

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

## As at February 2024

### Fund objective

The Fund seeks to achieve a total return before fees that exceeds the total return of the Benchmark by 0.75% p.a. over rolling three year periods.

### Sustainability objective

The Fund seeks to invest in credit securities which the Manager expects currently or will in the future contribute positively towards eight 'People' and/or 'Planet' themes.

### Investment approach

The Manager utilises a proprietary 'Holistic' framework combining qualitative ESG assessments with third-party ESG measures and metrics to assess issuers; a process then complemented by active stewardship and engagement activities.

### Benchmark

Bloomberg AusBond Composite 0-5 Yr Index

### Risk profile

Medium

### Suggested timeframe

3 years

### Active ETF

#### inception date

14 March 2023

### Underlying fund

#### inception date

7 February 2023

### Active ETF size

\$0.5 million

### Underlying Fund size

\$60.6 million

### Management cost (%)

0.50 p.a.

### Buy/sell spread (%)

0.06/0.10<sup>^</sup>

### Base currency

AUD

### Distribution frequency

#### (if any)

Monthly

### ARSN code

662 889 214

### APIR code

HGI0694AU

### ISIN

AU000254278

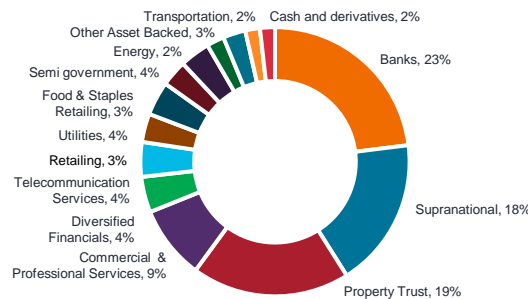
### ASX code

GOOD

Performance	1 Month (%)	3 months (%)	6 months (%)	1 year (%)	3 years (% p.a.)	5 years (% p.a.)	10 years (% p.a.)	Since inception (%)
Fund (gross)	0.18	2.70	3.31	-	-	-	-	4.44
Fund (net)	0.14	2.57	3.06	-	-	-	-	3.94
Benchmark	0.01	1.79	2.24	-	-	-	-	2.63
Excess return*	0.17	0.91	1.07	-	-	-	-	1.81

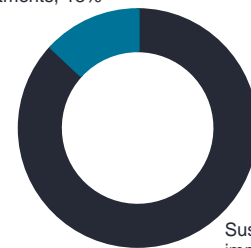
\*In line with the fund objective, the excess return is measured against gross performance. Gross return is gross of management costs and sell spread. Past performance is not a reliable indication of future results.

### Sector allocation



### Investments breakdown

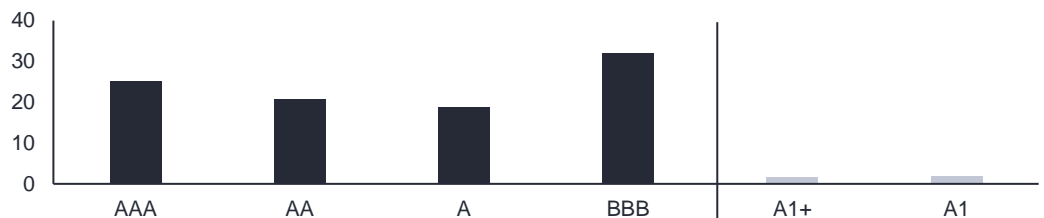
Liquid investments, 13%



Sustainable and impact investments, 87%

Rounding accounts for small +/- from 100%.

### Credit rating distribution (%)



### Portfolio Characteristics

	Fund	Benchmark
Estimated Weighted Average Yield to Maturity (EWAYTM) <sup>1</sup>	5.09	4.15
Running yield	4.41	3.02
Weighted average credit quality	AA-	AA+
Number of securities (on a look through basis)	75	518
Modified duration	2.93	2.29
Active duration position	0.64	

<sup>1</sup>Estimated Weighted Average Yield to Maturity is a measure of the average annual yield of all securities in the Fund (Grossed up for franking credits, where applicable). Benchmark duration is as at month end and therefore does not include rebalancing.

### Top holdings

African Development Bank 1.1% 16/12/2026 AUD
ANZ Bank Subordinated FRN BASEL III T2
Commonwealth Bank Of Australia Subordinated FRN BASEL III T2
CPPIB Capital Inc 1.5% 23/06/2028 AUD REGS
DWPF Finance Pty Ltd 2.6% 04/08/2032 AUD
GPT Wholesale Office Fund No1 3.222% 05/11/2031 AUD
La Trobe University 5.311% 08/08/30 AUD
NBN CO LTD 4.2% 14/04/2027 AUD REGS
Transpower New Zealand Ltd 4.977% 29/11/2028 AUD
Vicinity Centres Trust 4.927% 02/06/2028 AUD REGS

<sup>^</sup> For more information and most up to date buy/sell spread information visit [www.janus Henderson.com/en-au/investor/buy-sell-spreads](http://www.janus Henderson.com/en-au/investor/buy-sell-spreads).

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

(continued)



**Head of Australian  
Fixed Interest**  
Jay Sivapalan



**Portfolio Manager**  
Shan Kwee

## Fund Performance

The Janus Henderson Sustainable Credit Active ETF (Managed Fund) (Fund) returned 0.14% (net) and 0.18% (gross). The Fund outperformed the Bloomberg AusBond Composite 0-5Yr Index (Benchmark) by 0.17% (gross) in January, which returned 0.01% over the month.

The Sustainable Credit Fund has a dual mandate; a sustainability objective and a performance objective. Each company within the portfolio has gone through our credit approval process, which includes negative screens, credit analysis and a sustainability assessment using our proprietary holistic ESG framework and active stewardship (where appropriate). In conjunction with normal portfolio construction practices, securities are chosen for their alignment with sustainable themes as well as their return potential for investors. These themes include 'Planet' (decarbonisation, circular economy, sustainable buildings, biodiversity) and 'People' (equality and alleviating poverty, inclusion and social diversity, aid disability support, affordable housing).

The Fund invests in a diversified and sustainable allocation of credit and agency securities, with at least 80% exposure to securities deemed 'Sustainable' and/or 'Impact' in our assessment. The Fund has over 75% allocated to investment grade credit, with the remainder across supranationals & agencies, semi governments and liquidity.

Australian government bond yields rose with a 30bps intra-month trading range, driving a negative return from the Australian bond market for the month. The Fund actively navigated duration positioning with a bias to the two- to five-year maturity range and increased portfolio interest rate duration to 2.9 years, reflecting on some softer employment data, where unemployment lifted by 0.2% to 4.1%, and some cooling in wage price momentum. Income and some tailwinds from credit spreads helped lift returns into positive territory. Total returns as well as excess returns have remained strong for investors with net returns above 2.5% over 3 months, and excess return since inception above the medium term Fund objective. We remain positive on the outlook for returns from this strategies core holdings in investment grade credit. February marked the first month where more diverse credit issuance including banks, corporates and securitised markets were all firing simultaneously. After retaining some capacity in anticipation of impending credit supply, we continued to rotate into securities which offer attractive income generation and potential for capital gains over the coming year. We pursued opportunities across bank senior from Newcastle Greater Mutual and RACQ, Tier 2 from Macquarie as well as a Climate Bond Initiative certified Green ABS deal from Plenti Group. All of which came with healthy yields of 5 - 6%.

For further insights from our team, please view the following articles:

- [Five sustainable investing myths busted](#)
- [Can the bond market help solve the housing affordability crisis?](#)
- [Green Bonds: an investment in the planet's future?](#)
- [Investing in a fairer future: Social bonds in focus](#)
- [Promoting decarbonisation, the Aussie way](#)

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

(continued)

**The RBA released its new format Monetary Policy Statement, modestly downgrading their GDP forecasts, as well as their CPI expectations; but maintain there is a high degree of uncertainty.**

## Market Review

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) kept policy unchanged at 4.35% in February, as expected.

Global moves continue to be a strong influence, as the debate over the strength of the cycle and policy easing rages. Australian three-year government bond yields ended the month 13 basis points (bps) higher at 3.70%, while 10-year government bond yields were 12bps higher at 4.14%.

There is more consistency around the global start of the major market easing cycles, with markets now looking at mid-year for rate cuts to commence. Europe is expected to be first, with the US thereafter.

In risk markets, a consistent theme during Corporate Reporting Season was one of resilience and robust fundamentals, particularly for Investment Grade issuers. When combined with evidence of slowing inflation and expectations of an imminent rate cutting cycle, this catalysed an impressive credit rally as institutional investors including pension funds, insurers and annuity providers, sought to lock-in attractive yields from high-quality liquid assets.

The Australian iTraxx Index ended 5bps tighter at 63bps, while the Australian fixed and floating credit indices returned -0.04% and +0.51% respectively.

## Market Outlook

The RBA released its new format Monetary Policy Statement, modestly downgrading their GDP forecasts, as well as their CPI expectations; but maintain there is a high degree of uncertainty. The data has backed up this uncertainty, with a high degree of volatility. Unemployment has risen to 4.1%, wages sit at 4.2% yoy, and the retail data has bounced a less than expected 1.1% mom.

Our base case is for the RBA to remain on hold at current rates before commencing an easing cycle in August 2024. We price a more modest than historically average easing cycle, of around 175bps, spread over 12 months. We see the risks skewed to the downside, with a rising probability that the RBA may have to move earlier and slightly faster than our base case. In this scenario, the RBA starts moving in August 2024, with a total of 250bps of cuts, to below neutral interest rates.

In recognition of the softening growth environment, our credit strategy remains skewed towards high-quality, investment grade issuers with resilient business models, solid earnings power and conservative balance sheets. We have been actively and selectively taking advantage of the attractive yields on offer in highly rated corporate bonds and structured credit, particularly in the primary markets where transactions have come with new issue concessions.

A strong rally in Tier 2 has normalised the relative value in bank capital instruments, and for the first time in two years we see some value emerging in existing hybrid structures before the APRA Additional Tier 1 Capital recommendations are likely revised later this year. We remain overweight in Tier 2, and used primary markets to begin a minor rotation toward major bank hybrids. Primary market supply remains healthy and has accelerated post reporting season. We continue to see opportunities to add securities producing strong risk adjusted yields in the investment grade spectrum, with conservatively geared Australian real estate investment trust (REIT) senior debt showing attractive relative value together with selected core infrastructure subsectors. We favour allocating now while all in yields remain attractive ahead of a potential cutting cycle.

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

(continued)

**Close to \$1 billion AUD was issued domestically in labelled ESG bonds in February, with new bonds coming from both government and asset backed sectors.**

We are electing to be under allocated to sub investment grade and illiquid credit, with a strong preference to earn reasonable income and capital gains up in quality for now. Our expectation remains for lower quality credit spreads to remain bumpy as investors digest higher costs of capital and slowing growth this year. We are withholding risk and liquidity capacity in anticipation of more attractive entry points for global high yield and loans. We favour further bolstering levels of credit protection (via credit default swaps) as we approach the point in the cycle where effects of policy tightening become more apparent.

For the Australian Fixed Interest Team's outlook, visit <https://go.janushenderson.com/Viewpoint-Mar24>.

For further insights on our views for 2024 please visit: <https://go.janushenderson.com/AFI-2024-Outlook>.

## ESG Commentary

Close to \$1 billion AUD was issued domestically in labelled ESG bonds in February, with new bonds coming from both government and asset backed sectors.

Globally, data out from Amundi showed that investment into "responsible funds" have increased 4 times since 2020, now making up 17% of total assets worldwide.

For insights on the Australian fixed income team's company engagement, please view our recently published ESG quarterly here: [https://go.janushenderson.com/AFI\\_ESG\\_Report\\_Dec\\_2023](https://go.janushenderson.com/AFI_ESG_Report_Dec_2023).

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

(continued)

As at December Quarter 2023

## Labelled bonds# structure breakdown

	Fund
Sustainability-linked	8%
Sustainability	11%
Social	10%
Green	40%

#Labelled bonds include use of proceeds bonds such as green, social and sustainability bonds which fund projects with specific and dedicated environmental and/or social benefits and sustainability-linked bonds that do not finance particular projects but rather have their coupons linked to the issuers reaching predetermined sustainability performance targets and key performance indicators. Percentages may not add up to 100% as the breakdown only considers labelled bond investments in the fund.

Source: Janus Henderson Investors

### Financed Carbon Emissions (Scope 1 & 2) – Coverage 23.9%



### Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (Scope 1 & 2) – Coverage 53.5%



Source: Janus Henderson Investors

The Coverage refers to the data that is available from MSCI ESG analytics. They do not provide ESG data for all investable companies.

	Theme	Measure	Fund	Coverage
PLANET	Decarbonisation	% of issuers with a net zero target by 2050	97%	100%
	Circular economy	% of companies with programs for recycling, re-using and composting	92%	55%
	Sustainable buildings	% of companies who have obtained green building certificates	50%	55%
	Biodiversity	% of companies with a policy on biodiversity in place	67%	55%
PEOPLE	Inclusion & social diversity	% of companies with a minimum of 35% of women in senior positions*	83%	100%
		% of companies with a minimum of 35% of women on the board*	86%	100%
	Affordable housing	Number of dwellings developed to provide more affordable housing projects*	4,900	
		Number of Australians who were assisted in the purchasing or building of a home*	61,000	
	Disability support & services	Of those assisted in the purchasing of new homes, % of households with a disability supported*	30%	
Social equality & poverty	% of companies that support charitable program, direct contributions to community and have affirmative action policies in place	50%	55%	

Source: Janus Henderson Investors

Note: \* These figures represent outcomes aligning to the relevant 'People' theme, which result from funding provided via instruments in which the Fund invests. Coverage refers to the percentage of companies in our corporate universe that report on the respective metrics. This data is collated from company sustainability statements as well as third party systems by the investment team.

# SUSTAINABLE CREDIT ACTIVE ETF (MANAGED FUND)

(continued)

Janus Henderson  
INVESTORS

## Important information

A Product Disclosure Statement, dated 29 September 2023, and Additional Information Guide, dated 29 September 2023 is available at [www.janushenderson.com/australia](http://www.janushenderson.com/australia) and contains more information on the investment objective, how we make ESG assessments and identify 'Sustainable' and 'Impact' investments contributing to 'People' and 'Planet' themes.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Performance source: Morningstar, Janus Henderson. Performance figures are calculated using the exit price net of fees and assume distributions are reinvested. Due to rounding the figures in the holdings, breakdowns may not add up to 100%. The information in this monthly report was prepared by Janus Henderson Investors (Australia) Funds Management Limited ABN 43 164 177 244, AFS Licence 444268 (Janus Henderson) in respect of the Janus Henderson Sustainable Credit Active ETF (Managed Fund) (**Fund**) and should not be considered a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold any particular security. Securities and sectors mentioned in this monthly report are presented to illustrate companies and sectors in which the Fund has invested. Holdings are subject to change daily.

This monthly report contains general information only and is not intended to be nor should it be construed as advice. This monthly report does not take account of your individual objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on this information you should consider the appropriateness of the information having regard to your objectives, financial situation and needs. You should obtain a copy of the Product Disclaimer Document (PDS) and read it before making a decision about whether to invest in the Fund.

No person guarantees the performance of, rate of return from, nor the repayment of capital in relation to the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with, nor another liability of, Janus Henderson Investors (Australia) Funds Management Limited nor any of the Janus Henderson group entities nor any of their related bodies corporate, associates, affiliates, officers, employees or agents. An investment in the Fund is subject to risk, including possible delays in repayment and loss of income and capital invested. Prospective investors should refer to the risk sections in the PDS for full disclosure of all risks associated with an investment.

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