

PPS STABLE GROWTH FUND

Fund data as at 31 March 2019



INVESTMENTS

FUND DESCRIPTION

Tantalum Capital has been appointed as the exclusive portfolio manager for our single-managed PPS Stable Growth Fund. Tantalum Capital has an absolute return mindset and a longstanding track record in fixed interest, multi-asset high, and alternative offerings. In the PPS Stable Growth Fund (and in our other single-managed strategies) our approach is to identify a manager, through our comprehensive research process, with the skill set and capabilities to successively manage a strategy, but who does not yet offer such a fund in the retail space.

The PPS Stable Growth Fund aims to achieve moderate returns while preserving capital over the medium to long term. The primary objective of the fund is to outperform the ASISA SA Multi Asset Medium Equity category average. The investment horizon for this fund is greater than five years.

FUND OVERVIEW

Range	Select (A2 class)
Portfolio category	South African - Multi Asset (MA) - Med Equity
Launch date	1 October 2018
Investment manager	PPS Multi-Managers Proprietary Limited (authorised FSP)
Benchmark	Category Average
Income distribution	Half-yearly
Investment horizon	Long-term - five years and longer
Portfolio size	R 469 897 654
Market value (NAV price per unit)	97.22 cents
Number of units held	22 186 517 (participatory interests)
Asset management fee (excl. VAT)	0.95%
Trustee	Standard Chartered Bank
Risk Profile	Medium

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

Top 10 holdings	Allocation
RSA R209 6.25% 20360331	10.0%
British American Tobacco	4.8%
RSA R186 10.5% 20271221	4.3%
RSA I2025 CPI 2% 20250131	3.8%
Naspers	3.4%
Northam Platinum	2.6%
Sasol	2.4%
Tsogo Sun	1.7%
BHP Billiton	1.6%
The Foschini Group	1.6%
As a % of total	36.2%

RISK METRICS*

Metric	Fund	Category average
Annualised Standard Deviation	n/a	n/a
Maximum Drawdown	n/a	n/a
Percentage of Positive months	n/a	n/a
Information Ratio	n/a	n/a
Sharpe Ratio	n/a	n/a

*Please note that the performance shown is over a 12 month rolling period. The performance of the fund will be published once a one year investment record has been established. The information provided in the Risk Metrics will be published once a one year investment record has been established.

RETURNS SINCE INCEPTION*

Annual figures	Fund
Highest	n/a
Lowest	n/a

ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset	Allocation
SA equity	38.7%
SA cash	24.4%
SA bonds	23.8%
Foreign equity	8.9%
SA property	1.8%
Foreign cash	1.8%
SA commodity	0.2%
Preference shares	0.25%

MATURITY ALLOCATION

Maturity	Allocation
< 1 Year	7.5%
1 - 3 years	11.0%
3 - 7 years	21.7%
7 - 12 years	17.6%
12 and more years	42.3%

ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since inception
PPS Stable Growth Fund	5.17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.41%
(ASISA) South African MA Medium Equity	5.27%	6.48%	4.21%	5.69%	9.54%	-0.82%

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
PPS Stable Growth Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
(ASISA) South African MA Medium Equity	-1.78%	9.28%	1.54%	7.40%	9.16%	15.80%

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ASSET MANAGER

Manager	Percentage
Tantulum Capital	100.0%

DISTRIBUTIONS

Date	Cents Per Unit
31-Dec-18	1.91

FEES (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)*

Fees	Percentage
Total expense ratio (TER)	1.14%
Transaction costs (TC)	0.35%
Total investment charge (TER+TC)	1.49%

*The TER and Transaction Costs cannot be determined accurately because of the short life span of the Financial Product. Calculations are based on actual data where possible and best estimates where actual data is not available.

Quarterly Commentary

Markets stayed firm in March, buoyed by dovish monetary policy in the US as the US Federal Reserve kept policy rates unchanged and ongoing stimulus measures in China. As a result, Q1 returns from almost every asset class were strong, including equities, bonds (especially developed market bonds), and commodities – a complete reversal from the dire Q4 of 2018.

However, the outlook is not all rosy. US company earnings growth has slowed from the high rates of 2018, when tax cuts provided a boost. Together with peak-cycle employment levels, markets have thus remained somewhat watchful and nervous. The inversion of the 3month/10 year US yield curve during the month of March is a predictor of slower growth and possible recession ahead. Political developments have also remained unsettling. Optimism over resolution of US/Chinese trade tensions has not yet resulted in final agreement, while UK Brexit and European tensions remain high. We have also seen renewed volatility in Turkey and Venezuela.

Domestic economic growth conditions remain lacklustre, exacerbated by low confidence ahead of the May elections as well as recent severe loadshedding by Eskom – unstable power supply has a negative impact on both economic activity as well as sentiment. Consumer confidence and household consumption also remains constrained by low employment growth, electricity price hikes and higher petrol prices. Softer growth conditions were recognised by the SARB in their March MPC meeting, where they downgraded GDP forecasts to average 1.3% in 2019; 1.8% in 2020 and 2.0% in 2021. The SARB's inflation forecast was broadly unchanged from their January meeting and remains comfortably within their target range. Inflation expectations also reflected a notable improvement of 4.8% for 2019 and 5.2% for 2020, with average five-year expectations falling to 5.1% – the lowest level since they were first surveyed in 2011. The combination of all of these factors allowed for a more dovish tone in the statement, with a unanimous vote to keep the repo rate at 6.75%, and resulted in the market pricing in unchanged interest rates across the short end of the curve. All of the above kept our bond yields and the ZAR under pressure, and led to SA domestic equities and banks selling off.

The domestic bond market spent much of March trading with a nervous tone in anticipation of the Moody's rating update scheduled for the end of the month. In the end, there was no action taken by Moody's, which prompted a relief rally across the curve. Although a Moody's review committee wasn't convened, a credit opinion released by the lead analyst for SA was released in early April, and did provide support for market sentiment, as reflected in a stronger SA CDS spread, and lower domestic bond yields. We are however aware that a formal review meeting could hold differing views to those held by the lead analyst, and we will be conscious not to become complacent about potential ratings outlook risk in the coming months.

The PPS Stable Growth Fund enjoyed another strong month, with good returns being posted by our big holding in British American Tobacco (good recent results, plus a positive development pipeline presented at their Capital Markets Day in London which we attended), as well as from Northam, Naspers and Sasol. Detractors from performance were mainly Aspen which had a torrid time after weak results, as well as our (reduced) bank share holdings and Blue Label Telecoms. The portfolio benefitted from exposure to nominal bonds across the belly and long-part of the curve. Credit enhancement further positively contributed to returns. Exposure to inflation-linked bonds marginally detracted from returns. Weakness in UK property was compounded by depreciation of the GBP as the UK's exit of the European Union remains unresolved post 29 March 2019 (the original 'leave' date). We feel that yields fairly reflect dynamics in the bond market at present, and are comfortable with our current duration positioning. The curve remains steep, with long dated yields still remaining attractive (at around 9.5%), and we would look for stronger market levels before reducing portfolio duration risk. We continue to find short dated inflation linked bond yields attractive, as well as select credit enhancement and structured note opportunities in the 0-3 year area of the curve. We have found shorter-dated credit opportunities to be more attractive at this point in the credit cycle and remain disciplined in our fair value estimation in a (still) weak economic environment.

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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 Financial Product's underlying assets are relinquished as payment for services rendered in the administration of the Financial Product. **Transaction Costs (TC)** is a measure of the total costs incurred in buying and selling assets underlying the CIS 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. TER's and TC's are expressed as a percentage of the daily net asset value of the CIS calculated over a period of three years on an annualised basis. 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. **Total Investment Charges (TIC)** is a measure of total cost relating to the investment. The TER and TC disclosed are estimates based on our best estimate of the underlying costs. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions are available on request.

Performance figures are from PPS Multi-Managers and Morningstar. 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.

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 PPS 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.

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

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).

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

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