# Ares Diversified Credit Fund

ARSN 644 797 599 APIR HOW7354AU

## ØARES ARES AUSTRALIA MANAGEMENT

### January 2024 - Monthly Report

| Performance                      | 1 month<br>% | 3 Months<br>% | CYTD<br>% | 1 year<br>% | 3 years<br>% p.a. | 5 years<br>% p.a. | Inception<br>% |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Fund return (gross) <sup>1</sup> | 1.1          | 3.9           | 1.1       | 12.5        | 6.7               | -                 | 6.7            |
| Fund return (net) <sup>2</sup>   | 1.1          | 3.9           | 1.1       | 12.5        | 6.6               | -                 | 6.7            |

<sup>1</sup>Returns are calculated before fees have been deducted and assume distributions have been reinvested. No allowance is made for tax when calculating these figures. <sup>2</sup>Returns are calculated after fees have been deducted and assume distributions have been reinvested. No allowance is made for tax when calculating these figures. **Past** performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Past performance figures that are less than 12 months are for informational purposes only and are not to be relied upon when considering the likely future performance of the Fund. Data Source: Fidante Partners Limited, 31 January 2024.

#### **Underlying Fund**

The Fund primarily invests in a diversified portfolio of global liquid and illiquid asset classes via its investment in the CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund (**Underlying Fund**). The Fund also invests in cash and foreign exchange hedging instruments. In this report, where we refer to the Fund's investments we generally do so on a 'look-through' basis; that is, we are referring to the underlying assets that the Fund is exposed to through its investment in the Underlying Fund.

#### **Underlying Fund Overview**

The Underlying Fund's investment objective is to provide superior riskadjusted returns across various market cycles by investing in a diversified portfolio of liquid and illiquid asset classes. The Underlying Fund seeks to capitalize on market inefficiencies and relative value opportunities throughout the entire global credit spectrum. The Underlying Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by employing an opportunistic, dynamic, and unconstrained global credit investments strategy based on absolute and relative value considerations and its analysis of credit markets. It seeks risk-adjusted returns over full market cycles by creating and managing a portfolio with balanced exposures to multiple industry sectors and geographic regions, systematically allocating capital across multiple segments of the global fixed-income markets, including U.S. and non-U.S. credit instruments.

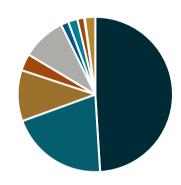
| Underlying Fund Facts                 |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Portfolio managers                    | Mitch Goldstein, Greg Margolies,<br>Michael Smith  |  |  |
| Inception date                        | 12 July 2017   |  |  |
| Management fee                        | 1.25% p.a.   |  |  |
| Performance fee                       | 15% subject to a hurdle rate of 1.5% per quarter (6% annualised), and subject to a catch-up feature. |  |  |
| Total Issuers                         | 693  |  |  |
| Total Managed Assets <sup>3</sup>     | US\$4.51BN   |  |  |
| Sharpe Ratio <sup>7</sup>             | 1.08   |  |  |
| Standard Deviation                    | 3.81%  |  |  |
| Yield to Maturity (YTM)               | 10.52%   |  |  |
| Distribution Rate (p.a.) <sup>7</sup> | 9.23%  |  |  |
| Running Yield                         | 10.82%   |  |  |
| Interest rate duration                | 0.61   |  |  |
| Spread Duration                       | 2.30   |  |  |

<sup>3</sup>Total assets (including any assets attributable to financial leverage) minus accrued liabilities (other than debt representing financial leverage)

| Fund Facts                     |                  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Inception date                 | 17 December 2020 |  |  |
| Fund FUM                       | \$700M           |  |  |
| Management Fee                 | Nil <sup>4</sup> |  |  |
| Performance fee                | Nil <sup>4</sup> |  |  |
| Buy/sell spread                | +0.25%/-0.00%    |  |  |
| <b>Distribution Frequency</b>  | Monthly          |  |  |
| Distribution Rate <sup>7</sup> | 0.78%            |  |  |
|                                |                  |  |  |

#### **Underlying Fund Allocation<sup>5</sup>**

#### Asset Allocation



#### **Geographic Allocation**

- United States 76.1%

US Direct Lending 51.2%

Syndicated Loans 21.3%

High Yield Bonds 9.6%

Real Estate Debt 0.2%

Private Asset-Backed 2.0%

Opportunistic 1.7%

CLO Debt 1.5%

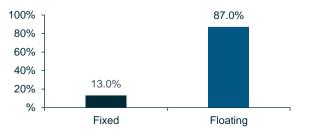
Cash -2.3%

CLO Equity 3.7%

European Direct Lending 11.1%

- Broader North America 8.7%
- United Kingdom 6.4%
- Broader Europe 10.1%
- Other 0.7%
- Australia 0.2%
- Broader Asia 0.0%
- Cash -2.3%

#### Interest Type<sup>6</sup>

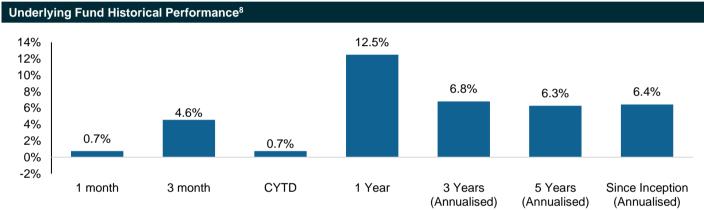


<sup>4</sup> The only fee is a recoverable expense, which is currently 3 bps.
<sup>6</sup> Excludes cash, other net assets, and equity instruments.
<sup>7</sup> There can be no guarantee that the disbution rate will accrue at such amount and there is no assurance that distributions will be maintained at the targeted level or at all



| Underlying Fund Top 10 Holdings⁵ |      | Underlying Fund Industry Allocation <sup>5</sup> |       |  |
|----------------------------------|------|--|-------|--|
| Kaseya                           | 1.1% | Software and Services                            | 21.1% |  |
| Mimecast                         | 1.0% | Commercial and Professional Services             | 9.6%  |  |
| Nielsen                          | 1.0% | Financial Services                               | 9.2%  |  |
| High Street Insurance Partners   | 1.0% | Health Care Equipment and Services               | 8.9%  |  |
| DigiCert                         | 0.9% | Structured Products                              | 7.8%  |  |
| TurnPoint Services               | 0.9% | Consumer Services                                | 6.9%  |  |
| Global Medical Response, Inc.    | 0.8% | Capital Goods                                    | 6.6%  |  |
| eCapital                         | 0.8% | Insurance  | 5.8%  |  |
| Osmose Utilities Services, Inc.  | 0.8% | Other  | 24.1% |  |
| RSK Group Limited                | 0.8% | Cash   | -2.3% |  |

<sup>5</sup> As of 31 January 2024. Holdings and allocations, unless otherwise indicated, are based on the total portfolio and subject to change without notice. Data shown is for informational purposes only and not a recommendation to buy or sell any security.



<sup>8</sup>As of 31 January 2024. Returns of the CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund Class I Shares. Returns are in USD and include reinvestment of distributions and reflect fund expenses inclusive of recoupment of previously provided expense support. The expense ratio was 4.08% as of June 30, 2023 excluding interest expense. Expense ratios are annualised and calculated as a percentage of estimated average net assets. Share values will fluctuate, therefore if repurchased, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The performance shown is on a 'look-through' basis to the performance of the Underlying Fund. The performance of the Underlying Fund.





<sup>9</sup>This graph illustrates the performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made in this Fund from the inception date of the product. This is represented as the change in total return at monthly intervals. Total return is a measure of the change in NAV including reinvestment of all distributions and is presented on a net basis reflecting the deduction of fund expenses and applicable fees with expense support provided by CION Ares Management (CAM). The performance quoted represents past performance, is no guarantee of future results and may not provide an adequate basis for evaluating the performance of the Fund over varying market conditions or economic cycles. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate; therefore, you may have a gain or loss when you sell your shares. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance data quoted.



#### For further information, please contact:

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