### NOVARE<sup>®</sup> actuaries & consultants

### Monthly Report

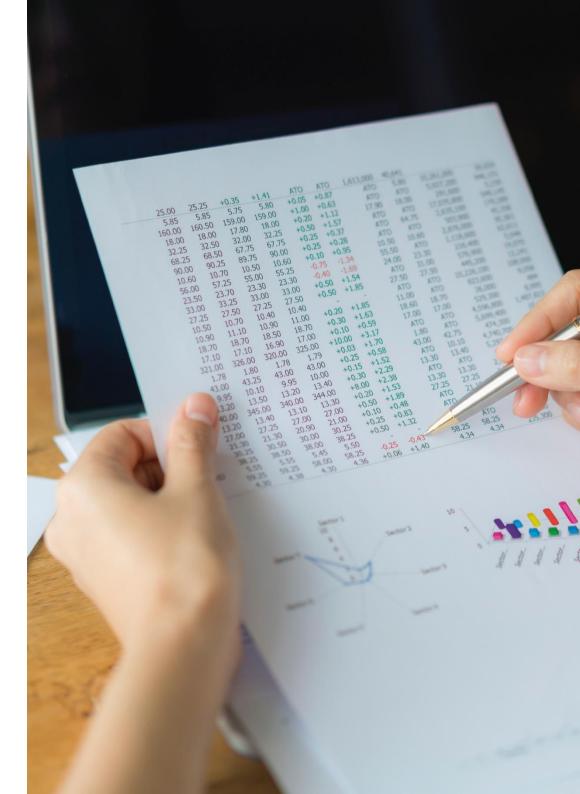
Anglican Church of Southern Africa Retirement Fund February 2022



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# REPORT Overview

#### ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA RETIREMENT FUND

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The objective represents the inflation target of CPI + 4%

#### **FUND PERFORMANCE**

The performance figures of the Fund represent the performance as calculated by Novare's pricing division and are **net** of manager fees. The year end for the Fund is 31 December. The returns for the financial year reflect returns from the 1st month of the financial year. The YTD graph illustrates the calendar months of our current year.

#### **BENCHMARK**

The benchmark performance in this report is as follows:

Asset Class	Allocation	Benchmark
Domestic Equities	40%	SWIX
Domestic Fixed	25%	ALBI
Income		
Domestic Property	5%	SA Listed Property
Domestic Money	5%	STeFI
Market		
Domestic	5%	CPI + 4.5%
Alternatives		
International	20%	International Composite:
		60% MSCI World / 40% Barclays
		Global Bond

#### **MARKET OVERVIEW**

The performance figures reflected in Section A of this report have been sourced from Inet.

#### **PERFORMANCE FOR PERIODS LONGER THAN 12 MONTHS**

All performance figures for periods greater than 12 months (1 year) are annualised, unless indicated otherwise.

#### MANAGER PERFORMANCE

The performance figures of the Fund's underlying managers represent the returns as per the manager monthly reports.

#### **TACTICAL LIMITS**

Asset Class	Lower limit	Upper limit
Domestic Equities	30%	50%
Domestic Fixed Income	10%	30%
Domestic Property	0%	10%
Domestic Money Market	0%	20%
Domestic Alternatives	0%	20%
International	0%	25%

#### DISCLAIMER

This document is confidential and issued for information purposes only and intended solely for the addressee(s) and members of the **Anglican Church of Southern Africa Retirement Fund**, which employs Novare Actuaries and Consultants (Pty) Ltd (Registration number: 2001/008015/07) (**NAC**), as its Investment Consultant. The performance of the Fund is dependent on the fluctuations of the underlying financial instruments, exchange rates and other economic factors. Past performance is not a guarantee for future performance. No guarantees are provided in relation to portfolio investment performance. NAC does not accept any liability or responsibility of whatsoever nature and however arising in respect of any claim, damage, loss or expense relating to or arising out of or in connection with the reliance by anyone on the contents of this document. Copyright of this document will remain vested with NAC and may not be reproduced to anyone in part or whole without the prior written consent of NAC.

NAC is an Authorised Financial Service Provider in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 37 of 2002. FSP No. 815.

NAC is approved by the Financial Services Board in terms of Section 13B of the Pension Funds Act, 24 of 1956, as an Investment Administrator: 24/456.

### Section A

Market Overview



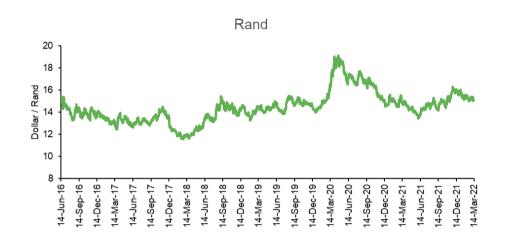
# DOMESTIC MARKET VIEW

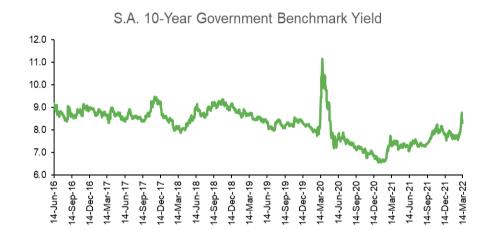
The South African stock market had another strong month (FTSE/JSE Capped SWIX +2.7% MoM), leaving it amongst only a few major global markets to end February in positive territory (Brazilian Bovespa +0.9% MoM, Shanghai Composite +3% MoM and FTSE-100 +0.3% MoM). YTD, the performance of the local bourse (+7.6% in US dollar terms) is second only to the Brazilian stock market (+16% YTD in US dollar terms).

There were several trading updates during the month which meaningfully impacted share prices, including Wilson Bayly Holmes-Ovcon (WBHO; -25% MoM), which surprised the market by announcing that it will liquidate its Australian operations, Telkom (-17% MoM), which reported slowing mobile subscriber growth, and Tiger Brands (-11% MoM), which reported lower bread volumes and margin compression due to its inability to recover cost increases.

At the other end of the spectrum, the banks released better-than-expected trading updates, showing strong earnings momentum and likely more benign credit losses than anticipated (Nedbank +15% MoM, Standard Bank +9% MoM and FirstRand +7% MoM). The miners were another source of strong performance in February (+17% MoM in aggregate), with gold miners leading the way (+29% MoM) as the price of gold rallied 6% MoM, with investors turning to perceived safe-haven assets on fears related to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Platinum miners (+25% MoM) followed platinum group metal (PGM) prices higher, initially on optimism around decreasing supply chain constraints driving increasing vehicle production, but later in the month on the back of fears that Russia (which produces c. 44% of global palladium and 14% of platinum) might struggle to export PGMs because of the conflict.





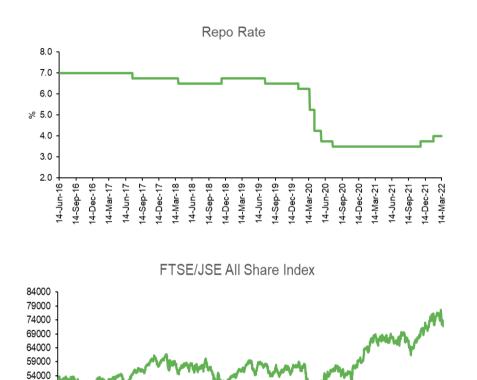
# **DOMESTIC** MARKET VIEW

Sasol, which should have been a huge beneficiary of a higher oil price, offset that tailwind with the release of earnings which showed disappointing execution. Naspers and Prosus continued to weigh heavily on the local bourse (-22% and -26% MoM, respectively), declining by more than double the rate of their biggest investment, Tencent (-11% MoM in SA rand terms).

The pair have now lost almost half of their value in the past year. The continued softness in Tencent can at least partially be ascribed to the ongoing interference of the Chinese government in the operating models of large Chinese tech companies, the latest blow coming from a guideline from the Chinese government for food delivery companies like Meituan (c. 20% owned by Tencent) to cut the fees it charges restaurants.

SA inflation data released during the month were largely in line with expectations (+5.7% YoY or +3.5% YoY, when excluding the volatile food and energy prices). The national budget speech delivered during the month by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana, contained no material surprises with the windfall from higher commodity prices being used to reduce debt and fund temporary social relief grants, while fiscal consolidation remains intact.

The local currency ended the month largely unchanged (+0.1% MoM) as did the yield on 10-year government bonds (9.8%).



14-Dec-18 -

14-Mar-19 14-Jun-19 14-Sep-19 14-Dec-19 14-Mar-20

14-Sep-18

14-Jun-18

14-Sep-17 14-Dec-17 14-Mar-18

49000 44000

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4-Dec-16 14-Mar-17 14-Jun-17

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14-Sep-21

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14-Sep-20 14-Dec-20 14-Mar-21

14-Jun-20

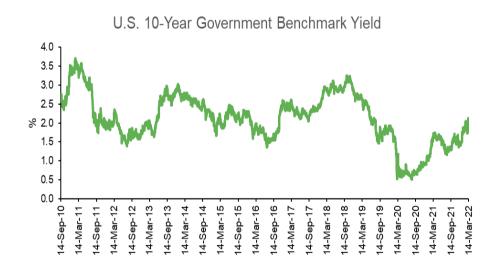
# **INTERNATIONAL** MARKET VIEW

Global stocks were negotiating the first part of February relatively well – roughly flat, in aggregate, by mid-month. US earnings were largely going according to plan, with most S&P 500 companies having reported 4Q21 earnings by month-end, and aggregate earnings growth of c. 30% YoY – c. 6% ahead of consensus analyst expectations. There were notable exceptions amongst the positive earnings surprises, including some from the darlings of the pandemic, like Facebook owner, Meta, which saw its share price fall 26% on the day after reporting earnings that included a disappointing outlook for 1Q22 revenue amidst stagnating user growth, larger-than-expected headwinds related to Apple's privacy updates, and increasing competition for advertising spend from the likes of TikTok.

The share price drop wiped c. US\$250bn from Meta's market cap in a single day, the biggest ever drop in value for a US company. PayPal and Home Depot were also amongst the companies experiencing big share price declines in the wake of their results.

Towards month-end, the focus on corporate earnings shifted swiftly to the escalating conflict in Ukraine with Russian troops crossing the border, intent on forcing a regime change in their former Soviet Union neighbour. By month-end, nations around the world were scrambling to roll out sanctions against Russia and its leaders, with the conflict still raging and the end game remaining highly uncertain. Headlines suggesting Russian president, Vladimir Putin, had put his nuclear deterrent forces on high alert, raised fears of a conflict escalating beyond Ukraine and left investors shunning risky assets (MSCI World -2.5% MoM).



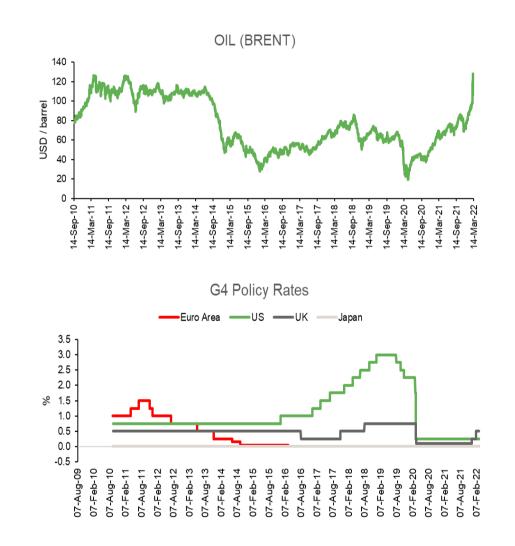


# **INTERNATIONAL** MARKET VIEW

Russian assets bore the brunt of the sell-off, with the MSCI Russia Index down 53% MoM and the Russian currency falling 26% MoM. Russia's role as the third-largest oil producer globally, supplying natural gas, oil, and coal for c. 25% of the European Union's (EU's) energy needs caused heightened anxiety about the impact that the conflict might have on global energy supplies at a time when the pandemic and unusual weather patterns were already elevating demand and restricting the supply of energy commodities.

Brent crude oil spiked 11% MoM to end February above \$100/bbl, leaving the S&P 500 energy sector (+7% MoM) as the only sector to end the month in positive territory. Other emerging markets (EMs) fared better, particularly those with meaningful commodity exports like Brazil and South Africa (SA), which saw their stock markets close the month higher (+0.9% and +2.7% MoM, respectively). In aggregate, EMs still fared worse than developed markets (DMs) for the month (MSCI EM -3% MoM).

The month had started with a continuation of concerns around elevated global inflation levels and US inflation data for January (released early in February) did nothing to assuage those fears, with US headline inflation of 7.5% YoY coming in ahead of expectations and higher than December's print (7% YoY, the highest inflation level in 40-years). The spike in energy prices related to the conflict will exacerbate inflationary pressures, and markets are still anticipating that the US Federal Reserve (Fed) will deliver five 0.25% rate hikes this year. However, US 10-year government bond yields retreated from their mid-month highs of 2.05% to end the month at 1.8%. This was likely due to a combination of investors driving yields lower as they shifted towards less risky assets and perhaps also a reflection of an expectation that the Fed will be able to proceed more cautiously with unwinding its growing balance sheet in light of the impact that the conflict in Ukraine might have on dampening economic activity globally.



# TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

#### **RSA BONDS**

In the fixed income markets the ALBI returned 0.54% during February with the long end of the curve seeing the largest increase. SA inflation data released during the month were largely in line with expectations (+5.7% YoY or +3.5% YoY, when excluding the volatile food and energy prices). The national budget speech delivered during the month by Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana, contained no material surprises with the windfall from higher commodity prices being used to reduce debt and fund temporary social relief grants, while fiscal consolidation remains intact. The local currency ended the month largely unchanged (+0.1% MoM) as did the yield on 10-year government bonds (9.8%).

We expect that SA bonds will continue to be driven by US rates and global risk sentiment.

We are becoming constructive on the asset class as we believe a lot of negative news has been priced in. We have recently increased our bond allocation to a neutral position and will be looking to increase that further into any weakness.

#### **RSA PROPERTY, ALTERNATIVES AND CASH**

During February, listed property had another weaker month, ending down - 3.26%. With the SARB becoming more hawkish on the inflation outlook, investors started pricing in more rate hikes. The re-set of property companies' earnings and balance sheets is very favourable for the sector's re-rating potential.

The property sector has therefore turned attractive by historic standards and as such we will possibly make use of the pullback to add to our property exposure. The full impact of Covid-19 is still very much lingering and the continued partial lockdown is sure to leave some scars down the road. We will be looking to increase our allocation to the asset class as we see some signs of normality returning to the local macro environment and on a basis of probability see more upside than downside risk. In South Africa's money market, the 3-m JIBAR rate rose 11bp to end the month at 4.22%, while the 12-m JIBAR rate rose 32bp to 6.03%. In the last 12 months, the rates are up 58bp and 158bp respectively. The 12-m T-bill average yield declined by 11bp to 5.60% at the end of February.

In the SA bond market, non-residents turned large net sellers, with the R28.6bn outflow in February far exceeding January's R5.6bn inflow (according to Bloomberg data). This brings the cumulative outflow for the last 12 months to R187bn.

### **RSA EQUITIES**

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#### NOVARE HOUSE VIEW: February 2022 TACTICAL POSITIONING\*



\* positioning is as a % of strategic asset allocation **Summary:** 

Novare remains underweight domestic equitiies, domestic bonds and domestic property: whilst maintaining an overweight to International assets. Due to the limit of 30% to international assets, the balance of any domestic assets will be invested in cash.

++
+
Neutral
-

### TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

Global Assets (US\$)	1 month	3 months	YTD	12 months	3 Years	5 Years
MSCI All Countries Equity	-2.6%	-3.6%	-7.3%	8.3%	14.0%	12.0%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-3.0%	-3.0%	-4.8%	-10.4%	6.4%	7.4%
Global Bonds (R)	-1.4%	-6.5%	-6.7%	-3.8%	5.2%	5.9%
Commodity Prices	1 month	3 months	YTD	12 months	3 Years	5 Years
Brent Oil (USD/Barrel)	9.8%	41.5%	26.0%	52.1%	13.8%	11.9%
Platinum (USD/oz)	3.8%	10.9%	9.1%	-13.3%	6.6%	0.7%
	5.9%	5.7%	3.6%	7.1%	12.7%	8.7%

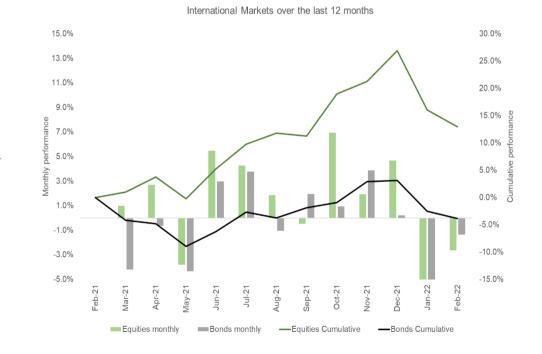
Asset Allocation (Rand)	1 month	3 months	YTD	12 months	3 Year	5 Years
Domestic Equities	2.9%	8.8%	3.8%	20.5%	14.8%	12.0%
Domestic Bonds	0.5%	4.1%	1.4%	9.0%	8.7%	8.9%
Domestic Cash	0.3%	1.0%	0.7%	3.9%	5.3%	6.1%
Domestic Property	-3.3%	1.4%	-6.0%	22.4%	-5.8%	-5.8%
International Equity	-2.6%	-6.8%	-11.0%	13.0%	18.4%	16.0%
International Bonds	-1.4%	-6.5%	-6.7%	-3.8%	5.2%	5.9%
Exchange rate (R / \$)	-0.1%	-3.3%	-3.6%	1.6%	2.9%	3.2%

Scale:

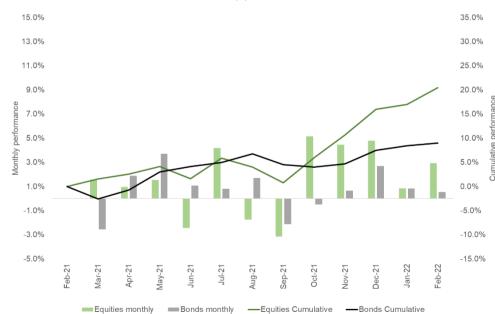
Best performing asset class

Worst performing asset class





#### Domestic Markets (R) over the last 12 months

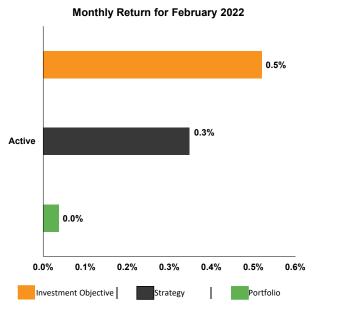


### Section B

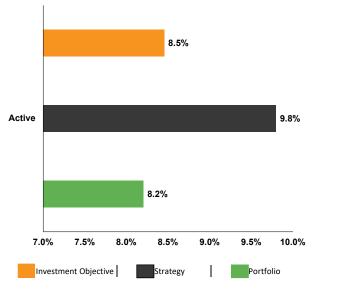
Fund Overview

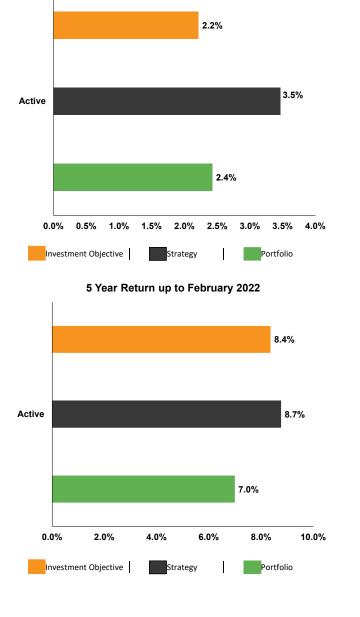


### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



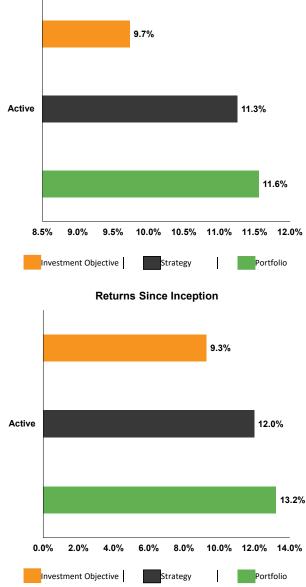
3 Year Return up to February 2022





3 Months Return up to February 2022

1 Year Return up to February 2022

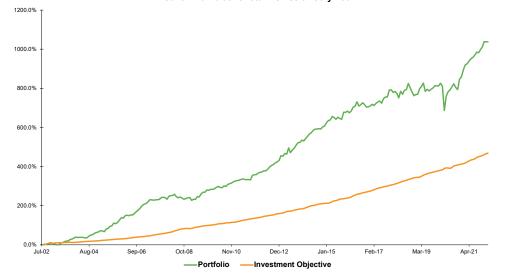


Monthly Investment Report | ACSA Retirement Fund

### LONG TERM RETURNS

Longer term returns should be used to assess the Fund's performance when compared to the benchmark as short term volatility may distort short term performance measurement.

Active - Cumulative return since 31 July 2002



**PORTFOLIO MARKET VALUES AND RETURNS** The table below sets out the portfolio returns of the funds over the various periods in comparison with their respective benchmarks.

Active Strategy 175 081 394 100.0% 0.0% 2.4% 11.6% 8.2%   0.3% 3.5% 11.3% 9.8% -0.3% -1.0% 0.3% -1.6%   Active Objective 0.0% 2.4% 11.6% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.2% 8.5%		
Strategy 0.3% 3.5% 11.3% 9.8%   -0.3% -1.0% 0.3% -1.6%   Active 0.0% 2.4% 11.6% 8.2%   Dbjective 0.5% 2.2% 9.7% 8.5%	ars (% p.a.) 8 years (% p.a.)	) Since Inception
-0.3% -1.0% 0.3% -1.6%   ctive 0.0% 2.4% 11.6% 8.2%   bjective 0.5% 2.2% 9.7% 8.5%	7.0% 7.4%	% 13.2%
-0.3% -1.0% 0.3% -1.6% ctive 0.0% 2.4% 11.6% 8.2% bjective 0.5% 2.2% 9.7% 8.5%	8.7% 8.7%	6 12.0%
Dbjective 0.5% 2.2% 9.7% 8.5%	-1.8% -1.3%	6 1.2%
Objective 0.5% 2.2% 9.7% 8.5%		
	7.0% 7.4%	% 13.2%
	8.4% 8.9%	6 9.3%
-0.5% 0.2% 1.8% -0.3%	-1.4% -1.5%	<b>%</b> 3.9%

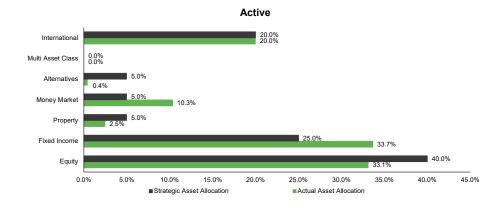
**MANAGER PERFORMANCE** The table below sets out the individual manager returns for funds and compares them with their respective benchmarks.

					Replaced and	the state of the s	Entropy of A		The A		
Asset Class	Manager	Inception Date	Market value (R)	Weight (%)	1 month (%)	3 months (%)	12 months (%)	3 years (% p.a.)	5 years (% p.a.)	8 years (% p.a.)	Since Inception
Equity	Swix Top 40 Tracker	2020/01/31	3 974	0.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	JSE All Share Index Top 40				-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ixed Income	Futuregrowth Infrastructure Bond Fund	2011/07/31	31 642 988	18.1%	0.7%	4.8%	11.8%	10.0%	10.3%	10.0%	10.1%
ixed income	All Bond Index	2011/07/31	51 042 500	10.176	0.5%	4.1%	9.0%	8.7%	8.9%	8.5%	8.4%
					0.1%	0.7%	2.8%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.7%
Money Market	Liberty Standard Money Market	2008/10/31	15 833 993	9.0%	0.3%	1.0%	4.1%	5.4%	6.3%	6.5%	6.6%
	STEFI	2000/10/01	10 000 000	0.070	0.3%	1.0%	3.9%	5.3%	6.1%	6.3%	6.5%
					0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
	Standard Money Market	2006/05/31	1 333 851	0.8%	0.3%	1.0%	4.1%	5.2%	6.2%	5.9%	6.7%
	STEFI				0.3%	1.0%	3.9%	5.3%	6.1%	6.3%	7.0%
					0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.5%	-0.3%
Multi Asset Class	Prudential House View with Global	2020/01/31	63 458 193	36.2%	-1.0%	1.1%	13.9%	-	-	-	11.4%
	CPI + 5%				0.6%	2.4%	10.7%	-	-	-	9.4%
					-1.5%	-1.4%	3.1%	-	-	-	2.0%
	Ninety One House View with Global	2020/01/31	62 808 394	35.9%	0.6%	1.7%	9.4%	-	-	-	11.0%
	CPI + 5%				0.6%	2.4%	10.7%	-	-	-	9.4%
					0.0%	-0.8%	-1.4%	-	-	-	1.6%
			175 081 394	100%							

### ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset Class	Manager	Active	Total Fund	
Equity	Swix Top 40 Tracker	3 974	3 974	
Fixed Income	Futuregrowth Infrastructure Bond Fund	31 642 988	31 642 988	
Money Market	Liberty Standard Money Market	15 833 993	15 833 993	
	Standard Money Market	1 333 851	1 333 851	
Multi Asset Class	Prudential House View with Global	63 458 193	63 458 193	
	Ninety One House View with Global	62 808 394	62 808 394	
Total Fund		175 081 394	175 081 394	





### Section C

Glossary



# INVESTMENT GLOSSARY

#### **ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS**

Any non-traditional asset class. Investing in these generally provides a portfolio with greater diversification.

#### **ANNUALISED RETURN**

Where a cumulative return is over a period greater than a year, an annualised return is what the return is when converted into annual periods. For example, if the cumulative return over a 3-year period was 6%, the annualised return would be approximately 2% p.a. It means the investment earned an effective return of around 2% each year over the 3-year period (to arrive at the 6%).

#### **ASSET CLASS**

A type of investment, such as equities, bonds, cash, private equity etc.

#### BENCHMARK

What a portfolio, asset class or investment manager is judged against.

#### **BENCHMARK PERFORMANCE**

The performance return of an investment manager's benchmark or a Fund's strategic asset allocation.

#### BOND

A bond is issued by a company or country where it borrows money from the market, with a promise to repay it back. Bonds are characterised by what interest is paid back each year, and how long the term of the bond is.

### CPI

Consumer price index. It is commonly used to identify periods of inflation or deflation.

#### **CREDIT RATING**

The rating given by a credit-rating agency, based on its view of the financial wellbeing of a company or country and the likelihood of default (i.e. inability to meet debt obligations). The highest rating is usually AAA, and the lowest is D.

#### CRISA

Code of Responsible Investing in South Africa.

#### **CUMULATIVE RETURN**

The aggregated return of an investment over a particular time-period.

#### **DERIVATIVES**

A derivative is a security of which the price is dependent upon or derived from one or more underlying assets.

#### EQUITY

Referring to the asset class, equity describes the ownership of a company. An individual or financial institution can own part of the company by buying equity shares or stocks. These are generally traded on a stock exchange, such as the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The investment objective that a Fund portfolio is trying to achieve. This is generally a return in excess of CPI. E.g. CPI + 3% per annum.

# INVESTMENT GLOSSARY

#### **HEDGE FUND**

A type of alternative asset class. Here the investment manager generally invests in traditional asset classes, but has more tools to express their view of the market. Hedge funds look to protect capital in times of market falls and offer diversification from traditional asset classes.

#### **INDEX**

A benchmark measure to gauge how an asset class has performed. For example, the JSE All Share index is a measure to gauge how South African equities have performed.

#### **INFLATION**

The increase (or decrease) in the price of goods. For example, if inflation over the year was 5%, this means that prices rose by 5% over the period.

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

The assets of a Fund that are invested outside of South Africa. Exposure is limited to 30% per Regulation 28 of the Pension Fund, or 40% subject to 10% being invested in Africa.

#### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The target that an investment fund or portfolio is trying to achieve.

#### **INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT (IPS)**

A document which sets out the investment aspects of the Fund, including its Fund objectives and describes the various strategies followed to meet them.

#### **MONTHLY RETURN**

The performance return over a month.

#### MANDATE

An investment manager's portfolio and objective.

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#### **OVERWEIGHT**

To have a higher allocation in a particular asset class or security than what the comparable benchmark indicates.

#### PERFORMANCE

How much the value of a portfolio or instrument has grown by over a particular period.

#### **PRIVATE EQUITY**

An alternative asset class where investors buy equity ownership of a company but where the equity is not listed on a stock exchange.

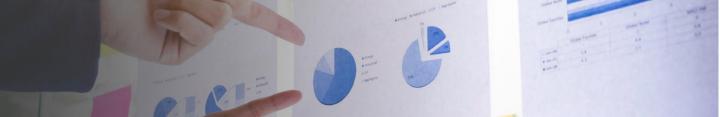
#### PROPERTY

An asset class where one invests in property either directly (i.e. buying a property) or indirectly (i.e. buying property shares on the stock exchange).

#### **PROTECTED EQUITY**

An asset class giving the investor exposure to equities, but whilst also offering protection against market falls.

# **INVESTMENT** GLOSSARY



#### **REGULATION 28**

Refers to regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act, i.e. the guidelines for South African retirement funds which is aimed at ensuring Funds are not taking on too much risk, by limiting the excessive use of specific investment instruments, markets and asset classes.

#### **REPO RATE**

The interest rate which the Reserve Bank lends money to the commercial banks. An increase in the repo rates puts pressure on commercial banks to increase the prime rate.

#### **SHARPE RATIO**

A statistical measure indicating the reward for taking on an additional unit of risk. A high positive value is ideal as it indicates that for the risk taken, positive returns were achieved.

#### STRATEGIC ASSET ALLOCATION

This is the target that a Fund portfolio should be invested in over the long term across various asset classes. The strategic asset allocations are designed to help meet the Fund objective.

#### TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

These are deviations made away from the strategic asset allocation with the aim of enhancing performance based on views of the investment markets.

#### **TRACKING ERROR**

A statistical measure indicating the deviation or difference of a portfolio's return compared to its benchmark return.

#### **TRADITIONAL ASSET CLASS**

This generally refers to equities, bonds, cash and property

#### **UNDERWEIGHT**

To have a lower allocation in a particular asset class or security than what the comparable benchmark indicates.

#### VOLATILITY

A risk measure characterised by the standard deviation of portfolio returns. The higher the value, the higher expected risk.

#### YEAR-TO-DATE ("YTD")

The performance return since the beginning of the latest calendar year

### CONTACT US

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