

Santander Select Defensive

10 / 2024

Fund commentary

The month of October was marked by profit-taking in the financial markets, and main US and European indices, both in equities and fixed income, fell. The predictions for the US elections have been slightly favouring Trump's victory over Kamala Harris. This caused different impacts on the regions and sectors that could be affected by the final outcome of the elections, such as the European and Emerging stock markets which, given the possible increase in tariffs and their consequences on earnings, suffered greater falls than the US stock market. The tone of earnings for 3Q24 at a general level was positive, both in the US and in Europe. As the data on US economic growth were released, the market lowered its expectations on the cuts expected from the Fed for next year. This adjustment of expectations regarding the Fed's rate-cutting cycle led to a sharp rise in yields, especially in the US. The poor performance of US bonds ended up affecting Eurozone government bonds, although to a lesser extent. Last but not least, it's important to highlight the appreciation of the US dollar against the euro, which began the month with an exchange rate of 1.1134 EUR/USD and closed the month at 1.0883 EUR/USD.

In terms of positioning, on the US equity side, we implemented new hedging strategies on the S&P500, closing the month at a level of 20%, slightly higher than the close of the previous month.

Regarding fixed income, we took advantage of the sharp drop in the price of US bonds to implement a new bullish strategy with options on 10-year Treasury futures. As a result, we closed the month with a duration level of 3.07 years, 0.20 years higher than the close of last month.

Finally, on the currency side, we decided to close the bullish option on the dollar, thus reducing the exposure to this currency.

This document has been prepared by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. in relation to one or more Luxembourg undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities ("UCITS") under its management, under and in accordance with the UCITS Directive, and is provided solely in confidence for the recipient for the specific purpose of evaluating a potential investment or an existing investment in a UCITS managed by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A.

This document is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the key information document ("KID") or for UK investors the key investor information document ("KIID") before making any final investment decisions, purchasing or converting shares or redeeming investments, together with the list of countries where the UCITS is registered for sale, available at www.santanderassetmanagement.lu or via authorized intermediaries in your country of residence.

This document is intended to provide information that summarizes the main characteristics of the UCITS and under no circumstances constitutes a contractual agreement or an information document required by any legislative provision. It is not a recommendation, personalized investment advice, an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any shares in the UCITS described in this document. Likewise, the distribution of this document to a client, or to a third party, should not be regarded as a provision or an offer of investment advisory services.

The UCITS described in this document may not be notified and registered for marketing in all EEA Member States under the UCITS Directive marketing passport and Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. and/or the UCITS has the right to terminate the arrangements made for marketing of the UCITS in certain jurisdictions and to certain investors in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including the UCITS Directive provisions.

It has not been proven that the data contained in this document meet marketing requirements of all countries of sale. The UCITS described in this document may not be eligible for sale or distribution in certain jurisdictions or to certain categories or types of investors. This UCITS may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold to or for the benefit of a United States Person under FATCA regulation (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act), in line with the selling restrictions of the prospectus of the UCITS.

Past performance does not predict future returns. The returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations relative to the respective investors' currency.

Investment in the UCITS may be subject to investment risks, including but not limited to, market risk, credit risk, issuer and counterparty risk, liquidity risk, foreign currency risk and, where applicable, risks pertaining to emerging markets. Additionally, if the funds hold investments in hedge funds, real estate funds, commodities and private equity, it should be noted that these can be subject to valuation and operational risks inherent in this type of assets and markets as well as the risk of fraud or risk derived from investing in unregulated or unsupervised markets or unlisted assets. Complete information on the risks can be found in the relevant "Risk Factors" section of the UCITS prospectus and KID (or KIID for UK investors), which should be consulted and read by the investors.

This UCITS has a prospectus (which is drafted in English), a KID (drafted in English and other languages depending on the country of registration of the UCITS) and a KIID for UK investors (drafted in English), which can be obtained from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

For product information, please contact Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. (43, Avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), management company of the UCITS under the supervision of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). The depositary and administrator of the UCITS is JP Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (6, route de Treves, L-2633 Senningerberg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg).

Prior to investment in the UCITS it is advisable that the investor seeks personalized advice regarding taxation as it depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may change in the future.

Investors can obtain a summary of investor rights in English from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

Information herein is believed to be reliable. Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. assumes no responsibility for any use of the information contained herein.

© Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. All Rights Reserved.