

PPS BOND FUND*

Fund data as at **31 March 2020**



INVESTMENTS

*Name change from PPS Institutional Bond Fund to PPS Bond Fund as at 14 August 2019.

FUND DESCRIPTION

The PPS Bond Fund is available as a building block to both retail and institutional investors. The benchmark has recently changed from the JSE All Bond Index (ALBI) to 50% JSE All Bond Index (ALBI) and 50% JSE Composite Inflation Linked Index (CILI). This allows the underlying managers to have exposures to both nominal and inflation linked bonds, with discretion as to the allocation to each. The underlying managers are restricted from purchasing non-investment grade paper, but are given reasonable allowance in terms of duration compared to the benchmark.

The PPS Bond Fund aims to outperform the 50% ALBI, 50% CILI benchmark over periods longer than 36 months. This fund is managed according to Reg. 28 of the Pension Funds Act and therefore is a suitable standalone vehicle for retirement savings.

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

Top 10 holdings	Allocation
RSA R2048 8.75% 20480228	8.1%
RSA R2037 8.5% 20370131	6.4%
RSA I2050 CPI 2.5% 20501231	5.9%
RSA I2025 CPI 2% 20250131	5.6%
NEDBANK 3M JIBAR 20200329	5.3%
RSA R202 CPI 3.45% 20331207	4.3%
Firststrand CPI 5.5% 20231207	4.3%
RSA R2044 8.75% 20440131	4.1%
RSA I2046 CPI 2.5% 20460331	3.9%
RSA R2030 8% 20300131	3.8%
As a % of total	51.8%

FUND OVERVIEW

Range	Select (A2 class)
Portfolio category	South African - Interest Bearing - Variable Term
Launch date	1 January 2019
Investment manager	PPS Multi-Managers Proprietary Limited (authorised FSP)
Benchmark	50% JSE All Bond Index (ALBI), 50% JSE Composite Inflation Linked Index (CILI)**
Income Distribution	Half-yearly
Investment Horizon	Short-term - twelve months and longer
Portfolio size	R 4 093 380 326
Market value (NAV price per unit)	90.70 cents
Number of units held	126 415 476 (participatory interests)
Asset management fee (excl. VAT)	0.65%
Trustee	Standard Chartered Bank
Risk profile	Low - Med

RISK METRICS

Metric	Fund	Category average
Annualised Standard Deviation	9.96%	9.06%
Maximum Drawdown	-0.13%	-2.92%
Percentage of Positive months	64.29%	64.29%
Information Ratio	0.50	n/a
Sharpe Ratio	-0.85	n/a

RETURNS SINCE INCEPTION

Annual figures	Fund	Period
Highest	9.05%	29-Feb-20
Lowest	-1.59%	31-Mar-20

ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset	Allocation
SA Bond	84.4%
SA Cash	15.6%

MATURITY ALLOCATION

Maturity	Allocation
< 1 Year	4.0%
1 - 3 years	1.9%
3 - 7 years	22.0%
7 - 12 years	18.7%
12 and more years	53.4%

ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since inception
PPS Bond Fund	-8.06%	-1.59%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.03%
50% ALBI, 50% CILI	-7.66%	-3.77%	4.99%	5.01%	5.39%	7.31%	-2.51%

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
PPS Bond Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50% ALBI, 50% CILI	4.04%	9.14%	9.61%	10.08%	4.10%	6.23%	4.40%

**Benchmark change from 100% ALBI to 50% ALBI, 50% CILI as at 14 August 2019.

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INVESTMENTS

ASSET MANAGER

Manager	Percentage
Prescient Investment Management	52.1%
Stanlib Asset Management	47.9%

DISTRIBUTIONS

Date	Cents per unit
31-Dec-19	5.92
n/a	n/a

FEES (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)****

Fees	1YR	3YR
Total expense ratio (TER)	0.75%	0.75%
Transaction costs (TC)	0.04%	0.04%
Total investment charge (TER+TC)	0.79%	0.79%

****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.

Fund Commentary

The bond fund aims to outperform a 50:50 split between nominal and inflation-linked bonds (50% All Bond Index: 50% Composite Inflation Linked Index). The fund will behave quite differently from peers in the short-term, given most peers only invest in nominal bonds, but it will lead to more consistent performance over time.

The first quarter of 2020 is characterised by the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdowns in many countries around the world. Governments have rightfully made the decision to try to safeguard citizens by limiting personal interaction and effectively closing non-essential businesses for a lockdown period. This has had a negative effect on asset prices globally and an expectation of widespread recessions to follow. For the quarter SA cash (up 1.7%) has outperformed both SA nominal bonds (down 8.7%) and SA inflation-linked bonds (down 6.6%) as SA yields rose on the back of developing market concerns and the ratings downgrade by Moody's to junk status. SA cash returned 7.2% over the past year, and outperformed shorter-dated SA bonds (up 6.8%), longer-dated SA bonds (down 3.0%) and SA inflation-linked bonds (down 4.7%).

Both underlying managers in the fund have considerable discretion in how to allocate between nominal and inflation linked bonds, and the duration risk they can assume relative to the benchmark. Relative to the benchmark, Prescient is overweight inflation-linked bonds (in both duration and allocation) while Stanlib remains somewhat underweight. The increase in nominal and real yields has meant that both managers have been willing to add duration, although the nominal versus inflation-linked split between the two managers remains intact.

The significant correction in financial assets this quarter does not necessary reflect a permanent loss of capital, but significant market uncertainty as to the likely economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Importantly, markets have already discounted the very negative short-term economic implications of the lock-down, and will price in a more favourable scenario should economic conditions begin to improve.

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 the past one year and three year period 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 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.

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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