

# **Allan Gray Namibia Balanced Strategy**

31 March 2018

#### **Fund description**

The Fund invests in a mix of shares, bonds, property, commodities and cash. The Fund may buy assets outside the common monetary area (CMA) up to a maximum of 35% of the Fund (with an additional 5% for Africa ex-CMA). The Fund typically invests the bulk of its foreign ex-Africa allowance in a mix of funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The maximum net equity exposure of the Fund is 75% and we may use exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure from time to time. The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Namibian Pension Funds Act. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of an equity-only fund.

#### Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to earn a higher total rate of return than that of the average Namibian retirement fund investment manager over the long term. The benchmark is the return of a daily weighted average index of Namibian multi asset class funds that comply with the limits governing Namibian retirement funds.

#### How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares at a discount to their intrinsic value. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us 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. If the stock market offers few attractive shares we may increase the Fund's weighting to alternative assets such as bonds, property, commodities and cash, or we may partially hedge the Fund's stock market exposure. By varying the Fund's exposure to these different asset classes over time, we seek to enhance the Fund's long-term returns and to manage its risk. The Fund's bond and money market investments are actively managed.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek steady long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with taking on some risk of market fluctuation and potential capital loss, but typically less than that of an equity fund
- Wish to invest in a unit trust that complies with retirement fund investment limits
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than three years

#### Minimum investment amounts

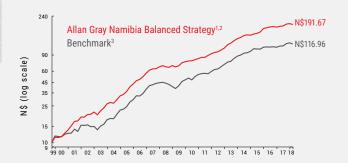
Minimum lump sum per investor account	N\$20 000
Additional lump sum	N\$500
Minimum debit order	N\$500

#### Fund information on 31 March 2018

Fund size	N\$3 630m		
Price	N\$1 782.16		
Number of share holdings	29		
Class	В		

## Performance (N\$) net of fees and expenses

Value of N\$10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



- On 1 February 2014 all the assets and unit holder liabilities of the Allan Gray Namibia Investment Trust were transferred to the Allan Gray Namibia Balanced Fund. The investment philosophy, strategy, fund objective, mandate, restrictions and fund managers remain unchanced.
- Prior to the inception of this class of the Fund
  (1 October 2014) the performance and risk measures are calculated using the A class performance of the Fund.
- 3. The current benchmark is the return of a daily weighted average index of Namibian multi asset class funds that comply with the limits governing Namibian retirement funds, which is provided by Morningstar. From inception to 30 September 2014 the benchmark was the average Alexander Forbes Namibia Manager Watch Survey. The return for March 2018 is an estimate. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 March 2018.
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from May 2008 to February 2009 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from May 2008 to February 2009. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).

% Returns	Strategy <sup>1,2</sup>	Benchmark <sup>3</sup>
Cumulative:		
Since inception (12 August 1999)	1820.4	1056.7
Annualised:		
Since inception (12 August 1999)	17.2	14.1
Latest 10 years	10.8	10.0
Latest 5 years	10.6	9.4
Latest 3 years	8.3	4.0
Latest 2 years	4.1	3.6
Latest 1 year	4.6	5.3
Year-to-date (not annualised)	-2.3	-3.0
Risk measures (since inception)		
Maximum drawdown⁴	-7.2	-20.2



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31 March 2018

#### 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 2017	31 Dec 2017
Cents per unit	1623.2607	1671.5776

#### Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee on the portion of the fund they manage, excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance over the last two years to that of the benchmark.

#### Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a.\*

For each percentage of two-year performance above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.1%, subject to the following limits:

Maximum fee: 1.50% p.a.\* Minimum fee: 0.50% p.a.\*

This means that Allan Gray shares in approximately 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark.

A portion of the Fund may be invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges performance-based fees within these funds that are calculated based on each Orbis fund's performance relative to its own benchmark.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and Transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of actual expenses incurred by a 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.

TER and Transaction costs breakdown for the 1 and 3-year period ending 31 December 2017		3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.65	1.60
Fee for benchmark performance	1.14	1.14
Performance fees	0.46	0.42
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.05	0.04
Transaction costs	0.07	0.09
Total investment charge	1.72	1.69

#### Top 10 share holdings as at 31 March 2018 (CMA and Foreign) (updated guarterly)

Holdings	% of portfolio
FNB Namibia	4.7
Naspers	4.5
Sasol	4.2
British American Tobacco <sup>5</sup>	3.7
Namibia Breweries	3.1
Old Mutual Namibia	2.6
Standard Bank Namibia	2.5
Stimulus	2.2
Remgro	2.2
Oryx Properties	2.1
Total (%)	31.8

5. As at 31 December 2017, the investment portfolio includes a 2.9% exposure to British American Tobacco shares, the majority of which were received as part of a corporate unbundling in 2008. We are awaiting Bank of Namibia's (BoN) final decision on this instrument's (South African or foreign) status. In the meantime, the BoN has extended the grace period for investors to rebalance their portfolios until 31 October 2018.

#### Asset allocation on 31 March 2018

Asset Class	Total	Namibia <sup>6</sup>	South Africa	Africa ex-SA and Namibia	Foreign ex-Africa
Net equity	55.9	18.8	20.8	1.5	14.8
Hedged equity	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0
Property	4.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.8
Commodity-linked	4.4	2.4	1.3	0.0	0.7
Bonds	13.5	10.2	0.0	0.5	2.8
Money market and cash	11.3	8.0	0.0	0.5	2.8
Total (%)	100.0	42.6	22.1	2.5	32.8

6. 7.6% invested in companies incorporated outside Namibia but listed on the NSX.

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

<sup>\*</sup>Management fees charged for the management of unit trust portfolios do not attract VAT.



## **Allan Gray Namibia Balanced Strategy**

31 March 2018

The first quarter proved to be a difficult one for absolute returns. The most significant detractors were the international investments and local equities. World markets fell 1% in US dollars, the Namibian dollar strengthened by 4% over the period and the FTSE/JSE All Share Index declined 6%. The positive contribution from fixed interest was insufficient to offset the equity declines.

The relatively modest market moves over the quarter belie the volatility many experienced during the period. Some investors were lulled into a false sense of security by the orderly uptrend of world markets from January 2016 to January 2018, a period over which the MSCI World Index rose 50%. The strong markets over the past two (in fact 10) years have made us increasingly nervous; we far prefer volatile and falling markets over calm and strongly rising ones. Don't get us wrong, we don't want our clients to lose money over any period, but the good thing about volatility and down markets is that they create opportunities for outsize returns. When markets fall value investors are able to buy companies that have been sold down to below their fair value - a very exciting prospect.

We are constantly searching for assets that will give our investors good real returns. The shares we bought in 2015 and 2016 performed pleasingly in 2017 and we were net sellers of South African equity in late 2017 and January 2018 as many South African orientated companies reached and exceeded our estimate of their fair value. This was particularly true of the banks we bought during the very volatile Nene-gate period, when South Africa's future looked very grim and investors priced shares accordingly. At the time, investors over reacted on the downside by becoming excessively cautious. We are concerned that after the great news of Cyril Ramaphosa replacing Jacob Zuma and the positive changes at Eskom and the South African government generally, investors are over reacting by becoming too positive on South African assets.

Investing is about comparing the price of an asset to its value. Value is subjective and inherently uncertain as it involves the future. Different investors use very different sets of assumptions to value assets. At the moment we think investors are using assumptions that may be overly positive and therefore they are overvaluing certain assets. If the future is not as rosy as these investors expect, the returns from the assets they value highly now will be disappointing. It is far better to invest in assets where expectations are very low, that way, when things turn out to be "not that bad" investors are surprised on the upside. We look for assets where expectations are low and our normal estimates exceed those priced in by the market.

The rand (and due to the peg also the Namibian dollar) is trading at about fair value to the US dollar if one adjusts the historic rand/dollar exchange rate for both American and South African inflation. Looking at this data alone would indicate a neutral stance on the rand. We are a little more cautious than neutral for a few reasons. Despite very weak domestic demand, anaemic investment expenditure and favourable terms of trade at present, South Africa still has a current account deficit of 2.5% of GDP. The recent history of the rand (since 2002) has been somewhat distorted by the Chinese commodity boom, which has greatly assisted our exports.

We have used the opportunity provided by the current rand strength to increase the Fund's international investments, mostly by adding exposure to the Orbis Balanced Fund. The 14.9% offshore equity exposure is a function of generally high market valuations and the increasing domestic asset requirements, which are likely to result in a higher fixed income exposure at home. Although the proposed regulation was delayed, communication from the regulator reinforced its imminent publication. We started positioning the Fund to meet these limits and were net buyers of Namibian equities over the last two quarters.

Commentary contributed by Andrew Lapping and Birte Schneider

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2018



## **Allan Gray Namibia Balanced Strategy**

31 March 2018

#### Management Company

Allan Gray Namibia Unit Trust Management Company is an approved Management Company in terms of the Unit Trusts Control Act, 1981 amended. Incorporated and registered under the laws of Namibia and is supervised by Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority. The trustee and custodian is Standard Bank Namibia.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated daily 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.

#### Performance

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. Where annualised performance is mentioned, this refers to the average return per year over the period.

### Redemptions

Allan Gray Namibia Unit Trust Management Company will repurchase any number of units offered to it on the basis of prices calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Unit Trusts Control Act 54 of 1981 and on the terms and conditions set forth in the trust deed.

## 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) and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, Securities Transfer Tax [STT], Share Transactions Totally Electronic [STRATE] and investor protection levies where applicable) are shown separately. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impacts 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 fund, 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 collective investment scheme expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. 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. 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.

# **Important information** for investors

#### Need more information?

You can obtain additional information about your proposed investment from Allan Gray free of charge either via our website **www.allangray.com.na** or call **061 221 103**.