

## WHAT IS THE FUND'S OBJECTIVE?

Strategic Income aims to achieve a higher return than a traditional money market or pure income fund.

## WHAT DOES THE FUND INVEST IN?

Strategic Income can invest in a wide variety of assets, such as cash, government and corporate bonds, inflation-linked bonds and listed property, both in South Africa and internationally.

As great care is taken to protect the fund against loss, Strategic Income does not invest in ordinary shares and its combined exposure to listed property (typically max. 10%), preference shares (typically max. 10%), international assets (typically max. 10%) and hybrid instruments (typically max. 5%) would generally not exceed 25% of the fund.

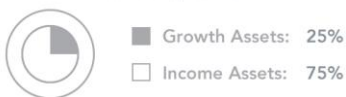
The fund has a flexible mandate with no prescribed maturity or duration limits for its investments. The fund is mandated to use derivative instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes.

## IMPORTANT PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS AND RISKS

### Risk Profile



### Maximum growth/ minimum income exposures



Strategic Income is tactically managed to secure an attractive return, while protecting capital.

Its investments are carefully researched by a large and experienced investment team and subjected to a strict risk management process. The fund is actively positioned to balance long-term strategic positions with shorter-term tactical opportunities to achieve the best possible income.

While the fund is managed in a conservative and defensive manner, there are no guarantees it will always outperform cash over short periods of time. Capital losses are possible, especially in the case of negative credit events affecting underlying holdings.

## HOW LONG SHOULD INVESTORS REMAIN INVESTED?

The recommended investment term is 12-months and longer. The fund's exposure to growth assets like listed property and preference shares will cause price fluctuations from day to day, making it unsuitable as an alternative to a money market fund over very short investment horizons (12-months and shorter). Note that the fund is also less likely to outperform money market funds in a rising interest rate environment.

Given its limited exposure to growth assets, the fund is not suited for investment terms of longer than five years.

## WHO SHOULD CONSIDER INVESTING IN THE FUND?

Investors who

- are looking for an intelligent alternative to cash or bank deposits over periods from 12 to 36 months;
- seek managed exposure to income generating investments;
- are believers in the benefits of active management within the fixed interest universe.

## WHAT COSTS CAN I EXPECT TO PAY?

An annual fee of 0.85% (excl. VAT) is payable.

Fund expenses that are incurred in the fund include trading, custody and audit charges. All performance information is disclosed after deducting all fees and other fund costs.

We do not charge fees to access or withdraw from the fund.

More detail is available on [www.coronation.com](http://www.coronation.com).

## WHO ARE THE FUND MANAGERS?



**NISHAN MAHARAJ**

BSc (Hons)



**MARK LE ROUX**

BCom

## GENERAL FUND INFORMATION

<b>Launch Date</b>	2 July 2001
<b>Fund Class</b>	A
<b>Benchmark</b>	110% of STeFI 3-month index
<b>Fund Category</b>	South African – Multi-asset – Income
<b>Regulation 28</b>	Complies
<b>Income Distribution</b>	Quarterly (March, June, September, December)
<b>Investment minimum</b>	R5 000 or R500/m debit order
<b>Bloomberg Code</b>	CORSTIN
<b>ISIN Code</b>	ZAE000031522
<b>JSE Code</b>	CSIF

# CORONATION STRATEGIC INCOME FUND

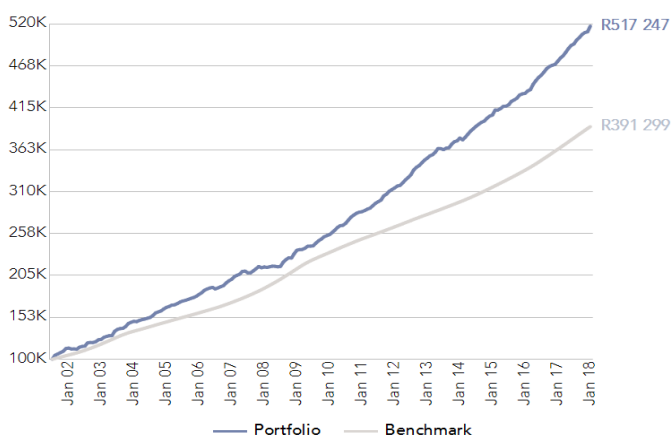
CLASS A as at 31 December 2017

Fund category	South African - Multi Asset - Income
Launch date	02 July 2001
Fund size	R29.39 billion
NAV	1575.03 cents
Benchmark/Performance	110% of the STeFI 3-month Index
Fee Hurdle	
Portfolio manager/s	Nishan Maharaj and Mark le Roux

Total Expense Ratio	1 Year	3 Year
Fund management fee	0.99%	1.00%
Fund expenses	0.84%	0.85%
VAT	0.03%	0.03%
Transaction costs (inc. VAT)	0.12%	0.12%
Total Investment Charge	0.01%	0.01%
	1.00%	1.01%

## PERFORMANCE AND RISK STATISTICS

### GROWTH OF A R100,000 INVESTMENT (AFTER FEES)



## PORTFOLIO DETAIL

### EFFECTIVE ASSET ALLOCATION EXPOSURE

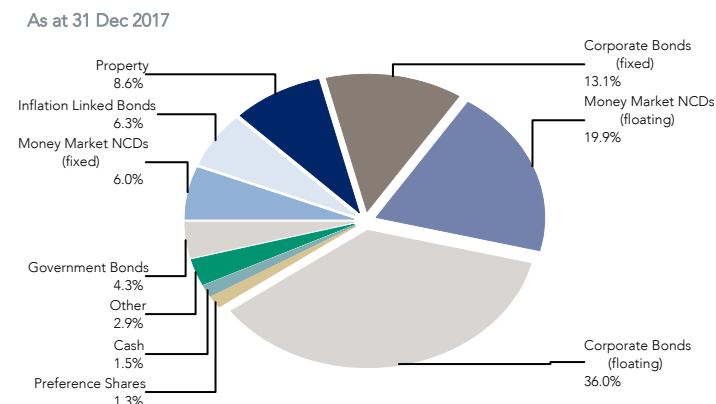
Sector	31 Dec 2017
<b>Domestic Assets</b>	<b>89.9%</b>
Cash	30.1%
Bonds	54.3%
Listed Property	7.0%
Preference Shares	1.3%
Other (Currency Futures)	(2.8)%
<b>International Assets</b>	<b>10.1%</b>
Cash	0.6%
Bonds	8.0%
Property	1.6%

## PERFORMANCE AND MODIFIED DURATION (AFTER FEES)

	Fund	Benchmark	Active Return
Since Launch (unannualised)	417.3%	291.3%	126.0%
Since Launch (annualised)	10.5%	8.6%	1.9%
Latest 15 years (annualised)	9.9%	8.3%	1.7%
Latest 10 years (annualised)	9.1%	7.6%	1.6%
Latest 5 years (annualised)	8.0%	6.8%	1.2%
Latest 3 years (annualised)	8.4%	7.4%	1.0%
Latest 1 year	9.3%	7.8%	1.5%
Year to date	9.3%	7.8%	1.5%

	Fund
Modified Duration	1.4
Modified Duration (ex Inflation Linkers)	1.0
Yield	9.0%

## PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION



## RISK STATISTICS SINCE LAUNCH

	Fund	Benchmark
Annualised Deviation	2.6%	0.7%
Sharpe Ratio	0.87	N/A
Maximum Gain	60.5%	N/A
Maximum Drawdown	(1.3)%	N/A
Positive Months	92.4%	N/A

	Fund	Date Range
Highest annual return	18.7%	Nov 2002 - Oct 2003
Lowest annual return	2.6%	Jun 2007 - May 2008

## INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Declaration	Payment	Amount	Dividend	Interest
29 Dec 2017	02 Jan 2018	27.54	0.72	26.82
29 Sep 2017	02 Oct 2017	27.43	0.86	26.57
30 Jun 2017	03 Jul 2017	27.61	0.72	26.89
31 Mar 2017	03 Apr 2017	27.45	1.24	26.21

## MONTHLY PERFORMANCE RETURNS (AFTER FEES)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Fund 2017	0.9%	0.5%	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%	0.4%	1.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%	1.4%	9.3%
Fund 2016	0.7%	0.3%	1.5%	1.0%	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%	1.0%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.8%	9.3%
Fund 2015	1.6%	(0.1)%	0.5%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	1.0%	0.4%	0.5%	1.0%	0.3%	0.1%	6.7%

**Please note that the commentary is for the retail class of the fund.**

The fund returned 1.41% in December, bringing its total return for the 12-month period to 9.31%. This is well ahead of the returns delivered by both cash (7.09%) and its benchmark (7.82%) over the same one-year period.

The last quarter of 2017 was particularly eventful in the local bond market. Following the poor Medium Term Budget Policy Statement in October, when SA's fiscal deterioration became a reality, the local 10-year bond sold off aggressively from 8.6% to a high of just above 9.5%. As we have been highlighting for some time, these higher levels better reflect the underlying risks in the local economy given the policy and political backdrop. Up to the ANC elective conference in December, SA bonds spent most of the quarter at levels of around 9.25% to 9.5%. As Cyril Ramaphosa emerged as the new president of the ANC (and possibly the country), the local bond market rallied down to close the year at levels of 8.59%. Before December, there were expectations that bonds would underperform cash for the year, but the All Bond Index (Albi) ended 2017 up 10.2% (gaining 5.66% in December alone). This is significantly above the performance of cash and inflation-linked bonds, which returned 7.1% and 2.9% respectively. The bulk of the ALBI's performance came from the 3 to 7 year and 7 to 12 year buckets, which both returned just over 11%, driven primarily by the falling repo rate over the course of the year.

Calendar 2018 will be a very important year for South Africa and the performance of the local bond market will anchor off three key outcomes. Firstly, the ability of government to push through reforms that support a recovery in growth, which is directly tied to Mr Ramaphosa being able to exert his influence as the new leader of the ruling party on the direction of policy. Secondly, the trajectory of inflation over the course of the next two years and its implication for path of the SA repo rates. Finally, the evolution of the global monetary policy environment and its implication for emerging markets will have a large bearing on the direction of global and hence local bond yields.

The issue of policy inaction has led to a steady deterioration in SA credit fundamentals, as illustrated by the constant downgrades of SA's credit rating over the last two years. SA is now rated below investment grade by all but one of the rating agencies, Moody's (which has SA one notch above sub investment grade, but intends to pronounce judgement before the end of February). Moody's will be looking for some evidence that government is trying to halt the current path and trajectory of fiscal deterioration, as well as for indications of pro-growth reforms. In order for SA to avert a downgrade to below investment grade and consequently an exit from the Citi World Government Bond Index (Citi WGBI), we would need to see corrective actions implemented at many of the large state-owned enterprises to alleviate concerns around financial stability and more importantly governance. This would imply the need for new or revamped boards and management teams that could restore confidence in these institutions. In addition, one would need to see a more fruitful partnership between government and the private sector in order to kick-start growth. Whether Mr Ramaphosa can implement such changes, despite an already divided ruling party, is a question that is unfortunately beyond the scope of this report. However, given that Mr Ramaphosa is seen by the market as a reformist and Corporate SA has not spent any money over the last year, we could see a boost to economic growth from "relief spend" over the first two quarters of 2018, taking growth to above 1.5% for the year. Whether this growth would be sustainable would rely on how quickly reforms are implemented. Moody's will more likely than not be willing to give SA a stay of execution if there is evidence that the country is turning a corner. Even if the downgrade does come, the global backdrop and trajectory of SA economy will play a much more vital role in determining where the local bond market settles.

Two key developments should support a lower (or at least a more stable) inflation profile over the next year. Firstly, the rand has rallied 11% this year, which will continue to subdue the rand price of oil and overall import inflation. Second, the recent decision to only award Eskom a 5% tariff increase, while a problem for Eskom's liquidity, is good news for inflation. The combined effect is that at the bare minimum we should see inflation average 5 to 5.5% over the next two years, implying the real policy rate will average 1.75 to 1.25%. This should allow the SA Reserve Bank, at worst, to keep the repo rate stable over the next two years and probably bias the next move to the downside.

At the end of December, shorter-dated negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs) traded at 8.135% (three-year) and 9.715% (five-year) respectively, down approximately 50 to 70bps in the last week of the month, reflecting the change in interest rate expectations (from 75bps of hikes to no change). NCD spreads relative to cash remain at quite tight levels due to a compression in credit spreads. NCDs continue to hold appeal due to the inherent protection offered by their yields, however the hunt for yield in the local market has started to push bank credit spreads into expensive territory (less than 100bps in the three-year area and 130bps in the five-year area). The fund continues to hold decent exposure to these instruments (both floating and fixed), but we will remain cautious and selective when increasing exposure. NCDs have the added benefit of being liquid, thus aligning the liquidity of the fund with the needs of its investors.

Globally, the path and pace of the increase in US interest rates will remain a key driver for global bond yields. Current market pricing suggests that federal funds rate will move up to 2% by the end of 2019, slightly below the Federal Reserve's own projection of 2.25%. Even if the current term premium (the difference between the US 10-year bond and the fed funds target rate) of 100bps is maintained and the Fed does move its target rate to 2 to 2.25%, this implies that the US 10-year bond should be in the 3 to

3.25% range as opposed to the current level of 2.4%. Given the current US administration's embrace of pro-growth policies, risks to US inflation will remain tilted to the upside, suggesting the US 10-year might overshoot the 3 to 3.25% target. More importantly however, as history has shown us, is the pace at which global bond yields move higher. If global bond yields continue to move higher at a gradual and measured pace this would maintain a supportive environment for emerging markets. An abrupt change in the direction of monetary policy in the US or EU, with both aggressively removing monetary policy accommodation, would have a more disruptive impact on emerging markets.

The rand had a massive month in December, recovering to R12.38 to the dollar (up 10.62% up for the month and 10.96% for the year). This performance was primarily driven by the appointment of Cyril Ramaphosa as the president of the ANC and expectations that he would swiftly adopt measures to put the economy back on the path to recovery. The fund benefited from holding put options on the dollar against the rand, which had the effect of synthetically reducing the fund's offshore exposure as the rand rallied following Mr Ramaphosa's election. The fund maintains a healthy exposure to offshore assets, and when valuations are stretched, it will hedge/unhedge portions of its exposure back into rands/dollars by selling/buying JSE-traded currency futures (US dollar, UK pound and euro). These instruments are used to adjust the fund's exposure synthetically, allowing it to maintain its core holdings in offshore assets. (It has the added benefit of enhancing the fund's yield when bringing back offshore exposure into rand.)

The fund has continuously used any spike in yields as an opportunity to add selective exposure to the longer area of the bond curve (12y+) at levels of around 10.25% to 10.50%, given its attractive return prospects relative to cash over the longer term. The SA economy could be at a key turning point if the newly elected ruling party leadership is able to push through much-needed growth reforms, stabilise ailing parastatals and restore confidence in the SA economy. SA's growth could receive a short-term boost from inventory renewal as Corporate SA starts to spend again after a yearlong hiatus. Inflation will remain well behaved with a chance of further downside surprises adding to the case for a lower repo rate. SA government bonds should benefit from this renewed optimism and contained inflation. However, at current levels, they are only at fair value and with exclusion from the Citi WGBI still a possibility, we choose to be neutral on SA government bonds, looking instead for more attractive levels to extend duration further.

The SA listed-property sector gained 4.21% in December, bringing its return for the year to 17.86%. From our recent interactions with many of the listed property companies, it is clear that poor economic conditions have started to affect the local property market. Still, we remain confident that the sector offers selective value. The changes in the property sector over the last decade (including the increased ability to hedge borrowings and large offshore exposures) have rendered the yield gap between the property index and the current 10-year government bond a poor measure of value. On the surface, it appears quite stretched. However, if one excludes the offshore exposure, the property sector's yield rises to approximately 8.3%, which compares very favourably to the benchmark bond. The fund maintains holdings in counters that offer strong distribution and income growth, with upside to their net asset value valuations. In the event of a moderation in listed property valuations (which may be triggered by further risk asset or bond market weakness), we will look to increase the fund's exposure to this sector at more attractive levels.

The preference share index was down 2.58% in December, bringing its 12-month return to -3.36%. Preference shares offer a steady dividend yield, linked to the prime rate and, depending on the risk profile of the issuer, currently yield between 8.5% and 11% (subject to a 20% dividends tax, depending on the investor entity). The change in capital structure requirements mandated by Basel III will discourage banks from issuing preference shares. This will limit availability (and boost possible buybacks). In addition, most of the bank-related preference shares trade at a discount, which enhances their attractiveness for holders from a total return perspective and increases the likelihood of bank buybacks. Despite attractive valuations, this asset class will continue to dissipate given the lack of new issuance. It stands at risk of being classified as eligible loss absorbing capital. The fund maintains select exposure to certain high-quality corporate preference shares, but will not actively look to increase its holdings.

We remain vigilant of risks emanating from the dislocations between stretched valuations and the underlying fundamentals of the SA economy. However, we believe that the fund's current positioning correctly reflects appropriate levels of caution. The fund's yield of 8.98% remains attractive relative to its duration risk. We continue to believe that this yield is an adequate proxy for expected fund performance over the next 12 months.

As is evident, we remain cautious in our management of the fund. We continue to invest only in assets and instruments that we believe have the correct risk and term premium, to limit investor downside and enhance yield.

**Portfolio managers**  
**Nishan Maharaj and Mark le Roux**  
 as at 31 December 2017

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE INVESTING IN THE CORONATION STRATEGIC INCOME FUND

Unit trusts should be considered medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up, and therefore Coronation does not make any guarantees with respect to the protection of capital or returns. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance. The fund is mandated to invest up to 10% of its portfolio into foreign securities and may as a result be exposed to macroeconomic, settlement, political, tax, reporting or illiquidity risk factors that may be different to similar investments in the South African markets. Fluctuations or movements in exchange rates may cause the value of underlying investments to go up or down. Asset allocation is reflected on a look-through basis. The fund is managed in line with Regulation 28 limits, although it is not required as per the fund's supplemental deed. The yield shown is an estimate (gross of fees) in part based on market assumptions and forecasts. The yield is calculated by taking the interest and income receivable of all the instruments in the fund divided by the net asset value, expressed as a nominal annual rate. It is provided to give an approximate indication of the achievable yield for an investment made at the reporting date. Actual experience may differ, based on changes in market values, interest rates and changes in costs actually experienced during the investment period.

Coronation Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd is a Collective Investment Schemes Manager approved by the Financial Services Board in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. Portfolio managed by Coronation Asset Management (Pty) (FSP 548) Ltd, an authorised financial services provider. The Management Company reserves the right to close the fund to new investors if we deem it necessary to limit further inflows in order for it to be managed in accordance with its mandate. Unit trusts are allowed to engage in scrip lending and borrowing. Standard Chartered has been appointed as trustees for the fund ([www.sc.com/za](http://www.sc.com/za); 011-2176600). Coronation is a full member of the Association for Savings & Investment SA (ASISA).

#### HOW ARE UNITS PRICED AND AT WHICH PRICE WILL MY TRANSACTION BE EXECUTED?

Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices set on every trading day. Fund valuations take place at approximately 15h00 each business day, except at month end when the valuation is performed at approximately 17h00 (JSE market close) and forward pricing is used. Instructions must reach the Management Company before 14h00 (12h00 for the Money Market Fund) to ensure same day value. The payment of withdrawals may be delayed in extraordinary circumstances, when the manager with the consent of the fund trustees deem this to be in the interest of all fund investors. These circumstances may include periods when significant underlying markets suspend trading which will prevent accurate valuation of the instruments held in the fund. When the suspension of trading relates to only certain assets held by the fund, these assets may be side-pocketed. This process allows normal liquidity on the assets that can be valued, but will delay liquidity on the affected portion of the fund. If the fund is faced with excessive withdrawals, the affected withdrawals may be ring-fenced, which is the separation and delayed sale of the assets reflecting the interest of the liquidity seeking investors. It ensures that the sale of a large number of units will not force Coronation to sell the underlying investments in a manner that may have a negative impact on remaining investors of the fund.

#### HOW WAS THE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS FACT SHEET CALCULATED?

Performance is calculated by Coronation as at the last day of the month for a lump sum investment using Class A NAV prices with income distributions reinvested. All underlying price and distribution data is sourced from Morningstar. Performance figures are quoted after the deduction of all costs (including manager fees and trading costs) incurred within the fund. Note that individual investor performance may differ as a result of the actual investment date, the date of reinvestment of distributions and dividend withholding tax, where applicable. Annualised performance figures represent the geometric average return earned by the fund over the given time period. Unannualised performance represents the total return earned by the fund over the given time period, expressed as a percentage.

#### WHAT IS THE TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO (TER) AND TRANSACTION COSTS (TC)?

TER is calculated as a percentage of the average net asset value of the portfolio incurred as charges, levies and fees in the management of the portfolio. The TER charged by any underlying fund held as part of a fund's portfolio is included in the fund expenses portion of the TER, but trading and implementation costs incurred in managing the fund are excluded. 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 1 year TER is for the 12 months to end of September 2017 (updated annually). The 3 year TER is for a rolling 36-month period to the last quarter end (December, March, June and September).

Transaction costs are a necessary cost in managing a fund and impacts the fund's return. 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.

The Total Investment Charge is the sum of the Total Expense Ratio (TER) and transaction costs.

#### ADVICE AND PLATFORM COSTS

Coronation does not provide financial advice. If you appoint an advisor, advice fees are contracted directly between you and the advisor. We will facilitate the collection of advice fees only upon receiving your instruction, up to a maximum of an initial fee of 3.00% and an ongoing fee of 1.00% per annum (where an initial advice fee of more than 1.50% is selected, the maximum annual advice fee that we will collect is 0.50%). Advice fees are usually collected through the redemption of units. You may cancel the instruction to facilitate the payment of advice fees at any time. Advisors will only share in Coronation fees subject to prior approval by and/or disclosure to the investor. A portion of Coronation's annual management fee may be paid to administration platforms such as Linked Investment Service Providers (LISPs) as a payment for administration and distribution services.

#### WHERE CAN I FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

Additional information such as daily fund prices, brochures, application forms and a schedule of fund fees and charges is available on our website, [www.coronation.com](http://www.coronation.com)

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TERMS OF USE

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute or form part of any offer to issue or sell, or any solicitation of any offer to subscribe for or purchase any particular investment. Opinions expressed in this document may be changed without notice at any time after publication. We therefore disclaim any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance upon the information.

