



KKR CREDIT INCOME FUND (ASX: KKC)

The KKR Credit Income Fund aims to provide Australian and New Zealand investors with attractive, risk-adjusted returns and access to a diversified portfolio of income generating alternative credit investments

KKC Investment Update: Video Interviews with Portfolio Manager

2 December 2022

Dear KKC Investor,

Recently Jeremiah Lane, a partner and portfolio manager within the KKR Credit team spoke twice with Ally Selby from Livewire Markets.

In the first interview, Jeremiah talks to why select "zombie companies" or CCC-rated businesses can provide opportunities for credit investors.

Watch the video [here](#), or read the summary below.



Despite a highly challenging market characterised by rising interest rates, worsening consumer sentiment and inflationary pressures, the KKR team continues to find opportunities in the market.

Jeremiah says investors fear CCC-rated businesses because they believe they could lead to a flood of defaults, and in the current weaker macro, downgrades and defaults are increasing.

Opportunity for KKR:

Jeremiah explains that when a credit gets rated CCC, the buyer base collapses, as many investors are restricted from this part of the market. Therefore this space consistently provides opportunities.

In saying that, KKR doesn't believe in buying a broad cross-section of CCC investments, a targeted investment strategy is needed. KKR brings to bear the diligence capability of KKR to build a high conviction in a small number of investments.

Currently KKR is looking at attractive propositions that were disrupted early, for example those that import goods from Asia and were impacted by increased shipping costs, and companies that suffered with labour shortages. If KKR picks correctly, they can

buy something really cheap that was mistaken for a "zombie" due to short-term fundamental challenges facing the business.



Jeremiah's second interview delved into areas of opportunity in the current market, what a recession could mean for credit markets, and named the asset class he believes will outperform in FY23.

You can watch the whole interview [here](#) and read the summary below.

Opportunities facing KKC:

1. Short-duration loans and bonds

These are loans and bonds that mature in 2024 or 2025, KKC likes the short-duration options because they have less exposure to moves in rates.

2. Primary issuance

KKR is seeing primary issuance price at least 100 basis points wide to comparable existing risk. One of KKR's strategies in this space is rotating out of a piece of risk into a newly issued loan or bond and typically picking up 100 basis points of total return.

3. Convertibles

In early 2021 the convertibles market was very strong, fast-forward 18 months and most of those equity prices have collapsed. Often these businesses don't want to pay off at maturity, they want to refinance, and they come to the market and they offer to re-equitize the convertible bond. In exchange, investors give them a slightly longer maturity.

KKC has seen that when they offer those types of deals, the price of the convertible jumps. It's an interesting opportunity where KKC can get an acceptable return, high single digit, and have some optionality around getting a much higher return driven by the ultimate event playing out sooner than expected.

What would a recession mean for the credit markets?

Jeremiah says that a real recession would mean a higher period of defaults, more downgrades from investment grade to high yield; more downgrades from B to CCC. However, KKR has looked at the market and said "a lot is already priced in." KKC is already at attractive levels from a spread standpoint, from a yield standpoint, and from a price standpoint.

Which part of the fixed income market do you think will outperform in FY23?

Jeremiah says that if the Federal Reserve raises rates dramatically higher than expected that will be good for bank loans. This is because investors will get an upside participation through a higher base rate, whereas high yield would trade really poorly. The ability of KKC to pivot between high yield and bank loans means the portfolio is well positioned to benefit from higher interest rates.

KEY BENEFITS AND RISKS

BENEFITS

The key benefits of investing in the Fund include:

- **Attractive Target Distribution**
- **Attractive Target Return**
- **Diversified exposure**
- **Alignment of interests with Unitholders**

- **KKR product access**
- **Highly experienced KKR Credit team**

RISKS

Key risks include:

- **Allocation risk** in relation to the Investment Strategy
- **Illiquid and long term investments** in relation to the Investment Strategy
- **Potential conflicts of interests of the Responsible Entity and the Manager and its affiliates**
- Entities within the “**Perpetual Group**” may also act in various capacities for other funds or accounts, which may conflict with the role the Responsible Entity plays with respect to the Trust.
- **Market and economic risks** in relation to an investment in the Trust
- **Currency risk** in relation to an investment in the Trust
- **Pricing risk** in relation to an investment in the Trust
- **Liquidity risk** relating to Units in the Trust in relation to an investment in the Trust
- **Operational risk** in relation to an investment in the Trust
- **High yield investments risk** in relation to debt investments
- **Credit risk** in relation to debt investments
- **Interest rate risk** in relation to debt investments
- **Bankruptcy risk** in relation to debt investments

If you are uncertain as to whether an investment in the Trust is suitable for you, please contact your stockbroker, financial adviser, accountant, lawyer or other professional adviser.

About KKR

46

years of
experience

US\$496

billion total assets
under management¹

US\$186

billion credit assets
under management

~740

KKR Investment
Professionals

US\$25

billion invested
alongside our clients²

(1) Figures as of 30 September, 2022. Represents assets managed by KKR or its strategic partners (on a proportionate basis) as to which KKR is entitled to receive a fee or carried interest (either currently or upon deployment of capital) and proprietary general partner capital. (2) Includes investments/commitments made by KKR's balance sheet, KKR employees

and other affiliates. Investments made by current and former KKR employees are retained by those individuals personally. Includes unfunded commitments made by individuals.



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General

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