

Dexus Global REIT Fund

Quarterly Report

30 September 2023

Investment Objective

The primary investment return objectives of the Fund are to:

- Deliver a gross annual income yield (before management fees, expenses and taxes) in excess of the Fund's performance benchmark¹, combined with some capital growth, derived predominantly from investing in global REITs
- Maintain the real value of investments over a 5-7 year time horizon (where real value is measured against the weighted-average CPI for those countries within the GPR 250 REIT Index (AU) (or equivalent)
- Provide lower than market volatility²

Benefits

- Focus on generating sustainable, regular and relatively high income returns through investing in listed property securities
- Access to an underlying diversified portfolio of thousands of quality commercial real estate assets predominantly located in North America, Asia Pacific and European markets
- Has paid monthly distributions²
- Actively managed (non-index aware) portfolio, applying a highly disciplined and proven strategy designed to deliver on the Fund's income and risk objectives
- Liquid daily applications and withdrawals (under normal market conditions but withdrawals can take longer in certain cases as set out in the PDS)

Fund Facts				
Fund type	Property securities fund			
Commencement date	1 April 2020			
Fund size	\$19.19m as at 30 September 2023			
Investment timeframe	5-7 years			
Minimum investment	\$1000			
Minimum additional amount	\$500 (\$100 per month with regular savings plan)			
Income distribution	Monthly generally payable within 10 business days ³			
Current Running Yield	4.16% ⁵			
Unit pricing	Daily			
Management fees and costs	0.98% pa of NAV (see section 6 of the PDS for details)			
Buy/sell spread	0.15% buy and 0.15% sell			

Performance - Dexus Global REIT Fund

	3 months %	6 months %	1 year %	2 years %(pa)	3 years %(pa)	Since inception %(pa)
Income ⁴	1.03	2.12	4.01	3.78	3.80	3.51
Total return (after fees) ⁶	(2.11)	(3.28)	2.59	(3.02)	7.02	6.34

- 1. GPR 250 REIT Index (AUD) Yield
- 2. The Dexus Global REIT Fund aims to provide lower than market volatility compared with the GPR 250 REIT Index (AUD) over a 5-7 year time horizon
- 3. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.
- 4. Income (yield) is calculated daily by dividing the annualised distribution rate by the latest entry unit price. Distributions may include a capital gains component. Distributions are not guaranteed and past performance is not an indication of future performance.
- 5. Current running yield as at 30/09/2023 is calculated daily by dividing the annualised distribution rate by the latest entry unit price. Distributions may include a capital gains component. Distributions are not guaranteed and past performance is not an indication of future performance.
- 6. Returns after all fees and expenses. Assumes distributions are reinvested. Investors' tax rates are not taken into account when calculating returns. Returns and values may rise and fall from one period to another. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance. Fund's inception date used to determine return: 1 April 2020.

Fund Commentary

Over the quarter, the Dexus Global REIT Fund (the Fund) returned -2.11%⁷, outperforming its benchmark by 1.48%. Stock selection was the major driver to the Fund's relative outperformance, with country allocation a marginal positive contributor while currency was a mild detractor through the period.

At a country level, the Fund's positions within the US REITs contributed substantially to relative outperformance, despite an overall underweight allocation to this market, highlighting stock selection as a factor. The Fund's overweight allocation to Canadian REITs, which underperformed, saw this county exposure provide the largest detractor to relative performance. At a sub-sector level, the Fund's positions in select Retail REITs, particularly within the US and France, together with underweight positions in Office REITS and Self-Storage REITs contributed to relative outperformance.

A material contributor to the Fund's relative outperformance through the quarter was an overweight position in RPT Realty (NYSE:RPT), a specialist owner and manager of grocery-anchored shopping centres across attractive urban locations within the US, which was the subject of an all-scrip takeover offer from larger peer Kimco Realty Corporation (NYSE:KIM). RPT Realty has been a core holding within the Fund for several years given our assessment its high-quality, non-discretionary retail portfolio reflected attractive relative value for investors in the underlying equity. While the announced deal resulted in a c.17% positive rerate, the all-scrip and friendly nature of the deal sees us take the view a higher competing offer, or one with a compelling cash component, is unlikely in the current interest rate environment.

Historically when nearing the top of interest rate cycles, REIT performance improves and often outperforms as this cycle turns. A repeat of prior trends will be positive for both existing and new global REIT investors. As a relative-value investor, our preference remains for investment into Global REITs with resilient, growing income streams and solid capital structures which we consider to be miss-priced by the broader market. As such, we currently see the most compelling opportunities in logistics, residential, technology and non-discretionary retail REIT portfolios with select names trading at attractive levels.

We are hopeful for a return to underlying REIT fundamentals as a driver of investor returns over the coming period. The effects of rising interest rates and sticky inflation though are likely to continue to be felt by global REITs however this may provide opportunities for investors. In our view, select global REITs have the potential to provide investors with liquid access to a defensive real asset class with inflation hedging characteristics and the prospects of attractive long-term total returns.

Market Commentary

Over the quarter, global REITs (GPR 250 REIT Index (AU)) returned -3.59%, underperforming global equities (MSCI World Index (AU) which returned 0.06% over the period. Country level performance was driven by Spain (2.85%) United Kingdon (1.65%) and France (0.43%) while Hong Kong (-9.54%), Australia (-5.89) and Canada (-4.49%) lagged.

At a sub-sector level Data Centre REITs (11.48%) performed strongest for the second consecutive quarter in response potentially significant artificial intelligence (AI) driven demand. Self-Storage REITs (-8.94%), Multi-Family residential REITs (-7.47%) and Retail REITs (-5.15%) performed weakest.

A single macroeconomic theme continued to dominate the global REITs sector, being the increasing likelihood of higher interest rates for longer. While there was some respite earlier in the quarter, and several developed market central banks indicating the potential for a peak having been reached at this point in their respective tightening cycles, further upside pressure on rates is fast becoming a market expectation.

Despite even the US Federal Open Markets Committee (FOMC) pausing in their September decision, persistent high inflation levels and a robust labour market saw the dot-plot of member rate expectations indicating just 50bps of cuts in 2024, down from 100bps at the prior meeting. These developments manifested in longer-dated developed government bond yields increasing to levels not seen for some time, indeed the US ten-year treasury yield reached a level not observed in almost two decades.

For global REITs, the many earnings updates throughout the quarter indicated the higher-for-longer rates theme is playing through to future return expectations. Management teams on-balance guiding towards increasing portfolio capitalisation rates and higher borrowing costs, while noting transmission of inflationary effects to increasing rental levels offsetting but to varying degrees. Global REIT management teams, industry participants and real-time data also indicate direct real estate transaction activity remains muted, with the lack of liquidity negatively impacting price discovery and confidence in the ability to underwrite returns within the current interest rate regime.

Pockets of activity were evident, with several well-capitalised REITs able to participate in direct transaction markets through the period. The most significant of these was a transactions entered into by US Self-Storage REIT Public Storage (NYSE:PSA) wherein they contracted to acquire a USD 2.2bn portfolio comprising 127 wholly owned properties from Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust. It is our expectation that as interest rates stabilise direct real estate transaction activity will likely increase.

Global Team



Mark Mazzarella, CFA

Mark joined Dexus Real Estate Securities (formerly APN Real Estate Securities) team in 2014 and is responsible for the Australian and Global REIT analysis and funds management.

Prior to joining Dexus, Mark worked for Ernst & Young as a Senior Consultant and was responsible for real estate market research, property valuation, project feasibility studies, scenario analysis, financial modelling for real estate investments, transaction due diligence and bespoke advisory engagements. Mark was accepted into the New Horizons Program which resulted in a six-month secondment to the Ernst & Young corporate finance team in Singapore.

Mark holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) and a Bachelor of Property and Construction (Property) from the University of Melbourne. He is an Associate of the Australian Property Institute, a Certified Practicing Valuer and a CFA.



David Kruth

David joined Dexus Real Estate Securities (formerly APN Real Estate Securities) in 2019 as Regional Adviser, with more than 30 years experience across North American and global real estate markets.

He worked for 15 years as CIO, Portfolio Manager and Securities Analyst in global real estate securities with both AllianceBernstein (AB) and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. David also worked for 13 years in global private equity real estate with Schroder Real Estate Associates and the Yarmouth Group (Lend Lease Real Estate Investments). He served on the Board of Directors at Rouse Properties (NYSE:RSE) from 2011 to 2016 and chaired the special committee tasked with the sale of Rouse to Brookfield Asset Management.

He is Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Columbia University Masters Program in Real Estate Development & Investment and a member of the Investment Advisory Counsel at the Ithaca College School of Business.



Richard Stone

Richard joined the Dexus Real Estate Securities team (formerly APN Real Estate Securities) in 2021 and is responsible for analysing securities across Global REITs, with a current focus on the North American markets.

Richard previously worked at the Future Fund, where he conducted investment performance analysis on a range of asset classes including Global Property and Infrastructure. Prior to that, Richard worked for Evans and Partners as an associate investment advisor, where he helped a range of institutional and private clients manage investments within their portfolios.

Richard holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Melbourne and has also earned his CFA Charter.



Dennis Lui

Dennis joined the APN Real Estate Securities team in 2022 and is tasked with securities analysis across Global REITs currently focusing on the United States market.

Before joining Dexus, Dennis worked as an investment analyst at Clockwise Capital, researching and modelling potential technology investments to maximize long-term client net worth. Dennis also completed an internship with Bank of China (International Business Division) whilst also completing his undergraduate studies.

Dennis holds a Bachelor and Master of Finance from the University of Maryland.

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