

SOLID FUTURE DEFENSIVE FUND

SHARE CLASS A

Factsheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Month end NAV as at 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Investment Objective and Policy

The Fund aims to deliver a positive total return in any three year period from a flexibly managed portfolio of global assets whilst maintaining a monthly VaR with a 99% confidence interval at or below 5% at all times. The Investment Manager shall invest primarily in a diversified portfolio across a wide spectrum of industries and sectors primarily via bonds, equities and eligible ETFs. Investment in these asset classes either directly or indirectly through UCITS Funds and/ or eligible non UCITS Funds. The Fund is actively managed, not managed by reference to any index.

Sustainability

The Fund is classified under Article 6 of the SFDR meaning that the investments underlying this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Key Facts

Asset Class	Balanced
Fund Launch Date	25-Oct-2011
Share Class Launch Date	25-Oct-2011
Fund Base Currency	EUR
Share Class Currency	EUR
Fund Size (AUM)	15.5 EUR
Fund Type	UCITS
ISIN	MT7000003687
Bloomberg Ticker	SFUDEFA MV
Distribution Type	Accumulating
Minimum Initial Investment	2,500 EUR
Month end NAV	149.21 EUR
VAR	5.62%

Charges

Total Ongoing Charges	3.60%
Entry Charge	0.75%
Exit Charge	Y <sub>1</sub> 5.00%
	Y <sub>2</sub> 4.00%
	Y <sub>3</sub> 3.00%
	After Nil

Currency fluctuations may increase/decrease costs.

Risk and Reward Profile

This section should be read in conjunction with the KIID



Asset Allocation \*

%

Conventional Bonds

70.2

Equity

25.8

Cash

4.0

Currency Allocation \*

%

EUR

68.5

USD

30.8

GBP

0.7

\* Without adopting a look-through approach

Country Allocation \*\*

%

Europe ex UK

50.9

North America

35.5

UK

6.3

Emerging/Frontier Markets ex China

4.1

China

1.3

Japan

1.2

Asia Pacific ex Japan

0.7

Sector Allocation \*\*\*

%

Government

23.1

Communications

16.5

Financials

14.5

Consumer Staples

12.8

Consumer Discretionary

10.6

Industrial

6.1

Technology

6.0

Energy

2.6

Basic Materials

2.5

Utilities

2.1

Other

3.2

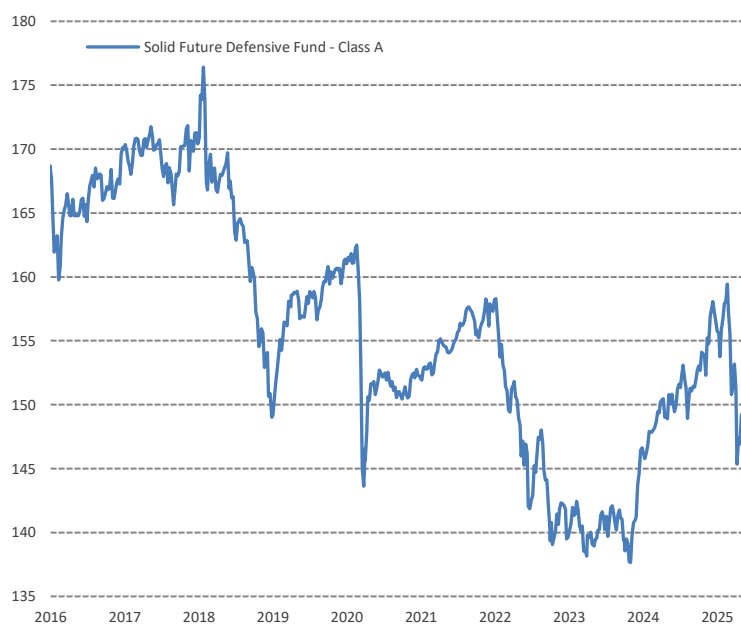
\*\* Including exposure to CIS, adopting a look-through approach

\*\*\* Adopting a look-through approach

Historical Performance to Date

Past performance does not predict future returns

Unit Price (EUR)



<sup>1</sup> Returns quoted net of TER. Entry and exit charges may reduce returns for investors.

<sup>2</sup> The Annualised rate is an indication of the average growth of the Fund over one year. The value of the investment and the income yield derived from the investment, if any, may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance, nor a reliable guide to future performance. Currency fluctuations may affect the value of investments and any derived income.

Top 10 Holdings

%

Amundi Euro Gov Bond 10-15Y

11.9

Amundi Euro Gov Bond 7-10Y

5.7

iShares Euro Corp Large Cap

4.4

iShares Euro HY Corp

3.8

iShares Fallen Angels HY Corp

3.4

3% Govt of France 2033

2.8

Uber Technologies Inc

2.0

iShares USD HY Corp

1.9

4.00% Eden Finance 2027

1.5

6.375% Intesa Sanpaolo perp

1.3

% of Top 10 Holdings

38.7

Bond Credit Rating \*

%

Investment Grade

AAA

1.2

AA

4.0

A

25.4

BBB

8.4

High Yield

BB

22.7

B

4.4

CCC

0.0

Non-Rated

4.1

Bond Portfolio Duration

Modified Duration

5.24

Performance History <sup>1,2</sup>

%

	Cum.	Ann.
YTD	-4.19	
1-month	-2.60	
3-month	-4.77	
6-month	-2.92	
9-month	-1.39	
1-year	0.20	0.20
3-year	0.17	0.06
5-year	-1.60	-0.32
2024		6.21
2023		5.01
2022		-11.74
2021		4.06
2020		-5.59
2019		8.08
2018		-12.57
2017		0.25

Introduction

April has confirmed once again it is that period of the year when major events have the highest statistical probability of happening. The tariffs announced by the Trump administration on the second day of the month were indeed nothing short of spectacular, exceeding by a wide margin in both scope and size any market forecast. A sudden equity market collapse followed by steep increases in the odds of a global economic recession ensued and the sweet promises of a US Golden Age have been forgotten on the spot making room for a new mantra – “Sell America!” Just one week of financial markets mayhem (and, off the record, bond vigilantes actions) have convinced the bold US President to make a saving face pirouette enabling a 90-day pause and a linear cut in tariffs to make room for individual trade deals negotiations. Markets came back to life. The single elephant in the room – the China – US commercial feud – has remained in place for the time being, but markets are convinced that this too will manage to find a friendlier footing sooner rather than later. The US dollar weakened materially, oil prices slipped toward the \$60 level and the 10-year US Treasuries flirted again with the 4.5% level sending economic forecasts and market returns expectations alike in the realm of the unknown. Frankly speaking, financial markets felt like have already had enough, so much that monetary policies or earnings seasons happened with no apparent impact. Now, as just one third of the calendar year passed, markets feel blindsided as regards what the remainder of the year will bring about. While overall worldwide structural changes are happening under our own eyes in terms of geopolitics, manufacturing supply chains or currency flows, markets have not managed yet to figure out the ultimate direction such changes will lead to. Therefore, the best option investors have at this point is keeping alert, flexible in convictions and ready for U-turns, just like this US administration is behaving.

From the monetary front, the FOMC held no meeting during the month, while various public speeches from its members reflected a cautious approach amid economic uncertainties. While the labour market still looked solid, it was the persistent inflation concerns stemming from trade tensions that add complexity to the economic outlook. Overall, they emphasized the need for more data to assess the long-term impact of the said trade policies. In Europe, the ECB reduced its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points to 2.25%, marking the seventh cut within a year, a decision aimed to mitigate the economic impact of US tariffs and global uncertainties. The officials emphasized the need for policy agility, reaffirming its commitment to past stimulus measures, including quantitative easing and forward guidance, while acknowledging the need for cautious application of these tools in the future.

April has been a testament of what supported equity markets since the Covid pandemic in spite of analyst expectations – the “buy the dip” mentality. After the Liberation Day announcement has ignited a 15% global market collapse in less than a trading week, the subsequent 90-day delay announcement triggered a stunning recovery in stock prices in the following weeks, both these events causing massive shifts of wealth. This was reminiscent of other episodes of market sell-out speedy recoveries seen recently such as March 2020, February 2022 or August 2024. Usually the retail segment, a growing force in the current market ecosystem, has been considered the deciding factor in such market turnarounds, while its investing behaviour has slowly transitioned from mere trend followers to outright market contrarians. This has happened as a larger part of institutional market participants have become passive investors forced to align their allocations to the most recent market moves. A smaller retail sub-segment that have become crucial in the last years are the ultra-high and high net worth investors which are willing to become liquidity providers in moments of heightened market volatility. We have to accept the fact that markets have gone through structural changes since the pandemic. This makes much more irrelevant comparisons with historical long-term valuation averages, but not with long term statistical returns. Markets are effectively moving much faster these days than they used to.

Market Environment and Performance

In the Euro area economic growth outperformed expectations, supported by strength in the Southern economies. The momentum carried into April, with monthly Composite PMI remaining in expansionary territory, albeit easing slightly to 50.4 from 50.9 in March. Inflation across the bloc remained stable, bolstering confidence that the disinflation process remains on track toward the ECB’s 2% medium-term target. Headline inflation remained constant at 2.2%, while core inflation increased to 2.7% from the 2.6% record in March.

Concerns about potential headwinds facing the US economy were validated as it contracted in the first quarter by 0.3%, a first decline since 2022. Leading indicators also pointed to a cooling in business activity, with April’s Composite PMI recording a decrease to 50.6, well below the March level of 53.5, indicating the slowest expansion in the private sector since September 2023. While new business activity continued to grow, it did so modestly, while business confidence declined.

Global equity markets went on a roller coaster ride in April, which was built on the architecture of the Liberation Day tariffs. As the initial announcement spooked the world, the roller coaster sent market participants on the way down to double-digit percentage losses with the S&P 500 trading into an intraday bear market. As a 90-day pause for trade deals negotiations was announced, followed by more sectorial exemptions, the roller coaster followed an uphill as markets recovered a lot of the initial losses. No sector was spared in particular, but energy companies lost the most as a steep fall in global oil prices was caused mainly by OPEC increasing its production, but also by expectations of tough economic days ahead. US markets continued their underperformance compared to peers, while European markets continued closing the gap in terms of relative performance, and Chinese markets lost the most as the Sino-US trade spat reached ridiculous tariff levels. The S&P 500 index lost 5.52% as analyst toyed with depreciated forecasts regarding earnings and margins based on reduced consumption. European markets were somewhat protected from the tariffs storm as the continent is seen to hold significant advantage in a long-term trade war with the US. The EuroStoxx50 lost 1.68% while the DAX gained 1.5% helped again by defence contractors and utilities.

In a turbulent rate environment, sovereign bonds namely U.S. Treasuries were pinched by pressure selling from investors, while corporate credit markets demonstrated overall more resilience despite notable fluctuations. Both investment-grade and high-yield segments held firm, signalling continued investor confidence in corporate creditworthiness. Euro-denominated credit outperformed US debt across the quality spectrum, with euro investment-grade returning 0.92% versus -0.02% in the US, and speculative-grade yielding 0.29% versus a flat return.

Fund Performance

In the month of April, the Solid Future Defensive Fund registered a 2.59 per cent loss. On the equity allocation, The Fund’s allocation has been rebalanced, as the Manager aligned it to the market sentiment. Exposures to Fiserv, Salesforce and Deutsche Telekom have been increased given expectations of improved return potential over the short to medium term. No changes were done in the fixed income allocation.

Market and Investment Outlook

Going forward, the Manager believes that the ongoing negotiations carried out by the US with various trading partners, as well as the setup constructed towards a rapprochement with China have managed to induce some optimism as regards the global economic outlook. While the uncertainty still remains the name of the game as regards the outcome of such endeavours, there is a sense that any failure would be followed by extended deadlines with a view to reaching a more benevolent trading landscape than the current positioning. This will undoubtedly not only sweeten the potential economic growth despite of the recent forecast downgrades from international institutions, but also have a less muted inflationary impact. Consequently, it is more likely that monetary policies which have recently found themselves in a conundrum between the impaired economic growth and heightened inflation expectation, will find it easier to decide towards further easing. Undoubtedly the bond market’s performance will be dictated by the eventual monetary decisions which are very much conditioned by the political moves by the U.S. Administration.

Given the above, the Manager expects markets to find a renewed bout of optimism toward a more constructive positioning with volatility subsiding over the medium term. The strategic allocation remains tilted towards long-term convictions to quality companies benefitting from secular growth trends agnostic to specific macroeconomic developments. The Manager remains opportunistic for the time being in deploying capital tactically in specific sectors, and using cash levels as dry powder to be used during episodes of market overshooting.

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for information purposes and should not be interpreted as investment advice nor to constitute an offer or an invitation by Calamatta Cuschieri Investment Management Limited ("CCIM") to any person to buy or sell units in the UCITS fund. Please refer to the Prospectus of the UCITS and any Offering Supplement thereto and to the Key Investor Information Document before making any final investment decisions which may be obtained from [www.ccfunds.com.mt](http://www.ccfunds.com.mt) or from the below address Investors are advised that an investment in the fund relates to the acquisition of units in the UCITS fund, and not in any of the underlying assets owned by the UCITS. CC Funds SICAV p.l.c. is licensed as a Collective Investment Scheme by the Malta Financial Services Authority under the Investment Services Act and qualifies as a 'Maltese' UCITS. CCIM is licensed to conduct Investment Services in Malta by the Malta Financial Services Authority under the Investment Services Act.

This document may not be reproduced either in whole, or in part, without the written permission of CCIM. CCIM does not accept liability for any actions, proceedings, costs, demands, expenses, loss or damage arising from the use of all or part of this document.

Address: Calamatta Cuschieri Investment Management Limited, Ewropa Business Centre, Triq Dun Karm, Birkirkara BKR 9034.