

Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund is a feeder fund and invests only in the Orbis Global Equity Fund, managed by Allan Gray's offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. The Orbis Global Equity Fund is designed to be exposed to all of the risks and rewards of selected global shares. Returns are likely to be volatile, especially over short- and medium-term periods. Although the Fund's investment universe is global, the units in the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands.

The Fund is managed in the same way as the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Equity Feeder Fund. The since-inception track record of the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Equity Feeder Fund is available on the [Allan Gray website](#).

ASISA unit trust category: Global – Equity – General

Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to outperform global stock markets over the long term, without taking on greater risk. Its benchmark is the MSCI World Index, including income, after withholding taxes.

How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests only in the Orbis Global Equity Fund. The Orbis Global Equity Fund is designed to be exposed to all of the risks and rewards of selected global shares. Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies around the world whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis' assessment of their long-term intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables Orbis to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. This is the same approach as that used by Allan Gray to invest in South African equities, except that Orbis is able to choose from many more shares, listed internationally.

Suitable for those investors who

- Seek exposure to diversified international equities to provide long-term capital growth
- Wish to invest in international assets through a rand-denominated fund
- Are comfortable with global stock market and currency fluctuation and risk of capital loss
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than five years
- Wish to use the Fund as a global equity 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund may experience periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than the global stock market.

The portfolio has adhered to its policy objective.

Fund information on 30 April 2026

Fund size	R8.0bn
Number of units	709 076 093
Price (net asset value per unit)	R11.25
Class	A

Performance

The Fund was launched on 1 September 2025. We will report its performance information from 31 August 2026.

Fund availability

The Fund may be closed to new investors in certain circumstances, such as where regulatory constraints are placed on the Management Company or the Fund, or where the Orbis Global Equity Fund is closed to new investments. This will be done to manage the Fund according to its mandate.

Income distributions

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	31 Mar 2026
Cents per unit	0.1700

Annual investment management fee

The Management Company does not charge an annual management fee, but Allan Gray is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis. Orbis charges a unique refundable performance-based fee in the Orbis Global Equity Fund which is designed to align Orbis' interest with investor outcomes. The fee consists of a base fee and a refundable performance fee. In traditional fee structures, the total fee is paid to the manager immediately. When the Orbis fund outperforms, the performance fee is paid into a fee reserve and enables Orbis to refund investors if the Orbis fund subsequently underperforms. The table below summarises the fee parameters.

Initial, exit and switching fees	0.00%
Base fee	1.10% per annum
Performance fee sharing rate	25% for out- and underperformance relative to the benchmark.
Performance fee benchmark	MSCI World Index, including income, after withholding taxes.
Fee reserve	Performance fees available for refund are shown below the TER table. ⁴

The fee is calculated daily. After deducting the base fee, the fund's performance is compared to its benchmark. Orbis then shares in 25% of the value added or lost relative to the benchmark. This means the fee adjusts by 0.25% for every 1% of outperformance or underperformance.

The fee is uncapped when the Orbis fund outperforms. However, during periods of underperformance, the total fee can be negative, as performance fees can be refunded from the fee reserve. If the reserve is empty and underperformance continues, a high watermark ensures that fees are only charged once previous losses are recovered. The fee experience table illustrates what investors can expect during periods of out- and underperformance. When the fee reserve is positive, Orbis may earn one-third of the available performance fees, subject to a cap of 2.50% per year. For more information, please refer to the [fees resources](#) section of the Orbis website.

Fee experience

Out- and underperformance scenarios	+8%	+4%	0%	-4%	-8%
Base fee	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%
Performance fee or refund*	1.7%	0.7%	-0.3%	-1.3%	-2.3%
Total annual management fee	2.8%	1.8%	0.8%	-0.2%	-1.2%

*Illustrative only. If there is no refund available, the base fee is still charged.

Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fee charged by Orbis is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one- and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

Asset allocation on 30 April 2026¹

Asset class	Total	United States	UK	Europe ex-UK ²	Japan	Other ²	Emerging markets
Net equities	93.9	40.8	11.2	7.7	1.8	5.7	26.7
Property	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.6	0.0
Money market and cash	3.1	2.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total (%)	100.0	43.5	11.4	7.7	4.2	6.3	26.9
Currency exposure	100.0	43.1	7.9	9.7	7.5	10.9	20.8
Benchmark	100.0	71.9	3.7	12.4	5.7	6.3	0.0

1. Refers to the asset allocation of the underlying Orbis Global Equity Fund.

2. Refers to developed markets only.

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

Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs for periods ending 31 March 2026 (updated quarterly)³

1- and 3-year TER and transaction costs breakdown	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	4.64	2.54
Fee for benchmark performance	1.10	1.11
Performance fees ⁴	3.47	1.36
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.07	0.06
VAT	0.00	0.00
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.13	0.12
Total investment charge	4.77	2.66

3. The total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs shown are estimates based on the past performance of the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Equity Feeder Fund. This fund shares the same investment policy, objective and benchmark. Actual TER data will be used from one year after the Fund's inception.

4. As at 31 March 2026, performance fees of 2.9% were available for refund in the event of subsequent underperformance.

Top 10 share holdings on 30 April 2026

Company	% of portfolio
SK Square	5.5
Samsung Electronics	5.4
QXO	4.8
Corpay	4.3
Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg	4.3
Alphabet	3.2
Nebius Group	2.6
Mitsubishi Estate	2.3
EQT	2.3
Motorola Solutions	2.2
Total (%)	36.9

The first quarter of 2026 was eventful. It was marked by further significant developments in artificial intelligence (AI), a sharp sell-off in software-related shares, waning confidence in private credit funds and, tragically, the outbreak of another war in the Middle East.

Navigating a dynamically shifting investment environment requires adaptability, but that doesn't mean shortening our investment horizon. Rather, it means being responsive to new information that can change a company's share price or our assessment of its intrinsic value, and therefore, the gap between the two. It should therefore come as no surprise that our recent portfolio turnover has been higher than usual, which we believe is healthy and consistent with a disciplined, long-term investment philosophy.

As well as adaptability, a changing market environment also tends to reward humility. In last quarter's commentary, we highlighted a powerful dynamic: We don't have to be right all the time, as long as our winners win more than our losers lose. This attractive feature – the positive "skew" – means identifying shares with vastly more upside than downside. It is one of the key benefits of a contrarian investment approach that emphasises margin of safety.

Three of our top winners this quarter were semiconductor manufacturers – "picks and shovels" to the AI boom – while seven of our top losers were healthcare-related companies. Positive skew meant that the outperformance from the semiconductors more than offset the losses on healthcare.

Healthcare

The biggest detractor was ICON, a clinical trial company whose shares fell heavily after reporting financial irregularities. With the benefit of hindsight, we would place greater weight on earlier public signals around class actions and management culture. Consistent with our mindset of continuous improvement, we are working on our process for identifying cultural red flags. ICON was sold during the quarter.

We also sold US-managed care organisations UnitedHealth and Elevance, after they detracted from performance. Dependent on government-funded programmes, they received the disappointing news that the proposed 2027 Medicare Advantage reimbursement rates will fall short of rising care costs. At best, this delays the earnings recovery we expected; at worst, it threatens it altogether. The US government seems intent on squeezing healthcare expenditure, and managed care companies are an easy target.

While painful to lock in losses by selling underperforming shares, it is often the right thing to do. If the share price no longer stacks up well against the value on offer, we can best serve clients by dispassionately rotating the capital into more attractive ideas.

Semiconductors

Notwithstanding a recent sell-off in Korean equities, given the country's reliance on imported energy, our semiconductor holdings have been strong performers, especially since purchase. While we have recently taken profits on SK Square, it remains a large holding, reflecting what we see as the value on offer.

Aside from the here-and-now of the US-Israeli war with Iran, the bigger long-term theme that will shape the future of the semiconductor sector is AI. While extraordinary levels of capital expenditure fuel valid debate about whether AI is a bubble, it is clear that real

intrinsic value is being created. ChatGPT has already amassed almost a billion regular users worldwide, while Anthropic has over 500 corporate customers spending at least US\$1 million per year, and nine spending over US\$100 million. Companies do not spend such sums lightly.

This demand requires vast amounts of computing power supplied by only a few key players. The Fund owns Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix (held via the deeply discounted holding company SK Square). Insatiable demand for more compute has driven earnings to unprecedented cyclical highs, making all three stocks exceptionally rewarding.

Whether these record earnings hold or fall back as the cycle fades is a key question, but considering both possibilities convinces us that the upside/downside skew remains in our favour. With the shares priced at very reasonable earnings multiples, the stock market is treating the AI boom as a normal semiconductor cycle, which signals that earnings are widely expected to revert to lower levels. If earnings moderate, the shares will likely not be disastrous because that bearish outcome is already priced in.

But a far more bullish scenario is also possible: a self-perpetuating feedback loop where more computing power improves AI capabilities, creating more user demand. That dynamic has no natural upper limit and would benefit only the small number of companies that have the scale and technical know-how to provide this revolutionary technology.

Rest of the Fund

When software shares sold off, we asked: Will there be fundamental disruption to these businesses or not? That guided our focus towards companies with defensive network effects and proprietary data sets, including a new position in the software-enabled credit bureau Experian. At the same time, while looking for opportunities to strengthen the Fund's resilience, we added to the Fund's energy exposure through EQT Corporation, a natural gas producer that we believe will benefit from AI-fuelled data centre demand for reliable power, and Shell, a diversified energy business and liquefied natural gas producer.

As our focus is on long-term returns, clients should not expect positive relative returns each quarter or each year. Historically, we have outperformed the MSCI World Index in 57% of quarters, 61% of calendar years, 75% of 10-year periods, and 100% of 20-year periods since inception*. We remain confident of the power of our investment philosophy to generate superior returns over time.

In the last quarter, in addition to increasing the Fund's position in EQT Corporation, we exited the position in UnitedHealth on reduced conviction and reduced our holding in SK Square into relative share price strength.

Adapted from a commentary contributed by Ben Preston, Orbis Portfolio Management (Europe) LLP, London

*This is the asset-weighted net-of-fee return of all share classes in the Fund. This return may differ from the return of any individual share class. The Orbis Global Equity Fund inception date is 1 January 1990.

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2026

Information and content

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Investment Manager

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Management Company

Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa. The Management Company retains full legal responsibility for any third-party-named portfolio. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of the Management Company and the Investment Manager. The Management Company's registration number is 2002/022560/07. Its physical address is Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 and its postal address is PO Box 31142, Tokai, 7966. It can be contacted at: Tel: 0800 111 899, info@prescient.co.za or www.prescient.co.za.

The trustee/custodian of the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme is Nedbank Investor Services. The trustee/custodian's physical address is 2nd floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709. It can be contacted at: Tel: +27 (0)11 534 6557 or www.nedbank.co.za.

Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) 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 future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 17:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.prescient.co.za.

Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Management Company.

Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER 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. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

Feeder fund

A feeder fund is a unit trust that invests in another single unit trust, which charges its own fees. The Management Company does not charge any additional fees in the Fund.

Foreign securities

The Orbis Global Equity Fund invests in foreign securities. Depending on their markets, trading in those securities may carry risks relating to, among others, macroeconomic and political circumstances, constraints on liquidity or the repatriation of funds, foreign exchange rate fluctuations, taxation and trade settlement.

MSCI Index

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Important information for investors

Need more information?

For any additional information, such as fund prices and brochures, please go to www.prescient.co.za.

Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund is a feeder fund and invests only in the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund ('Orbis Global Balanced Fund'), managed by Allan Gray's offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. The Orbis Global Balanced Fund invests in a diversified global portfolio of equities, fixed income and commodity-linked instruments. The typical net equity exposure of the Orbis Global Balanced Fund is between 40% and 75%. The Orbis Global Balanced Fund aims to balance investment returns and risk of loss. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of a global equity-only fund. Although the Orbis Global Balanced Fund's investment universe is global, the units of the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands.

The Fund is managed in the same way as the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Balanced Feeder Fund. The since-inception track record of the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Balanced Feeder Fund is available on the [Allan Gray website](#).

ASISA unit trust category: Global – Multi Asset – High Equity

Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors and to outperform its designated combined equity and bond performance benchmark, which comprises 60% the MSCI World Index with net dividends reinvested and 40% the J.P. Morgan Global Government Bond Index.

How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests solely in Orbis Global Balanced, which is actively managed and diversified across global equities, fixed income and commodity-linked instruments. Equity exposure typically ranges from 40% to 90%, but is intended to be limited at 75% after hedging. Fixed income ranges from 10% to 50%, and commodities from 0% to 10%. Asset allocation is driven by Orbis' bottom-up approach, focusing on individual security selection rather than benchmark weights. Like Allan Gray, Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis' assessment of their long-term intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables them to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. This same approach applies to fixed income, which typically includes cash, government bonds, and corporate bonds, to enhance risk-adjusted returns. Orbis may use hedged equities as a substitute for fixed income or alternatively to manage overall portfolio risk. Currency exposure is actively managed to avoid currencies unlikely to retain long-term value against the US dollar.

Suitable for those investors who

- Seek to balance investment returns and risk of loss, by investing in a diversified global multi-asset class portfolio
- Wish to invest in international assets through a rand-denominated fund
- Are comfortable that the investment approach is likely to result in volatility and potential capital loss, but typically less volatility than that of a global equity-only fund
- Typically have an investment horizon of at least three to five years

Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund may experience periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than similar funds in the Global – Multi Asset – High Equity sector.

The portfolio has adhered to its policy objective.

Fund information on 30 April 2026

Fund size	R6.5bn
Number of units	574 198 275
Price (net asset value per unit)	R11.31
Class	A

Fund availability

The Fund may be closed to new investors in certain circumstances, such as where regulatory constraints are placed on the Management Company or the Fund, or where the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund is closed to new investments. This will be done to manage the Fund according to its mandate.

Performance

The Fund was launched on 1 September 2025. We will report its performance information from 31 August 2026.

Income distributions

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	31 Mar 2026
Cents per unit	0.1800

Annual investment management fee

The Management Company does not charge an annual management fee, but Allan Gray is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis. Orbis charges a unique refundable performance-based fee in Orbis Global Balanced which is designed to align Orbis' interest with investor outcomes. The fee consists of a base fee and a refundable performance fee. In traditional fee structures, the total fee is paid to the manager immediately. When the Orbis fund outperforms, the performance fee is paid into a fee reserve and enables Orbis to refund investors if the Orbis fund subsequently underperforms. The table below summarises the fee parameters.

Initial, exit and switching fees	0.00%
Base fee	1.10% per annum
Performance fee sharing rate	25% for out- and underperformance relative to the benchmark.
Performance fee benchmark	60% MSCI World Index with net dividends reinvested and 40% J.P. Morgan Global Government Bond Index.
Fee reserve	Performance fees available for refund will be shown below the TER table. ⁴

The fee is calculated daily. After deducting the base fee, the fund's performance is compared to its benchmark. Orbis then shares in 25% of the value added or lost relative to the benchmark. This means the fee adjusts by 0.25% for every 1% of outperformance or underperformance.

The fee is uncapped when the Orbis fund outperforms. However, during periods of underperformance, the total fee can be negative, as performance fees can be refunded from the fee reserve. If the reserve is empty and underperformance continues, a high watermark ensures that fees are only charged once previous losses are recovered. The fee experience table illustrates what investors can expect during periods of out- and underperformance. When the fee reserve is positive, Orbis may earn one-third of the available performance fees, subject to a cap of 2.50% per year. For more information, please refer to the [fees resources](#) section of the Orbis website.

Fee experience

Out- and underperformance scenarios	+8%	+4%	0%	-4%	-8%
Base fee	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%
Performance fee or refund*	1.7%	0.7%	-0.3%	-1.3%	-2.3%
Total annual management fee	2.8%	1.8%	0.8%	-0.2%	-1.2%

*Illustrative only. If there is no refund available, the base fee is still charged.

Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fee charged by Orbis is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one- and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

Asset allocation on 30 April 2026¹

Asset class	Total	United States	UK	Europe ex-UK ²	Japan	Other ²	Emerging markets
Net equities	57.8	14.3	12.2	3.2	2.3	4.7	21.2
Hedged equities	17.3	10.5	0.7	4.2	0.3	0.1	1.5
Property	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.4
Commodity-linked	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bonds	18.8	8.3	0.2	1.4	0.0	2.7	6.1
Money market and cash	2.3	1.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.4
Total (%)	100.0	36.8	13.2	9.3	3.6	7.6	29.5
Currency exposure	100.0	26.0	12.3	18.2	9.1	13.5	20.9
Benchmark	100.0	63.6	4.7	17.2	9.2	5.3	0.0

1. Refers to the asset allocation of the underlying Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund.

2. Refers to developed markets only.

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

Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs for periods ending 31 March 2026 (updated quarterly)³

1- and 3-year TER and transaction costs breakdown	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	7.01	4.33
Fee for benchmark performance	1.10	1.10
Performance fees ⁴	5.83	3.16
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.07	0.07
VAT	0.00	0.00
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.10	0.08
Total investment charge	7.11	4.41

3. The total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs shown are estimates based on the past performance of the Allan Gray - Orbis Global Balanced Feeder Fund. This fund shares the same investment policy, objective and benchmark. Actual TER data will be used from one year after the Fund's inception.

4. As at 31 March 2026, performance fees of 8.4% were available for refund in the event of subsequent underperformance.

Top 10 holdings on 30 April 2026

Company	% of portfolio
Samsung Electronics	6.7
Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg	4.4
US TIPS >10 Year	3.5
Kinder Morgan	3.3
Icelandic Gov. Bonds < 1 Year	2.5
SPDR® Gold Trust	2.4
Newmont	2.4
Prismian Group	2.3
Barrick Mining	2.2
Siemens Energy	1.7
Total (%)	31.3

The Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund has delivered moderate positive returns year-to-date, outpacing its benchmark, but that year-to-date performance obscures month-to-month differences. In March, the Fund participated in broader market declines. While we care deeply about relative performance, the absolute decline this month is real and is not pleasing.

It is hard to delineate the start of well-anticipated events such as this one. When did the US-Israeli war with Iran actually start? Was it the day missiles first flew, or was it weeks before, when the marshalling of US military equipment started? As the US military presence grew, oil- and gas-related securities outperformed, including the currencies of major exporters such as Norway, Australia and Brazil. The Fund participated more than fully in that outperformance, but, frustratingly, did not outperform in March.

It would be wonderful if we could predict both world events and their timing. Armed with that dual prescience, we could design the perfect fear portfolio for specific risks. Sadly, we lack that prescience, so targeting a specific scenario would mean carrying holdings that are poorly suited to much more likely environments. Investors who do this wind up providing clients with a “stopped clock” portfolio that is wrong the vast majority of the time, but occasionally very right. This typically comes at the expense of clients’ long-term returns.

Of course, we also avoid greed portfolios, which are filled with investments that are highly levered to some popular theme.

What we can do is work hard to create moderate and lower risk portfolios. While we don’t know which scenarios will come to pass, or when, we can incorporate our analysis of those scenarios into our assessment of individual securities. For example, we started buying oil and gas producers in the British North Sea last summer. We did so because they were undervalued and on the basis that there is increasing pressure on the UK government to repeal its counterproductive windfall profits tax. A secondary benefit of holding the North Sea producers was their contribution to the resilience of the Fund amid growing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

While it is exciting to think about “fat tail” scenarios, our day job is to find securities trading for far less than they are worth under a broad spectrum of environments, and then constantly adjust them to maintain a Fund that we believe is likely to produce superior long-term returns with no greater risk than our benchmark.

Whether our portfolios outperform over the specific dates for some bearish event is out of our hands. As value investors, the pattern we see often unfolds in three stages. First, our portfolios outperform as anticipation of an event builds. They then underperform when the event actually hits, as “risk-off” investors seek whatever assets feel most comfortable. Then, finally, the dust settles and the portfolios resume outperformance. It doesn’t always happen that way, but that’s the devil we know.

As we are never sure of the timing, we are constantly looking for investments that can display relative strength in times of turmoil owing to their inherent and fundamental merits. We do not seek investments for their past behaviour based on “factors” or correlations. This sometimes sets up a frustrating performance profile during “risk-off” events. The events currently unfolding in this war serve as a good and timely example.

We have recently been building material positions in the Australian dollar, Norwegian krone and Brazilian real. That is owing to them being materially undervalued and because of the superior yields on offer via their sovereign bonds. But the third attraction is their resource wealth. These attributes should have held these bonds and currencies in very good stead when the war broke out, and all had been strong in the lead-up to hostilities. But when fighting broke out, all three sets of bonds and currencies sold off materially against the US dollar.

Why?! Well, Mr Market shifted into “factor mode”. In times of stress, when events on the ground are most complex, the market ironically seeks simplification. It tends to do this by leaning heavily on heuristics and factors. The primary heuristic employed in this case was THIS IS SCARY + AVOID ENERGY IMPORTERS = HIDE IN US DOLLARS. Once this die is cast, the factors kick in, enforced by big quantitative investing models and amplified by momentum. In this case, factors dictated: US DOLLAR UP = ALL OTHER CURRENCIES DOWN. As leaning on heuristics is much easier than assessing the relative merits of things, the indiscriminate nature of the moves is the market’s equivalent of shooting first and asking questions later.

Gold was caught in the same game. Despite having as strong a heuristic case as the US dollar of being the safe haven asset to hold, with bond yields rising and the US dollar strengthening, the factors part of the process dictated reflexively selling gold. DOLLAR STRONG + YIELDS UP = SELL GOLD. It did not help that gold had been a strongly favoured asset in the months preceding the war, and became the thing that held up and could be liquidated to make margin calls. While it remains to be seen, when the market shifts to “ask questions”, we should not be surprised if gold’s safe-haven credentials reappear in prices.

Times of crisis and their induced market sell-offs are inherently unstable and unpredictable. This is especially true for wars. As the turmoil continues, financial markets may well flip between “shoot first” and “ask questions” multiple times. Each time, the list of perceived safe havens may change. Rather than predicting which assets heuristics will favour, we will continue to focus on challenging the fundamentals and valuations of what’s holding up best in the Fund, and taking advantage of overshooting market reactions. Our focus is on maintaining portfolios that we believe are most likely to outperform their benchmarks with no greater risk of loss.

In the last quarter, we initiated a position in Australian government bonds and exited positions in healthcare companies UnitedHealth and ICON.

Adapted from a commentary contributed by Alec Cutler, Orbis Investment Management Limited, Bermuda

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2026

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Fund mandate

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Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 17:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.prescient.co.za.

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Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER 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. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

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