

## Fairtree Flexible Balanced Prescient Fund Minimum Disclosure Document - Class A1

### FUND PROFILE

The Fairtree Flexible Balanced Prescient Fund is an actively managed multi asset class fund. The fund aims to provide a moderate risk and return profile, from a diversified and balanced range of asset classes. The fund targets an annualized return of inflation (CPI) plus 5% over a rolling three year period. This is achieved through active asset allocation and blending together a collection of the best Fairtree ideas into a diversified portfolio. The portfolio has a long-term focus and invests predominately in domestic securities while a foreign exposure of up to 25% is allowed.

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fairtree Flexible Balanced Prescient Fund is a South Africa Multi Asset Medium Equity fund. The objective of the portfolio is to offer absolute return in excess of inflation over the long term-term. This is achieved through active asset allocation and blending together a collection of our best ideas into a diversified portfolio.

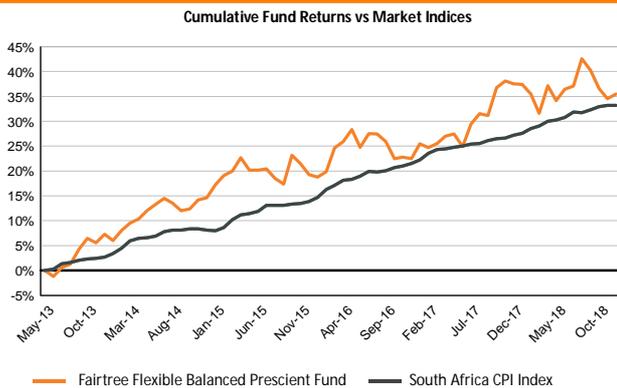
### INVESTMENT POLICY

The fund invests in a diverse combination of equities, property, bonds and money market instruments. The portfolio has a long-term focus and invests predominately in domestic securities whilst up to 25% of the fund may be invested in foreign securities. Derivatives may be used for risk and efficient portfolio management purposes. The fund is managed against a custom benchmark that also forms the strategic asset allocation for the fund. The fund is actively managed, both at security and asset class level to create capital growth while preserving capital on a real (above inflation) and absolute basis.

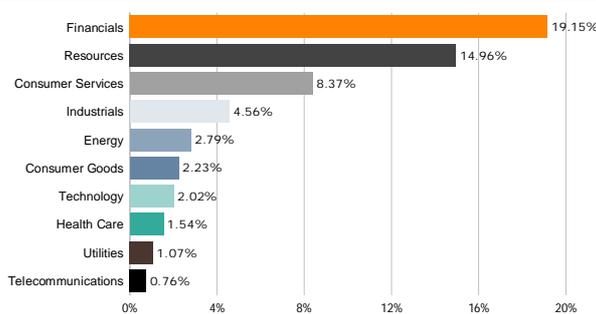
### HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2013					-1.20%	1.83%	0.66%	2.95%	2.12%	-0.87%	1.67%		<b>7.31%</b>
2014	-1.18%	1.92%	1.36%	0.71%	1.61%	1.08%	1.05%	-0.84%	-1.37%	0.37%	1.58%	0.40%	<b>6.82%</b>
2015	2.30%	1.58%	0.71%	2.23%	-1.98%	-0.03%	0.22%	-1.58%	-0.96%	4.93%	-1.42%	-1.76%	<b>4.07%</b>
2016	-0.41%	0.87%	3.98%	1.03%	1.96%	-2.82%	2.22%	-0.03%	-1.22%	-2.74%	0.24%	-0.22%	<b>2.69%</b>
2017	2.44%	-0.64%	0.67%	1.17%	0.37%	-2.00%	3.62%	1.63%	-0.29%	4.30%	0.96%	-0.40%	<b>12.29%</b>
2018	-0.12%	-1.36%	-2.87%	4.18%	-2.18%	1.73%	0.45%	3.98%	-1.58%	-2.66%	-1.48%	0.71%	<b>-1.50%</b>

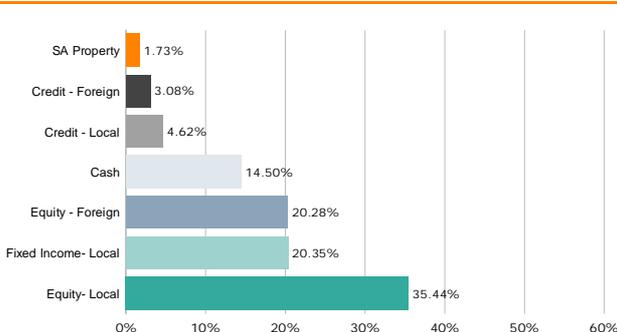
### CUMULATIVE FUND RETURNS



### SECTOR ALLOCATION



### ASSET ALLOCATION



### FUND INFORMATION

#### Portfolio Manager(s):

**Jacobus Lacock**  
B Comm (Financial Economics), CFA  
Joined Fairtree in 2011

**Bradley Anthony**  
BA (Economic History), CAIA  
Joined Fairtree in 2011



<b>Inception date:</b>	10 June 2013
<b>Fund size (in Millions):</b>	R 15.2
<b>JSE code:</b>	FFBA1
<b>Unit Price:</b>	126.96
<b>ISIN Number:</b>	ZAE000178653
<b>Domicile:</b>	South Africa
<b>Fund Structure:</b>	CISCA (Unit Trust)
<b>Fund Category:</b>	South Africa Multi Asset Medium Equity
<b>Regulation 28 Complaint:</b>	Yes

#### Cost Ratios:

<b>Total Expense Ratio (TER%):</b>	2.58%
<b>Performance fee incl. in TER (%) (PF%):</b>	N/A
<b>Transactions Costs Ratio (TC%):</b>	0.38%
<b>Total Investment Charges (TIC%):</b>	2.96%
<b>Fees:</b>	Initial Fee - Adviser (incl. VAT): 0% - 3.45% Annual management fee: 1.25 % (excl. VAT) Performance fee: N/A
<b>Benchmark:</b>	SA CPI
<b>Analysis Currency:</b>	ZAR
<b>Minimum Investment:</b>	R50,000 Lump sum or R1,000 p/m debit order

Please see Disclosures and Glossary section for further information on Cost Ratios

#### Income Distribution:

<b>Declaration:</b>	Annually (March)
<b>Payment:</b>	1st working day of April
<b>Distribution Total for the past 12 months:</b>	1.4 cents per unit
<b>Management and administration:</b>	Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd
<b>Valuation time of fund:</b>	15:00
<b>Transaction cut-off time:</b>	15:00

### RISK PROFILE



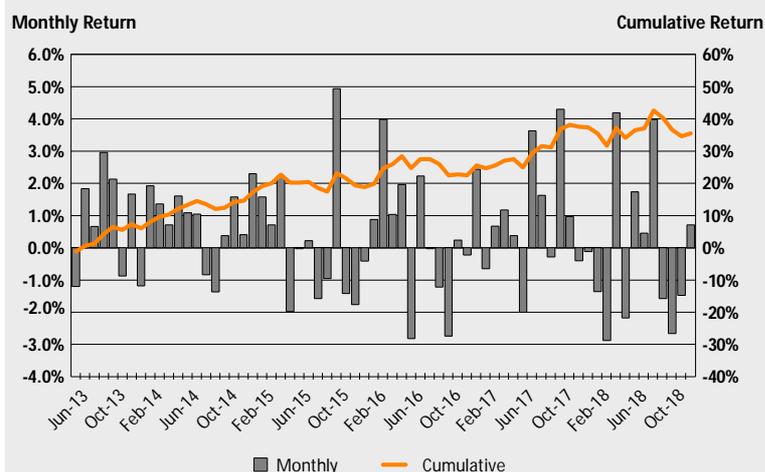
#### Risk Level: Moderate

The portfolio is diversified across asset classes, although the portfolio's volatility may be dominated by the equities and fixed income portions. The equity portion is concentrated which comes with the risk of more volatile returns relative to the broader market when the stocks invested in underperform. The fixed income exposure may cause permanent capital loss for investors if an issuer of one of the instruments held in the fund defaults. Significant widening in credit spreads on instruments held in the fund can result in short term capital volatility but not permanent capital loss. This portfolio is permitted to invest in foreign securities which, within portfolios, may have additional material risks, depending on the specific risks affecting that country, such as: 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. Fluctuations or movements in exchange rates may cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. Investors are reminded that an investment in a currency other than their own may expose them to a foreign exchange risk.

### PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

	Fairtree Flexible Balanced Prescient Fund	South Africa CPI Index
<b>Performance comparison</b>		
Inception date	Jun-13	Jun-13
Current month	Dec-18	Dec-18
Total period (No. months)	67	66
Analysis currency	ZAR	ZAR
<b>Return analysis</b>		
Return for current month	0.71%	0.18%
Total return (since inception)	35.49%	33.17%
Average annualised return (since inception)	5.59%	5.35%
Current 12 month rolling return	-1.50%	5.18%
Highest rolling 1-year return (since launch)	14.69%	7.05%
Lowest rolling 1-year return (since launch)	-2.59%	3.81%
<b>Consistency analysis</b>		
% Up months (since inception)	58.21%	87.88%
% Up months (last 12 months)	41.67%	91.67%
Standard deviation (since inception - annualised for periods > 12 mths)	6.42%	1.30%
<b>Risk analysis</b>		
Downside deviation (since inception - annualised Risk Free)	3.57%	0.65%
Largest monthly drawdown	-2.87%	-0.22%
Average monthly drawdown	-1.29%	-0.13%
Largest cumulative drawdown	-5.62%	-0.34%
<b>Risk/ return analysis</b>		
Total gain / Total loss	1.87	55.25
Average gain / Largest loss	0.61	2.11
Average gain / Average loss	1.34	3.56
Sharpe ratio (since inception - annualised for periods > 12 mths)	-0.01	-0.36
Sortino ratio (since inception - annualised for periods > 12 mths)	-0.01	-0.73
<b>Market correlation</b>		
Index correlation (CPI)	0.02	(Monthly)

### Monthly and Cumulative Returns (Net of Fees)



Please note: Monthly return presented on the graph are rolling monthly returns.

### MARKET COMMENTARY

South African assets improved over the month. The All Bond Index rose 0.6% over the month to bring the year to date return to 7.7%, while the All Share Index rose 4.3% to bring the year to date performance to -8.5%. After a strong November, the Rand lost around -3.5% in December.

Global equities had their worst month in more than 6 years, down -7.7%, led by developed markets as global growth concerns mounted, uncertainty around Fed policy emerged and Trump caused volatility by directly criticising the Fed and chair Powell. Headlines around the unresolved trade conflict between the US and China as well as US political infighting also added to negative sentiment. The US dollar weakened and emerging markets outperformed developed markets.

We are in the midst of a global manufacturing slowdown caused largely by uncertain trade policy, tighter Fed policy and a weaker growth outlook for both China and Europe. Forward looking indicators suggest that data may soften further, but given strong US non-farm payrolls and improving non-manufacturing PMI's from China we don't foresee a US recession soon. The US yield curve has flattened but has not yet inverted and housing and business investment data, although softer does not signal a recession. The softer data has caused the Fed to signal larger degree of sensitivity to the market going forward. As a result, the market currently does not price any further hikes by the Fed for 2019 which has given EM asset some relieve.

The ongoing trade conflict with China continue to weigh on sentiment. However, the meeting between the US and China early December and early January signal a willingness from both sides to reach a trade deal. We believe the probability of a deal during 2019 is high. The trade conflict has put the Chinese economy under pressure. We believe that China will continue to ease monetary and fiscal policy and that data will start to improve over the next few months. The combination of a trade deal, improving China data and a Fed on hold should support EM assets.

Economic data from Europe has also weakened as the political environment has turned more volatile in Italy, France and the UK (Brexit). This uncertainty has weighted on confidence, but the weak Euro, low oil price and improving EM backdrop should support data going forward. The ECB has stopped its asset purchases in December but remains far from raising interest rates above 0% and may announce another round of LTRO during the next few months. An unordered Brexit remains a risk, but we see the probability of such event as low.

Locally economic data remains mixed with some data points starting to surprise to the upside. Mining, manufacturing, retail sales and leading indicators have all improved recently although from very depressed levels. Early in the month concerns around Eskom emerged again as electricity cuts were announced and the SOE's debt outlook raised concerns about a potential downgrade by Moody's. Since then Ramaphosa and Eskom have announced various measures to improve the situation, including job cuts. Eskom remains a key risk to both the growth and credit quality outlook. Given the potential for electricity tariff increases, renewed risk of El Nino and its impact on food prices and vulnerability of the Rand to global risk-off the SARB will continue to remain hawkish but stop short of hiking rates. The inflation outlook remains contained and growth has not rebounded yet.

The Multi Strategy portfolio printed a positive return during December 2018, to end the year strongly. Equities were the main contributor during December as a result of strong equity performance on the JSE during the month. In particular, directional strategies outperformed their relative value counterparts, while commodities contributed positively and Fixed Income detracted marginally from performance. On a year to date basis Fixed Income, Equity Directional, Equity Relative Value and Commodities all contributed positively to the fund, the order in which the strategies are mentioned reflecting the relative performance from biggest contributor to the smallest for the year.

**Equities:** The outlook for global earnings growth has moderated but remains positive as growth in key markets remain at or above trend. We do not expect a US recession during 2019. We expect global inflation to move and remain close to target supported by higher input costs, including wages. The global reflationary outlook favours cyclical stocks, while the outlook for higher global bond yields weighs on high valuation of defensive names. As yields rise and volatility increase valuations and earnings potential will be questioned more frequently. We believe the overall South Africa equity index will benefit from an improving domestic economy and outlook of more political stability after the national election. Local equities may also be supported by improvements in global markets due to its externalised nature. We like local and global cyclical assets with global earnings growth potential and companies with the ability to generate cash sustainably. We continue to find protection in gold stocks and ZAR hedged assets.

**Fixed Income:** South Africa's inflation will be well contained over the next few months due to falling fuel and low food prices. The risks to inflation remain to the upside on the back of potential electricity tariff hikes and higher food prices due to potential El Nino. Given current weak economic activity and upside risk of inflation the SARB will remain hawkish but not hiking rates. The SARB remains focussed on anchoring inflation expectations closer to 4.5%. Yields have risen to reflect growth and fiscal (e.g. Eskom) weakness. We look for signs of an improvement in the emerging market back drop and local economic environment to become more constructive on bonds.

**Currency:** We believe the US dollar strength has stabilised. Given the potential for global growth to converge lower we believe the US dollar could weaken over the medium term.

**Alternatives:** Stronger global growth will allow less accommodative monetary policy and looser fiscal policies which should lead to higher interest rates, volatility and lower correlations amongst asset classes and securities. Market rotations and increased dispersion has typically led to a more favourable environment for alternative assets to perform.

**SPECIFIC RISK**

- Default risk:** The risk that the issuers of fixed income instruments (e.g. bonds) may not be able to meet interest payments nor repay the money they have borrowed. The issuers credit quality is vital. The worse the credit quality, the greater the risk of default and therefore investment loss.
- Derivatives risk:** The use of derivatives could increase overall risk by magnifying the effect of both gains and losses in a Fund. As such, large changes in value and potentially large financial losses could result.
- Developing Market (excluding SA) risk:** Some of the countries invested in may have less developed legal, political, economic and/or other systems. These markets carry a higher risk of financial loss than those in countries generally regarded as being more developed.
- Foreign Investment risk:** Foreign securities investments may be subject to risks pertaining to overseas jurisdictions and markets, including (but not limited to) local liquidity, macroeconomic, political, tax, settlement risks and currency fluctuations.
- Interest rate risk:** The value of fixed income investments (e.g. bonds) tends to be inversely related to interest and inflation rates. Hence their value decreases when interest rates and/or inflation rises.
- Property risk:** Investments in real estate securities can carry the same risks as investing directly in real estate itself. Real estate prices move in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic and political conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.
- Currency exchange risk:** Changes in the relative values of individual currencies may adversely affect the value of investments and any related income.
- Geographic / Sector risk:** For investments primarily concentrated in specific countries, geographical regions and/or industry sectors, their resulting value may decrease whilst portfolios more broadly invested might grow.
- Derivative counterparty risk:** A counterparty to a derivative transaction may experience a breakdown in meeting its obligations thereby leading to financial loss.
- Liquidity risk:** If there are insufficient buyers or sellers of particular investments, the result may lead to delays in trading and being able to make settlements, and/or large fluctuations in value. This may lead to larger financial losses than expected.
- Equity investment risk:** Value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as more general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. bankruptcy), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company.

**GLOSSARY**

<b>Annualised performance</b>	Annualised performance show longer term performance rescaled to a 1 year period. Annualised performance is the average return per year over the period. Actual annual figures are available to the investor on request.
<b>Highest &amp; Lowest return</b>	The highest and lowest returns for any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.
<b>NAV</b>	The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.
<b>Alpha</b>	Denoted the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.
<b>Sharpe Ratio</b>	The Sharpe ratio is used to indicate the excess return the portfolio delivers over the risk free rate per unit of risk adopted by the fund.
<b>Sortino Ratio</b>	The Sortino Ratio is used to measure the risk-adjusted return of the fund.
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	The deviation of the return stream relative to its own average.
<b>Max Drawdown</b>	The maximum peak to trough loss suffered by the Fund since inception.
<b>Max Gain</b>	Largest increase in any single month.
<b>% Positive Month</b>	The percentage of months since inception where the Fund has delivered positive return.
<b>Average Duration</b>	The weighted average duration of all the underlying interest bearing instruments in the Fund.
<b>Average Credit quality</b>	The weighted average credit quality of all the underlying interest bearing instruments in the Fund (internally calculated).
<b>Dividend Yield</b>	The weighted average dividend yield of all the underlying equity in the Fund. The dividend yield of each company is the dividends per share divided by the price.
<b>PE Ratio</b>	The weighted average price earnings ratio of all the underlying equity in the Fund. The price earnings ratio of each company is the price divided by the earnings per share.
<b>High Water Mark</b>	The highest level of performance achieved over a specified period.
<b>Total Expense Ratio (TER%)</b>	The Total Expense Ratio (TER) is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Financial Product.
<b>Performance fee incl. in TER (% PF)</b>	The Performance Fee is a payment made to the Fund Manager for generating positive returns, and is generally calculated as a percentage of investment profits, often both realized and unrealized.
<b>Transactions Costs (TC%)</b>	The Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the net asset value of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Financial Product.
<b>Total Investment Charges (TIC%) = TER (%) + TC (%)</b>	The Total Investment Charges (TIC), the TER + the TC, is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the investment of the Financial Product. It should be noted that a TIC is the sum of two calculated ratios (TER+TC).

**DISCLAIMER**

**Management Company:** Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd., **Registration number:** 2002/022560/07, **Physical address:** Prescient House, Westlake Business Park, Otto Close, Westlake, 7945 **Postal address:** PO Box 31142, Tokai, 7966. **Telephone number:** 0800 111 899 **E-mail:** info@prescient.co.za **Website:** www.prescient.co.za

**Trustees:** Nedbank Trustees, Nedbank Investor Services, **Physical address:** 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709. **Telephone number:** +27 11 534 6557 **Website:** www.nedbank.co.za

**Investment Manager:** Fairtree Asset Management (Pty) Ltd, **Registration number:** 2004/033269/07 is an authorised Financial Services Provider (FSP25917) under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002), to act in the capacity as investment manager. This information is not advice, as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002). Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision. **Physical address:** Willowbridge Place, Cnr. Carl Cronje and Old Oak Road, Bellville, 7530. **Postal address:** PO Box 4124, Tygervalley, 7536. **Telephone number:** +27 86 176 0760 **Website:** www.fairtree.com.

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long-term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS's are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate.

CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor's fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used. The Fund's Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TER's. During the phase in period TER's do not include information gathered over a full year. Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the value of the Fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the Fund's underlying assets. Transaction costs 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.

The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third-party-named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macro-economic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees. Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient by or before 13:00 (SA), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Funds are priced at either 3pm or 5pm depending on the nature of the Fund. Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

For any additional information such as fund prices, brochures and application forms please go to [www.fairtree.com](http://www.fairtree.com)

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