



# Protea Global FR Retail Hedge Fund

## Minimum Disclosure Document - Class 1

31 December 2025

### Fund Profile

The fund is a Global long/short equity hedge fund, domiciled in South Africa, with the objective of generating above-average returns by following a 'quantamental' investment approach, combining traditional fundamental analysis with quantitative investment techniques. The investment manager systematically identifies individual mispriced securities whilst ensuring sufficient diversification to guard against inappropriate risk concentration. The fund focuses on listed securities in developed markets outside of South Africa and has a net equity exposure of 35-70% at most times, with a maximum gross exposure of 200% (i.e. maximum 2x leverage).

### Investment Strategy

The portfolio is managed as a long/short hedge fund, focused on extracting alpha returns from equity markets outside of South Africa. Its core strategy is to be long undervalued equities and short overvalued equities whilst ensuring that there is sufficient diversification to guard against inappropriate risk concentration. The equities are selected by following a "quantamental" investment approach, which combines a traditional fundamental understanding of the fair value of listed equity shares with analysis of the business's competitive environment, economic growth, broad economic themes and relative valuations.

### Cumulative Performance Since Inception



Fund Source: Apex Fund and Corporate Services SA Ltd as at December 2025

Index Source: Bloomberg as at December 2025

### Return Analysis (ZAR)

	Fund	STeFI 3M Index	FTSE Developed World Index (TR)
<b>1 Year</b>	31.67%	7.28%	7.17%
<b>3 Years (annualised)</b>	22.34%	7.78%	20.04%
<b>5 Years (annualised)</b>	9.27%	6.32%	14.72%
<b>7 Years (annualised)</b>	11.49%	6.19%	16.97%
<b>Since Inception (annualised)</b>	10.09%	6.31%	15.21%

### Risk Analysis

	Fund	STeFI 3M Index	FTSE Developed World Index (TR)
<b>Best Month</b>	12.28%	0.72%	14.97%
<b>Worst Month</b>	-9.79%	0.26%	-8.51%
<b>Highest Rolling 12 Months</b>	52.02%	8.30%	36.71%
<b>Lowest Rolling 12 Months</b>	-32.19%	3.48%	-12.47%
<b>Largest Cumulative Drawdown</b>	-34.85%	n/a	-18.85%
<b>% Positive Months</b>	55.00%	100.00%	57.00%

The above indices are for comparison purposes with the fund's performance. The fund does not follow a benchmark.

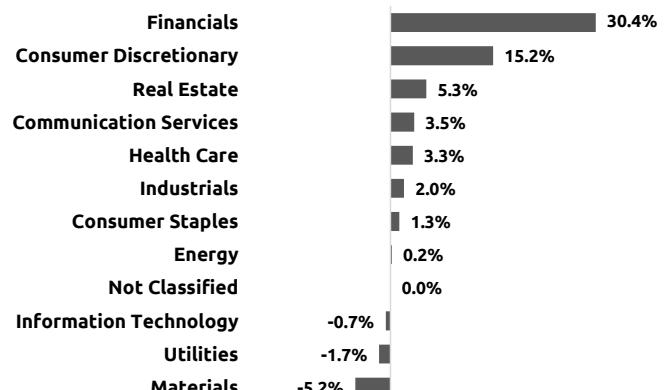
### Fund Details

<b>Risk Profile:</b>	High
<b>Portfolio Manager:</b>	Jean Pierre Verster
<b>Fund size (in Millions):</b>	R264.22
<b>NAV Price (Inception):</b>	R1,000.00
<b>NAV Price (as at month-end):</b>	R2,205.05
<b>Number of Units:</b>	116,762.51
<b>ISIN Number:</b>	ZAE000272878
<b>Inception Date:</b>	11 September 2017
<b>ASISA Classification:</b>	Retail Hedge Fund - Global - Long/Short Equity - Long Bias
<b>Hurdle:</b>	3 month STeFI
<b>Minimum Investment:</b>	R50,000 lump sum or R2,000 monthly
<b>Service Fee per annum:</b>	1.44% incl. VAT (1.25% excl. VAT)
<b>Performance fee (uncapped):</b>	20% excl. VAT of the excess performance above the perpetual hurdle rate, subject to a high-water mark
<b>Subscription Frequency:</b>	Daily
<b>Redemption Frequency:</b>	Daily
<b>Income Distribution (Declaration):</b>	Last day of December
<b>Distribution Total for the past 12 months:</b>	R0.00 per unit for December 2025
<b>Investment Manager:</b>	Protea Capital Management (Pty) Ltd
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	+27 11 822 2154
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.proteacapitalmanagement.com">www.proteacapitalmanagement.com</a>
<b>Auditor:</b>	Deloitte

### Portfolio Objective

The long-term investment objective of the portfolio is to achieve consistent absolute returns by investing according to a long/short equity investment strategy.

### Sector Allocation



### Asset Allocation

	Long	Short	Net
<b>SA Equity/Swap</b>	19.1%	-5.0%	14.1%
<b>Foreign Equity/Swap</b>	76.5%	-37.0%	39.5%
<b>SA Cash &amp; Other</b>	17.4%	0.0%	17.4%
<b>Foreign Cash</b>	29.0%	0.0%	29.0%

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## Net returns to Investors

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2017</b>									3.33%	4.06%	-3.37%	-2.07%	<b>1.75%</b>
<b>2018</b>	-0.72%	-2.11%	-2.71%	5.36%	2.70%	7.72%	-0.93%	5.86%	-0.81%	-1.75%	-5.28%	-4.14%	<b>2.29%</b>
<b>2019</b>	-1.02%	5.96%	2.28%	3.30%	-1.99%	0.22%	4.81%	2.28%	-0.49%	3.15%	-0.46%	-1.26%	<b>17.72%</b>
<b>2020</b>	5.38%	2.85%	4.37%	4.21%	2.32%	1.91%	0.88%	1.60%	2.13%	-3.45%	-4.90%	-1.16%	<b>16.77%</b>
<b>2021</b>	-0.21%	-2.65%	3.56%	1.36%	-3.91%	7.31%	3.29%	1.01%	-3.50%	0.78%	-2.36%	-2.14%	<b>1.94%</b>
<b>2022</b>	-9.79%	-4.87%	-7.55%	1.08%	-2.60%	-1.35%	-0.38%	-1.84%	-6.55%	4.87%	12.28%	0.64%	<b>-16.56%</b>
<b>2023</b>	8.87%	2.37%	-0.22%	2.33%	3.07%	0.70%	1.37%	8.39%	-1.15%	-2.54%	2.85%	-1.00%	<b>27.30%</b>
<b>2024</b>	1.72%	8.33%	2.71%	-2.76%	-0.46%	-3.60%	-0.05%	0.74%	3.94%	-0.94%	-0.27%	0.05%	<b>9.24%</b>
<b>2025</b>	3.53%	3.52%	0.37%	3.62%	4.05%	9.13%	3.52%	1.66%	-0.19%	-0.97%	1.93%	-1.89%	<b>31.67%</b>

\*The inception date for the portfolio is 11 September 2017. The annualized total return is the average return earned by an investment each year over a given time period, since date of the launch of the fund. Actual annual figures are available from the manager on request. The highest and lowest 1 year returns represent the highest and lowest actual returns achieved during a 12 month rolling period year since the original launch date of the portfolio. The performance figures given show the yield on a Net Asset value ("NAV") basis. The yield figure is not a forecast. Performance is not guaranteed and investors should not accept it as representing expected future performance. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, time of entry/actual investment date, date of reinvestment, and dividends withholding tax. Performance is calculated for a lump sum investment on a Net Asset Value basis. The performance figures are reported net of fees with income reinvested. Reinvestment of income is calculated on the actual amount distributed per participatory interest, using the ex-dividend date NAV price of the applicable class of the portfolio, irrespective of the actual reinvestment date.

## Market Commentary

The Protea Global FR Retail Hedge Fund slipped by -1.9% in December but still managed to outperform the FTSE Developed World Index (on a total return basis net of dividend tax), which declined by -2.2% in Rands (ZAR). The ZAR strengthened by more than 3% against the USD over the course of December. In terms of gross sub-strategy attribution, Longs contributed +1.2%, Shorts detracted -0.5%, and Special Situations detracted -0.4%. Futures & Options detracted -0.3%, with currency translation costing us nearly -2% over the course of the month.

Longs listed in the USA, Great Britain, the Eurozone, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, and Japan contributed positively for the month. Longs listed in Canada, Sweden, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Australia detracted from December's performance. Our top Longs for the month were three European banks. Our worst-performing Longs for the month were a US health-care provider, a Hong Kong listed apparel retailer, and a US specialist retailer. Our best and worst performing Longs for the year were a European bank and Danish pharmaceutical company, respectively.

Shorts listed in Norway contributed positively for the month. Shorts listed in the USA, Great Britain, the Eurozone, Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden, detracted from December's return. Our top Shorts for the month were a US power generation company, a US autonomous vehicle company, and a European real estate company. Our worst-performing Shorts for the month were a US data analytics company, a US mobile advertising company, and a US automotive manufacturing company. Our best and worst performing Shorts for the year were a US autonomous vehicle company and a themed exchange-traded fund, respectively.

Special Situations detracted from December's performance, as did Futures & Options. Currency translation was a drag for December. The strengthening ZAR was an even bigger headwind over the course of the year, detracting over -8% from the fund's reported return.

The fund meaningfully outperformed global developed equity markets in 2025 and delivered its best calendar-year performance since its inception a little over eight years ago. Of even greater significance is how this performance was achieved, specifically the fund's resilience during the tumultuous first few months of 2025 (which now might feel like a distant memory). Our objective remains to generate above-average returns whilst also avoiding deep drawdowns, as exemplified in 2025.

To our investors: thank you for the continued trust you place in our investment process. We look forward to many more long-term investors joining us on this journey.

**Please Note: The above commentary is based on reasonable assumptions and is not guaranteed to occur.**

## Total Expense Ratio

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. 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.

Cost ratios per annum (incl. VAT)*	1 Year
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	5.44%
Performance fee included in TER	3.94%
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.34%
<b>Total Investment Charges (TIC)**</b>	<b>5.78%</b>

\*As at 30 September 2025

\*\*TIC % = TER % + TC %

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## Fund Risk

<b>Leverage Risk:</b>	The Fund borrows additional funds, trades on margin or performs short sale trades to amplify investment decisions. This means that the volatility of a hedge fund portfolio can be many times that of the underlying investments due to leverage on a fund.
<b>Derivative Risk:</b>	Derivative positions are financial instruments that derive their value from an underlying asset. Derivatives are exposed to implicit leverage which could result in magnified gains and/or losses on the portfolio.
<b>Counterparty Credit Risk:</b>	Counterparty risk is a type of credit risk and is the risk of default by the counterparty associated with trading derivative contracts. An example of counterparty credit risk is margin or collateral held with a prime broker.
<b>Volatility Risk:</b>	Volatility refers to uncertainty and risk related to size of change of an instrument or portfolio. It is a statistical measure of the dispersion of returns for a given security or market index. Volatility is proportional to the directional exposure of a portfolio and is measured by Value at risk (VaR) which is a statistical technique used to measure and quantify the level of volatility.
<b>Concentration and Sector Risk:</b>	A large proportion of total assets invested in specific assets, sectors or regions. Concentrated positions or concentrated sectors in a portfolio will material impact the returns of the portfolio more so than diversified portfolios.
<b>Correlation Risk:</b>	A measure that determines how assets move in relation to each other. Correlation risk arises when the correlation between asset-classes change. Correlation risk also arises when the correlation within an asset-class changes. Examples of correlation within asset classes include equity pairs trading, fixed income curve trading and commodities pairs trading.
<b>Equity Risk:</b>	Applies to investment in shares or derivatives based on shares. The market price of shares varies depending on supply and demand of the shares. Equity risk is the risk of loss due to the drop in the market price of shares. Equity risk can either be systematic risk which is risk to the entire market based on political and economic indicators or unsystematic risk which is company specific and includes risk relating to company profits, future prospects and general consensus on the company or sector.
<b>Currency/Exchange Rate Risk:</b>	Assets of a fund may be denominated in a currency other than the Base Currency of the fund and changes in the exchange rate between the Base Currency and the currency of the asset may lead to a depreciation of the value of the fund's assets as expressed in the Base Currency.

## Glossary

<b>Net Asset Value (NAV):</b>	Means net asset value, which is the total market value of all assets in a portfolio including any income accruals and less and deductible expenses such as audit fees, brokerage and service fees.
<b>Annualised Return:</b>	Is the weighted average compound growth rate over the performance period measured.
<b>Highest &amp; Lowest Return:</b>	The highest and lowest rolling twelve-month performance of the portfolio since inception.
<b>Total Expense Ratio (TER):</b>	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.
<b>Transaction Costs (TC):</b>	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.
<b>Total Investment Charge (TIC):</b>	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.
<b>Total Investment Charges (TIC%):</b>	= TER (%) + TC (%): The Total Investment Charges (TIC), the TER + the TC, is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the investment of the Financial Product. It should be noted that a TIC is the sum of two calculated ratios (TER+TC).
<b>Leverage/Gearing:</b>	The use of securities, including derivative instruments, short positions or borrowed capital to increase the exposure beyond the capital employed to an investment.
<b>Alpha:</b>	Denotes the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.
<b>Sharpe Ratio:</b>	The ratio of excess return over the risk-free rate divided by the total volatility of the portfolio.
<b>Sortino Ratio:</b>	The ratio of excess return over the risk-free rate divided by the downside deviation of the portfolio.
<b>Standard Deviation:</b>	The deviation of the return of the portfolio relative to its average.
<b>Drawdown:</b>	The greatest peak to trough loss until a new peak is reached.
<b>Correlation:</b>	A number between -1 and 1 indicating the similarity of the dispersion of returns between the portfolio and another asset or index with 1 being highly correlated, -1 highly negatively correlated and 0 uncorrelated.
<b>Value at Risk (VaR):</b>	Value at risk is the minimum loss percentage that can be expected over a specified time period at a predetermined confidence level.

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## Risk Profile

Risk Level:	Low	Low-Medium	Medium	Med-High	High
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The risk category shown is not guaranteed and may change over time. The lowest category does not mean the investment is risk free. There may be other special areas of risk relating to the investment including liquidity risk, credit risk, market risk, and settlement risk. Fundrock Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd, ("the manager"), and the investment manager do not render financial advice. Our risk indicator does not imply that the portfolio is suitable for all types of investors. You are advised to consult your financial adviser.

## Portfolio Valuation & Transaction Cut-Off

To invest in the portfolio, e-mail [fundrockinstructions@apexgroup.com](mailto:fundrockinstructions@apexgroup.com). The portfolio is valued daily. The transaction cut-off time is 14:00pm on a business day. Investor instructions received after 14:00pm shall be processed the following business day.

## Mandatory Disclosures

Investment Manager: Protea Capital Management (Pty) Ltd, Registration Number: 2015/327243/07 is an authorised Financial Services Provider (FSP49796) 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. Physical Address: 7 Northridge Avenue, Sunnyside, Germiston, 1401. Postal Address: 7 Northridge Avenue, Sunnyside, Germiston, 1401. Telephone Number: +27 11 822 2154. Website: [www.proteacapitalmanagement.com](http://www.proteacapitalmanagement.com). Management Company: FundRock Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Manager"), Registration Number: 2013/096377/07, is authorised in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act (CISCA) to administer Collective Investment Schemes (CIS). Physical Address: Catnia Building, Bella Rosa Office Park, Bella Rosa Street, Bellville, 7530, South Africa. Telephone Number: +27 21 202 8282. Website: [www.fundrock.com](http://www.fundrock.com), Trustee: FirstRand Bank Limited, (acting through its RMB Custody and Trustee Services Division). Physical Address: 3 Merchant Place, Ground Floor, Corner Fredman and Gwen Streets, Sandton 2146, Telephone: +27 87 736 1732. Collective Investment Schemes are generally medium-to long-term investments. The value of participatory interests (units) may go down as well as up. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.

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