# Mergence Renewable Energy Debt Fund I

30 April 2019 - Issued: 16 May 2019

## OVERVIEW

## Risk Profile Targeted Fund Size Current asset value Undrawn capital Fund Purpose

Asset Class Benchmark Return Launch Date Fund Structure Fund Maturity Date Commitment Period Management Fee

**INVESTOR PROFILE** 

R 5 billion R 1.05 billion R 180 million Maximise long-term income generation while promoting renewable energy assets. South African Renewable Energy Assets Fixed & variable rate debt instruments 3-month JIBAR + 3% (net) April 2013 Closed-end 30 September 2029 24 months from Launch Date Subject to mandate (usually between 0.75% and 1.50% per annum, excl VAT)

## FUND COMPOSITION

The Mergence Renewable Energy Debt Fund invests in feasible renewable energy generation projects based on proven technology. Investments are made in debt instruments underpinned by electricity generation assets with power purchase agreements in place. Repayments from the generation asset earnings are passed through to the investor. Investments take place through renewable energy project companies to maximise profit and isolate specific risks. The Fund aims to invest in projects which are structured to deliver socio-economic targets in excess of the minimum thresholds, therefore taking into account local content, local procurement, local ownership and job creation.

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## TARGET TECHNOLOGY ALLOCATION



## PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

The Fund is suitable for institutional investors:

- who seek exposure through supporting developmental investing in terms of social and environmental criteria;
- who are comfortable with the inherent volatility of the financial markets, and who acknowledge that the effects of impact investing occur over medium to long term time horizons.

The Fund has invested in 11 renewable energy projects located in 4 South African provinces. All current renewable energy project investments yield gross returns above the benchmark return of Jibar + 3%. In addition to achieving the gross returns, the Fund has invested in projects that demonstrate higher than threshold economic development indications including community ownership and local content. As of the end of Q12015, all of the eleven investments within the portfolio have been completed, commissioned and are selling electricity successfully into the grid.

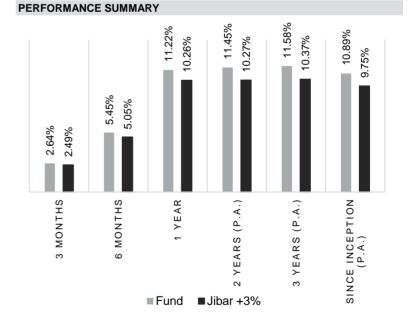
## IMPACT OBJECTIVE

The Fund aims to invest in projects which are structured to deliver socio-economic targets in excess of the minimum thresholds, therefore taking into account local content, local procurement and local ownership and job creation.

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Mergence Renewable Energy Debt Fund is a Development Impact Fund which seeks to provide commercially viable investments into the renewable energy sector enabling investors to achieve targeted investment returns together with social and environmental impact. This Fund invests primarily in the construction, commissioning and operation of renewable energy projects within South Africa, and aims to achieve the maximum risk-adjusted return possible from this asset class. The Fund only invests in the senior debt of viable renewable energy projects. Our Investment approach includes:

- Strong fundamentals;
- Diversification across technologies; and
- Well-regarded advisory committee with strong track record.



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## **GEOGRAPHIC ALLOCATION**



## SOLAR AND WIND PROJECTS







SA

SA

NL

USA

Ghana

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| Dr Grové Steyn |  |
|----------------|--|
| Clay Norrbom   |  |
| Gerhard Kemp   |  |
| Buddy Buruku   |  |
| Bob Assenberg  |  |

Infrastructure Economist Renewable Energy Fund Mngr Project Financier Renewable Energy Consulting Renewable Energy Fund Mngr

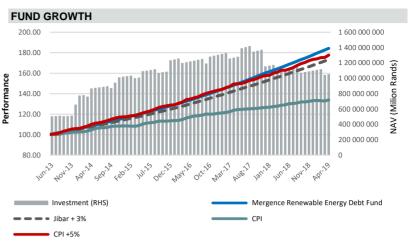
## THE TEAM



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#### PORTFOLIO MANAGER



Mark van Wyk B Com (Hons), CA (SA) Head: Unlisted Investments, Portfolio Manager

As a leader in institutional impact and infrastructure investments, Mark has nearly 20 years of experience in the capital and investment markets. Based largely in Cape Town, he has worked at Sanlam Properties, PwC and Mettle where he specialised in corporate finance, structured finance, specialist income funds and private equity transactions. Mark joined Mergence in 2010 where as Head: Unlisted Investments, he oversees the unlisted credit and unlisted equity asset portfolios.

Mark is a sought-after commentator and a guest lecturer at the UCT Graduate School of Business. He serves on the ASISA Responsible Investments Committee and has won ABSIP awards for Alternative Asset Manager in 2014 and 2016. He is a qualified CA and has a BCom (Hons) from the University of Natal.