

Insights

In-depth perspectives from portfolio managers and industry experts on the issues that matter most to institutional investors.

Featured



INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL

Forward Thinking: How Global Inflationary Trends Fuel Opportunity for Investors

By: Forward Thinking | September 12, 2023

In this issue of Forward Thinking, we guide investors seeking to maximize the return potential amid shifting inflationary trends throughout the world, sharing our insights about how to increase their allocations to both global equities and fixed income.

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HIGH YIELD |

NAVIGATING THE CURVE |

OUTLOOK

2024 Outlook: High Yield Bonds

By: Stephen C. Concannon, CFA, Will

Reardon | December 6, 2023

Higher Volatility in 2024 May Present Attractive Entry Points for High Yield Bonds

KEY POINTS

- 1. As global central banks near the end of a historical cycle of tightening monetary policy, we believe a moderate recession is a more probable outcome in 2024.
- 2. Increasing dispersion in valuations across rating segments, sectors and individual issuers will continue to provide opportunity and the ability to capture attractive entry points.
- 3. We have maintained our cautious positioning and continue to prefer defensive sectors that trade wide of historical norms, such as health care, given the sector's historically defensive characteristics.

<u>CALVERT INSIGHTS</u> | RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Where's the Trickle
Down? Gender
Diversity in

Corporate Pipeline
Lags the Boardroom

By: <u>Yijia Chen, CFA</u> | March 15, 2024

As March is Women's History
Month, it's timely that we review
women's headway moving up the
corporate ranks and the progress
of gender diversity initiatives
worldwide.

EM EQUITIES

EMERGING MARKETS | <u>EQUITIES</u> | HIGH CONVICTION ACTIVE

Brazilian Economy
Boosted by
Reasonable
Government
Legislations and
Tight Monetary
Policy

By: Paul Psaila | February 5, 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. A year into President Lula's term, the political and economic situation in Brazil is better than many had expected.
- 2. The economy will likely grow more than expected as interest rates continue to fall.
- 3. We believe Brazil remains
 cheap compared to other emerging
 markets with lower inflation and
 rates acting as a tailwind for
 growth.

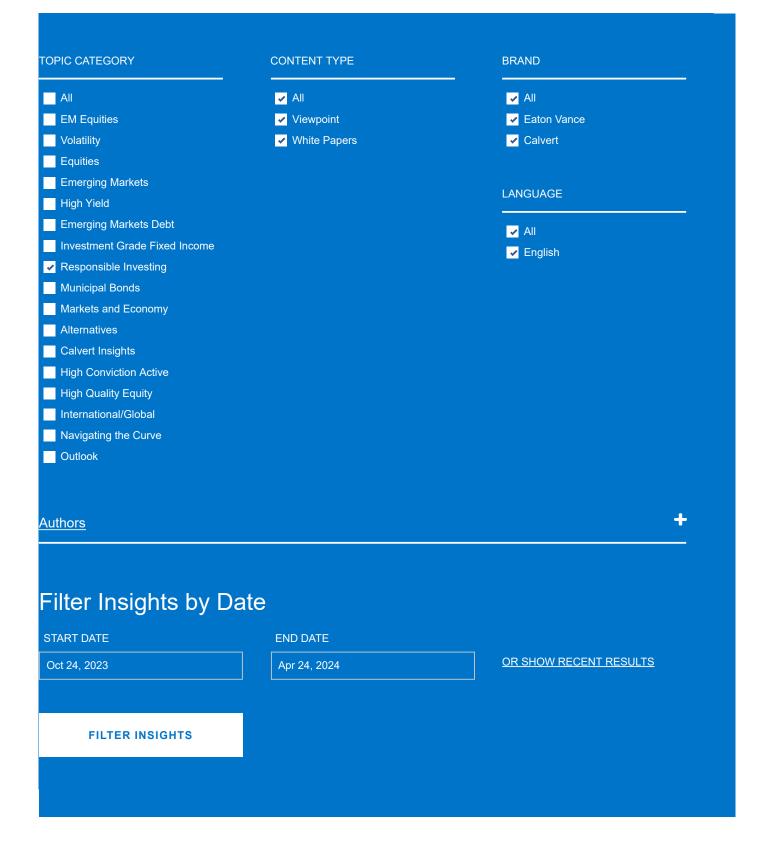
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Yijia Chen, CFA
Portfolio Manager
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Management

CALVERT INSIGHTS | RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Calvert's Research Process Examines PFAS Risk, Remediation

By: Emily Wagner | & Alysia Rodgers | January 17, 2024

New York - The issue of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to as "forever chemicals," is rapidly evolving, and requires a nuanced approach to evaluate risk to issuers, especially as KPIs specific to PFAS are lacking (see <u>our previous post</u> for more details). At Calvert, our research process allows us to apply a discount to reflect both the materiality on stakeholders (from investors, employees and customers to local communities) and the impact to an issuer's enterprise value (equity, holders, debt holders, bankruptcy). This also considers company actions/response to a controversy.

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RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Bridge to ESG Integration: Country Selection in Emerging Markets

By: Marshall L. Stocker, Ph.D., CFA | December 14, 2023

When investing in emerging markets (EM), top-down country selection can be a powerful way to generate excess returns and positive change on environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. While it might feel satisfying to find the company with the best ESG characteristics within a specific country, our research shows the country allocation decision explains 80% of excess returns in EM equity. That's why, in the Calvert Emerging Markets Advancement Fund, we utilize a top-down investment process that evaluates the macroeconomic and governance environment at the country level.

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Marshall L. Stocker, Ph.D., CFA Co-Head of Emerging Markets Debt Portfolio Manager

Market Decoupling of "E, S and G" Factors Likely to Accelerate in 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. The shakeout in the responsible investment industry that began in late 2022 is driving specialist firms to increasingly incorporate financial viability into the analysis of corporate climate and social business objectives.
- 2. As both specialist firms and mainstream investors have moved towards more intensive and granular ESG research, a consensus is building around the importance of human capital management. In particular, a greater focus is being placed on workforce diversity in differentiating a company's potential for value creation.
- 3. Decarbonizing the global economy is proving to be a difficult task because the cost of transitioning from fossil fuels to clean energy is currently higher than originally anticipated.

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John Streur Calvert Research and Management

RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Bridge to ESG Integration: A Lens for Quality

By: Lance Garrison, CFA | December 5, 2023

When selecting a strategy, one of the first questions that investors should ask is, "What am I trying to accomplish?" Intentionality matters and, at Atlanta Capital, we are clear on ours: Our goal is quality.

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Lance Garrison, CFA Portfolio Manager Atlanta Capital

CALVERT INSIGHTS | RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Calvert's Approach to Investing in the Energy Transition

By: Tarek Soliman | & Anuj Goyal | November 8, 2023

The energy system powers every corner of the modern economy from oil for transport and chemicals, to natural gas for heating and industry, to coal for electricity generation and steel production. Oil and gas provide over 50% of world primary energy which rises to over 80% when including coal, forming the backbone of global supply today and highlighting the magnitude of the task of an energy system transformation. This system keeps the world moving and powers economic activity, but it is prone to geopolitical disruption and price volatility. This volatility has highlighted long-term concerns that Calvert has long held about the extent to which the current global energy system relies on fossil fuels.

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