# PPS MANAGED FUND

# **INVESTMENTS**

#### As of 31 Dec 2023

## **FUND DESCRIPTION**

36ONE Asset Management has been appointed as the exclusive manager of the PPS Managed Fund. This fund seeks to achieve medium to long term capital growth by investing across asset classes, utilising 36ONE's fundamental bottom up approach, combined with a top-down macroeconomic overlay. In the PPS Managed Fund (as in our other partnership strategies) our approach is to partner with a manager that our comprehensive research process has identified as having the skill set and capability to successfully manage the strategy. Partnership managers typically do not yet offer a similar strategy in the retail space.

The PPS Managed Fund aims to outperform CPI+5%, and has an investment horizon of greater than six years. 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 Manager fee (excl. VAT)

Trustee Risk profile A & A2 class

South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

1 November 2018 (A & A2)

PPS Multi-Managers Proprietary Limited

(authorised FSP)

CPI for all urban areas +5%

Half-yearly

Long-term - six years and longer

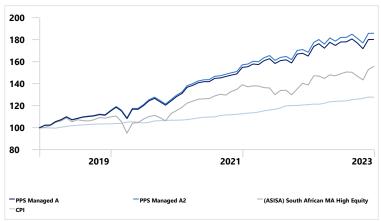
R4 239 100 832 155.33 (A); 156.66 (A2)

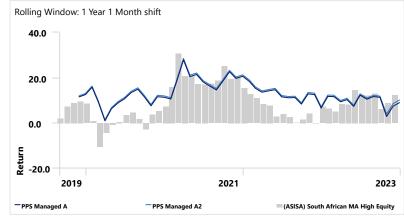
1 135 (A); 627 604 930 (A2) 1.55% (A); 1.10% (A2) Standard Chartered Bank

Medium - High

#### **ILLUSTRATIVE PERFORMANCE**

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





# **ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE**

	3 months*	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
PPS Managed A	1.85%	9.12%	11.99%	11.99%	_	_	12.32%
PPS Managed A2	2.57%	10.27%	12.78%	12.69%	_	_	13.01%
CPI + 5%	2.62%	10.53%	11.13%	10.02%	9.99%	10.21%	9.97%
(ASISA) South African MA High Equity	6.17%	12.25%	10.48%	9.21%	7.38%	7.00%	9.16%

	YTD 2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
PPS Managed A	9.12%	6.66%	20.69%	11.41%	12.58%	_	_
PPS Managed A2	10.27%	7.24%	21.31%	12.02%	13.08%	_	_
CPI + 5%	10.53%	12.41%	10.47%	8.18%	8.56%	10.18%	9.62%
(ASISA) South African MA High Equity	12.25%	-0.17%	20.32%	5.19%	9.52%	-3.60%	9.97%

<sup>\*</sup>Periods less than one year are not annualised

### ASSET MANAGERS



% 100.0

## **RISK METRICS\*\*\***

Metric	А	A2	Benchmark
Annualised Standard Deviation	8.4%	8.4%	1.4%
Maximum Drawdown	-8.9%	-8.8%	-0.3%
Percentage of Positive months	75.4%	75.4%	96.7%
Information Ratio	0.23	0.31	_
Sharpe Ratio	0.76	0.85	-

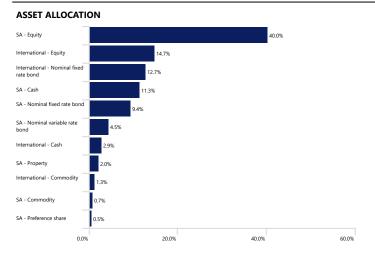
<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Risk metrics calculated over a 5 year period

<sup>\*\*</sup>On PPS Investments platform, A2 class is availabe in Select range.

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#### **PORTFOLIO DETAIL**

Top 10 Holdings	Allocation
British American Tobacco PLC	5.4%
Absa Group Ltd	4.3%
ABSA Group 6.37% Perpetual Bond	3.9%
R2032 8.25% 20320331	3.5%
MAS Securities BV 4.25% 20260519	3.4%
R2035 8.875% 20350228	3.2%
Naspers Ltd	3.1%
Prosus NV	3.0%
Nedbank Group Ltd	2.7%
Heineken NV	2.5%

#### MATURITY ALLOCATION

Maturity	Allocation	
< 1 year	11.6%	
1 - 3 years	39.0%	
3 - 7 years	12.0%	
7 - 12 years	30.0%	
12 and more years	7.4%	

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

Metric	А	A2
Highest	27.9%	28.6%
Highest Month End Date	31 Mar 2021	31 Mar 2021
Lowest	1.0%	1.5%
Lowest Month End Date	31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2020

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

Fees	А	A2
Total expense ratio (TER)	1.79	1.29
Transaction costs (TC)	0.40	0.40
Total investment charge (TER+TC)	2.19	1.69

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

Fees	А	A2
Total expense ratio (TER)	1.80	1.28
Transaction costs (TC)	0.42	0.42
Total investment charge (TER+TC)	2.22	1.70

#### **DISTRIBUTIONS**

Date	А	A2
31 Dec 2023	2.62	3.98
30 Jun 2023	3.28	3.72

## MANAGER COMMENTARY

In the closing months of 2023, both stock and bond markets displayed an upward trend, instilling a sense of optimism for a continued return to normalcy in 2024. Global stock markets gained momentum in November with a slowdown in annual inflation, and this positive trend extended into December, where US stocks reached a new peak for the year. Strong survey data indicating a resilient economy and decreasing inflation fuelled hopes for a "soft landing" scenario in the US. In the United Kingdom, equities rose due to a sharper-than-expected decline in inflation, albeit at a slower pace than the global rally.

Notably, December showed improved market breadth, moving beyond the dominance of the "Magnificent 7" that characterised returns in 2023. Investors are encouraged by the potential for interest rate cuts, particularly as consistently lower inflation figures emerge. The US 10-year yield fell from its October peak to just below 4% in December, supported by expectations of lower interest rates and a weaker US dollar. Dovish statements from the US Federal Reserve in December, revealing three projected interest rate cuts for 2024, signalled the peak of the interest rate hiking cycle. The timing and extent of rate cuts remain uncertain, as central banks emphasise data dependence in their fight against inflation.

Despite early pressures with rising bond yields and conflicts in the Middle East affecting emerging markets (EM), Q4 of 2023 witnessed overall strength in EM equities, albeit lagging developed market counterparts. The initial uncertainty from the Middle East conflict proved short-lived, and positive signs like a potential "soft landing" for the US economy and expectations for 2024 interest rate cuts provided support. Persistent challenges in China, however, continued to hinder broader EM performance.

In South Africa, November began with Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana delivering the 2023 Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS). In a nutshell, the domestic economy continues to encounter significant hurdles, particularly in the areas of Infrastructure, logistics and energy. On a positive note, South Africa's November inflation came in lower at 5.5% year-on-year, following a spike of 5.9% in October. This trend gives the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) more room to act in line with other major central banks and start looking to rate cuts in 2024.

Despite a slowdown in the projected growth, the corporate bond market demonstrated a remarkable rally fuelled by optimism that robust financial conditions could prevent a deep recession. In both the US and Europe, high yield markets outperformed their investment-grade counterparts, and a noteworthy tightening of spreads underscored substantial outperformance against government bonds.

The fund's performance for the quarter was positive. Key contributors to performance were holdings in local and offshore government bonds, banks, and gold miners. Notable detractors included exposure to tobacco and chemicals. In Q4 2023, the fund increased exposure to local equity, capitalising on attractive opportunities in the local market amid the evolving interest rate cycle. Looking ahead, political uncertainty and concerns about global growth may cause volatility in South African equities, but improved operating conditions in the country and a weaker US dollar will provide support.

As we look forward to 2024, the year is bound to unfold with its share of unexpected developments, as is customary. The imminent prospect of a hotly contested SA and US election, coupled with significant international elections, looms large. Escalating global unrest and conflicts, notably in the Middle East, add to the complexity. Moreover, the far-reaching effects of disruptive Al technology on both companies and society cannot be overlooked. However, what should remain constant is our firm commitment to strategic planning for our clients and the deliberate construction of investment portfolios designed to endure the test of time.

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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.

**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 advisors 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).

MANAGER DETAILS: PPS Management Company (RF) (Pty) Limited

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

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