

## DD ALTERNATIVE FUND

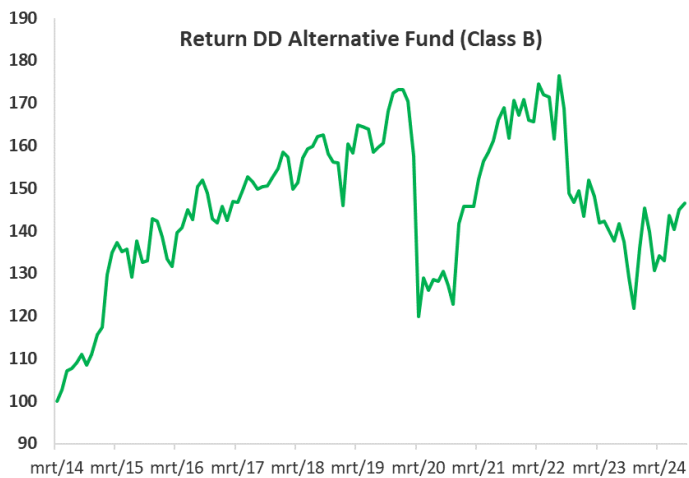
## Monthly report August 2024

**Profile**

DD Alternative Fund N.V. (DDAF or DD Alternative Fund) is an actively managed global equity fund that invests in alternative investment categories, including in particular companies that invest in real estate and infrastructure. DDAF invests in at least twenty companies that meet our quality investment criteria. At DDAF, the analysis on sustainability and financial aspects is fully integrated. The fund aims for a net return of 7%\* per year in the long term and has no benchmark. The fund is traded daily.

**Return class B\***

DD Alternative Fund achieved a return of 1.12% (Class B) for the month of August 2024. As a result, the net asset value per share increased to € 27.87. This brings the return for 2024 to 0.78%.



\* The value of your investment may fluctuate. Past performance is no guarantee for future results

**Fund information****Key facts**

Fund size	€ 30.2 mln
# shares A	221,496
# shares B	609,768
# shares C	260,880
Net asset value A*	€ 26.42
Net asset value B*	€ 27.87
Net asset value C*	€ 28.14
# positions	49

**Costs**

Management fee A	1.20%
Management fee B	0.70%
Management fee C	0.50%
Overige kosten**	0.45%
Op- en afslag	0.25%

**Other**

Start date	Class A: May 2005 Class B: January 2015 Class C: January 2020
Manager	DoubleDividend Management B.V.
Status	Open-end, dagelijks
ISIN (A)	NL0009445915
ISIN (B)	NL0010949350
ISIN (C)	NL0014095119
Benchmark	None
Currency	Euro

**Risk monitor**

\* per share  
\*\* estimated



This is a publicity notice. This information does not provide sufficient basis for an investment decision. Therefore, please read the DD Alternative Fund N.V. Fund's Key Information Document and prospectus for more information on, investment policy, risks and the impact of costs on the amount of your investment and expected return before making an investment decision. These are available on DoubleDividend Management B.V.'s website ([www.doubledividend.nl](http://www.doubledividend.nl)). DoubleDividend Management B.V. is manager of DD Alternative Fund N.V. and is licensed as manager and supervised by the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets. The net asset value has not been audited by an external auditor.

**Table: monthly total return in % (after costs, dividend included) \***

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2012</b>	1.53	2.02	4.59	-3.24	-2.34	1.51	3.09	-0.18	1.49	2.56	0.48	-0.02	<b>11.81</b>
<b>2013</b>	0.83	0.72	-1.41	4.38	1.39	-7.59	2.56	-1.31	3.14	2.61	-0.81	-0.67	<b>3.35</b>
<b>2014</b>	-0.47	5.76	-1.86	2.69	4.37	0.54	1.24	1.66	-2.20	2.36	4.13	1.48	<b>21.18</b>
<b>2015</b>	10.58	3.96	1.72	-1.51	0.52	-4.86	6.54	-3.70	0.32	7.37	-0.40	-2.56	<b>18.13</b>
<b>2016</b>	-3.76	-1.28	6.08	0.71	3.13	-1.62	5.37	1.01	-1.97	-4.02	-0.70	2.66	<b>5.13</b>
<b>2017</b>	-2.14	3.02	-0.13	2.01	2.08	-0.83	-1.11	0.45	0.11	1.32	1.34	2.44	<b>8.74</b>
<b>2018</b>	-0.74	-4.78	1.03	3.91	1.37	0.32	1.40	0.29	-2.75	-1.15	-0.21	-6.35	<b>-7.82</b>
<b>2019</b>	9.85	-1.37	4.20	-0.25	-0.27	-3.32	0.67	0.65	4.62	2.61	0.42	0.02	<b>18.63</b>
<b>2020</b>	-1.55	-7.63	-23.87	7.51	-2.27	2.09	-0.42	1.90	-2.56	-3.42	15.36	2.84	<b>-15.88</b>
<b>2021</b>	0.03	-0.08	4.41	2.80	1.41	1.66	2.96	1.82	-4.23	5.47	-2.10	2.28	<b>17.27</b>
<b>2022</b>	-2.82	-0.22	5.37	-1.50	-0.32	-5.77	9.24	-4.36	-11.79	-1.43	1.80	-4.04	<b>-16.12</b>
<b>2023</b>	6.02	-2.63	-4.17	0.34	-1.64	-1.61	2.95	-2.99	-6.18	-5.63	11.63	7.02	<b>1.47</b>
<b>2024</b>	-3.85	-6.62	2.67	-0.74	7.86	-2.19	3.25	1.12					<b>0.78</b>

\* The fund was repositioned in 2020 and has since invested in both real estate and (sustainable) infrastructure. From 2015 Class B shares returns are used. The value of your investment may fluctuate. Results achieved in the past do not provide any guarantees for the future. As a result, you may lose all or part of your investment. You can read more about the risks in the Fund's Key Information Document and prospectus.

## Developments in the market and portfolio

The DD Alternative Fund achieved a return of 1.1% in August. As indicated in the previous monthly report, real estate is clearly on the rise. The most recent company figures show that real estate values have bottomed out and are even rising. A long period of negative revaluations seems to have come to an end. The expectation is that sentiment on the real estate market will improve further in the coming period now that central banks have indicated that the restrictive interest rate policy will change. The market is also helped by a strong economy and increased consumer confidence, which means that rents can continue to rise.

The outlook for sustainable infrastructure is somewhat more mixed. Although this sector also benefits from lower interest rates and lower costs for solar panels, for example, there are still a number of challenges such as lengthy approval procedures, fluctuating energy prices and overloaded electricity grids. The difficulty of obtaining a new permit for a project mainly affects developers and not investors in existing solar or wind farms (who even seem to benefit). On the other hand, once the permit is obtained, the profits can be substantial. The developers in our portfolio such as Brookfield Renewable, EDP Renovavais and Northland Power are however not very dependent on a single project. The fluctuating energy prices are also not a major problem for companies in the portfolio because most projects benefit from long-term PPAs (Power Purchase Agreements). As a result, companies are generally only 10-20% dependent on current energy prices. The biggest problem at the moment is the electricity grid, which is increasingly overloaded and unstable. However, grid operators are not standing still and in the coming years there will be a lot of investment in improving the energy grids. In addition to increasing the capacity and larger energy storage systems, the focus is on better connecting electricity grids between countries and continents.

## Company news

Shurgard reported good figures for the first half of 2024. Rental income from the existing portfolio increased by 4.5% year-on-year and the intrinsic value per share also rose by 4.4%. The outlook for the coming years is also promising. The Belgian listed company has 26 projects under development, of which 9 are under construction. Shurgard will invest approximately €1 billion in these projects over the next three years. This is expected to increase rental income by €90 million, an increase of 25% compared to the end of 2023. Given the strong balance sheet position, financing the development pipeline is not a problem. However, it is expected that the company will issue new shares someday. The share closed the month of August with a return of 12%, making it one of the biggest risers.

Cellnex, the largest position in DDAF with a weighting of 4%, also reported strong figures. The company is performing well operationally and the strategic repositioning is going according to plan. Since 2022, the strategy has changed to focus on portfolio rationalization and debt reduction instead of growth. For this

reason, the portfolio of telecom masts in Ireland was recently sold and in August Cellnex also managed to sell its stake in On Tower Austria for €803 million. CEO Marco Patuano, who joined in June last year to lead the new strategy, has said that after the sale in Austria the company is considering buying back shares in addition to reducing debt. The news was received positively, Cellnex rose by 8.6% last month.

At sector peer China Tower, turnover rose by 3.8%, but earnings per share even by 10.1% as a result of improved margins. Although China Tower only managed to install nine new towers in the past 12 months, it was able to install more equipment per tower, which led to improved profitability.

### Largest positive and negative contribution

The largest positive contribution in August came from Cellnex after good quarterly figures and the sale of the portfolio in Austria. Another notable climber was Hysan Development, which rose almost 15% after better than expected figures. On the other hand, China Longyuan Power made the largest negative contribution. The company maintained its energy production, but suffered from falling energy prices and the fact that new projects could not yet be connected to the grid. Voltalia also had a bad month, although the impact was not that great due to the low weight in the portfolio. The grid operator in Brazil (where a large part of Voltalia's turnover comes from) has imposed restrictions in certain parts of the network. Voltalia calculated that the damage could amount to €40 million (16% of EBITDA) if this continues until the end of the year and they do not receive any compensation.

**Table: top 5 contribution to result (in €)**

Top 5 highest contribution			Top 5 lowest contribution		
Cellnex (Spa)	8.6%	0.3%	China Longyuan (Chi)	-15.0%	-0.4%
Shurgard (Bel)	12.0%	0.3%	Northland Power (Can)	-10.0%	-0.3%
Vonovia (Ger)	9.8%	0.3%	Boralex (Can)	-5.2%	-0.2%
Greencoat Renewable (Ire)	6.8%	0.2%	Grenergy (Spa)	-5.2%	-0.2%
Hysan (HK)	14.9%	0.2%	Voltalia (Fra)	-19.8%	-0.1%

Source: DoubleDividend/Bloomberg

### Portfolio changes

The weightings of CTP, Land Securities, Legrand, Prysmian en Shurgard have been increased somewhat. We have reduced the positions in American Tower, Equinix en Equity Residential somewhat.

Assa Abloy is the world's largest supplier of advanced door opening and identification technology systems. The company was founded in 1994 from the combination of the Swedish Assa and the Finnish Abloy. Assa Abloy is active in more than 70 countries and employs more than 50,000 people. The company has a wide range of products; think of mechanical and digital locks, cylinders, keys, tags, security doors and automated access.

Assa Abloy's products contribute to the sustainability and safety of homes, offices, shops, schools, hospitals and airports. Digitalization is becoming increasingly important in this respect. A good example of this is subsidiary Phoniro, which offers solutions for the key problem in home care, where a smartphone or tablet works as a digital key. Sustainability is high on the agenda at Assa Abloy. The company has committed itself to the Paris climate agreement and wants to have halved its emissions by 2030, while the company is growing strongly.

Assa Abloy benefits from long-term trends such as urbanization, the use of smart locks and the demand for energy-efficient security systems, which allow the company to grow faster than the economy. Growth is further enhanced because Assa Abloy operates in a highly fragmented market, which means that acquisitions can make a strong contribution. In the first half of this year, Assa Abloy already acquired 11 local companies. The average profit growth over the past 20 years was more than 9% per year. We also expect an average profit increase of at least 8% per year in the coming years, partly due to market growth and partly due to acquisitions. The share has performed very well on the stock exchange in recent years. Although the price continued to rise after our purchase and even closed at an all-time high, the share is still attractively valued.

CSX is an American railroad company that was founded in Baltimore almost 100 years ago. The company has a rail network of 21,000 miles through 23 states, mainly in the East, Midwest and the Gulf Coast, serving major cities such as Baltimore, Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. CSX operates in an oligopoly market. In 1980 there were still 40 large railroad companies, but now there are only six so-called Class I railroads. The largest competitor is Norfolk Southern Railway.

The train is considered one of the most energy-efficient means of transportation. Although the trains still run on diesel, the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are estimated to be 75% lower than road transport. The locomotives have become more powerful and fuel-efficient in recent years, allowing them to haul more and larger trains. Of all the railroad companies, CSX has the lowest fuel consumption (less than 1 gallon of fuel per 1,000 gross ton-miles). Despite its growth, CSX aims to reduce greenhouse gases by at least 37% over the 2014-2030 period.

CSX has a strong balance sheet and profitability that allow it to continue investing in its rail network. This year, CSX expects to invest approximately \$2.5 billion to maintain future profitability. CSX has averaged more than 9% annual earnings growth over the past 15 years, and we expect earnings to grow by at least 8% per year on average in the coming years. The decline in the stock price from its peak earlier this year provided an attractive entry point.

**Table: top 10 positions in portfolio per end month**

Company and weights			
Cellnex (Spa)	4.0%	Vonovia (Ger)	3.0%
Greencoat Renewables (Ire)	3.7%	LEG (Ger)	2.9%
Eurocommercial Prop (Neth)	3.4%	XIOR (Bel)	2.9%
Inwit (Ita)	3.2%	Grenergy (Spa)	2.9%
Boralex (Can)	3.0%	Shurgard (Bel)	2.8%

Source: DoubleDividend

## Team DoubleDividend

## Annex: portfolio characteristics

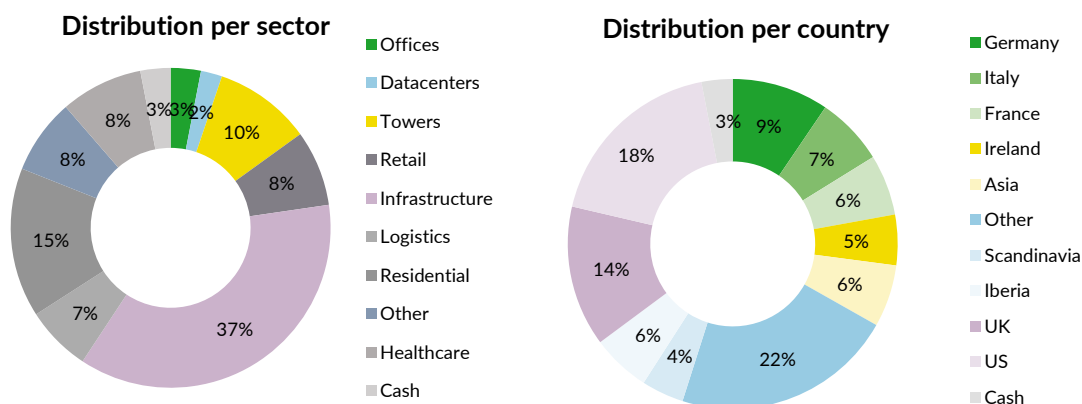
The table below shows the main characteristics of the portfolio. The cash flow yield indicates how much cash a company generates per share, expressed as a percentage. The dividend yield is the dividend yield of the current year divided by the current price (closing price of the month).

The VAR (Value At Risk) shows the maximum loss of the portfolio on an annual basis with 95% certainty based on Monte Carlo simulation. The standard deviation is a statistical measure for the distribution of the returns around the mean.

Table: Characteristics DDAF per month end

Valuation		Risk	
Cashflow yield, current	8.5%	VAR (Monte Carlo, 95%, 1-year)	23.6%
Dividend yield, current	4.5%	Standard deviation	14.3%

Source: DoubleDividend/Bloomberg



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