

Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus UPF

30 June 2026

Portfolio Manager

Regulation 28

Fund Launch Date

Steven Empedocles, Mish-AI Bassadien

Non-compliant

16 June 2025

Investment Objective

Legal Structure

LOW

LOW MEDIUM

MEDIUM

MEDIUM HIGH

HIGH

LESS RISK/
RETURN

MORE RISK/
RETURN

0 - 2
YEARS

2 YEARS+

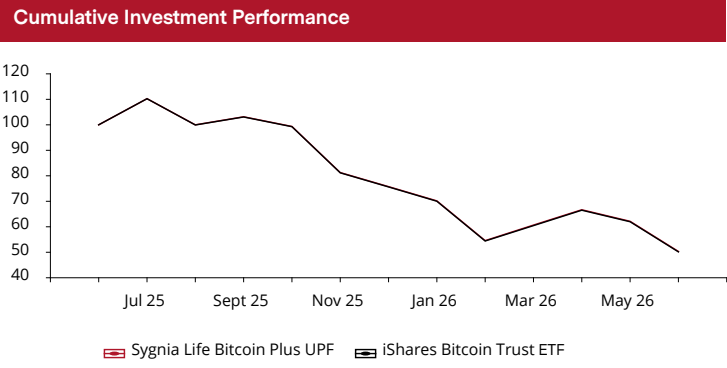
3 YEARS+

5 YEARS+

7 YEARS+

Provide exposure to bitcoin via a crypto portfolio benchmarked against the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF

Linked Life Investment fund available via Sygnia Life Policies



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

Performance Analysis

Periodic Performance	Fund	*BM	Difference
1 Month	-19.1%	-19.1%	0.0%
3 Months	-17.1%	-17.0%	0.0%
Year to Date	-33.6%	-33.7%	0.1%
1 Year	-49.7%	-49.8%	0.2%
Since Inception	-49.7%	-49.8%	0.2%

*iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF

Historical Performance

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
2025							10.3%	-9.3%	3.1%	-3.7%	-18.2%	-6.8%	-24.3%
2026	-7.4%	-22.2%	11.2%	9.9%	-6.8%	-19.1%							-33.6%

Since inception performance figures are available on request.

Risk Statistics

	Fund	*BM
% Positive Months	33.3%	33.3%
% Negative Months	66.7%	66.7%
Best Month	11.2%	11.1%
Worst Month	-22.2%	-22.3%
Avg Negative Return	-11.7%	-11.7%
Maximum Drawdown	-54.4%	-54.5%
Standard Deviation	40.2%	40.3%
Downside Deviation	24.3%	24.3%

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

Asset Allocation

Asset Class	Percentage	Allocation
Global Crypto*	100.0%	

*calculated on effective exposure

Fees

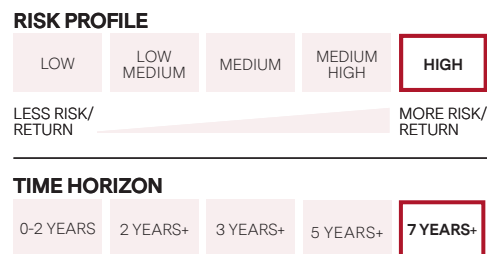
Management Fee	1.20% (Mar 2026)
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Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus UPF

Fund commentary

Minimum disclosure document (MDD)

2nd Quarter 2026



Market performance

The World Bank has trimmed its 2026 global growth forecast to 2.5%, down from 2.6% in January, citing the economic drag from the Middle East conflict. Emerging market and developing economies are now anticipated to grow at 3.6%, a 0.4% downgrade. The US is the notable exception, holding steady at 2.2% – unchanged from January and marginally ahead of its 2.1% outturn in 2025.

The announcement of a memorandum of understanding between Iran and the US caused the oil price to fall dramatically but has not altered our baseline forecasts. The oil price has retracted considerably but will remain elevated throughout 2026 relative to 2025 as geopolitical risks persist:

- A nuclear deal with Iran will be difficult to achieve without Trump agreeing to weaker terms than those secured under Obama's 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (which Trump scrapped).
- Reports of strikes in Lebanon continue, and it remains far from certain whether Israel and Hezbollah can sustain their temporary ceasefire.
- Red Sea traffic remains well below pre-conflict levels and is likely to remain so, as insurance costs remain high; Damaged facilities are still offline, and the UAE, for example, has declared its intention to reduce its Hormuz exposure to zero.

Gold has fallen more than 25% from its peak and bitcoin more than 50% as strong US jobs data and the Fed's reaffirmation of its inflation target pile pressure on assets that had rallied on fears of currency debasement. May US payroll growth came in well above the highest forecast, with substantial upward revisions to prior months. To put the number in context, St Louis Fed economists estimate that monthly job creation of 30 000–85 000 is sufficient to avoid pushing unemployment higher. At 172 000, May's print was double the top of that range. For the Fed, the figures settle the question of labour market softening, allowing it to turn its full attention to the inflation side of its dual mandate. Half of the Fed's 18 members now anticipate at least one rate increase this year, and a third project two or more – a clear shift from the prior easing bias, notwithstanding the Middle East deal and lower oil prices. Markets were debating whether the Fed was quietly acquiescing to an implicit 3% inflation target after five years above the 2% threshold, but incoming chair Kevin Warsh vowed to restore price stability and confirmed the 2% inflation target remains key to the Fed's mandate. Markets reacted sharply to the strong payrolls and later to the hawkish Fed. Yields surged, the dollar strengthened and traders moved to fully price in an additional 25 basis points of tightening. The combination of a hawkish Fed, a stronger dollar and rising bond yields has weighed heavily on the debasement trade, which reflects a cluster of demand drivers: higher geopolitical uncertainty, long-term inflation uncertainty and concerns about debt debasement driven by large fiscal deficits across major economies. One measure of this trade is non-bank investors' allocation to gold and bitcoin relative to their holdings of equities, bonds and cash. After a steady build-up from mid-2023, that allocation has been pulling back since the start of the Iran conflict and has now retreated to levels last seen in March 2025. For emerging markets, a hawkish Fed will cap the emerging market rally. Lower oil prices will partially remove one headwind for emerging markets, but a more restrictive Fed introduces a new one through a stronger dollar and tighter global liquidity, reducing the profitability of the carry trade.

Fitch has upgraded South Africa's sovereign credit rating one notch, from BB- to BB, with a stable outlook. The move brings all three major ratings agencies into alignment at the second-highest non-investment grade rating. That said, the upgrade should not be read as a signal of near-term progress – first-quarter GDP rose 0.5%, beating expectations, but its composition was weak. Growth was driven entirely by net exports, and even that reflected a sharp fall in imports rather than export-led strength. Household spending dropped sharply and investment fell. With the oil shock now feeding through, demand is likely to weaken further from the second quarter, and we expect full-year growth of around 1%. We agree with Fitch that the short-term fiscal outlook is positive. Elevated platinum and gold prices will help insulate government revenues from the oil shock and underpin ongoing budget consolidation and debt stabilisation. We have concerns about the longer term, where risks remain on the spending side, including potential support for state-owned enterprises, large contingent liabilities linked to the Road Accident Fund and the possibility that the Social Relief of Distress grant will become more generous or more widely covered than currently budgeted. Growth is also likely to remain subdued. Interest rate futures are pricing in one hike – a far cry from the three cuts anticipated before the Iran War and the Fed's shift in tone. Softness in gold adds a further headwind for South African growth.

Despite the conflict, growth has proven more resilient than feared. Global fiscal policy remains accommodative, effective US tariff rates have fallen and wealth effects remain positive, with markets at highs and the ongoing AI investment boom providing further support. But central banks are navigating an increasingly difficult environment: core inflation remains elevated and El Niño is expected to add further upward pressure through higher food prices, while future tariffs may lead to import inflation. With the US labour market now demonstrating renewed resilience, the Fed is likely to begin hiking sooner than anticipated to manage core inflation – a meaningful headwind for global equity markets. Emerging economies will continue to face a drag from higher energy and food prices as well as a hawkish Fed.

Fund performance

The Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund delivered -17.1% in rand terms for the quarter, marginally below its benchmark, the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF, which returned -17%. The -4.3% depreciation of the US dollar against the rand is factored into the fund's rand-denominated return.

The decline in performance was driven by fading Fed rate-cut hopes after hot inflation data and by symbolically unsettling events such as Strategy's first bitcoin sale since 2022. Spot crypto ETFs recorded net outflows of more than \$4 billion, while the market rotated into AI infrastructure equities.

The fund remains true to its investment objective of providing exposure to bitcoin and delivering returns in line with the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF.

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Sygnia 

Important information to consider before investing

Investment Objective & Strategy

The Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund is an innovative fund that provides exposure to bitcoin via a bitcoin ETF. The fund is benchmarked against the performance of the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF, which was launched in 2024 by Blackrock, the world's largest asset manager and leading ETF provider.

The fund allows investors to tap into bitcoin's price movements, providing an effective way for investors to diversify their portfolio. The fund uses derivatives to boost its returns by adding extra income from South African money market investments rather than holding overnight cash. This helps increase the overall return beyond the underlying market's return.

The Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund is suitable for investors wanting to allocate a portion of their investment to crypto without having to self-manage the risks of direct investments. This fund is designed to capture bitcoin's long-term growth potential through a structured portfolio.

Balancing Risk and Reward

The Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund is a high-risk fund that offers investors exposure to bitcoin. Given this exposure, the value of the fund and its underlying are closely tied to industry developments, regulatory changes and acceptance, making it susceptible to market sentiment. Crypto markets are largely unregulated and may not be protected by governments or financial institutions. The fund's returns are subject to extreme price volatility and the potential for loss, theft or compromise of private keys. Investing in crypto comes with risks that include large-scale sales by major investors, security threats like breaches and hacking, negative sentiment among speculators and competition from central bank digital currencies and financial initiatives using blockchain technology. A disruption of the internet or a digital asset network would affect the ability to transfer digital assets and, consequently, would impact their value. There can be no assurance that security procedures designed to protect the underlying digital assets will work as designed or be successful in safeguarding the underlying assets against all possible sources of theft, loss or damage. The strategy faces additional risks beyond these crypto-specific risks, including the risk that money market investments may underperform and the risk that the companies issuing derivatives may default. The former is mitigated by diversification and highly rated money market investments, while the latter is mitigated by regular mark to market of the positions. These risks could affect the performance of the Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund and result in partial or total capital loss for the investor.

The Sygnia Life Bitcoin Plus Fund is suitable for investors seeking higher returns who are willing to tolerate higher volatility. Given the high-risk nature of crypto, we recommend that investors not invest more than 5% of their living annuity or discretionary assets in these funds. The minimum investment term for investors in the fund is seven years.

Fees

Sygnia charges an annual management fee, which includes fees paid to underlying fund managers and Sygnia's service fee. These fees are deducted from the fund and reflected in the Total Expense Ratio (TER).

Sygnia does not provide financial advice. If you appoint a financial advisor, any advice fees agreed with them will be facilitated through the Linked Investment Service Provider (LISP), not Sygnia.

Disclaimer

This is a linked life investment fund made available through Sygnia Life Limited policies. 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 (1197) 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.