

### **FUND DETAILS AT 31 DECEMBER 2010**

Sector: Domestic AA - Targeted Absolute Return
Inception date: 1 October 2002
Fund manager: Delphine Govender
Fund objective:

The Fund aims to exceed the return of the Daily Call Rate of FirstRand Bank

#### Suitable for those investors who:

- Seek absolute (i.e. positive) returns regardless of stock market trends
- Are risk-averse and require a high degree of capital stability
- Are retired or nearing retirement
- Seek the diversification benefits of uncorrelated returns relative to shares or bonds
- Wish to diversify a portfolio of shares or bonds
- Wish to add a product with an alternative investment strategy to their overall portfolio

Price:	R 16.44
Size:	R 2 983 m
Minimum lump sum per investor account:	R20 000
Minimum lump sum per fund:	R5 000
Minimum debit order per fund:	R 500
Additional lump sum per fund:	R 500
No. of share holdings:	59

Income distribution: 01/01/10 - 31/12/10 (cents per unit) Total 23.85

Distributes bi-annually. To the extent that the total expenses exceed the income earned in the form of dividends and interest, the Fund will not make a distribution.

### Annual management fee:

The annual management fee rate is dependent on the return of the Fund relative to its benchmark. The benchmark is the return on call deposits with FirstRand Bank Limited (for amounts in excess of R5m). The fee hurdle (above which a fee greater than the minimum fee of 1% is charged) is performance equal to the benchmark. The manager's sharing rate is 20% of the outperformance of the benchmark. The fee is uncapped, however a high watermark principle applies which means that should the Fund underperform it would first be required to recover the underperformance before any further performance fees are payable.

## **COMMENTARY**

The Fund invests in a portfolio of equities and substantially reduces stock market risk and exposure by selling equity derivatives against the equity portfolio. As a result, the Fund's return should not be correlated with equity markets, but it is dependent rather on the level of short-term interest rates and the ability of the Fund's equity portfolio to outperform the underlying benchmark equity index. In essence, the Fund's return comprises of two components: (1) the cash return implicit in the pricing of the sold futures contracts (2) the out/underperformance of the equity portfolio versus the index (i.e. the alpha).

The ALSI posted a strong return for December with the equity market ending 6.2% higher. Once again the performance of our local equity markets remained very closely tied to the performance of global markets and in particular global emerging markets, which also ended noticeably higher in December. On almost all key valuation measures the South African equity market does not appear to be cheap. The price-earnings ratio of the market is currently over 17 times versus the 20-year average of 13.9 times while the dividend yield on the ALSI now sits at 2.2%, below the 20-year average of 2.8%. Unsurprisingly, given current equity valuations, coupled with our more muted expectations for overall earnings growth from current levels, we are not finding several pockets of value in the equity market. Accordingly, we have maintained a low net equity exposure in this Fund and within the equities we own, our selection of equities is also weighted more in favour of those shares we think will have a greater ability to grow or defend earnings compared to the market as a whole

In the short term, however, this low net equity exposure and the more defensive share selection, which has underperformed the ALSI 40 (being the index against which the Fund is hedged) has caused the Fund to slightly underperform the corresponding benchmark. With an explicit mandate to minimise volatility, preserve capital (i.e. limit loss) and deliver uncorrelated returns versus equity markets, we feel the Optimal Fund is appropriately positioned to meet its objectives over the long term.

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# **ALLAN GRAY OPTIMAL FUND**

### **TOP 10 SHARE HOLDINGS<sup>1</sup>**

Company	% of portfolio
BHP Billiton	12.0
SABMiller	10.2
Anglo American	9.4
Sasol	7.2
AngloGold Ashanti	5.1
MTN	4.7
Compagnie Fin Richemont SA	3.8
Impala Platinum	3.0
Standard Bank	2.7
Sanlam	2.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Top 10 share holdings at 31 December 2010, Updated quarterly.

### TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 2

		_,		
	Included in TER			
Total expense ratio	Total management fee <sup>3</sup> 1.14%		Trading costs	Other expenses
	Performance component	Fee at benchmark	rrading costs	Other expenses
1.28%	0.00%	1.14%	0.13%	0.01%

<sup>2</sup> A Total Expense Ratio (TER) is a measure of a portfolio's assets that are relinquished as operating expenses. The total operating expenses are expressed as a percentage of the average value of the portfolio, calculated for the year to the end of September 2010. Included in the TER is the proportion of costs that are incurred by the performance component, fee at benchmark, trading costs (including brokerage, VAT, STT, STRATE and insider trading levy) and other expenses. These are disclosed separately as percentages of the net asset value. 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. The information provided is applicable to class A units.

<sup>3</sup> Including VAT. The total management fee rate for the quarter ending 31 December 2010 was 1.14%.

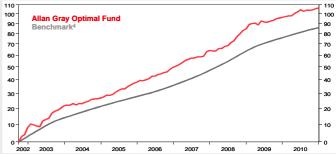
### **ASSET ALLOCATION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2010**

	% of portfolio
Asset class	Total
Net SA Equities	3.3
Foreign Inward Listing on the JSE	0.4
Hedged SA Equities	82.7
Property	0.3
Money Market and Bank Deposits	13.3
Total	100.0

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.

### **PERFORMANCE**

Fund performance shown net of all fees and expenses as per the TER disclosure. Long-term cumulative performance (log scale)



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>4</sup>
Since inception (unannualised)	106.3	85.7
Latest 5 years (annualised)	8.3	7.7
Latest 3 years (annualised)	7.9	8.0
Latest 1 year	5.2	5.5
Risk measures (Since inception month end prices)		
Maximum drawdown <sup>5</sup>	-2.2	n/a
Percentage positive months	84.8	100.0
Annualised monthly volatility	2.9	0.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The return on call deposits with FirstRand Bank Limited (for amounts in excess of R5m). Source: FirstRand Bank, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 December 2010.

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (unit trusts) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. 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 permissible deductions from the portfolio divided by the number of units in issue. Declarations of income accruals are made bi-annually. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the manager by 14:00 each business day and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Forward pricing is therefore used. Performance figures are forward pricing is therefore in the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees and charges and maximum ormissions is available on request from the manager. Commission and incentives may be paid and if so, would be included in the overall costs. The Fund may be crossed to new investments at any time in order to be managed in accordance with its mandate. Total Expenses Ratio (TER): When investing, costs are only a part of an investment depiction. The investment objective of the Fund should be compared with the investor's objective and then the performance of the investment and whether it represents value for money should be evaluated as part of the financial planning process. All Allan Gray performance figures and values are quoted after the deduction of costs incurred within the Fund so the TER is not a new cost. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index is calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("SLS") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE Africa Series is the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the FTSE/JSE All Share Index values and constituent limited has been approved by the Regulatory Authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however the Company is not super

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Maximum percentage decline over any period.