

UBB ExpertEase Defensive Balanced (EUR)

UBB ExpertEase Defensive Balanced (EUR) is a global mixed "balanced" investment sub-fund of the umbrella mutual fund UBB ExpertEase, which is a feeder collective investment scheme within the meaning of Article 67 of the Law on the Activity of Collective Investment Schemes and Other Collective Investment Enterprises (LACISOCIE). The investment objective of the sub-fund is to invest at least 85% of its assets in the main sub-fund and up to 15% of its assets in cash and derivatives. The main sub-fund **Horizon ExpertEase Defensive Balanced** follow a multi-signal strategy which investment objective is to generate the highest possible return for its shareholders in accordance with its investment policy. The main sub-fund Horizon KBC ExpertEase Defensive Balanced follows multi-signal strategy in which the target allocation is **30% equities and 70% bonds**.

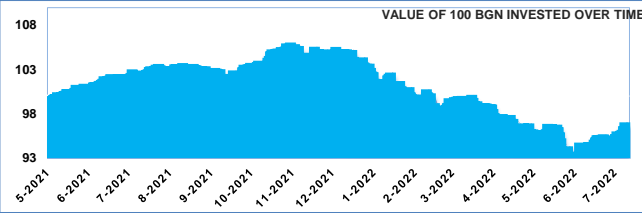


FUND INFORMATION	as of 31 07 2022 r.
Launch date	05 March 2021
Last confirmed NAV	34 285 334.52
Last confirmed NAV per unit	9.7033
Lowest - Highest NAV per unit for the last year	9.9997-10.6056
Standard deviation for the last year	-

RETURN	
Year to date /not annualized/	-7.68%
For the last 12 months /not annualized/	-
For the last 3 years /annualized/	-
Since inception /annualized/	-

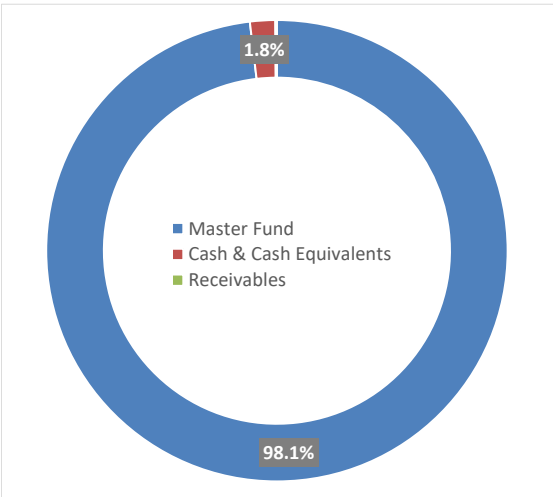
PORTFOLIO	TYPE
HORIZON KBC EXPERTEASE DEFENSIVE BALANCED EUR	SHARES
CASH	ASSETS
RECEIVABLES	ASSETS

3 Product rating
 100 Minimum investment
 EUR Currency



ANNUAL RETURNS

As the sub-fund was established in 2021, there is insufficient data to give investors a useful indication of past performance.



MASTER FUND	Horizon KBC ExpertEase Defensive Balanced Institutional F share BG class in EUR
MASTER FUND CURRENCY	EUR
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF THE MASTER FUND	BELGIUM
STRATEGY OF THE MASTER FUND	MULTI-SIGNAL
TARGET WEIGHT OF THE MASTER FUND	
EQUITIES	30.00%
BONDS	70.00%

COMMENT

Following an ugly first half of the year, equities recovered strongly during July despite economic data continuing to deteriorate. US GDP declined for a second consecutive quarter, covering the technical definition of a recession. In reaction to rising recessionary fears, the US yield curve inverted in July between 2- and 10-year yields, as yields on US 10-year Treasuries fell. However, stock markets were buoyed in July by optimism that inflation had reached a peak and that recessionary pressures would cause central banks to back off from future rate hikes. This mood propped share prices even in the face of a second consecutive big 75-basis-point increase by the US Federal Reserve and aggressive comments from other major central banks. With about half of corporations reporting, earnings surprised to the upside; a majority exceeded estimates, although at a lower percentage than in the past few quarters. This might indicate that earnings growth continues to slow. Recessionary fears weighed on oil prices, which retreated close to pre-Ukraine invasion levels.

Consumer spending shifted away considerably from many discretionary items, as gas and food costs escalated. Yet, travel and restaurant sales picked up, supported by strong consumer spending. It was a month in which risky assets gained (stocks), because markets increasingly priced in interest rate cuts from the Federal Reserve (Fed) in 2023, as more data showed growth weakening.

This anticipation of a policy shift supported risky assets, and higher beta stocks outperformed for the month. Sector-wise, Information technology and consumer discretionary stocks both rose more than 10%. While every sector finished in positive territory, defensive areas—communication services, consumer staples, and health care—lagged. Heavy with growth stocks, S&P 500 was the best performing equity index among the developed markets, delivering 9.1% return in July.

In Europe, fears that Russia might shut off supplies to Europe spiked European gas prices. In Germany was announced that German retail sales fell at their largest annual rate in nearly 30 years. High inflation forced the European Central Bank (ECB) to deliver its first interest rate hike in over a decade, taking the Eurozone out of negative rates. The increase was by 50 basis points, from -0.5% to zero.

China was the only major country with significantly negative returns. Factory activity in China contracted severely, as Covid lock-downs continued, and problems with payments on unfinished properties troubled the real estate market. Other emerging markets posted gains, but these were softened by the continued strength of the US dollar.

The Bulgarian market again showed its diversification advantages, as its performance diverged from that of the global developed markets. All Bulgarian stock indices, bar the real-estate based BG REIT, ended the month in red territory, while developed counterparts scored solid gains. Among companies, the best performer for the month was the exchange-traded VC fund Eleven Capital AD, which added more than 15% to its share price, and the worst was the holding Petrol AD, which sank by almost 36%.

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