CORONATION BALANCED PLUS FUND

Fund Information as at 31 March 2025

CORONATION
TRUST IS EARNED™

WHAT IS THE FUND'S OBJECTIVE?

Balanced Plus aims to achieve the best possible investment growth for retirement savers (within the constraints of Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act) over the long term.

WHAT DOES THE FUND INVEST IN?

Balanced Plus can invest in a wide variety of assets, such as shares, bonds, listed property and cash, both in South Africa and internationally.

The fund complies with Regulation 28, which limits the exposure of retirement investors to certain asset classes. For example, shares may never comprise more than 75% of the fund's portfolio, while exposure to property is limited to 25% and foreign assets is limited to 45% each.

The fund is mandated to use derivative instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes.

IMPORTANT PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS AND RISKS

Risk Profile

6/10
Moderate

Maximum growth/
minimum income exposures

Growth Assets: 85%
Income Assets: 15%

As Balanced Plus aims to maximise long-term returns, it will typically have a strong bias towards shares, which offer the highest expected growth over the long run. The fund's managers actively seek out attractively valued shares that may achieve strong returns over periods of five years and longer.

While shares usually offer the best investment return, this comes with the greatest risk of short-term losses. The fund's investment in shares is therefore carefully balanced with other assets (including cash, bonds and property) to ensure that risk is moderated. Returns from these assets are not as volatile as shares, and will not always move in the same direction (up or down) at the same time, making the fund less risky than a pure equity fund.

Given the care taken to manage risk and to ensure that the best possible returns can be achieved from a range of diverse investments, it is unlikely that the Balanced Plus fund will lose money over the longer term. However, the fund may produce negative returns in extreme years, albeit at a lower level than a fund that is only invested in shares.

HOW LONG SHOULD INVESTORS REMAIN INVESTED?

The recommended investment term is five years and longer.

WHO SHOULD CONSIDER INVESTING IN THE FUND?

Investors who are saving for retirement, and:

- can stay invested for at least five years (preferably longer);
- have to choose a fund for their retirement annuity, provident fund, preservation fund or pension fund, and are looking for an investment that balances long-term growth with moderate levels of risk.

WHAT COSTS CAN I EXPECT TO PAY?

An annual fee of 1.25% (excl. VAT) is payable.

Fund expenses that are incurred in the fund include fees payable to unconnected international fund managers on a portion of assets situated offshore as well as trading, custody and audit charges. All performance information is disclosed after deducting all fees and other portfolio costs. We do not charge fees to access or withdraw from the fund.

More detail is available on www.coronation.com

WHO ARE THE FUND MANAGERS?

KARL LEINBERGER
BBusSci, CA (SA), CFA

SARAH-JANE ALEXANDER
BBusSc, CFA

GENERAL FUND INFORMATION

Launch Date	15 April 1996
Fund Class	A
ASISA Fund Category	South African – Multi-asset – High Equity
Benchmark	ASISA fund category average (excluding Coronation funds)
Regulation 28	Complies
Income Distribution	Semi-annually (March & September)
Investment minimum	R5 000 or R500/m debit order
Bloomberg Code	CORBALN
ISIN Code	ZAE000019808
JSE Code	CORB

CORONATION BALANCED PLUS FUND

CLASS A as at 31 March 2025

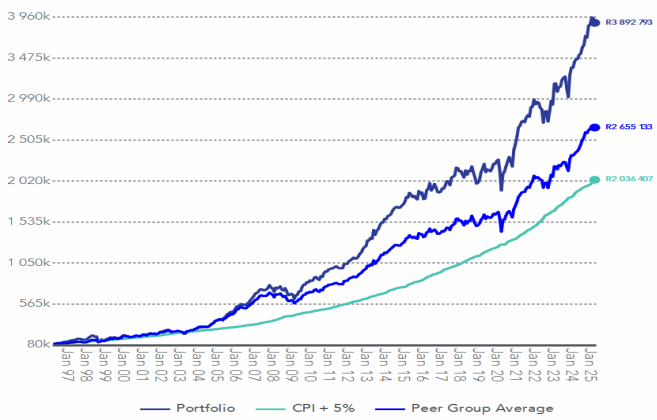
CORONATION
TRUST IS EARNED™

ASISA Fund Category	South African – Multi-asset – High Equity
Launch date	15 April 1996
Fund size	R122.55 billion
NAV	16293.02 cents
Benchmark	ASISA fund category average (excluding Coronation funds)
Portfolio manager/s	Karl Leinberger and Sarah-Jane Alexander

	1 Year	3 Year
Total Expense Ratio	1.62%	1.64%
Fund management fee	1.25%	1.25%
Fund expenses	0.19%	0.20%
VAT	0.19%	0.19%
Transaction costs (inc. VAT)	0.18%	0.19%
Total Investment Charge	1.80%	1.82%

PERFORMANCE AND RISK STATISTICS

GROWTH OF A R100,000 INVESTMENT (AFTER FEES)



PERFORMANCE FOR VARIOUS PERIODS (AFTER FEES)

	Fund	CPI +5%	Peer Group Average
Since Launch (unannualised)	3792.8%	1936.4%	2555.1%
Since Launch (annualised)	13.5%	11.0%	12.0%
Latest 20 years (annualised)	12.2%	10.5%	10.2%
Latest 15 years (annualised)	10.4%	10.0%	8.9%
Latest 10 years (annualised)	7.9%	9.9%	7.0%
Latest 5 years (annualised)	15.3%	9.9%	13.3%
Latest 3 years (annualised)	9.7%	10.0%	8.8%
Latest 1 year	12.4%	7.8%	12.3%
Year to date	0.5%	2.9%	0.7%

RISK STATISTICS SINCE LAUNCH

	Fund	Peer Group Average
Annualised Deviation	12.8%	10.1%
Sharpe Ratio	0.35	0.30
Maximum Gain	57.9%	29.5%
Maximum Drawdown	(34.3)%	(18.8)%
Positive Months	67.1%	65.1%

	Fund	Date Range
Highest annual return	49.3%	Aug 2004 - Jul 2005
Lowest annual return	(17.4%)	Sep 1997 - Aug 1998

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

EFFECTIVE ASSET ALLOCATION EXPOSURE

Sector	31 Mar 2025
Domestic Assets	**57.2%**
Equities	**38.7%**
Basic Materials	5.9%
Industrials	0.4%
Consumer Goods	3.7%
Health Care	0.3%
Consumer Services	7.3%
Telecommunications	1.4%
Financials	9.6%
Technology	7.3%
Derivatives	2.9%
Unlisted	0.0%
Real Estate	**5.5%**
Bonds	**10.1%**
Cash	**2.9%**
International Assets	**42.8%**
Equities	**34.1%**
Real Estate	**0.2%**
Bonds	**7.8%**
Cash	**0.7%**

TOP 10 HOLDINGS

As at 31 Mar 2025	% of Fund
Naspers Ltd	5.0%
Capitec Bank Holdings Ltd	2.1%
Standard Bank Of SA Ltd	1.9%
Nepi Rockcastle Plc	1.6%
Prosus Nv	1.6%
FirstRand Limited	1.5%
Northam Platinum Ltd	1.5%
Mondi Limited	1.4%
Dis-chem Pharmacies Ltd	1.4%
We Buy Cars	1.4%

INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Declaration	Payment	Amount	Dividend	Interest
31 Mar 2025	01 Apr 2025	86.59	32.17	54.42
30 Sep 2024	01 Oct 2024	108.77	57.58	51.19
28 Mar 2024	02 Apr 2024	103.56	42.11	61.46
29 Sep 2023	02 Oct 2023	158.96	72.61	86.34

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE RETURNS (AFTER FEES)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Fund 2025	2.2%	(0.2)%	(1.4)%										**0.5%**
Fund 2024	0.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.4%	2.0%	0.8%	3.0%	(0.4)%	3.8%	0.3%	**15.1%**
Fund 2023	8.4%	0.1%	(3.1)%	1.7%	0.3%	2.5%	0.8%	0.4%	(4.2)%	(3.4)%	8.7%	2.6%	**14.9%**
Fund 2022	(1.9)%	0.9%	(0.3)%	(2.0)%	(0.7)%	(5.5)%	4.8%	0.1%	(4.3)%	4.5%	4.3%	(1.5)%	**(2.0)%**
Fund 2021	3.7%	4.1%	0.8%	1.7%	0.4%	(0.5)%	2.1%	0.9%	(0.6)%	4.0%	0.3%	2.9%	**21.5%**

Please note that the commentary is for the retail class of the Fund.

Performance

The Fund returned 0.5% for the quarter (Q1-25) and 12.4% over the past 12 months. The high allocation to global and local equities (that delivered strong returns over the past 12 months) detracted in the quarter. The Fund has performed well over meaningful periods, both in absolute terms and relative to the peer group.

Fund positioning

What a start to the year it has been. Trump ascended to the White House and began rapidly implementing a series of radical policy reforms. US markets responded to the threat of higher tariffs, with the S&P 500 (-4% in USD) and MSCI World (-2%) ending the quarter in negative territory. In the early days of April, a punitive tariff regime was indeed implemented, threatening to disrupt and undermine free trade. This policy poses a risk to confidence levels, consumption, investment inflation and, ultimately, to growth. Markets corrected dramatically in the early days of April, with the S&P 500 falling 15% in the first week (Nasdaq -21%). Promises of tax cuts and more efficient delivery of government services (via the Department of Government Efficiency) have been insufficient to soften the blow.

During the quarter, regional markets outperformed the US, as the flow of funds was rediverted (EMEA +8% in USD, Europe +11% in USD). A weaker US dollar provided further support to these returns. The MSCI China continued to rise during Q1 (+15%), adding to the c. 20% gain in the prior year. In addition to the stabilisation of the Chinese economy, markets were reminded of China's growing role as a technological powerhouse with the release of DeepSeek's extremely cost-effective and efficient AI model. China continues to battle for technological leadership and re-embraced the role of the private sector in achieving this outcome.

Market performance broadened during the quarter, with both regional market outperformance (vs the US) and the decline of the Magnificent Seven within the S&P 500 (Magnificent Seven, -16% for Q1). Whilst US equities were under pressure, regional and sector diversification did provide support to the Fund's holdings and delivered alpha. Dramatic market movements post quarter-end have provided an opportunity to again reassess our exposure. We have bought into global equities as prices have declined and the margin of safety in our basket of stocks has increased. Early market declines were fairly indiscriminate, creating attractive buying opportunities. As long-term investors, we continue to buy assets where we feel impaired short-term prospects create an opportunity to buy winning businesses at undemanding valuations. We hope that the current uncertainty and volatility will provide further compelling opportunities.

The gold price increased by a spectacular 19% in the quarter (after rising 27% in 2024). Demand for gold remains strong. The metal was supported by heightened uncertainty, high sovereign indebtedness and the potential of a diminished role for the USD in the global payment system. The Fund has very little exposure to gold shares, which are trading above our assessment of long-term fair value. This has detracted meaningfully from recent Fund performance, which has actually been quite strong outside of the gold call. We remain concerned about the capital losses that shareholders in gold shares would incur should some of the froth come out of the gold sector.

The Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index (USD) rose 3% during the quarter. The Fund continues to have no exposure to developed market sovereign bonds, which we believe offer insufficient return to compensate for the risks stemming from heavily indebted sovereign balance sheets. Lower economic growth would pose an additional headwind to the fiscal arithmetic. The issue is compounded in Europe, which needs to fund higher defence spend, given its reduced ability to rely on the US. The Fund has maintained a sizeable holding in offshore credit bonds with their attractive, high single-digit US dollar yields. These instruments bring exposure to a range of geographies and sectors. This presents a compelling alternative to the concentrated sovereign and economic risks inherent in SA government bonds, as well as the narrower credit spreads in our domestic market. Given the opportunities in global equity and global fixed income, we continue to make full use of the Fund's offshore capacity.

The FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted Index (CSWIX) continued its strong performance in Q1 rising 6% (in ZAR). Whilst the 'GNUphoria' of the post-election 2024 period faded, the index was buoyed by the rampant performance of precious metal stocks on the back of higher gold and PGM prices. The Resources Index rose a meaningful 28% for the quarter. Indices with higher domestic exposure fared considerably worse with the Financials Index (-2%) and the SA Listed Property Index (SAPY, -4%) both declining. The Industrials Index rose 3%.

Trading reported by South African retailers during the first quarter was mixed. This despite growth in real disposable income as a result of lower inflation, interest rate cuts (during 2024), massively reduced loadshedding and the release of pension savings via the "two-pot" retirement system. The economy remains lacklustre. The South African Reserve Bank remained conservative, despite low inflation, thus offering no further support for economic growth.

Global headwinds to a domestic economic recovery have been building (tariffs, risks of weaker economic growth). This, combined with a floundering coalition-led government, is rattling consumer and business confidence. Prospects of a pickup in domestic growth are diminished. The pace of reform remains slow (with pockets of progress, Transnet being a good example). The budget impasse reflects the differing opinions between the major coalition partners on the importance of stimulating economic growth to resolve the country's fiscal challenges. Without a meaningful step change in economic growth, we believe the fiscal outlook is poor. The Fund is meaningfully underweight South African government bonds as a result. The FTSE/JSE All Bond Index was broadly flat for the quarter (up less than 1%).

The Fund's preferred domestic asset remains South African equities, which offer both attractive medium-return prospects as well as good risk protection. Given the large number of global stocks listed on our market, South African equities provide diversification away from a challenged domestic economy and good protection in a low road scenario (which could include higher inflation and a weaker currency). The Fund has meaningful exposure to locally listed global stocks.

Domestic stock selection is focused on picking winning franchises that can thrive despite a tough economy. In the previous quarter, we spoke of the significant expansion in market multiples for many domestic shares and the need to demonstrate faster earnings growth to justify this expansion. The diminished growth prospects for South Africa have seen a rapid contraction in market multiples. The basket of domestic stocks held by the Fund has broadly performed pleasingly – delivering good results despite these headwinds. The strength of their franchises has been evident in market updates from businesses including Shoprite, OUTsurance, Capitec and ADvTECH.

The Fund has held an underweight position in the resources sector for some time. The underweight in the gold miners came at a high opportunity cost during the quarter, given their share price moves. The gold price has risen rapidly to a level above our assessment of its long-term value. Margins for the gold miners have spiked. We believe these margins will be difficult to sustain as input cost pressures rise accordingly. The locally listed gold miners have been poor at returning capital to shareholders over time. Even in periods of excellent free cash flow, their short mine lives require constant reinvestment. We have retained a material underweight position. During the second half of 2024, the Fund built a position in the PGM miners premised on tighter supply-demand fundamentals, rising prices and growing free cash flows. Slower electric vehicle adoption is sustaining PGM demand for longer, whilst underinvestment in mines will contribute to rising production costs and declining supply. It was pleasing to see metal prices rise during the first quarter. The significant weakness in diversified miners over the past year has provided an opportunity to buy into these names, with a preference for Glencore.

Outlook

The Fund remains focused on generating compelling long-term risk-adjusted returns. As such, when markets provide an opportunity to add to assets at attractive pricing, the Fund will take advantage of this. We believe current markets provide such an opportunity and have added to both global and local equities. The Fund continues to have a meaningful allocation offshore which provides good protection against a weak domestic economy and fractious political situation. We believe the high offshore exposure combined with a high equity allocation will serve the Fund well to deliver its long-term return expectations.

Portfolio managers
Karl Leinberger and Sarah-Jane Alexander
as at 31 March 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE INVESTING IN THE CORONATION BALANCED PLUS FUND

The Balanced Plus Fund should be considered a medium- to long-term investment. The value of units may go down as well as up, and therefore Coronation does not make any guarantees with respect to the protection of capital or returns. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance. The fund is mandated to invest up to 45% of its portfolio into foreign securities and may as a result be exposed to macroeconomic, settlement, political, tax, reporting or illiquidity risk factors that may be different to similar investments in the South African markets. Fluctuations or movements in exchange rates may cause the value of underlying investments to go up or down. Asset allocation and top 10 holdings are reflected on a look-through basis. Any African exposure (ex SA) is reflected under international assets. Coronation Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd is a Collective Investment Schemes Manager approved by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. Portfolio managed by Coronation Asset Management (Pty) Ltd (FSP 548) , an authorised financial services provider. The Management Company reserves the right to close the fund to new investors if we deem it necessary to limit further inflows in order for it to be managed in accordance with its mandate. Unit trusts are allowed to engage in scrip lending and borrowing. Standard Chartered has been appointed as trustees for the fund (www.sc.com/za; 011-2176600). Coronation is a full member of the Association for Savings & Investment SA (ASISA).

HOW ARE UNITS PRICED AND AT WHICH PRICE WILL MY TRANSACTION BE EXECUTED?

Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices set on every trading day. Fund valuations take place at approximately 15h00 each business day, except at month end when the valuation is performed at approximately 17h00 (JSE market close) and forward pricing is used. Instructions must reach the Management Company before 14h00 (12h00 for the Money Market Fund) to ensure same day value. The payment of withdrawals may be delayed in extraordinary circumstances, when the manager with the consent of the fund trustees deem this to be in the interest of all fund investors. These circumstances may include periods when significant underlying markets suspend trading which will prevent accurate valuation of the instruments held in the fund. When the suspension of trading relates to only certain assets held by the fund, these assets may be side-pocketed. This process allows normal liquidity on the assets that can be valued, but will delay liquidity on the affected portion of the fund. If the fund is faced with excessive withdrawals, the affected withdrawals may be ring-fenced, which is the separation and delayed sale of the assets reflecting the interest of the liquidity seeking investors. It ensures that the sale of a large number of units will not force Coronation to sell the underlying investments in a manner that may have a negative impact on remaining investors of the fund.

HOW WAS THE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS FACT SHEET CALCULATED?

Performance is calculated by Coronation as at the last day of the month for a lump sum investment using Class A NAV prices with income distributions reinvested. All underlying price and distribution data is sourced from Morningstar. Performance figures are quoted after the deduction of all costs (including manager fees and trading costs) incurred within the fund. Note that individual investor performance may differ as a result of the actual investment date, the date of reinvestment of distributions and dividend withholding tax, where applicable. Annualised performance figures represent the geometric average return earned by the fund over the given time period. Unannualised performance represents the total return earned by the fund over the given time period, expressed as a percentage. The peer group average is calculated as the average return of all the funds in the respective ASISA category (excluding Coronation Funds in that category).

BENCHMARK DETAILS

The benchmark used for performance purposes is the South African – Multi-asset - High Equity ASISA fund category average (excluding Coronation funds).

WHAT IS THE TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO (TER) AND TRANSACTION COSTS (TC)?

TER is calculated as a percentage of the average net asset value of the portfolio incurred as charges, levies and fees in the management of the portfolio over the period referenced. The TER charged by any underlying fund held as part of a fund's portfolio is included in the fund expenses portion of the TER, but trading and implementation costs incurred in managing the underlying fund are excluded. 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. The 1 year TER is for the 12 months to end of the previous financial year (updated annually). The 3 year TER is for a rolling 36-month period to the last available quarter end (December, March, June and September).

Transaction costs are a necessary cost in managing a fund and impacts the fund's return. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of fund, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

The Total Investment Charge is the sum of the Total Expense Ratio (TER) and transaction costs.

ADVICE AND PLATFORM COSTS

Coronation does not provide financial advice. If you appoint an adviser, advice fees are contracted directly between you and the adviser. For more information please contact the relevant platform (Linked Investment Service Provider or Life Assurance Provider).

WHERE CAN I FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

Additional information such as daily fund prices, brochures, application forms and a schedule of fund fees and charges is available on our website, www.coronation.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TERMS OF USE

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