

Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund

March 2022



FUND OBJECTIVE

Aims to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonise with Islamic philosophy and laws.

FUND DETAILS

Launch Date	01 December 2009	Domicile	Malaysia
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000
Units in Circulation	23.58 million units (31 March 2022)	Fund Size	RM45.65 million (31 March 2022)
Unit NAV	RM1.9359 (31 March 2022)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)
Investment Manager of the Target Fund	Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad	Target Fund	Affin Hwang Aiman Growth Fund
Benchmark	FBM Emas Shariah Index (FBMS)	Taxation	8% of annual investment income
Risk Profile	Suitable for investors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Have a medium to long term investment horizonAre risk tolerantSeek higher returns on the investment that comply with Shariah requirements	Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund.Up to 1.5% p.a. fund management charge is applied on the Target Fund's NAV by Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad.

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Equity	Cash
Min 70%; Max 100%	Max 30%

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SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Industrials	25.8%
Financials	23.9%
Consumer Staples	10.7%
Telecommunications	10.2%
Basic Materials	7.2%
Health Care	3.8%
Technology	3.5%
Consumer Discretionary	2.5%
Energy	1.5%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	10.8%
Total	100.0%

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Axis Real Estate Invt Trust	5.5%
Bank Islam Malaysia Bhd	4.4%
Telekom Malaysia Bhd	4.3%
MISC Bhd	4.2%
IHH Healthcare Bhd	3.8%
Press Metal Aluminium Hldg Bhd	3.7%
Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd	3.5%
TIME dotCom Berhad	3.1%
Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd	3.1%
Kuala Lumpur Kepong Bhd	3.0%
Total	38.6%

PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Affin Hwang Aiiman Growth Fund ("target fund") with the objective to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonize with Islamic philosophy and laws.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund versus its benchmark as at 31 March 2022:

%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	-8.59	-1.75	-8.95	26.42	24.30	57.44	93.59
Benchmark	-2.61	-1.44	-7.04	2.18	-6.78	10.42	41.79

* 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

- US equities edged higher as markets kept a watchful eye over a key recession gauge as well as developments in Ukraine. The S&P 500 index rose 3.6%, while the Nasdaq index gained 3.4% in March.
- The FBM100 index fell -0.4% in March, driven by profit-taking activities. Most sectors were trading water with the exception of reopening beneficiaries, which surged ahead of international border reopening in April.
- Foreign funds continue to pile into the local market with net inflows of RM6.4 billion YTD mainly into banks and commodity stocks. This compares to an outflow of RM3.5 billion in 2021 when foreign investors shunned Malaysia equities.
- The construction sector gained after further details were announced on the Mass Rapid Transit Line 3 (“MRT3”) project. Large contractors with strong balance sheet may stand a better chance of winning turnkey projects and emerge as beneficiaries. Other companies that stand to benefit include building materials suppliers as construction picks-up.
- The government announced the allowance of a special EP withdrawal of up to RM10,000, the fourth round of such withdrawal since the pandemic first hit in 2020. Should there be a high take up, EPF may have to dispose its foreign holdings to meet these withdrawals, and may also limit their ability to invest in the domestic market. The government also announced that the minimum wage would be increased to RM1,500 starting in May. While full details are yet to be released, sectors that are reliant on low-skilled labour could be vulnerable to higher labour costs.

STRATEGY:

- The fund's invested levels remains at around 89% during the month. The fund remains positioned in quality large-cap Shariah-compliant stocks in the domestic market.
- Malaysia's economy is set to rebound after full border opening effective 1st April. We have been positioned in beneficiaries of further economic reopening, which will lead to earnings recover in sectors such as tourism, aviation, and consumer. Markets have stabilized after more clarity from US Federal Reserves. Key risks to watch now remains the Russian-Ukraine conflict and the effect of commodity prices on inflation.
- We are positive on banks, which is a clear beneficiary of economic growth, coupled with strong outlook on loan growth and asset quality. We also like technology companies, where we see value emerging after the recent heavy selloff, and which has strong earnings visibility driven by secular growth trends (e.g. 5G, EV, solar energy).

RISKS

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

Market risk	Market risk arises because of factors that affect the entire marketplace. Factors such as economic growth, political stability and social environment are some examples of conditions that have an impact on businesses, whether positive or negative. Market risk cannot be eliminated by diversification. It stems from the fact that there are economy-wide perils which threaten all businesses. Hence, investors will be exposed to market uncertainties and no matter how many Shariah-compliant securities are held, fluctuations in the economic, political and social environment will affect the market price of the Shariah-compliant investments either in a positive or negative way.
Fund management risk	This risk refers to the day-to-day management of the target fund by Affin Hwang which will impact the performance of the target fund. For example, investment decisions undertaken by Affin Hwang as a result of an incorrect view of the market or any non-compliance with internal policies, investment mandate, the deed, relevant law or guidelines due to factors such as human error, fraudulence, dishonesty or weaknesses in operational process and systems, may adversely affect the performance of the target fund.
Performance risk	There is no guarantee in relation to the investment returns.
Inflation risk	This is the risk that your investment in the target fund may not grow or generate income at a rate that keeps pace with inflation. This would reduce your purchasing power even though the value of the investment in monetary terms has increased.
Liquidity risk	Liquidity risk arises in two scenarios. The first scenario is where the target fund's investment cannot be sold due to unavailability of a buyer for that investment. The second scenario exists where the target fund's investment, by its nature, is thinly traded. This will have the effect of causing the target fund's investment to be sold below its fair value which would adversely affect the NAV of the target fund.
Credit/Default risk	Credit risk relates to the creditworthiness of the issuers of the investment (Islamic money market instruments) and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuers may impact the value as well as liquidity of the investment. In the case of rated investments, this may lead to a credit downgrade. Default risk relates to the risk of an issuer of the investment either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the investment. This could adversely affect the value of the target fund.
Equity investment risk	This is the risk associated with investing in a particular equity. The value of individual equity is mainly determined by its potential growth in earnings, sound management, and treatment of minority shareholders, as well as a myriad of other factors. Failure to achieve these would result in declining investment value which in turn affects the performance of the target fund. This can be mitigated by diversifying the target fund's portfolios.

RISKS (CONTINUED)

Reclassification of Shariah status risk

This risk refers to the risk that the currently held Shariah-compliant securities by the target fund may be reclassified to be Shariah non-compliant in the periodic review of the equities by the Shariah Advisory Council of the Securities Commission Malaysia (SACSC), the Shariah Adviser for the target fund or the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices.

If this occurs, Affin Hwang will take the necessary steps to dispose of such equities. There may be opportunity loss to the target fund due to the target fund not being allowed to retain the excess capital gains derived from the disposal of the Shariah non-compliant equities. Affin Hwang will be required to dispose of these equities immediately if the prices are above the purchase price. Should the prices be below the purchase price, Affin Hwang may choose to hold on to these holdings until the prices meet the purchase price. Nevertheless, should Affin Hwang decide to dispose of these equities below the purchase price, the target fund will be faced with the risk of realising its losses, thus negatively impacting the NAV of the target fund.

Shariah-compliant warrants investment risk

The value of the Shariah-compliant warrants (“warrants”) will depend on the pricing of the underlying security whereby the growth and performance prospect of the underlying security would consequentially affect the value of the warrants. In addition, the value of the warrants may decrease exponentially as the warrants approach its maturity date and the potential gains from a favourable price movement of the underlying security may be offset by aggressive time decay. Affin Hwang may consider unwinding these warrants if there are material adverse changes to its value with the aim to mitigate the risk.

Source : Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad
Date : 31 March 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.