

# Foord International Feeder Fund (Class B2)

FEBRUARY 2020 **CLOSED TO NEW INVESTMENT** 

#### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

To achieve meaningful inflation-beating US\$ returns over rolling five-year periods from a conservatively managed portfolio of global equities, warrants, exchange traded funds, UCITS and other UCIs, interest bearing securities and cash instruments reflecting Foord's prevailing best investment

#### **INVESTOR PROFILE**

Investors requiring diversification through offshore investment with exposures to currencies, markets and securities not available in South Africa; seeking a hedge against ZAR currency depreciation.

#### **DOMICILE**

South Africa

#### **MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

Foord Unit Trusts (RF) (Pty) Ltd VAT Registration Number: 4560201594

#### **FUND MANAGERS**

Brian Arcese and Dave Foord

#### **INCEPTION DATE**

1 March 2006 / 1 March 2012

#### **BASE CURRENCY**

South African rands

## 

Indicates the relative weight of equities in the portfolio. A higher weight could result in increased volatility of returns.

#### **CATEGORY**

Global - Multi-Asset - Flexible

#### **PORTFOLIO SIZE**

R3.6 billion

#### **UNIT PRICE (CLASS B2)**

4652.57 cents

## **NUMBER OF UNITS (CLASS B2)**

57.9 million

## SIGNIFICANT RESTRICTIONS

The portfolio may only invest in cash and one other collective investment scheme.

## **DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Foord International Fund, in which the fund invests, does not distribute its income.

## **INCOME CHARACTERISTICS**

Marginal to zero income yield as the Foord International Fund is a roll-up fund and does not distribute its income.

## **PORTFOLIO ORIENTATION**

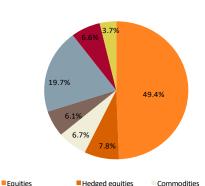
Fully invested in the Foord International Fund, sub-fund of Foord SICAV, domiciled in Luxembourg.

Currency volatility means risk of loss in the short term is high. In general, the risk of loss is lower than that of the average foreign equity fund.

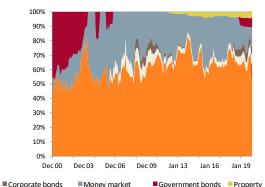
## **TIME HORIZON**

Longer than three years.

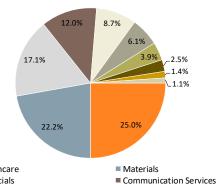
#### **ASSET ALLOCATION**



#### **CHANGES IN PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION: MASTER FUND**



#### **EQUITY SECTOR ALLOCATION**

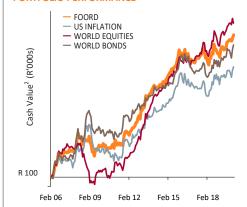


#### **GEOGRAPHIC EXPOSURE**

	TOTAL PORTFOLIO %	REGIONAL EQUITY %	CASH %
North America	47	13	20
EM Latin America Europe	- 28	22	-
EM Europe	-	-	-
Pacific	10	6	-
EM Asia	15	8	-
	100	49	20

- Healthcare
- Financials Consumer staples
- Consumer discretionary
- Information technology
- **■** Utilities
- Industrials Energy

## **PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE**



## **TOP 10 INVESTMENTS**

SECURITY	ASSET CLASS	MARKET	% OF FUND
FMC Corp	Equity	USA	8.2
US Treasury 2.75%	Gov bond	USA	6.6
ETFS Physical Gold	Commodity	GBR	6.4
Nagacorp 9.375%	Corp Bond	SGP	6.1
ICS USD Fund	Cash	IRL	5.4
Nestle	Equity	CHE	5.0
CVS Health Corp	Equity	USA	3.9
SSE PLC	Equity	GBR	3.9
Roche Holding	Equity	CHE	3.8
Vodafone Group	Equity	GBR	3.4

#### PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE (PERIODS GREATER THAN ONE YEAR ARE ANNUALISED 1)

	CASH VALUE <sup>2</sup>	SINCE INCEPTION	LAST 10 YEARS	LAST 7 YEARS	LAST 5 YEARS	LAST 3 YEARS	LAST 12 MONTHS	THIS MONTH
IN RANDS								
FOORD 3,4	R 466 197	11.6%	12.5%	12.4%	9.3%	10.8%	17.2%	3.1%
PEER GROUP 4,5	R 310 009	8.4%	9.6%	10.3%	7.2%	9.0%	14.2%	0.1%
US INFLATION 6	R 329 728	8.9%	9.2%	9.8%	8.1%	8.1%	13.7%	4.2%
WORLD EQUITIES 7	R 529 224	12.6%	17.2%	17.8%	12.9%	14.4%	17.0%	-4.6%
WORLD BONDS 8	R 416 711	10.7%	9.6%	9.8%	9.1%	10.9%	20.3%	5.2%
FOORD HIGHEST 3,4,9		42.1%	42.1%	36.6%	28.0%	23.5%	17.2%	
FOORD LOWEST 3,4,9		-18.5%	-11.9%	-11.9%	-11.9%	-6.1%	17.2%	

- Converted to reflect the average yearly return for each period presented
- Current value of R100 000 notional lump sum invested at inception, distributions reinvested (graphically represented in R'000s above)
- <sup>3</sup> Class B2 from 1 March 2012, Class A previously
- Net of fees and expenses <sup>5</sup> USD Flexible Allocation Morningstar category (provisional). Source: Morningstar
- <sup>6</sup> US headline consumer price index. Source: Bloomberg L.P., performance as calculated by Foord (estimated for February 2020)
  <sup>7</sup> MSCI World Equity Total Return Index (Developed Markets). Source: Bloomberg L.P., performance as calculated by Foord
  § FTSE World Government Bond Index. Source: Bloomberg L.P., performance as calculated by Foord
- <sup>9</sup> Highest and lowest actual 12 month rand return achieved in the period



#### **COMMENTARY**

- Global equities (-8.4%) fell precipitously with the S&P 500 posting its largest single-day decline (-4.4%) since 2011 on growing fears of a global Covid-19 pandemic partial quarantines and severe travel and supply-chain disruptions sapped world growth expectations
- Emerging markets (-5.3%), led by China, outperformed developed market bourses business activity in China slowly began to normalise after weeks of near-zero activity
- Developed market bond yields plummeted with the US 10-year (1.14%) reaching an all-time low investors piled into safe-havens as global risk appetite plunged
- The US dollar strengthened against the euro (-0.9%) and pound (-3.1%) while weakening modestly against the yen (+0.5%) the US and Japanese currencies typically outperform in times of stress
- Given the carnage, the fund's S&P 500 hedges helped limit the fund's declines the put options and short futures positions in aggregate contributed +1.3% to fund performance
- Leading US pharmacy and managed care organisation CVS (-12.7%) tumbled after Bernie Sanders' Democratic primary poll advance was deemed negative for managed care incumbents but the fund's largest holding, FMC Corp (-2.6%), was a big outperformer
- Nearly all commodities including oil (-13.1%) and iron ore (-6.3%) fell as global demand expectations declined on Covid-19 fears safe havens gold (-1.2%) and silver (-3.9%) fared best amid the heightened volatility
- The managers are cautious on favoured asset class, equities paring but in the main retaining the S&P 500 put options and short futures positions
- The rand (-4.2% vs the US dollar) is one of the worst performing currencies this year (-11.9% YTD vs US dollar) the Covid-19 pandemic risk-off sentiment compounded South Africa's structural headwinds as the Moody's rating review looms

#### FEE RATES (CLASS B2)

Initial, exit and switching fees	0.0%
Annual fees	0.1% plus VAT
Underlying investment fees	A 1.35% fixed annual fee is levied in the Foord International Fund

#### **ANNUALISED COST RATIO (CLASS B2)**

	12 MONTHS	36 MONTHS
TER —Basic	1.50%	1.54%
—Performance	0.00%	0.00%
Transaction costs	0.00%	0.00%
Total cost ratio	1.50%	1.54%

#### **INVESTING OFFSHORE**

While an investment in the fund provides for global asset exposure, you may only invest and withdraw rands. Your contribution to a fund of this nature is over and above the South African offshore allowance.

## INVESTING FOR THE LONG TERM

At Foord Unit Trusts, we believe in investing for the long term. We seek to partner with clients who wish to invest for decades and who understand that superior long-term returns are not achieved smoothly each year. We pledge to earn your trust by investing your money with the same care and dedication with which we invest our own.

#### **ABOUT THE TARGET FUND**

The Foord International Fund (FIF) is the target fund for the Foord International Feeder Fund. FIF was launched as a global equity fund in 1997 when South African exchange controls were first relaxed. It was a tumultuous time for global equity markets. Price-earnings multiples (PEs) on the S&P 500 Index in the USA grew from around 15-times earnings in 1995 to around 20-times earnings when the fund commenced. They headed even higher as investors speculated in the dot-com bubble leading up to the early 2000s.

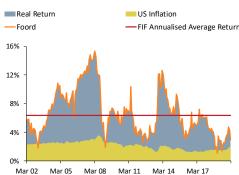
Given the speculative fever in equity markets and the entrenched Foord investment philosophy of protecting investors from permanent capital losses, the managers changed the fund's investment policy to one of flexible asset allocation. Investment grade interest bearing assets in excess of 40% of the portfolio were subsequently included in the fund, which protected investors' capital when equity markets retraced their gains in 1999/2000 (see Chart 1). Within the reduced equity component, the investment thesis continued to focus on quality companies offering a safe but adequate return, mostly in developed economies.

The managers then set an absolute return investment objective for the fund. Chart 2 demonstrates that FIF has consistently delivered real returns of approximately 5% per annum in US dollars over rolling five year cycles.

### **CHART 1: CUMULATIVE RETURNS**



# **CHART 2: ROLLING 5 YEARS VS US INFLATION**



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A Total Expense Ratio (TER) is a measure of a portfolio's annual expenses, fees and charges, expressed as a percentage of the average daily value of the portfolio. These expenses include the annual fee, VAT, audit fees, bank charges and costs, including trading costs, incurred in any underlying funds. Included in the TER, but separately disclosed, is a performance fee (or credit) resulting from overperformance (or underperformance) against the benchmark. A higher TER ratio does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TERs. Performance return information and prices are always stated net of the expenses, fees and charges included in the TER. The TER for the fund's financial year ended 29 February 2020 was 1.50%.

The portfolio may include underlying foreign investments. Fluctuations or movements in exchange rates may cause the value of underlying foreign investments to go up or down. The underlying foreign investments may be adversely affected by political instability as well as exchange controls, changes in taxation, foreign investment policies, restrictions on repatriation of investments and other restrictions and controls that may be imposed by the relevant authorities in the relevant countries.

Foord is a member of the Association for Savings and Investment SA.

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**FOREIGN INVESTMENT RISK**