

March 2024

### Fund Objective

The objective of the High Yield Credit fund is to generate returns in excess of a typical income fund. This fund is best suited for investors looking for enhanced income returns with very low liquidity requirements.

### Investment Strategy

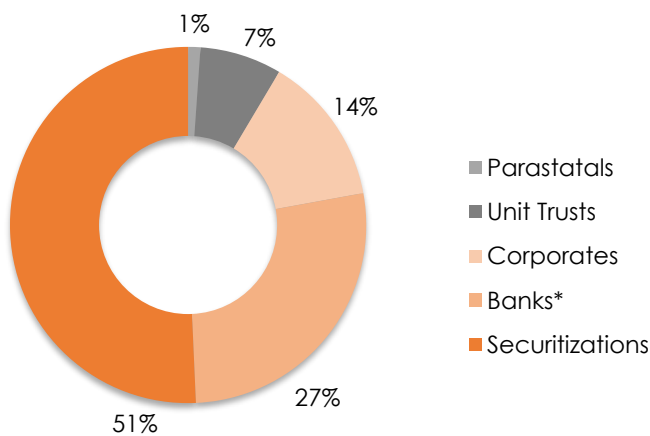
Employs a conservative approach to enhance yields through extracting the liquidity risk premium in longer dated and less liquid debt instruments, as well as an increased exposure to credit assets. Our fundamental credit review process is robust, combining qualitative and quantitative analysis, overlaid with institutional memory to question convention, operating within a strong risk and compliance framework. Our portfolio construction process builds a well-diversified fund targeting up to 30+ counterparties to further diversify risks.

### Fund Performance

Period (naca)	Fund Return	Fund Target	CPI +5%
3 months	<b>3.3%</b>	3.1%	2.3%
6 months	<b>6.2%</b>	6.2%	5.0%
1 year	<b>13.0%</b>	12.4%	10.6%
2 years p.a.	<b>12.2%</b>	11.2%	11.3%
3 years p.a.	<b>10.9%</b>	10.1%	11.1%
5 years p.a.	<b>10.9%</b>	10.0%	10.1%
3yr volatility	<b>0.6%</b>	0.5%	1.3%

Source: Taquanta Asset Managers

### Issuer Type



\*Includes 6% in Credit-linked Notes, which are bank issued notes referencing other entities.

Source: Taquanta Asset Managers

### Fund Details

#### Risk Profile:

Low **Mid** High

#### Portfolio Manager:

Taquanta Asset Managers

#### Currency:

ZAR

#### Fund Size:

R228 m

#### Inception date:

August 2015

#### Target Return:

STeFI Composite (Cash) +4%

#### Minimum Rating:

BB- (at time of purchase)

#### Max offshore exposure:

40% (Hedged)

#### Lock in Period:

5 years

#### Maturity Limit:

7 years

#### Modified Duration:

<0.25 Years

#### No. of Counterparties:

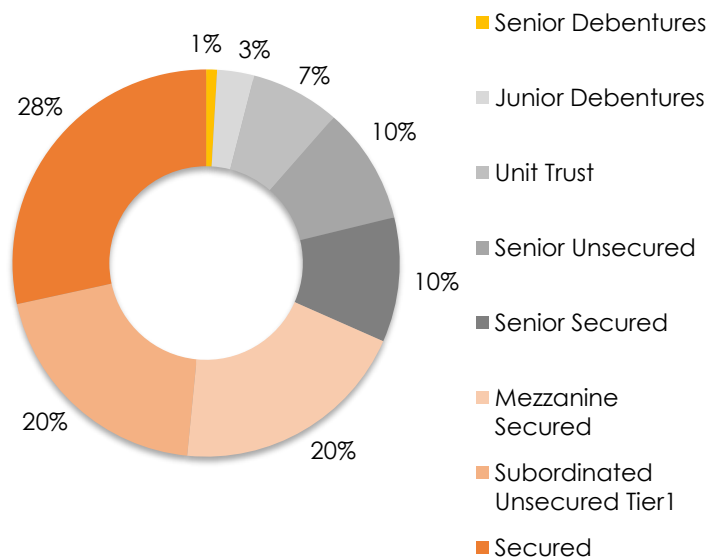
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### Top 5 Credit Exposures (excluding unit trust exposure)

Issuer Name	% Exposure
The Republic of South Africa	7.1%
Amber House Fund 7	6.7%
Standard Bank Group	5.9%
Nedbank Group	5.5%
Capital Harvest Finance	5.0%

Source: Taquanta Asset Managers

### Capital Ranking



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### Fund Outlook

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The fund continues to maintain a low duration, and a moderate maturity and liquidity position. Issue spreads in the domestic listed debt capital markets overall remain contained due to the demand for assets despite the pace of issuance. We continue to look for opportunities in both the public and private debt space. The fund is well positioned for the current interest rate outlook. We remain cautious in these times with regards to credit and liquidity risk.

### Market Commentary

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The United States (U.S.) Federal Reserve (Fed) announced at its March meeting that it would maintain the overnight federal funds rate at the current range of 5.25 percent to 5.5 percent. Projections published at the Fed's March 2024 meeting showed that policymakers expect to deliver three (3) rate cuts this year. This remains in line with expectations derived from the futures market. While U.S. inflation may be receding, growth is however resilient, muting the urgency to adjust the policy rate over the near-term.

President of the European Central Bank (ECB), Christine Lagarde, also announced that the three (3) key ECB rates will be left unchanged. However, the ECB President lamented the risks to economic growth being tilted to the downside. Consumer spending is tepid. Employers are posting fewer job vacancies. Fiscal and structural policies are facing geopolitical headwinds. To this end, the latest ECB staff projections indicate downward revisions to inflation, which is expected to fall below target within the next two years.

At their last meeting, the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) also decided to leave the repo rate unchanged at 8.25 percent. The decision to pause was unanimous and in line with surveyed expectations. The economy of South Africa is unlikely to grow above full employment over the foreseeable future. This is mainly owed to sub-investment ratings, deteriorating infrastructure, and growing levels of political uncertainty. Slowing economic activity has also played a major role in reducing inflation, which continues to remain vulnerable to external shocks and increases in administered prices.

On a conspectus of the above, the Forward Rate Agreement (FRA) market is now pricing in two (2) rate cuts this year. In March 2024, the 3-month JIBAR rate fell by 1.7 basis points to 8.500, while the 12-month JIBAR rate rose by 5 basis points to 9.125 versus the previous month. Over the past year, the 3-month, and the 12-month JIBAR rates increased by 39.2 basis points and 12.5 basis points, respectively.

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Category Description	Taquanta			
	Cat I Advice	Cat I Intermediary	Cat II discretionary Intermediary	Cat IIA Hedge Fund FSP
Long-Term Insurance subcategory B1				
Long-term insurance subcategory B2				
Long-term Insurance subcategory B2-A				
Long-term Insurance subcategory B1-A				
Long-Term Insurance subcategory C	X	X	X	
Retail Pension Benefits				
Pension Funds Benefits				
Shares	X	X	X	
Money market instruments	X	X	X	
Debentures and securitised debt	X	X	X	
Warrants, certificates and other instruments	X	X	X	
Bonds	X	X	X	
Derivative instruments	X	X	X	
Participatory interests in CIS's	X	X	X	
Participatory interest in a Hedge Fund			X	X
Long-term Deposits	X	X	X	
Short-term Deposits	X	X	X	
Structured Deposits			X	X
Securities and instruments				
General Category IIA experience				X

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The appointed Information Officer is Mr Justin Kretzschmar and his contact details are as follows: Phone: (021) 681 5000 | e-mail: [justink@taquanta.com](mailto:justink@taquanta.com)

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