

# QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

## Resource Transition Fund

### Performance returns (USD)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Resource Transition Fund (net)	-18.67	-26.24	-26.24	-	-	-	-23.08
Resource Transition Fund (gross)	-18.48	-25.58	-25.58	-	-	-	-22.40
MSCI ACWI Commodity Producers ex-Energy	-17.13	-12.77	-12.77	-	-	-	-7.32
Value Add	-1.54	-13.46	-13.46	-	-	-	-15.75

Net of all fees and expenses after reimbursement by the Manager, but not transaction costs, if any. If certain expenses were not reimbursed, performance would be lower. Gross of fees, expenses and transaction costs, if any. If these fees, expenses and costs were included, performance would be lower. **Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not indicative of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance data may be lower or higher than the performance data provided herein. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com).** The portfolio is not managed relative to a benchmark. References to an index are for informational purposes only.

### MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

The fourth quarter was dominated by changing political winds. Markets rushed to price the potential policy shift after the re-election of Donald Trump to U.S. President and the Republican clean sweep of Congress. The incoming president's focus on deglobalization (higher tariffs, less immigration, increased pressure on China) and deregulation (lower taxes, establishment of the Department for Government Efficiency, legitimizing crypto, more U.S. drilling) are likely to be inflationary and "risk-on." Bond yields rose and the U.S. dollar continued to show strength. Commodity prices were volatile across the quarter. Copper, iron ore, and lithium ended up down while oil & gas were slightly up. Against this backdrop, the Resource Transition portfolio was down for the quarter, slightly underperforming the MSCI ACWI Commodity Producers ex-Energy index.

Our Energy segment, roughly one-third of the portfolio, is essentially an off-benchmark position in Clean Energy. Within Clean Energy, sentiment took a nosedive, and valuations post-election indicated the market thought the Inflation Reduction Act would be repealed in full. This reaction appears to misinterpret the reality of Trump's/the Republican party's support for some Clean Energy technologies. Moreover, many of these companies still have significant upside even under a full repeal scenario. Looking past sentiment, fundamentals for many of these Clean Energy companies are continuing to improve. The inventory glut has ended for some of the solar companies we hold and demand for further rollout continues. Growth in the sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) market, particularly due to mandated demand in Europe, is likely to be a tailwind for our biggest biofuel names (Darling Ingredients, Neste). Even our biggest name in the particularly politically unpopular wind sector – Vestas – surprised the market with the strength of its fourth quarter order book. After sorting between the rhetoric and the reality of the fourth quarter, we broadly added to our Clean Energy names.

Inception Date: 15-Feb-23

Performance for the year of inception is less than a full calendar year. Returns shown for periods greater than one year are on an annualized basis.

**Risks:** Risks associated with investing in the Fund may include: (1) Focused Investment Risk: The Fund invests its assets in the securities of a limited number of issuers, and a decline in the market price of a particular security held by the Fund may affect the Fund's performance more than if the Fund invested in the securities of a larger number of issuers. (2) Commodities Risk: Commodity prices can be extremely volatile, and exposure to commodities can cause the value of the Fund's shares to decline or fluctuate more than if the Fund had a broader range of investments. (3) Management and Operational Risk: The risk that GMO's investment techniques will fail to produce desired results, including annualized returns and annualized volatility. For a more complete discussion of these risks and others, please consult the Fund's Prospectus. **Performance Returns:** Annualized Returns may include the impact of purchase premiums and redemption fees. The GMO Trust funds are distributed in the United States by Funds Distributor LLC. GMO and Funds Distributor LLC are not affiliated.

**Net Expense Ratio: 0.86%; Gross Expense Ratio: 0.94%** Net Expense Ratio reflects the reduction of expenses from fee reimbursements. The fee reimbursements will continue until at least June 30, 2025. Elimination of this reimbursement will result in higher fees and lower performance. Gross Expense Ratio is equal to the Funds Total Annual Operating Expenses set forth in the Funds most recent prospectus dated June 30, 2024.

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## MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS CONT.

Across Industrial Metals, most segments fell in line with iron ore and copper prices. The Diversified Miners were particularly hit by both. We trimmed some of our copper positions over the quarter, continuing to take profit from a part of the portfolio that has been a strong performer across the year. Our lithium portfolio was a standout bright spot, in contrast to previous quarters, as Rio Tinto's takeover of Arcadium – one of our lithium miners – was announced. It was a small sign that appetite for lithium is expected to remain significant over the coming years.

The long-term supply/demand dynamics in natural resource markets favor high and rising prices. But the deeply discounted valuations still available in some parts of this sector mean that investors don't need commodity prices to rise in order to expect strong returns. Flat commodity prices could still lead to a healthy return from a resource equity portfolio. In addition, valuations within the Clean Energy sector are now increasingly attractive.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: Darling Ingredients (6.4%), Nestle (3.7%), Arcadium (0.0%)

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## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Resource Transition Fund seeks to generate total return by investing primarily in equities of companies in the resource transition sector. The Fund's benchmark is the MSCI ACWI Commodity Producers ex-Energy Index.

GMO's Focused Equity team believes that global population growth, the industrialization of emerging markets, and the clean energy transition will increase global demand for natural resources and that, given their finite supply, the prices of these resources will increase over time. The Strategy seeks to invest in the securities of companies that we believe will benefit from – and avoid companies we believe will be adversely affected by – this expected long-term rise in natural resource prices as well as the increasing demand for clean energy.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Comparator Index(es):** The MSCI ACWI (All Country World) Commodity Producers ex-Energy Index is an independently maintained benchmark comprised of listed large and mid capitalization commodity producers within the global developed and emerging markets, excluding companies in the energy sector as defined by GICS. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder.

**An investor should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. This and other important information can be found in the funds prospectus. To obtain a prospectus please visit [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com). Read the prospectus carefully before investing.**

The GMO Trust funds are distributed in the United States by Funds Distributor LLC. GMO and Funds Distributor LLC are not affiliated.

## ABOUT GMO

Founded in 1977, GMO is a global asset manager committed to delivering superior performance and advice to our clients. We are privately owned, which allows us to singularly focus on our sole business – achieving outstanding long-term client investment outcomes. Offering multi-asset, equity, fixed income, and alternative strategies, we invest with a long-term, valuation-based philosophical approach.

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