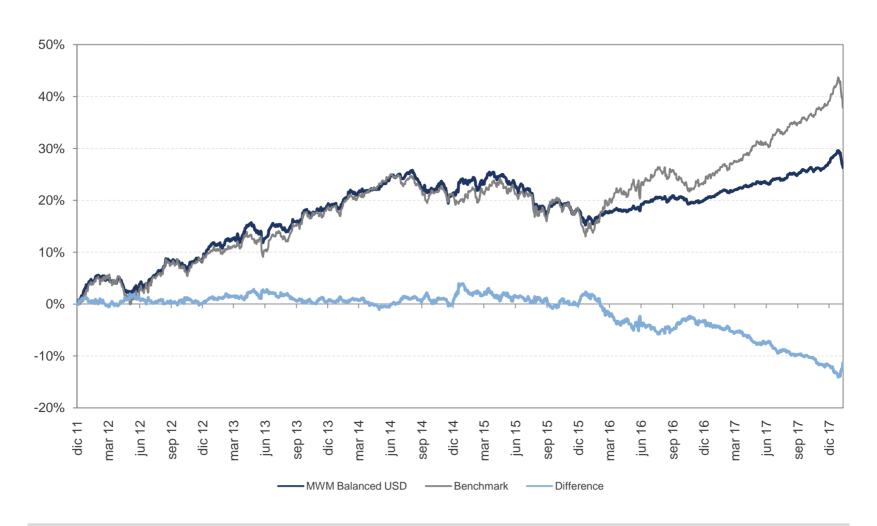


- Total Return (Ytd1): -0.10% vs. 0.18% Benchmark2
- Standard Deviation (Ytd1): 3.85% vs. 6.06% Benchmark2
- Downside Risk (Ytd1): 3.42% vs. 5.30% Benchmark2
- Sharpe Ratio (Ytd1): -0.62 vs. 0.07 Benchmark2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of February 9, 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benchmark = 5% Fed Funds + 43% JPM Global Aggregate Bond Index + 38% MSCI World + 4% S&P GSCI + 10% HFRI FoHF

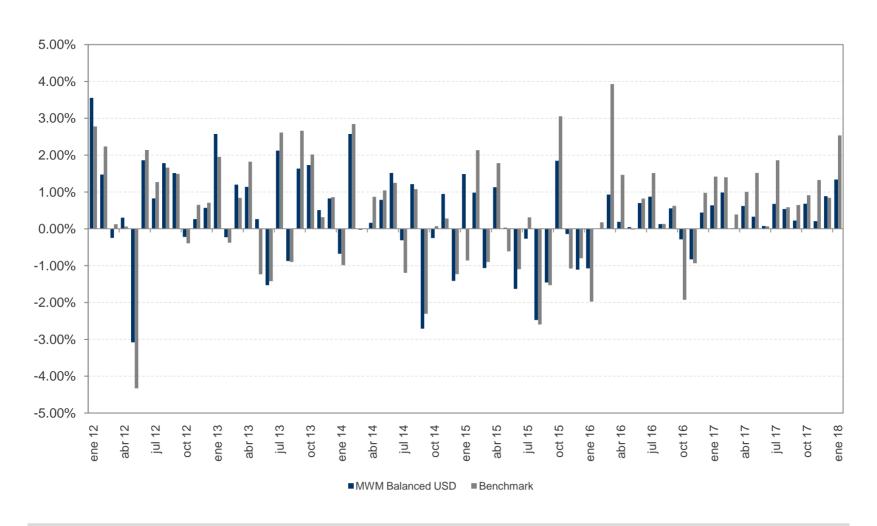




- Total Return (1 year<sup>1</sup>): 5.04% vs. 11.12% Benchmark<sup>2</sup>
- Total Return (3 year<sup>1</sup>): 3.09% vs. 15.39% Benchmark<sup>2</sup>
- Total Return (Since Jan 121): 27.15% vs. 39.31% Benchmark<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of February 9, 2018





- Standard Deviation (1 year1): 1.85% vs. 3.29% Benchmark2
- Downside Risk (1 year<sup>1</sup>): 1.49% vs. 2.52% Benchmark<sup>2</sup>
- Sharpe Ratio (1 year<sup>1</sup>): 2.17 vs. 3.09 Benchmark<sup>2</sup>
- Var 95% 1day (1 year<sup>1</sup>): -0.15% vs. -0.28% Benchmark<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of February 9, 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benchmark = 5% Fed Funds + 43% JPM Global Aggregate Bond Index + 38% MSCI World + 4% S&P GSCI + 10% HFRI FoHF

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