

IMAP Webinar Series

**Global Interest Rates and the  
implications for Fixed Interest  
Investing –  
Income alternatives outside  
mainstream bonds**

Adam Roberts, Australian Ethical Investments

Frank Danieli, MA Financial

Moderated by

Robert Moore, JANA Investment Advisers

# Upcoming events

## **Advice in Action Conference 2026**

28<sup>th</sup> July – Sydney

## **Alternatives Week**

15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> September – Sydney

## **Independent Thought Conference**

27<sup>th</sup> October – Sydney

## **MDA Providers Symposium**

19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November – Sydney

SUBMISSIONS DUE BY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY

# IMAP MANAGED ACCOUNT AWARDS 2026

Australian Ethical  
**AE**  
RESPONSIBLE INVESTING AWARD SPONSOR

S&P Dow Jones Indices  
A Division of S&P Global  
MULTI ASSET AWARD SPONSOR

**Centric**<sup>©</sup>  
LICENSEE AWARD SPONSOR

**suitability**<sup>HUB</sup>  
TECHNOLOGY PARTNER

# How to ask a Question



Chat



Raise Hand



Q&A





**Robert Moore**  
**JANA Investment Advisers**

# Frank Danieli

## MA Financial

# What do you mean *private credit*?

Thematic observations

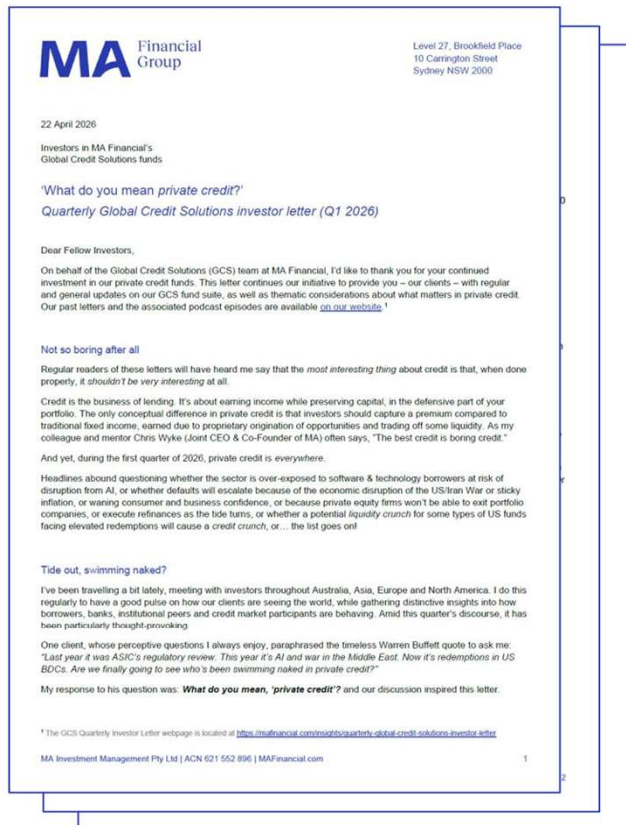
May 2026

**MA** Financial  
Group

We invest. We lend. We advise.

# What do you mean *private credit*?<sup>1</sup>

MA

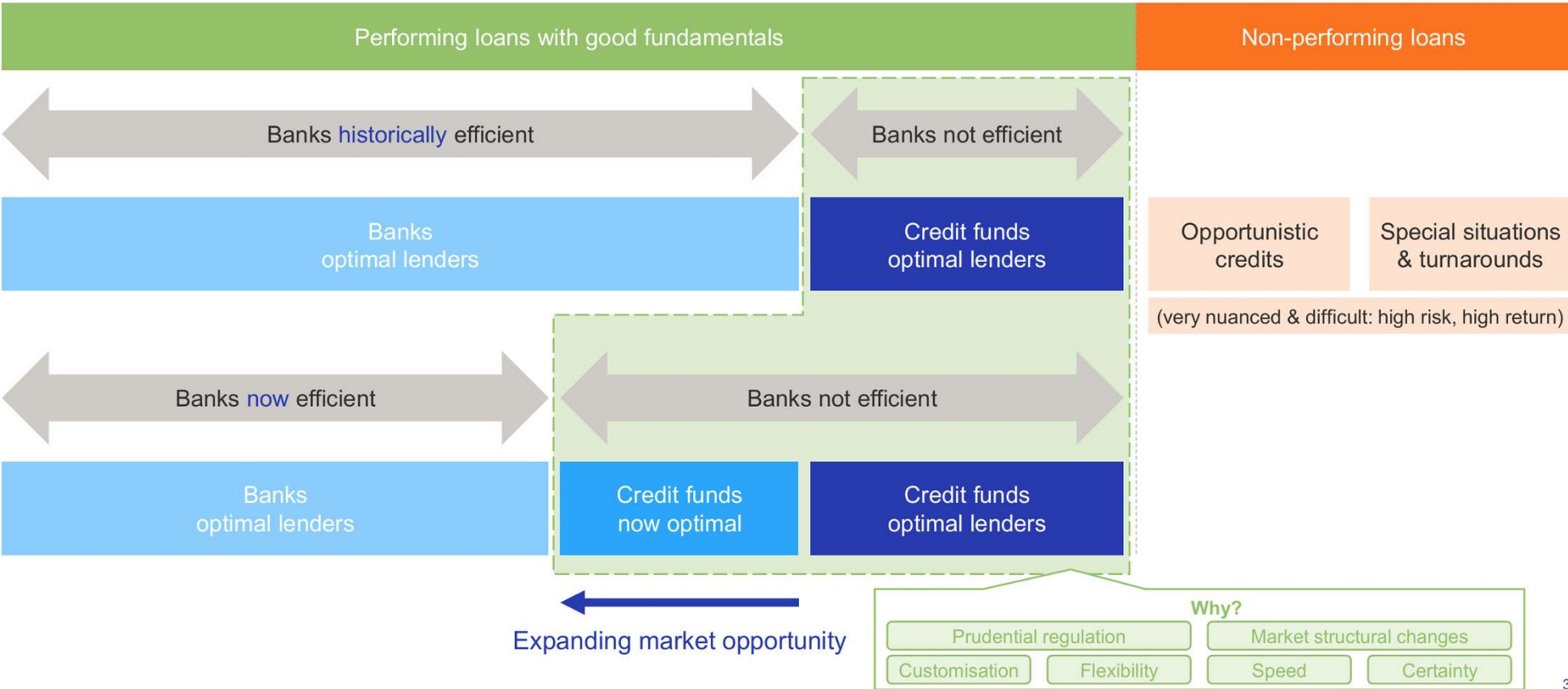


## Theme of our Q1 2026 Investor Letter

1. Our Q1 2026 investor letter is available at <https://mafinancial.com/insights/quarterly-global-credit-solutions-investor-letter>.

# The best of Private Credit

Finding lending opportunities where banks are not (or are no longer) the efficient lender



# What do you mean *private credit*?<sup>1</sup>



“Show me the incentives, I’ll show you the outcome”<sup>2</sup>

“If you are a monoline manager doing only sponsor-backed direct lending, what happens when the risk adjusted returns in that sector deteriorate due to natural market cycles?”

There is not much incentive for a fund manager to call clients and return their capital. [...]

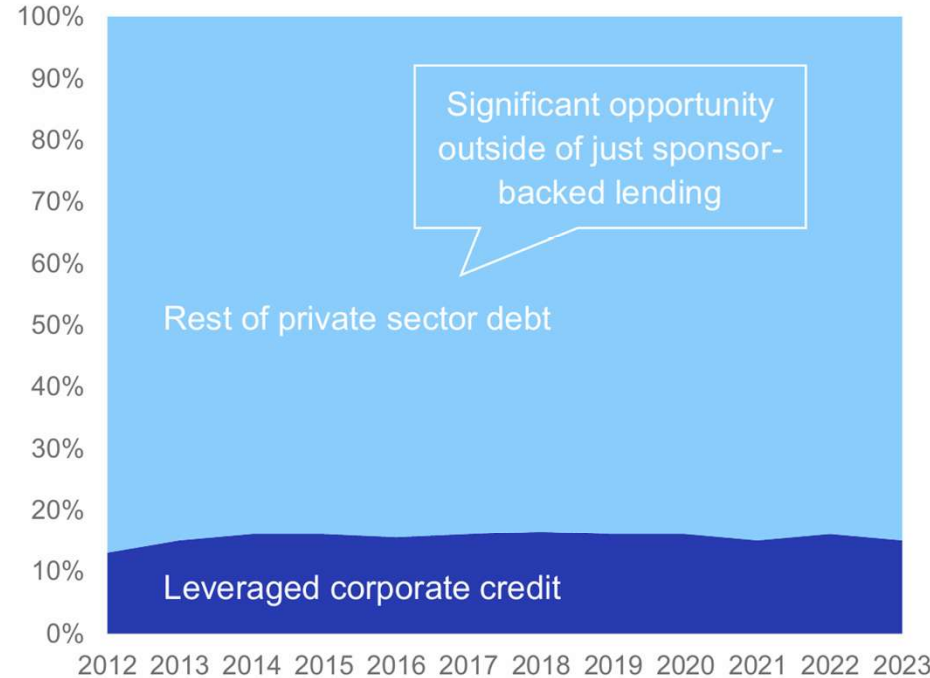
Fishing in a small pond, the natural response is to compete harder to win deals.”

1. Theme of our Q1 2026 investor letter, available at <https://mafinancial.com/insights/quarterly-global-credit-solutions-investor-letter>.  
2. Quote of Charlie Munger.

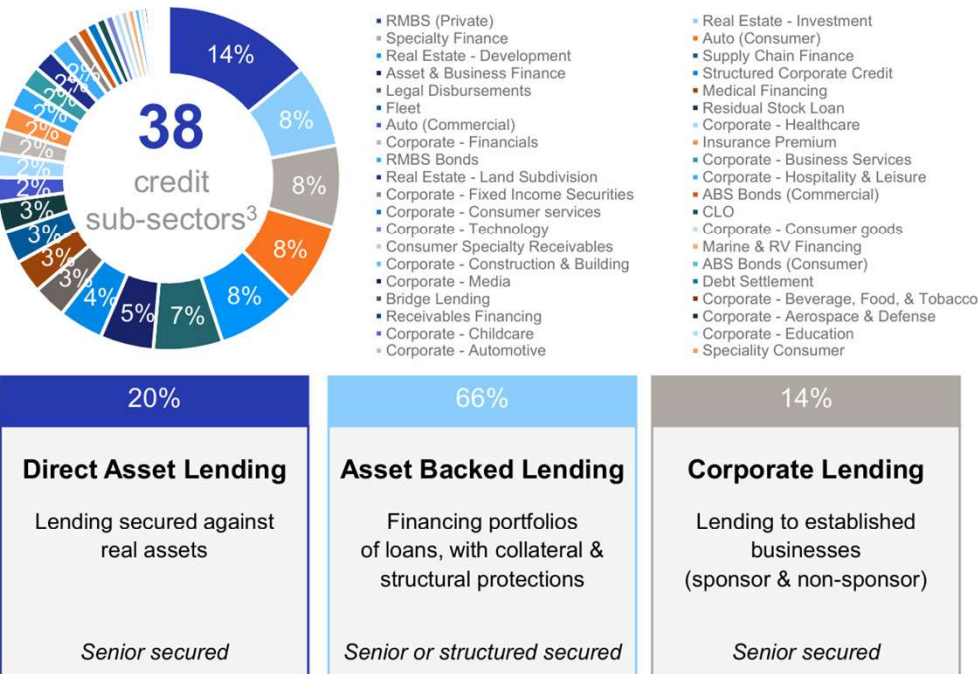
# Private credit is much more than sponsor-backed lending

Broad based strategies where managers can adjust allocation to different sectors depending on risk adjusted return dynamics is critical to delivering consistent income with capital preservation through the cycle

Private sector debt composition<sup>1</sup>



Australian private credit spectrum (illustrative)<sup>2</sup>



1. Source: MA estimates. FS Investments, Federal Reserve, Bloomberg.  
 2. Illustrated using MA Credit Income Trust (ASX:MA1) as at 31 March 2026.  
 3. The Underlying Credit Investments in the Underlying Portfolio span 38 different sub-sectors.

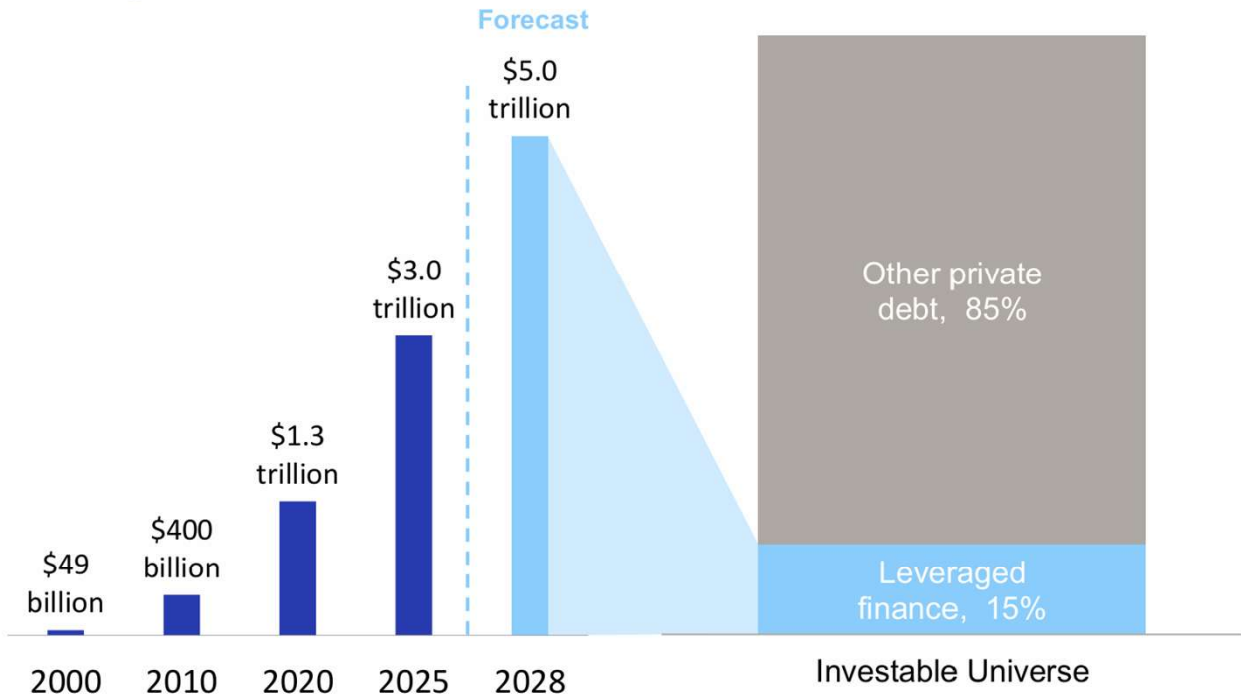
# Investable universe matters

Having a diverse opportunity set is important to deliver resilient income, capital preservation and consistent returns from credit

Growing AUM<sup>1</sup>...

... narrow sector focus<sup>2</sup>...

... trade-offs happen!



**Private Debt Investor Pricing**  
**Premium 'still there' as spreads decline**  
*The private debt market does not want spreads of less than 500bps to become standard, delegates at the PDI DACH Forum in Munich heard.*  
Andy Thomson - 14 October 2025

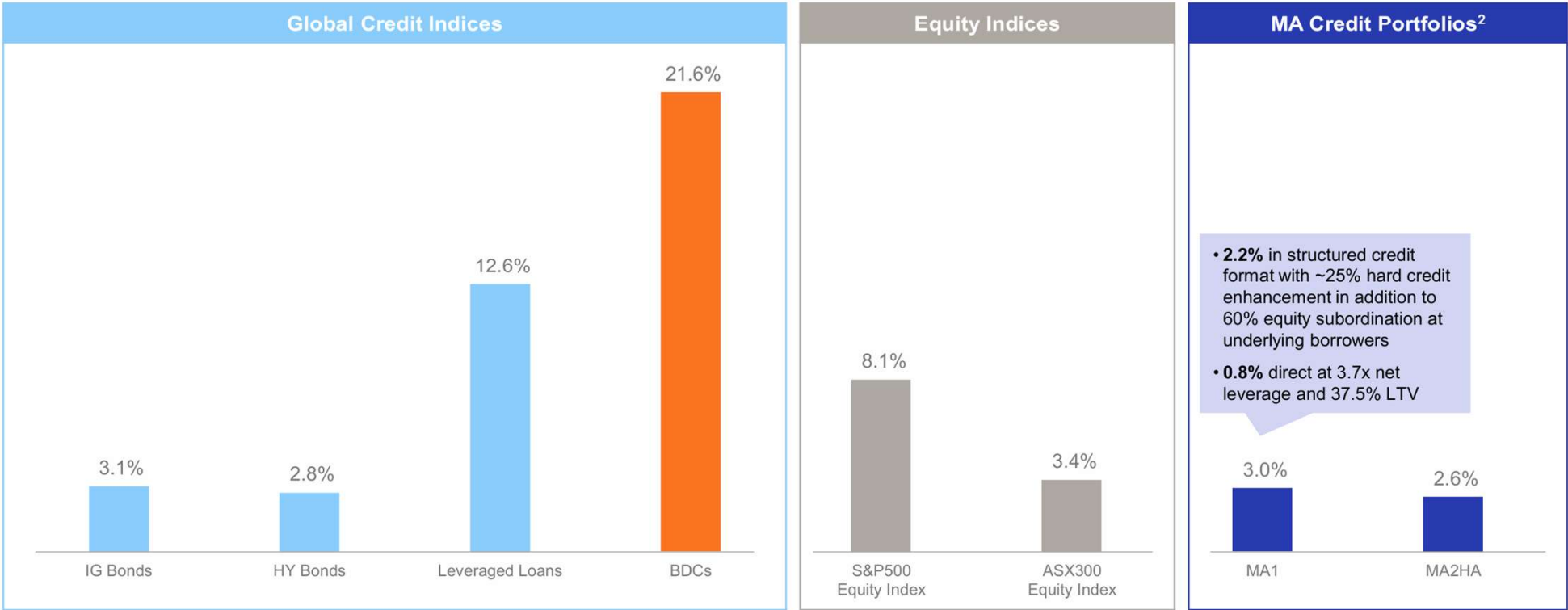
**Bloomberg Terms**  
**Private Credit Drops Safeguard to Win Deals on Wall Street Terms**  
! 85% Cov-Lite  
By Francesca Veronesi and Kat Hidalgo  
 January 15, 2026 at 6:15 AM EST

**Structural Protections**  
**Liability Management Exercises (LMEs): The "quiet default" that is reshaping credit markets**  
! LMEs!  
By Austin Haymes | October 21, 2025

1. MA Financial analysis. Preqin, Jan 2026. Pitchbook, May 2025. Morgan Stanley, October 2025.  
 2. MA Financial estimates & analysis. FS Investments, Federal Reserve, Bloomberg.

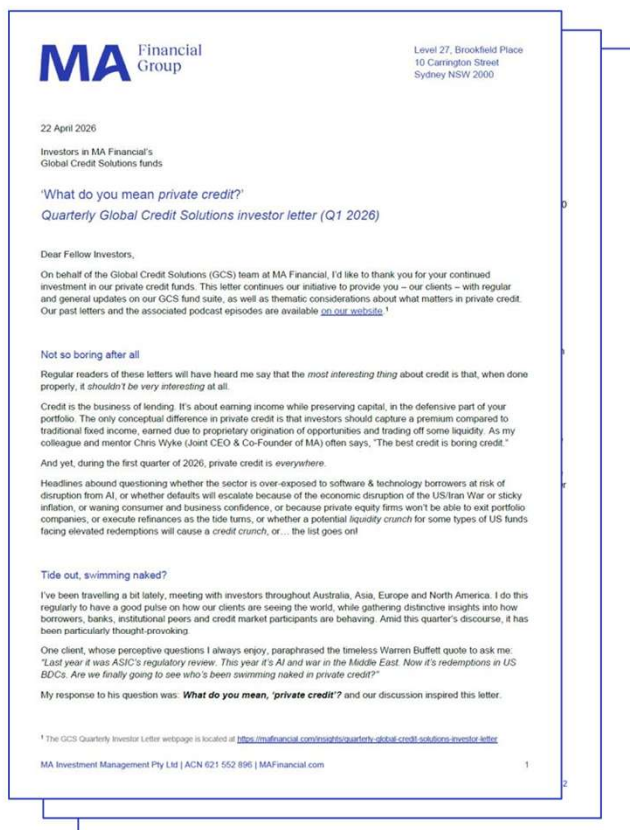
# Case in point: Software and Technology borrower exposure

Software and Technology exposure by asset class (% of index or portfolio)<sup>1</sup>



1. Source: For Global Indices: Barclays – FICC Research, US Credit Alpha, 6 February 2026. For Aus Index: S&P, ASX300 Fact Sheet, 30 January 2026.  
 2. MA Credit Portfolios based on MA Credit Income Trust and MA Credit Portfolio Trust as at 31 March 2026.

# What do you mean *private credit*?<sup>1</sup>



“Private credit is a broad church. It is any lending that occurs outside a bank balance sheet or the public bond markets.

It is a spectrum – from investment grade alternatives to sub-investment grade alternatives, each providing a fixed-income replacement product for clients (with the trade-off of different liquidity profiles); to opportunistic and higher risk strategies, which seek to deliver equity-like returns through debt.

It's the open sea, not a single fishing spot.

1. Theme of our Q1 2026 investor letter, available at <https://mafinancial.com/insights/quarterly-global-credit-solutions-investor-letter>

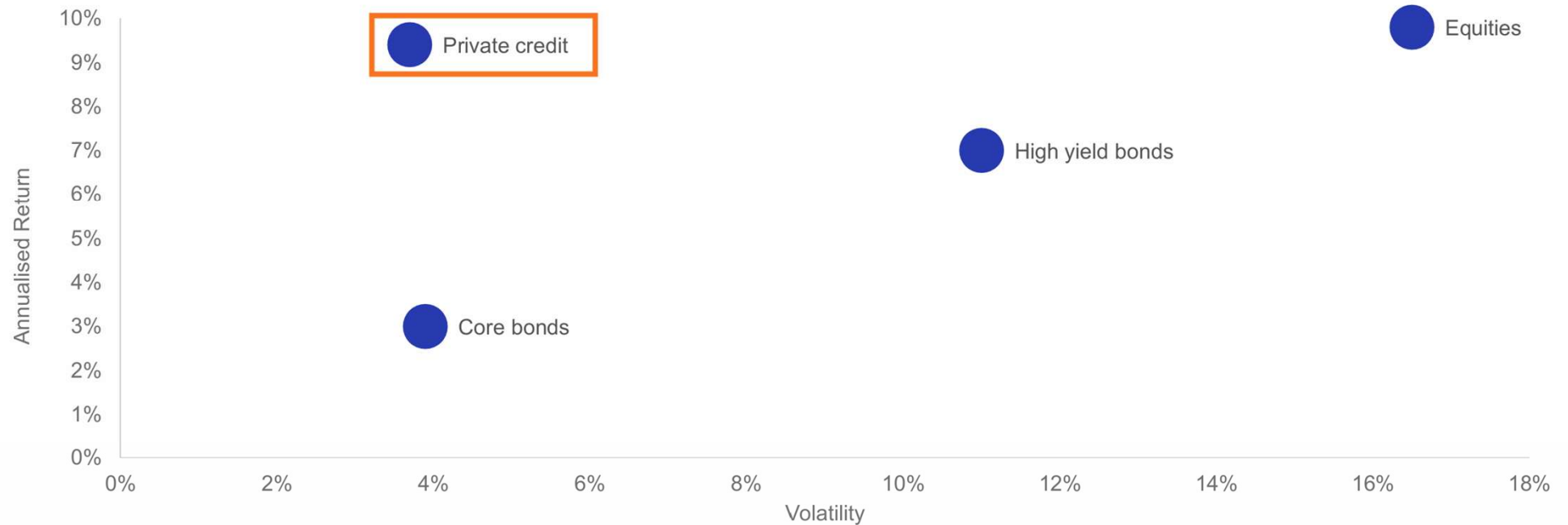
2. Quote of Charlie Munger.

# Ranking return & volatility doesn't tell the full picture



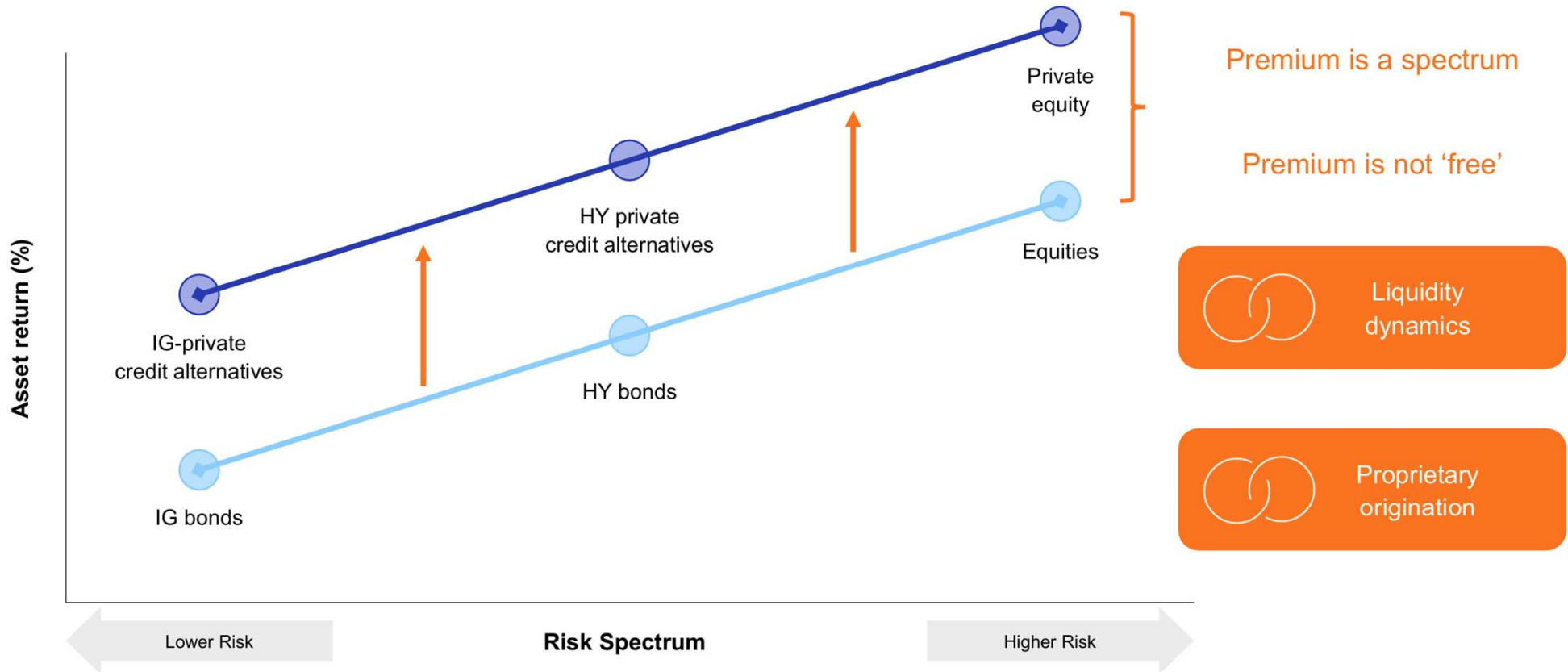
There is a spectrum of options within private asset classes

Risk-adjusted return (2004-2023)



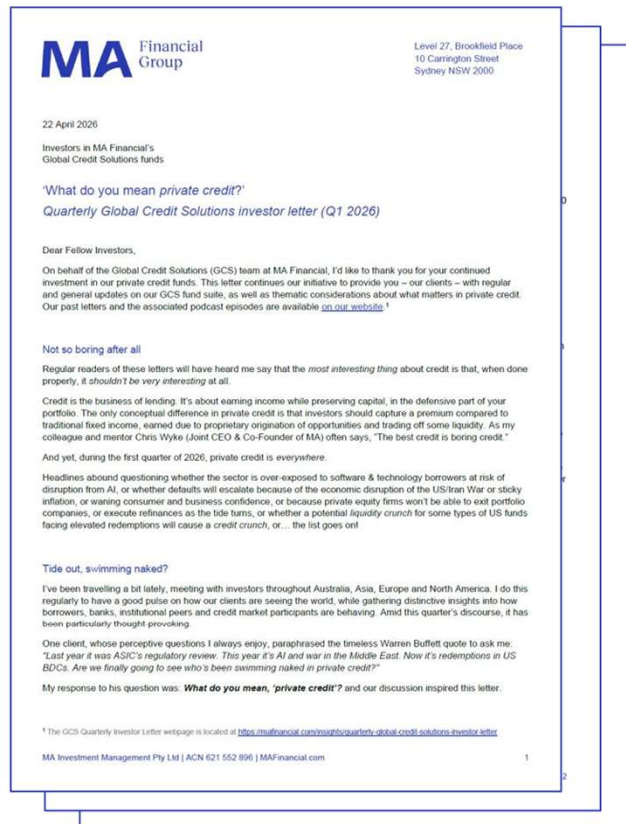
# Risk and return curves exist in public & private assets

In private alternatives, the curve should be shifted up to capture the liquidity and proprietary deal premiums



# What do you mean *private credit*?<sup>1</sup>

MA



"The problem is that most investors don't know which part of the sea their manager is fishing in – or with what equipment.

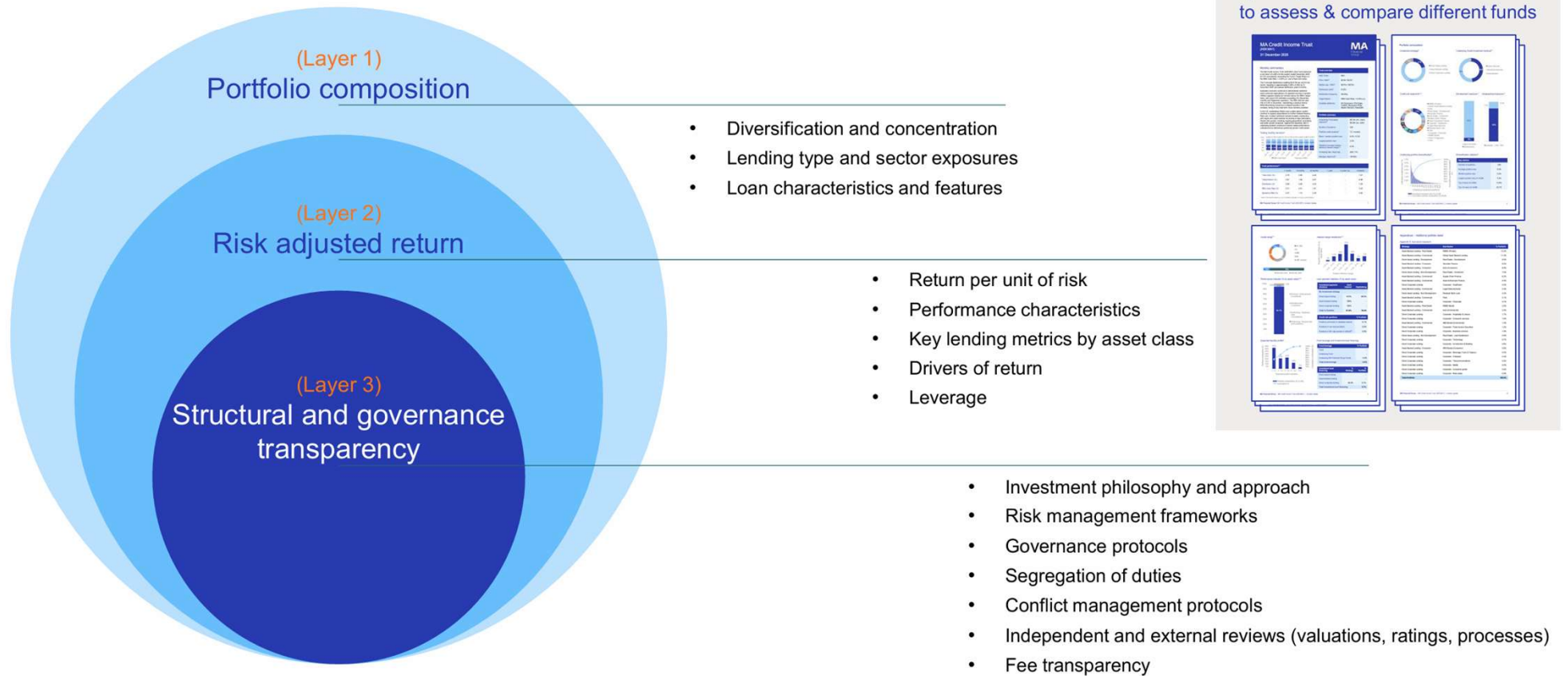
Two funds can both call themselves 'private credit,' target similar headline returns, and have almost nothing else in common."

1. Theme of our Q1 2026 investor letter, available at <https://mafinancial.com/insights/quarterly-global-credit-solutions-investor-letter>.
2. Quote of Charlie Munger.

# Three layers of transparency



Understanding “what’s under the hood” matters in making a private markets allocation



# Structural and governance transparency



Commitment to robust governance and transparency in our process, not just our portfolios

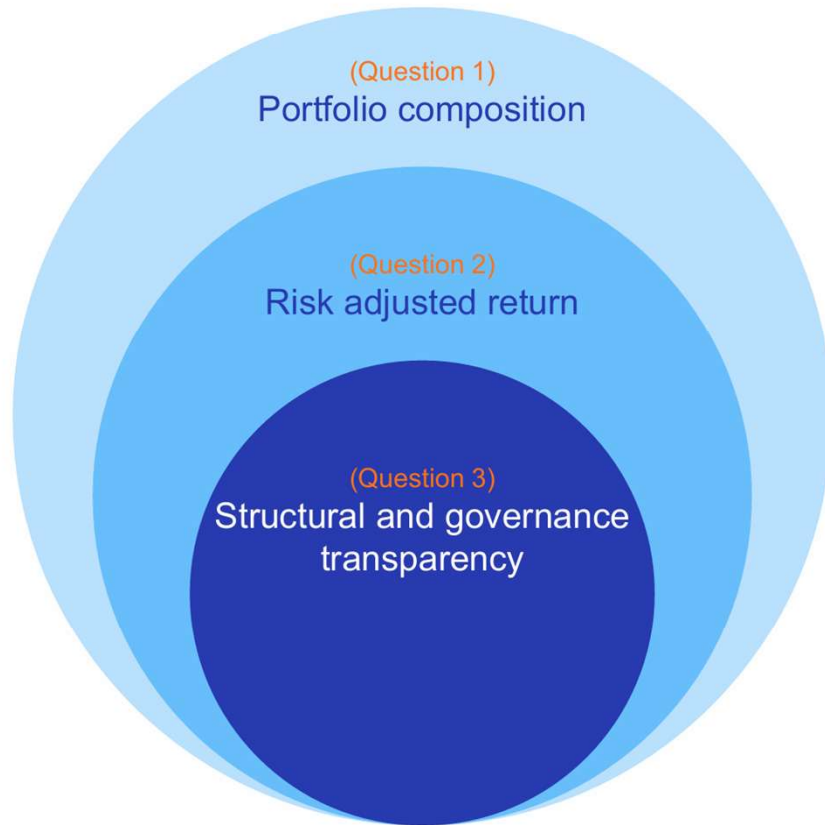


1. This includes any transactions between managed funds and any multiple capital stack structures.

2. Independent review of credit rating methodology, from a governance / process perspective as to specific ratings. All assets would be reviewed annually on a quarterly cycle. Any changes reviewed in quarter of change.

# Three simple questions

For allocators into private market alternatives



Do I have sufficient visibility into the portfolio to make an independent assessment of my exposure?



Am I earning a genuine private markets premium, sufficiently above what liquid markets would offer for equivalent risk?



Can I trust the manager to act as an empowered fiduciary aligned with investors in making decisions, generating returns and protecting capital?

MA

Q&A – What's on your mind?

The logo for MA Financial Group, featuring the letters 'MA' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, followed by the words 'Financial Group' in a smaller, white sans-serif font stacked vertically to the right.

**MA** Financial  
Group

The slogan 'We invest. We lend. We advise.' in a white sans-serif font, positioned in the bottom right corner of the page.

We invest. We lend. We advise.

# **Adam Roberts**

## **Australian Ethical Investments**

Australian  
Ethical



# Infrastructure Debt: Delivering risk-adjusted returns

Adam Roberts, Head of Private Markets

May 2026

# Disclaimer

This presentation has been prepared by Australian Ethical Investment Ltd ('Australian Ethical') (ABN 47 003 188 930, AFSL 229949) as trustee (Trustee) of the Australian Ethical Infrastructure Debt Fund (ABN 78 283 158 021) (Fund) and is intended solely for wholesale clients as defined in section 761G and 761GA of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). The presentation provides general information only. It is not intended to provide you with financial advice and does not take account of your individual investment objectives, financial situation or needs. The information is provided in summary form and may be subject to qualifications. Prospective investors should rely upon their own enquiries and seek such professional advice as they consider appropriate before deciding whether to invest in the Fund. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Before acting on the information, visit [australianethical.com.au](http://australianethical.com.au) for our Financial Services Guide (FSG) and the Fund's Information Memorandum (IM) to consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. You should read the IM in full and consider consulting with a financial adviser or tax adviser. An investment in the Fund should be considered in the context of the risks outlined in the IM.

This presentation may contain material provided by third parties derived from sources believed to be accurate at its issue date. While such material is published with necessary permission, the Australian Ethical accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of, nor does it endorse any such third-party material. To the maximum extent permitted by law, we intend by this notice to exclude liability for this third-party material.

Certain statements in this presentation relate to the future. Such statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other important factors that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from expected future results. Australian Ethical does not give any representation, assurance or guarantee that the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in this update will actually occur and you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such statements.

The content of this presentation is intended to provide a summary and general overview concerning matters of interest and is correct as at the date of publication. It has not been subject to auditor review. Australian Ethical has no obligation to provide revised information in the event of changed circumstances. Australian Ethical does not accept any liability, either directly or indirectly, arising from any person relying, either wholly or partially, upon any information shown in, or omitted from, this update. Under no circumstances will Australian Ethical Investment Ltd be liable for any loss or damage caused by your reliance on information obtained from this update. You should consider seeking independent advice from a legal or other professional adviser before acting in response to the content of this update.

All examples and images are for illustrative purposes only. This presentation is not intended for public circulation. It must not be used, copied or distributed without Australian Ethical's prior written approval.

Investors may request a paper copy of the IM at any time, free of charge. The Trustee and its employees, agents or officers do not guarantee the success, repayment of capital or any rate of return on income or capital or the investment performance of the Fund. An investor's investment does not represent deposits or other liabilities of Australian Ethical.

The Fund is managed by specialist investment manager Infradebt who have agreed to be included in this presentation.

© Copyright 2026



## What is infrastructure debt?

Financing underpinned by essential physical assets that support societal or economic functions



Debt is typically issued directly to entities created for specific projects



Outcomes are tied to individual projects rather than corporate entities, and the income generated by this project directly services the debt



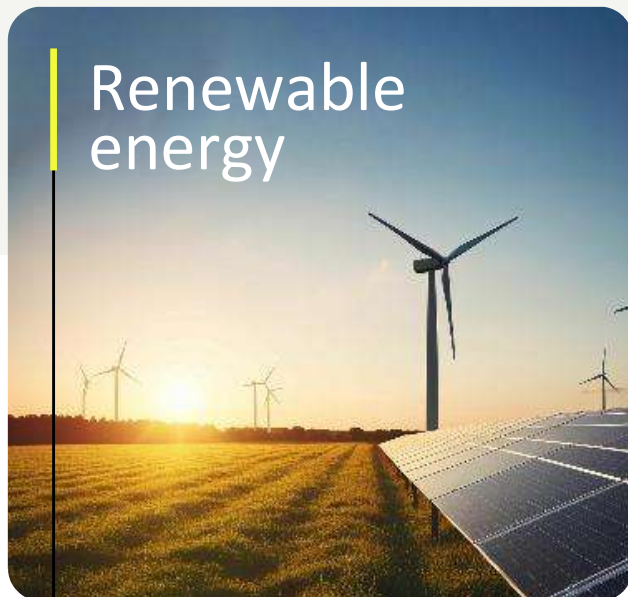
Infrastructure has high upfront capital costs, but in return provides high operating margins, which creates high levels of cashflow to pay interest and principal on loans



These long-term arrangements generally include more protective covenants than standard corporate debt, mitigating risks inherent in project finance



## Infrastructure debt sectors



### Renewable energy

Renewable energy, both grid-scale and embedded, including storage.

Embedded networks and micro-grid infrastructure where there is, or will be, significant use of renewable energy and/or efficiency gains.



### Social infrastructure

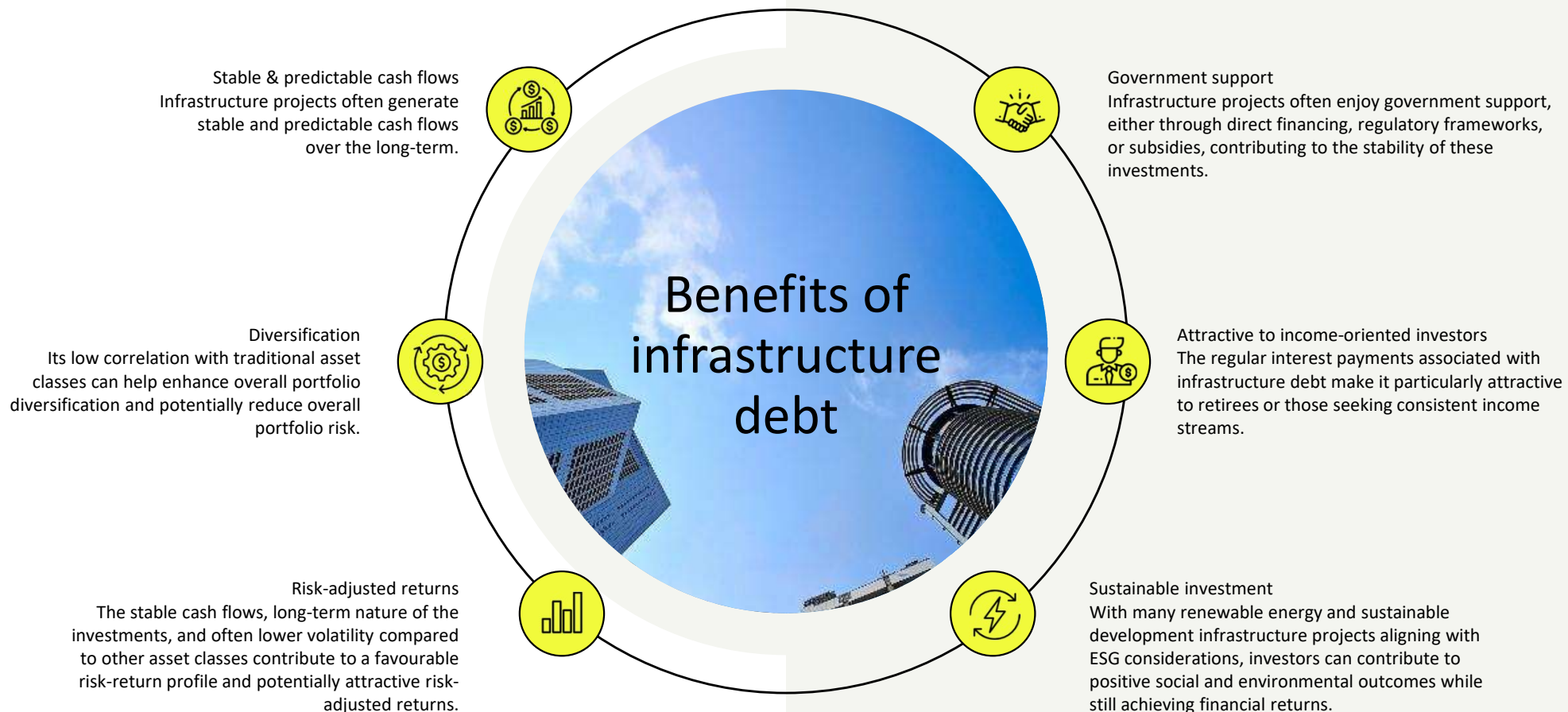
Public transport, hospitals and health facilities, research facilities, water and or sewerage treatment/networks, educational facilities, convention centres, desalination, recycling/waste facilities.




### Infrastructure-like property projects

Asset-backed projects (e.g. social and affordable housing) where there is a significant social impact investing or environmental component.

Note: Not exhaustive nor restrictive



# Infrastructure debt vs. Corporate credit



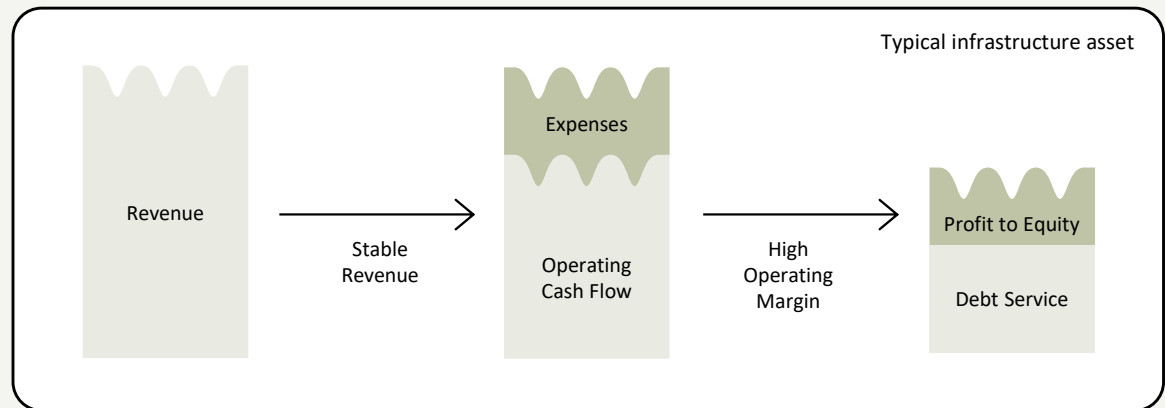

**Infrastructure debt**

Full security over physical asset

- + Stable revenues
- + High Operating Margins

---

- = Stable Debt Servicing Capacity
- = **Attractive Credit Risk**

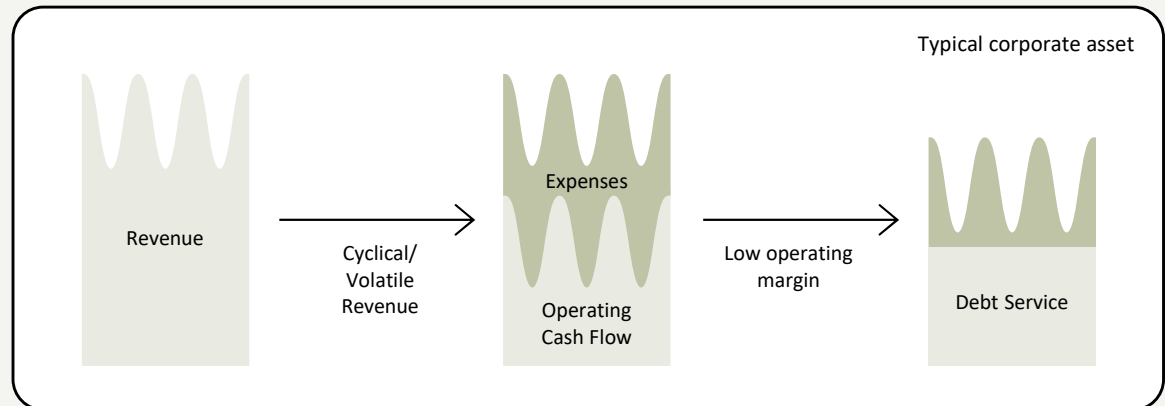
**Corporate credit**

No large physical asset security

- + Cyclical/volatile revenues

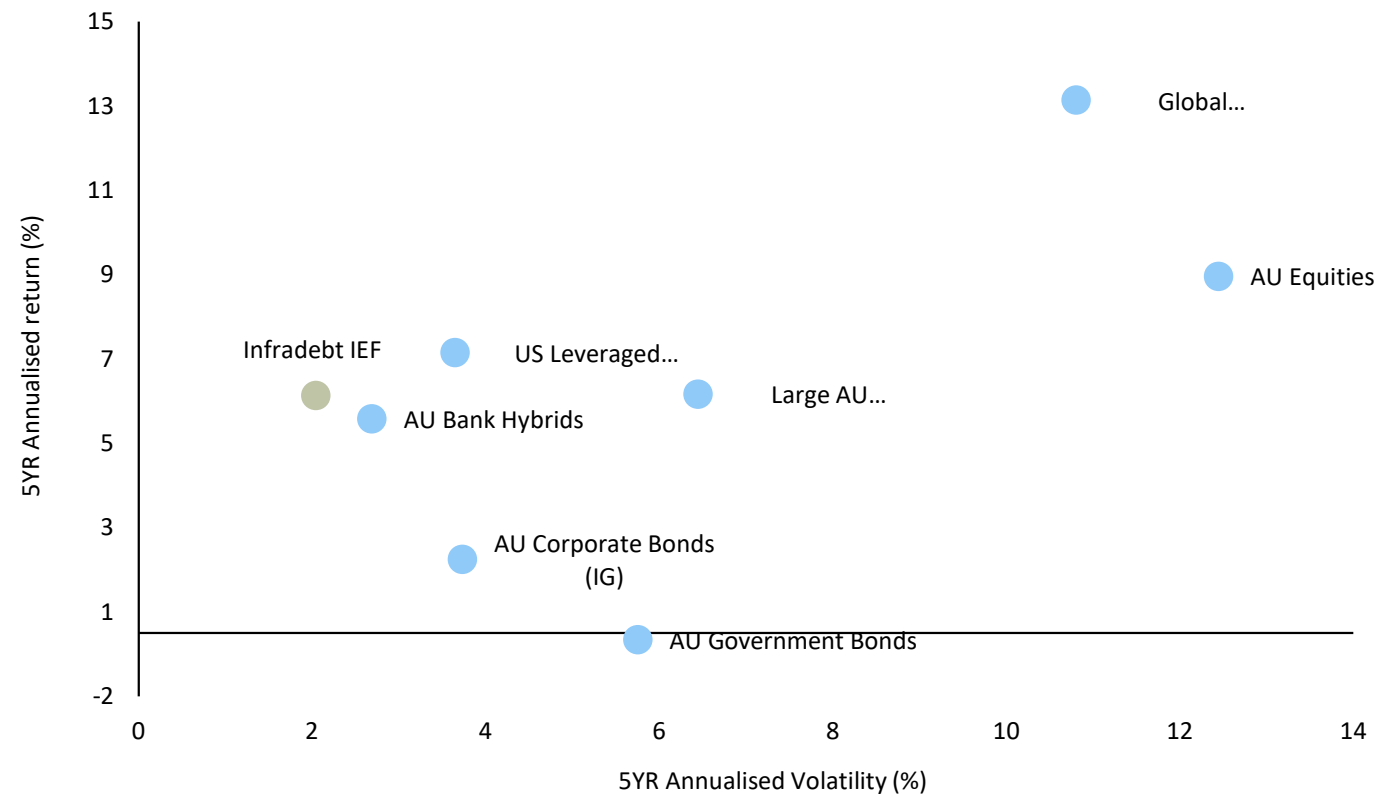
---

- = Less certainty on debt service, lower recoveries in event of default (see next slide)
- = **Less certainty on debt service, lower recoveries in event of default (see next slide)**



# Risk return profiles of infrastructure debt vs. other asset classes

Risk Return Profiles as at March 2026 →



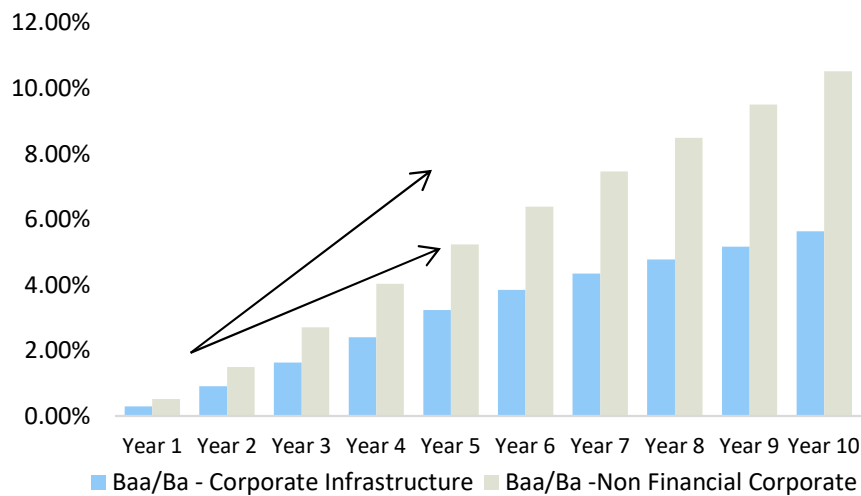
Source: Factset, March 2026  
 AU Government Bonds: Bloomberg AusBond Govt 0+ Yr Index, AU Bank Hybrids: Solactive Australian Hybrid Securities Index (Net), Global Equities (AUD Unhedged): MSCI World Index (AUD Unhedged), US Leveraged Loans (USD): Morningstar LSTA US Leveraged Loan TR (USD), AU Corporate Bonds: Bloomberg AusBond Credit 0+ Yr Index, Australian Equities: S&P/ASX 300 (TR), Large AU Private Credit Fund (Monthly change in traded unit price of the ETF plus distributions), Australian Ethical Infrastructure Debt Fund: Infradebt Ethical Fund (assets marked to market)

# Default & recovery studies

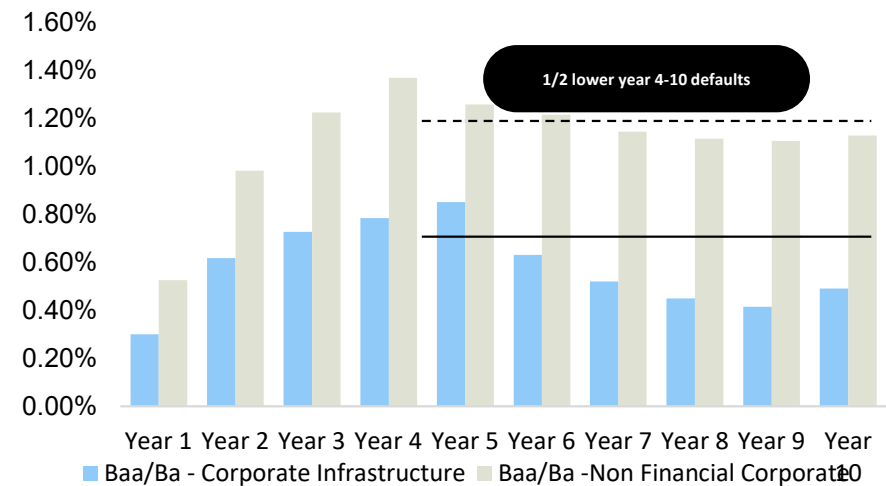
Moodys' Infrastructure Default and Recovery Rates study – September 2018

US\$2.0 trillion of infrastructure securities | 1983–2017-time horizon | Over 1,000 separate entities

Cumulative default rate



Marginal default rate



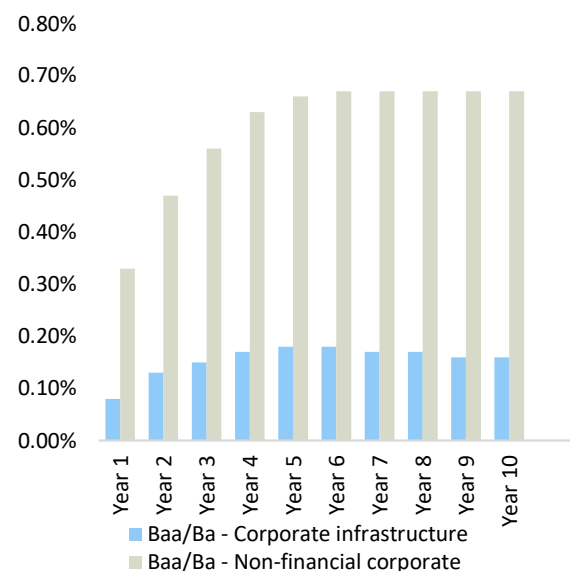
Infrastructure borrowers show significantly lower long-term default rates. Particularly post-year 3.

## Recovery rates

Most infrastructure loans are senior secured – compared with corporate bonds, which are usually unsecured. The defensive and stable characteristics of infrastructure businesses translate into higher recoveries.

### Annualised credit losses

Lower default + Higher recoveries =  
Substantially lower credit losses



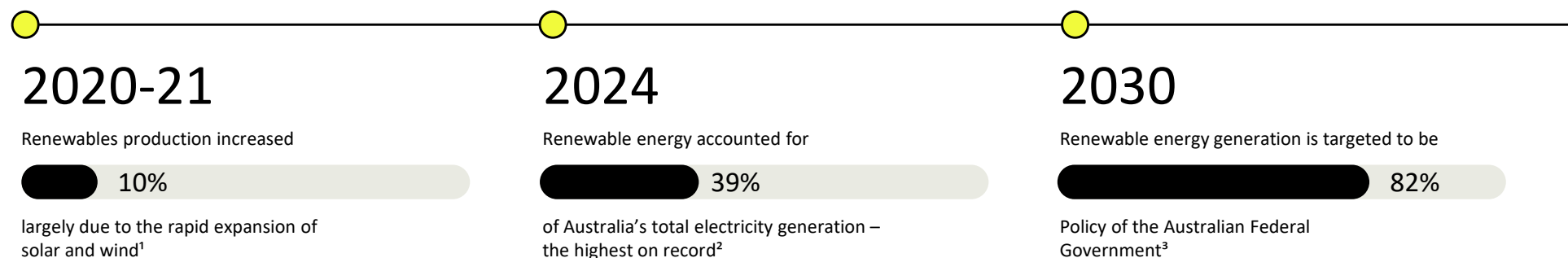
### Recovery rates

Sector	Senior secured	Senior unsecured
Utilities	73%	56%
Regulated E&G utilities and networks	81%	60%
Unregulated E&G utilities and power	80%	55%
Transportation	74%	n/a
Average corporate infrastructure debt securities	72%	55%
Average non-financial corporate issuers	54%	38%

### Cross-ratings comparison

Rating	10-year annualised credit loss	
	Corporate infrastructure	Non-financial corporates
Aaa	0.00%	0.02%
Aa	0.01%	0.02%
A	0.04%	0.08%
Baa	0.07%	0.20%
Ba	0.25%	1.17%
B	0.71%	2.70%
Caa-C	1.56%	3.92%
Investment grade	0.05%	0.12%
Speculative grade	0.48%	2.33%

## Energy transition opportunity



Total capex spend on renewables to date




**\$33bn**

8GW of Solar, 11GW of Wind, 1.5GW Battery storage.<sup>4</sup>




Capex Spend to get to 82% renewables in the next six years



**\$80bn**

New build: 4GW of Solar, 20GW of Wind, 10GW Battery storage.<sup>4</sup>



Debt finance is often critical for clean energy projects large and small providing 50-70% of capital.

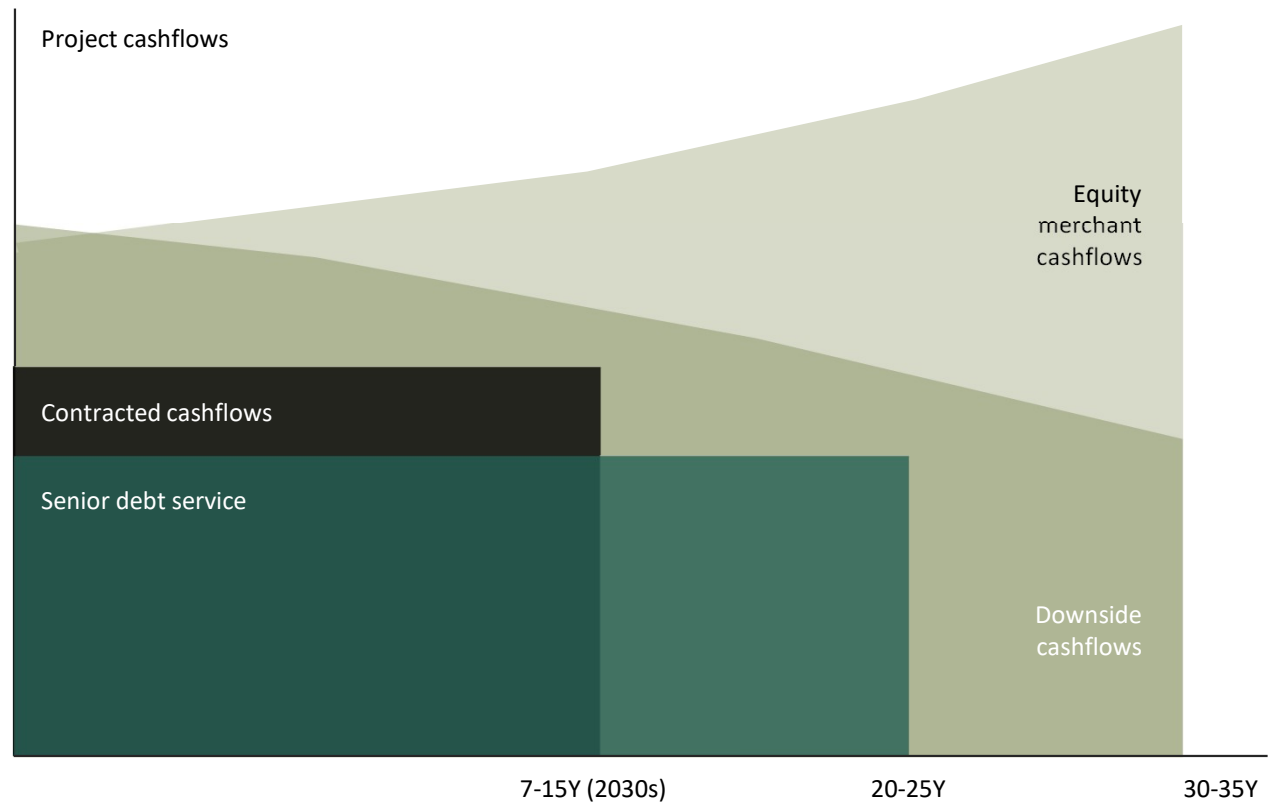
Non-bank lenders can play an important role, especially within emerging segments such as batteries.

1. Australian Energy Statistics 2022 Energy Update Report  
 2. Open NM  
 3. Annual Climate Change Statement 2022; DCCEEW  
 4. Integrated System Plan, AEMO 2022

# Typical renewables structure

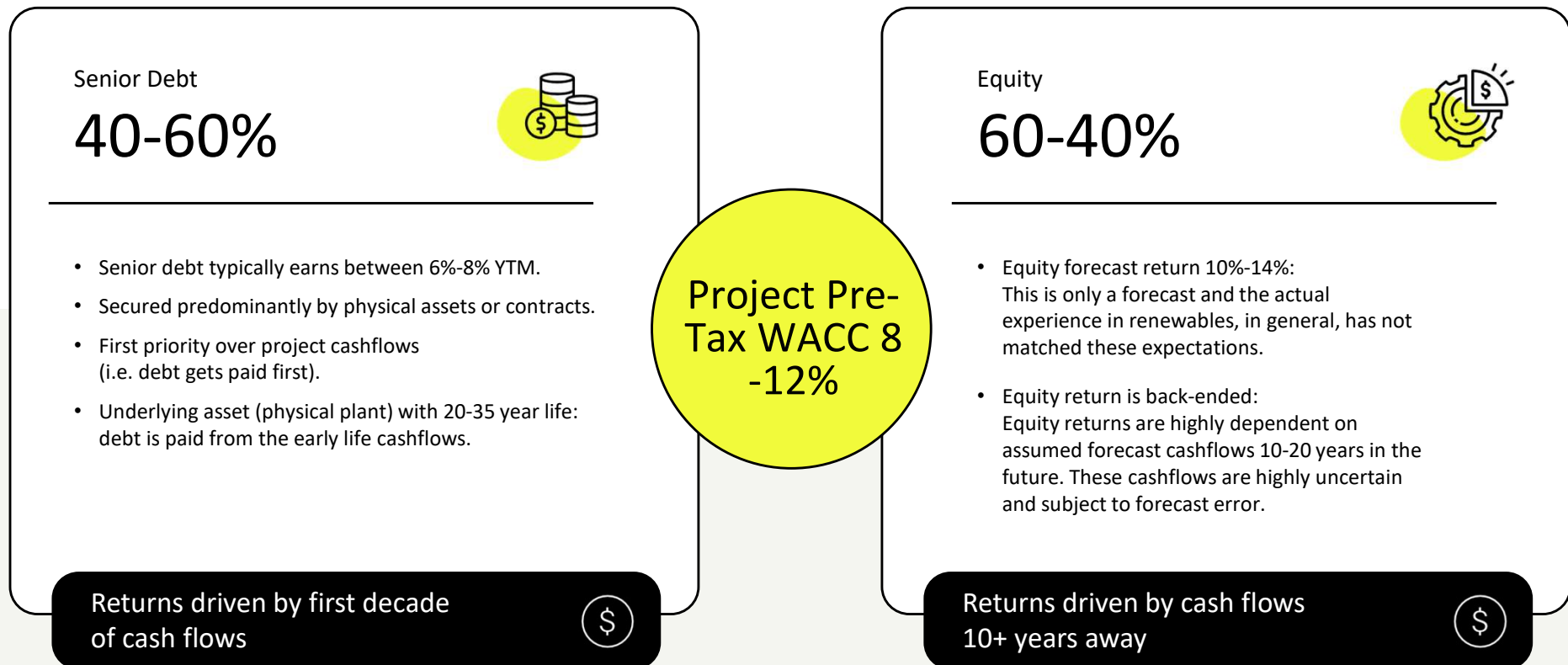


Typical renewable infrastructure equity financing structures are highly leveraged to back-end revenue assumptions. Senior debt captures most of the front-end cashflows. Equity return is highly dependent on forecast energy prices in the last 10-20 years. This return is very sensitive to technological deflation.

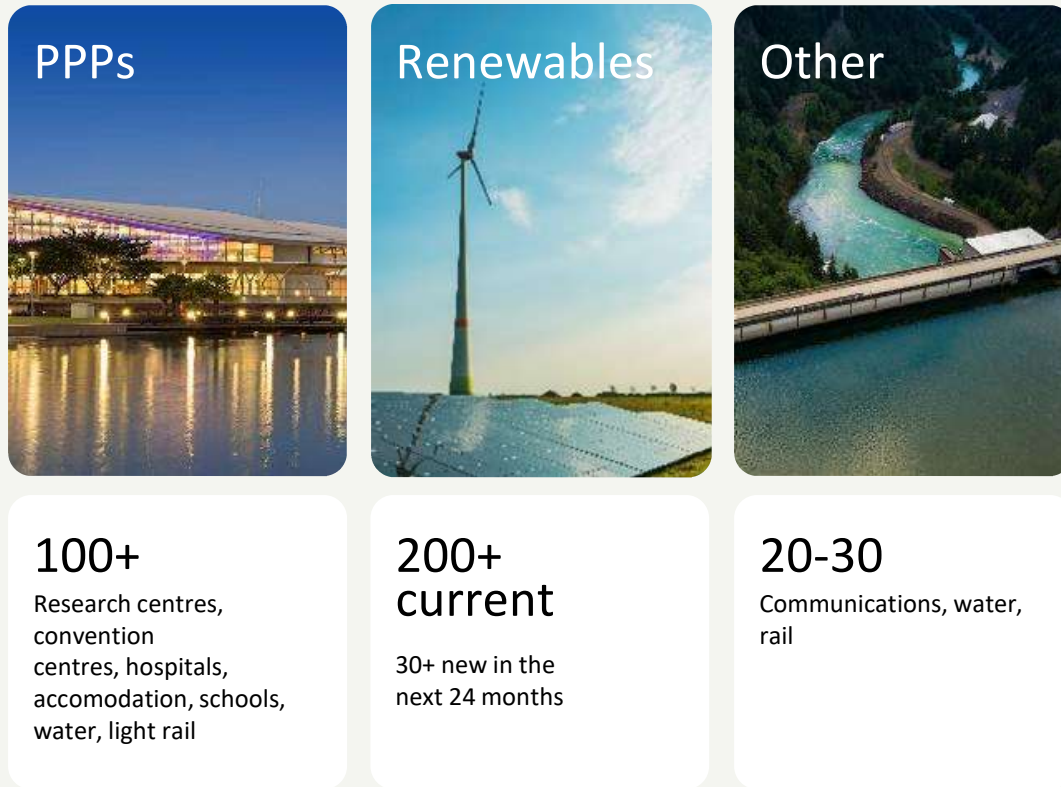


# Why invest in infrastructure debt vs. equity?

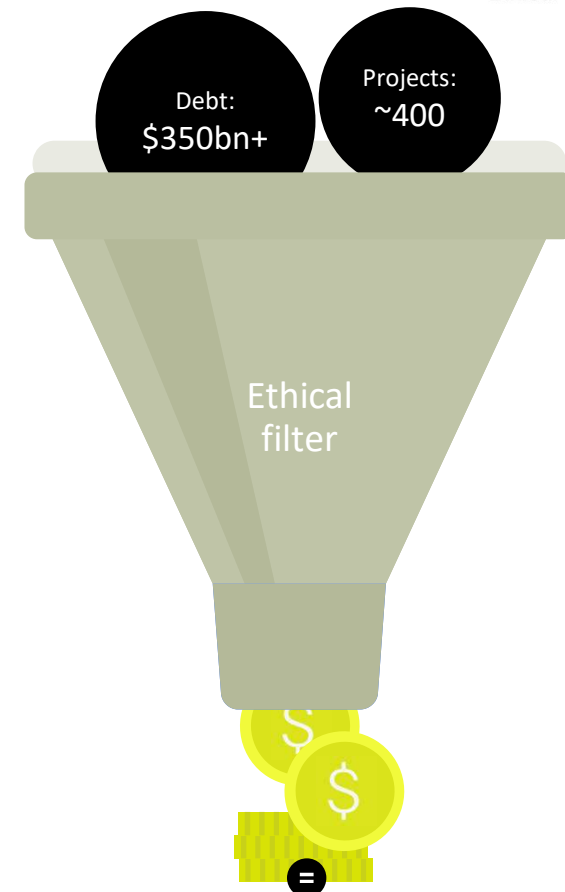
Typical infrastructure project capital structure (renewables project)



## Investment universe



The number of debt opportunities is much larger than equity opportunities as debt is typically re-financed every 3-5 years.



Investable universe  
**~300 projects**

# Infrastructure debt: real world examples

## Our portfolio



Projects: 45



Loans: 21



Debt: 100% Senior Debt



12-month net of fees return: 7.6% (3.8% over benchmark), 7.2% YTM



Projects: >80% of projects in operating phase, <20% in construction



Weighted Average Loan Life: 2.8 years

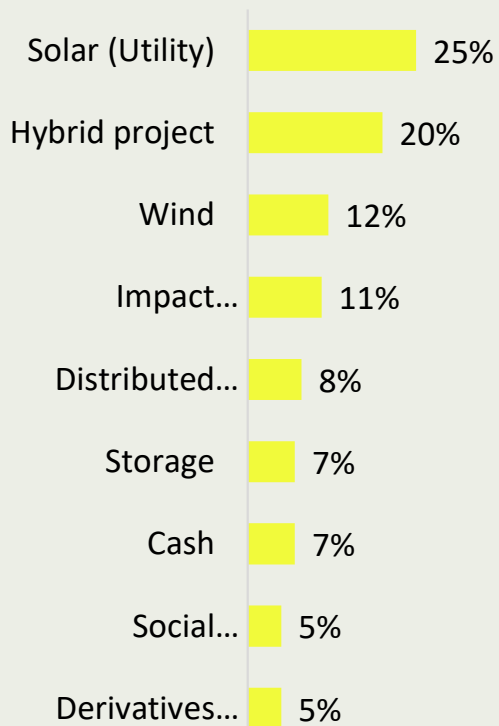


Modified duration: 0.4 years

\*Hybrid refers to a renewable energy system integrated with another energy system

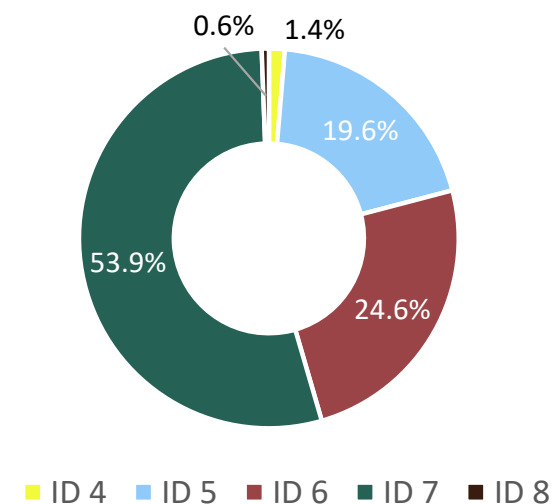
### Project Sector Overview

72% of portfolio invested in renewable energy



### Credit Ratings of the Fund Holdings

Note: All loans in the portfolio are assigned an Infradebt credit rating but are not subject to formal rating by an external rating agency. Infradebt has assessed that a rating of an Infradebt 6 (ID 6) is approximately equivalent to S&P BBB applying published S&P rating criteria.



## Fund performance

The Fund continues to outperform its benchmark predominantly driven by income from underlying loans and securities. Despite significant global equity market volatility, the Fund’s infrastructure-focus means underlying cashflows of the projects in the portfolio continue to be resilient.



The Fund has been open to investors for more than two years and has delivered the following performance:

Net performance to 31 March 2026	1 year (% p.a.)	Since inception (% p.a.) <sup>3</sup>
Fund <sup>1</sup>	7.6	7.4
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	3.8	4.1
Excess	+3.8	+3.3

\*\*Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

<sup>1</sup> Net of fees for periods to 31 March 2026.

<sup>2</sup> RBA Cash Rate

<sup>3</sup> Fund inception was 1 February 2024

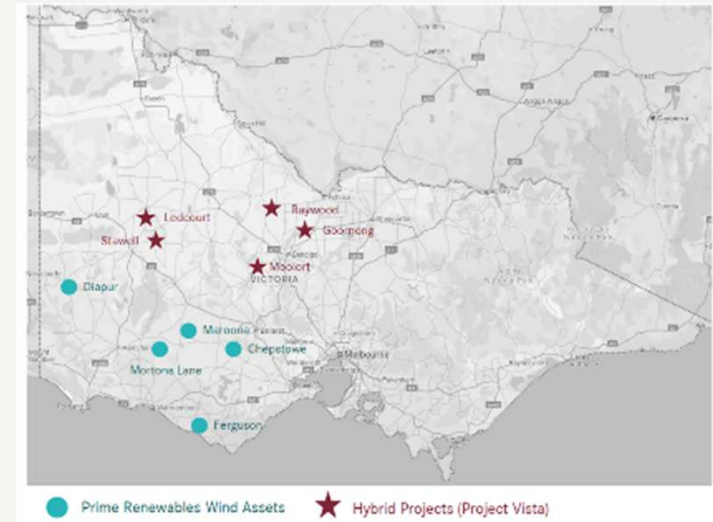
# Recent investment

Prime Renewables



Portfolio of operating wind farms and solar hybrid projects in Victoria

- Over 70MW of generation and 55MWh of storage
- Largely contracted portfolio of operating assets.
- Diversified across revenue structures and offtake counterparties.



## Recent investment

Evie Networks



Owner and operator of Australia's largest electric vehicle (EV) DC fast-charging network.

- Over 900 charging bays across more than 320 sites in all Australian States and Territories.
- With a focus on convenience, reliability and innovation, Evie continues to rapidly expand its portfolio.



### **Australia's first non-recourse debt facility to EV charging infrastructure.**

- The debt facility provided by the Fund provides both a term facility to re-capitalise existing operations and a capex facility to fund the company's network expansion plan.
- From a portfolio perspective, provides diversification beyond traditional renewables and is expected to deliver strong risk-adjusted returns for investors.

# Recent investment

## Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)




BESS provides grid stabilisation services and energy shifting/demand matching functions

Shifting energy from periods when renewable energy is abundant to periods where demand is highest, which is essential to Australia's transition to a carbon-neutral grid.




### Bouldercombe BESS

20km southwest of Rockhampton (central QLD)  
50MW/100MWh BESS using Tesla Megapack 2.0  
Strong operating performance 




### Fulham Hybrid Project

107MWdc solar farm and 64MW/128MWh BESS in Victoria.  
Partially contracted for 10 years to the Victorian Government.  
Under construction 



### NRN Holdings (household batteries)

Provider of behind-the-meter solar and battery solutions to residential customers at no upfront cost.  
Energy cost savings to customers by bringing together solar installers, energy retailers (VPP), and investors. 

Australian  
Ethical



# Thank you

[australianethical.com.au](http://australianethical.com.au)



# Upcoming events

## **Advice in Action Conference 2026**

28<sup>th</sup> July – Sydney

## **Alternatives Week**

15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> September – Sydney

## **Independent Thought Conference**

27<sup>th</sup> October – Sydney

## **MDA Providers Symposium**

19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November – Sydney

Tomorrow's webinar

**Global Interest Rates and the implications for Fixed Interest Investing – Portfolio Construction in the current environment**

Chamath De Silva, Betashares

Tristan Bowman, Cameron Harrison

Moderated by

Khurram Jan, JANA Investment Advisers

**IMAP**

**Institute of Managed Account Professionals**

