Sentio Sanlam Collective Investments General Equity Fund

Minimum Disclosure Document

As of 31/12/2023

MDD Issue Date: **25/01/2024**

Fund Objective

The primary objective is to deliver maximum capital growth over the long term through investments in predominantly the equity market.

Fund Strategy

The portfolio's investment universe consists, apart from assets in liquid form, of equity securities listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. The portfolio may also invest in participatory interests and other forms of participation in portfolios of collective investment schemes, registered in the Republic of South Africa. The investment manager will also be allowed to invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments (derivatives) as allowed by the Act from time to time in order to achieve its investment objective.

Fund Information

Ticker	SCIB2
Portfolio Manager	Mohamed Mayet, Rayhaan Joosub Imtiaz Suliman & Olwethu Notshe
ASISA Fund Classification	South African - Equity - General
Risk Profile	Aggressive
Benchmark	FTSE/ JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted Index (J433T
Fund Size	R 202,014,624
Portfolio Launch Date*	02/10/2017
Fee Class Launch Date*	02/10/2017
Minimum Lump Sum Investment	R 10,000
Minimum Monthly Investment	R 500
Income Declaration Date	June & December
Income Payment Date	1st business day of July & January
Portfolio Valuation Time	15:00
Transaction Cut Off Time	15:00
Daily Price Information	Local media & www.sanlamunittrusts.co.za
Repurchase Period	2-3 business days

Fees (Incl. VAT)

Fees (Incl. VAT)	B2-Class (%)
Maximum Initial Advice Fee	—
Maximum Annual Advice Fee	—
Manager Annual Fee	0.92
Total Expense Ratio	1.00
Transaction Cost	0.33
Total Investment Charges	1.33
Performance Fee	—
TER Measurement Period	01 October 2020 - 30 September 2023

Total Expense Ratio (TER) is the percentage value of the Financial Product that was incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Financial Product. 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. The TER and Transaction Costs cannot be determined accurately because of the short life span of the Financial Product.

Transaction Cost (TC) is the percentage value of the Financial Product that was incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Financial Product. Transaction Costs are a necessary cost in administering the Financial Product and impacts Financial Product 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 Financial Product, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

Total Investment Charges (TER + TC) is the total percentage value of the Financial Product that was incurred as costs relating to the investment of the Financial Product.

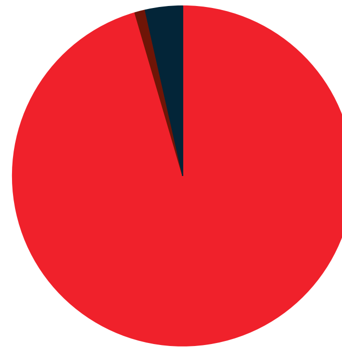
*These figures will become available once sufficient performance history has been met.

Top Ten Holdings

Top Ten Holdings	(%)
Prosus (PRX)	7.56
Firstrand Ltd	7.16
Naspers Ltd	6.67
Standard Bank Group Ltd	5.68
Gold Fields Ltd	5.61
Compagnie Financiere Richemont SA	4.38
Anglo American Plc	3.84
Bid Corporation Ltd	3.70
Shoprite Holdings Ltd	3.48
Investec Ltd	3.22

Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/12/2023



	%
SA Equity	95.47
SA Cash	1.00
SA Property	3.54
Total	**100.00**

Annualised Performance (%)

	Fund	Benchmark
1 Year	1.30	7.87
3 Years	10.31	12.70
5 Years	6.72	8.97
Since Inception	4.85	6.53

Cumulative Performance (%)

	Fund	Benchmark
1 Year	1.30	7.87
3 Years	34.22	43.12
5 Years	38.41	53.66
Since Inception	34.44	48.42

Highest and Lowest Annual Returns

Time Period: Since Inception to 31/12/2023

Highest Annual %	27.04
Lowest Annual %	-11.97

Risk Statistics (3 Year Rolling)

Standard Deviation	14.15
Sharpe Ratio	0.37
Information Ratio	-0.82
Maximum Drawdown	-13.09

Distribution History (Cents Per Unit)

31/12/2023 19.26 cpu

Administered by

Sanlam

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Risk Profile

Aggressive
You can afford to take on a higher level of risk (ie, will have a greater exposure to equities in your portfolio) because of your investment time horizon or your appetite for risk. You know that in taking the risk, you need to be patient if you want to achieve the results. So you are willing to invest for the long-term and are prepared to tolerate some volatility in the short term, in anticipation of the higher returns you expect to receive in five years or beyond.

Glossary Terms

Annualised Returns
Annualised return is the weighted average compound growth rate over the period measured.

Asset Allocation
Asset allocation is the percentage holding in different asset classes (i.e. equities, bonds, property, etc.). It is used to determine the level of diversification in a portfolio.

Capital Growth
Capital growth is the profit made on an investment, measured by the increase in its market value over the invested amount or cost price. It is also called capital appreciation.

Distributions
The income that is generated from an investment and given to investors through monthly, quarterly, bi-annual or annual distribution pay-outs.

Derivatives
Derivatives are instruments generally used as an instrument to protect against risk (capital losses), but can also be used for speculative purposes. Examples are futures, options and swaps.

Feeder Fund
A feeder fund is a South African-based fund that feeds exclusively into its primary foreignbased fund. It allows investors easy access to investing in an offshore fund, eliminating complicated tax and other implications. The shares of the feeder fund represent shares in the primary fund (called a master fund).

Liquidity
The ability to easily turn assets or investments into cash.

Information Ratio
The Information Ratio measures the market risk-adjusted performance of an investment or portfolio. The greater a portfolio's Information Ratio, the better its risk-adjusted performance has been compared to the market in general.

Maximum Drawdown
The maximum drawdown measures the highest peak to trough loss experienced by the fund.

Money Market Instruments
A money market instrument is a low risk, highly liquid, short-term (one year or less) debt instrument, issued by financial institutions or governments, that tend to have lower returns than high-risk investments.

Participatory Interests
When you buy a unit trust, your money is pooled with that of many other investors. The total value of the pool of invested money in a unit trust fund is split into equal portions called participatory interests or units. When you invest your money in a unit trust, you buy a portion of the participatory interests in the total unit trust portfolio. Participatory interests are therefore the number of units that you have in a particular unit trust portfolio.

Regulation 28
Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act sets out prudent investment limits on certain asset classes in investment funds. It applies specifically to investments in Retirement Annuities and Preservation Funds. The allowed maximum exposures to certain asset classes is: 75% for equities; 25% for property; 45% for foreign (offshore) assets.

Sharpe Ratio
The Sharpe Ratio measures total risk-adjusted performance of an investment or portfolio. It measures the amount of risk associated with the returns generated by the portfolio and indicates whether a portfolio's returns are due to excessive risk or not. The greater a portfolio's Sharpe ratio, the better its risk-adjusted performance has been (i.e. a higher return with a contained risk profile, where the portfolio manager is not taking excessive risk to achieve those returns).

Standard Deviation
Standard deviation (also called monthly volatility) is a measure of how much returns on an investment change from month to month. It is typically used by investors to gauge the volatility expected of an investment.

Additional Information

All reasonable steps have been taken to ensure the information on this MDD is accurate. The information to follow does not constitute financial advice as contemplated in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act. Use or rely on this information at your own risk. Independent professional financial advice should always be sought before making an investment decision. The Sanlam Group is a full member of the Association for Savings and Investment SA. Collective investment schemes are generally medium- to long-term investments. Please note that past performances are not necessarily a guide to future performances, and that the value of investments / units / unit trusts may go down as well as up. A schedule of fees and charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager, Sanlam Collective Investments (RF) Pty Ltd, a registered and approved Manager in Collective Investment Schemes in Securities. Additional information of the proposed investment, including brochures, application forms and annual or quarterly reports, can be obtained on request from the Manager, free of charge. Collective investments are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. Collective investments 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 such as audit fees, brokerage and service fees. Actual investment performance of the portfolio and the investor will differ depending on the initial fees applicable, the actualinvestment date, and the date of reinvestment of income as well as dividend withholding tax. Forward pricing is used. The Manager does not provide any guarantee either with respect to the capital or the return of a portfolio. The performance of the portfolio depends on the underlying assets and variable market factors. Performance is based on NAV to NAV calculations with income reinvestments done on the ex-div date. Lump sum investment performances are quoted. The portfolio may invest in participatory interests of other unit trust portfolios. These underlying funds levy their own fees, and may result in a higher fee structure for our portfolio. All the portfolio options presented are approved collective investment schemes in terms of Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, No 45 of 2002 ("CISCA"). The Manager may borrow up to 10% the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. The fund may from time to time invest in foreign countries and therefore it may have risks regarding liquidity, the repatriation of funds, political and macroeconomic situations, foreign exchange, tax, settlement, and the availability of information.Investments in foreign instruments are also subject to fluctuations in exchange rates which may cause the value of the fund to go up or down. The fund may invest in financial instruments (derivatives) for efficient portfolio management purposes. The Manager has the right to close any portfolios to new investors to manage them more efficiently in accordance with their mandates. Management of the portfolio is outsourced to Sentio Capital Management (Pty) Ltd, (FSP) Licence No. 33843, an Authorised Financial Services Provider under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002. Sanlam Collective Investments (RF) (Pty) Ltd retains full legal responsibility for the co-named portfolio. Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd is the appointed trustee of the Sanlam Collective Investments scheme. Sources of Performance and Risk Data: Morningstar Direct, INET BFA and Bloomberg. The risk free asset assumed for the calculation of Sharpe ratios: STEFI Composite Index. The highest and lowest 12- month returns are based on a calendar year period over 10 years or since inception where the performance history does not exist for 10 years. Obtain a personalised cost estimate before investing by visiting www.sanlamunittrustsmdd.co.za and using our Effective Annual Cost (EAC) calculator. Alternatively, contact us at 0860 100 266.

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Portfolio Manager Comment

In 2020, the U.S. economy faced a severe downturn due to the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting substantial stimulus injections by the U.S. government and others globally. However, these stimulus measures inadvertently led to sticky (non-transitory) inflation, prompting the Federal Reserve to implement a series of rate hikes totalling 525 basis points to counteract inflationary pressures.

As 2023 unfolded, initial bear theses of a recession, earnings growth implosion, and uncertainty about the Fed's) rate plans dissipated. However, concerns lingered about valuations, with the S&P trading at a P/E of 19x despite the Fed funds rate reaching 20-year highs.

A retrospective overview of 2023 reveals one of market volatility driven by higher interest rates, uncertainty about their peak, and increased market instability. Events such as a systemic risk flare-up (SVB crisis), China's economic slowdown affecting miners and luxury sectors, and an AI narrative boosting tech stocks by and large shaped the market narrative. Additionally, a slowdown in inflation provided breathing room for multiple assets, duration assets, and non-profitable tech companies.

The latter part of 2023 then saw a strong market expectation for the continuation of the Federal Reserve's hawkish stance. Alas, Fed Chair Powell's acknowledgment of a shift towards rate cuts – the Fed Pivot - fuelled another market acceleration. This led to beta chasing, systematic de-grossing, short squeezes, and ended a year of a perplexing, concentrated and thus "unpleasant" bull market to remember.

We are still concerned….
Looking forward to 2024, the key question is whether the full impact of past central bank tightening is behind us or still in the pipeline. The latter seems more likely to us due to the typical lag of around 18 months for monetary policy effects. With loose U.S. fiscal policy support for corporates running out, a potential weakening in global growth momentum is anticipated, posing risks to financial markets. Importantly, while a year ago risky assets were fully pricing in a recession, and economists unanimously agreed with that, now the picture is quite different, recession probabilities are currently near the lows of the range, and most macro forecasts are hopeful, while valuations are rich. This might be too optimistic.

….while the current Goldilocks environment is likely to persist for now…
Notwithstanding the current Goldilocks environment, characterized by ongoing economic expansion and positive global manufacturing and trade trends, continuing for a bit, the currently 6 cuts priced is a lot, and Cyclicals/Defensives and equities in general have started decoupling from this accommodation. 3 to 4 cuts could mean normalization, in our view, but any more could be signalling bad things for growth, which equities wouldn't like. This might signal that the unstable - while equilibrium - of high growth and lower rates since November is ending. The possibility of another upswing in bond yields could become another equity headwind as well.

Higher rates likely to take their toll eventually…
The aftermath of early-2023 events, particularly the regional banking crisis, highlighted vulnerabilities in the system. Elevated rates exposed areas of concern, including access to finance for smaller companies, credit pressure on small banks, and a slowdown in mortgage, housing, and commercial real estate activities.

..and will impact labour markets…
Labour markets are also expected to be impacted, especially if small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) start retrenching since small businesses employing less than 250 people account for 75% of US private sector employment. As SMEs cannot access the bond market like larger corporations, a higher cost of borrowing may lead to tangible evidence of labour market weakness. The recent NFIB small business survey indicates a reduction in hiring plans, and potential labour weakness could occur if top-line revenue growth faces downward pressure. And as excess savings have come down by almost 90% since the August 2021 peak, the labour participation rate has also been rising. Indeed the participation rate of people in the key 25-54 prime working age category now exceeds the pre-pandemic level.

…while inflationary pressures might prevent more rate cuts….
Inflation remains a critical factor, and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East could pose risks to the global economy. Disruptions in commodities or freight costs due to geopolitical events may contribute to stagflationary pressures. With large shippers now also unable to pass through the Panama Canal due to drought, this may all lead to renewed inflation pressures, especially in destination countries, and give rise to downside risks for trade volumes.

…in summary…
The odds of a US soft-landing have certainly risen, while substantial risks for a no-landing or even a recession remain. What seems the most obvious is the exuberance of the amount of rate cuts versus growth expectations which, in our view, is mutually exclusive. Should indeed more than 3 rate cuts occur over the next 12 months, then this will in all likelihood be coupled with an economic "accident" that markets will not like. Rather a more measured, data dependent decline in rates is more realistic, unless substantial economic weakness. Ultimately, it is possible that US retail buying continues to push the market higher, along with general FOMO, and cash on the sidelines coming in to the market. Earnings will be key over the next earnings season as well and could drive upside (or downside). However, we don't think a grind higher without any pullback should be the base case for market expectations, given the recent highs in positioning and historical precedents that suggest potential weakness. For SA, it's going to be an eventful 2024, with the Budget in February, elections likely in May, and SARB cutting cycle likely in 2H24. Left tail risks are much talked about and seem largely priced in, while upside surprises around budget (rabbit out of the hat regarding funding opportunities, rate cuts (driving consumption) and economic growth (and thus foreign interest) could provide unexpected boosts to capital markets.

Fund strategy
Given the above backdrop, the fund will continue to seek exposure to cheap assets with a tilt to the Growth and Quality styles. A variety of our data and macro models, indicate that the market's reaction to the December Fed pivot was an aberration, exacerbated by seasonality, pertaining to year-end drivers (for many Mutual Funds and Hedgefunds) and related thinning liquidity. Sentio's bottom-up fundamental valuation models indicate robust upside for the portfolio in the current and expected environment, and the fund will continue to be nimble and navigate through current volatility to pursue its goal of achieving optimal risk-adjusted returns.

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