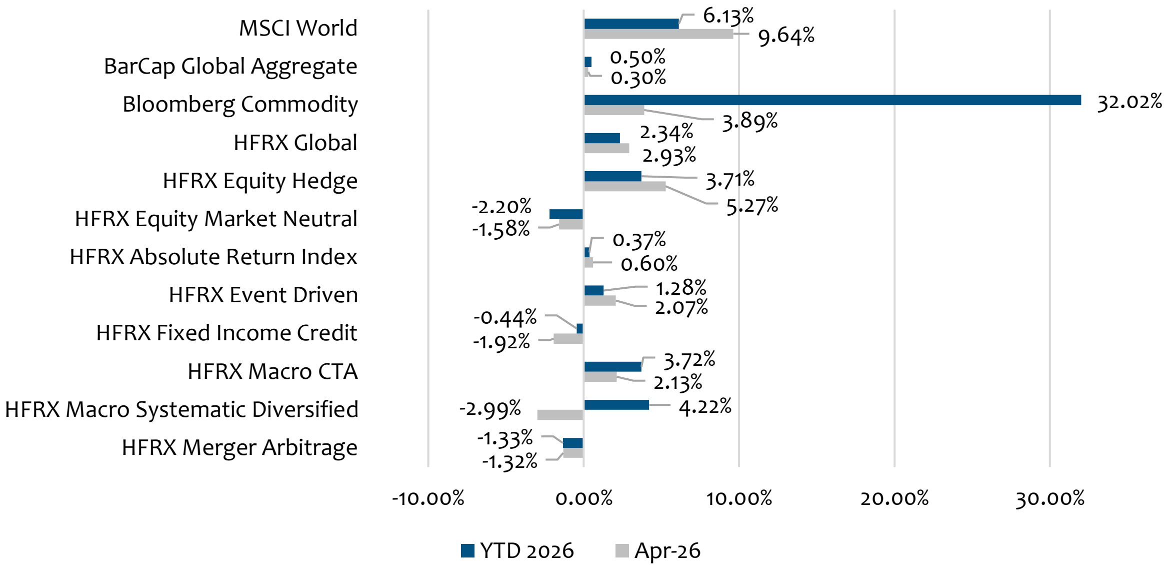
# AQUIS Hedge Funds Solutions – April 2026 Comments

## Performance of Hedge Fund Strategies vs Traditional Indices



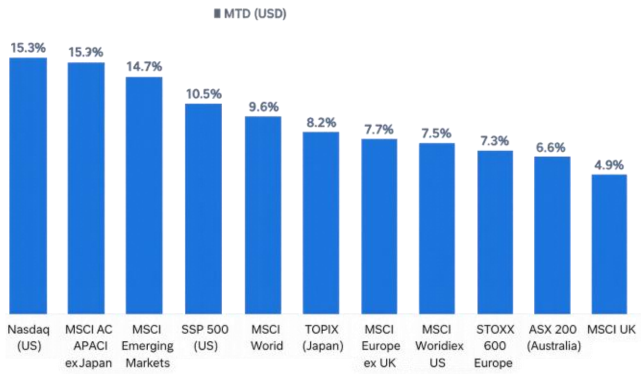

*Source: Bloomberg, AQUIS Capital, data as of April 30th, 2026, in USD*

## AltAlpha Abacorum Fund: +1.50% in USD Class A, YTD 2026: +2.72%

- The AltAlpha Abacorum Fund returned an estimated +1.50% in April, with YTD performance rising to +2.72%. The portfolio benefited from a powerful rebound in risk assets, but the main driver of returns was not broad market beta. Performance came primarily from Equity Long/Short managers, with additional support from Event Driven and Relative Value strategies, in a month where stock selection, regional positioning and exposure discipline mattered more than simply being long the market.
- April was a strong risk-on month in global markets, with investors looking through continued geopolitical tension and rotating back into AI-linked equities. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq reached new highs, semiconductor stocks rallied sharply, and emerging markets outperformed, led by Taiwan and South Korea. The recovery was broad but still tilted toward growth, technology and smaller-cap names linked to the AI investment cycle. Fixed income was more mixed. Higher oil prices and persistent inflation concerns kept pressure on government bonds and pushed rate-cut expectations further out, even as tighter credit spreads reflected the stronger tone in risk assets.

### Global Equities Rebounded in April, Led by Tech-Heavy Benchmarks

The MSCI World Index had its best month since November 2020, closing at a new all-time high

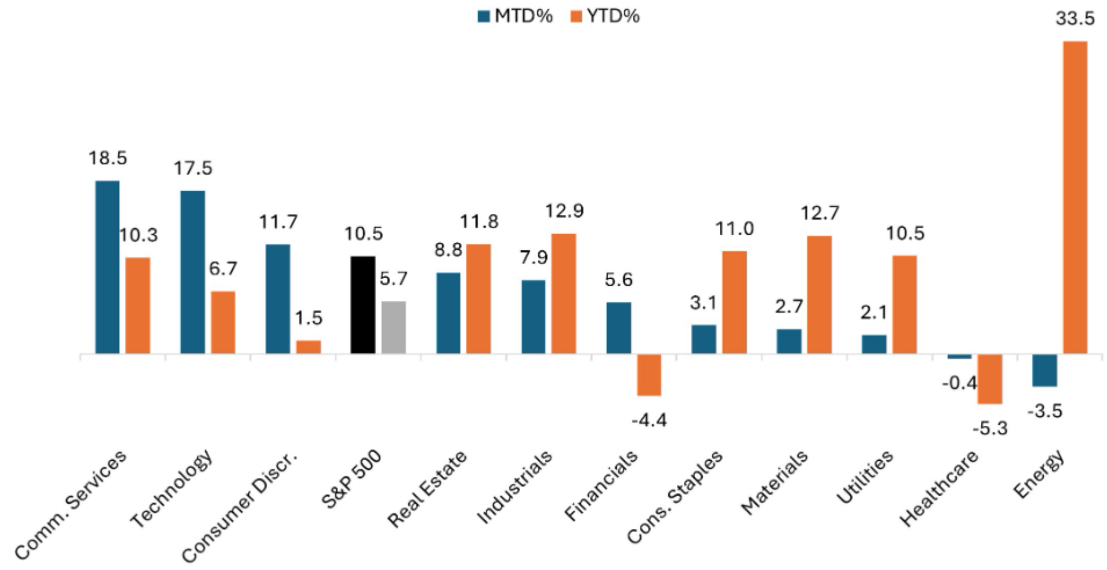



*Source: Bloomberg, data from 31 March 2026 to 30 April 2026. Represents index total returns in U.S. dollar terms*

- **Equity Long/Short** was the strongest contributor in the portfolio. Returns were driven by managers exposure to semiconductors, electronic equipment, internet and industrial names linked to AI demand and reshoring. Strong gains in Asian technology were an important tailwind, with emerging markets and Asia ex-Japan leading global equity performance in April and Taiwan and South Korea at the centre of the move. Korean equities continued their remarkable run, with the rally heavily concentrated in the AI-linked memory cycle, where demand for high-bandwidth memory used in AI applications continued to outpace supply. This particularly benefited Asia-focused managers with exposure to semiconductor and memory names across Korea, Japan and the broader supply chain. At the same time, the move also highlighted growing concentration risk at the index level, given the dominant weight of the largest memory producers. Foreign investor selling remained a technical headwind into early April, but valuation support across the broader Korean market helped sustain allocation interest beyond the semiconductor complex. Within developed markets, the US also provided a supportive backdrop, with a strong earnings season and leadership from technology, communication services and selected industrials. The name contribution within Equity Long/Short managers was not uniform, however. Part of the rally was concentrated in low-quality, high-beta and heavily shorted names, which created a more difficult backdrop for managers positioned against speculative excess. In practice, the portfolio benefited from diversification across styles: quality cyclicals, secular growth and Asia-focused technology exposure worked well, while strategies relying more on shorts in highly speculative names faced a tougher month.

### Sector Performance Reflected a Rotation into Big Tech

**S&P 500 sector performance (April and year to date)**

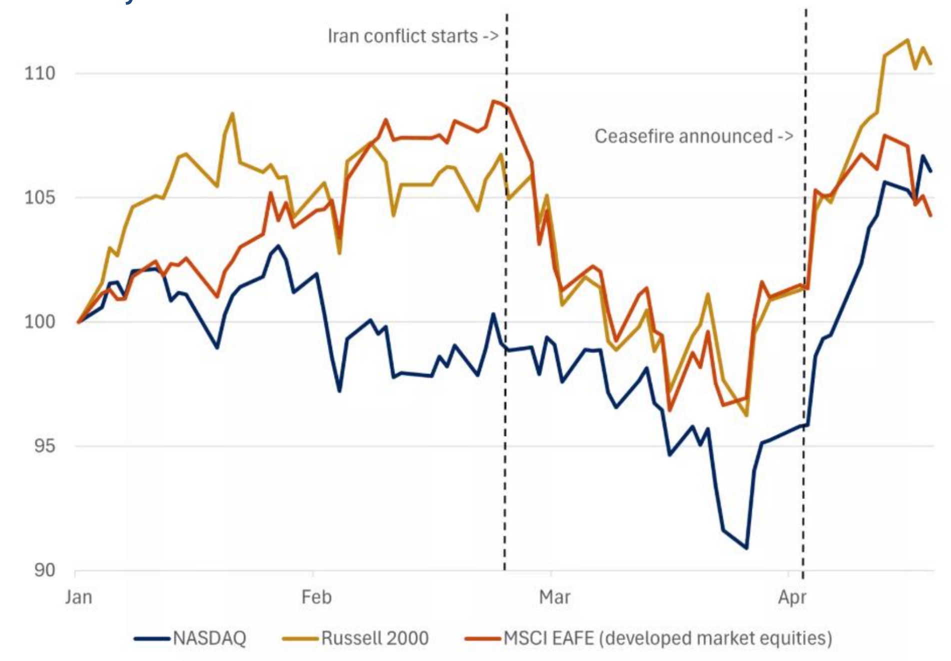



*Source: Bloomberg, as of 30 April 2026.*

- **Credit Long/Short** operated in a better market tone as spreads tightened and risk appetite improved, but the opportunity set remained more about issuer selection than broad beta. April was a month in which fixed income delivered more mixed returns than equities. Higher oil prices and renewed inflation concerns weighed on government bonds, particularly in markets more exposed to the energy shock, while stronger risk sentiment supported investment-grade and high-yield spreads. This created a steadier backdrop for higher-quality credit, but lower-quality issuers remained vulnerable to higher funding costs and persistent refinancing pressure. The month therefore favoured managers focused on balance-sheet quality, capital-structure selection and downside control rather than passive credit beta.

- **Global Macro** also contributed positively, helped by a weaker US dollar and relative value opportunities across FX and rates. The key macro feature of the month was the disconnect between stronger equities and a more uneven bond market. Oil remained central to cross-asset pricing, with Brent moving above $110 during the month and keeping inflation pressure elevated even as equity markets rallied. Government bond performance diverged across regions as markets repriced the path of policy, while currency opportunities emerged in commodity-linked FX against Europe. This was a better environment than March for managers able to express selective views across currencies, rates and commodities, but it still rewarded flexibility over aggressive directional conviction.
- **Event Driven** benefited from the improvement in broader market conditions. As equity volatility eased and financing conditions stabilised, spreads tightened in better-quality deals and the carrying cost of event exposure became less punitive. Managers remained selective, favouring cleaner situations with stronger downside protection, but April was clearly a more supportive month for merger arbitrage and special situations than the previous one.
- **Systematic and Quant** strategies participated in the rebound, although the month was still mixed beneath the surface. The broad recovery in risk assets, USD weakness and tighter credit spreads helped some models, but reversals across rates, commodities and style factors meant that not all trends were easy to capture. Equities showed strong index-level momentum, yet leadership remained concentrated in growth, technology and AI-linked names, while government bonds stayed under pressure from oil and inflation concerns. This remained an environment where diversified models and dynamic risk scaling were better suited than strategies relying on a single persistent market trend.

### V-Shaped Recovery in Stocks




*Source: Bloomberg*

Overall, April was a month in which the portfolio recovered well because its largest allocation, equity long/short, was aligned with the strongest areas of the market, while macro added support from cross-asset positioning. The month also reinforced an important point for the portfolio: returns were strongest where managers combined clear exposure to earnings and AI-related winners with disciplined risk management, rather than chasing the most speculative parts of the rally.

# Abacorum Fund – Portfolio Outlook and Positioning

## Hedge Funds Outlook - Why Hedge Funds Are Attractive Right Now

**1. A Renewed Wave of Investor Confidence:** The hedge fund industry enters 2026 with notably strong momentum. Investor sentiment toward the asset class has strengthened considerably, reflecting a broad sense that hedge funds have delivered what they were expected to achieve, and in many cases, more. Over the past few years, many allocators have seen their hedge fund exposures meet or exceed return expectations, reinforcing confidence in the role of active, risk-managed strategies. As a result, hedge funds have become one of the most preferred destinations for capital compared with other traditional or alternative investments. Interest in competing asset classes has softened, while demand for hedge fund allocations continues to expand.

**2. Why the Environment Is Turning Supportive Again:** After years where unusually accommodative monetary policy and passive market dynamics limited the payoff to active management, conditions have shifted. Economic signals are mixed, forward-looking indicators have softened, and equity valuations in some segments look stretched. At the same time, markets display a pronounced split between large companies driving index gains and smaller companies facing more challenges. This uneven backdrop makes stock selection and tactical positioning more valuable. Interest rates have normalized, market volatility sits above pre-pandemic norms, and dispersion across securities has widened. Markets have also become more reactive to new information, creating opportunities for managers who can move quickly and rely on research depth and advanced technology.

**3. How Hedge Funds Performed in Recent Years:** Hedge funds have delivered competitive returns relative to cash and broad equity benchmarks in recent years, while maintaining lower sensitivity to overall market moves. The industry's performance in 2025 reinforced the idea that hedge funds offer attractive and consistent sources of alpha even in complex environments. Flows into hedge funds have risen, driven by the need for diversification, liquidity, and return sources that do not depend solely on broad market direction.

**4. Outlook for 2026:** Several factors support a constructive outlook for hedge funds:

- Macro uncertainty plays to their strengths, as diverging central bank policies create opportunities across rates, currencies, and macro themes.
- The need for diversification is higher as investors question the benefits of concentrated exposures.
- Elevated dispersion and idiosyncratic events reward active approaches.
- Liquidity and flexibility have become more important as private markets experience slower cycles.

**5. Conclusion:** For the first time in many years, the market environment is structurally aligned with the strengths of active, flexible hedge fund strategies. Performance trends, improving dispersion, macro uncertainty, and evolving investor preferences all point toward a supportive setting for hedge fund allocations in 2026.

## Portfolio Positioning

The Fund is positioned with a diversified portfolio across multiple hedge fund strategies and geographies. A meaningful share is allocated to established managers with over USD 1 billion in AuM. The portfolio also offers rare access to soft-closed and hard-closed funds, reflecting a focus on capacity-constrained, niche managers. Diversification is maintained through investments in approximately 15–20 underlying funds.

**Selected Opportunity Sets in the Abacorum Fund**

- **Long/Short Equity:** Wide valuation dispersions and improving sector fundamentals continue to support selective equity positioning. Cyclicals benefiting from stronger macro data, along with structural winners from technological and industrial transitions, offer compelling long opportunities. Meanwhile, pockets of retail-driven excess and fragile business models create attractive shorts. Elevated single-stock volatility enhances the opportunity set for managers with disciplined risk control and differentiated research, supporting alpha from both fundamental and factor-aware stock selection.

- **Event Driven:** The pickup in global M&A, supported by stronger balance sheets, favorable financing, and renewed consolidation, is expanding opportunities across announcement and pre-announcement trades. Improving governance in regions such as Asia and parts of Europe is driving restructurings, spin-offs, asset sales and capital-return initiatives. These trends strengthen the backdrop for catalyst-driven investments, with spreads aided by rising deal certainty and clearer regulatory paths. Managers skilled in cross-border, contested, or complex transactions are well positioned.

- **Global Macro:** Diverging monetary policies, uneven disinflation, and differentiated growth trends continue to favor discretionary macro strategies. Central bank trade-offs between inflation control and political or fiscal pressures create opportunities across rates, FX and commodities. Ongoing currency adjustments, energy-supply uncertainties, and varied geopolitical sensitivities sustain tradable ranges for tactical positioning. The environment rewards managers able to rotate quickly and combine top-down views with timely catalysts.

- **Relative Value:** Dislocations between implied and realized volatility, along with regional and sector divergences, are creating appealing relative-value setups. Increased convertible-bond issuance, driven by corporate funding needs and attractive issuance terms, broadens opportunities in convertible arbitrage. With higher dispersion and frequent factor rotations, relative-value strategies can monetize micro-level mispricing while maintaining diversified risk.