# SIGMASELECT

GLOBAL LEADERS FUND

29 February 2024

## **Fund Objective**

The investment objective of the Fund is to outperform the Benchmark, as reflected by the performance of the MSCI ACWI, over the long term.

## **Fund Strategy**

The Fund capital is allocated to a carefully considered blend of independently managed global and specialist equity strategies.

The Fund is constructed by optimally blending the various manager styles and strategies to achieve the return target over the long-term.

A rigorous investment process underpins the identification and selection of managers according to their key strengths and specialisation.

These managers include the best active stock-pickers that the fund manager has encountered globally and they all have long term trackrecords of successfully generating superior returns for their investors.

Each manager is constantly assessed relative to their appropriate benchmarks and must consistently comply with the fund manager's stringent due diligence criteria.

The Fund exposure is constantly monitored and reviewed, and may be adjusted from time to time, having regard to the prevailing market conditions.

## **Fund Information**

Fund Size	\$49.33 mil
Unit Price	\$121.27
Number of Units	417
Risk Profile	High
Benchmark	MSCI AC World Index
Minimum Investment	Lump Sum : \$100 000
ISIN	IE00BJDQ3M09
Fund Domicile	Ireland
Fund Currency	USD
Bloomberg	PGSSGLA:ID
Inception Date	2020/10/22
Portfolio Category	UCITS Fund
Distributions	None (accumulation fund)
Dealing Frequency	Weekly on Wednesday
Pricing Frequency <sup>1</sup>	Each Business Day

<sup>1</sup> Prices are available from sources like FT.com and Bloomberg.com, or directly from Prescient Management Company or Ginsburg & Selby Private Wealth.

## **Fund Depositary**

Northern Trust Fiduciary Services (Ireland) Ltd Address: Georges Court, 54 - 62 Townsend Street, Dublin 2, Ireland Website: www.northerntrust.com

The Sigma Select Global Leaders Fund is approved by the FSCA for sale and marketing in South Africa in terms of section 65 of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002.

Management Company and Administration Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Limited Address: 35 Merrion Square East, Dublin 2, D02 KH30, Ireland. Registration: 275468

Top Holdings	% of Portfolio
Egerton Capital Equity Fund	19.62%
Veritas Izoard Fund	18.43%
Lindsell Train Global Equity Fund	10.01%
Metropolis Value Fund	8.08%
Sands Capital Global Growth Fund	7.49%
Orbis Global Equity Fund	7.14%
Lyrical US Value Equity Fund	7.04%
Platinum World Portfolios - Asia Fund	7.02%
Contrarius Global Equity Fund	7.01%
Baillie Gifford WW EM AC Fund	4.89%

Fees	A Class (%)
Fund Manager (GSPW)	0.50%
Admin (Manco) Fee %	0.21%
Other Expenses %	0.09%
Asset Managers %	0.90%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	1.69%





## Portfolio Management

The Fund manager is Ginsburg & Selby Private Wealth (Pty) Ltd, FSP Licence No. 42594, an Authorised Financial Services Provider under the South African Financial Sector Conduct Authority and approved by the Central Bank of Ireland as an manager of Irish Authorised Investment Funds.

Ginsburg & Selby Private Wealth (Pty) Ltd FSP License No: 42594 Physical Address: Belmont Square, Belmont Road, Cape Town, 7700 Postal Address: PO Box 51654, Waterfront, Cape Town, 8002 Tel: +27 (21) 685 6364 Email: sigma@ginsburg.co.za Website: www.ginsburg.co.za

Representative Office Details:

 Name
 : 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 address
 : info@prescient.co.za

 Website
 : www.prescient.co.za



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## GLOBAL LEADERS FUND

Cumulative Return <sup>2</sup> 1 Year Return 3 Year Return Inception	Sigma Select Global Leaders 18.02% 2.55% 21.27%	MSCI ACWI 23.76% 23.53% 40.72%	Illustration showing growth of \$ 1000 investment at date of	inception <sup>1</sup>
Annualised Return <sup>2</sup> 1 Year Return 3 Year Return Inception	Sigma Select Global Leaders 18.02% 0.84% 5.91%	MSCI ACWI 23.76% 7.30% 10.71%	\$1400 \$1300 \$1200	\$1 400 \$1 300 \$1 200
Highest & Lowest Returns Highest 1-year Return Lowest 1-year Return	Sigma Select Global Leaders 29.66% -26.77%	MSCI ACWI 37.86% -20.29%	\$1 100 \$1 000	\$1 100 \$1 000
Risk Statistics (3-Year Rolling) Standard Deviation Maximum Drawdown Sharpe Ratio Information Ratio	Sigma Select Global Leaders -29.69% -0.41 -0.18	MSCI ACWI 16.60% -25.34%	5900 5800 10 <sup>10</sup> 0 <sup>10</sup>	5900 5800 12 02 02 02 02 02 02 56 02 02 02 02
<sup>1</sup> The investment performance shown is for illustrative purposes only and is net of all fees. Income is reinvested on the reinvestment date.			Sigma Select Global Leaders AMSC	CI ACWI

#### **Quarterly Commentary - Q4 2023**

Global risk assets ended the year on a high note supported by a growing consensus among investors that the major central banks might commence interest rate reductions sooner than initially anticipated. The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) returned +11.2% in US\$ during the fourth quarter, capping off a strong 2023 in which the index increased by +22.8%.

The Sigma Select Global Leaders Fund marginally underperformed the MSCI ACWI over the quarter, returning +10.2% to take the year-to-date return to +19.9%. The change in the expected interest rate trajectory provided support for the Sands Global Growth Fund (8% of the Fund), which was the top performer during the quarter, delivering a positive return of +20.1% in US\$. The Fund's slight overweight to the Asian market detracted from the relative performance, with the Platinum Asia Fund returning a relatively muted +3.0% in US\$.

Inflation levels continued to fall in the major developed markets as falling energy costs benefitted the headline prints. The annual headline inflation rate in the US decreased to 3.1%, down from 6.4% at the end of 2022. The Eurozone and the UK similarly experienced significant decreases during the year, ending the year with annual inflation rates of 2.9% and 3.6%, respectively.

With inflationary pressures seemingly easing, all the major central banks kept their policy rates unchanged during the quarter, hinting that they could be close to the peak. The minutes from the December FED meeting had a more dovish stance, with the revised dot plot anticipating three rate cuts in 2024, up from two cuts at the previous meeting. While having a less dovish stance, the ECB and BOE acknowledged anticipated rate cuts in 2024, albeit later in the year to keep inflation pressures under control.

Despite the US Dollar weakness, Emerging Markets underperformed Developed Markets as concerns about the Chinese market persisted and weighed on sentiment. The MSCI Emerging Market index returned +7.9% in US\$ to take the year-to-date return to +10.3%.

Going into 2024, the MSCI All Country World Index is trading on a forward Price to Earnings (P/E) ratio of 16.6 times, slightly above its long-term average of 15.8 times. From a valuation standpoint, this appears to be fairly priced, and based on historical trends, offers the potential for attractive real returns over the next five years.

However, a degree of caution is warranted given the optimistic earnings growth projections for 2024, with analysts forecasting corporate earnings to grow by an above-average rate of 10% during the year. The forecasts are higher for some of the mega-cap US technology companies, with expectations that the "magnificent 7" companies will grow earnings by an average rate of 25% during 2024. We remain cautious on some of these large-cap US companies, particularly given their frothy valuations.

Within the index, the disparities widened further during 2023, providing an attractive opportunity set for the valuation-driven strategies within the Sigma Select Global Leaders Fund.

Looking ahead, we anticipate heightened levels of volatility in 2024 propelled by the increasingly opaque economic outlook, the impact of Middle Eastern and Ukraine/Russia conflicts and the political uncertainly, notably in the US. Nonetheless, we have full confidence in the expertise and agility of our active managers to navigate these market conditions and capitalise on compelling opportunities.

The Fund remains well diversified across regions, with a slight overweight to Asia and Japan, and underweight to the USA.

The portfolio has adhered to its policy objective as stated in the supplement.



## Risk and Reward Profile of the Fund

The risk indicator is determined using historical data or, where historical data is not available, using simulated historical data. Historical data, such as is used in calculating the synthetic indicator, may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The risk category shown is not a target or a guarantee and may change over time. A category 1 fund is not risk free - the risk of loss is however small and the chance of making gains may also be limited. With a category 7 fund, the risk of losing money is high but so is the possibility of making gains. The risk indicator for the Fund is set at 5 as this reflects the market risk arising from proposed investments.



The Fund does not offer any capital guarantee or assurance that the investor will receive a fixed amount when redeeming.

## Fund Specific Risks

In addition to the risk captured by the indicator above, the overall Fund value may be considerably affected by:

- 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.

Please refer to the "Risk Factors" sections of the Prospectus and the Supplement for further information - see under "Practical Information" for how to obtain a copy.



## SIGMASELECT

#### Disclaimer

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 goor 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.

Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be 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. 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 10:00 (Irish Time), 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. The Fund is priced at 17:00 (New York Time). Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

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.

### **Glossary Summary**

Annualised performance: Annualised performance shows 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.

Highest & Lowest return: The highest and lowest returns for any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.

NAV: The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.

Alpha: Denoted the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.

Sharpe Ratio: 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.

Standard Deviation: The deviation of the return stream relative to its own average.

Max Drawdown: The maximum peak to trough loss suffered by the Fund since inception.

Max Gain: Largest increase in any single month

% Positive Month: The percentage of months since inception where the Fund has delivered positive return.

Average Duration: The weighted average duration of all the underlying interest bearing instruments in the Fund.

Average Credit quality: The weighted average credit quality of all the underlying interest bearing instruments in the Fund (internally calculated).

Dividend Yield: 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.

PE Ratio: The weighted average price earnings ratio of all the underlying equities in the Fund. The price earnings ratio of each company is the price divided by the earnings per share.

High Water Mark: The highest level of performance achieved over a specified period.

Information Ratio: The Information Ratio measures the market risk-adjusted performance of an investment or portfolio. The greater a portfolio's Information Ratio, the better its risk-adjusted performance has been compared to the market in general.

