

# PPS BALANCED FUND OF FUNDS

As of 31 Dec 2023



INVESTMENTS

## FUND DESCRIPTION

This fund will have moderately high equity exposure, not exceeding 75% and property not exceeding 25%. This fund may invest in equity securities, interest-bearing securities, listed and unlisted financial instruments and liquid assets. It solely holds units in local or foreign collective investment schemes or other similar schemes. Ratios may vary.

The PPS Balanced Fund of Funds aims to outperform its peer group over time. This fund is managed according to Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act and therefore is a suitable standalone vehicle for retirement savings.

## FUND OVERVIEW

### List of classes\*\*

Portfolio category

Launch date

Investment manager

### Benchmark

### Income distribution

Investment horizon

Portfolio size

Market Value (NAV price per unit)

Number of Units Held

Asset management fee (excl. VAT)

Trustee

Risk profile

A & A2 class

South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

30 July 2011 (A) ; 2 January 2013 (A2)

PPS Multi-Managers Proprietary Limited  
(authorised FSP)

South African - Multi Asset - High Equity  
(Category average)

Half-yearly

Long-term - five years and longer

R5 109 936 749

221.14 (A); 224.09 (A2)

185 475 562 (A); 1 793 260 566 (A2)

1.05% (A) ; 0.60% (A2)

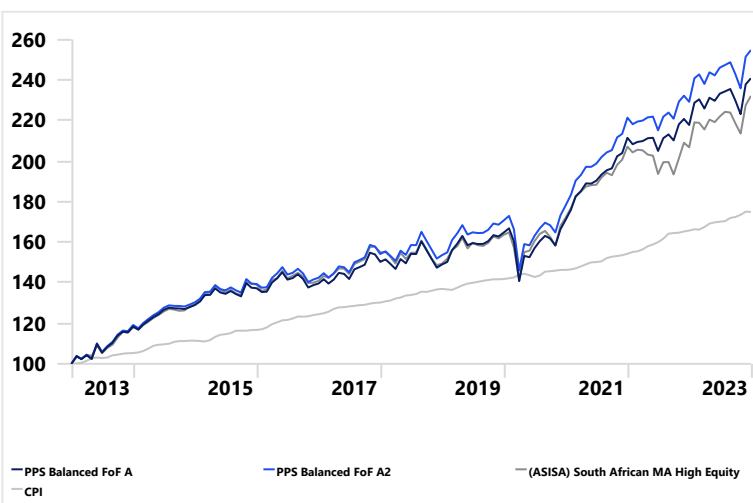
Standard Chartered Bank

Medium - High

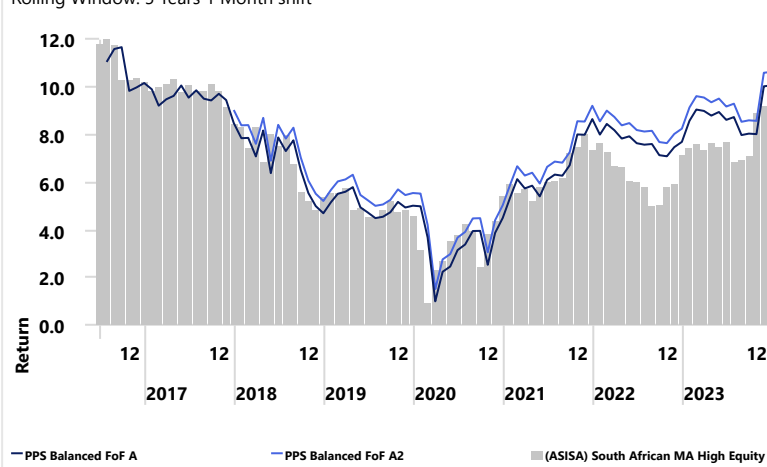
\*\*On PPS Investments platform, A2 class is available in Select range and A class is available in Original range

## ILLUSTRATIVE PERFORMANCE

Estimated growth of R100 000 invested with all distributions reinvested (for illustrative purposes only).  
Growth is represented in R '000



Rolling Window: 5 Years 1 Month shift



## ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE

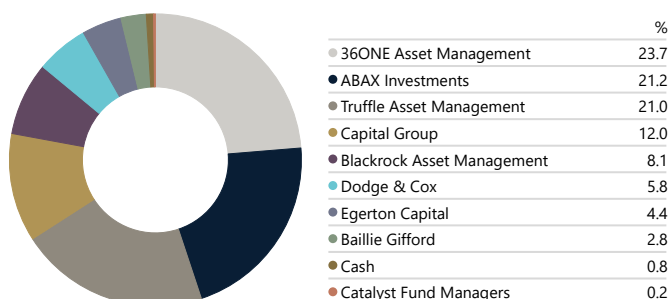
	3 months*	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since Inception A^	Since Inception A2^^
PPS Balanced FoF A	4.76%	10.57%	12.08%	10.08%	8.10%	7.35%	8.83%	—
PPS Balanced FoF A2	4.90%	11.14%	12.66%	10.65%	8.66%	7.90%	—	8.85%
(ASISA) South African MA High Equity	6.17%	12.25%	10.48%	9.21%	7.38%	7.00%	8.72%	7.96%

A^ 30 July 2011; A2^^ 2 January 2013

	YTD 2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
PPS Balanced FoF A	10.57%	2.99%	23.63%	3.82%	10.57%	-0.86%	7.66%	1.71%
PPS Balanced FoF A2	11.14%	3.52%	24.28%	4.36%	11.14%	-0.35%	8.21%	2.22%
(ASISA) South African MA High Equity	12.25%	-0.17%	20.32%	5.19%	9.52%	-3.60%	9.97%	1.31%

\*Periods less than one year are not annualised

## ASSET MANAGERS



## RISK METRICS\*\*\*

Metric	A	A2	Benchmark
Annualised Standard Deviation	9.9%	9.9%	10.1%
Maximum Drawdown	-15.6%	-15.5%	-14.1%
Percentage of Positive months	72.1%	72.1%	63.9%
Information Ratio	0.32	0.04	—
Sharpe Ratio	0.45	0.51	—

\*\*\*Risk metrics calculated over a 5 year period

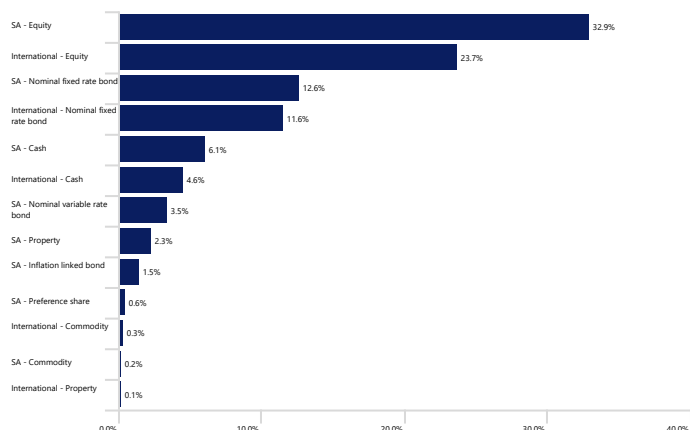
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## ASSET ALLOCATION



## PORTFOLIO DETAIL

Top 10 Holdings	Allocation
R2040 9% 20400131	4.7%
R2035 8.875% 20350228	3.9%
ABSA Group Ltd	3.2%
British American Tobacco PLC	2.8%
Naspers Ltd	2.4%
FirstRand Ltd	1.5%
Prosus NV	1.5%
R2044 8.75% 20450131	1.2%
Standard Bank Group Ltd	1.2%
Sasol Ltd	1.1%

## HIGHEST & LOWEST RETURNS SINCE INCEPTION (12-month rolling performance)

	A^	A2^^
Highest	31.6%	32.2%
Highest Month End Date	31 Mar 2021	31 Mar 2021
Lowest	-11.6%	-11.1%
Lowest Month End Date	31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2020

A^30 July 2011; A2^^2 January 2013

## 1 YEAR FEES (%) (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)

Fees	A	A2
Total expense ratio (TER)	1.88	1.36
Transaction costs (TC)	0.43	0.43
<b>Total investment charge (TER+TC)</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>1.79</b>

## 3 YEAR FEES (%) (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)

Fees	A	A2
Total expense ratio (TER)	1.83	1.32
Transaction costs (TC)	0.42	0.42
<b>Total investment charge (TER+TC)</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>1.74</b>

## DISTRIBUTIONS (Last 12 months)

Date	A	A2
31 Dec 2023	0.00	0.50
30 Jun 2023	0.00	0.08

## FUND COMMENTARY

This FoF targets outperformance of the ASISA Multi-Asset High Equity peer-group over rolling five years. Diversification is achieved on a manager level across both South African and foreign markets. The FoF has no explicit house-view allocation given its peer-benchmark and maintains a foreign allocation of at least 25%.

A shift in global sentiment regarding the direction of inflation and interest rates led to a difficult quarter for growth assets. South African equities, as measured by the FTSE/JSE Capped SWIX was down 3.8% this quarter, resulting in the index delivering a negative return of -0.3% year-to-date. Among the subsectors, only Financials delivered a positive return of 2.0% for the quarter, with Industrials (down 6.8%) and Resources (down 5.4%) following the global trend for the quarter.

The South African equity market (FTSE/JSE Capped SWIX TR) spent most of 2023 inside January's trading range, eventually ending the year up 7.9%. The Index was held up by Financials and Industrials (up 21.8% and 17.3%, respectively) but Resources fell sharply (down 15.4%) as platinum shares and Sasol came under pressure.

The SA market's entire return for the year was achieved in the fourth quarter (up 8.2%), with banking and gold shares extending their rallies. Although SA bonds (FTSE/JSE All Bond Index TR) delivered a similar return to equities this quarter (up 8.1%) they outperformed for the full year (up 9.7% vs 7.9%), despite higher interest rates.

Foreign equity (up 7.8% for the quarter) had a stellar year, with the MSCI ACWI TR climbing 31.3% in rands, boosted by the stronger dollar (7.5% appreciation against the rand). US equities were the main driver, fuelled by technology stocks. Foreign bonds continued their recovery this quarter (up 4.9%), following the protracted sell-off in US Treasuries to 2007 levels, with the FTSE World Government Bond Index eventually ending the year up 13.1% in rands.

Against this backdrop, PPS Balanced underperformed its peer-group benchmark for the quarter, given relative performance from the domestic multi-asset managers, who collectively were somewhat defensively positioned. Despite near-term underperformance, PPS Balanced remains competitive longer-term and remains first quartile in its ASISA category over 3, 5 and 7-years.

Over the five-year investment horizon of the FoF, SA equities (up 9.0% p.a.) have underperformed foreign equities (up 17.2% p.a.) materially and our expectation for this asset class, while SA nominal bonds (up 8.2% p.a.) have outperformed SA inflation-linked bonds (up 6.6% p.a.), SA cash (up 5.9% p.a.) and SA inflation (averaging 5.0% p.a.).

The look-through equity allocation of the FoF is 56.6%, of which 23.7% is invested in foreign equity (compared to 53.9% and 19.4% at the end of last quarter). The multi-asset high equity managers in the fund include a selection of the best stock-pickers and asset allocators available domestically, each with proven track records. Abax and Truffle each manage domestic-only multi-asset mandates, while 36One has allowance to invest in both SA and foreign markets. The remainder of the foreign allocation is made up of the underlying managers in the PPS Global Balanced FoF. This portion of the portfolio was a strong contributor to performance for the year.

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## DISCLOSURES

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) are generally medium-to long-term investments. The value of participatory interests (units) may go down as well as up, and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. The manager does not provide any guarantee either in respect of the capital or the return of a portfolio. A fund of funds is a portfolio that invests in portfolios of collective investment schemes that levy their own charges, which could result in a higher fee structure for the fund of funds.

**Total Expense Ratio (TER)** is a measure that can be used by investors and advisers to determine how much of a CIS's underlying assets are relinquished as payment for services rendered in the administration of the CIS. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER may not necessarily be an accurate indication of future TER's.

**Transaction Costs (TC)** is a measure that can be used by investors and advisers to determine the costs incurred in buying and selling assets underlying the CIS. TC's are a necessary cost in administering the CIS and impact CIS's returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of CIS, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

**Total Investment Charges (TIC)** is a measure of total cost relating to the investment. TIC is the sum of the total expense ratio (TER) and the transaction cost (TC).

TER's and TC's are expressed as a percentage of the daily net asset value of the CIS calculated over the past one year and three-year period on an annualised basis. The TER and TC disclosed are estimates based on our best estimate of the underlying costs.

These performance figures are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested on the ex-dividend date. All PPS Multi-Managers performance figures and values are quoted after the deduction of costs and applicable taxes incurred within the Fund. Actual investment performance will differ based on the initial fees applicable, the actual investment date and the date of the reinvestment of income and dividend withholding tax. The reinvestment of income is calculated based on actual distributed amount and factors such as payment date and reinvestment date will be considered. Please note that performance over periods greater than one year is annualised. Annualised performance is the average return earned on an investment each year over a given time period. Performance is based on NAV to NAV calculations and calculated on a rolling monthly basis. The past performance is relevant to the investment or the service offered by the manager.

This fund is exposed to foreign securities and as such, it may be subject to the macroeconomic, settlement risks and political risks brought about by this exposure. It may also be subject to currency risk, which means the underlying investments of the fund could depreciate or appreciate against the reporting currency of the investor. Because these securities are listed on other exchanges, it may be subject to the relevant regulatory authority, and thus the tax implications and legislative changes of that particular entity. There may also be delays in realizing investments, due to system or liquidity issues experienced by the respective exchange. In addition, market and investment value fluctuations may occur. Overall, please be advised that, as indicated by the risk profile and potentially influenced by asset allocation, risks may be associated with this fund such as general market risk, company risk, credit risk, counterparty risk and third party operational risk.

Unit Trust prices are calculated on a Net Asset Value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any deductible expenses from the Fund divided by the number of units in issue. Transactions must be received by the Management Company (MANCO) by 2pm to receive the net asset value price for that day. Transaction requests received after this cut off time will only be processed on the next business day, and will receive the price of that day. Linked Investment Service Providers (LISP), specify their own transaction timelines and may take up to five business days to process. Portfolio valuations occur at 3 p.m. on business days, except the last business day of the month, when it will be 5pm. Prices are published daily and are available in the daily newspapers.

A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions are available on request. This fund does not charge performance fees.

The manager may close the portfolio to new investors to ensure the portfolio is managed according to its mandate.

Additional information of the proposed investment, including brochures, application forms and annual or quarterly reports, can be obtained from the Manager, free of charge.

PPS Investments (39270), PPS Multi-Managers (28733), PPS Investment Administrators (45924) and PPS Insurance (1044) are licensed Financial Services Providers. PPS Management Company is a licensed collective investment scheme manager. PPS Nominees is an independent nominee company approved by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA).

<b>MANAGER DETAILS:</b>	PPS Management Company (RF) (Pty) Limited PPS House, Boundary Terraces, 1 Mariendahl Lane, Newlands, 7700	<b>TRUSTEE DETAILS:</b>	Standard Chartered Bank 5th Floor, 4 Sandown Valley Crescent, Sandton, 2196
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	0860 468 777 (0860 INV PPS)	<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	011 217 6600
<b>EMAIL:</b>	clientservices@ppsinvestments.co.za	<b>EMAIL:</b>	SouthAfrica.Securities-Services@sc.com
<b>WEBSITE:</b>	www.pps.co.za		

PPS Multi-Managers is the appointed investment manager for the PPS Management company.