

# Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 ETF

Regional - Equity - General

30 June 2022

Portfolio Managers **Sygnia Asset Management**  
 Inception **10 October 2005**  
 Fund Size **R 2.599 Billion**  
 NAV Price **6 054 cents**  
 Units in Issue **42 937 782**

Investment Objective

To replicate the price and yield performance of the Euro STOXX 50®

Income Distribution

Bi-Annually (December and June)

Payment: 17 Jan 2022 - 3.92152 cents per unit

Payment: 13 Jul 2021 - 64.96877 cents per unit

Standard Bank Trustees (021 441 4100)

Trustees

Fund Information	
Classification	Regional - Equity - General
Asset Allocation	100% Offshore Equity
NAV/Index Ratio	ca. 1/1000
Financial Year End	31 December
Index Tracking	Fund tracks the Euro Stoxx 50® Index
Dividend Distribution	Semi-annual distribution
NAV Publication	Daily on sygnia.co.za
Portfolio Valuation	Close of relevant market
Foreign exchange source	World Market fix rate 16:00pm EST

Listing Information	
Exchange	JSE Limited
Exchange Code	SYGEU
Trading Currency	ZAR
Portfolio Currency	EUR
ISIN	ZAE000249512
RIC	SYGEUJ.J
Bloomberg Ticker	SYGEU SJ EQUITY
Trading Hours	9:00 am - 16:50 pm
Transaction cut-off	JSE trading hours

## Cumulative Investment Performance



Cumulative investment performance is for illustrative purposes only and is calculated using the NAV before any distributable income and management fee.

## Top 10 Holdings

Instrument	Percent
ASML Holding Ord Shs	7.0%
Lvmh Ord Shs	5.8%
Linde Ord Shs	5.2%
TotalEnergies Ord Shs	5.0%
Sanofi Ord Shs	4.2%
SAP Ord Shs	3.6%
L'Oreal Ord Shs	3.0%
Allianz Ord Shs	2.8%
Siemens N Ord Shs	2.8%
L'Air Liquide Societe Anonyme pour l'Etude et l'Exploitation de	2.5%

## Geographic Allocation

Region	Percent	Allocation
France	36.8%	
Germany	25.4%	
Netherlands	16.8%	
Spain	5.9%	
Other	15.0%	

## Sector Allocation

Sector	Percent	Allocation
Consumer Discretionary	19.5%	
Financials	14.1%	
Information Technology	13.3%	
Industrials	12.5%	
Materials	10.2%	
Other	30.5%	

## Portfolio Performance Analysis

Period	Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50**	Euro Stoxx 50 Index (ZAR)**	Euro Stoxx 50 Index (EUR)**	Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 (TR)
1 Year	-14.0%	-14.0%	-15.0%	-13.1%
3 Years	2.1%	2.1%	-0.2%	3.4%
5 Years	2.9%	2.9%	0.1%	4.4%
10 Years	9.7%	9.7%	4.3%	12.1%
Since Inception	4.9%	4.9%	0.2%	7.1%

Performance of the fund is calculated by Sygnia Asset Management as at reporting date.

Performance figures greater than one year are annualised.

\*A positive performance in currency reflects a depreciation of ZAR against base currency and vice versa.

\*\*Price return.

## Historical Performance

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
2019	-3.1%	10.0%	2.2%	4.5%	-5.0%	3.8%	-0.9%	4.2%	2.6%	3.1%	-1.6%	-1.7%	18.7%
2020	3.1%	-4.3%	-5.5%	7.4%	1.6%	5.5%	1.3%	3.7%	-5.8%	-10.4%	15.5%	-1.2%	8.5%
2021	-0.3%	5.0%	1.7%	2.1%	-2.4%	1.6%	3.1%	1.1%	-1.5%	5.9%	-2.0%	6.5%	22.2%
2022	-7.2%	-5.9%	-6.8%	0.0%	-0.3%	-6.5%							-24.1%

Since inception performance figures are available on request.

## Risk Statistics

	Fund	^BM
% Negative Months	46.7%	46.7%
Average Negative Month	-4.2%	-4.2%
Largest Drawdown	-24.1%	-24.2%
Standard Deviation	18.3%	18.3%
Downside Deviation	9.9%	9.8%
Highest Annual Return: Nov 2020 - Oct 2021	33.6%	33.5%
Lowest Annual Return: Dec 2017 - Nov 2018	-14.4%	-14.4%
Annualised Tracking Error (Active Return) (12 Mths)	0.00%	-
Annualised Tracking Error (Std Dev of Active Return) (60 Mths)	0.10%	-

The risk statistics reflected above are calculated on a 60-month or since-inception basis, depending on which period is shorter. ^Benchmark is the Index.

## Annual Management Fee

Broker/Other Platform (excl VAT)	Sygnia Alchemy Platform (excl VAT)
First R 10 Million	0.75%pa
First R 2 Million	0.55%pa
R 10 Million-R 100 Million	0.60%pa
R 2 Million-R 100 Million	0.50%pa
Over R 100 Million	0.40%pa
Over R 100 Million	0.30%pa
VAT	0.11%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	0.87% (Jun 2022)
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	0.64% (Jun 2022)
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.02% (Jun 2022)
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.02% (Jun 2022)
Total Investment Charge (TIC)	0.89% (Jun 2022)
Total Investment Charge (TIC)	0.66% (Jun 2022)

Excess management fees for investors over R10m are included in the above TER, and distributed back to the investor at each distribution date.

# Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 ETF

## Fund Commentary

Regional - Equity - General

2nd Quarter 2022

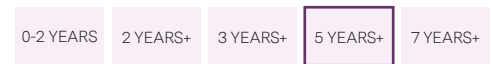
### RISK PROFILE



LESS RISK/  
RETURN

MORE RISK/  
RETURN

### TIME HORIZON



### Market Performance

Global markets sold off sharply in June. The US officially entered bear market territory as the Fed tightened the base rate by 75bps – its biggest hike since 1994. The ensuing sell-off resulted in US markets falling 24% from January peaks and put one topic on every talk show: recession. Fed Chair Jerome Powell's stated aim of 3.4% base rates in the US by year end caused business sentiment to sour. These sentiments were echoed globally as the World Bank again revised its global growth outlook for 2022 down to only 2.9%, down from April's 3.2% estimate and January's 4.1% estimate.

Some economic indicators suggest plain sailing ahead, and the usual "recession warning" indicators are not flashing red. The yield curve and the US Leading Economic Index (LEI) are positive. The latter historically contracts year-on-year (YoY) in the lead-up to recessions, but its last reading was 3.0% YoY – far from recession-warning territory.

US inflation surprised to the upside at a historic 8.6%, and the inflation headwinds pushed the University of Michigan's consumer-sentiment survey down to its lowest reading since 1978. A recession in the US is unlikely for a couple of reasons. First, core inflation continued to fall, from 6.2% to 6% YoY, as did inflation breadth measures. With mortgage rates increasing by more than 2% so far this year and the shelter sub-index comprising about a third of the core CPI index, a dip in demand for homes is likely to ease inflation conditions.

China's reopening should improve global supply chain snarls, and transitory components such as shipping and freight conditions are improving alongside supply in key products like semiconductors and fertilisers. Some commodities may even follow the price of palm oil, which is now actually down after soaring prices encouraged production year to date and additional supply came online from Indonesia and Malaysia. As a result of the US consumer's relatively strong footing, the Fed can afford to raise rates faster and harder than its peers. This is partly attributable to generous Covid support but also to appreciating asset prices, with average US household net worth growing 30% since the midst of Covid, compared to only 12% for the EU and UK.

These trends are likely amplified by some labour market statistics, particularly the US labour force participation rate, which was last recorded at 62.3% (1.1% below pre-pandemic levels). Wage growth has been most pronounced at the bottom end of income distribution, where higher wages are required to incentivise worker participation. A recovery in the participation rate could allow payrolls to grow alongside unemployment rates.

Chinese leaders ushered in yet another era of expansionary rhetoric in June. Over the next business cycle, the Xi Jinping administration has vowed to "let 100 flowers bloom", referencing a set of policy shifts aimed at improving growth in the Chinese technology sector through deregulation. Beijing's issuance of its second batch of gaming licenses after a seven-month freeze seems to be a step towards this promise.

Total new social financing rebounded to RMB2.79 trillion from RMB910 billion in April as bank-extended loans nearly tripled to RMB1.89 trillion. The increased levels of spending were backed by trade expansion, with the Chinese balance of payments enjoying tailwinds of a 16.9% increase in export growth, largely thanks to fewer disruptions across supply chains compared to a year earlier. China's relatively low 2.1% inflation figure came in below expectation and is ideal for the current global setting, paving the way for the Chinese Communist Party to enact a more expansionary monetary and fiscal policy.

Corruption dominated South African headlines in June, from President Cyril Ramaphosa's game farm robbery to the pending extradition of the Guptas and the suspension of a key PIC executive. Acting Chief Justice Raymond Zondo's reports remain a key line of attack for the Ramaphosa faction. The final instalment of the inquiry concluded the four-year, R10-billion investigation and recommended the prosecution of scores of high-ranking political officials.

Despite SA GDP growth of 1.9% for the quarter to end March, the economy remains stuck in its longest downward cycle since WWII. Policy paralysis, weak business sentiment and turbulent socio-economic conditions continue to hamper fixed investment spending, as evidenced by stage six loadshedding for the first time since 2019, on the back of unlawful and unprotected labour action.

Transnet became the most recent state-owned fiscal monster, with Moody's citing insufficient resources to repay a bond maturing next month and placing the company on review for a downgrade. With the momentum adding up against SA's beleaguered SOEs, it is hoped that Eskom will set an example. The UK, US, Germany, France and the EU are plotting SA's path out of coal-powered loadshedding via an \$8.5-billion climate finance deal.

June's shifts in economic conditions, particularly around the US inflation vs recession narrative, have driven volatility in global financial markets. Generally, we expect volatility to remain heightened, and we continue to find value in more defensive plays such as value, healthcare and self-recovery stories, and we anticipate that this trend will continue as global inflation remains elevated. We prefer China over the US, at least until inflation peaks, giving US small-cap tech some breathing room. While the US sways between monetary policy and more intervention, China is lining up a compelling case for the next business cycle's bullishness. We anticipate a rotation in growth from the US to Asia, where government support and a post-Covid dividend is attractive.

Surging energy prices remain a risk. A reduction in Russian gas has left Germany exposed, making them dependent on their European partners to share the pain. And a further sustained rise in energy prices would make central bankers nervous enough to push the global economy into a recession. We think central banks will choose higher inflation over recessions. Of course, this route could still mean recessions, particularly in Europe, where there is lots of vulnerability.

### Fund Performance

The Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 ETF delivered -6.7% for the quarter, in line with its benchmark, the Euro Stoxx 50. The Fund benefitted from exposure to Prosus NV, TotalEnergies SE and Deutsche Telekom AG, while its exposure to ASML Holding NV, SAP SE and Siemens AG detracted from performance.

There were no changes to the tracked index's constituents over the period.

The Fund remains true to its investment objective of delivering returns that mirror those of the Euro Stoxx 50.

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Sygnia Itrix (RF) (Pty) Ltd is a registered and approved Manager under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, 2002. Sygnia Itrix does not provide any guarantee with respect to the capital or return of the portfolio. Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) are generally medium to long-term investments. The value of participatory interests may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily an indicator of future performance. CIS are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. ETFs trade on stock exchanges and may therefore incur additional costs associated with listed securities. Unlike a unit trust, which can be bought or sold only at the end of the trading day, an ETF can be traded intraday, during exchange trading hours. ETFs may invest in foreign securities, which may be exposed to macroeconomic, settlement, political, tax, illiquidity and foreign exchange risks. Additional information on the Index including its performance and tracking error can be viewed on the relevant Fund Fact Sheets on [www.sygnia.co.za](http://www.sygnia.co.za). A schedule of fees and charges may be requested via [admin@sfs.sygnia.co.za](mailto:admin@sfs.sygnia.co.za) or 0860 794 642 (0860 SYGNIA). The complete terms and conditions of your ETF investment are contained in the fund's offering circular, pre-listing statement, programme memorandum and/or supplemental. These documents may be obtained from [www.sygnia.co.za](http://www.sygnia.co.za) or on request from Sygnia. Nothing in this document shall be considered to state or imply that the Fund is suitable for a particular type of investor.

## Important information to consider before investing

### Investment Objective and Strategy

The investment policy of the Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 ETF is to track the Index as closely as possible, by buying only DJ EURO STOXX 50 securities in which are excluded from the Index from time to time as a result of quarterly Index review or corporate actions or which are required to be sold to ensure that the portfolio holds DJ EURO STOXX 50 securities in the same weighting as they are included in the Index.

The is a high risk, passively managed index tracking fund and its objective is to replicate the price and yield performance of the Euro Stoxx 50® Index as closely as possible by physically holding a portfolio of securities equivalent to the basket of securities comprising the Index. Derivatives are allowed for efficient portfolio management. Index performance data can be sourced from Bloomberg, Reuters, other data providers and at [www.sygnia.co.za](http://www.sygnia.co.za).

### Balancing risk and reward

The Euro Stoxx 50® is a Blue-chip index in Europe. The index has become one of the leading stock exchange barometers for Europe and the euro-zone and includes 50 market sector leading euro-zone companies. Please refer to the Offering Circular for further information on investment risks. The recommended investment term for investors in the Sygnia Itrix Euro Stoxx 50 ETF is a minimum of five years.

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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.

Performance is calculated based on the NAV to NAV calculation of the portfolio. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date and dividend withholding tax.

### Fees

A schedule of fees and charges is available on request from Sygnia Itrix. Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, STT, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. Sygnia Itrix ETFs are Exchange Traded Funds that trade on stock exchanges and may therefore incur additional costs associated with listed securities. Sygnia Itrix does not provide advice and therefore does not charge advice fees.

### What is the Total Expense Ratio (TER) and Transaction Costs (TC)?

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 three years. Transaction costs are a necessary cost 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 the published returns. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return.

### Foreign Securities

The fund invests in foreign securities, which may be exposed to macroeconomic, settlement, political, tax, reporting or illiquidity risk factors that may be different to similar investments in South African markets. Fluctuations or movements in exchange rates may cause the value of underlying investments to go up or down.

### Cumulative Investment Performance

Cumulative investment performance is for illustrative purposes only. The investment performance is calculated by taking all ongoing fees into account for the amount shown, with income reinvested on the reinvestment date.

### Exchange Traded Funds vs Unit Trusts

Whilst both unit trusts and ETFs are regulated and registered under the Collective Investment Scheme Control Act, ETFs trade on stock exchanges just like any other listed, tradable security. Unlike a unit trust, which can be bought or sold only at the end of the trading day, an ETF can be traded intraday, during exchange trading hours.

### How are NAV prices calculated?

Net Asset Value (NAV) prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the portfolio divided by the number of units in issue. The price at which ETFs trade on an Exchange may differ from the NAV price published at the close of the trading day, because of intraday price movements in the value of the constituent basket of securities.

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