

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Fund information update at 31 July 2020

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 2.73 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 30 June 2020

	Class A
Based on period from:	01/07/2017
Total Expense	0.85%
Transaction Costs	0.00%
Total Investment Charge	0.85%
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.

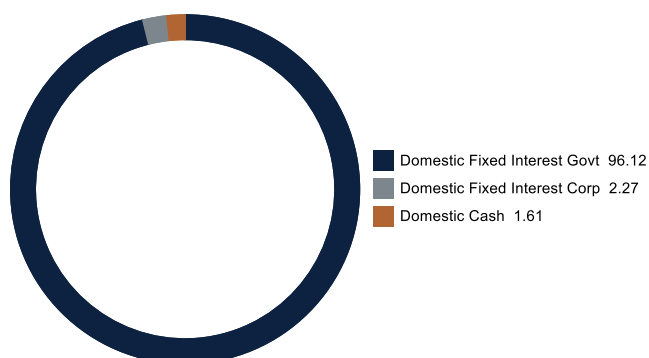
Total Investment Charges (TIC): This ratio is simply the sum of the TER and TC, showing the percentage of the value of the fund incurred as costs relating to the investment of the fund. It should be noted that performance figures account for all costs included in the TIC ratio, so you should not deduct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

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

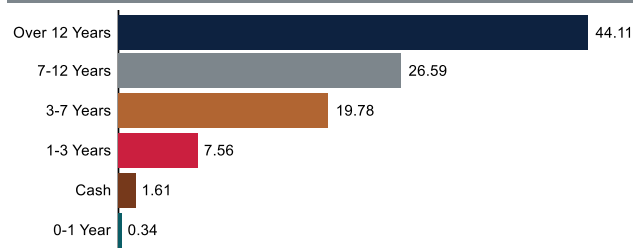
Monthly update at 31 July 2020

Holdings

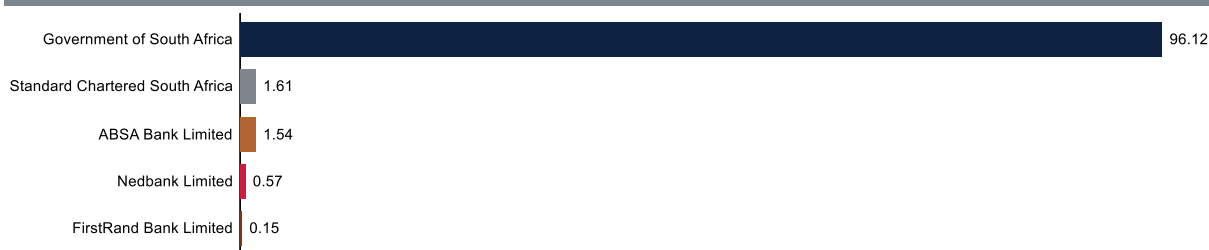
Asset allocation (%)



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	3.30	4.93	6.81	6.65	6.71
Rank/Out of	18/32	20/29	20/29	17/22	14/16
Sector Average	2.84	4.81	6.46	6.57	7.22
Benchmark	4.25	6.14	7.79	7.40	7.61

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	16	23	39	45
Max Gain	11.42	15.08	24.06	48.14	49.84
Max Drawdown	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44	-10.44
Highest	11.19	11.90	15.28	15.28	15.28
Lowest	-4.09	-4.09	-4.09	-5.81	-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
30 September 19	2.04
31 December 19	2.07
31 March 20	1.98
30 June 20	1.84
In last 12 months	7.93
In 2019	8.02

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Quarterly update at 30 June 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 South African bond yield curve remains very steep, (meaning the gap in bond yields between the long and short end remains wide). The expected selloff of long bond yields as a result of funding concerns should be muted due to supply demand dynamics as government plans to issue mainly in the belly of the curve (7 – 12 year). The belly of the curve remains the most liquid area of the curve and extra issuance in this area will enhance this sector's liquidity. Consequently, we expect this area to be best performing going forward and funding concerns to continue being expressed in the long end of the curve.

Market overview

Following South Africa's credit downgrade by Moody's to non-investment grade at the end of March the country was subsequently excluded from the FTSE World Global Bond Index (WGBI) at the end of April. This risk event had a muted impact on the local currency and domestic bond market as the event had been widely expected and had been priced in with foreign investors long since reduced their exposure to South Africa. As a result of the slowdown in economic activity, the local bond market experienced severe liquidity challenges due to concerns around debt sustainability and fiscal position of the country. In response the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) cut interest rates aggressively in the quarter and intervened in the secondary market by buying bonds. The central bank has cut interest rates by a cumulative 275 basis points this year including in a surprise inter schedule meeting on 14 April 2020. Government responded as well to the health crisis brought about by the pandemic by announcing a R500 billion rescue package to soften the economic and social impact of the lockdown. This announcement by the President required the tabling of an emergency budget and the Minister of Finance tabled this in Parliament on 24 June 2020. Key highlights from the Supplementary Budget - the supplementary budget was much anticipated by the market and of concern to the market, was the issue of mandatory targeted investments (prescribed assets) as speculation was rife that this would feature in the budget. In tabling the supplementary budget, the minister did not mince his words on the fiscal and debt challenges facing the country. He likened our fiscal position to that of a wide-open hippopotamus' mouth that "threatens to eat our children's inheritance". The minister indicated this administration's determination to "close the mouth of the hippo" and stabilise public debt. To do so the minister indicated that the Cabinet had agreed in principle to "prepare a set of far reaching reforms" that will "stabilise public debt". Importantly the National Treasury will henceforth adopt zero budgeting approach in drafting the national budget. This will require that for every expenditure item by national and provincial departments as well as local spheres of government, to make it to the national budget be justified as opposed to the current system where the previous year's budget is used as a base. This is aimed at improving budget efficiency and curtail wastage. The minister indicated that all these proposals will find expression in the Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) in October. Effectively the supplementary budget provides a bridge to this year's MTBPS. The absence of reference to prescribed assets in the budget may be a strong signal that government is not keen on going down this route. Government would prefer an amendment to Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act to make it broad and flexible on inclusion of alternative assets; Treasury expects a significant portion of the extra required funding to come from foreign loans (mainly from multinational institutions including the IMF, World Bank and New Development Bank), the utilisation of sterilisation deposits and higher short-term borrowing, an envisaged further increase in weekly bond issuance mainly concentrated in the 7-10 year area of the yield curve. The involvement of Development Finance Institutions such as the IMF in the funding mix and though less stringent at this stage may provide the catalyst to spur the urgent reforms required to avoid a debt trap and fiscal calamity; Government has adopted an "Active Approach" to debt stabilisation and more information will be presented at the MTBPS in October. National Treasury will introduce zero-based budgeting from the October MTBPS under which all spending programmes would have to be re-justified and reconsidered with each iteration of the fiscal plan; Main budget expenditure is now projected to increase to 37.2% of GDP in 2020/21, relative to the 2020 Budget estimate of 32.5%. This reflects the response to COVID-19 and higher debt-service costs. Risks to consolidation and High Road to recovery and conclusion - Minister Mboweni reiterated that the expansion of social grants would be terminated by October. Given the rising levels of poverty and inequality in the country and that have been accentuated by the effects of the pandemic, there is an upside spending risk in this item as it may be difficult to terminate this expenditure item. We envisage political headwinds to the bold policy reforms and public sector wage reductions plans remain unclear. The minister in his speech jokingly alluded to the difficulties faced by government in negotiating this expenditure item down. Given skills and capacity constraints of the State, execution risk and capacity to deliver always lingers.

Looking ahead

Our fund strategy going forward is to be long duration overall and tilt our long exposure to the belly of the curve and maintain a relative short duration position in the long end of the curve. The SARB, despite its aggressive and deep cuts so far this year has indicated its willingness to give further monetary policy support to the economy should the need arise. This could very well be offset by fiscal austerity measures as government tries to arrest the rising public debt. We however believe the interest rate cutting cycle is getting close to bottoming.

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	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	Change
Domestic Cash	3.12	5.04	-1.91
Domestic Fixed Interest Corp	2.23	5.62	-3.39
Domestic Fixed Interest Govt	94.64	89.34	5.31

The portfolio adhered to its portfolio objective over the quarter.

Fund classes

Class	Type	Price (cpu)	Units	NAV (Rand)
A	Retail	94.35	18,159,305.54	17,133,841.71

All data as at 30 June 2020.

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

STANLIB

Melville Douglas STANLIB Bond Fund

Important information update at 31 July 2020

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 July 2020.

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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