

**Fund description and summary of investment policy**

The Fund invests in a mix of absolute return funds managed by Allan Gray’s offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. The typical net equity exposure of the Fund is between 0% and 20%. The Orbis Optimal SA funds included in the Fund use exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure. In these funds, the market exposure of equity portfolios is effectively replaced with cash-like exposure, plus or minus Orbis’ skills in delivering returns above or below the market. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of a foreign equity or balanced fund. Although the Fund’s investment universe is global, the units in the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands. When considered in rands, returns of this foreign fund are likely to be more volatile than domestic funds with similar equity constraints.

**ASISA unit trust category:** Global – Multi Asset – Low Equity

**Fund objective and benchmark**

The Fund aims to provide a high degree of capital stability (when measured in the foreign currency denominations of the underlying Orbis Funds), while producing long-term returns that are superior to foreign currency bank deposits. The Fund’s benchmark is the simple average of the benchmarks of the underlying Orbis funds.

**How we aim to achieve the Fund’s objective**

The Fund invests only in the Optimal SA absolute return funds managed by our offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. Within the Optimal funds, Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies around the world whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis’ assessment of their long-term intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables them to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. This is the same approach as that used by Allan Gray to invest in South African equities, except that Orbis is able to choose from many more shares, listed internationally. The Orbis Optimal SA funds reduce most of their stock market risk by the use of exchange-traded derivative futures contracts. The Orbis Optimal SA funds will typically retain a small portion of their exposure to equity markets, but the level of exposure may be varied depending on Orbis’ assessment of the potential returns on global stock markets relative to their risk of capital loss. The underlying funds’ returns are therefore derived partly from their relatively low exposure to stock markets, partly from Orbis’ selected share returns relative to those markets, and partly from foreign currency cash-equivalent returns. The Fund’s currency exposure is actively managed both within the underlying Orbis funds and through our selection of Orbis funds.

**Suitable for those investors who**

- Seek steady absolute returns ahead of those of cash measured in global currencies
- Wish to invest in international assets without having to personally expatriate rands
- Are comfortable with taking on the risk of currency fluctuation, but prefer little exposure to stock market risk
- Wish to use the Fund as a foreign absolute return ‘building block’ in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

**Fund information on 30 April 2022**

Fund size	R1.0bn
Number of units	46 018 238
Price (net asset value per unit)	R21.65
Class	A

**Minimum investment amounts\***

Initial lump sum per investor account	R50 000
Additional lump sum	R1 000
Debit order**	R1 000

\*Lower minimum investment amounts apply for investments in the name of an investor younger than 18. Please refer to our website for more information.

\*\*Only available to investors with a South African bank account.

1. The simple average of the benchmarks of the underlying funds, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2022.
2. This is based on the latest available numbers published by IRESS as at 31 March 2022.
3. Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum rand drawdown occurred from 18 May 2016 to 24 March 2017 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 18 January 2016 to 23 February 2018. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
5. The standard deviation of the Fund’s monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment’s return varies from its average over time.
6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund’s highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013 and the benchmark’s occurred during the 12 months ended 31 January 2016. The Fund’s lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 May 2017 and the benchmark’s occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2017. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

**Performance net of all fees and expenses**

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund		Benchmark <sup>1</sup>		CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>	
Cumulative:	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$
Since inception (2 March 2010)	116.7	5.7	90.2	-7.3	81.1	32.4
<b>Annualised:</b>						
Since inception (2 March 2010)	6.6	0.5	5.4	-0.7	5.0	2.4
Latest 10 years	7.7	0.3	6.5	-0.8	5.0	2.3
Latest 5 years	2.1	-1.4	3.5	0.0	4.3	3.4
Latest 3 years	3.5	0.3	2.4	-0.8	4.4	4.2
Latest 2 years	0.3	8.1	-7.9	-0.8	4.6	5.6
Latest 1 year	12.7	3.3	1.8	-6.7	5.9	8.1
Year-to-date (not annualised)	4.5	5.7	-4.6	-3.5	2.4	3.3
<b>Risk measures (since inception)</b>						
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-18.9	-31.3	-26.6	-15.1	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	50.7	52.7	46.6	47.3	n/a	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	13.5	7.4	14.1	4.3	n/a	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	39.6	14.4	35.6	9.4	n/a	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-12.4	-15.3	-19.1	-11.6	n/a	n/a

### Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10-year period, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. Over the latest five-year period the Fund has underperformed its benchmark. It should be noted that the returns on dollar and euro cash have been low over this period. There has been some volatility in the Fund's returns. The underlying funds' maximum drawdowns to date, in their reporting currencies, are 23% for the Orbis Optimal SA Dollar class and 28% for the Orbis Optimal SA Euro class.

### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	<b>31 Dec 2021</b>
<b>Cents per unit</b>	<b>0.0000</b>

### Annual management fee

Allan Gray does not charge an annual management fee but is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis.

Orbis charges annual management fees within the underlying Orbis funds. Each fund's fee rate is calculated based on the fund's performance relative to its own benchmark. For more information please refer to the Orbis Optimal SA Fund factsheets and prospectus, which can be found at [www.orbis.com](http://www.orbis.com).

### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2022	1yr %	3yr %
<b>Total expense ratio</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>1.08</b>
Fee for benchmark performance	1.00	1.00
Performance fees	-0.01	-0.01
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.08	0.09
VAT	0.00	0.00
<b>Transaction costs (including VAT)</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.13</b>
<b>Total investment charge</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.21</b>

### Top 10 share holdings on 30 April 2022

Company	% of portfolio
British American Tobacco	4.2
Drax Group	3.8
Woodside Petroleum	3.2
Shell	3.0
Golar LNG	2.5
Mitsubishi	2.4
FLEETCOR Technologies	2.1
INPEX	2.1
UnitedHealth Group	2.0
Motorola Solutions	2.0
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>27.3</b>

### Fund allocation on 30 April 2022

Foreign absolute return funds	%
Orbis Optimal SA (US\$)	60.6
Orbis Optimal SA (Euro)	39.4
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Asset allocation on 30 April 2022

	Total	North America	Europe and UK	Japan	Asia ex-Japan	Other
Net equities	5.6	-0.3	3.8	1.3	0.3	0.5
Hedged equities	80.5	29.8	20.9	17.3	8.4	4.0
Fixed interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commodity-linked	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net current assets	13.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>18.5</b>

#### Currency exposure of the Orbis funds

Funds	Total	North America	Europe and UK	Japan	Asia ex-Japan	Other
Funds	100.0	58.2	40.2	0.2	1.5	0.0

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.

Prior to Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, the Orbis Optimal SA Fund (the Fund) had a 1.2% position in Russia. We were concerned for some time about increasing tensions between the two countries and had been trimming the Fund's exposure to Russia in recent months. With the benefit of hindsight, we should have eliminated the position much sooner. At present, we have little confidence in our ability to recover value from these positions and wrote them down to zero in early March.

As painful as the losses on these holdings have been, they come at a time when the Fund's broader performance has been encouraging. Over the past 12 months, the Fund has delivered a positive absolute return of over 8% at a time when global bonds have lost about 7%.

The most exciting part is that valuation dispersions remain historically wide, which is exactly the type of environment that the Fund is designed to exploit.

In previous commentaries, we have written about dislocations in stock markets, and how fundamentally cheap shares had never been cheaper compared to fundamentally rich ones. In 2021, these valuation spreads were as extreme as they had been at any time since the Orbis funds were launched in 1990. In recent months, the gap has narrowed sharply, but it remains near previous historical peaks.

The Fund is well positioned to benefit from the unwinding of these historically wide dislocations, and we have also been able to find plenty of attractive idiosyncratic opportunities across all areas of the market. The Fund takes this a step further by hedging stock market indices and thereby capturing our stock selection results as the primary driver of the Fund's performance.

As an example, UnitedHealth Group is currently one of the Fund's largest holdings. We last discussed UnitedHealth, along with Anthem, in our September 2020 commentary. UnitedHealth and Anthem are two of the leading managed care organisations (MCOs) in the US. At that time, our assessment was that both shares traded below their intrinsic values due to political uncertainty heading into the 2020 US presidential election, and that the post-election regulatory environment would turn out to be far less damaging to MCOs than the market feared.

Since President Joe Biden took office, he has shown limited appetite for major healthcare reform. At the same time, UnitedHealth and Anthem have continued to deliver strong earnings growth, driving meaningful outperformance relative to the US market. We continue to believe that both companies have bright futures and look much more compelling than the broader US market over our investment horizon.

One of the Fund's newer holdings, Visa, is an exceptional business that is under pressure for reasons that we believe will prove to be temporary. As one of the world's largest payment networks, Visa's cross-border business has not yet recovered from the disruption to international travel that was brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, the market has also been increasingly concerned about disruption risks posed by new payment technologies such as blockchains, "buy now pay later" (BNPL) and direct "account-to-account" (A2A) payments.

We believe Visa will be able to navigate these headwinds. While the pandemic has hit Visa's cross-border business, it has also accelerated the secular shift from cash to digital payments, which benefits Visa. The threat of new entrants is a valid concern and something we take seriously, but our research leads us to believe that Visa's strategy of partnering with and enabling the new players will ultimately serve their

own interests as well. As for the cross-border business itself, we believe it is simply a matter of being patient and waiting for travel to resume. In the meantime, Visa trades for 25 times our estimate of free cash flow for next year, which we expect to grow at low to mid double digits during our investment horizon.

We believe S&P Global is another extremely compelling idiosyncratic investment opportunity. It is probably best known for calculating the S&P 500 index and its credit ratings business, but these are just a few ways that S&P is embedded within the financial services industry. The word "moat" is often over-used by investors as a metaphor for competitive advantage, but in the case of S&P it truly is one of the widest we've seen. There are substantial barriers to entry in the ratings business and its index business would be similarly difficult to disrupt given how entrenched it has become throughout the investment management industry.

S&P Global trades at 25 times our estimate of free cash flow for next year, which we think can grow at low double digits during our investment horizon. We find this attractive for a business that is both competitively advantaged and well run by its current management team.

As a final example, we believe Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) offers a combination of very attractive long-term growth available at a very modest valuation. TSMC shares have lost more than 15% of their value since the start of 2022, partly on escalating fears of a conflict between China and Taiwan, and now stand out as remarkably attractive relative to other semiconductor companies globally. TSMC now trades at less than 17 times forward earnings, versus a range of 25 to 40 times for similarly well-positioned semiconductor companies.

The pandemic accelerated secular digitisation trends, and the world is hungry for semiconductors. The company plans to spend US\$40bn in 2022 in order to expand production to meet this burgeoning demand. As long-term shareholders, we could not be happier for management to invest back into a business with a history of generating outstanding returns on investment.

We are not cavalier about the geopolitical risks in Taiwan. But we believe the Fund is well placed to make an investment in TSMC because we can hedge the country risk. In addition, we have also been careful to manage the position size – currently less than 2% of the Fund, given the risks.

Overall, we expect to get our stock selection decisions right more often than wrong and for these decisions to be the primary driver of returns. Today we are also presented with an opportunity to enhance the value we can bring by leaning into the parts of the market where valuation dislocations have been the greatest. We believe that it is during volatile and uncertain times like these that the Fund can most earn its keep as a source of both downside protection and an uncorrelated stream of absolute returns.

The Fund's overall net equity exposure decreased over the quarter. Among individual positions, we exited a position in BP in February amid increasing concerns over its exposure to Russia. We shifted capital into Shell, which looks set to benefit from increased liquefied natural gas usage.

**Adapted from a commentary contributed by Povilas Dapkevicius, Orbis Portfolio Management Europe (LLP), London, and John Christy, Orbis Investments (Canada) Limited, Vancouver**

## **Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2022**

The availability of the Fund is subject to offshore capacity constraints. Please contact our Client Service Centre for further information about any constraints that may apply.

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Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

## Management Company

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however, it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd (the "Investment Manager"), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA).

The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)11 301 6335 or [www.rmb.co.za](http://www.rmb.co.za).

## Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

## Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

Minimum disclosure document and quarterly general investors' report **Issued:** 11 May 2022

## Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on [www.allangray.co.za](http://www.allangray.co.za).

## Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They 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. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

## Fund of funds

A fund of funds is a unit trust that invests in other unit trusts, which charge their own fees. Allan Gray does not charge any additional fees in its funds of funds.

## Foreign exposure

This fund invests in foreign funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner.

## FTSE Russell Index

Source: London Stock Exchange Group plc and its group undertakings (collectively, the "LSE Group"). © LSE Group 2022. FTSE Russell is a trading name of certain of the LSE Group companies. "FTSE®", "Russell®", "FTSE Russell®", is/are a trade mark(s) of the relevant LSE Group companies and is/are used by any other LSE Group company under license. All rights in the FTSE Russell indexes or data vest in the relevant LSE Group company which owns the index or the data. Neither LSE Group nor its licensors accept any liability for any errors or omissions in the indexes or data and no party may rely on any indexes or data contained in this communication. No further distribution of data from the LSE Group is permitted without the relevant LSE Group company's express written consent. The LSE Group does not promote, sponsor or endorse the content of this communication.

## Important information for investors

### Need more information?

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