

Corporate and Investment Banking

Absa Digital Asset Custody

Secure. Compliant. Built for Institutions.



Absa Digital Asset Custody



Your story matters



Our Purpose in the Digital Economy

Bridging traditional trust with digital innovation

Digital assets are becoming part of mainstream finance, but institutions cannot participate without trust, control, and regulatory certainty.

Absa's Digital Asset Custody offering delivers institutional-grade safekeeping and governance for digital assets. We enable institutional clients to participate confidently in the digital economy with the assurance of bank-level security, regulatory oversight, and operational resilience.

This offering positions Absa as one of the first regulated African banks to provide digital asset custody, aligning innovation with risk management and helping clients securely bridge traditional and digital finance.

A natural evolution of banking into the digital era.

We enable clients to hold, administer, and protect digital assets within a framework built on:



Bank-grade governance



Operational resilience and bank grade risk management



Regulatory alignment



Long-term continuity



**One bank. One platform.
All your assets securely
together**



Client Challenge

Security & Key Loss Risk – Institutions fear irreversible loss of assets through private key compromise.

Evolving Compliance Obligations – Unclear compliance expectations for holding and moving crypto assets.

Operational Complexity – Multiple wallets, manual processes, lack of audit trails.

Counterparty & Settlement Risk – Trading and settlement counterparties introduce exposure.

Limited Transparency – Executives, auditors, and boards demand visibility and control.

Asset Protection Concerns – Fear of loss, theft, or insufficient safeguards in extreme scenarios.

How Absa Addresses It

Hybrid Key Model anchored in on-premise HSMs, private keys are never exposed

Institutional Reporting & Auditability enabling clients to meet evolving compliance, tax, and governance requirements

Absa Access Portal provides real-time visibility, reporting, and role-based transaction authorisation.

Post-Trade Custody Only assets move “free of value,” ensuring Absa does not hold trading or liquidity risk.

Absa Custody Platform automates policy-based approvals, full audit logging, and multi-signatory governance.

Absa provides advanced security controls, governed recovery mechanisms, and dedicated insurance coverage within a bank-grade environment.

Platform Evolution & Capability

**Institutional trust.
Digital speed.**

Our platform combines institutional-grade security, embedded compliance, and scalable infrastructure to support the evolving needs of digital asset participants.

Designed for integration, visibility, and control, the platform enables our clients to engage with digital assets within a trusted banking framework.

Assets supported



Bitcoin



Ethereum



XRP



USDC

(with expansion to additional stablecoins and tokenized assets as regulation evolves)

Core Capabilities:

Secure Client Access

Clients access the platform through Absa's secure channels alongside traditional financial products, with full visibility over assets, transactions, and approvals.

Policy-Based Governance

Approval based workflows, whitelisting, transaction limits, and role-based permissions aligned to client operating models.

Segregated Wallet Structures

Dedicated wallets per client, supporting both operational (hot) and long-term (cold) asset storage.

Integrated Compliance Controls

Real-time transaction screening and wallet risk monitoring embedded directly into transaction workflows.

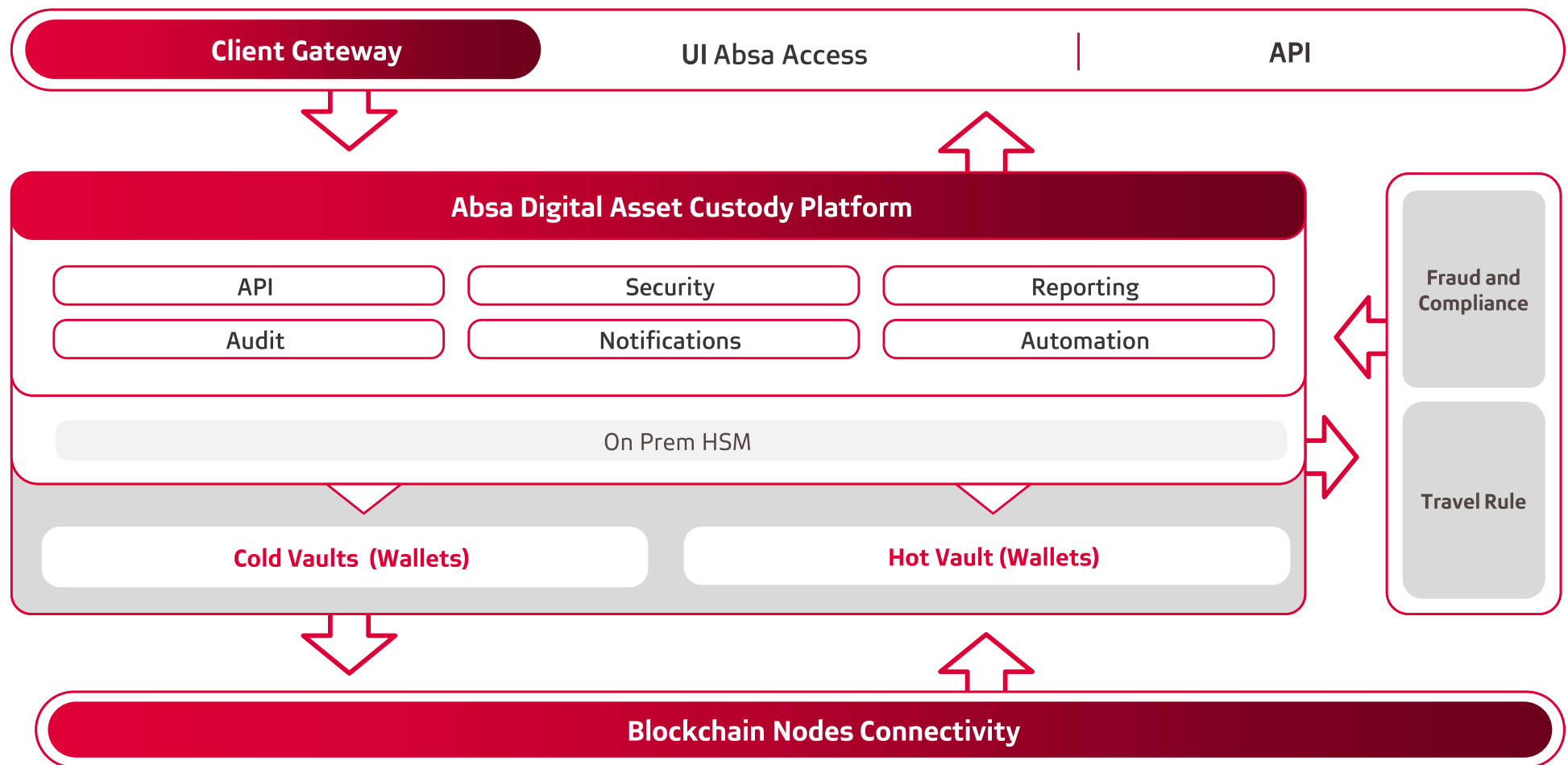
Auditability & Transparency

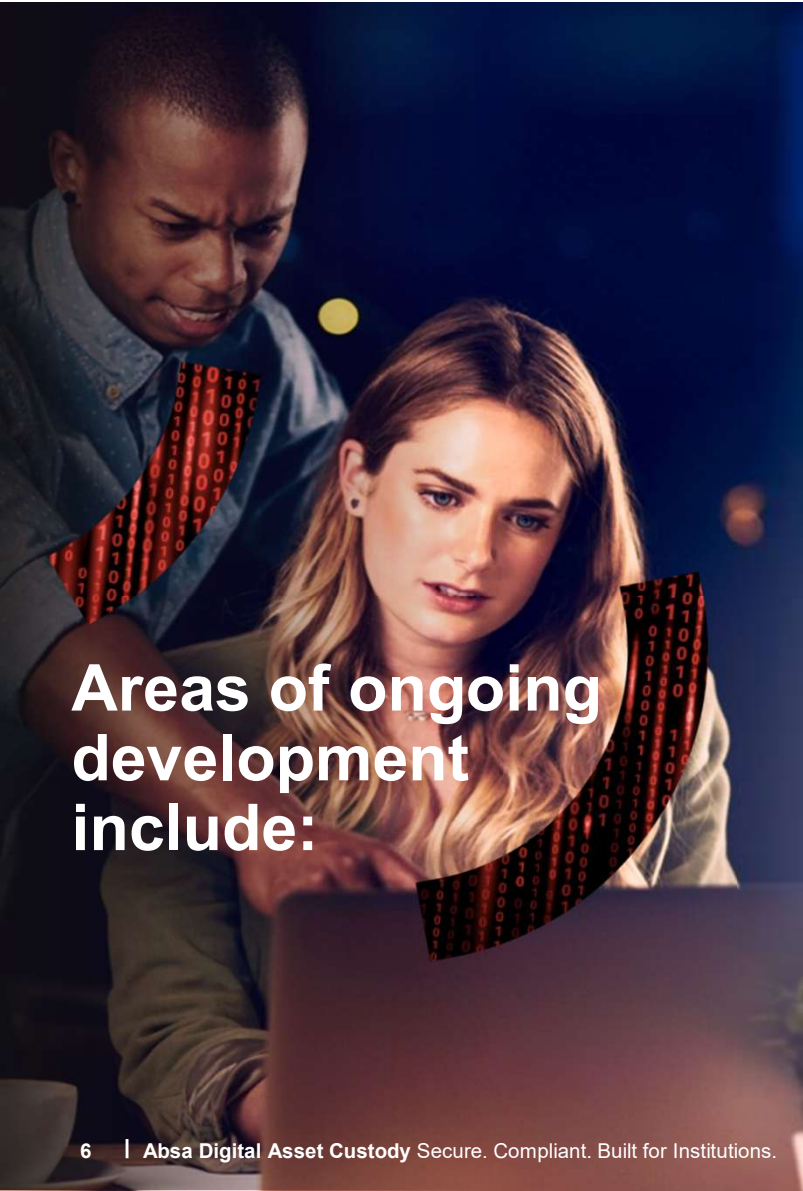
Complete audit trails across wallets, approvals, and transactions, supporting internal governance and external audit requirements.

Operational Resilience

Built on secure infrastructure with defined recovery processes, continuity planning, and institutional oversight.

Technology Core Components





Areas of ongoing development include:

As the digital asset ecosystem evolves, we continue to enhance our custody platform to support broader institutional use cases and deeper client integration.

Our focus remains on expanding capabilities that improve accessibility, asset utility, and operational integration while maintaining the highest standards of governance and security.

Client Connectivity

Secure API capabilities to enable direct integration between client systems and the custody platform.

Tokenisation Enablement

Supporting custody of tokenised assets and digital representations of traditional financial instruments as market frameworks evolve.

Regional Expansion

Extending digital asset custody capabilities into additional jurisdictions, including Mauritius, supporting clients operating across markets.

Integrated Custody Reporting

Consolidated reporting across digital and traditional custody services to provide clients with a unified view of assets.

Expanded Asset Coverage

Gradually increasing supported digital assets in line with client demand and regulatory developments.

Staking Enablement

Evaluating institutional staking capabilities, allowing clients to participate in network validation while maintaining secure custody of their assets.



Let us be your
partner for
what's next.

Whether you're scaling, innovating, or reimagining what your business can become, we're here to support your story.

Reach out and let's start shaping the next chapter together.

Join us in shaping the future of digital finance.

Schedule a solution walkthrough
with our specialists.

Experience bank-grade custody for digital
assets secure, compliant, and ready
to scale.

Explore pilot onboarding tailored to
your use case.

Find out more about other digital
asset offerings

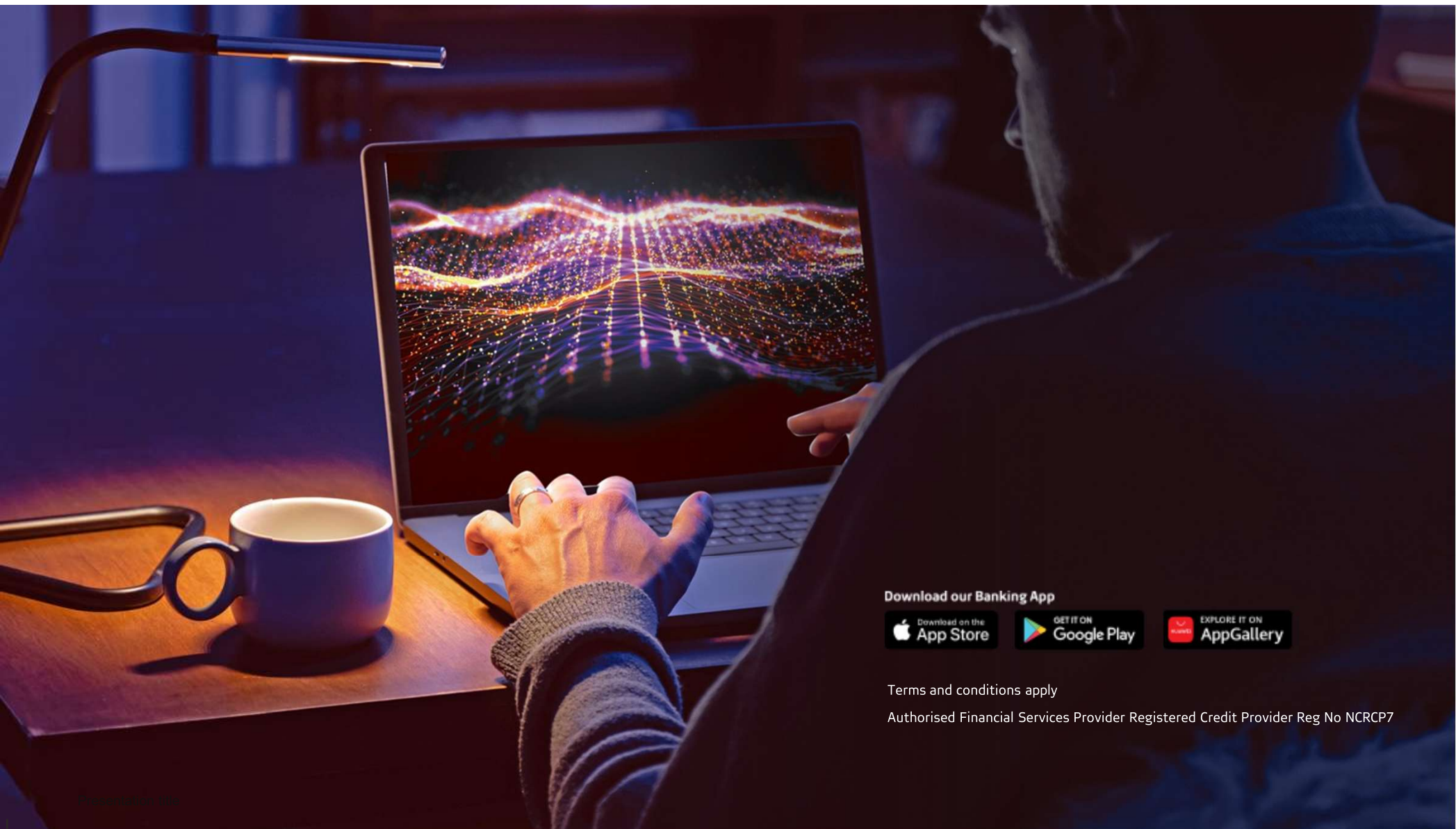
For further information, please contact:

Your **Relationship Banker** or contact
the **CIB Digital Assets team** at:

DigitalAssetCustody@absa.africa

Disclaimer

This brochure/document/material/report/communication/commentary (this commentary) has been prepared by the Corporate and Investment Banking division of Absa Bank Limited – a registered bank in the Republic of South Africa with company registration number 1986/004794/06 and with its registered office at Absa Towers West, 15 Troye Street, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa (Absa). Absa is regulated by the South African Reserve Bank. Absa has issued this commentary for information purposes only and you must not regard this as a prospectus for any security or financial product or transaction. Absa does not expressly, tacitly or by implication represent, recommend or propose that the securities and/or financial or investment products or services (the products) referred to in this commentary are appropriate and/or suitable for your particular investment objectives or financial situation or needs. This commentary is not, nor is it intended to be, advice as defined and/or contemplated in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 37 of 2002 (FAIS Act) or any other financial, investment, trading, tax, legal, accounting, retirement, actuarial or other professional advice or service whatsoever (advice). You have to obtain your own advice before making any decision or taking any action whatsoever based hereon and Absa disclaims any liability for any direct, indirect or consequential damage or losses that you may suffer from using or relying on the information contained herein even if notified of the possibility of such damage or loss and irrespective of whether or not you have obtained independent advice. This commentary is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any of the products, which will always be subject to Absa's internal approvals and a formal agreement between you and Absa. Any pricing included in this commentary is only indicative and is not binding as such on Absa. All the risks and significant issues related to or associated with the products are not disclosed and therefore, before investing or transacting, you should fully understand the products and any risks and significant issues related to or associated with them. The products may involve a high degree of risk including, but not limited to, the risk of (a) low or no investment returns, (b) capital loss, (c) counterparty or issuer default, (d) adverse or unanticipated financial market fluctuations, (e) inflation and (f) currency exchange. The value of any product may fluctuate daily as a result of these risks. Absa does not predict actual results, performances and/or financial returns and no assurances, warranties or guarantees are given in this regard. The indicative summaries of the products provided herein may be amended, superseded or replaced by subsequent summaries without notice. The information, views and opinions expressed herein are compiled from or based on trade and statistical services or other third-party sources believed by Absa to be reliable and are therefore provided and expressed in good faith. Absa gives no recommendation, guide, warranty, representation, undertaking or guarantee concerning the accuracy, adequacy and/or completeness of the information or any view or opinion provided or expressed herein. Any information on past financial returns, modelling or back-testing is no indication of future returns. Absa makes no representation on the reasonableness of the assumptions made within or the accuracy or completeness of any modelling or back-testing. All opinions, views and estimates are given as of the date hereof and are subject to change without notice. Absa expressly disclaims any liability for any damage or loss as a result of errors or omissions in the information, data or views contained or expressed herein even if notified of the possibility of such damage or loss. Absa does not warrant or guarantee merchantability, non-infringement of third-party rights or fitness for a particular use and/or purpose. Absa, its affiliates and individuals associated with them may (in various capacities) have positions or deal in securities (or related derivative securities), financial products or investments identical or similar to the products. Absa intends to make this commentary available in South Africa to persons who are financial services providers as defined in the FAIS Act, as well as to other investment and financial professionals who have professional experience in financial and investment matters. You should contract and execute transactions through an Absa Bank Limited branch or affiliate in your home jurisdiction unless local regulations permit otherwise. Absa Bank Limited is an Authorised Financial Services Provider. Absa has taken no action that would permit a public offering of the products in any jurisdiction in which action for that purpose is required. The products will only be offered and the offering material will only be distributed in or from any jurisdiction in circumstances which will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations and which will not impose any obligation on Absa or any of its affiliates. In this commentary reference is made to various indices. The publishers and sponsors of those indices (the publishers and sponsors) do not endorse, sponsor or promote the products and make no warranty, guarantee, representation or other assurance (express, tacit or implied) relating to the indices. The publishers and sponsors make no warranties (including merchantability and fitness for purpose). The publishers and sponsors will not incur any liability in respect of any damage or loss that you may suffer as a result of investing in a product even if notified of the possibility of such damage or loss. The publishers and sponsors may amend the composition or calculation of indices and have no obligation to have regard to your or Absa's need in this regard. The information and views contained in this commentary are proprietary to Absa and are protected by copyright under the Berne Convention. In terms of the Copyright Act, 98 of 1978, as amended, no part of this commentary may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, electronic scanning, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without the prior permission in writing from Absa. The illegal or attempted illegal copying or use of this information or views may result in criminal or civil legal liability.



Download our Banking App



Terms and conditions apply

Authorised Financial Services Provider Registered Credit Provider Reg No NCRC7