

Sun Life Malaysia

Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund

December 2022



FUND OBJECTIVE

The Fund aims to provide regular income by investing primarily in the Asia Pacific ex Japan region and at the same time aims to achieve capital appreciation over the medium to long-term.

FUND DETAILS

Launch Date	13 February 2015	Domicile	Malaysia
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000
Units in Circulation	183.27 million units (30 December 2022)	Fund Size	RM273.17 million (30 December 2022)
Unit NAV	RM1.4905 (30 December 2022)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)
Fund Manager	Principal Asset Management Bhd	Target Fund	Principal Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund
Benchmark	8% p.a.	Taxation	8% of annual investment income
Risk Profile	<p>Suitable for investors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have a medium to long-term investment horizon ▪ Want a well-diversified portfolio of Asia Pacific ex Japan region ▪ Seek regular income ▪ Can accept that returns may fluctuate over the investment period 	Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund. ▪ Up to 1.8% pa of fund management charge is applied on the target fund's NAV by Principal Asset Management Bhd.

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Equity	Collective Investments	Cash
93.71%	1.34%	4.95%

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SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND		TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND	
Financials	19.84%	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing (Taiwan)	6.19%
Information Technology	16.62%	Tencent Holding Ltd (Hong Kong)	3.93%
Industrials	11.60%	AIA Group Ltd (Hong Kong)	3.70%
Consumer Discretionary	11.22%	CSL Ltd (Australia)	3.66%
Others	9.21%	CNOOC Ltd (Hong Kong)	3.54%
Energy	7.79%	HDFC Bank Ltd (India)	3.41%
Communication Services	6.68%	Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd (South Korea)	3.31%
Health Care	6.55%	Alibaba Group Holding Ltd (Cayman Islands)	3.17%
Consumer Staples	5.54%	Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd (Hong Kong)	2.84%
Cash	4.95%	E Ink Holding Inc (Taiwan)	2.51%
Total	100.00%	Total	36.26%

PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Principal Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund ("target fund") with the objective to provide regular income by investing primarily in the Asia Pacific ex Japan region and at the same time aims to achieve capital appreciation over the medium to long-term.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund versus its benchmark as at 30 December 2022:

%	YTD	1M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	-12.99	-1.88	-4.61	-12.99	6.58	10.45	49.05
Benchmark	8.00	0.66	3.96	8.00	25.97	46.93	83.93

* Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV

Notice: Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance which may differ. The fund performance is not guaranteed.

FUND MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The Fund was down -1.88% in MYR terms in December, underperforming the benchmark by 254 bps. YTD, the Fund is down -12.99%, underperforming the benchmark by 2,099 bps.

The MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Index declined by 0.7% in USD terms in Dec 2022. China and Hong Kong were the best performing markets on the back of China's change in zero-Covid policy, while Taiwan and Korea were among the worst performers. The US 10-year bond yield retreated by 27 bps to 3.9% on the back of second consecutive downside inflation surprise in the US. The Central Economic Work Conference in China pointed to a refocus on growth and restoring confidence. Covid policy was further eased that set China on a surefooting to re-open the economy further in January. We expect a more enhanced execution on economic growth, following its Two Session Meeting in March 2023 by the Chinese government. We favor beneficiaries of policy tailwinds and economic reopening. Headline CPI in the US rose just 0.1% MoM, and 7.1% YoY in November and annual core CPI rose 6% YoY, surprising the market on the downside for the second consecutive month. We are of the opinion that bulk of the heavy lifting by Fed is done and inflation is likely to ease in earnest in 1H2023, as global economy slows in response to the monetary tightening by central banks. We expect Asia to print better earnings growth in 2023 than developed markets given the gradual reopening of the Asian economies and possible easing of inflation.

We have a positive view on Asian equities, given that China has implemented more pragmatic policies especially with regards to Covid as well as pro-growth stance after the Politburo meeting. Asia is under owned and valuation is attractive too. Other risks would be (1) persistently high inflation, (2) policy mistake and, (3) geopolitics such as Russia-Ukraine, and US-China relations. We will continue to focus on quality companies which have good earnings visibility, robust balance sheet, long term winners, market share gainers and those with pricing power to overcome cost pressures.

RISKS

All investment carries some form of risks. The potential key risks include but are not limited to the following:

Stock specific risk	Prices of a particular stock may fluctuate in response to the circumstances affecting individual companies such as adverse financial performance, news of a possible merger or loss of key personnel of a company. Any adverse price movements of such stock will adversely affect the target fund's NAV.
Country risk	Investments of the target fund in any country may be affected by changes in the economic and political climate, restriction on currency repatriation or other developments in the law or regulations of the countries in which the target fund invests. For example, the deteriorating economic condition of such countries may adversely affect the value of the investments undertaken by the target fund in those affected countries. This in turn may cause the NAV of the target fund or price of units to fall.
Liquidity risk	Liquidity risk refers to the ease of liquidating an asset depending on the asset's volume traded in the market. If the target fund holds assets that are illiquid, or are difficult to dispose of, the value of the target fund will be negatively affected when it has to sell such assets at unfavourable prices.
Currency risk	As the investments of the target fund may be denominated in currencies other than the base currency of the target fund, any fluctuation in the exchange rate between the base currency of the target fund and the currencies in which the investments are denominated may have an impact on the value of these investments. You should be aware that if the currencies in which the investments are denominated depreciate against the base currency of the target fund, this will have an adverse effect on the NAV of the target fund and vice versa. You should note that any gains or losses arising from the fluctuation in the exchange rate may further increase or decrease the returns of the investment.
Credit and default risk	The target fund will be exposed to a certain degree of credit and default risk of issuers or counterparties when the target fund invests in debt securities, money market instruments and/or place deposits. Credit risk relates to the creditworthiness of the securities issuers or counterparties and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuers or counterparties may impact the value as well as liquidity of the investments. In the case of rated debt securities, this may lead to a credit downgrade. Default risk relates to the risk that a securities issuer or counterparty either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the investments. This could adversely affect the value of the target fund. Principal (S) aims to mitigate this risk by performing bottom-up and top-down credit research and analysis to determine the creditworthiness of its issuers or counterparties, and impose investment limits on exposures for issuers or counterparties with different credit profiles as a precautionary step to limit any loss that may arise directly or indirectly as a result of a defaulted transaction.

RISKS (CONTINUED)

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the impact of interest rate changes on the valuation of debt securities. When interest rates rise, debt securities prices generally decline and this may lower the market value of the target fund's investment in debt securities. In managing the debt portfolio, Principal (S) takes into account the coupon rate and time to maturity of the debt securities with an aim to mitigate the interest rate risk.

Risk associated with investing in CIS

Since the target fund may invest entirely into CIS, there is a risk of concentration into CIS, in which the CIS's management company has absolute discretion over the CIS's investment technique and knowledge, operational controls and management. In the event of mismanagement of the CIS and/or the management company, the NAV of the target fund, which invests into those CIS would be affected negatively. Should the situation arise, Principal (S) will seek for another CIS that is consistent with the objective of the target fund.

Risk of investing in emerging markets

In comparison with investments in the developed markets, investment in emerging markets may involve a higher degree of risk due to the greater possibility of political or economic instability and societal tensions. Emerging markets are markets that are, by definition, "in a state of transition" and are therefore exposed to rapid political change and economic declines. The securities in the emerging markets may face a higher risk of price drop while the exchange rates in these emerging markets are generally more volatile than those of developed markets. As such, you should be aware that investments in emerging markets may be subject to higher price volatility and therefore will tend to have a higher investment risk that will affect the target fund's growth. Principal (S) will attempt to mitigate these risks through active asset allocation management and diversification, in addition to their continuous bottom-up and top-down research and analysis.

Source : Principal Asset Management Bhd

Date : 30 December 2022

Disclaimer:

The benchmark performance is not a guide to future performances which may differ. The performance of the fund is not guaranteed. The value of the fund will fluctuate and may fall below the amount of premiums paid and the fund value depends on the actual performance of the underlying investment. This material is for information purposes only and is subject to change at any time without notice. Sun Life Malaysia does not guarantee its accuracy, completeness, correctness or timeliness for any purpose or reason. This information should not be considered as advice or recommendation in relation to your account or particular investment objectives, financial situation or needs. You may not revise, transform, or build upon this material without prior written consent of Sun Life Malaysia. Before acting on any information you should seek independent financial advice. Sun Life Malaysia may suspend the unit pricing and defer the payment of benefits, other than death and total and permanent disability benefits, subscription or redemption of units, switching of funds, under this contract for a reasonable period in exceptional circumstances, such as and including intervening events resulting in temporary closure of any stock exchange.