# CORONATION BALANCED DEFENSIVE FUND

Fund Information as at 31 October 2025



### WHAT IS THE FUND'S OBJECTIVE?

Balanced Defensive is in the first instance managed to protect capital over any 12-month period. In addition, we aim to achieve reasonable investment growth over the long run.

It is specifically managed to suit very cautious investors who want to draw an income over an extended period of time.

#### WHAT DOES THE FUND INVEST IN?

Balanced Defensive can invest in a wide range of assets, such as shares, bonds, listed property and cash, both in South Africa and internationally.

The fund will typically hold a maximum of 50% of its investments in growth assets (shares and property). Shares usually offer the best growth, but this comes with the greatest risk of short-term losses. The fund's exposure to shares is therefore carefully balanced with more stable investments like bonds

Exposure to foreign assets is limited to 45%. The fund is mandated to use derivative instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes.

### IMPORTANT PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS AND RISKS

#### Risk Profile



4/10 Moderate Maximum growth/ minimum income exposures



■ Growth Assets: 50%
■ Income Assets: 50%

The fund is tactically managed to protect and grow capital, as well as secure an attractive income.

A large and experienced investment team actively seeks out the best potential opportunities for income and growth, while taking great care to consider the different risks within the fund.

Balanced Defensive is specifically managed to not lose money over any 12-month period, although it cannot guarantee protection against losses.

Our intent is that the fund should produce a return of at least CPI  $\pm$  3% p.a. over the medium term.

The fund is diversified across a range of assets reflecting its cautious risk budget. This includes a selection of shares that we believe are attractively valued, as well as quality income assets.

# HOW LONG SHOULD INVESTORS REMAIN INVESTED?

The recommended investment term is three years and longer.

The fund's exposure to shares may result in short-term price fluctuations that make it unsuitable for investors who can only invest for short periods.

### WHO SHOULD CONSIDER INVESTING IN THE FUND?

- Pensioners and other investors requiring an income, especially those in the second half of retirement.
- Living annuity investors seeking a fund that aims to achieve both income and capital growth.
- Cautious pre-retirement investors seeking a low-risk fund for their retirement annuity, provident fund, preservation fund or pension fund.
- Trusts, endowments, foundations and charities who require long-term funding of a moderate spending rule.
- The fund is not appropriate for investors who want to build wealth over more than five years.

### WHAT COSTS CAN I EXPECT TO PAY?

An annual fee of 1.15% (excl. VAT) is payable.

The annual management fee is accrued daily and paid monthly. Fund expenses incurred in the fund include fees payable to unconnected international fund managers on a portion of assets situated offshore as well as 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

## WHO ARE THE FUND MANAGERS?



CHARLES
DE KOCK
BCom (Hons), MCom
(Economics)



PALLAVI AMBEKAR CA (SA), CFA



**NEILL YOUNG**BBusSc (Hons Fin), CA
(SA), CFA

# GENERAL FUND INFORMATION

Launch Date	1 February 2007				
Fund Class	А				
Benchmark	CPI + 3% p.a.				
ASISA Fund Category	South African – Multi Asset – Low Equity				
Regulation 28	Complies				
Income Distribution	Quarterly (March, June, September, December)				
Investment minimum	R5 000 or R500/m debit order				
Bloomberg Code	CBALDFA				
ISIN Code	ZAE000090627				
JSE Code	COBA				

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40.1%

3.3%

0.9%

36.3%

21.5%

0.5%

7.8%

6.4%

ASISA Fund Category South African - Multi Asset - Low Equity
Launch date 01 February 2007

 Launch date
 01 February 200

 Fund size
 R35.45 billion

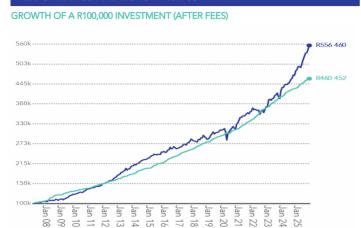
 NAV
 269.27 cents

 Benchmark
 CPI + 3% p.a.

Portfolio manager/s Charles de Kock, Pallavi Ambekar and

Neill Young

# PERFORMANCE AND RISK STATISTICS



### PERFORMANCE FOR VARIOUS PERIODS (AFTER FEES)

	Fund	CPI	Real Return
Since Launch (unannualised)	456.5%	172.9%	103.9%
Since Launch (annualised)	9.6%	5.5%	4.1%
Latest 15 years (annualised)	9.5%	5.1%	4.5%
Latest 10 years (annualised)	8.4%	4.8%	3.6%
Latest 5 years (annualised)	12.1%	5.0%	7.1%
Latest 3 years (annualised)	14.4%	4.1%	10.3%
Latest 1 year	18.4%	3.7%	14.7%
Year to date	14.3%	3.6%	10.7%

# RISK STATISTICS SINCE LAUNCH

	Fund	Peer Group Average
Annualised Deviation	5.3%	4.3%
Downside Deviation	4.2%	3.4%
Sharpe Ratio	0.48	0.28
Maximum Gain	21.2%	20.9%
Maximum Drawdown	(10.4)%	(8.1)%
Positive Months	74.6%	75.9%
	Fund	Date Range
Highest annual return	23.1%	Apr 2020 - Mar 2021
Lowest annual return	(5.8%)	Apr 2019 - Mar 2020

	1 Year	3 Year
Total Expense Ratio	1.52%	1.50%
Fund management fee	1.15%	1.14%
Fund expenses	0.20%	0.19%
VAT	0.17%	0.17%
Transaction costs (inc. VAT)	0.07%	0.07%
Total Investment Charge	1 59%	1 58%

# **PORTFOLIO DETAIL**

**EFFECTIVE ASSET ALLOCATION EXPOSURE** 

Sector	31 Oct 2025
Domestic Assets	63.7%
■ Equities	16.0%
Basic Materials	2.5%
Consumer Goods	1.0%
Health Care	0.2%
Consumer Services	3.0%
Telecommunications	0.6%
Financials	5.4%
Technology	3.4%
Derivatives	(0.2)%
Real Estate	3.5%

# TOP 10 HOLDINGS

Bonds

■ Cash

Equities

Bonds

■ Cash

■ Real Estate

■ Commodities

International Assets

As at 30 Sep 2025	% of Fund
Prosus Nv	2.8%
Hammerson Plc	1.0%
FirstRand Limited	0.9%
Standard Bank Of SA Ltd	0.9%
Northam Platinum Ltd	0.8%
Equites Property Fund Ltd	0.8%
Anglogold Ashanti Ltd	0.6%
Richemont	0.6%
Capitec Bank Holdings Ltd	0.6%
Fairvest Property Holdings Ltd	0.6%

# INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Declaration	Payment	Amount	Dividend	Interest
30 Sep 2025	01 Oct 2025	1.87	0.29	1.59
30 Jun 2025	01 Jul 2025	2.35	0.55	1.80
31 Mar 2025	01 Apr 2025	1.62	0.09	1.52
31 Dec 2024	02 Jan 2025	2.06	0.18	1.88

# MONTHLY PERFORMANCE RETURNS (AFTER FEES)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Fund 2025	1.8%	0.0%	(0.7)%	2.0%	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	0.2%	1.8%	2.1%			14.3%
Fund 2024	0.1%	1.6%	0.5%	(0.3)%	1.0%	0.6%	1.7%	0.9%	2.0%	(0.2)%	2.7%	0.8%	12.0%
Fund 2023	5.5%	0.4%	(0.9)%	1.2%	0.4%	1.8%	0.6%	1.3%	(2.5)%	(1.4)%	5.7%	2.1%	14.9%
Fund 2022	(1.3)%	0.4%	(0.5)%	(0.5)%	0.2%	(3.2)%	2.9%	0.7%	(2.2)%	2.6%	2.1%	(0.3)%	0.8%
Fund 2021	2.4%	2.2%	0.0%	1.1%	(0.1)%	0.6%	1.3%	0.8%	(0.8)%	1.7%	0.4%	2.5%	12.7%
Fund 2020	1.0%	(2.7)%	(8.0)%	6.8%	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	(1.2)%	(1.3)%	4.5%	1.5%	6.4%
Fund 2019	1.6%	2.1%	1.3%	2.0%	(1.9)%	1.1%	0.2%	0.5%	1.0%	1.1%	(0.4)%	0.6%	9.5%
Fund 2018	(0.2)%	(0.6)%	(0.2)%	2.6%	(0.4)%	2.0%	0.0%	2.5%	(1.4)%	(1.1)%	(1.5)%	0.3%	2.0%

Issue date: 2025/11/12 Please refer to page 4 of the Comprehensive Fact Sheet for important additional infomation, including change in cost disclosures.

# CORONATION BALANCED DEFENSIVE FUND

**Quarterly Portfolio Manager Commentary** 



# Please note that the commentary is for the retail class of the Fund.

#### **Performance**

The third quarter saw an acceleration in the upward march of global asset markets. This, despite ongoing tensions in Ukraine and the Middle East, the implementation of Liberation Day tariffs and an increasingly unpredictable US administration, as well as growing unease with sovereign debt levels in a number of developed nations, the UK and France in particular. The MSCI All Country World Index added 8% for the quarter, lifting the year-to-date (YTD) return to 18%, while the MSCI Emerging Markets Index was up 11% for the quarter and 28% YTD. Global bonds rallied as the US Fed cut rates for the first time this year and inflation appears to remain under control, with the FTSE World Government Bond Index returning 7% YTD. These returns are all measured in USD terms, so they have been aided somewhat by a c. 7% weaker dollar this year.

One indicator suggesting that there is more risk in the global financial system than what first meets the eye is the gold price, which rose 17% in the quarter and is now up 47% so far this year. This marks the strongest annual gold price increase in 46 years (and we are only three quarters in). At around US\$4 000 per ounce, gold has surpassed its previous peak in real terms, which was last reached amid the geopolitical and economic turmoil of 1980.

Domestically, our equity market has benefited from the rise in precious metals prices, driving up the shares of both the gold and PGM miners. These two sectors combined now account for 25% of our market and, along with telecommunication shares and Naspers/Prosus have been the main contributors to this year's returns. The Capped SWIX Index was up 13% in the quarter and 31% YTD. South African fixed income assets also performed strongly during the quarter, with the yield on the 10-year government bond continuing to tighten by a further 80 basis points due to increased foreign buying, constrained inflation, and expectations of further rate cuts. The All Bond Index was up 7% in the quarter, taking the YTD return to 14%.

The supportive market backdrop has driven strong Fund returns of 15.7% over the past 12 months, well ahead of the target of CPI +3%. Longer-term returns over all meaningful time periods and since inception are ahead of target and in the top quartile relative to peers.

# Portfolio actions and fund positioning

Domestic bonds were the largest contributor to Fund returns from the quarter, benefiting from the tightening in yields referred to above. The real yields on offer in nominal bonds remain attractive in spite of this. However, our ongoing concerns around longer-term fiscal sustainability mean that we continue to adopt a cautious approach to duration in our bond holdings. Inflation-linked bonds (ILBs) have underperformed nominal bonds as inflation expectations have drifted downwards, and we have continued to add to the Fund's holding of these instruments during the quarter. Real yields in ILBs remain attractive above 4%, and breakeven inflation at the shorter end seems to us on the optimistic side at mid-3%. The split between nominal and ILBs in the SA fixed income portion of the portfolio now sits at roughly 55%/45%. We hold no global sovereign bonds in the Fund.

Both global and domestic equities also contributed strongly to returns in the quarter as equity markets continued to rally. The Coronation Global Equity Select Fund is one of the key building blocks of our offshore equity component and has delivered an exceptionally strong 12-month performance, returning 46% in USD. More recently, the Coronation Global Emerging Markets Fund has also delivered very strong performance (33% YTD in USD) as interest in attractively valued emerging market businesses has finally started to return. Emerging market equities have underperformed for many years, and despite the recent rally, have a long way to go to catch up with their developed market peers. While still heavily driven by technology stocks, the market breadth of

these rallies has increased as the year progressed. We continue to see attractive stock picking opportunities across a number of markets, but are conscious of index multiples (the US in particular) becoming increasingly stretched. Consequently, we have reduced global equity exposure in the Fund to 21% at the end of September. In addition, we continue to hold put protection over 30% of the Fund's global equity exposure.

The breadth of domestic equity returns has, in contrast, been remarkably narrow, driven largely by the precious metals. We hold both equity and ETF positions in gold and platinum, which combined make up 4.7% of the Fund. Holdings in Naspers/Prosus, Northam Platinum, and AngloGold Ashanti contributed to returns, while holdings in packaging business Mondi and global brewer ABI detracted. Within our South African listed equities allocation, we continue to have a meaningful bias towards companies facing global economies as well as high-quality domestic-facing businesses that are positioned to grow in a low- or no-growth economy.

During the quarter, we added selectively to domestic property stocks where we feel that the combination of yield and income growth is sufficiently attractive. Total property exposure at quarter end sits at 3.7% of Fund.

Total offshore asset exposure has reduced to 36.4% at the end of September. Given the recent strength of the rand, the Fund currently has no currency lock in place.

#### Outlook

The performance of global asset markets so far this year can at times seem at odds with the growing vulnerabilities around the world. Significant military conflicts continue, sovereign debt levels around the world are elevated and rising, and the US is becoming an increasingly unpredictable partner with respect to both trade and foreign policy. Domestically, despite tentative signs of an easing of some of the constraints on our ability to expand the economy, a number of others lurk on the horizon, and we remain stuck in a low-growth rut.

This underscores the importance of diversification, active asset allocation, and bottom-up instrument selection, while being mindful of the need to mitigate the impact of drawdowns when they happen. This is an approach that we have applied consistently to good effect and will continue to do so. The Fund has delivered strong returns against the backdrop of supportive asset markets. We expect to be able to continue to deliver returns that meet the Fund's target, but caution investors not to expect the very high level of real returns achieved in the recent past to continue.

Portfolio managers
Pallavi Ambekar, Charles de Kock and Neill Young
as at 30 September 2025

# CORONATION BALANCED DEFENSIVE FUND

Important Information



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE INVESTING IN THE CORONATION BALANCED DEFENSIVE FUND

The Balanced Defensive Fund should be considered a medium- to long-term investment. 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 45% 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 and top 10 holdings are reflected on a look-through basis. Any African exposure (ex SA) is reflected under international assets. Coronation Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd is a Collective Investment Schemes Manager approved by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. Portfolio managed by Coronation Asset Management (Pty) Ltd (FSP 548), 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; 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. The peer group average is calculated as the average return of all the funds in the respective ASISA category (excluding Coronation Funds in that category).

### **BENCHMARK DETAILS**

The benchmark used for performance purposes is CPI + 3%.

# 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 over the period referenced. 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 underlying 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 the previous financial year (updated annually). The 3 year TER is for a rolling 36-month period to the last available 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 adviser, advice fees are contracted directly between you and the adviser. For more information please contact the relevant platform (Linked Investment Service Provider or Life Assurance Provider).

# 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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TERMS OF USE

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