

The SA bond market returned 0.9% for the quarter. This lacklustre performance should be seen in the light of more negative surprises on CPIX inflation, two interest rate hikes, an intensification of the credit crunch overseas, and a widening in emerging market spreads. Against that backdrop, the fact that bonds managed a positive return is actually not bad at all! The only really supportive factor was a decline in US bond yields, though that was largely a combination of flight-to-quality bids and fears about US growth, neither of which is particularly healthy for SA. The rand moved largely sideways over the quarter, with a brief spurt of strength in late October/early November proving unsustainable. The all-bond index underperformed both cash and inflation-linked bonds for the quarter and the year.

Bond and Money Market (local currency returns)

Name	December 2007	3 months	6 months	12 months	Year-to-date
All Bond	0.86%	0.9%	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%
GOVI	0.86%	1.0%	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%
OTHI	0.84%	0.2%	4.0%	3.2%	3.2%
Bonds 1-3 Years	1.05%	1.3%	4.1%	7.1%	7.1%
Bonds 3-7 Years	0.77%	0.4%	3.6%	5.2%	5.2%
Bonds 7-12 Years	0.85%	0.9%	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%
Bonds 12+ Years	0.66%	0.4%	4.8%	1.4%	1.4%
Cash	0.90%	2.7%	5.2%	10.1%	10.1%
Barclays BESA Govt Inflation-Linked Bonds	0.80%	5.4%	6.8%	9.2%	9.2%

Source: Deutsche Securities

Each of the three CPIX inflation releases during the final quarter of the year surprised market forecasts on the upside, and the end result was that CPIX had moved up sharply from 6.3% in August to 7.9% in November. This is well above the upper limit of the SA Reserve Bank's (SARB) 3% - 6% target range. The December figure, to be released at the end of January, will almost certainly be well north of 8%. The fact that the driving factors behind the inflation rise remained food and energy added to the SARB's concerns about second-round effects, and the data most probably sealed the decision to raise the repo rate 50 basis points at each of the October and December MPC meetings. The repo rate has now increased by a total of 400 basis points in this cycle.

However, the news was not all bad from an inflation perspective, and indeed from a forward-looking standpoint there are clear signs of improvement. The rand has generally remained stable (not just over the quarter but throughout 2007) and the lagged effect of this will help dampen CPIX beyond the first quarter of 2008. Indeed, the stable rand has already had something of a positive impact on PPI, and unlike CPIX that has tended to surprise on the downside. PPI is a leading indicator of CPIX trends. Meanwhile, the SARB's other stated concern – consumer spending – has shown signs of a sharp slowdown in recent data, and it can only be a matter of time before this is reflected to an acceptable extent in the credit data.

The SARB continues to find itself in a tight spot, with no sign of pressure easing on food and fuel prices, yet all indications are that more than enough pressure has been brought to bear on consumers. There must be a limit to the extent to which exogenous factors (and here we would include Eskom tariff increases) can drive monetary policy in the face of slumping consumer spending. It may be an opportune time to stick our necks out and say that it is likely time that the SARB will pause at the January MPC to see the effects of previous rate hikes – particularly if it is forward-looking.

The international backdrop will continue to be crucial. There are heightened concerns about growth in certain developed markets, particularly in the US. This could keep US bond yields low. However, if the credit crunch continues, risk aversion may stay relatively high and risky assets may stay under pressure. Capital flows into SA have been a key factor supporting the rand in the face of the wide current account deficit, and the rand could become vulnerable if sentiment towards emerging markets in general turns negative. This will remain a key risk this year. A positive side effect may be that concerns about growth should help alleviate some of the pressure recently seen on oil prices.

From a domestic perspective, the outlook is cloudier in the shorter term than the medium term. CPIX is expected to remain elevated in the first quarter, but should begin declining meaningfully from the second quarter and should slip back inside the target range by the third quarter. Coupled with what we expect to be continued evidence of a consumer slowdown, this should provide space for interest rate reductions in the second half of this year. This more positive outlook for bonds is again predicated on the assumption that any depreciation in the currency will be moderate, and is again held hostage to developments in oil and food prices. While the medium term outlook is basically positive, therefore, it remains fraught with risks and the SARB is likely to remain cautious. This fundamentally positive outlook tempered by a number of risks probably argues for keeping duration fairly close to the benchmark at present.

Mark le Roux
Portfolio Manager

CORONATION BOND

Class R
as at 31 December 2007

CORONATION
FUND MANAGERS

Fund category	Domestic Fixed Interest Bond
Fund description	Seeks to provide investors with a well-diversified exposure to the SA bond market.
Launch date	1 August 1997

Portfolio manager	Mark le Roux
Fund size	R442.9 million
NAV	1301.22 cents
Benchmark/performance fee hurdle	BEASSA ALBI Index

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

EFFECTIVE ASSET ALLOCATION EXPOSURE

Maturity Band	31 Dec 2007
0 – 1 year	9.83%
1 – 3 years	19.28%
3 – 7 years	14.33%
7 – 12 years	34.01%
12+ years	22.55%

INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Declaration	Payment	Amount	Interest
30/09/2007	01/10/2007	53.11	53.11
31/03/2007	01/04/2007	49.74	49.74
30/09/2006	01/10/2006	35.92	35.92
31/03/2006	01/04/2006	50.61	50.61

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE RETURNS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Fund 2007	0.65%	1.25%	-0.27%	1.47%	-0.95%	-2.02%	0.39%	0.68%	2.23%	1.59%	-1.39%	0.67%
Fund 2006	0.72%	0.93%	-0.26%	1.02%	-0.76%	-2.38%	0.63%	-0.18%	1.43%	3.26%	0.91%	1.34%
Fund 2005	1.04%	1.38%	-2.11%	2.01%	0.35%	2.02%	0.62%	0.16%	0.32%	0.70%	2.12%	1.91%

FEES (excl. VAT)

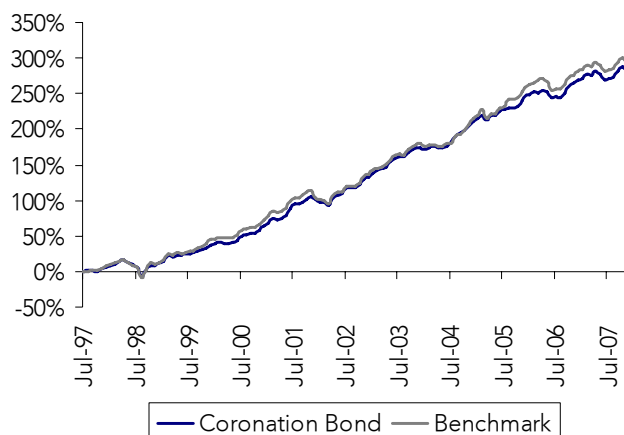
Initial Fee	Coronation: 0.00%
Annual Management Fee*	0.75%
* A portion of Coronation's annual management fee may be paid to administration platforms like LISP's as a payment for administrative and distribution services.	
Total Expense Ratio (TER)²	0.87% per annum

Advice Costs (excluding VAT)

- Initial and ongoing advice fees may be facilitated on agreement between the Client and Financial Advisor.
- An initial advice fee may be negotiated to a maximum of 3% and is applied to each contribution and deducted before investment is made.
- Ongoing advice fees may be negotiated to a maximum of 1% per annum (if initial advice fee greater than 1.5% is selected, then the maximum annual advice fee is 0.5%), charged by way of unit reduction and paid to the Financial Advisor monthly in arrears. This annual advice fee is not part of the normal annual management fee as disclosed above.
- Where commission and incentives are paid, these are included in the overall costs.

PERFORMANCE AND RISK STATISTICS¹

CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION



PERFORMANCE FOR VARIOUS PERIODS

	Fund	Benchmark	Out-performance
Year to date	4.29%	4.21%	0.08%
Latest 12 months	4.29%	4.21%	0.08%
Latest 36 months (annualised)	7.30%	6.79%	0.51%
Latest 60 months (annualised)	10.58%	10.63%	-0.05%
Since inception (annualised)	13.82%	14.01%	-0.18%
2006	6.76%	5.48%	1.28%
2005	10.96%	10.80%	0.16%
2004	13.94%	15.25%	-1.31%
2003	17.47%	18.07%	-0.60%

RISK STATISTICS SINCE INCEPTION

	Fund	Benchmark
Annualised deviation	7.80%	9.32%
Sharpe ratio	0.30	0.27
Maximum gain	26.21%	26.36%
Maximum drawdown	-19.02%	-22.26%
Positive months	76.80%	76.00%