

TPT International Share Fund

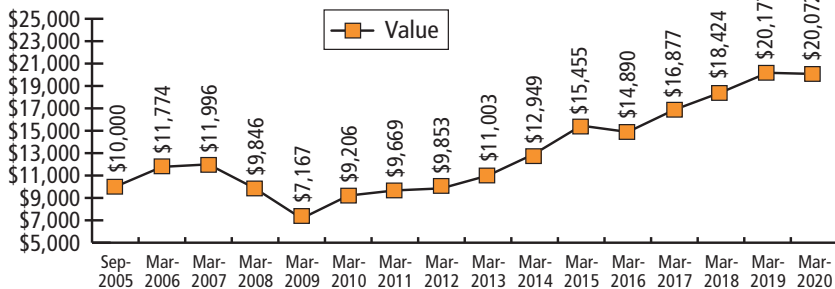
Performance

The TPT International Share Fund provided investors with a total return of -11.14% for the three months ended 31 March 2020.

Rate of return for the period	Performance (Net of Fees)	Benchmark (Composite Index)
3 Months	-11.14%	-11.67%
6 Months	-7.35%	-7.37%
1 Year	-0.52%	0.31%
3 Years	5.95% p.a.	6.30% p.a.
5 Years	5.37% p.a.	6.35% p.a.

Note: Returns of less than 12 months are not annualised. Returns assume reinvestment of income and realised capital gains. Performance is after fees and charges. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

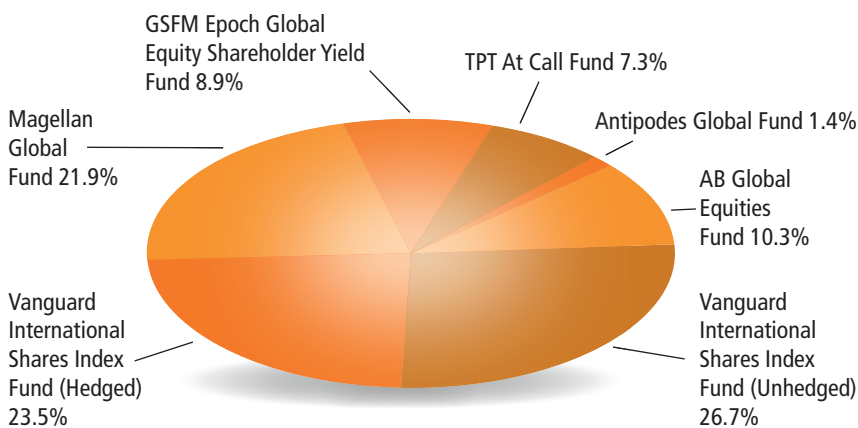
The value of \$10,000 invested from inception to 31 March 2020 would have been:



Fund Investment Strategy

The Fund invests in the Magellan Global Fund; the Antipodes Global Fund; the AB Global Equities Fund; the Vanguard International Shares Fund (Unhedged); the Vanguard International Shares Index Fund (Hedged); the GSFM Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Fund; and the TPT At Call Fund.

As at 31 March 2020 the asset allocation of the TPT International Share Fund was:



Market Commentary

Global shares (as measured by the MSCI World Index excluding Australia, in AUD terms) retraced 9.0% over Q12020, as COVID-19 virus wreaked havoc in capital markets, globally. Deepened concerns about the spread of the virus (beyond China) and the impact extensive containment measures will have on economic activity around the world saw broad-based selling of risk assets. US 10 year treasury yields dropped to new record lows, down 1.25% to 0.67%. Oil prices slumped to \$22/barrel. Central banks and governments thankfully steadied the ship near period close, with the introduction of significant liquidity measures and massive stimulus programs, aimed at containing the global economic impact.

In a relative sense, developed Asian markets outperformed other regions, with the Shanghai Composite -11.3% (in USD terms), Hang Seng Index (-15.9%) and Nikkei (-18.4%). European shares were hit particularly hard, where the COVID-19 outbreak has been severe, with the UK Footsie off 28.8%, German DAX -27.1% and STOXX600 Index down 24.8%. US equities (S&P500) fell 19.6% as the coronavirus spread rapidly. Emerging markets underperformed developed markets. All eleven industry sectors posted losses in the March quarter (USD terms). Worst hit were Energy (-45.4%), Financials (-32.3%) and Materials (-27.0%). IT, Consumer Staples, Utilities and Telecoms fared best.

On a factors basis, Momentum, Growth and Quality stocks outperformed. Value and High Yield stocks performed poorly. Despite the challenging quarter, global equities total return (in AUD terms) remain positive (+4.4%) over the past 12-months.

The 2020 calendar year started promisingly, supported by the signing of a 'phase one' US-China trade agreement and a healthy US corporate profit season. By mid-February however it became evident that COVID-19 virus was not just an issue confined to China, spreading rapidly to South Korea, Iran, Italy and then France, Germany, Spain, the US and Australia, and governments were forced to implement extraordinary measures to contain the disease. Social distancing, travel restrictions, isolation, non-essential businesses and school shutdowns, raised concerns that economic activity would be grounded to a halt.

Selling intensified in mid-March when the COVID-19 virus was declared a global pandemic and oil prices plummeted, after OPEC and Russia failed to agree on production cuts in response to slumping oil demand on the back of the virus.

To counteract the economic impact of COVID-19, central banks eased monetary policy aggressively, including the RBA, which made two cuts in March, easing monetary policy by 50 bps to 0.25% and for the first time ever announced the commencement of QE, targeting the 3-year bond yield at 0.25%. The US Federal Reserve slashed rates by 150 bps to a range of 0-0.25% and stated it would restart (open-ended) quantitative easing (QE) and be the 'lender of last resort'. The ECB gave itself unlimited room to buy debt securities. The Bank of England cut rates to 0.10% and it and the Bank of Japan also launched (and expanded) QE programs. China stimulus efforts were also increased.

Supporting these significant central bank actions, global governments dramatically ramped up fiscal policy stimulus, committing to 'doing whatever it takes' to control the virus, limit the economic impact and ensure a decent recovery, once the crisis is over. President Trump and Congress signed off on a \$US2T package (9% of GDP) and are now believed to be moving towards a large infrastructure package. The Australian Federal Government came to the party and (to date has) announced three stimulus packages, totalling \$193B, almost 10% of GDP.

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The key measure being the JobKeeper Payment (\$130B), which will play a huge part in keeping more workers employed in Australia and help to flatten the peak in the unemployment rate (to ~ 10%). The UK, NZ, Netherlands, Denmark and South Korea also established wage subsidies to minimise rises in unemployment caused by the economic downturn.

Economically the key of course, will be when the health crisis reaches a point where it is appropriate for shutdowns to be relaxed. Given economic activity will probably take a while to be restored, it seems most probable that global interest rates will remain near record lows for the next 1-3 years. Major factors to watch for in the short term are signs that the number of new COVID-19 virus cases have peaked and/or indicators that a vaccine or anti-viral can soon bring it under control.

At period close, global shares (using the MSCI World ex Australia index) were trading on a prospective PE of 15.6 (compared with their LT-average of 15.1 times) and a dividend yield of 2.6%. According to current equity risk premium and bond earnings yield measures, shares look attractive relative to bonds, though more corporate profit downgrades are anticipated in coming months.

Fund Commentary

The TPT International Share Fund retraced -10.7% in gross terms (-11.1% after fees) in the March quarter, while recording a gain of +1.2% (-0.5% after fees) over the year. This compares with the Fund's composite benchmark (BM) which declined -11.7% over the quarter and rose 0.3% over the past 12-months.

The Fund's asset allocation contributed positively to fund returns in the quarter, as did manager selection. We increased our Cash holdings to 7.3% in March to protect capital. On a 'look through' basis, that is, including the cash exposures of our underlying managers, the fund's overall cash position was closer to 11.0% at period close.

The **Magellan Global Fund** retraced just -1.2% in the quarter, thereby effectively protecting capital and delivering +8.2% in excess returns relative to its underlying BM. Over 12-months the manager recorded a total return of +14.8% (excess return of +10.8%). Holdings in Microsoft and Tencent rose during the period, as investors viewed them as beneficiaries of the world's switch to online and digital services. The manager increased its Cash allocation in the period (now sits at 17%).

New manager **AB Global** returned -9.2% in the quarter (implying an excess return of +0.5%, relative to its underlying BM). The highly experienced and stable investment team, employ a 'core' investment style approach, with factor exposures cleverly balanced, so the portfolio can be suitable for all seasons. The largest contributors to its return in the quarter, were ecommerce stock Naspers, Japanese security company SECOM, Singapore Exchange and Microsoft. Detractors included Marathon Petroleum and its hotel exposures.

The **Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Fund** underperformed the broader market, declining 13.8% in the period. Historically the manager has offered strong downside protection when markets sell-off, but defensive stocks did not hold up as strongly as in the past and dividend paying companies were not favoured by investors. Underweight exposure to IT, stock selection in Real Estate and an overweighting to Energy hurt relative returns. The largest individual contributors to performance included Roche and Microsoft. Simon Property Group, Unibail-Rodamco (challenging retail environment) and Royal Dutch Shell (weakened balance sheet) were divested in the period.

Looking ahead, we are clearly still in the early stages of what is a fluid and dynamic situation. Suffice to say our underlying managers have taken strategic steps to improve the defensiveness of their portfolios, stress tested their assumptions and heavily focused their fundamental research on the balance sheets and debt covenants of companies. As always their priority is to own quality businesses that are sustainable over the long term and amid the volatility new opportunities have and will be found. Overall, the TPT International Share Fund with its diverse mix of quality investment managers is considered to be well positioned to meet the opportunities and challenges that lay ahead.

If our service to you as an investor does not meet your expectations, we want to know. You can call our Client Relations team on 1300 138 044 (9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday) or email us at investments@tptwealth.com.au. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you may raise the matter directly with the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA), GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001 (Tel 1800 931 678). ASIC also has a free call info line on 1300 300 630.

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