

Monthly commentary / 29.5.2026

Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Asset Backed Securities

Marketing document for institutional investors in: AT, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, IT, LI, LU, NL, NO, SE, SG (Professional Investors only).

Investors in France should note that, relative to the expectations of the Autorité des Marchés Financiers, this fund presents disproportionate communication on the consideration of non-financial criteria in its investment policy.

Summary

- May was another strong month for European securitised products, supported by solid technical. Issuance accelerated, with €19bn of new asset-backed securities (ABS) supply, complemented by €3.3bn of collateralised loan obligation (CLO) refinancings and resets. Secondary activity also picked up across both ABS and CLO markets, again concentrated in investment grade (IG) tranches, with AA ABS, for example, trading inside 90 basis points (bp). Generally, spreads are back at the year-to-date tight in the ABS market, although high yield (HY) CLOs sit 50bp wide of this.
- May was a quiet month for the Fund. In the ABS market, the focus was on residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS), with secured collateral continuing to perform well. The team added AA UK RMBS at SONIA+120bp and also continued to add to Australian RMBS, where spreads look attractive on a currency-adjusted basis, and sold a 2021 UK commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) deal. The Fund remains in a flexible position given ongoing geopolitical risk.
- Conflict in the Middle East has anchored expectations of higher inflation and rates from here, while also weighing on global growth expectations. While lower rate volatility and higher carry should support ABS and CLO bondholders, the changing macroeconomic environment may resurface performance concerns for consumers. We will continue to prioritise established issuers with a proven track record.

Market developments

Summary: May was another strong month for European securitised products, supported by solid technical. Despite inflationary concerns and ongoing political uncertainty, collateral performance continues to demonstrate resilience, further underpinning the asset class. Issuance accelerated, with €19bn of new asset-backed securities (ABS) supply, complemented by €3.3bn of collateralised loan obligation (CLO) refinancings and resets. Secondary activity also picked up across both ABS and CLO markets, again concentrated in investment grade (IG) tranches, with AA ABS, for example, trading inside 90bp. Spreads in the UK residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) secondary market were somewhat stagnant, while primary spreads tightened, creating pockets of relative value. There was also an uptick in secondary activity in CLO equity, where longer-dated profiles performed well. Generally, spreads are back at the year-to-date tight in the ABS market, although high yield (HY) CLOs sit 50bp wide of this.

ABS: ABS markets saw a healthy level of issuance in May, as issuers looked to secure funding ahead of the Annual Global ABS conference in Barcelona. The €19bn of issuance was diversified across both asset classes and jurisdictions. We continue to see significant oversubscription across transactions, allowing spread curves to compress. For example, Pepper priced a AA tranche at just 11bp wide of the AAA, at SONIA + 1.0%, following strong investor demand. We continue to see value in the Australian ABS market, particularly higher up the capital structure, where BBSW+100bp offers a significant pick-up relative to comparable transactions in the UK or EU.

Although June will include the Global ABS conference, we expect healthy supply on either side of this and expect supportive demand technicals to persist.

CLO: During May, a recovering loan market supported a healthy month of issuance for the CLO market. Over the month, €5.7bn of new issuance and €3.3bn of resets and refinancings were recorded. The US market was relatively more active, with \$11.7bn of new issuance and \$33bn of refinancings and resets. We expect European refinancings of older CLOs to pick up. Demand remained strong through May, particularly for IG tranches, where average spreads moved inside 300bp for the first time since January. The European loan market continued to rally, ending May up 1.4 points at 96.1, and a reduction in the amount of distressed loans. Risks remain in the credit market, and a focus on prudent management will be key to CLO performance, especially for deals that are beyond their reinvestment periods.

Portfolio review

May was a quiet month for the Fund. In the ABS market, the focus was on RMBS, where secured collateral continues to perform well. The team added AA UK RMBS at SONIA+120bp and also continued to add to Australian RMBS, where spreads look attractive on a currency-adjusted basis, and sold a 2021 UK CMBS deal.

Performance analysis

The Fund remains in a flexible position given ongoing geopolitical risk.

Outlook

In May, European securitised products were supported by strong income and a tightening bias across most of the market. Demand for the asset class continues to outpace supply, and we expect this dynamic to persist into the summer. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East has anchored expectations of higher inflation and rates from here, while also weighing on global growth expectations. While lower rate volatility and higher carry should support ABS and CLO bondholders, the changing macroeconomic environment may re-surface performance concerns for consumers. Although we do not expect a significant deterioration in securitised asset pools, we will continue to prioritise established issuers with a

proven track record.

In IG, we continue to see value in AAA and BBB CLOs, along with segments of the ABS market such as AAA Australian RMBS, but the team also likes shorter date Auto transactions. In high yield ABS, we think that BB rated CLOs currently offer the best relative value. Despite mixed, albeit broadly constructive, headlines from the Middle East, we remain liquid across the Funds given the expectation of persistent volatility. Looking ahead, even with the annual conference taking place mid-month, we expect strong issuance as issuers seek to secure funding ahead of the summer.

Fund characteristics

Fund name	Vontobel Fund – TwentyFour Asset Backed Securities
ISIN	LU1602255561
Share class	I EUR
Benchmark	–
Inception date	27.6.2017

Historical performance (net returns, in %)

Time period	Fund	Benchmark	Time period	Fund	Benchmark
MTD	0.4%	–	2025	3.5%	–
YTD	1.4%	–	2024	6.7%	–
1 year	3.4%	–	2023	8.4%	–
3 yrs p.a.	5.3%	–	2022	-4.5%	–
5 yrs p.a.	3.1%	–	2021	1.7%	–
10 yrs p.a.	–	–	2020	-0.1%	–
ITD p.a.	2.1%	–	2019	2.0%	–
			2018	-1.1%	–
			2017	–	–
			2016	–	–

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance.

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