Sygnia Life Income Maximiser Fund

31 October 2026

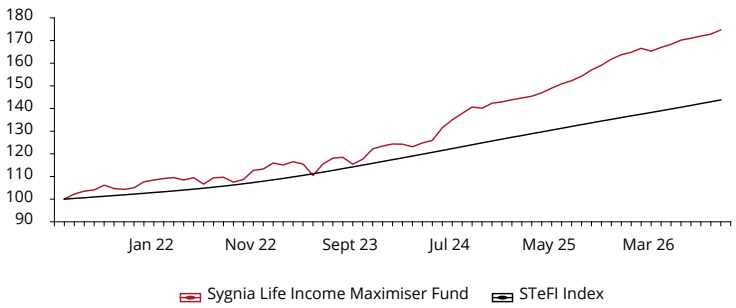
LOW	**LOW MEDIUM**	MEDIUM	MEDIUM HIGH	HIGH

LESS RISK/ RETURN — **MORE RISK/ RETURN**

0 - 2 YEARS	**2 YEARS+**	3 YEARS+	5 YEARS+	7 YEARS+

Portfolio Manager	**Sygnia Life Limited**
Regulation 28	**Compliant**
Fund Launch Date	**29 April 2021**
Investment Objective	**To provide maximum yield while avoiding the use of capital to fund drawdowns**
Legal Structure	**Life Fund**

Cumulative Investment Performance



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

Asset Allocation as at 30 September 2026

Model	*Weight*	*Allocation*
Domestic Bonds	44.6%	
Domestic Income	50.5%	
International Cash	4.9%	

Manager Allocation as at 30 September 2026

Manager	*Percentage*
Sygnia Asset Management	100.0%

Total Return

	1 year	*2 years*	*3 years*	*4 years*	*Since Inception*
Income Return	8.8%	9.3%	9.8%	10.0%	9.7%
Price Return	1.0%	2.3%	4.3%	2.6%	0.9%
Total Return	9.8%	11.7%	14.1%	12.6%	10.7%

Performance Analysis

Periodic Performance	*Fund*	**BM*	*Difference*
1 Month	1.1%	0.6%	0.5%
3 Months	2.2%	1.7%	0.4%
6 Months	4.6%	3.5%	1.2%
Year to Date	6.7%	5.7%	0.9%
1 Year	9.8%	7.0%	2.8%
****3 Years**	14.1%	7.7%	6.4%
****5 Years**	10.9%	7.1%	3.7%
****Since Inception**	10.7%	6.8%	3.8%
Gross Current Yield	9.5%		

**STeFI Index*
***Performance figures greater than 1 year are annualised*

Historical Performance

	Jan	*Feb*	*Mar*	*Apr*	*May*	*Jun*	*Jul*	*Aug*	*Sep*	*Oct*	*Nov*	*Dec*	*Year*
2021					2.2%	1.2%	0.5%	2.0%	-1.4%	-0.4%	0.6%	2.5%	7.6%
2022	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%	-1.0%	1.0%	-2.6%	2.6%	0.2%	-2.0%	1.1%	3.7%	0.5%	5.3%
2023	2.4%	-0.8%	1.3%	-0.9%	-4.3%	4.5%	2.3%	0.3%	-2.6%	1.9%	3.8%	1.0%	8.9%
2024	0.7%	-0.1%	-0.9%	1.3%	1.0%	4.4%	2.7%	2.1%	2.0%	-0.4%	1.6%	0.4%	15.8%
2025	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	1.0%	1.4%	1.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.8%	1.3%	1.7%	1.2%	14.6%
2026	0.7%	1.1%	-0.8%	1.0%	0.8%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%	1.1%			6.7%

Risk Statistics

	Fund	BM
% Positive Months	81.7%	100.0%
% Negative Months	18.3%	0.0%
Best Month	4.5%	0.7%
Worst Month	-4.3%	0.3%
Avg Negative Return	-1.5%	0.0%
Maximum Drawdown	-5.2%	0.0%
Standard Deviation	5.4%	0.4%
Downside Deviation	4.4%	0.0%

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

Fees

Advisory Fee		N/A
Initial Fee		0.00% (Sept 2026)
Management Fee	per annum (inclusive of VAT)	0.50% (Sept 2026)
Performance Fee		N/A

Sygnia Life Income Maximiser Fund

Fund commentary

Minimum disclosure document (MDD)

3rd Quarter 2026

LOW	**LOW MEDIUM**	MEDIUM	MEDIUM HIGH	HIGH

LESS RISK/ RETURN — MORE RISK/ RETURN

TIME HORIZON

0-2 YEARS	**2 YEARS+**	3 YEARS+	5 YEARS+	7 YEARS+

Market performance

Markets fell in September as energy prices surged 20%, forcing central banks around the world to raise interest rates, including the US Federal Reserve (the Fed), European Central Bank (ECB), Bank of Japan (BoJ) and South African Reserve Bank (SARB). Oil above $100 a barrel will weigh on global growth and push inflation higher, a damaging mix for markets. 2026 is also the third consecutive year in which central banks have projected an "immaculate disinflation" (inflation falling while growth is maintained) that has failed to materialise. Tariff-driven inflation has passed its peak, and energy inflation is expected to have peaked in Q3. A new concern is AI-capex-driven inflation, which is only expected to peak in Q4 or early 2027.

In the US, despite pressure from President Trump not to raise rates, new Fed chair Kevin Warsh raised the Fed rate by 25 basis points (bps), the first hike since July 2023. The committee's decision was unanimous, and it anticipates at least one more hike this year. The move was important for the credibility of both Warsh and the Fed, so attention can now return to the true drivers of bond yields. The US fiscal deficit is very large at 6% of GDP, and the conflict in the Middle East has renewed oil-driven inflation headlines. Even so, there is no evidence that markets are pricing in a loss of Fed credibility on inflation. Rising real yields reflect stronger growth expectations and a normalisation of the term premium to pre-quantitative-easing levels. There is also little global evidence that developed market government bonds carry a fiscal risk premium: the 30-year/10-year yield spread is below its historical median. Nor is the rise in yields a US-specific story. Yields have risen more in Germany, the UK and Japan than in the US in recent weeks, suggesting a broader global bear market in duration, driven by strong growth, oil prices, AI-related hyperscaler bond issuance and ongoing quantitative tightening by the BoJ and ECB. Given these limited credibility concerns, we have reduced our global bond underweight, funded from US cash, to diversify away from the dollar and lock in higher yields. We remain slightly underweight global bonds until the oil price falls and growth normalises, or fiscal rhetoric stabilises.

South Africa faces an approaching gas supply crisis as Mozambique's maturing gas fields decline and liquefied natural gas import terminals, meant to bridge the gap, remain delayed by policy paralysis. In the interim, cheaper piped gas will have to be replaced by costlier sources, and industrial gas prices are expected to double. This risks feeding into domestic inflation and could threaten hundreds of thousands of jobs. Local municipal elections in November are expected to bring a still-lower ANC vote share, more fragmentation and continued coalition volatility, none of which will support faster reform or growth.

South Africa's economy contracted by 0.2% quarter-on-quarter in Q2 2026. GDP growth for the year should still be around 1%, though the oil shock leaves downside risks. The October Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement should be positive thanks to the precious metals windfall, but weaker growth is now the major risk to the debt ratio and could push the debt peak further out. At its September meeting, the SARB lowered its growth forecast, raised its inflation forecast and hiked rates from 7% to 7.25%, which will further constrain growth. The SARB anticipates no additional hikes, but the market is pricing in two more.

The current account also suggests the rand is too strong. It fell to -2.6% of GDP in Q2, its worst position since 2019, reflecting a narrower trade surplus and a material widening in the invisible deficit. Higher oil prices raised import costs, narrowing the trade surplus, while the primary income deficit widened as South African companies repatriated commodity windfall profits to foreign shareholders as higher dividend payments. We remain neutral on SA bonds, balancing the global emerging market (EM) carry trade against negative fundamentals while noting the significant impact of oil prices on SA bonds.

On commodities, we prefer a broad basket over gold specifically. Central bank reserve diversification remains a genuine structural tailwind for gold, but valuations are stretched near 1980 peaks in real terms. A broader basket also captures commodities that benefit from the AI capex theme. Our preference for commodities supports our overweight position in South African equities, despite the risks that rising energy prices pose to EM energy importers. South Africa illustrates those risks: contracting growth, a wide current account deficit and a fragmenting political landscape.

The Middle East outlook continues to swing between a deal and escalation, most likely until at least the US midterms. The status quo since the end of February has continued, with high, volatile oil prices and record-high refining margins. The global backdrop remains one of resilient growth colliding with an energy and inflation shock. In global equities, we remain overweight. Growth remains strong, partly due to AI capex and partly due to heavy government support, which helps offset higher interest rates. Volatility is likely to stay high into the US midterm elections, but an AI-led productivity boom should support earnings growth and, in time, push inflation down.

Fund performance

The Sygnia Life Income Maximiser Fund returned 1.5% for the quarter, underperforming its benchmark, the Short-Term Fixed Interest Index, which returned 1.7%. Over 12 months, the fund delivered 10.1%, against the benchmark's return of 7.0%.

The fund continues to maximise income by dynamically managing allocations based on the shape of the yield curve, in line with its investment objective.

The fund maintained a small allocation to nominal bonds and stayed overweight floating rate credit, while taking advantage of elevated rate expectations by trading shorter-dated bank instruments.

The three-month Jibar floating reference rate ended the quarter higher at 7.22%. Treasury bills and negotiable certificates of deposit yields remained elevated at around 8.2% and 8.1%% respectively (on a twelve-month forward-looking basis).

Globally, bonds sold off sharply over the quarter, with September among the worst months in many years due to sticky inflation, fiscal concerns and heavy issuance. US CPI printed at 3.4% in July and August. The Fed held in July, with three members dissenting in favour of a hike, then raised rates to 3.75–4.00% in September, its first hike since 2023, and signalled there may be more to come.

Locally, SA bonds were supported in July and August by contained inflation and steady foreign demand, but they gave back some gains in September as global yields rose and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) turned hawkish. Headline CPI eased from June's 5% peak to 4.3% in July and 4.4% in August, helped by lower fuel inflation. After a surprise hold at 7% in July, the SARB hiked unanimously to 7.25% in September as the oil shock intensified.

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Sygnia

Important information to consider before investing

Investment Objective & Strategy

The Sygnia Life Income Maximiser is designed for Living Annuity clients seeking maximum yield while avoiding the use of capital to fund drawdowns. The fund dynamically switches between SA Enhanced Income and SA Bonds, depending on the shape of the yield curve: when the yield curve is flat, the fund invests in SA Income, and when the yield curve is steep, the fund switches into SA Bonds. Thus, the fund maximises yield and minimises risk dependent on the economic environment. A small allocation to property diversifies the overall fund.

Balancing Risk and Reward

The Sygnia Life Income Maximiser is a low to medium risk investment. The fund targets high income to fund living annuity drawdowns and is designed for investors seeking high yield, who can tolerate moderate capital fluctuations.

Fees

Sygnia charges an annual management fee comprised of applicable basic fees paid to underlying managers and Sygnia's annual service fee.

Fees charged by underlying managers are treated as an expense of the account.

Sygnia does not provide advice and therefore does not charge advice fees. If a financial planner is appointed, initial and ongoing advice fees may be payable as agreed upon between you and your financial advisor. The payments of these fees are facilitated by the Linked Investment Service Provider (LISP) where the fund is made available and not directly by Sygnia.

Disclaimer

This is a linked life investment fund made available via Sygnia Life Limited policies. Sygnia Life Limited is the product provider. The value of the investment is determined with reference to the underlying investment portfolio and may fluctuate over time due to market movements, changes in asset values and, where applicable, exposure to foreign markets and currency fluctuations. No guarantee is provided in respect of the capital invested or the return achieved.

Past performance cannot be extrapolated into the future and is not an indication of future performance.

Sygnia Life Limited is a licensed insurer (I197) and authorised financial services provider (FSP 2935). Sygnia Asset Management (Pty) Limited is an authorised financial services provider (FSP 873) and is the appointed investment manager of the fund.

This fund invests in underlying collective investment schemes. Collective investment schemes in securities are generally medium- to long-term investments. Collective investments are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. Cumulative investment performance is for illustrative purposes only.

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