



1290 Multi-Alternative Strategies Fund

Fund commentary 1Q21

Market overview

During the first quarter of 2021, equity markets rallied as expectations for future economic growth were boosted by the passage of a \$1.9 trillion U.S. economic stimulus package and an encouraging quarter-over-quarter decline in COVID cases. Small-cap equities outperformed large-cap equities during the quarter. Additionally, commodity prices rose in line with equities, as energy and industrial metals prices rallied. Bond market investors were not quite as enthusiastic as those in equities and commodities, since the large stimulus plans will require an increase in U.S. Treasury borrowings—a potentially inflationary move that would put pressure on bond prices.

Fund overview

The 1290 Multi-Alternative Strategies Fund pursues its investment objective to seek long-term growth of capital by investing in exchange-traded funds comprising various non-traditional or alternative asset categories and strategies. In the first quarter of 2021 the Fund outperformed its benchmark, the ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index.

Fund highlights

What helped performance during the quarter?*

- Commodities were the top contributor to performance, driven by strong performance in agriculture and energy.
- Currency contributed to relative performance, driven by short positions in Japanese yen, Swiss franc, and euro currencies.
- Global Real Estate added to performance, with domestic Real Estate Investment Trusts up about 9% for the period, while international REITs rose more than 2%.

What hurt performance during the quarter?*

- Precious and base metals were the top detractors from performance with gold and silver down over 10% and 8%, respectively, for the quarter.
- Merger/arbitrage activity detracted from performance, down about 1% for the period.
- Long/short equity negatively impacted relative performance, with holdings in the Long Online/Short Stores ETF (CLIX) down over 9% for the period. However, this was partially offset by the value-style tilt in RAFI Long/Short ETF (RALS), which benefited during the period.

Source: Equitable Investment Management Group, LLC

* The Fund does not hold a position in any single security directly but has exposure through ETFs.

** The Fund's ETF holdings are as of March 31, 2021. Subject to change.

For more information, call (888) 310-0416 or visit 1290funds.com.

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Fund carefully before investing. To obtain a prospectus containing this and other information, please call 1-888-310-0416 or download the file from 1290funds.com. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

1290 Multi-Alternative Strategies Fund seeks long-term growth of capital. Performance may be affected by one or more of the following risks. The Fund is subject to the risk that the securities markets will move down, sometimes rapidly and un-predictably, based on overall economic conditions and other factors, which may negatively affect Fund performance. The Fund is also subject to the risks associated with the securities or other investments in which the Underlying ETFs invest, and the ability of the Fund to meet its objective will directly depend on the ability of the Underlying ETFs to meet their investment objectives. Alternative investments may use a different approach to investing than do traditional investments (such as equity or fixed income investments) and the performance of alternative investments is not expected to correlate closely with more traditional investments; however, it is possible that alternative investments will decline in value along with equity or fixed income markets, or both, or that they may not otherwise perform as expected. Alternative investments may have different characteristics and risks than do traditional investments, can be highly volatile, may be less liquid, particularly in periods of stress, and may be more complex and less transparent than traditional investments. Alternative investments also may have more complicated tax considerations than traditional investments. The use of alternative investments may not achieve the desired effect and may result in losses for the Fund.

ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index measures the returns of negotiable debt obligations issued by the U.S. government and backed by its full faith and credit, having a maturity of three months. An individual cannot invest in an index.

Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

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