

Fund manager: Ruan Stander
Inception date: 1 October 2002
Class: A

Fund description

The Fund invests mainly in selected shares and it uses exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to substantially reduce its net equity exposure to within a range of 0-20%. As a result, the Fund's return depends on the level of short-term interest rates (implicit in the pricing of the sold futures contracts) and the performance of the Fund's selected shares relative to the stock market index. The Fund's return is therefore unlikely to be correlated with equity market returns. In addition, a portion of the Fund is typically invested in cash and margin deposits.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - Low Equity

Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to provide investors with long-term positive returns higher than those available in the money market sector, irrespective of stock market returns. The Fund's benchmark is the daily interest rate as supplied by FirstRand Bank Limited.

How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in selected shares and seeks to substantially reduce stock market risk by selling exchange-traded equity index derivatives. The selected share portfolio is derived from our thorough research process, but the selection of equities in this Fund may differ from that in the other Allan Gray funds by more closely resembling the composition of the indices on which the derivatives contracts are based. The deviation of the Fund's selected share portfolio from the benchmark indices is restricted and closely monitored. This does not eliminate the risk of loss should the selected equities underperform.

Suitable for those investors who

- Seek steady absolute (i.e. positive) returns regardless of stock market trends
- Require a high degree of capital stability
- Wish to invest in a product that offers uncorrelated returns relative to shares or bonds as a 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

Minimum investment amounts

Minimum lump sum per investor account: R20 000
Additional lump sum: R500
Minimum debit order*: R500

*Only available to investors with a South African bank account.

Annual management fee and total expense ratio (TER)

The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance to that of the benchmark.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

The Fund is first required to recover any underperformance before a fee higher than the fee for performance equal to the benchmark can be charged. This is known as a high watermark. If the Fund's performance is above its previous high watermark, we add 0.2% to the fee for each percentage of performance above the high watermark. The fee is uncapped.

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a 12 month period. Since

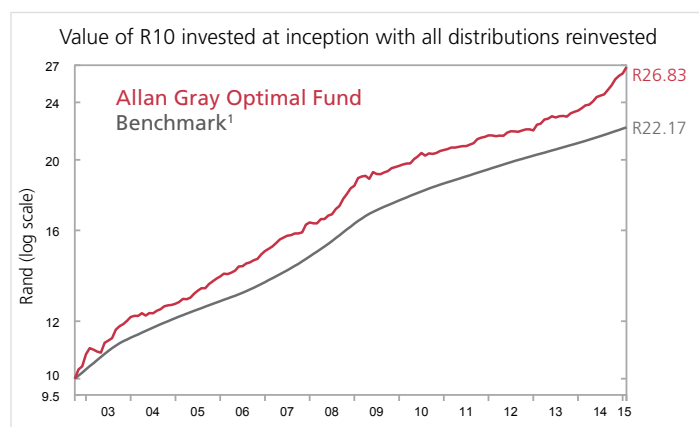
Fund information on 31 January 2015

Fund size: R1.1bn
Fund price: R19.64
Number of share holdings: 40

Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2014	31 Dec 2014
Cents per unit	18.4801	7.7824

Performance net of all fees and expenses



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark ¹	CPI inflation ²
<i>Unannualised:</i> Since Inception	168.3	121.7	89.4
<i>Annualised:</i> Since Inception	8.3	6.7	5.4
Latest 10 Years	7.7	6.2	6.0
Latest 5 Years	6.4	4.6	5.2
Latest 3 Years	7.5	4.4	5.5
Latest 2 Years	9.6	4.4	5.4
Latest 1 Year	13.9	4.7	5.3
Year-to-date (unannualised)	2.1	0.4	-
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum Drawdown ³	-2.2	n/a	n/a
Percentage Positive Months ⁴	83.8	100.0	n/a
Annualised Monthly Volatility ⁵	2.7	0.7	n/a

1. The daily interest rate as supplied by FirstRand Bank Limited (source: FirstRand Bank), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 January 2015.
2. This is based on the latest numbers published by INET BFA as at 31 December 2014.
3. Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 25 February 2003 to 27 March 2003. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund (i.e. including income).
4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.

Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 2 for further information).

TER breakdown for the year ending 31 December 2014	%
Fee for benchmark performance	1.00
Performance fees	0.77
Other costs including trading costs	0.12
VAT	0.26
Total expense ratio	2.15

Allan Gray Optimal Fund

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 December 2014

The Optimal Fund's conservative style paid off during 2014, with the Fund returning 12.5% during a volatile year for world markets. This is key to the Fund's purpose, which is to provide investors with long-term returns that are higher than those available in the money market sector, irrespective of stock market returns.

At the end of the first quarter of 2014 we made some changes to the way we manage the Fund to allow us to make more intensive use of our thorough, bottom-up stock picking research. Given that we now expect the Fund to capture roughly two-thirds of the Equity Fund's relative outperformance from domestic stock picking over the long term, the initial results have overshoot our expectations. Some investors might ask if we have done so by taking more risk; strangely the answer is that we have done so by taking less risk. This is evident by the variation of monthly returns and the Fund's active share* being roughly two-thirds that of the Equity Fund.

Although we strive for good risk-adjusted returns, we don't expect things to always work out as favourably as in 2014. One scenario in which the Optimal Fund's relative performance may fall short of the Equity Fund's domestic equity alpha is if asset prices are depressed and the Equity Fund invests significantly in deep value cyclical shares. In this scenario, the Optimal Fund could potentially capture less than 50% of the outperformance in an attempt to offer more stable returns.

The Fund continues to be positioned conservatively, with a low net equity exposure of 4.5%. The most significant positive/negative positions (i.e. where the Fund gains if the price increases/decreases) are summarised below:

- 1) A positive exposure to banks and a negative exposure to mines
- 2) A positive exposure to British American Tobacco and a negative exposure to mobile networks
- 3) A positive exposure to Sasol and a negative exposure to Richemont

Commentary contributed by Ruan Stander

*Active share is calculated by summing the absolute values of the differences in weight between each share in a fund and the benchmark index, and then dividing the sum by two. It indicates the overall degree of difference between the fund and the index. Active share of 0% indicates that a fund contains only benchmark stocks in exactly the same proportion as the benchmark; its performance would therefore track the index. Active share of 100% represents a fund which is entirely invested in 'fledgling' stocks not included in the FTSE/JSE All Share Index. The measure was devised in 2006 by Martijn Cremers and Antti Petajisto at the Yale School of Management.

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Disclaimer

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Unit price

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. Forward pricing is used and Fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the manager by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price.

Fees

A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the manager. Commission and incentives may be paid and if so, would be included in the overall costs.

TER

The total expense ratio (TER) is the percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's operating expenses over the past year. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), trading costs (including brokerage, STT, STRATE and insider trading levy), VAT and other expenses. Since unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. All Allan Gray performance figures are quoted after the deduction of costs incurred within the Fund so the TER is not a new cost. A higher TER ratio does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money.

Performance

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. Performance figures are from Allan Gray Proprietary Limited and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested.

Top 10 share holdings on 31 December 2014 (updated quarterly)

Company	% of portfolio
SABMiller	10.2
British American Tobacco	9.0
Naspers	7.6
Standard Bank	6.4
Sasol	6.2
Old Mutual ⁶	5.1
Firststrand	4.7
Remgro	2.9
Capitec	2.5
Anglo American	1.8
Total	56.4

6. Including Old Mutual Stub Certificates.

Asset allocation on 31 January 2015

Asset Class	Total
Net Equity	4.8
Hedged Equity	80.9
Property	1.1
Commodity-linked	0.0
Bonds	0.0
Money Market and Bank Deposits	13.3
Total (%)	100.0

Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	0.0 % (August 2007)
Average	4.5 %
Maximum	15.4 % (January 2003)

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