

Minimum Disclosure Document - 31 May 2025

**FUND PROFILE**

The Taquanta Bond FR Fund is actively managed and aims to exceed the returns generated by the benchmark over a 3-year rolling period where portfolio position deviation from the benchmark is minimised. The portfolio is not a tracking fund, but will closely replicate the composition of the benchmark and aims to over time generate returns in excess of the benchmark.

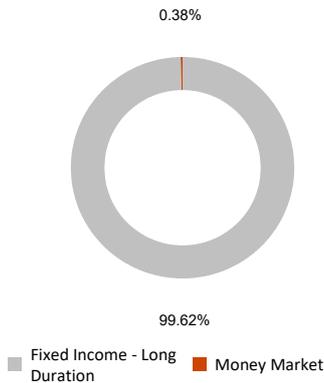
**FUND OBJECTIVE**

The Fund will aim to outperform the JSE/ASSA All Bond Index (ALBI) Index over a rolling 3-year period with a low tracking error.

**INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The fund will predominately invest in bonds but can also invest in a diversified range of listed and unlisted instruments, including government bonds, semi-government bonds, corporate bonds, fixed deposits, assets in liquid form, money market instruments and other interest-bearing instruments that offer value on a relative basis. The fund will predominately invest in South African markets but is permitted to include investments in offshore jurisdictions subject to the investment conditions determined by the legislation from time to time. The fund is looking to achieve its investment objective by actively selecting an optimal blend of assets from its investment universe.

**ASSET ALLOCATION**



Bond exposure is achieved via investments in the derivative market.

**INFORMATION & DISCLOSURES**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Income Distribution Frequency:            | December and June                         |
| Income Distribution Cents per Unit (CPU): | June 2024 (2.50),<br>December 2024 (6.39) |
| Portfolio Valuation Time:                 | 17H00 daily                               |
| Transaction Cut-Off Time:                 | 14H00 daily                               |

**FUND INFORMATION**

Risk Profile



|  |   |
|--|---|
| Portfolio Manager:                       | Taquanta Asset Managers(Pty) Ltd  |
| Fund Size (in Millions):                 | R 811.80  |
| Fund Benchmark/Hurdle:                   | JSE/ASSA All Bond Index (ALBI) Index over a rolling 3-year periods (after fees) |
| ASISA Classification:                    | South Africa - Interest Bearing - Variable Term                                 |
| Currency:                                | ZAR   |
| Units in Issue:                          | 58,270,851.40   |
| Unit Price (NAV per Unit) <sup>3</sup> : | R 13.98   |
| Minimum Investment:                      | R 10 000 once off lump sum<br>R 500 per month contribution                      |
| Inception Date:                          | 10 February 2021  |
| Regulation 28 Compliant:                 | Yes   |

**NAV ATTRIBUTE TO INVESTORS**

|      | Jan    | Feb    | Mar    | Apr    | May    | Jun    | Jul   | Aug    | Sep    | Oct    | Nov   | Dec    | Total  |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| 2021 | -1.18% | -2.94% | 2.79%  | 3.19%  | 1.23%  | 0.84%  | 2.12% | -2.28% | -0.41% | 0.41%  | 2.77% | 6.51%  |        |
| 2022 | 1.27%  | 1.91%  | -0.06% | -2.03% | 1.09%  | -2.94% | 2.46% | 0.45%  | -2.08% | 1.17%  | 3.94% | 0.68%  | 5.79%  |
| 2023 | 2.97%  | -0.80% | 1.34%  | -1.09% | -4.69% | 4.66%  | 2.36% | -0.18% | -2.29% | 1.78%  | 4.70% | 1.44%  | 10.23% |
| 2024 | 0.77%  | -0.54% | -1.94% | 1.53%  | 0.89%  | 5.26%  | 4.11% | 2.37%  | 4.05%  | -2.10% | 3.15% | -0.22% | 18.39% |
| 2025 | 0.51%  | 0.15%  | 0.30%  | 0.90%  | 2.85%  |        |       |        |        |        |       |        | 4.77%  |

The performance prior to 12 April 2024 is for class T4, with subsequent performance being for class R2.

**STATISTICS AT MAY 2025**

|                                 | * FUND | ** BMK |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1 Year                          | 23.22% | 21.78% |
| Highest 12 month rolling return | 27.02% | 26.17% |
| Lowest 12 month rolling return  | 1.07%  | 0.32%  |
| Since Inception (Annualised)    | 10.49% | 9.46%  |

\* Taquanta Bond FR Fund - Class T4 (up to 12 April 2024) & Class R2 (post 12 April 2024) Fund Source: Apex Fund and Corporate Services SA of May 2025

\*\* JSE/ASSA All Bond Index (ALBI) Index Benchmark(s) Source: Bloomberg as at May 2025

**FEES**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Service Fee (incl. VAT p.a.):                   | 0.29% |
| Cost Ratios (incl. VAT):                        |       |
| * Total Expense Ratio(TER) <sup>2</sup> :       | 0.30% |
| * Transactions Costs Ratio(TC%):                | 0.00% |
| * Total Investment Charges(TIC%) <sup>1</sup> : | 0.30% |
| * Performance Fee (PF) Included in TER:         | 0.00% |

\* TIC reported is up to end December 2024, Which includes the PF component for T4 class. R2 class doesn't have PF applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Total Investment Charges (TIC%) = TER (%) + TC (%). <sup>2</sup> The Total Expense Ratio (TER%) of a portfolio, expressed as a percentage of the daily average value of the portfolio, is calculated over a period of usually a financial year and represents a measure of the portfolio's assets that were relinquished to meet portfolio operating costs, including charges, levies and fees. Typical expenses which are deducted from a portfolio include service charges, taxes, trustee fees and audit fees. Unit prices are published daily on the Manager's website. Investor instructions received after 14:00pm shall be processed the following business day.

## MARKET COMMENTARY

During the month of May 2025 South Africa continued to face a challenging economic landscape with slower growth, fiscal tightening, some inflationary pressures driven by food costs, and a modest monetary easing cycle.

Recent developments in South Africa's economic outlook and geopolitical environment reflect a combination of domestic policy adjustments and global economic uncertainties. Moody's Ratings recently downgraded South Africa's real GDP growth forecast for 2025 to 1.5%, a downward revision of 0.2 percentage points from their February estimate, citing subdued domestic activity and external shocks (Moody's, 2025). This aligns with a broader global slowdown, as Moody's projections for worldwide economic growth have been cut to 1.9% in 2025 and 2.3% in 2026, from previous forecasts of 2.5%, mainly due to geopolitical tensions, rising trade barriers, and declining investor confidence.

On the diplomatic front, tensions between the United States and South Africa have escalated amid controversial remarks by former U.S. President Donald Trump, who accused South Africa of targeting White Afrikaners and launched a refugee resettlement initiative resulting in dozens of White Afrikaners relocating to the U.S. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa responded by engaging at the White House to mitigate perceptions of ethnic targeting and genocide, leading to some progress in restoring diplomatic ties and trade negotiations, according to South Africa's finance minister.

Domestically, South Africa's fiscal policy has seen notable adjustments. Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana introduced a revised national budget, dubbed "Budget 3.0," which projects lower revenue and includes modest expenditure cuts to maintain fiscal stability amid rising public debt, forecasted to reach 77.4% of GDP in 2025/26. The budget also marks the first increase in fuel levies in three years, with petrol and diesel levies raised by 16 and 15 cents per litre respectively, effective June 4.

Inflation dynamics remain modest but are showing signs of upward pressure. In April, South Africa's CPI increased marginally to 2.8% from 2.7% in March, with food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation reaching 4.0%, driven mainly by a 2.3% month-on-month rise in meat prices, especially beef cuts such as stewing beef, mince, and steak - a trend that could persist given ongoing supply chain issues. The household expenditure share for meat accounts for 5.1%, underscoring its influence on overall inflation.

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) responded to these conditions by lowering the repo rate by 25 basis points to 7.25%, marking a shift away from its previously hawkish stance supported by five out of six MPC members. This rate cut aligns with the government's retreat from prior VAT increase proposals and reflects cautious easing to support economic growth. The rand experienced moderate volatility, with the USD/ZAR exchange rate fluctuating around 17.79 to 18.05 during late May, with a 0.4% peak change on May 30 (Exchange Rate Data, 2025).

Meanwhile, in the United States, inflation remains subdued. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a 0.2% increase in the CPI for April, bringing the annual rate to 2.3%, the lowest since February 2021, while core inflation held steady at 2.8%. These figures suggest a moderate inflation environment that could influence future monetary policy decisions.

In summary, South Africa faces a complex mix of internal fiscal adjustments, modest inflationary pressures, and external geopolitical tensions, all within the context of subdued global economic growth. While policy measures aim to stabilize and stimulate the economy, ongoing challenges such as rising public debt and inflationary trends will require continued vigilance. The evolving international environment, including U.S.-South Africa relations and global economic forecasts, will play a significant role in shaping South Africa's economic trajectory over the coming months.

In the month of May, the ALBI TR ZAR Index delivered 2.73% m/m, while the CLI TR ZAR Index delivered 0.45% m/m.

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

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## GLOSSARY

**Net Asset Value (NAV):** 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.

**Highest & Lowest Return:** The highest and lowest rolling twelve-month performance of the portfolio since inception.

**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.

**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.

## FUND RISK

**Derivative Risk:** 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.

**Volatility Risk:** 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.

**Equity Risk:** 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.

### INVESTMENT COMPANY

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**Annualised Return:** Is the weighted average compound growth rate over the performance period measured.

**Total Investment Charge (TIC):** 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.

**Total Investment Charges: (TIC%) = 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).

**Derivative / Financial Instrument:** A contract that derives its value (positive or negative) from another asset

**Concentration and Sector Risk:** 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

**Interest Rate Risk:** The values of bonds and other debt securities are inversely proportional to the change in interest rates. Interest rate risk is generally greater for investments with longer maturities as well as when the market does not expect a change in the interest rates

**Credit Default Risk:** The risk that the government entity or company that issued the bond will run into financial difficulties and won't be able to pay the interest or repay the principal at maturity. Credit risk applies to debt investments such as bonds. The higher credit rating the less likely the possibility of the issuing company defaulting.

**Currency/Exchange Rate Risk:** 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.

## MANDATORY DISCLOSURE:

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. Collective investments are traded at ruling prices 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, minimum fees, and maximum commissions, as well as detailed description of how performance fees are calculated and applied, is available on request from FundRock Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd ("the Manager"). The Manager does not provide any guarantee in respect to the capital or the return of the portfolio. Excessive withdrawals from the portfolio may place the portfolio under liquidity pressure and in such circumstances, a process of ring-fencing of withdrawal instructions and managed pay-outs over time may be followed. Commissions and incentives may be paid, and if so, are included in the overall costs. The Manager may close the portfolio to new investors in order to manage it efficiently according to its mandate. Prices are published daily on the Manager's website. Additional information, including Key Investor Information Document ("KIID"), Minimum Disclosure Document ("MDD"), as well as other information relating to the basis on which the Manager undertakes to repurchase participatory interests offered to it, and the basis on which selling and repurchase prices will be calculated, is available, free of charge, on request from the Manager. The value of an investment is dependent on numerous factors which may include, but not limited to, share price fluctuations, interest and exchange rates and other economic factors. The Manager ensures fair treatment of investors by not offering preferential fee or liquidity terms to any investor within the same strategy. The Manager is registered and approved by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority ("the Authority") under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act No. 45 of 2002 ("CISCA"). The Manager retains full legal responsibility for the portfolio.

The Financial Services Provider ("FSP"), Taquanta Asset Managers (Pty) Ltd, FSP No. 618, is authorised under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act 37 of 2002 to render investment management services. The annualized total return is the average return earned by an investment each year over a given time period, since the launch date of the portfolio. Actual annual figures are available from the Manager on request. The highest and lowest one (1) year returns represent the highest and lowest actual returns achieved during a 12-month rolling period year since the first launch date of the portfolio. The performance figures are the yields 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 NAV. The performance figures are reported net of fees with income reinvested. 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. 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.

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