

## Global Macro Alternative Navigating an Evolving Macro World

Investing for a world of change

Ninety One Strategy March 2023

## Target audience

### Audience

This document is being provided for informational purposes for discussion with institutional investors and financial advisors only. Circulation must be restricted accordingly.

Nothing herein should be construed as an offer to enter into any contract, investment advice, a recommendation of any kind, a solicitation of clients, or an offer to invest in any particular fund, product, investment vehicle or derivative.

### General risks

The value of investments, and any income generated from them, can fall as well as rise.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. If any currency differs from the investor's home currency, returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Investment objectives and performance targets are subject to change and may not necessarily be achieved, losses may be made.

Target returns are hypothetical returns and do not represent actual performance. Actual returns may differ significantly.

Environmental, social or governance related risk events or factors, if they occur, could cause a negative impact on the value of investments.

### Specific strategy risks - Global Macro Alternative

Currency exchange: Changes in the relative values of different currencies may adversely affect the value of investments and any related income.

Default: There is a risk that the issuers of fixed income investments (e.g. bonds) may not be able to meet interest payments nor repay the money they have borrowed. The worse the credit quality of the issuer, the greater the risk of default and therefore investment loss.

Derivatives: The use of derivatives may increase overall risk by magnifying the effect of both gains and losses leading to large changes in value and potentially large financial loss. A counterparty to a derivative transaction may fail to meet its obligations which may also lead to a financial loss.

Emerging market: These markets carry a higher risk of financial loss than more developed markets as they may have less developed legal, political, economic or other systems.

Interest rate: The value of fixed income investments (e.g. bonds) tends to decrease when interest rates rise.

Equity investment: The value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as more general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. insolvency), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company. Commodity-related investment: Commodity prices can be extremely volatile and losses may be made.

# Global Macro Alternative

Strategy overview

A discretionary macro approach, variable beta and correlation over the market cycle	Invests across liquid global fixed income, currency and equity markets without bias
Employs a thematic macro framework to identify long-term investment opportunities	Uses a cyclical macro framework to inform asset class preferences, sensitivities and portfolio risk

No assurance can be given that the Strategy will be successful or that the investors will not lose some or all of their capital.

# **Global Macro Alternative**

## Strategy features

### Characteristics

Long-term total return Seeking to deliver in excess +7% p.a. (gross) over the full market cycle

Active risk management Variable risk budget up to ex ante 25% volatility\*. Active hedging to manage macro risks.

Attractive risk-adjusted returns We combine traditional risk premia and derivative positions to exploit market inefficiencies

### Uses

### Access to the team's macro views

Transparent positioning reflects the team's high conviction asset allocation views

# A liquid alternative allocation / replacement for hedge funds

Complementary allocation to traditional asset class exposures with active use of derivatives. Clear and transparent reporting of positions.

### For differentiated total returns

Discretionary macro focussed approach offers variable beta and correlation. Differentiated return profile to traditional equity/bond portfolios over the market cycle.

The use of derivatives may increase overall risk by magnifying the effect of both gains and losses leading to large changes in value and potentially large financial loss. Performance targets are subject to change and may not be achieved, losses may be made. \*may be exceeded in extreme market conditions. For further information on performance targets, please see the Important information section.

# Global Macro strategies investment team

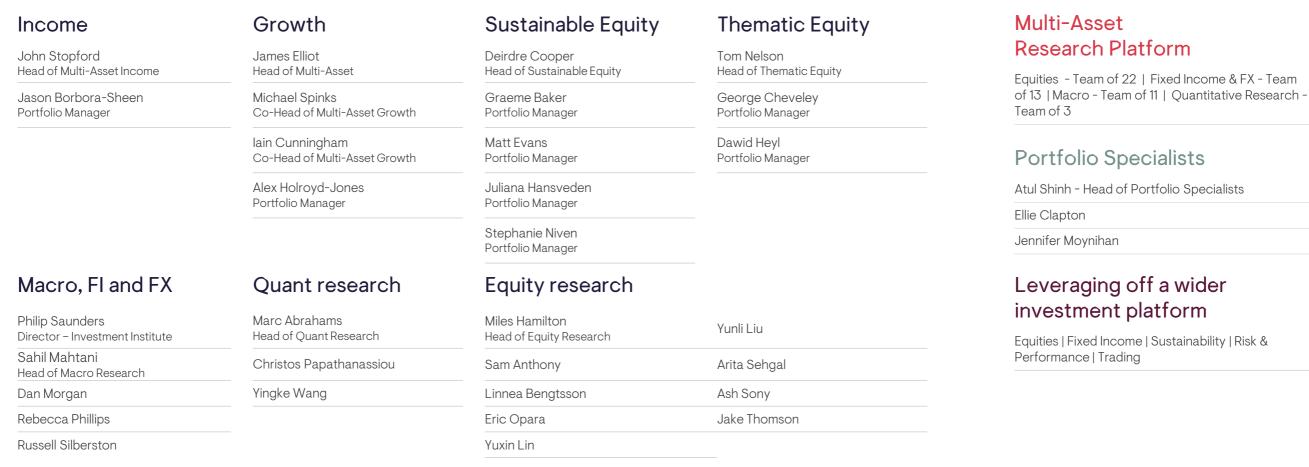


James Elliot Head of Multi-Asset Co-Portfolio Manager: Global Macro Allocation & Global Macro Alternative



lain Cunningham Co-Portfolio Manager: Global Macro Allocation

### Members of the wider Multi-Asset team



Alex Holroyd-Jones

Co-Portfolio Manager:

Global Macro Alternative

The investment team is subject to change not necessarily with prior notification. As at 31 December 2022.

The total number of individuals that participate in the Multi-Asset Research Platform is 39. For further information on investment team, please see the Important Information section.

# Core Investment Philosophy & Beliefs

## Differentiators

### Structural timeframe

- We believe investors pay too much attention to short-term and market noise, and not enough attention to the impact of structural macro forces
- An understanding of the relevant long-term tailwinds and headwinds to asset performance provides an advantage
- We take a research intensive approach to understanding these structural themes

## 2 Cyclical approach

- We believe that policy leads the growth and inflation outlook and has reflexive implications for asset markets and the real economy
- We consider asset valuations in the context of policy and liquidity. Multiples will contract through tightening episodes and expand as policy is loosened
- Policy and financial market liquidity is our primary cyclical macro research focus

## 3 Behavioural biases

- Investor biases means they buy assets that have done well and sell assets that have performed poorly
- We employ a countercyclical approach to exploit this behavioural error
- The longer-term thematic roadmap and cyclical focus on policy keep us disciplined and give us the conviction to allocate capital at points of pain for the market

## Investment opportunity set

Asset class and security analysis according to a bespoke cross asset class framework

Currency Equities and other Region Equity risk premium Sector selection FM bloc Regiona SD blo and sector election selection efensive oredit Growth EM \$ debt Duration Credit risk premium premiur

Research groups of 30+ investment professionals covering a global opportunity set

We invest without regional or asset class bias

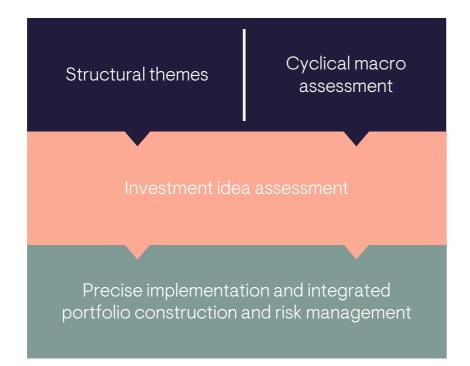
Implemented both directly and through derivatives, utilising both bespoke security baskets and platform active strategies

Fixed income

## Investment process

Top-down macro framework, precise security selection and portfolio construction

Three stage process

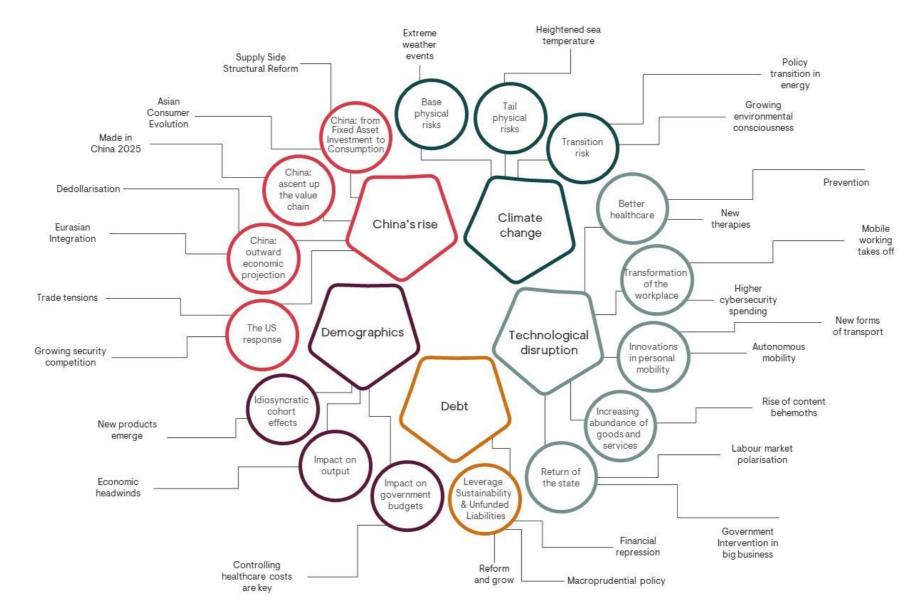


A fully integrated approach to asset allocation and security selection preferences

- A macro framework that identifies structural themes influencing economies on a multi-year horizon alongside a cyclical macro assessment focussed on growth, inflation and policy across regions
- Idea assessment leverages bespoke equity, fixed income and FX asset class approaches, with each idea expected to offer a potential positive return and portfolio diversification
- Precise security selection, alongside integrated portfolio construction and risk management aiming to deliver positive returns across market cycles

# Structural themes

Building a medium-term thematic macro investment framework



# Structural themes

We expect a number of key inflationary forces to play out in the next cycle vs. the old cycle



### Macro & market implications:



# Cyclical macro assessment

Policy leads growth and inflation, which informs asset class preferences and portfolio risk

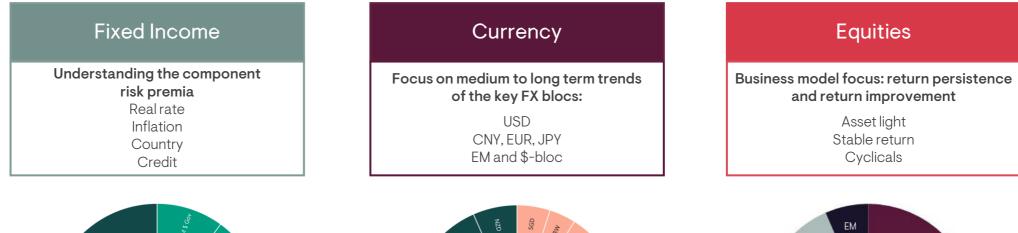
### Cyclical macro assessment Cyclical Quantitative factors Inputs Policy Quantitative Industrial outlook Inputs production, Growth regional LEIs, new orders/inventories Change in central bank balance sheets. Policy money supply, fiscal balances. bond yields Core, headline, and credit **PPI** inflation Inflation indicators and nowcasts

### Asset class regimes

	Growth+ Inflation-	Growth+ Inflation+	Growth- Inflation+	Growth- Inflation-
	Goldilocks	Reflation	Stagflation	
	o oldilooko		uity	Receición
MSCI World	7.1%	2.9%	-0.6%	-3.0%
MSCI EM	9.9%	3.9%	-1.5%	-3.1%
Growth	7.3%	2.7%	-0.2%	-1.3%
Value	6.5%	3.3%	0.4%	-3.0%
Staples	8.7%	2.7%	0.5%	-0.9%
Financials	7.9%	5.2%	-1.3%	-4.8%
		Comn	nodities	
CRB Commodities	2.6%	2.6%	1.9%	-2.8%
Gold	3.1%	1.5%	2.6%	2.6%
		Cr	redit	
US HY	-87	-21	21	40
EM hard currency	-30	-11	2	18
		Fixed	income	
US 10Y	2	10	0	-27
US 30Y	2	6	0	-21
10Y Breakeven	5	6	2	-13
		Cur	rency	
DXY	-1.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%
EUR	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
JPY	-0.9%	-0.8%	0.3%	1.2%
AUD	2.6%	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.6%
EMFX	1.3%	-0.1%	-1.2%	-2.2%
		١	/ol	
Equtiy Vol	-3.8	-0.5	0.8	2.3
Currency Vol	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.6
Bond Vol	2.5	-3.2	2.1	1.1

## Investment idea assessment

Discrete cross - asset class processes



Duration Premium Deletion Dele





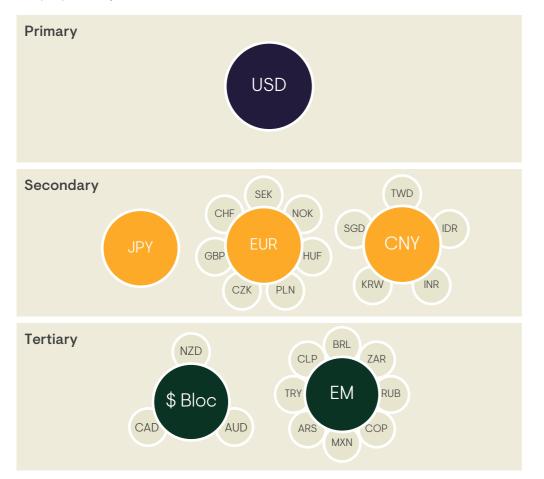
Individual idea assessment applied in the context of our thematic and macro cyclical framework

## Currency

## A robust analytical framework with a focus on the major bloc currencies

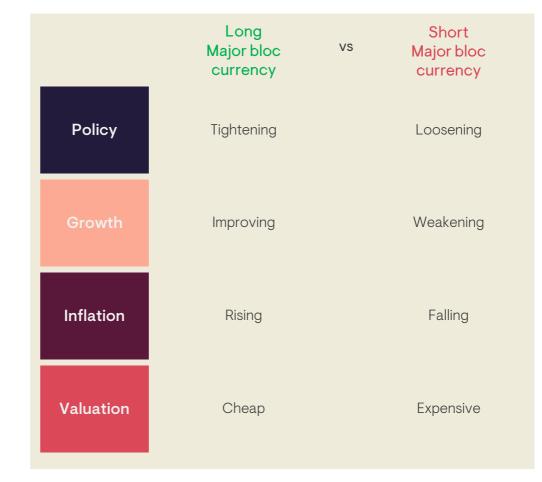
### Analytical framework

Simplify to major blocs and satellites



### Major bloc currency assessment

Identify areas of macro divergence between major blocs



## Investment idea assessment and implementation

Applying our thematic and macro cyclical framework to the investment opportunity set

Macro framework	Structural themes +18 months	Cyclical macro assessment 0-18 months
ldea assessment	Aiming to compound returns across the cycle by investing in attractive cross asset class risk premia	Aiming to benefit from the prevailing cyclical backdrop by shifting asset class exposures and overall risk profile
Implementation	Equity – return persistence ideas Defensive and growth fixed income	Equity – return improvement ideas Derivatives – long and short Currency
Portfolio impact	Return seeking with typically high correlations to traditional equity and bond risk premia	Return seeking or risk management with variable but typically low and diversifying correlation to traditional bond and equity risk premia

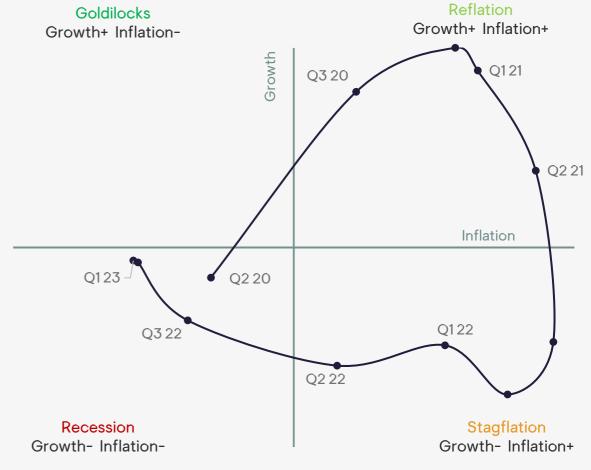
— Multi-variate time horizons: structural themes, cyclical macro, risk management

# Portfolio positioning and risk

## Snapshot by cyclical macro regime

	o snapshot		Historical
Refla		21 (average)	G
	Net equity: 82%	Equity beta: 0.8	
	Duration: -0.7 years USD: -28%	Bond beta: -0.5 Volatility: 15%	
Stagfla	ation		
	Q1202	22 (average)	
	Net equity: 28%	Equity beta: 0.2	
	Duration: 1.6 years	Bond beta: -0.1	
	USD: 65%	Volatility: 5.4%	
Recess	sion		
	Currer	nt positioning	
	Net equity: 13%	Equity beta: -0.2	
	Duration: 5 years	Bond beta: 0.5	
	USD: 43%	Volatility: 9.5%	Gro

### Historical cyclical macro regime



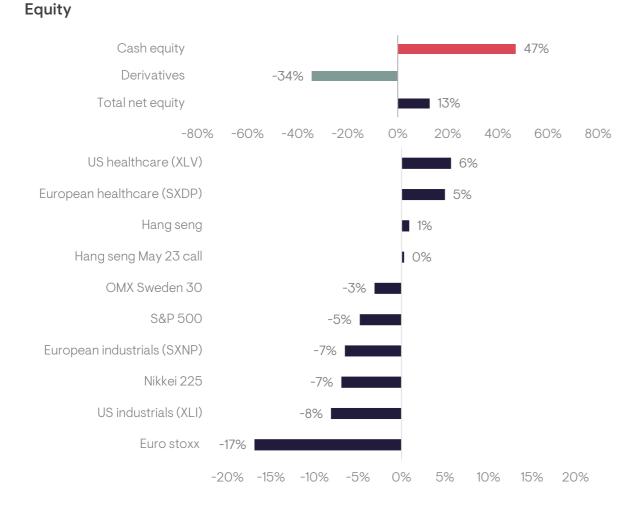
Quarterly cyclical macro regime using process quantitative indicators

Source : Ninety One, based on indicative model portfolio and views as to 30 September 2022. Current positioning reflects live portfolio to 31 March 2023.

For further information on model returns, please see the Global Macro Alternative model: Portfolio risk & return perspectives section. For further information on investment process, please see the Important Information section.

# Global Macro Alternative – current portfolio

## Current positioning



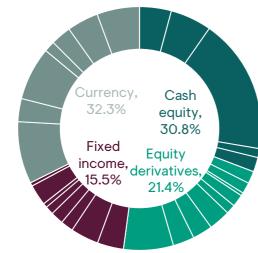
### Fixed income and currency



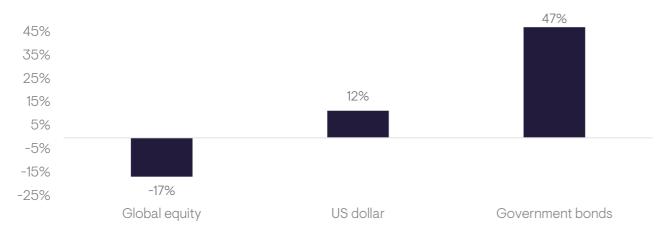
## **Risk based allocations**

## Contribution to risk and factor exposure

### Standalone vol. risk allocation



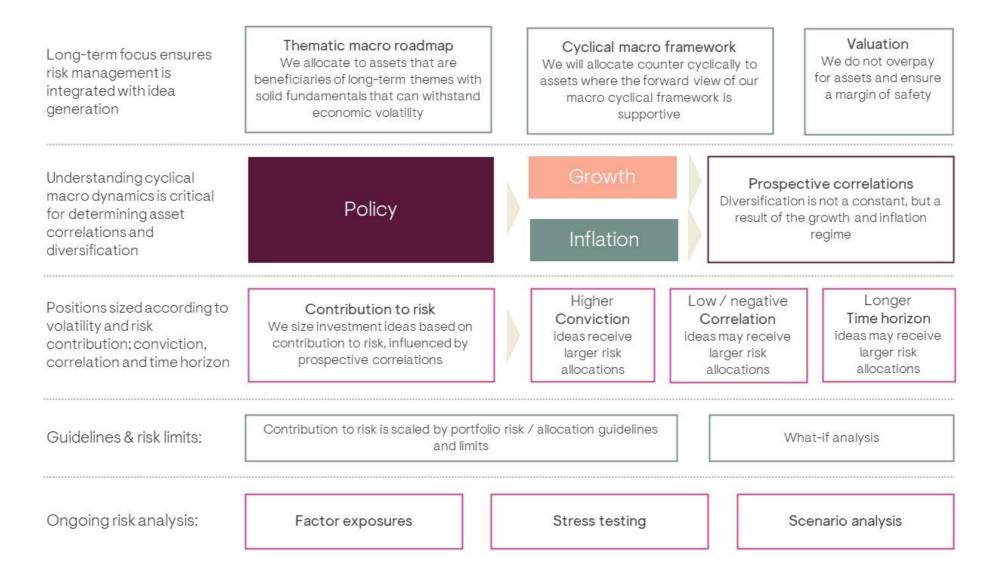
### Factor exposures (beta)



<b>52.1%</b> <b>30.8%</b> 4.2% 5.5% 18.0%	<b>2.7%</b> -1.0% -0.2%
4.2% 5.5%	-0.2%
5.5%	
18 0%	-0.7%
10.070	0.3%
1.2%	-0.2%
1.9%	-0.2%
0.0%	0.0%
21.4%	3.7%
1.6%	0.0%
1.5%	-0.1%
0.4%	0.0%
0.0%	0.0%
1.3%	0.3%
1.6%	0.3%
2.6%	0.6%
2.8%	0.6%
2.9%	0.6%
6.6%	1.5%
15.5%	3.2%
12.3%	3.2%
3.7%	1.1%
3.5%	1.1%
1.7%	0.4%
	0.4%
1.1%	0.3%
0.6%	-0.1%
	0.0%
2.8%	0.0%
0.5%	0.0%
0.5%	0.0%
32.3%	3.6%
8.2%	2.5%
7.1%	0.8%
3.1%	0.6%
0.0%	0.0%
1.4%	0.0%
2.7%	0.1%
4.2%	0.2%
5.7%	-0.6%
100.0%	9.5%
	1.9% 0.0% 21.4% 1.6% 1.5% 0.4% 0.0% 1.3% 1.6% 2.6% 2.8% 2.9% 6.6% 15.5% 12.3% 3.7% 3.5% 1.7% 1.7% 1.7% 1.7% 1.7% 1.1% 0.6% 2.8% 0.5

# Portfolio construction and risk management

A process centred, integrated and forward looking approach





## Outlook for 2023

- China the Chinese economy is reopening and policy makers are doubling down on stimulus. Recovery expected.
- **Developed world** will likely suffer the consequences of prior and ongoing tightening, with recession being our central scenario.
- Value on offer in Asian risk assets & DM rates DM risk assets are more reasonably valued but don't yet reflect the high likelihood of earnings downside & ongoing tightness in liquidity conditions.

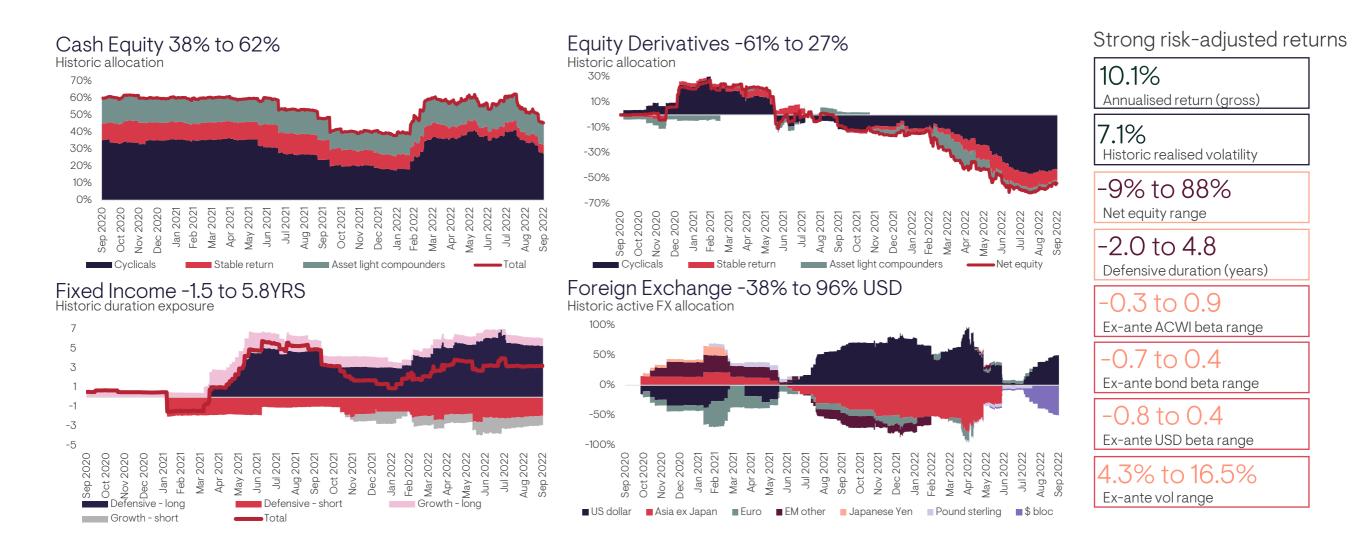
Portfolio implications:

- Lower than average equity exposure with a notable bias towards China / Hong Kong.
- Higher than average exposure to defensive duration focused on high grade nations with leverage and housing imbalances (Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, & Sweden).
- Long USD, CHF & JPY vs. CAD, SEK & NZD a Chinese recovery represents a headwind for the USD, but strong hedging asymmetry remains in reserve currencies vs. vulnerable \$ bloc and Scandi currencies.

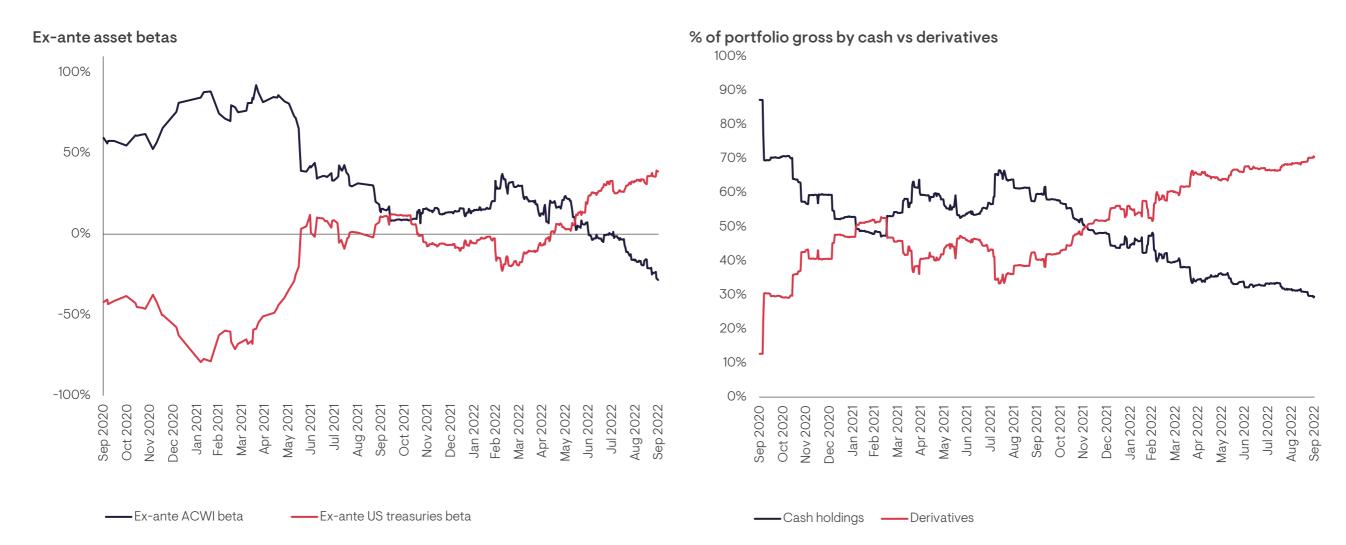
# Appendix



## Flexible asset allocation



Variable asset class sensitivity and material use of derivatives



## Historical model portfolio returns

Total returns by asset class (%)

1						
	20	22 YTD		2021	Since i	nception
	Returns (%)	Volatility (%)	Returns (%)	Volatility (%)	) Returns (%)	Volatility (%)
Cash equity	-18.3	9.5	9.1	5.3	-4.4	7.4
quity derivatives	10.8	7.0	3.2	3.1	19.1	4.8
xed income	-2.7	3.3	-1.9	1.5	-4.8	2.3
X	8.2	2.7	0.8	2.2	11.7	2.3
otal	-2.1	6.2	11.2	7.4	21.3	7.1
CWI	-11.8	15.3	20.9	8.7	9.3	11.9
JSD hedged)	1110	1010	20.0	0.7	0.0	1110
VGBI	7.0	5.0	0.7	0.5	17.0	7.0
USD hedged)	-7.0	5.0	-2.3	2.5	-13.6	3.6
		Mode	el Portfolio	Р	erformance c	omparator
ince inception return (ann.	.)		10.1%		7.0%	
Since inception return (ann.	.)			P		-

Past performance is not a guide to the future, losses may be made.

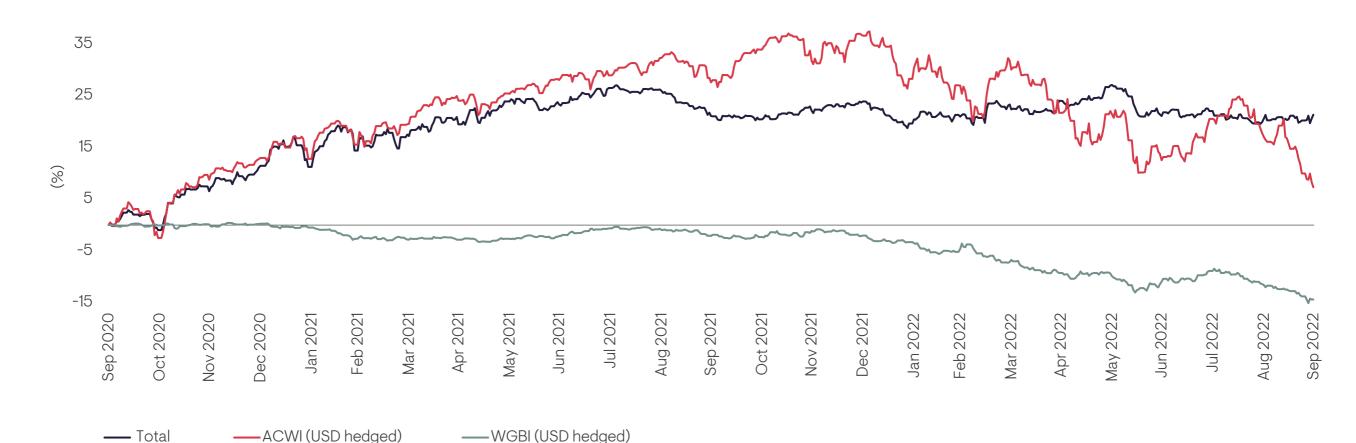
These returns are hypothetical and produced on a best efforts basis, were not attained by any client and are for illustrative purposes only.

The results do not represent actual trading and they may not reflect the impact that material economic and market factors might have had on the manager's decision-making if the manager were actually managing clients' money. There is no performance impact of trading costs, management fees or other expenses (returns will be reduced by management fees and other expenses incurred. Note numbers may not sum due to compounding and rounding.

Source: Ninety One, Bloomberg, 30 September 2022. Based on model portfolio commencing on 1 October 2020. Income is reinvested, in USD.

For further information on model returns and indices, please see the Important information section.

Historical model portfolio returns vs major asset classes



Past performance is not a guide to the future, losses may be made.

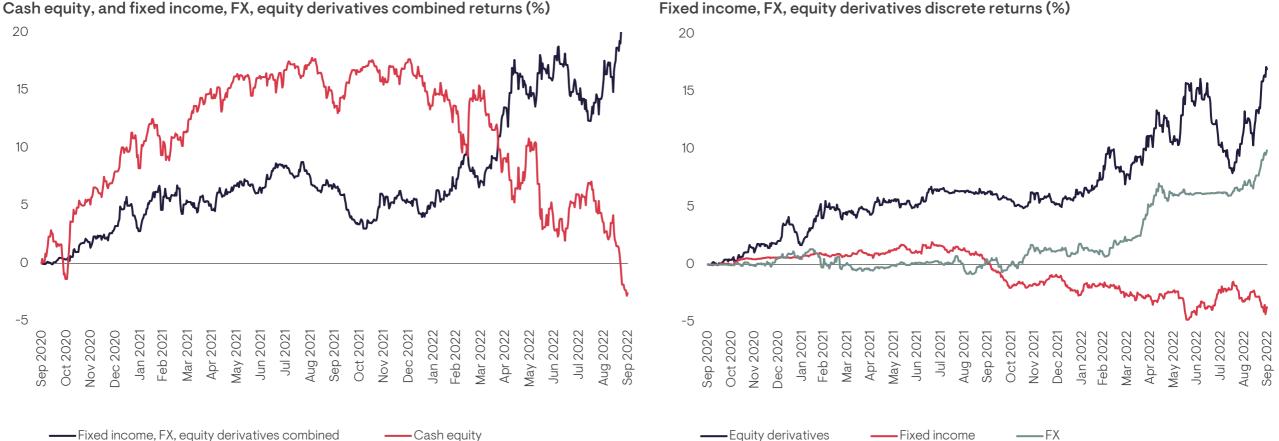
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Historical model portfolio returns – asset class detail



Fixed income, FX, equity derivatives discrete returns (%)

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# 2022 Cyclical dynamics

## Our 3 concerns coming into last year

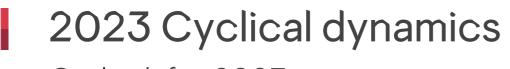
- China the Chinese economy was set to suffer the consequences of prior tightening, posing downside risks to growth.
- The Fed in particular appeared materially behind the curve massive money supply growth, a rapidly tightening labour market and resulting wage growth pointed to inflation not being transitory. We expected the Fed to remove accommodation and tighten quickly.
- Valuations were generally extended

### What this meant for our portfolios:

- A low level of equity exposure.
- Limited exposure to duration and credit.
- A high conviction long in the US dollar vs. Asian and European currencies, in anticipation of macro policy divergence.

### Conclusion:

- 2022 represented recessionary conditions in China.
- For developed markets it was a valuation reset driven by rising discount rates as central banks moved to fight inflation.



## Outlook for 2023

- China the Chinese economy is reopening and policy makers are doubling down on stimulus. Recovery expected.
- Developed world will likely suffer the consequences of prior and ongoing tightening, with recession being our central scenario.
- Value on offer in Asian risk assets & DM rates DM risk assets are more reasonably valued but don't yet reflect the high likelihood of earnings downside & ongoing tightness in liquidity conditions.

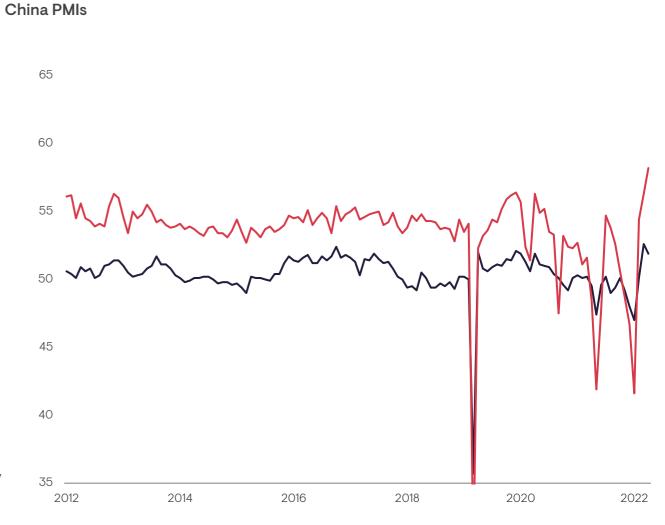
### Portfolio implications:

- Lower than average equity exposure with a notable bias towards China / Hong Kong.
- Higher than average exposure to defensive duration focused on high grade nations with leverage and housing imbalances (Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, & Sweden).
- Long USD, CHF & JPY vs. CAD, SEK & NZD a Chinese recovery represents a headwind for the USD, but strong hedging asymmetry remains in reserve currencies vs. vulnerable \$ bloc and Scandi currencies.

## China: recovery expected

## Evidence building

- China's regulatory cycle peaked in H1 2022.
- The nation's credit cycle troughed in Q4 2021.
- Policy makers actively rowing back on real estate macroprudential regulations.
- Zero-Covid abandoned.
- Chinese households have CNY 10trn of excess savings (c.10% of GDP) and retail sales are 15% below their pre-covid trend.
- Politburo's primary objective for 2023:
  - "significantly boosting market confidence through forceful monetary policy and reinforcing fiscal policy"



## Will the Fed give the market the easing it wants?

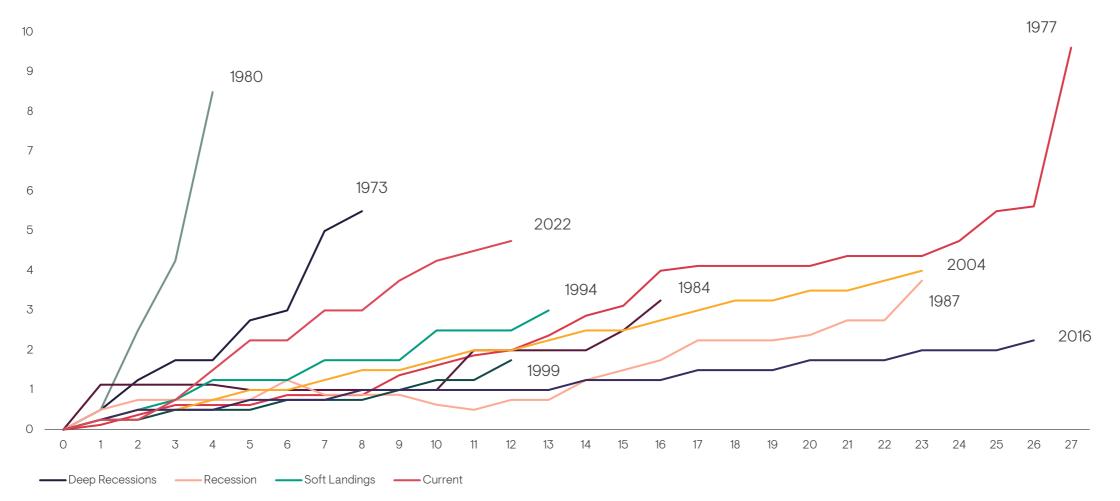
Powell: "the level of wage growth remains inconsistent with inflation returning to 2%"



## US economy: soft landing?

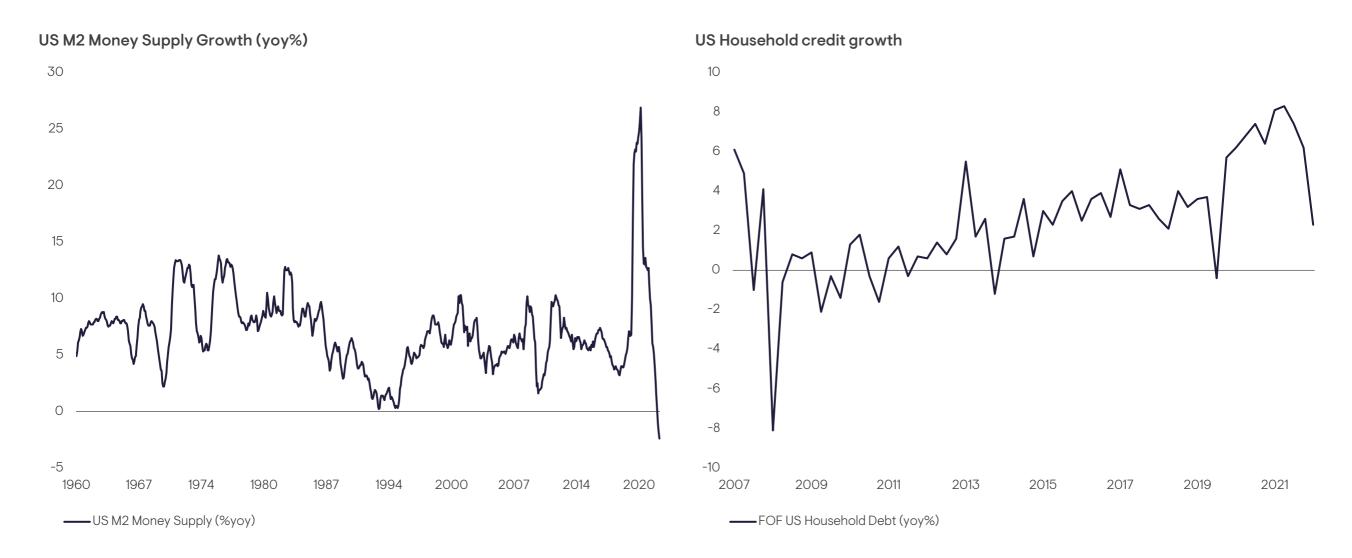
History implies low odds of a soft landing





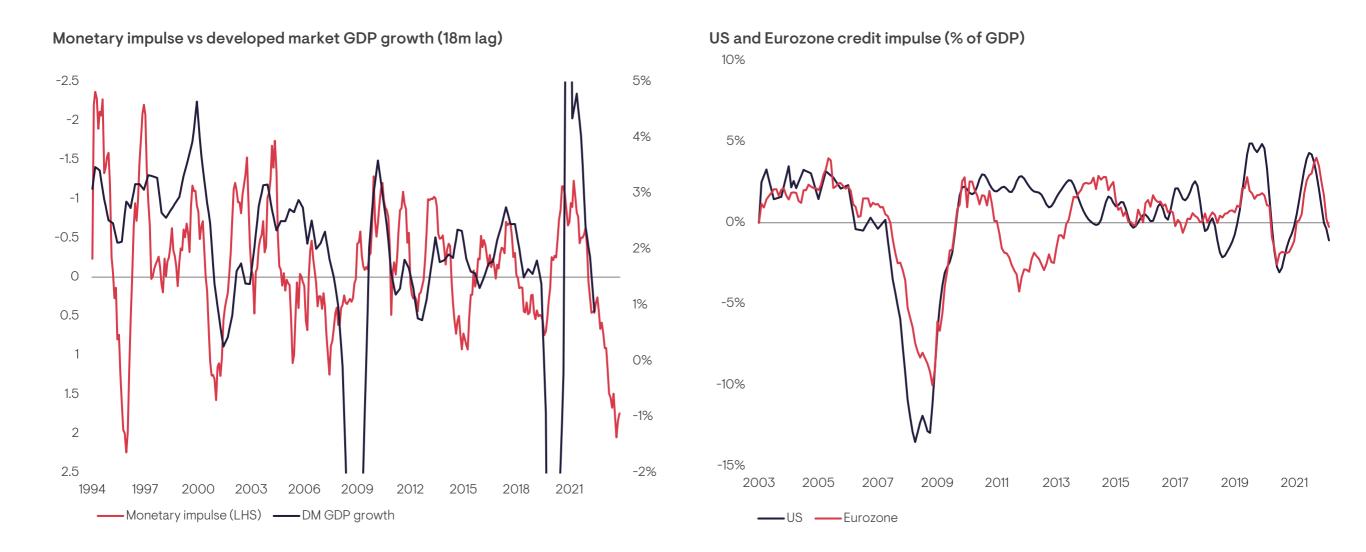
# The full effects of this tightening cycle should be felt in H2

US money supply growth contracting and household credit growth slowing sharply



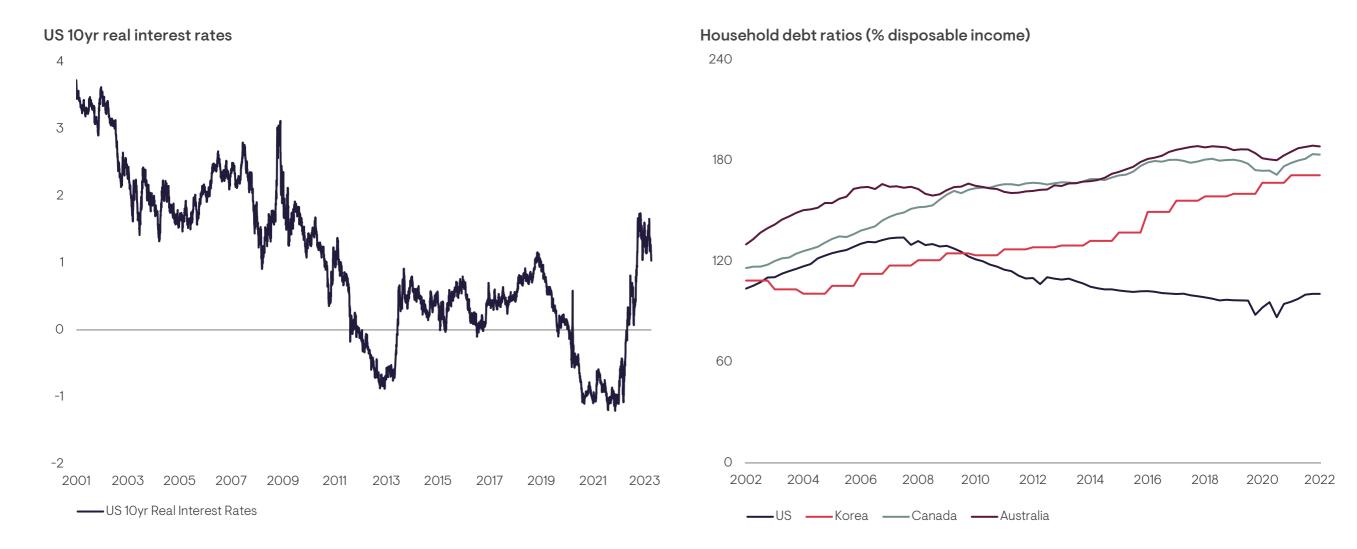
## Credit conditions are tightening as we see the lagged impact of tightening

The monetary impulse remains a drag to growth and developed market credit impulses are negative



## Positive real rates present across DM

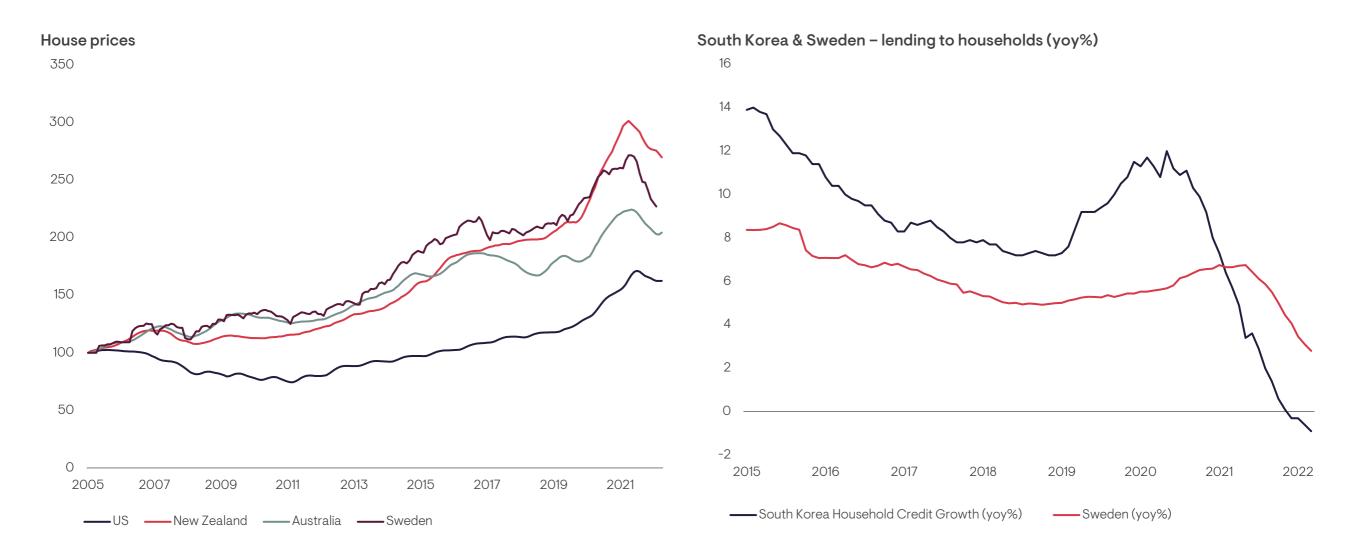
Compelling opportunities in the rates and FX of nations in false equilibrium



Source: Ninety One, Bloomberg, March 2023 For further information on indices, please see the Important information section.

# Imbalances in \$ bloc, Scandi and South Korea correcting

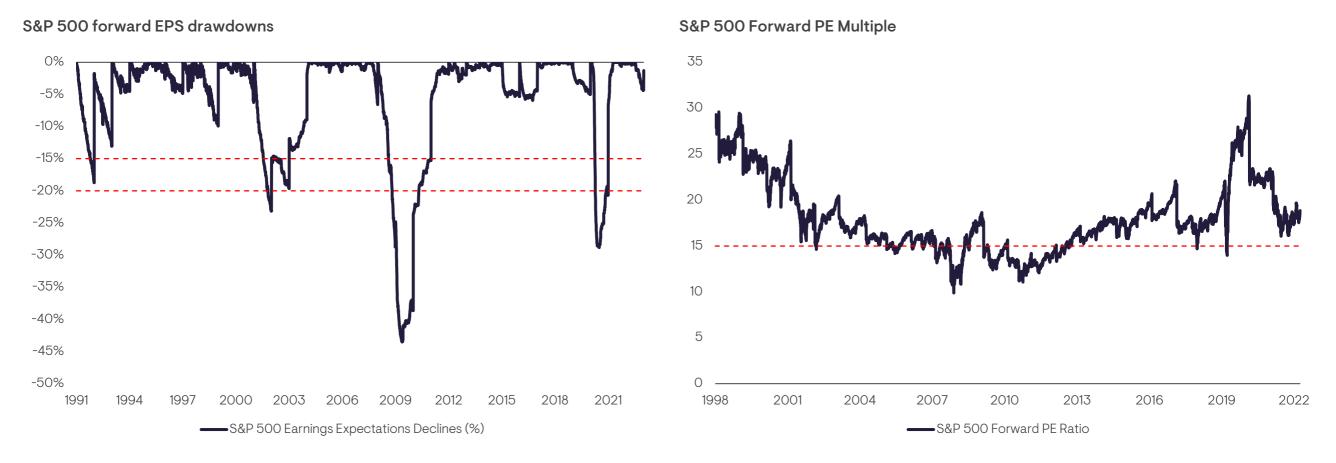
Likely resulting in domestic deflationary shocks over the next year



Source: Ninety One, Bloomberg, March 2023 For further information on indices, please see the Important information section.

## US Equities: valuations have reset toward more reasonable levels..

..but are not yet priced for a downturn in earnings combined with tight liquidity conditions



- Central scenario of a recession = -15-20% expected earnings declines
- Assuming a trough multiple of 15x price to reduced expected earnings = c. S&P 3000 (a further -15-20%)

# Global Macro Alternative model portfolio methodology

## Since inception to 30 September 2022

### Trade logging and portfolio management

- At the inception date, a model portfolio was constructed
- Each position at inception was assumed to have been entered at the close of 30/09/2020
- From this point onwards the portfolio has been managed as if it were a live portfolio, with every trade logged with it's entry date, entry price and rationale. This approach ensures the risk of look-back bias is minimised
- On-desk monitoring has been used to monitor positioning on a daily basis as well as to proxy the returns of the portfolio in order to aid portfolio management and mimic the management of a live portfolio
- In order to create a theoretical track record for the model portfolio, a list of historical trades was provided to the performance team to calculate a return stream using a robust methodology completely independently to the portfolio management team

### Performance methodology

- The opening weights of the model portfolio were taken from the log of trades provided by the portfolio management team
- For cash equity, daily returns were calculated using the internal performance system (Factset). For each security other than cash equity, daily local total returns were sourced from Bloomberg/Morgan Markets
- Daily returns were calculated on carry adjusted (hedged) basis from 30/09/2020 to 30/09/2022. Carry adjusted returns are calculated using a combination of price return and a carry return for each day
- The portfolio assumed an opening market value of 1,000,000 at the fund on inception date 30/09/2020
- Each day the return of each stock/security is applied to calculate the next day's market value for each position and then added to arrive at the new total market value of the theoretical portfolio
- This methodology was repeated each day until the new trade was implemented, with each new trade assumed to be funded from cash as a balancing item
- This process was carried forward until the end of the performance period 30/09/2022
- Given FX is implemented through forwards, this same process was repeated for FX, with the dollar (base currency) assumed to be the balancing item rather than cash, i.e. new positions are assumed to be funded from base currency on both a long and short basis
- The process provides a total return for each position and the total portfolio, as well as the historical position sizes of each position adjusted for market movement and the movement of other assets in the portfolio
- It is worth noting that this performance methodology assumes no cashflows and entry/exit costs, and is produced on a best efforts basis

# Model portfolio historical positioning

## Disclaimer

This communication includes results which are not historical or actual in nature but are hypothetical illustrations involving modelling components and assumptions that are required for purposes of such hypothetical illustrations. No representations are made as to the accuracy of such hypothetical illustrations or that all assumptions relating to such hypothetical illustrations have been considered or stated or that such hypothetical illustrations will be realized. Actual events are difficult to predict and are beyond the Firm's control. Actual events may be different, perhaps materially, from those assumed. No investor or client of the Firm has actually experienced the hypothetical results presented. Additional and supporting information is available upon request.

## Biographies



James Elliot Head of Multi-Asset Joined the firm in 2019 Joined the industry in 1996

James 'Jimmy' is Head of Multi-Asset at Ninety One and is based in London. He is responsible for investment oversight of the portfolio management team and the ongoing development of our multi-asset and investment solutions business.

Jimmy has 24 years of experience in global equities, long/short equity hedge funds and multi-asset investing, which gives him a broad perspective on both security selection and asset allocation as elements of generating sustainable investment returns. He joined the firm from JP Morgan (JPM) Asset Management where he was International Chief Investment Officer (CIO) for their Multi-asset Solutions business with over US\$90 billion in client assets. Prior to this he was co-CIO of the European Behavioural Finance and CIO of the Japanese Equity teams at JP Morgan.

Jimmy graduated from Oxford University with an BA Honours degree in Modern History in 1993. He is a CFA® Charterholder.

Iain Cunningham Co-Head of Multi-Asset Growth Joined the firm in 2016 Joined the industry in 2007

lain is Co-Head of Multi-Asset Growth at Ninety One. He is also coportfolio manager for the Global Multi-Asset Sustainable Growth, Global Macro Allocation, Global Strategic Managed and the Risk Managed strategies. Iain's research responsibilities include macro, equity, fixed income and currency.

Prior to joining the firm in 2016, lain started his career at Schroders where he was responsible for the management of a number of multi-asset funds and mandates focused on dynamic asset allocation and income.

lain has a BSc in Economics and an MSc in Economics and Finance (with distinction) from Loughborough University. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) Charterholder.



Alex Holroyd-Jones Portfolio Manager Joined the firm in 2013 Joined the industry in 2011

Alex is a portfolio manager in the Multi-Asset team at Ninety One. Alex's research responsibilities include macro, fixed income and currency.

Prior to joining the firm in 2013 he worked on the Crude Oil and Products finance desk at ConocoPhillips, with a focus on derivatives.

Alex graduated from Loughborough University with a first class Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree in Business Economics and Finance. Alex is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) Charterholder.

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