

# abrdn Global Dynamic Dividend Fund



# **Quarterly Commentary**

Quarter ended July 31, 2025

## **Fund performance**



The abrdn Global Dynamic Dividend Fund underperformed its benchmark over the three-month period ending 31 July 2025 due to stock selection and, to a lesser extent, sector allocation.<sup>1</sup>

In terms of stocks that detracted, London Stock Exchange Group's shares declined as investors grappled with a modest slowdown in its reported annual subscription value metric as well as the risk of Al disruption to its Data & Analytics business segment.

Novo Nordisk reduced its top and bottom line guidance for the second half of 2025 due to slower than expected sales of GLP-1 drugs. It also announced a new CEO, promoted from within, which disappointed investors who had hoped that the company would look externally for fresh leadership.

In addition to tariff-related uncertainty over pharmaceutical imports into the US, Sanofi reported disappointing late-stage pipeline data for its chronic obstructive pulmonary disease drug candidate, along with mixed second-quarter results.

The top detractors from relative performance also included not owning NVIDIA and Meta Platforms, which pay only minimal dividends, and Amazon.com, which does not pay a dividend.

In terms of individual stocks that positively contributed, Broadcom was among the Fund's top contributors as investors became more bullish on the growth prospects for Al accelerators and, in particular, the company's custom application-specific integrated circuits business.

Oracle reported strong fiscal fourth-quarter earnings in June, including upward revisions to expected revenue growth in the coming years, and later announced a major partnership with OpenAI for its Stargate project, which is expected to generate \$30 billion in annual revenue beginning in fiscal year 2028.

#### Cumulative and annualized total return as of July 31, 2025 (%)

	NAV	Market Price	MSCI AC World Index (Net TR)
10 Years (p.a.)	8.35	10.27	10.05
5 Years (p.a.)	10.14	13.94	12.79
3 Years (p.a.)	9.87	15.44	15.25
1 Year	9.80	28.00	15.87
Year to Date	9.12	23.66	11.54
3 Months	7.38	16.18	11.99
1 month	-0.18	3.10	1.36

#### PAST PERFORMANCE DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUTURE RESULTS.

Investment returns and principal value will fluctuate and shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. NAV return data includes investment management fees, custodial charges and administrative fees (such as Director and legal fees) and assumes the reinvestment of all distributions.

Effective February 28, 2020, the MSCI All Country World Index

(Net Dividends) replaced the MSCI All Country World Index (Gross Dividends) as the Fund's primary benchmark.

The Fund is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of principal. Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized.

#### Expense ratios

#### Fiscal year ended October 31 (%)

Annual Expenses	Percent of Net Assets	Percent of Managed Assets
Management Fees	1.00	1.00
Other Expenses	0.27	0.27
Fee Waiver	-0.11	-0.11
Operating Expenses	1.16	1.16
Leverage Costs	0.05	0.05
Total Expenses	1.21	1.21
Total Expenses before Fee Waiver	1.32	1.32

The Fund has an expense cap or limits on certain expenses, which excludes leverage costs, taxes, and non-routine/extraordinary expenses. Details of the cap or limit, including the term, can be found in the Fund's most recent shareholder report. Leverage Costs include interest, fees, and other other up front/offering costs associated with the leverage struture for the Fund. Gross Operating Expenses include the Fee Waiver and Leverage Costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The MSCI AC World Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of stock markets of developed and emerging markets. For current holdings information, please visit **abrdn Global Dynamic Dividend Fund - Portfolio Holdings** 



Shares of Goldman Sachs rose on signs of improved capital markets activity and as investors anticipated the Trump administration easing the regulatory burden, including lower capital requirements.

#### Market review

Global equity markets ended higher over the period. In May, the US and China agreed at talks in Geneva to implement substantial reciprocal tariff reductions for 90 days: the US lowered additional tariffs on Chinese goods from 145% to 30% and China reduced retaliatory duties on US imports from 125% to 10% – measures which were more substantial and introduced earlier than investors had anticipated. The agreement was reaffirmed at the US–China trade talks in London in June. Nonetheless, uncertainty persisted over its eventual outcome, with further negotiations expected in the weeks ahead. Also in June, the US doubled tariffs on global steel and aluminium imports (except from the UK) to 50%, adding to trade policy uncertainty.

During the same month, investors' focus shifted to rising tensions in the Middle East after Israel launched strikes against Iran over its nuclear programme. The situation escalated as Iran retaliated with missile attacks on Israel, prompting large-scale US airstrikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. A US-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Iran, agreed before the end of June, eased tensions somewhat.

In July, there were further tariff changes, including a high-profile US-EU agreement cutting US tariffs on EU goods to 15% from the previously threatened 30%, alongside other deals with key partners that lowered duties as well as measures that increased them on selected imports. Talks with Mexico and China were extended into August.

Despite continued disinflation, investors began to anticipate a more measured pace of monetary easing as most central banks maintained a data-dependent stance. Corporate first-quarter earnings generally exceeded expectations, particularly among companies exposed to artificial intelligence (AI), though concerns over China's property sector and the Russia-Ukraine war persisted.

## **Outlook & strategy**

Macroeconomic factors remain as unpredictable as ever. While trade and tariff negotiations now appear to be nearing resolution, the immediate fear of an inflationary spike due to the "Liberation Day" tariff announcements has begun to ease. Many countries have secured lower-than-initially-feared tariff rates, which should help temper further inflationary pressures. However, overall tariffs remain higher than pre-"Liberation Day" levels, leaving lingering concerns over their long-term economic impact. At the same time, global central banks remain divided in their policy stance, with some signalling caution due to persistent inflation, while others are beginning to cut rates amid signs of slowing growth. Labour markets are showing early signs of softening, and consumer sentiment is mixed, adding to the uncertainty surrounding the near-term direction of the economy.

Nevertheless, our focus remains at the stock level, ensuring the portfolio is well diversified across both regions and sectors, and robust enough to preserve capital during periods of market weakness.



#### Important Information

International investing entails special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risks, and differences in accounting methods; these risks are generally heightened for emerging market investments.

Please see the Fund's most recent annual report for more information on risks applicable to the Fund.

Closed-end funds are traded on the secondary market through one of the stock exchanges. The Fund's investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares may be worth more or less than the original cost. Shares of closed-end funds may trade above (a premium) or below (a discount) the net asset value (NAV) of the Fund. The net asset value (NAV) is the value of an entity's assets less the value of its liabilities. The market price is the current price at which an asset can be bought or sold. There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

This commentary is for informational purposes only, and is not intended as an offer or recommendation with respect to the purchase or sale of any security, option, future or other derivatives in such securities.

The information contained herein is current at the time of distribution, intended to be of general interest only and does not constitute legal or tax advice. Aberdeen does not warrant the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the information and materials contained in this document and expressly disclaims liability for errors or omissions in such information and materials. Aberdeen reserves the right to make changes and corrections to its opinions expressed in this document at any time, without notice.

Some of the information in this document may contain projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or future financial performance of countries, markets or companies. These statements are only predictions and actual events or results may differ materially. The reader must make his/her own assessment of the relevance, accuracy and adequacy of the information contained in this document, and make such independent investigations as he/she may consider necessary or appropriate for the purpose of such assessment.

Any opinion or estimate contained in this document is made on a general basis and is not to be relied on by the reader as advice. Neither Aberdeen nor any of its agents have given any consideration to nor have they made any investigation of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular need of the reader, any specific person or group of persons. Accordingly, no warranty whatsoever is given and no liability whatsoever is accepted for any loss arising whether directly or indirectly as a result of the reader, any person or group of persons acting on any information, opinion or estimate contained in this document.

Aberdeen Investments Global is the trade name of Aberdeen's investments business, herein referred to as "Aberdeen Investments" or "Aberdeen". In the United States, Aberdeen Investments refers to the following affiliated, registered investment advisers: abrdn Inc., abrdn Investments Limited, and abrdn Asia Limited.

©2025 This material is owned by Aberdeen or one of its affiliates. This material is the property of Aberdeen and the content cannot be reproduced or used in any way without our authorization.

For more information visit aberdeeninvestments.com