



Benchmark Retirement Fund  
Annual Report 2016 / 2017



**Benchmark Retirement Fund**

*Efficient. Trusted. Namibian.*



“Understand and accept  
the cycles of money.

The setbacks you may  
have today or next year  
will not keep you  
from financial freedom.

If you hold on to your  
goals and dreams, you  
will get there.”

*Suze Orman*

## Overview

The Benchmark Retirement Fund is a privately administered umbrella fund, founded by Retirement Fund Solutions in 2000. As a defined contribution fund, each member's accumulated credit is determined by reference to net contributions and net investment returns generated by selected investment managers over the period of membership of the Fund.

The Fund offers contributory membership to employees within an employer group, contributory membership to individuals as well as dormant membership to former employees who wish to preserve their retirement capital. The Fund also offers various annuities for members on retirement. Beneficiaries of deceased members can opt to receive their benefits via the fund.

Death and disability benefits can be arranged by the participating employers for their members in addition to the member's share in the Fund. These benefits are fully reinsured.

## Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees meets at least four times per annum to oversee the affairs of the Fund. The Claims Committee meets more frequently to deal with death claims as expeditiously as possible. The trustees of the Fund are:

**Mr. Harald Müsseler**

Chairperson, independent of the Founder

**Ms. Afra Schimming-Chase**

Independent of the Founder

**Mr. Martin Moeller**

Independent of the Founder

**Mr. Marthinuz Fabianus**

Appointed by the Founder

**Mr. Tilman Friedrich**

Appointed by the Founder

**Mr. Günter Pfeifer**

Appointed by the Founder

## Principal Officer

**Mr. Kai Friedrich**

## Service providers of the Fund

The key service providers appointed by the Trustees are:

**Actuary**

Strategic Actuarial Partners Namibia

**Administrator**

Retirement Fund Solutions Namibia

**Auditor**

KPMG Namibia

**Bankers**

Standard Bank Namibia

**Investment Consultant**

NMG Consultants & Actuaries (Namibia)

*Investment managers, employee benefit consultants and risk insurers are selected by the participating employers and members of the Fund.*

## Financial Position

## Financial Result

	31.12.2016 N\$ million	31.12.2015 N\$ million	31.12.2014 N\$ million
<b>Assets</b>			
Investments	2,052	1,888	1,566
Current assets	103	75	52
	<b>2,155</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>1,618</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Active members	1,721	1,632	1,354
Pensioners	307	240	192
Reserves	19	21	18
Benefits payable	103	66	49
Other current liabilities	5	4	5
	<b>2,155</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>1,618</b>

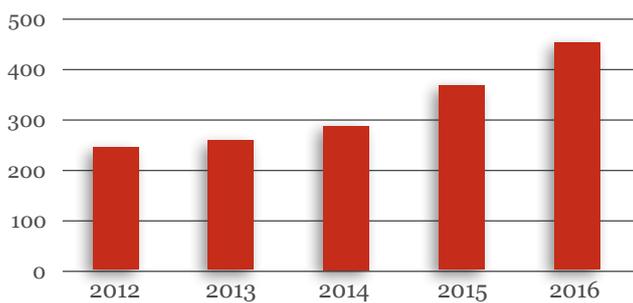
	31.12.2016 N\$ million	31.12.2015 N\$ million
Contributions received	224	197
Net investment income	62	248
Reinsurance proceeds	20	14
Net transfers from / to other funds	357	286
	<b>663</b>	<b>745</b>
Reinsurance premiums paid	-26	-23
Benefits paid	-451	-366
Expenses	-32	-27
	<b>-509</b>	<b>-416</b>
<b>Net movement</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>329</b>



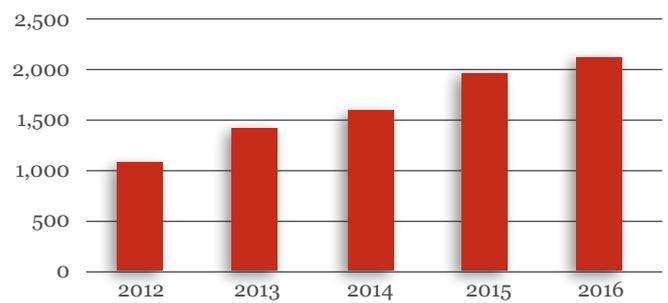
“A good job is a means to provide for the health and welfare of your family, to own a home, and save for retirement.”

*James H. Douglas, Jr*

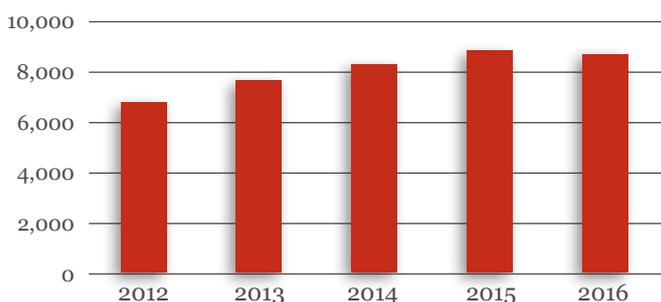
Benefits paid: N\$ million



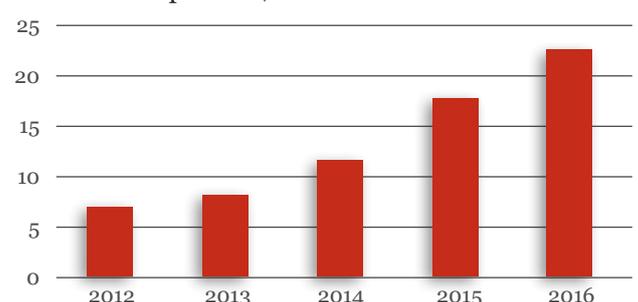
Assets: N\$ million



Number of members



Pensions paid: N\$ million



## Investment portfolio range

The following investment portfolios (or combinations thereof) are available to members of the Fund:

Investment Portfolio	Risk categorisation	Investment performance to 30 June 2017 (%)			
		1 yr	3 yrs (annualised)	5 yrs (annualised)	10 yrs (annualised)
Allan Gray Namibia Balanced Fund	Moderate	3.7	9.4	14.8	12.2
Investec Managed Fund Namibia	Moderate	4.4	8.9	13.9	10.8
NAM Coronation Balanced Plus Fund	Moderate	3.3	6.2	13.1	9.4
Old Mutual Namibia Profile Pinnacle Fund	Moderate	4.6	7.4	12.7	9.9
Prudential Namibian Balanced Fund	Moderate	5.2	7.8	13.0	9.7
Standard Bank Namibia Managed Fund	Moderate	1.9	6.6	11.9	11.0
Benchmark Default Portfolio	Moderate - Low	3.3	8.5	13.3	10.8
Prudential Namibian Inflation Plus Fund	Moderate - Low	2.9	7.6	11.7	10.6
NAM Coronation Capital Plus Fund	Moderate - Low	3.7	5.5	10.2	n/a
Sanlam Namibia Inflation Linked Fund	Moderate - Low	6.8	8.8	10.7	9.9
NAM Coronation Balanced Defensive Fund	Moderate - Low	5.7	7.6	11.2	n/a
Sanlam Namibia Active Fund	Low	9.5	8.7	8.2	n/a
Capricorn Investment Fund	Low	8.8	7.5	6.7	7.5

## Rule amendments

Since the last Annual Report, the following rule amendments were made:

Revised rules effective 1 April 2016 (approved):

The rules were revised to ensure compliance with Inland Revenue's Practice Note 5 of 2003 by providing a facility within the Fund for surviving beneficiaries of deceased members of the Fund and of other funds to apply the requisite portion of any lump sum death benefit payable to such beneficiaries to secure annuities from the Fund.

Rule amendment 1 effective 1 April 2017 (awaiting approval):

1. To ensure compliance with Inland Revenue's Practice Note 1 of 1998 dealing with Flexible Annuities. The Fund recognizes that on the death of a Pensioner in receipt of a variable annuity, the remaining capital is an annuity that may not be further commuted. Accordingly, if such Pensioner dies and is not survived by a Designated Survivor or a Dependant, the remaining balance of such Pensioner's capital is to be paid to his/her estate as an annuity, instead of being paid as a lump sum death benefit.
2. To ensure compliance with NAMFISA'S requirements for continued registration of the Fund.
3. To better regulate the recoupment of costs payable by the Participating Employer in terms of the Rules where the Participating Employer defaults or pays late.
4. To allow Pensioners to switch between various annuity products either within the Fund or provided by other funds.

## Accountability and transparency

Our approach to accountability and transparency is to give you the ability to make informed, long-term investment decisions, and to give answers when you need them, without undue delay.

Call Benchmark and its sponsor Retirement Fund Solutions on **061 - 446 000**.

Visit our website <https://rfsol.com.na/benchmark> to view and download:

- Annual financial statements
- Actuarial valuation reports
- Quarterly investment reports
- Investment policy
- Investment portfolio fund fact sheets
- Rules of the Fund
- Informative newsletters
- Articles about the retirement fund industry

*Terms and conditions apply.  
Registration with NAMFISA: 25/7/7/489.  
Registration with Inland Revenue: 12/1/12/462.*