BlueBay Global Monthly Income Bond Fund



Commentary as at June 30, 2025

Fixed income performed well overall in the first half of 2025, as financial markets recovered from significant losses after the Trump administration opted to not fully follow through on threats to impose extremely high tariffs on U.S. trade partners. Elsewhere, tension in the Middle East and continued conflict between Russia and Ukraine compounded a backdrop of uncertainty.

The Fund's returns were aided by exposure to most types of investments in the portfolio. An allocation to emerging-market sovereign debt denominated predominantly in U.S. dollars was the largest contributor to returns. Performance was also bolstered by holdings of emerging-market debt denominated in local currency and foreign-exchange holdings. An allocation to convertible bonds aided relative returns after solid global equity performance amplified returns in Chinese technology companies and Europe, as did bonds that bail out taxpayers in the event of a bank collapse. The only area of the portfolio that had a negative impact on returns was credit derivatives aimed at protecting the portfolio from falling markets.

Financial markets have somewhat stabilized after an initial disruption caused by the tariff announcements. The fact that trade negotiations continue is comforting for investors, although uncertainty prevails and Trump's deficit-raising tax proposal still looms. While the S&P 500 Index has recovered, the yield on the 30-year Treasury bond remains pinned at the recent highs and suggests that inflation and borrowing costs may remain relatively high. A further move higher in global bond yields is the main risk that investors now face. Central banks and governments are taking note, and the Bank of Japan recently indicated that policy may change to reflect concern about inflation.

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