Global Income Builder Fund

Market Overview

Rising interest rates during the third quarter elicited sour memories of the "nowhere to hide" investment environment of 2022, and a wide range of asset classes, geographic regions and economic sectors were caught in the downdraft. After three consecutive quarters of gains, the S&P 500 and MSCI World indexes fell 3.3% and 3.5%, respectively, in the third quarter.[1]

Market Summary	3rd Quarter 2023
Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index	-3.23%
Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Index	+0.46%
MSCI World Index	-3.46%
S&P 500 Index	-3.27%
German DAX Index	-4.71%
French CAC 40 Index	-3.40%
Nikkei 225 Index	-3.27%
Brent Crude Oil	+27.25% $95.31 a barrel
Gold	-3.68% $1,848.63 an ounce
US Dollar	+3.24% vs. yen +3.05% vs. euro

Source: Bloomberg, WM/Reuters.

While the equity style pendulum swung back in favor of value names for the period, growth has outperformed significantly year to date. Within fixed income, duration exposure dictated performance. Shorter-duration indexes like the Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Index (0.5%) and the Morningstar LSTA Leveraged Loan Index (3.5%) delivered positive returns, while longer-duration indexes like the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index (-3.2%) and the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index (-3.6%) lost ground.[2]

Markets Try to Get Comfortable with Normal

Ongoing monetary policy tightening in the US continued to be a source of consternation for markets seemingly reluctant to accept the Federal Reserve's insistence that policy rates are likely to be "higher for longer." The Fed hiked its federal funds target rate by 25 basis points in July, bringing it to a range of 5.25–5.5%. While it held fire at its September meeting, the release of fresh economic projections appeared to throw markets for a loop. The latest Fed dot plot suggests another 25-basis point hike is likely before the end of 2023, but it was the central bank's updated 2024 forecast that likely had a greater impact on sentiment. The median end-2024 projection for the fed funds rate now stands at 5.1%, up from 4.6% in June—a hawkish shift from four rate cuts to two next year.[3]

Recent economic data have supported the "higher for longer" narrative and likely tempered the Fed's enthusiasm for 2024 rate cuts. The Atlanta Fed's GDPNow forecasting model estimates that third quarter US GDP growth will come in at 4.9%, which would be the highest quarterly output in nearly a decade if you disregard the Covid-related distortions of 2020 and 2021.[4] Despite this strength, inflation expectations remain anchored and inflation prints generally have continued to improve. The August core PCE report—which excludes volatile food and energy prices—of 3.9% was the first sub-4% reading since June 2021.[5] A separate "supercore" index—a favorite indicator of Fed Chair Powell that measures the price of services excluding energy and housing costs—also has drifted lower from its peak but at a slower pace than other metrics, as persistent wage inflation has served as a headwind.[6]

With the terminal point of the current rate-hike cycle seemingly in sight, two-year Treasuries traded in a tight range during the quarter. In contrast, 10-year Treasuries climbed about 80 basis points, with nearly two-thirds of that move occurring in September.[7] Stable short rates combined with a selloff in long bonds has produced a fairly rare phenomenon known in bond circles as a "bear steepener," a dynamic that hurt longer-duration securities during the quarter.[8]

Though there are numerous potential drivers for the selloff in long-dated paper during the quarter, we're paying close attention to the country's fiscal condition and the impact that may be having on supply/demand dynamics in the Treasury market. The Congressional Budget Office forecasts persistent federal deficits and mounting debt over the next several decades, suggesting Treasury issuance is likely to

1. Source: FactSet; data as of September 30, 2023
2. Source: FactSet; data as of September 30, 2023.
3. Source: Bloomberg; data as of October 3, 2023
4. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta; data as of October 5, 2023.
5. Source: Reuters; data as of September 29, 2023.
6. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta; data as of September 13, 2023.
7. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; data as of September 30, 2023.
8. Source: Barron's; data as of August 11, 2023.

grow; in fact, the Treasury in late July increased its debt-issuance projections for both fiscal 2023 and 2024.[9] And since the Fed is no longer buying Treasury securities, but is instead letting a large portion of maturing paper roll off its balance sheet, public markets alone are responsible for both absorbing new deficit spending and refinancing maturing paper. Rising rates at the long end of the curve during the third quarter suggest they may be demanding higher term premia to do so after several years in which it was mostly negative.[10]

These circumstances have not gone unnoticed. Citing "expected fiscal deterioration over the next three years, a high and growing general government debt burden, and the erosion of governance," Fitch Ratings on August 1 cut its long-term credit rating on US sovereign issuance from AAA to AA+.[11] This is well-aligned with our own concerns about both the level of the country's debt and its likely trajectory given the apparent lack of political will to enact the spectrum of measures necessary—including tax hikes, entitlement reform and cuts to discretionary spending, as well as supply-side reforms to promote productivity growth—to rein it in. Continued dysfunction in a US political system marked by an abhorrence of compromise—as ably demonstrated by the end-September battle over funding the federal government—suggests repeated party-line standoffs may be far more prevalent than concrete progress toward fiscal consolidation.

It's possible that these troubling debt dynamics, which are not limited to the US, also may be among the factors that have provided support for the price of gold amid sharply rising real interest rates. Gold's inverse relationship with real interest rates—i.e., the difference between the nominal interest rate and the expected rate of inflation—historically has been the most important driver of its price movements. Since the Fed began hiking its policy rate in March 2022, however, the gold price has declined by less than $50 per ounce even as the real interest rate (based on the yield of 10-year Treasury inflation-protected securities) spiked more than 300 basis points.[12] Gold's resilience in the face of such a large move in real rates suggests the presence of other influences. The debt issues cited above, for example, may have prompted increased interest in exposure to an asset like gold with an historical track record as a potential hedge against currency debasement. Strong demand from global central banks may be an additional contributor; central bank gold purchases in 2022 were the highest on record, and year-to-date 2023 trends imply another robust year.[13] Geopolitical frailties—highlighted by the protracted war between Ukraine and Russia and the more recent outbreak of violence in the Middle East—also may have buoyed the gold price, as investors seek perceived "safe havens" in uncertain times.

Actively Resisting Complacency

Though many financial assets have suffered losses during the current tightening campaign, we've yet to see the emergence of many indicators typically associated with looming recession, other than the inverted yield curve. Credit spreads remain contained, as do credit-default swap prices, and measures of implied market volatility like the Cboe Volatility Index and ICE BofAML MOVE Index confirm the lack of acute anxiety.[14] Meanwhile, the real economy has absorbed the impacts of tightening fairly well thus far. Corporate balance sheets entered 2022 in generally good shape, as many companies took advantage of historically low rates to lock in cheap financing, and we've seen these measures bear fruit in the form of fairly stable fundamentals.

While the economy has been resilient, persistence is not guaranteed, and conditions likely will become more challenging as the accumulated impacts of policy tightening continue to reverberate. And though Fed rhetoric suggests the central bank is still hopeful for a "soft landing," the prospects of such an outcome do not necessarily appear more certain now than they have at any other point in the tightening cycle. Inflation has eased considerably, but it remains above the central bank's target—and the last mile is the hardest mile. Energy costs, housing prices and tight labor markets are all fighting against the Fed, and it's unclear what it will take to tame them. Meanwhile, the many vulnerabilities that exist within the global financial and diplomatic structures show no signs of abating. It may be a bumpy ride from here to the terminal rate.

A challenging market often reveals opportunities to acquire what we view as quality assets at attractive prices, and our flexible mandate allows us to pursue value wherever we find it. We do this in a thoughtful, deliberate manner, maintaining consistency with our investment philosophy and our goal to provide a material income stream that persists over time and holds its value in real terms.

9. Source: US Department of the Treasury; July 31, 2023.
10. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York (based on the Adrian, Crump and Moench (ACM) model); data as of September 30, 2023.
11. Source: Fitch Ratings; data as of August 1, 2023.
12. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, World Gold Council; data as of September 30, 2023.
13. Source: World Gold Council; data as of October 4, 2023.
14. Source: FactSet; data as of September 30, 2023.

Portfolio Review

Global Income Builder Fund A Shares (without sales charge*) posted a return of -2.72% in third quarter 2023. As of September 30, 2023, the Fund's equity allocation was 59.59%, comprising 36.45% international stocks and 23.14% US stocks. The Fund's 27.70% bond allocation included 18.40% in investment grade issues. The Global Income Builder Fund outperformed the composite index in the period.

Leading equity contributors in the First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund this quarter included Exxon Mobil Corporation, Imperial Oil Limited, and Enterprise Products Partners L.P. The leading fixed income contributors for the quarter were SEG Holding LLC 5.625%, due 10/15/2028, Pilgrim's Pride Corporation 5.875%, due

* Performance for Class A shares without the effect of sales charges and assumes all distributions have been reinvested, and if a sales charge was included values would be lower.

9/30/2027, and Government of the United States of America 2.625%, due 12/31/2023.

A nearly 30% surge in crude oil prices during the quarter bolstered companies throughout the oil patch, including integrated oil-and-gas giant Exxon Mobil. Given ongoing production cuts by OPEC+ and geopolitical unrest in the Middle East, oil prices may remain elevated, bolstering Exxon's already strong cash flows and potentially fueling additional balance sheet improvements and returns of cash to shareholders.

Imperial Oil, which is Canada's second-largest integrated oil company and is 70% owned by Exxon Mobil, benefitted from a nearly 30% surge in the price of crude oil during the quarter. Given ongoing production cuts by OPEC+ and geopolitical unrest in the Middle East, oil prices may remain elevated, to the potential benefit of Imperial. The company is well-integrated across the energy value chain, and we continue to like its stable, long-lived reserves, operational advantages, strong balance sheet and history of durable cash flows.

Also riding the oil-price tailwind was Enterprise Products, a leading North American provider of midstream energy services to producers and consumers of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined products and petrochemicals. As a provider of oilfield services, Enterprise may benefit from increased—and long-deferred—capital spending by the major and national oil companies that may result from persistently elevated oil prices.

The bonds of SEG Holding (aka Southeastern Grocers) rallied during the quarter as German grocery discounter Aldi announced plans to acquire the company's entire portfolio of Winn-Dixie and Harveys supermarkets. Concurrently, SEG agreed to sell its Fresco y Más stores to a grocery-focused investment group. It is expected that SEG's outstanding bonds will be retired when these deals close in early 2024.

Despite being in a weak stage of the poultry cycle, the 2027 notes of Pilgrim's Pride's rallied on news of an upgrade by Moody's. Due to their effective subordination to a secured revolving credit facility of the company, these notes had been rated one notch below Pilgrim's corporate family rating. This secured credit facility was replaced with an unsecured one, putting the 2027 notes and equal footing in terms of priority and driving the rating upgrade. As the quarter drew to a close, the company priced a new bond offering whose proceeds will be used to fund fourth quarter cash tender offer on the 2027 notes we hold.

As noted in the Market Overview, duration exposure was a primary driver of fixed income performance during the quarter. Long-dated US maturities sold off sharply while the short end of the curve was stable, dynamics that benefited the abovementioned Treasury maturing at the end of 2023

The leading equity detractors in the quarter were Compagnie Financière Richemont SA, Compañía Cervecerías Unidas S.A. Sponsored ADR, and gold bullion. Bond detractors for the quarter were Government of the United States of America 6.125%, due 11/5/2027, Transcanada Trust 5.875%, due 8/15/2076, Government of the United States of America 3.375%, due 5/15/2033.

Richemont, the Swiss luxury goods company that counts Cartier and Van Cleef & Arpels among its maisons, fell shy of expectations for its most recent quarter. While the company maintained its full-year guidance, sales in the Americas have begun to decline and a softer-than-expected recovery in China also weighed on the stock. We believe that the company is well positioned to meet future demand for jewelry and watches.

Chilean beverage company Compania Cervecerias Unidas (CCU) has been executing well and reported sales growth, higher sales volume and operating margins for its most recent quarter. The depreciation of the Chilean peso was a headwind, however, as a large portion of CCU's input costs are denominated in US dollars. Challenging macroeconomic conditions in Argentina, which makes up approximately 10% of CCU's sales, also has weighed on the stock.

Gold traded in a fairly tight range for most of the third quarter before a hawkish Fed meeting in mid-September sent the price sharply lower to end the period. This price action was not surprising; despite a range of disruptive events in recent years—including armed conflicts, political surprises, trade tensions and global pandemics—movements in the price of gold have been influenced by the market's perception of Fed policy bias more than anything else. We continue to value gold as a strategic holding and potential hedge against economic and geopolitical uncertainty.

As noted in the Market Overview, duration exposure was a primary driver of fixed income performance during the quarter. Long-dated US maturities sold off sharply while the short end of the curve was stable, dynamics that weighed on the price of abovementioned Treasuries maturing in 2027 and 2033.

The TransCanada Trust notes are junior subordinated notes guaranteed by TransCanada pipelines on a subordinated basis. The company announced two divestments during the quarter, which brought it to its previously announced goal to divest at least $5 billion in assets, and it also is evaluating about $3 billion in capital-rotation opportunities. Despite these credit-supportive developments, the selloff in long-term bonds during the quarter hurt these 2076 notes.

We appreciate your confidence and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

First Eagle Investments

Average Annual Returns as of Sep 30, 2023

				YTD	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception (May 1, 2012)	Expense Ratio*
First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund	Class A	without sales charge	FEBAX	2.70%	14.10%	4.06%	4.54%	5.22%	1.16%
First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund	Class A	with sales charge	FEBAX	-2.44%	8.42%	3.00%	4.00%	4.75%	1.16%
Composite Index**				6.10%	13.16%	4.70%	5.60%	6.14%	
MSCI World Index				11.10%	21.95%	7.26%	8.26%	9.14%	
Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index				-1.21%	0.64%	0.10%	1.13%	1.05%	

The performance data quoted herein represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Market volatility can dramatically impact the Fund's short-term performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than figures shown. The investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance data through the most recent month-end are available at www.firsteagle.com or by calling 800-334-2143.

Investments are not FDIC insured or bank guaranteed and may lose value.

The average annual returns for Class A Shares "with sales charge" of First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund give effect to the deduction of the maximum sales charge of 5.00%.

*The annual expense ratio is based on expenses incurred by The Fund, as stated in the most recent prospectus.

**Composite Index - effective 1-Mar-2016 the Fund is compared against a composite index, 60% of which consists of the MSCI World Index and 40% of which consists of the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index. The Fund believes this composite index provides a useful comparison against the performance of the Fund, which currently invests in both equity and fixed income securities.

Fee waivers were in effect for some of the periods shown. Had fees not been waived and/or expenses reimbursed, returns would have been lower.

Performance assumes reinvestment of all distributions and does not account for taxes.

Diversification does not guarantee investment returns and does not eliminate the risk of loss.

The **federal funds rate** is the interest rate at which depository institutions (banks and credit unions) lend reserve balances to other depository institutions overnight on an uncollateralized basis. **GDPNow** is a running estimate of real GDP growth based on available economic data for the current measured quarter. It is maintained by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta but is not an official forecast of the Atlanta Fed. The **personal consumption expenditures price index (PCE)** measures changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by consumers in the US. Core PCE excludes food and energy. **Supercore inflation** measures the price change of a basket of goods and services less food, energy and housing. **Fitch Ratings** is a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO) registered with the SEC and provides credit rating as an assessment of credit worthiness of an issuer with respect to debt obligations, including specific securities, money market instruments or other bonds. Ratings are measured on a scale that generally ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest); ratings are subject to change without notice. Not Rated (NR) indicates that the debtor was not rated and should not be interpreted as indicating low quality. **Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS)** are a type of US Treasury security whose principal value is indexed to the rate of inflation. The principal of a TIPS increases with inflation and decreases with deflation, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The **yield curve** measures the spread between yields on short- and long-term maturity bonds; an inverted yield curve occurs when longer-dated bond yields are lower than short-dated bond yields. A **credit-default swap**, most commonly, is a derivative contract that transfers the default risk of a particular fixed income security from the swap buyer to the seller in exchange for a fee.

Risk Disclosures

All investments involve the risk of loss of principal.

There are risks associated with investing in securities of foreign countries, such as erratic market conditions, economic and political instability and fluctuations in currency exchange rates. These risks may be more pronounced with respect to investments in emerging markets.

Strategies whose investments are concentrated in a specific industry or sector may be subject to a higher degree of risk than funds whose investments are diversified and may not be suitable for all investors.

Investments in bonds are subject to interest-rate risk and can lose principal value when interest rates rise. Bonds are also subject to credit risk, in which the bond issuer may fail to pay interest and principal in a timely manner, or that negative perception of the issuer's ability to make such payments may cause the price of that bond to decline. Recent market conditions and events, including a global public health crisis and actions taken by governments in response, may exacerbate these risks.

Bank loans are often less liquid than other types of debt instruments. There is no assurance that the liquidation of any collateral from a secured bank loan would satisfy the borrower's obligation, or that such collateral could be liquidated.

The Fund invests in high-yield securities (commonly known as "junk bonds"), which are generally considered speculative because they may be subject to greater levels of interest rates, credit (including issuer default) and liquidity risk than investment-grade securities and may be subject to greater volatility. High-yield securities are rated lower than investment-grade securities because there is a greater possibility that the issuer may be unable to make interest and principal payments on those securities.

Income generation is not guaranteed. If dividend paying stocks in the Fund's portfolio stop paying or reduce dividends, The Fund's ability to generate income will be adversely affected

Indices are unmanaged and do not incur management fees or other operating expenses. One cannot invest directly in an index.

MSCI World Index (Net) measures the performance of large and midcap securities across 23 developed markets countries. The index provides total returns in U.S. dollars with net dividends reinvested. A Net Return Index tracks price changes and reinvestment of distribution income net of withholding taxes. **Russell 1000® Growth Index** (Gross/Total) measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-value ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell 1000 Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the large-cap growth segment. A Total Return Index tracks price changes and reinvestment of distribution income. The **Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index** (Gross/Total) is an unmanaged broad-based benchmark that measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market, including Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, MBS (agency fixed-rate and hybrid ARM passthroughs), ABS, and CMBS and is not available for purchase. A Total Return Index tracks price changes and reinvestment of distribution income. **Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index** measures the performance of global investment grade debt from 24 local currency markets, including treasury, government-related, corporate, and securitized fixed rate bonds from both developed and emerging markets. The **Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Bond Index** (Gross/Total) measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed-rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below and is composed of fixed-rate, publicly issued, non-investment grade debt, is unmanaged, with dividends reinvested, and is not available for purchase. The index includes both corporate and non-corporate sectors. The corporate sectors are Industrial, Utility and Finance, which include both US and non-US corporations. A Total Return Index tracks price changes and reinvestment of distribution income. **S&P 500 Index** (Gross/Total) is a widely recognized unmanaged index including a representative sample of 500 leading companies in leading sectors of the US economy. Although the S&P 500 Index focuses on the large cap segment of the market, with approximately 80% coverage of US equities, it is also considered a proxy for the total market. The S&P 500 Index includes dividends reinvested. A Total Return Index tracks price changes and reinvestment of distribution income. **CBOE Volatility Index (VIX)** measures the 30-day expected volatility of the US stock market. It is based on the prices of options on the S&P 500 Index and is calculated by aggregated weighted prices of the index's call and put options over a wide range of strike prices. **ICE BofA MOVE Index** measures US interest rate volatility. It is a yield curve weighted index of the normalized implied volatility on 1-month Treasury options. **Nikkei 225** is an unmanaged price-weighted equity index, which consists of 225 stocks in the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. German **DAX® Index** is unmanaged and tracks the segment of the largest and most important companies—known as blue chips—on the German equities market. It contains the shares of the 30 largest and most liquid companies admitted to the FWB® Frankfurt Stock Exchange in the Prime Standard segment. The DAX represents about 80% of the aggregated prime standard's market cap. The French **CAC 40** is an unmanaged market index designed to reflect the evolution of the Euronext Paris market. It is made up of the 40 highest ranking shares listed on the Paris market, according to criteria based on free float market capitalization and trading volume. The index is reviewed and adjusted every quarter in order to take into account changes concerning the size and the volume of the constituent companies.

The holdings mentioned herein represent the following total assets of the First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund as of 30-Sep-2023: Exxon Mobil Corporation 2.88%; Imperial Oil Limited 0.88%; Enterprise Products Partners L.P. 1.96%; SEG Holding LLC 5.625%, due 10/15/2028 0.33%; Pilgrim's Pride Corporation 5.875%, due 9/30/2027 0.37%; Government of the United States of America 2.625%, due 12/31/2023 1.53%; Compagnie Financière Richemont SA 1.04%; Compañía Cervecerías Unidas S.A. Sponsored ADR 0.92%; gold bullion 6.14%; Government of the United States of America 6.125%, due 11/5/2027 1.37%; Transcanada Trust 5.875%, due 8/15/2076 0.50%; Government of the United States of America 3.375%, due 5/15/2033 0.66%.

This commentary represents the opinion of the First Eagle Global Income Builder Fund portfolio managers as of the date noted and is subject to change based on market and other conditions. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the entire firm. These materials are provided for informational purposes only. These opinions are not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results, or investment advice. Any statistics contained herein have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but the accuracy of this information cannot be guaranteed.

The Fund's portfolio is actively managed and holdings can change at any time. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the firm. These materials are provided for informational purposes only. These opinions are not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results, or investment advice. Any statistics contained herein have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but the accuracy of this information cannot be guaranteed. The views expressed herein may change at any time subsequent to the date of issue hereof. The information provided is not to be construed as a recommendation to buy, hold or sell or the solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any fund or security.

Third-party marks are the property of their respective owners.

FEF Distributors, LLC ("FEFD") (SIPC), a limited purpose broker-dealer, distributes certain First Eagle products. FEFD does not provide services to any investor, but rather provides services to its First Eagle affiliates. As such, when FEFD presents a fund, strategy or other product to a prospective investor, FEFD and its representatives do not determine whether an investment in the fund, strategy or other product is in the best interests of, or is otherwise beneficial or suitable for, the investor. No statement by FEFD should be construed as a recommendation. Investors should exercise their own judgment and/or consult with a financial professional to determine whether it is advisable for the investor to invest in any First Eagle fund, strategy or product. (0046-FEFD)

Investors should consider investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus and summary prospectus contain this and other information about the Funds and may be viewed at www.firsteagle.com or by calling us at 800-747-2008. Please read our prospectus carefully before investing. Investments are not FDIC insured or bank guaranteed and may lose value.

First Eagle Funds are offered by **FEF Distributors, LLC**, a subsidiary of First Eagle Investment Management, LLC, which provides advisory services.

F-CM-GIB-QTCOMM-D-US

© 2023 First Eagle Investment Management, LLC