

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Fund information update at 31 January 2021

What is the fund's objective?

The objective of the fund is to achieve capital preservation and income generation by investing in long-term fixed interest securities. This fund is an actively managed, unconstrained, South African fixed-income strategy that aims to generate consistent and predictable long term returns through investments in high quality income-yielding debt securities.

What does the fund invest in?

Securities will normally consist of a spread of gilts, semi-gilts, loan stock, debentures, debenture bonds, approved securities, notes and liquid assets and any other securities which are consistent with the fund's investment policy.

What possible risks are associated with this fund?

General market risks include a rise or volatility in bond yields, rising interest rates, economic and political risk, inflation uncertainty and duration risk. Where foreign securities are included in the portfolio there may be additional risks, such as potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macro-economic risks, political risks, tax risks, settlement risks, and potential limitations on the availability of market information.

Risk rating

Conservative	Moderately conservative	Moderate	Moderately aggressive	Aggressive
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What is the suggested investment period for this fund?

Minimum period

1 Month	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years
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Who should consider investing in this fund?

This fund suits investors that are looking for stable income and reasonable capital growth over the longer term.

Income

Distribution Net income is calculated and accrued daily and is declared and distributed quarterly.

Declaration 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December

General fund information

Manager(s) Mzimasi Mabece and Bernard Drotschie
Size (NAV) R 2.71 billion
Classification South African - Interest Bearing - Variable Term
Benchmark JSE All Bond Index

Regulation 28 Complies

Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act sets the limits in terms of the maximum exposure the retirement fund and the individual retirement fund member's savings (i.e. your savings) may have to various asset classes. For more information please refer to the Regulation 28 Guidelines available on our website (www.stanlib.com). This Fund complies with this Regulation.

Class A

Launch 01 July 2014
ISIN number ZAE000191763
JSE code MDBFA
Minimum investment requirements -
Lump sum R 50,000
Monthly R 1,000

What are the costs to invest in this fund?

Maximum charges including VAT

	Class A
Initial fee (manager)	0.000%
Initial fee (adviser)	3.450%
Annual fee (manager)	0.863%
Annual fee (adviser)	0.000%
Performance fee	N/A

Annual fee (manager) – this is a service charge (% based) applicable to each class of a fund, that is levied on the value of your portfolio and includes the **Annual fee (adviser)** fee (where applicable). Annual fees are calculated and accrued daily and recovered monthly from the income awaiting distribution in the fund.

Cost ratios (annual) including VAT as at 31 December 2020

	Class A
Based on period from:	01/01/2018
Total Expense	0.87%
Transaction Costs	0.00%
Total Investment Charge	0.87%
1 Year Total Expense	0.87%

Total Expense (TER): This ratio shows the charges, levies and fees relating to the management of the portfolio and is expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value of the portfolio, calculated over the period shown and annualised to the most recently completed quarter. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER should not be regarded as an indication of future TERs.

Transaction Costs (TC): This ratio shows the percentage of the value of the fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the fund's underlying assets. TC are a necessary cost in administering the fund and impacts fund 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 fund, investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

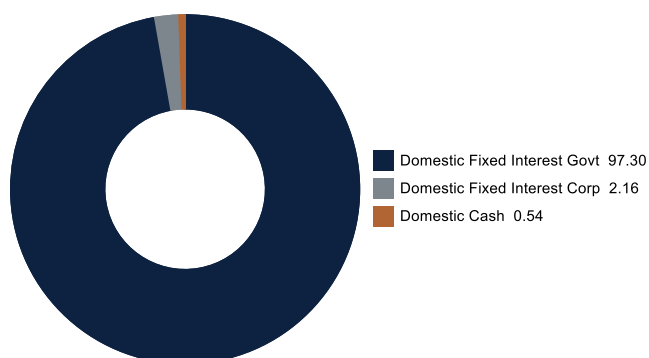
Total Investment Charges (TIC): This ratio is simply the sum of the TER and TC, showing the percentage of the value of the fund incurred as costs relating to the investment of the fund. It should be noted that performance figures account for all costs included in the TIC ratio, so you should not deduct the TIC from performance figures, the performance is already net of the TIC.

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

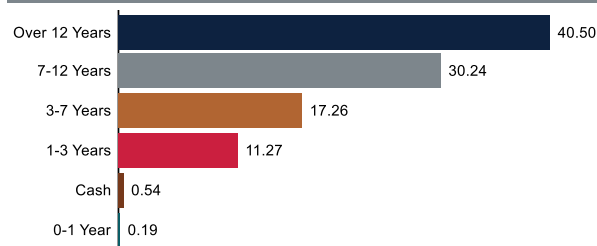
Monthly update at 31 January 2021

Holdings

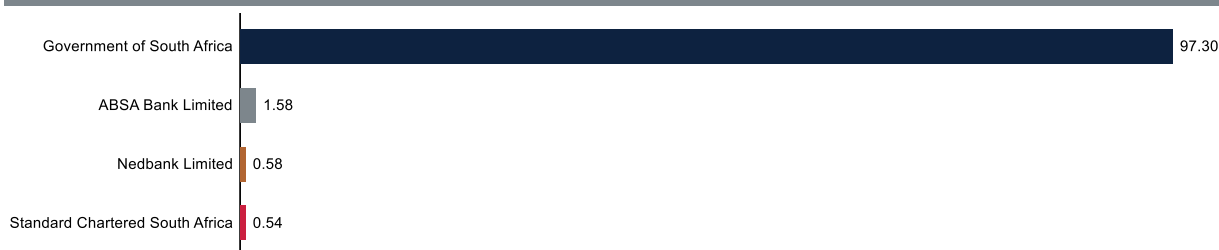
Asset allocation (%)



Fixed Interest allocation (%)



Fixed Interest Top 10 Issuer exposure (%)



Performance and Income

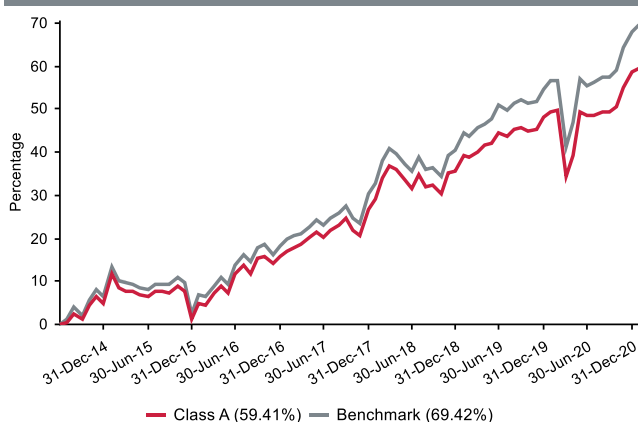
Class A Launch: 01 July 2014

Benchmark: JSE All Bond Index

Returns (%)	1yr	2yrs	3yrs	5yrs	Launch
Class A					
Class	6.70	6.95	7.29	8.70	7.34
Rank/Out of	21/33	25/32	21/28	18/23	14/16
Sector Average	7.09	7.15	7.42	8.53	7.93
Benchmark	8.20	8.34	8.49	9.62	8.34

Returns (%) shown are cumulative for all periods shorter than or equal to 1 year and annualised for all periods greater than 1 year.

Cumulative performance (%) from Launch



Statistics (%)	1yr	2yrs	3yrs	5yrs	Launch
Class A					
Positive Months	8	17	24	41	50
Max Gain	18.78	18.78	23.50	52.66	59.41
Max Drawdown	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44
Highest	7.85	11.19	15.28	15.28	15.28
Lowest	-4.09	-4.09	-4.09	-4.09	-5.81

Highest – this reflects the highest 12 month return during the period.
Lowest - this reflects the lowest 12 month return during the period.

Amount declared (cents per unit)

	Class A
31 March 20	1.98
30 June 20	1.84
30 September 20	2.00
31 December 20	1.96
In last 12 months	7.78
In 2020	7.78

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Quarterly update at 31 December 2020

Who are the investment managers?

Since 1983 Melville Douglas has been delivering superior investment returns across a number of asset classes. As a global boutique investment management company within the Standard Bank Group, we are uniquely positioned to offer domestic and offshore investment solutions. What truly sets Melville Douglas apart is our experienced investment team and our approach to investing – driven by balance, a long-term view and a commitment to fundamental research – which informs our investment decisions across the board.



Mzimasi Mabece

BSc

Head of Fixed Income: South Africa

Mzimasi has more than 14 years financial market experience spanning both quantitative analysis as well as portfolio management and has managed both fixed income and equity funds. Prior to joining Melville Douglas, he was Head of Fixed Income at Mvunonala Asset Managers. He previously held Portfolio Manager roles at Prowess Investment Managers and Old Mutual Investment Group (OMIGSA) and also worked at Sanlam Investments as a fixed income Quantitative Analyst. Mzimasi holds a BSc degree.



Bernard Drotschie

BCom (Hons), CFA, CFP

Chief Investment Officer

Bernard joined Melville Douglas in 2002 as a portfolio manager and analyst, prior to which he worked for Absa Asset Management. He is the lead manager on the Melville Douglas Global Growth Fund (USD) and co-manages the Melville Douglas Balanced Fund (USD) and the Melville Douglas Income Funds. He holds a BCom (Hons) degree in Econometrics, is a CFA® Charterholder and a Certified Financial Planner™ professional.

Fund review

The fund performed behind the benchmark and slightly behind its peers during the year and the reason for this performance was the fund's relative under exposure to the long end. Our preference during the year was the short end of the yield curve as we found it more attractive.

Market overview

What a year 2020 has been! South Africa being part of this global universe was not spared the rout that befell global financial markets and economic decimation brought about by the onset of the corona virus pandemic. As a consequence of the pandemic authorities had to respond and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) was first off the blocks and in the course of 2020 reduced interest rates by a cumulative 300 basis points. The government in its response to the pandemic locked the country down and put the country under the strictest restrictions that confined citizens to their homes and virtually ground the economy to a halt in the first half of the year.

Given the SARB's aggressive cut in interest rates during the year, we believe that the interest rate cutting cycle has bottomed. However, given the sluggish economy we believe that price pressures will remain subdued and as such inflation is likely to remain far below the 4.5% long term target that the central bank would like to anchor inflation at and as such the SARB is under no pressure to tighten monetary policy.

The Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) is always the focus in the fourth quarter and this year was no different. In the afternoon of Wednesday 28 October 2020, the Minister of Finance Mr. Tito Mboweni stood in parliament and delivered to the nation his much-anticipated Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement. The Minister in his address laid bare the extent of the deterioration in the country's fiscal position. The South African Government borrows R2.2 billion per day with the national debt exceeding R4 trillion. To put this into perspective, public debt is four times bigger than the national budget and this debt trajectory is unsustainable and cannot continue unabated. What became evident from the MTBPS are the following: -

a) The expected cost containment and expenditure reduction is hinged on a public wage freeze and therein lies the greatest implementation risk as public sector unions will fight tooth and nail against this proposal.

b) Debt is expected to stabilise both higher and later than previously envisaged. However, the market expected disappointment in this area as the active scenario, which predicted a peak of 87% was viewed sceptically from the beginning. The debt stabilisation path proposed in this statement may be viewed as more realistic and achievable and this should anchor the domestic bonds and currency markets.

c) The MTBPS did not go far enough to please left leaning interests who are arguing for the government to spend its way out of trouble nor was it pleasing to conservative economists whose counter argument is for an austerity path out of our problems. In our view the Minister of Finance danced dangerously close to the cliff but managed to chart a realistic path out of our problems with political boldness required to achieve that recovery path.

Looking ahead

We believe that as yields on developed market bonds begin to normalise and given the expected continued deterioration in our fiscal position, the domestic bond yield curve will continue to steepen. Given the above and our view that funding risks will continue to be expressed on the long end of the curve, we therefore prefer to be positioned along the shorter end of the yield curve as we find it more attractive at this stage.

The commentary gives the views of the portfolio manager at the time of writing. Any forecasts or commentary included in this document are not guaranteed to occur.

Change in allocation of the fund over the quarter

Asset type	Q4 2020	Q3 2020	Change
Domestic Cash	0.36	2.42	-2.06
Domestic Fixed Interest Corp	2.13	2.20	-0.06
Domestic Fixed Interest Govt	97.50	95.38	2.12

The portfolio adhered to its portfolio objective over the quarter.

Fund classes

Class	Type	Price (cpu)	Units	NAV (Rand)
A	Retail	96.70	34,982,520.25	33,827,364.14

All data as at 31 December 2020.

Units – amount of participatory interests (units) in issue in relevant class.

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Important information update at 31 January 2021

Disclosures

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) are generally medium to long term investments. The value of participatory interests may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending.

The Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund is a portfolio of the STANLIB Collective Investment Scheme (the Scheme).

The manager of the Scheme is STANLIB Collective Investments (RF) (Pty) Limited (the Manager). The Manager is authorised in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, No. 45 of 2002 (CISCA) to administer Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) in Securities. Liberty is a full member of the Association for Savings and Investments of South Africa (ASISA). The Manager is a member of the Liberty Group of Companies. The manager has a right to close a portfolio to new investors in order to manage the portfolio more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. The Manager does not provide any guarantee either with respect to the capital or the return of a CIS portfolio. A schedule of fees and charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager.

The trustee of the Scheme is Standard Chartered Bank.

The investments of this portfolio are managed, on behalf of the Manager, by Melville Douglas Investment Management (Pty) Ltd, an authorised financial services provider (FSP), FSP No. 595, under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (FAIS), Act No. 37 of 2002.

Prices are calculated and published on each working day, these prices are available on the Manager's website (www.stanlib.com) and in South African printed news media. This portfolio is valued at 15h00. Forward pricing is used. Investments and repurchases will receive the price of the same day if received prior to 15h00.

This portfolio is permitted to invest in foreign securities. Should the portfolio include any foreign securities these could expose the portfolio to any of the following risks: 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.

This is a portfolio that derives its income primarily from interest-bearing instruments. The yield (if shown) is a current effective yield calculated daily.

This portfolio is a third party named, co-named portfolio. The Manager retains full legal responsibility for this portfolio. A third party named, co-named portfolio is a portfolio bearing the name of both the Manager and the financial services provider (FSP) where the FSP, under an agreement with the Manager, undertakes financial services of a discretionary nature, as contemplated in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, Act No. 37 of 2002 (FAIS), in relation to the assets of the portfolio. Melville Douglas Investment Management (Pty) Ltd, an authorised FSP, FSP No. 595, FAIS, is the third party manager of this portfolio.

The FSP is a related party to the Manager, the FSP may earn additional fees other than those charged by the Manager. It is the responsibility of the FSP to disclose additional fees to the investor. This document is not advice, as defined under FAIS. Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision.

All performance returns and ranking figures quoted are shown in ZAR and are based on data sourced from Morningstar or Statpro and are as at 31 January 2021.

Annualised return figures are the compound annualised growth rate (CAGR) calculated from the cumulative return for the period being measured. These annualised returns provide an indication of the annual return achieved over the period had an investment been held for the entire period. Actual annual figures are available on request from the Manager.

Portfolio performance figures are calculated for the relevant class of the portfolio, for a lump sum investment, on a NAV-NAV basis, with income reinvested on the ex-dividend date. Individual investor performance may differ due to initial fees, actual investment date, date of reinvestment of income and dividend withholding tax. Portfolio performance accounts for all costs that contribute to the calculation of the cost ratios quoted, all returns quoted are after these costs have been accounted for.

Statistics - Positive Months: the number of individual 1 month periods during the specified time period where the return was not negative; Max Gain: the maximum gain in a trough-to-peak incline before a new trough is attained, quoted as the percentage between the trough and the peak. It is an indicator of upside risk over a specified time period (quoted for all periods of 1 year or longer); Max Drawdown: the maximum loss in a peak-to-trough decline before a new peak is attained, quoted as the percentage between the peak and the trough. It is an indicator of downside risk over a specified time period (quoted for periods of 1 year or longer, where no value is shown no loss was experienced); Highest and Lowest: the highest and the lowest 1 year return (%) that occurred during the specified time period (quoted for all relevant classes launched 1 year or more prior to current month end date).

Additional information about this product including, but not limited to, brochures, application forms and annual or quarterly reports, can be obtained free of charge, from the Manager and from the Manager's website (www.stanlib.com).

Contact details

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