

FSCA Press Release

20 February 2026

FSCA issues public warning against Cuntrade and Trade Market 247 Websites

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) warns the public to exercise caution when conducting financial services business with Cuntrade and Trade Market 247. The FSCA received information that Cuntrade and Trade Market 247 are soliciting funds from members of the public for investment purposes through WhatsApp and the following websites Cuntrade.net and Trademarket247.com.

Without commenting on the business of Cuntrade and Trade Market 247, the FSCA confirms that Cuntrade and Trade Market 247 are not authorised by it to provide financial services to members of the public. The FSCA was unable to reach Cuntrade and Trade Market 247 on the contact details provided to it.

To avoid unnecessary risk, the public should not accept financial advice, assistance, or investment offers from individuals or entities not authorised by the FSCA. Authorised financial services providers must clearly display their authorisation status in their documentation. If this is not present, it is advised to further investigate before making any payments.

The public is strongly urged to exercise caution when considering unsolicited investment or trading offers, especially those communicated through social media. The public is urged to act with care when investing their funds. There are many fraudsters operating scams, and the number is growing. South Africans lose millions of rands every year to fraudsters. Illegal operations are sometimes well-disguised as legitimate operations. The public is advised to be on the lookout for certain tell-tale danger signs when approached by persons offering attractive investment opportunities. These red flags include:

- Unrealistic or exaggerated returns
- Offers made on social media platforms
- Requirements to pay for services upfront
- Requirements to pay more money to have your investments returned
- Requirements to pay for training
- Claims that you must act and pay urgently i.e. creating a sense of urgency
- Vague information about the investment product.

Executive Committee:

Commissioner: U. Kamlana | **Deputy Commissioners:** A. Ludin | K. Gibson | F. Badat

Members of the public may use one of the following methods to confirm whether a service provider or person is authorised to act as an FSP by the FSCA, including to verify their FSP number:

For an individual, check that person's ID number against the one the FSCA has on record and call the FSCA if there are any concerns.

Members of the public may use one of the following methods to confirm whether a service provider or persons is authorised to act as an FSP by the FSCA, including verifying their FSP number:

1. **Toll-free number:** 0800 110 443
2. Conducting an online search for authorised financial institutions **by licence and product category** by clicking on this [link](#).
3. Conducting an online search for a financial institution that is an **authorised financial services provider (FSP)** in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002 (FAIS Act) by clicking on this [link](#).

For more information or to read other press releases from the FSCA, please click on the link below:

[FSCA press releases](#)

ENDS

Enquiries: Financial Sector Conduct Authority
Email address: communications@fsc.co.za
Telephone: 0800 203 722