

# Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets 50 ETF

Minimum Disclosure Document (MDD)  
Global - Equity - General

31 March 2025

Portfolio Managers **Sygnia Asset Management**  
Inception **30 April 2021**  
Fund Size **R 353 Million**  
NAV Price **1 928 cents**  
Units in Issue **18 306 024**

Investment Objective

To replicate the price and yield performance of MSCI Emerging Markets 50 Index

Income Distribution

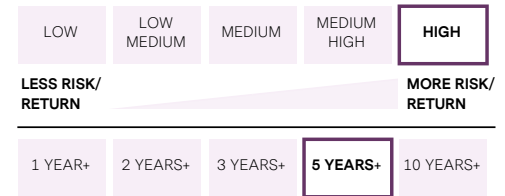
Bi-Annually (June and December)

Payment: 15 Jan 2025 - 20.91720 cents per share

Payment: 10 Jul 2024 - 15.21308 cents per share

Trustees

Standard Bank Trustees (021 441 4100)



Fund Information	
Classification	Global - Equity - General
Asset Allocation	100% Offshore
NAV/Index Ratio	ca. 1/1000
Financial Year End	31 December
Index Tracking	MSCI EM 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

## Cumulative Investment Performance

Growth of R100 invested on 31 May 2021

Investment: R103.35  
Benchmark: R103.27



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
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Ord Shs	20.0%
Tencent Holdings Ord Shs	12.2%
Alibaba Group Holding Ord Shs	7.9%
Samsung Electronics Ord Shs	5.6%
HDFC Bank ADR Representing Three Ord Shs	3.7%
Xiaomi Ord Shs	3.1%
Meituan Ord Shs	2.9%
China Construction Bank Ord Shs H	2.5%
ICICI Bank ADR Rep 2 Ord Shs	2.4%
PDD Holdings ADS	2.4%

## Historical Performance

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
2022	-4.2%	-8.5%	-9.2%	1.2%	0.0%	-2.3%	-0.5%	2.1%	-10.3%	-6.6%	12.7%	-0.5%	-24.9%
2023	16.1%	-3.9%	1.6%	-2.7%	8.0%	-1.3%	-0.2%	-0.6%	-4.5%	-3.7%	9.6%	-1.2%	16.0%
2024	-4.6%	8.7%	3.7%	0.4%	1.5%	4.0%	-2.8%	-1.0%	4.5%	0.5%	-2.4%	6.7%	20.1%
2025	1.6%	2.9%	-3.2%										1.2%

## Risk Statistics

	Fund	^BM
% Negative Months	56.5%	54.3%
Average Negative Month	-3.3%	-3.4%
Largest Drawdown	-37.6%	-37.6%
Standard Deviation	18.7%	18.7%
Downside Deviation	10.3%	10.3%
Highest Annual Return: Feb 2024 - Jan 2025	27.8%	27.8%
Lowest Annual Return: Nov 2021 - Oct 2022	-32.6%	-32.6%
Annualised Tracking Error (Active Return) (12 Mths)	0.0%	-
Annualised Tracking Error (Std Dev of Active Return) (46 Mths)	0.1%	-

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

Listing Information	
Exchange	JSE Limited
Exchange Code	SYGEMF
Trading Currency	ZAR
Portfolio Currency	USD
ISIN	ZAE000297792
RIC	SYGEMFJJ
Bloomberg Ticker	SYGEMF SJ EQUITY
Trading Hours	9:00 am - 16:50 pm
Transaction cut-off	JSE trading hours

## Asset Allocation

Asset	Percent	Allocation
International Equity	100.0%	

## Sector Allocation

Sector	Percent	Allocation
Information Technology	38.0%	
Consumer Discretionary	20.5%	
Financials	19.5%	
Communication Services	16.4%	
Energy	2.6%	
Materials	1.5%	
Other	1.5%	

## Portfolio Performance Analysis

Period	Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets 50**	MSCI Emerging Markets 50 Index (ZAR)**	MSCI Emerging Markets USD Return Index	Sygnia Itrix MSCI EM 50 ETF (TR)
1 Month	-3.2%	-3.2%	-2.2%	-3.0%
3 Months	1.2%	1.2%	3.9%	1.6%
6 Months	5.8%	5.8%	-0.8%	6.4%
Year to Date	1.2%	1.2%	3.9%	1.6%
1 Year	13.0%	13.0%	16.3%	14.8%
3 Years	10.0%	9.9%	1.8%	12.0%
Since Inception	0.9%	0.8%	-6.6%	2.6%

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

Performance figures greater than one year are annualised.

\*\*Price return.

## Fees

Management Fee	0.35% **
Other costs	0.03% **
VAT	0.06%
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	0.44% (Mar 2025)
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.03% (Mar 2025)
Total Investment Charge (TIC)	0.47% (Mar 2025)

\*\*Fees are exclusive of VAT

# Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets

## 50 ETF

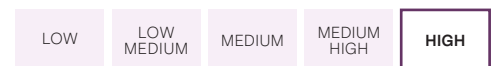
### Fund commentary

Minimum disclosure document (MDD)

Global - Equity - General

1st Quarter 2025

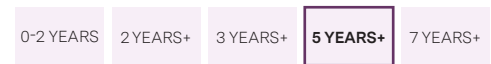
#### RISK PROFILE



LESS RISK/  
RETURN

MORE RISK/  
RETURN

#### TIME HORIZON



#### Market performance

US markets experienced a sharp sell-off in March, driven by slowing US growth, the uncertainty of President Trump's trade war plans and US technology concerns. The S&P 500 was down 10% from its February highs at one point, but European, Japanese and emerging markets (EMs) posted gains during the same period. In Europe, a historic shift in fiscal policy emerged as Germany announced significant infrastructure and defence spending – a surprising move for a traditionally conservative economy. In China, the government introduced an expanded budget and the Enhanced Consumption Plan. While the US remains exceptional in terms of growth potential, its relative advantage has diminished. That said, the European Union (EU) has only outlined EUR150bn of defence spend so far, and in its best-case scenario Alpine Macro estimate that the EU will spend USD1tn over the next decade on German infrastructure and EU-wide defence. This against the nearly USD1.8tn in onshoring capex commitments that US companies have announced they will spend over the next four years – on top of the USD329bn capex for Amazon, Microsoft, Google and Meta in 2025 – alone a 45% increase. All told, that is more than double the EU spend in less than half the time.

In its March outlook, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) downgraded EU and US growth marginally by similar amounts over the next two years and upgraded China's growth. The OECD downgraded global growth by only 20 bp for 2025 on the back of tariff uncertainty and did not forecast a recession for 2025 or 2026. Markets concurred with the OECD outlook as commodities rallied – copper is up 30% this year, reaching an all-time high – credit spreads are stable and the dollar weakened, all indicators inconsistent with recessionary conditions. We do not expect a recession looking forward, assuming manageable tariff announcements on Liberation Day, but non-US markets are unlikely to be able to rally in absolute terms if US markets fall further, and the risk that trade wars could push the world into recession is certainly rising.

While risks are rising, the US economy remains strong. Household balance sheets remain robust and strong real final sales (above 3%) provide a cushion against policy shocks. The labour market is robust – January's job openings exceeded expectations and reflected broad hiring across sectors. While the Fed lowered growth from 2.1% to 1.7% for 2025, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell stated that the chances of a recession are low. US financial conditions remain easy.

European shares surged after Germany announced a historic fiscal expansion under incoming Chancellor Friedrich Merz, who said the country will do "whatever it takes" to bolster defence spending. Standard Chartered estimate it could boost German GDP by 1.3% per annum over the next decade, which would boost eurozone GDP by 0.35%. While Germany has room to increase spending, other countries in the EU do not have that luxury – France's budget deficit is close to 6%, double the EU limit. Despite the positive market sentiment after the announcement, risks remain from escalating trade tensions between the US and EU. Chartered estimate that trade tensions could reduce EU GDP growth by 0.75%. In addition, German growth will require not only increased spending but structural supply side reforms and deregulation to ensure improved productivity, as lower productivity has caused Germany's GDP to slip by 1% per year over the last 25 years relative to the US.

Investors are now talking about the Xi Put instead of the Fed Put. The National People's Congress set its highest fiscal deficit level in over three decades, a broad deficit of 9% of GDP, and doubled the consumer subsidy scheme to RMB300bn to stimulate domestic spending. The government also unveiled its Special Action Plan to Enhance Consumption, focused on increasing household incomes. Liquidity injections at local government levels have unblocked frozen payments, reducing loss-making enterprises and improving business confidence. Earnings momentum for Chinese companies is solidly positive, outperforming emerging market peers. Chinese tech continues to rally on advancements in AI, with Baidu launching its new AI model, "Ernie X1", and Alibaba also unveiling its latest AI model. Reciprocal tariffs remain a major threat to EMs.

Oil fell on the surprise decision by OPEC+ to restart production despite faltering Chinese demand and plentiful American supplies. This will help keep inflation stable.

The South African budget saw expenditure increase R233bn from the MTBPS, pushing up the budget deficit and debt-to-GDP ratios, and debt-servicing costs are now estimated at 22c on every rand of tax. After the strong SA equity rally, Goldman Sachs cut SA equities from overweight to equal weight. We remain underweight SA bonds and have subsequently gone underweight SA equities after the recent rally, preferring broader EMs. EM inflation is falling and earnings are accelerating, while China may be best placed to respond to tariffs. The Budget deadline is 2 April.

Prolonged policy uncertainty could undermine consumer confidence and corporate sentiment and push the world into recession. 2 April is "Liberation Day", when new tariffs will be announced by the US, and impacted countries will doubtless announce retaliatory measures thereafter. JPMorgan estimates the average tariff rate on imports could rise to 11% if reciprocal tariffs are introduced – and this before the latest 25% automotive import tariffs. Trump's trade policies are spurring fiscal expansion in the rest of the world, but it remains to be seen whether fiscal spend can outweigh the tariffs. We remain cautious overall but do not expect a recession this year. US S&P global composite PMIs for March rose above expectations to 53.5. We remain neutral equities and underweight bonds, noting the heightened risk of the US slipping into a recession purely on the back of a loss of consumer and corporate confidence. The dollar should strengthen if US growth recovers and as tariffs come into effect. We will be watching the April tariffs closely.

#### Fund performance

The Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets 50 ETF delivered 1.2% for the quarter, in line with its benchmark, the MSCI Emerging Markets 50 Index. The Fund benefitted from exposure to Alibaba Group Holding Ltd, Tencent Holdings Ltd and Xiaomi Corp, while its exposure to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd, Hon Hai Precision Industry Co Ltd and Infosys Ltd detracted from performance.

There were several changes to the tracked index's constituents over the period, including the addition of Kuaishou Technology and ASE Technology Holding Co Ltd and the removals of China Petroleum & Chemical Corp and Posco Holdings Inc.

The Fund remains true to its investment objective of delivering returns, which mirror those of the MSCI Emerging Markets 50 Index.

## Important information to consider before investing

### Investment Objective and Strategy

The objective of the Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets 50 ETF is to provide an investment vehicle to investors who want to achieve long term capital appreciation in tracking the performance of the MSCI EM 50 Index (“benchmark index”).

In order to achieve this objective, the Sygnia Itrix MSCI Emerging Markets 50 ETF shall track the MSCI EM 50 Index as closely as practically and feasibly possible by buying securities that substantially make up the index at similar weighting as they are included in the Index. Whenever the Index gets rebalanced, the Portfolio will be rebalanced to align its holdings to that of the benchmark and to the extent that its performance will not deviate from its benchmark.

### Balancing risk and reward

The Fund has a 100% strategic allocation to global equities. The structure of the Fund is dictated by the composition of the MSCI EM 50 Index and managed with the aim to produce the same level of income as that produced by the index. Investors are alerted to the fact that the Fund is not a general equity product, but one with a specific focus, and thus a specific risk and return profile. For a change in the index constituents, please refer to the published SENS. Index Performance data can be sourced from Bloomberg, Reuters, other data providers and at [www.sygnia.co.za](http://www.sygnia.co.za).

Annualised performance figures represent the geometric average return earned by the fund over the given time period.

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.

### Index Disclaimer

The funds or securities referred to herein are not sponsored, endorsed, or promoted by MSCI, and MSCI bears no liability with respect to any such funds or securities or any index on which such funds or securities are based. The Offering Circular pre-listing statement, programme memorandum and/or supplemental contains a more detailed description of the limited relationship MSCI has with the Sygnia Itrix and any related funds.

### 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. 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Disclaimer

The Sygnia Group is a member of the Association for Savings and Investment SA. Sygnia Itrix (RF) (Pty) Ltd is a registered and approved Manager under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, 2002. Sygnia Asset Management (Pty) Limited (FSP 873), an authorised Financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Fund. 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. Collective investment schemes are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending.

The value of investments/units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily an indicator of future performance. 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 once per 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, liquidity, and foreign exchange risks. Performance is calculated for the portfolio, and the individual investor performance may differ as a result of trading cost, price paid for investment share.

Additional information on the Index including its performance and tracking error can be viewed on the relevant Minimum disclosure document (MDD) on [www.sygnia.co.za](http://www.sygnia.co.za). A schedule of fees, charges and where the ETF engages in securities lending activities, information on such securities lending activities may be requested via [admin@sfs.sygnia.co.za](mailto:admin@sfs.sygnia.co.za) or 0860 794 642. 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 deed and index constituents with prices are published daily on Sygnia’s website. The documents/information 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. All the portfolio options presented are approved collective investment schemes in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, No 45 of 2002 (“CISCA”). The Manager has the right to close any portfolios to new investors to manage them more efficiently in accordance with their mandates.

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**SYGNIA ITRIX (RF) (PTY) LTD**  
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