

# Bentham Syndicated Loan Fund

March 2024

#### **Fund Aim**

To provide investors with a diversified exposure to the global syndicated loan market with an active allocation to investments in different industries, issuers and geographies.

Fund Performance as at 31 March 2024 (%)										
	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	7 years (p.a.)	10 years (p.a.)	15 years (p.a.)	Since inception (p.a.)
Gross return (before fees)	0.73	2.79	5.33	12.40	5.40	4.64	4.68	5.31	9.48	7.50
Growth return (after fees)	-0.07	0.42	0.53	2.43	-3.20	-2.84	-2.38	-1.79	1.14	-0.78
Distribution return	0.72	2.19	4.41	9.13	7.68	6.60	6.18	6.23	7.44	7.38
Total return (after fees) <sup>1</sup>	0.65	2.61	4.93	11.57	4.48	3.76	3.80	4.43	8.58	6.60
Benchmark	0.74	2.28	4.78	10.98	4.95	4.26	4.17	4.57	8.15	6.03
Active return (after fees)2	-0.09	U 33	0.15	n 59	-0.47	-0.50	-N 37	-N 13	0.43	Ω 58

Source: Fidante Partners. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Returns may be volatile and may vary from year to year.

#### **Portfolio and Market Returns**

The Bentham Syndicated Loan Fund had a total return (after fees) of 0.65% in the month of March, underperforming the benchmark (Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index hedged into AUD) by 0.09%. On a before fees basis the fund returned 0.73% for the month, underperforming the benchmark by 0.02%.

#### **Fund Statistics**

At month end, the Fund had a yield to maturity of 8.75% and running yield of 8.29%, with the credit yield spread decreasing by 5 bps to 478 bps during the month. The Fund had an interest rate duration of 0.47 years and credit duration of 3.08 years.

### **Leveraged Loan Market**

The discount margin (3 year) for the Index decreased by 11 bps during the month to 509 bps.

The top performing leveraged loan industries in March were Chemicals, Consumer Non-Durables and Energy with returns (sector performance in USD terms) of 1.23%, 1.21% and 1.14% respectively. The worst performing loan industries were Media/Telecommunications, Financial and Metals/Minerals with returns of 0.03%, 0.51% and 0.64% respectively.

### **Portfolio Exposures**

The Fund's three largest industry exposures are 14.2% in Electronics, 9.4% in Diversified/Conglomerate Service and 9.0% in Healthcare, Education and Childcare. The Fund's top three company exposures are 1.3% in Ukg, 1.2% in Polaris Newco and 0.9% in Virgin Media Sfa Finance. During the month, the Fund increased its exposure to Truist Insurance, Entegris and Panther Escrow Issuer; with decreased exposures to Six Flags Entertainment, Xpo and KREF Holdings X.

Portfolio Summary Statistics						
Yield to maturity	8.75%					
Running yield	8.29%					
Credit spread <sup>3</sup>	+478bps					
Number of issuers	386					
Interest rate duration	0.47 years					
Credit duration	3.08 years					
Average credit quality <sup>4</sup>	B+					
Fund size	A\$2,060,523,920					

Risk Characteristics	
5 Year Volatility <sup>5</sup>	7.46
5 Year Sharpe Ratio <sup>6</sup>	0.42
5 Year Tracking Error <sup>7</sup>	0.98
5 Year Information Ratio <sup>8</sup>	0.39

Fund Distributions	
Distribution frequency	Monthly
Monthly distribution <sup>9</sup>	0.72% (Mar 2024)
Target distribution rate (FY24) <sup>10</sup>	1m BBSW + 4.5%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Total Return (after fees) is calculated using pre-distribution month end withdrawal unit prices, and assumes all income is reinvested in additional units. Total Return equals Growth return (after fees) plus Distribution return (after fees).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Active Return of the Fund is the difference between the Total Return and the return of the Benchmark. Gross Returns (before fees) are calculated by adding back the fees and expenses deducted. Please refer to the PDS for more information on fees and expenses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Spread over the swap rate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The average credit quality is calculated using a duration adjusted Moody's Weighted Average Rating Factor (WARF) for both the S&P and Moody's security credit ratings within a portfolio.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Volatility is Standard Deviation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sharpe Ratio is the excess return over the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (before fees) divided by Standard Deviation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Tracking Error is the Standard Deviation of the Active Return (before fees).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Information Ratio is the Active Return (before fees) divided by the Tracking Error.

<sup>9</sup> Calculated as the cents per unit (CPU) distribution at the month end divided by the ex-distribution unit price at the start of the month.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Target distribution rates for FY24 set at one month Australian Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) plus 4.5% of the monthly unit price. Bentham intends to achieve the distribution rate for FY2024 with taxable income. If there is a shortfall of taxable income, the distribution may possibly include a capital return.

The current distribution rate setting was based on the running yield of the Fund as at 30 June 2023 and assumes the Fund continues to achieve an equivalent yield for FY2024. Actual distributions, however, can differ from this setting because of future matters which are not known or able to be presently identified.



# Bentham Syndicated Loan Fund

# March 2024

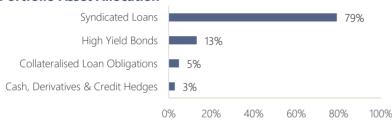
Monthly Distribution Returns History (%) <sup>1</sup>													
Financial Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD <sup>2</sup>
2024	0.72	0.72	0.71	0.70	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.72	-	-	-	6.73
2023	0.51	0.54	0.59	0.63	0.65	0.67	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.72	0.70	0.72	8.00
2022	0.29	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.31	0.33	3.38
2021	0.39	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.38	0.37	0.38	0.37	1.86	1.50	1.50	2.10	10.69
2020	0.37	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.34	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.28	3.70
2019	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.39	0.38	0.37	4.83

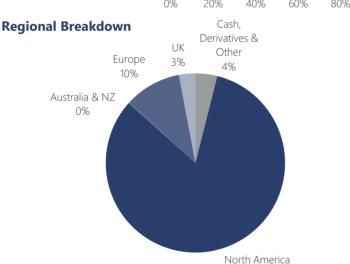
Source: Fidante Partners

#### Past distributions are no indication of future distributions.

- <sup>1</sup> Calculated as the cents per unit (CPU) distribution at month end divided by the ex-distribution unit price at the start of the month.
- <sup>2</sup> Annual distribution return (Year-to-Date) is calculated as the Total Return (after fees) minus Growth Return. Total Return (after fees) is calculated using pre-distribution month end withdrawal unit price, and assumes distributions are reinvested. Growth Return equals the percentage change in unit price.

## **Portfolio Asset Allocation**





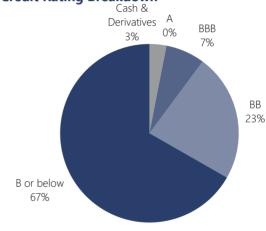
## **Discount Margin and Average Price of US Loan Market**

83%



Source: Credit Suisse

## **Credit Rating Breakdown**



## **Top 5 Industry Exposures (Moody's SIC)**

Electronics	14.2%
Diversified/Conglomerate Service	9.4%
Healthcare, Education and Childcare	9.0%
Finance	8.5%
Diversified/Conglomerate  Manufacturing	6.6%

Pı	rici	ing	and	Fees	

Unit frequency pricing	Daily
Management fee	0.77%
Recoverable expenses	0.07% (Mar 2024)
Buy/sell spread <sup>3</sup>	+0.480%/-0.480%
Entry and exit fees	Nil
Minimum initial investment	A \$ 10, 000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Buy/sell spread is retained in the Fund to cover transaction costs. It is not paid to the Investment Manager. The buy/sell spread is reviewed on a monthly basis to ensure it fairly reflects market transaction costs.



# Bentham Syndicated Loan Fund

## March 2024

<b>Fund Overview</b>		<b>Platform Availability</b>	& mFu	ınd Code	
Inception date	16 August 2004	AMP eWrap	✓	OnePath PortfolioOne	✓
APIR code	CSA0046AU	AMP PortfolioCare	✓	Macquarie Wrap Super Manager	✓
Benchmark	Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index	AMP Wealthview	✓	Macquarie Wrap Investment	✓
	(hedged into Australian dollars)	Asgard eWrap	✓	MLC Wrap – IDPS	✓
Return objective	The Fund aims to achieve investment returns above the Benchmark over the suggested	Asgard Master Trust	✓	MLC Wrap – Super	✓
	investment time frame	North	✓	MLC Navigator	✓
		Summit	✓	Netwealth – Private	✓
time frame		BT Panorama	✓	Oasis	✓
Fund aim	To provide investors with a diversified exposure to the global syndicated loan market with an active	BT Wrap	✓	PowerWrap	✓
	allocation to investments in different industries, issuers and geographies	FirstWrap	✓	uXchange	✓
Interest rate risk	Predominantly floating rate	Hillross Portfolio Care	✓	ASX mFund Settlement Service BA	M04
Currency	Hedged into Australian dollars	HUB24	✓		
Fund features	<ul> <li>Access to global senior secured syndicated loans which are not generally available to direct retail investors</li> <li>Regular monthly distributions</li> <li>High running yield with low interest rate risk</li> <li>Australian domiciled trust with a 15+ year track record</li> <li>Loans are valued to market prices daily – with daily unit pricing</li> </ul>				



#### More information:

Retail Investors: Fidante Partners Investor Services on 13 51 53 or info@fidante.com.au

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PDS: Bentham Syndicated Loan Fund PDS

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