

Portfolio Manager Commentary

Occasionally we observe substantial dislocations between underlying weakening economic reality and strong asset prices in the markets.

These dislocations can continue for years for reasons we cannot see or understand. And then, out of the blue, they can change course, without warning but with painful consequences.

In 2016 when we established Perspective the empirical evidence led us to conclude that the average South African consumer was facing an unusually rough patch. Basic living expenses had been growing much faster than incomes, while jobs were either disappearing, being disrupted or uncertain. At the same time, the consumer's investments – mostly pension funds and property – were flat to negative, while net debt remained at elevated levels.

This trend continues today, the economy is weak and interest rates are relatively low, thereby making these consumers vulnerable to further job losses and interest rate hikes. Most data points we regularly evaluate provide continued support for this conclusion.

We ask the question, why do South African retail stocks remain stubbornly overpriced?

Disappointing trading updates and substantial share price declines from the likes of Mr Price, Truworths, Massmart, Woolworths and Shoprite indicate the past 6 months have been far weaker than expected. We think this provides a more sober temperature reading of the current reality facing the average South African consumer. The closing of the dislocation we spoke of in our opening paragraphs is in full swing and we are paying close attention.

We remain discerning and cautious about investing in the South African retail industry at this point in the cycle.

Our exposure to this industry remains negligible as of this writing.

Fund Asset Allocation

	% of Fund
ZAR Equity	44,1%
ZAR Property Equity	2,0%
Offshore Equity	8,9%
Offshore Cash	5,1%
ZAR Cash	35,5%
ZAR Government Bonds	4,4%
Preference Shares	0,0%
Commodities	0,0%

Top 10 Equity Holdings

	% of Fund
Sasol	3,9%
MTN	3,1%
Discovery	3,0%
Omnia	3,0%
WBHO	2,9%
Barrick	2,6%
Anglogold Ashanti	2,6%
Remgro	2,5%
Astral Foods	2,1%
Philip Morris	2,0%

Fund Performance: Class A1

Cumulative Performance since inception (net of costs)	4,23%
Annualised Performance since inception (net of costs)	2,96%
Benchmark since inception (estimate)	10,39%
1-Year Performance (net of costs)	-2,22%
1-Year Benchmark	10,18%
Highest annualised return	9,09%
Lowest annualised return	-2,22%

Income Distributions

March 2018 A1 class: 2.33cpu

Fund Information

Fund Manager	Perspective Investment Management Daniel Malan and Sean Neethling
ASISA Fund Classification	SA – Multi Asset – High Equity
Risk Profile	Moderate
Benchmark	CPI + 5%
Fund NAV	ZAR 28,3mn
ISIN	ZAE000248605
Fund Launch Date	Monday, 04 September 2017
Issue Date	Thursday, 07 February 2019
Income Distribution	Annually in March
Management Fees	1,15%
Fund Costs	0,44%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	1,59%
Transaction costs	0,44%
Total Investment Cost (TIC)	2,03%
Minimum Investment	Lump Sum: R 10 000 / Monthly: R 500

About the Fund Manager

Perspective is an investment management firm based in Cape Town, South Africa. The firm was founded in January 2017 and is designed to be an employee-owned and managed business focused on the principles of long-term investing on behalf of our clients. Our commitment is to establish a resilient enterprise that creates exceptional long-term value for all our current and future clients and stakeholders.

Daniel Malan B.Com, CFA

Daniel has 23 years of investment industry and business management experience across multiple asset classes and geographies.

Sean Neethling M.Com Finance

Sean has 17 years of relevant industry experience across listed and unlisted credit and fixed income markets.

Investment Objective

The Fund aims to provide investors with long-term investment returns after costs at or above its benchmark of the South African inflation rate plus 5%.

Investment Strategy

The Fund complies with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act and may invest up to maximums of 75% in equities and 25% in offshore assets. The Fund will invest in a diversified range of equities, investment grade bonds, property and cash, but may also invest in preference shares, currencies and commodities when sensible opportunities present themselves.

The flexibility of this mandate empowers the fund managers to be more fully invested when a diversified selection of good assets are cheap and to be positioned defensively when good assets are very expensive or highly concentrated in a single sector.

Suitability

The Fund is most suited to investors with an investment horizon of five to ten years seeking a combination of principal preservation, income generation and long-term capital growth.

Tax Free Investment

Based on section 12T of the Income Tax Act this Fund qualifies as a tax-free investment account (“TFSA”). This allows South African individuals to qualify for no tax on distributions and / or capital gains while invested in the Fund. The current tax framework limits contributions to tax-free investments to R33 000 per tax year with the lifetime limit capped at R500 000. Any contributions exceeding these limits will be subject to tax. It is recommended that any investor considering investing in the Fund for specific tax purposes and requires explicit tax advice consult directly with a qualified tax professional. Perspective Investment Management (Pty) Ltd does not render financial advice but can recommend accredited professionals who are licenced to do so if required.

What It Really Means

Long-Term: An investment period of five to ten years.

ASISA: Association for Saving & Investment South Africa.

Moderate Risk: The fund aims to maximise long-term capital growth and can invest up to 75% in equities, which provide the best opportunity for high returns but also carry the risk of temporary and / or permanent capital loss.

CPI: South African Consumer Price Index.

Fund NAV: The total amount of investor capital in the fund.

ISIN: The International Securities Identification Number is a code that uniquely identifies your fund.

Issue Date: The date that this MDD document is approved for publication.

Annualised Performance: Shows fund performance re-scaled to a 12-month period. The average return per year over the period. Actual annual figures are available to the investor on request

Highest and Lowest Return: The highest and lowest return over a 12-month period since the inception of the fund.

Total Expense ratio (“TER”): The total cost to the investor from investing in the fund inclusive of audit, custody and trustee fees.

CPU: Cents per unit.

Contact Details

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*The Management Company and Trustee are registered and approved under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act (No.45 of 2002).
Prescient is a member of the Association for Savings and Investments SA.*

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Perspective Investment Management (Pty) Ltd is an authorised Financial Services Provider (FSP No. 47672) under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002), to act in the capacity as investment manager. This information is not advice, as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002). Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision.

Disclaimer for Fund specific risk

Default risk: The risk that the issuers of fixed income instruments (e.g. bonds) may not be able to meet interest payments nor repay the money they have borrowed. The issuers credit quality is vital. The worse the credit quality, the greater the risk of default and therefore investment loss.

Foreign Investment risk: Foreign securities investments may be subject to risks pertaining to overseas jurisdictions and markets, including (but not limited to) local liquidity, macroeconomic, political, tax, settlement risks and currency fluctuations.

Interest rate risk: The value of fixed income investments (e.g. bonds) tends to be inversely related to interest and inflation rates. Hence their value decreases when interest rates and/or inflation rises.

Property risk: Investments in real estate securities can carry the same risks as investing directly in real estate itself. Real estate prices move in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic and political conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.

Currency exchange risk: Changes in the relative values of individual currencies may adversely affect the value of investments and any related income.

Geographic / Sector risk: For investments primarily concentrated in specific countries, geographical regions and/or industry sectors, their resulting value may decrease whilst portfolios more broadly invested might grow.

Equity investment risk: Value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as more general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. bankruptcy), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company.

General Disclaimer

This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long-term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS's are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor's fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used.

The Fund's Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER 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 TER's. During the phase in period TER's do not include information gathered over a full year.

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

The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third-party-named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macroeconomic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees.

Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient by or before 13:00 (SA), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Funds are priced at either 3pm or 5pm depending on the nature of the Fund. Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

For any additional information such as brochures and application forms please go to www.perspectiveim.co.za.

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