P I M C O PIMCO GIS MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fd

Portfolio Strategy

The Fund will be managed actively and will predominantly invest either directly or indirectly in a diversified portfolio of equity and debt (max. 33%) of publicly master limited partnerships ("MLPs") which are primarily focussed on the energy infrastructure sector.

Key Features

Asset Manager	PIMCO Global Advisors (Ireland) Limited
Net Assets Value	255 (Mn USD)
Inception Date	25/11/2014
UCITS	Yes
Base Currency	USD
Liquidity	Daily
Share Class*	USD Acc
Management Fees* (%)	1.00%
Performance Fees	No
CH Registered	Yes

Portfolio Style

Judgmental	Systematic
Value	Growth
Large	Small
Bottom-Up	Top-Down
Concentrated	Diversified
Core	Satellite
	Value Large Bottom-Up Concentrated

Investment Rationale

Most MLPs are engaged in oil & gas "mid-stream" activities –transportation, gathering & processing, storage & terminals and natural gas compression. MLPs don't pay corporate taxes and distribute the majority of their free cash flow. The investment rationale is an alternative way of obtaining attractive income in a low interest rate environment, a portfolio diversification to traditional energy-related strategies with less direct commodity price exposure.

Investment Philosophy

- Sustainability of the income (yield): focus on companies with strong underlying assets and high barriers to entry. Specifically, they tend to focus on names with critical infrastructure, hard to replicate, in high growth/low cost production regions.
- The portfolio is a combination of debt and equity: as such, they look for best opportunities across the whole capital structure. The MLP investment team covers also the entire energy value chain, including upstream (E&P), midstream (gathering, processing and transportation), downstream (refiners). The team's investment analysis is extensive and includes on-the-ground visits to meet with issuers.
- Credit research: most of MLPs are high yield or low-investment grade rated companies. PIMCO places a great deal of importance on independent analysis when evaluating corporate credit. The firm does not rely on rating agency ratings. The staff of seasoned credit analysts internally rate credit-related issues held in its portfolios.
- Total Return Swap (TRS): Investment in MLPs via TRS in order for non-US investors to have the same tax benefit than US.

Fund Management Team

The MLP & Energy Infrastructure Team is led by John Devir, lead portfolio manager ("PM") and CIO and Managing Director Mark Kiesel at PIMCO. Together, John and Mark have over 45 years of combined investment experience. They are supported by a broad team of 1 PM, 5 analysts and 2 traders that are experts in key areas and industries related to the product.

Strengths

- Total return approach: by investing either in debt or equity allow them to arbitrate within the capital structure and to reduce beta of the portfolio according to their macro analysis.
- Depth of research: critical as the asset class is more a "avoiding-the-losers" than "catching-the-winners" game. A dedicated team for the strategy is a key element as the sector exhibits high dispersion of valuation and returns. Moreover, their ample resources in credit research allow them to have also a full in-house credit rating valuation.
- **Performance:** the fund went through a difficult period since launch in November 2014 in absolute terms. On a relative basis it has beaten its benchmark both, in up-market (2016) but more significative in down-markets (2017 and 2015), thanks to its stock-picking and to its total-return approach.

Weaknesses

Are related to the asset class rather than the asset manager

- MLPs are historically highly volatile: over 15 years the volatility is 3% higher than the S&P500 and comparable to US small cap indices.
- Oil price correlation: although revenues of MLPs are "fee-based" cash flows and have no direct commodity sensitivity, the correlation with the energy sector is generally high over the short-term.

Portfolio Construction												
Investment Rationale	Core Satellite	;	1M	YTD	2017	2016	2015	3Y (Ann.)	5Y (Ann.)	Sharpe Ratio 3Y	Volatility 3Y	Max Drawdown 3Y
	•	Fund	-8.13	-0.88	-4.77	21.80	-25.54	2.20	-N/A	0.14	17.01	-17.00
		Index	-7.99	-2.57	-6.52	18.31	-32.59	-1.52	-4.84	-0.06	18.26	-21.58

*ISIN Code: IE00BRS5SP65. ISIN used for performance: IE00BRS5SP65 Performance data source: Morningstar Direct. Key Points provided by Wealth Solutions Partners SA. - Past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance. Index: Alerian MLP TR USD. Data as of: 31/10/2018

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