a sub-fund of Baillie Gifford Bond Funds ICVC

# Authorised Corporate Director's Annual Short Report for the year ended 30th September 2013

# **Investment Objective**

The Fund aims to achieve a high level of monthly income.

# **Investment Policy**

Investment will mainly be in investment grade and sub-investment grade bonds issued by companies worldwide. Derivatives, which are a type of financial contract, may be used to protect or increase the value of the shares.

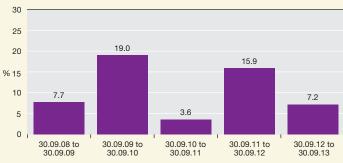
# **Risk and Reward Profile**

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.

Typically lower rewards, lower risk			Туріс	ally highe ł	r rewards, nigher risk			
	1	2	3	1	5	6	7	

Please note that even the lowest risk class can lose you money and that extreme adverse market circumstances can mean you suffer severe losses in all cases. The Fund is classified in the category above because it invests in corporate bonds which generally provide higher rewards and higher risks than other investments such as government bonds and cash. As the Fund changed its objective and policy on 17th August 2009, the returns of the Fund's sector are used in its place prior to this date to calculate the Risk and Reward Indicator. The indicator does not take into account the following material risks of investing in this Fund: Investment markets can go down as well as up and market conditions can change rapidly. The value of an investment in the Fund, and any income from it, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount invested. Custody of assets may involve a risk of loss if the custodian becomes insolvent or breaches duties of care. The issuers of bonds in which the Fund invests may not meet their obligations which could mean that the bonds lose some or all of their value. The Fund's concentrated portfolio and long-term approach to investment may result in large movements in the share price. The Fund's use of financial contracts may impact on its performance. In certain

#### Past Performance<sup>5</sup>



The performance figures shown in this graph are for Class A Net Income Shares. Performance figures reflect the ACD's annual fee of 1%, but exclude any initial charge paid. Please note these returns differ from those in the Investment Report, which are based on the closing mid prices on the last business day. In addition please note that the Fund's investment objective and policy were amended on 17th August 2009. Performance figures for the other share classes in issue can be obtained by calling Client Relations. Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes. You should be aware that past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### Net Asset Values (as at the Year End)

Share Class	Net Asset Value per Share	Net Asset Value per Share
	30.09.13	30.09.12
A Net Income	73.59p	71.74p
A Net Accumulation	154.3p	145.0p
B Net Income	77.78p	75.83p
B Net Accumulation	162.4p	152.0p
C Net Income	81.73p	79.68p
C Gross Accumulation	175.9p	162.2p

circumstances it can be difficult to buy or sell the Fund's holdings and even small purchases or sales can cause their prices to move significantly, affecting the value of the Fund and the price of shares in the Fund. Market values for securities which are difficult to trade may not be readily available, and there can be no assurance that any value assigned to them will reflect the price the Fund might receive upon their sale.<sup>1</sup>

#### Investment Report

Investment grade corporate bond yields having migrated lower during the first part of the year, rebounded in the latter quarter back to the higher, start of year levels. For the year to 30th September 2013 the gross return on A Net Income Shares was 7.2%<sup>2</sup> (net return 6.2%<sup>3</sup>) compared to the gross return on the comparative index of 6.2%<sup>4</sup>, where the composite index is weighted 70% Merrill Lynch Non-Gilts Index and 30% Merrill Lynch European Currency High Yield Constrained Index on a sterling hedged basis. Stock selection continued to be an important contributor to Fund performance wersus the comparative index. We believe that shorter-term performance measurements are of limited relevance in assessing investment ability and would suggest that three years is a more sensible time frame over which to judge performance.

Contribution to Fund performance over the last year has been sourced from a diverse range of companies' bonds, operating in a range of sectors. In addition, with the Merrill Lynch European Currency High Yield Constrained Index ahead of its start of year levels, this aspect has enabled our decision to overweight high yield to play out successfully.

The most significant development over the last year has been signalling from the Federal Reserve that it wishes to reduce quantitative easing stimulus. This resulted in a rise in yields and saw corporate bonds outperform government bonds. As the recent US debt ceiling debacle attests, the level of debt issued by governments remains high. With limited wriggle room for fiscal stimulus, we await to see what impact higher base rates will have upon growth. We believe the recent rapid fall in US mortgage applications is a sign of potential economic headwinds from higher rates.

We have been active in managing the Fund and our pipeline of new investment ideas remains strong. Over the last year we sold out of nineteen companies' bonds where we felt the investment case had largely played out and lent to twenty two new companies whose bonds had appealing potential returns.

We continue to see an attractive corporate bond picking environment: growth in the number of debut corporate bond issuers is ever broadening the opportunity set available to stock selectors like ourselves.

Stephen Rodger and Torcail Stewart, 16th October 2013

## Distributions (for the Calendar Year)

Share Class	Net Income per Share	Net Income per Share
	Period to 30.09.13	Year to 31.12.12
A Net Income	2.14p	2.82p
A Net Accumulation	4.42p	5.56p
B Net Income	2.45p	3.25p
B Net Accumulation	5.19p	6.39p
C Net Income	2.79p	3.72p
C Gross Accumulation	7.71p	9.18p

## Ongoing Charges Figures (for the Financial Year)6

Ongoing Charges Figure	Ongoing Charges Figure
30.09.13	30.09.12
1.03%	1.04%
1.03%	1.04%
0.55%	0.56%
0.54%	0.52%
0.06%	0.07%
0.06%	0.07%
	30.09.13 1.03% 1.03% 0.55% 0.54% 0.06%

## Highest and Lowest Prices (for the Calendar Year)

Share Class	Highest Price per Share 2013	Lowest Price per Share 2013	Highest Price per Share 2012	Lowest Price per Share 2012
A Net Income	77.96p	72.78p	75.32p	65.94p
A Net Accumulation	160.5p	151.0p	153.0p	129.1p
B Net Income	82.31p	76.79p	79.60p	69.66p
B Net Accumulation	168.6p	158.7p	160.5p	134.9p
C Net Income	86.42p	80.59p	83.65p	73.16p
C Gross Accumulation	181.6p	170.4p	172.0p	142.4p

<sup>1</sup>Further details of the risks associated with investing in the Fund can be found in the Prospectus which is available by calling Client Relations on 0800 917 2113. <sup>2</sup>Source: Baillie Gifford & Co Limited, closing mid prices, gross income reinvested. <sup>3</sup>Source: Baillie Gifford & Co Limited, closing mid prices, net income reinvested. <sup>4</sup>Source: StatPro, gross income return. <sup>5</sup>Source: FE, 10am dealing prices, net income reinvested. <sup>6</sup>The ongoing charges figure is based on the expenses for the financial year and may vary from year to year. It excludes the cost of buying and selling assets for the Fund. You should be aware that past performance is not a guide to future performance.



# **Major Holdings**

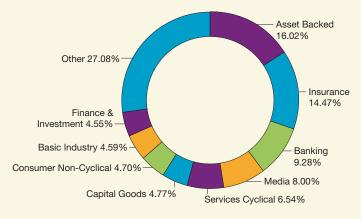
The Fund's 10 largest bond holdings at the end of this year and the previous financial year end are shown below.

Holdings		% of Fund Value
		as at 30.09.13
1	Telereal (B-4) 6.1645% 2031	3.13
2	UPC Holding 6.375% 2022	3.05
3	EDF 6% 2026 Perp	2.41
4	Lloyds Banking Group 9.334% 2020	2.28
5	Goldman Sachs 6.875% 2038	2.23
6	HSBC Capital 8.208% 2015 Perp Pref	1.99
7	Lowell Group 10.75% 2019	1.92
8	Infinis 7% 2019	1.91
9	Lloyds of London 7.421% 2017 Perp	1.89
10	Old Mutual 6.376% 2020 Perp	1.86

Holdings		% of Fund Value
		as at 30.09.12
1	IBRD 5.4% 2021	3.70
2	Telereal (B-4) 6.1645% 2031	3.59
3	Central Euro Media 11.625% 2016	2.42
4	Tesco Property Finance 7.6227% 2039	2.38
5	UPC Holding 8.375% 2020	2.17
6	Rexam 6.75% 2017/67	2.10
7	Global Switch 5.5% 2018	2.09
8	Amlin 6.5% 2016/26	2.03
9	Achmea 5.125% 2015 Perp	1.98
10	DFS Furniture 9.75% 2017	1.94

## **Classification of Investments**

# 30th September 2013



# Net assets: £317,396,000

#### **Report and Accounts**

Copies of the annual and interim Long Report and Financial Statements of the Fund are available free of charge on request by calling Client Relations.

# **Other Information**

The Fund is a UCITS retail scheme under the Financial Conduct Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ('COLL'). Shareholders are not liable for the debts of the ICVC beyond the amount subscribed. The information in this report is designed to enable shareholders to make an informed judgement on the activities of the Fund during the year it covers and the result of those activities at the end of the year. For more information about the activities and performance of the Fund during this and previous years, please call Client Relations on 0800 917 2113 (fax 0131 275 3955) or visit our website at www.bailliegifford.com or email us at trustenquiries@bailliegifford.com. Any comments expressed in this report should not be taken as a recommendation or advice.

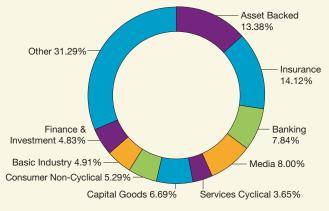
#### **Fund Charges and Costs**

A further explanation of charges and costs relating to the Fund can be found in the Enhanced Disclosure of Fund Charges and Costs document on our website at www.bailliegifford.com.

# **Fund Facts**

XD Dates: Last day of every month. Distribution Payment Dates: Second last business day of every month.

#### 30th September 2012



# Net assets: £168,861,000

# Amendment to the Investment Objective and Policy of the Fund

With effect from 1st October 2013 the investment objective and policy of the Fund was changed. The new investment objective is shown on the previous page.

## **Dilution Adjustment**

The level of the dilution adjustment is set by the ACD based on prevailing market conditions. Given the volatility and illiquidity in corporate bond markets the ACD has a threshold for daily net inflows or outflows of cash into or out of the Fund. Above this threshold, which varies according to market conditions, the ACD will increase the dilution adjustment to reflect the increased dealing costs incurred by the Fund as a result of larger inflows and outflows. A consequence of this policy is, however, that smaller transactions made on any day that the relevant threshold is exceeded will also trade at the price incorporating the higher adjustment and this may lead to increased dealing costs. Further information regarding the dilution adjustment may be found in the Supplementary Information Document or the Prospectus.

#### Minimum Investment Levels

The minimum initial investment is £1,000 for Class A Shares (£50 per month for the Monthly Savings Plan available for Class A Net Accumulation Shares only) and £10,000 for Class B Shares (£500 per month for the Monthly Savings Plan for Class B Net Accumulation Shares only). Class C Shares are only available to persons to whom an associate of the ACD provides services under an investment management agreement. Class C Gross Accumulation Shares are only available to shareholders who demonstrate to the ACD's satisfaction that they fall within one of the specified categories referred to in Sections 933–977 of the Income Tax Act 2007. Details of the minimum holding and redemption levels can be found in the Supplementary Information Document and Prospectus.

## Authorised Corporate Director

Baillie Gifford & Co Limited (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register No. 119179) Calton Square, 1 Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN

## Depositary

National Westminster Bank Plc (Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority, Financial Services Register No. 121878) Trustee & Depositary Services, The Younger Building, 3 Redheughs Avenue, Edinburgh EH12 9RH

#### Investment Manager Baillie Gifford & Co (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register No. 142597) Calton Square, 1 Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN

#### Auditor

KPMG Audit Plc Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EG Registrar

Baillie Gifford Savings Management Limited (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register No. 150233) Calton Square, I Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN