# **Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Bond Fund**





### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

To achieve higher returns than the benchmark over the medium to long term while preserving capital and providing opportunity for income.

FUND DETAILS					
Launch Date	01 December 2009	Domicile	Malaysia		
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000		
Units in Circulation	14.75 million units (31 May 2022)	Fund Size	RM21.73 million (31 May 2022)		
Unit NAV	RM1.4736 (31 May 2022)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)		
Investment Manager of the Target Fund	Opus Asset Management Sdn Bhd	Target Fund	Opus Shariah Income Fund		
Benchmark	Maybank 12-Month Islamic Fixed Deposit Rate	Taxation	8% of annual investment income		
Risk Profile	<ul> <li>Suitable for investors:</li> <li>Have a medium to long term investment time frame</li> <li>Are seeking stability in income through investment in Malaysian Shariah-compliant bonds (sukuk)</li> <li>Are looking for a less volatile investments but can accept lower returns which may fluctuate over the short term</li> </ul>	Fees	<ul> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Bond Fund.</li> <li>Up to 1.0% p.a. fund management charge is applied on the Target Fund's NAV by Opus Asset Management Sdn Bhd</li> </ul>		
ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND					
Sukuk, Islamic Money	Sukuk, Islamic Money Market Instruments & Islamic Placement of Deposits Other Permitted Investment				
Minimum 70% of NAV			Maximum 30% of NAV		

## Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Bond Fund May 2022



ECTOR ALLOCATION OF TH	E TARGET FUND	TOP HOLDING	GS OF THE	TARGET FUND	)	
Finance	24.70%	Sukuk Issuer	Coupon	Maturity Date	Rating	
Toll Road	16.44%	DANGA CAP	4.88%	29.01.30	AAA	
Investment Holding	12.36%	BHD				
Bank	6.74%	Maybank B3 AT1	4.08%	25.09.24	AA3	
Industrial	6.72%	Press Metal	4.10%	17.10.24	AA3	
Health Care	6.52%	Zamarad				
Power	5.25%	TR2	4.60%	24.07.26	AAA	
Water	4.26%	SME Bank	3.30%	23.04.27	NR-GG	
Infrastructure	1.13%	(GG)				
Property	1.12%	Credit Profile				ļ
Transport / Port	1.09%	AAA				
Plantation	1.09%	AA3				
Telecommunication	0.28%	NR-GG				
Cash	12.28%	AA1				
Total	100.00%	AA2				
10(4)	100.0070	Cash				

### **PERFORMANCE RECORD**

This fund feeds into Opus Shariah Income Fund ("Target Fund") with the objective to achieve higher returns than the benchmark over the medium to long term while preserving capital and providing opportunity for income.

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

%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	-1.46	0.51	-2.55	4.64	16.07	32.65	47.36
Benchmark	0.77	0.17	1.86	6.81	13.89	33.25	42.98

\* 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 Sukuk markets took cues from still-elevated inflation concerns along with fears that a failure by the Fed to engineer a soft landing could lead to a US economic recession. This risk-off sentiment benefited Sukuk, which was compounded by China's deepening lockdown-induced economic slowdown, with both the manufacturing sector and private consumption heavily affected. Thus, we expect domestic sukuk yields to be capped by Malaysia's moderate inflation outlook and the dimming outlook for global growth.

We believe that despite the still on-going volatility with impending rate hikes and elevated inflation, the Sukuk market yields are at the tail end of its peak, having risen on average 100-160 bps higher in the last 1.5 years, with yields at the highest in the last 14 years. As such, we see opportunities to invest in higher yielding Sukuk, with the strategy of increasing the running yield of the portfolio to 4.5% - 5.0%, while keeping duration at 4 - 5 years. We remain overweight on corporate Sukuk in view of the economic recovery, and target at least 80% allocation to corporate Sukuk. We will also take opportunity to trade on government Sukuk as we see signs of increasing risk of global economic slowdown.

#### **RISKS**

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

Market risk	The usual risks of investing and participating in listed and unlisted securities apply to an investment in the units. Prices of securities may go up or down in response to changes in economic conditions, profit rates, and the market's perception of securities. These may cause the price of units to go up or down as the price of units is based on the current market value of the investments of the target fund.
Fund management risk	The performance of the target fund depends on, amongst other things, the experience and expertise of Opus AM. Poor management of the target fund will jeopardise the investment of the target fund and subsequently, may lead to losses to unit holders. The risk is reduced through the following:
	<ul> <li>Implementation of a consistent structured investment process; and</li> <li>Establishment and implementation of stringent internal policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
Non-compliance risk	This involves the risk of fraudulent acts or the risk that rules set out in the governing deed or law that govern the target fund's operations or internal policies and procedures are not being complied with (e.g. human and system errors), which may result in loss to the target fund.
	The risk is reduced through the establishment and implementation of appropriate compliance guidelines and stringent internal control policies.
	Investments in debt securities are subject to the risk of profit rate fluctuations. Prices of debt securities will normally move in the opposite direction of interest rates. A rise or fall in interest rates will cause a fall or rise respectively in prices of debt securities. The target fund may experience a capital loss or gain respectively should the debt securities be sold before maturity.
Interest rate risk	Opus AM adopts a top-down investment approach to ensure a thorough evaluation of macro- economic factors is undertaken in order to form an interest rate view. Opus AM will develop the portfolio maturity structure based on their interest rate view to capitalise on expected movements in interest rates. In addition, it is also intended to have maturity diversification to ensure limited impact on the portfolio value in case of adverse changes in interest rate direction.
	Note: The interest rate is a general indicator that will have an impact on the management of funds regardless if the target fund is a Shariah fund or otherwise. All the investments carried out for the target fund are Shariah-compliant.

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RISKS (CONTINUED)	
Equity risk	The target fund is allowed to hold redeemable Sukuk that are convertible into equity. In the event Opus AM chooses to convert the redeemable Sukuk into equity, the target fund will be exposed to equity risk. Equity risk refers to the performance of the equity securities that is much more volatile and difficult to predict as compared to Sukuk. The effect of such volatility and unpredictable performance of the equity securities may have an adverse impact on the target fund's NAV per unit. However, this risk is limited as Opus AM will sell the said equity within 3 months from the date of conversion.
Concentration risk	The target fund is susceptible to the concentration risk. As the target fund has no limit restriction for money placements or deposits with any single financial institution, there is a possibility that the target fund may be exposed to a single financial institution. The target fund may also be exposed to a single or group issuer limits if the NAV is RM30 million and below. The concentration risk is managed through the monitoring of credit analysis conducted on financial institutions and issuers.
Credit/Default risk	<ol> <li>This risk can be referred to:         <ol> <li>Issuer's creditworthiness             This risk is intrinsic with the target fund's investments in Sukuk and refers to the issuer             of the Sukuk's creditworthiness and its expected ability to repay debt. Default happens             when the issuer is not able to make timely payments of profit on the coupon payment             date or principal repayment on the maturity date. If default happens, this will cause a             decline in the value of the defaulted Sukuk and subsequently affect the target fund's             NAV per unit.         </li> <li>Opus AM minimises the target fund's credit risk by adopting the following:         <ul> <li>Conducting thorough credit analysis before any investment to ascertain the             creditworthiness of different issuers; and</li> <li>Diversifying the portfolio by investing in different issuers, if possible.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Financial institutions' creditworthiness     <ul> <li>This risk refers to a financial institution that is a party to the trade or placement contract             of the target fund, may default in its payment.             Opus AM minimises the target fund's credit and default risk by conducting a thorough             credit analysis on the financial institutions' creditworthiness. With regards to the trading             of the target fund's Sukuk, the risk is minimised by dealing only with any financial             institution via Real Time Electronic Transfer of Funds and Securities ("RENTAS")             system.</li> </ul> </li> </ol></li></ol>

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RISK (CONTINUED)	
Liquidity risk	Liquidity risk is defined as the ease with which a security can be sold at or near its fair value depending on the volume traded on the market. This risk is more pertinent to Sukuk and Islamic money market instrument of the target fund in view that such investments are generally not as easily liquidated as compared to equities. In the event some of the Sukuks and Islamic money market instruments of the target fund are not actively traded, there is a risk Opus AM may not be able to easily liquidate such investments and as a result, investors may face difficulties in redeeming their units.
Inflation/Purchasing Power Risk	Inflation can be described as increases of price level of goods and services and is commonly represented using the consumer price index. High inflation reduces the purchasing power of a fixed sum of money. In an inflationary environment, fixed rate securities are exposed to higher inflation risk than inflation-linked securities. The investor's investment in the target fund may not grow proportionately to the inflation rate. This will then decrease the investor's purchasing power even though the investment in monetary terms may have increased.

Source : Opus Asset Management Berhad Date : 31 May 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 contributions 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.

Sun Life Malaysia Takaful Berhad 200501012215 (689263-M) Level 11, 338 Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, 50100 Kuala Lumpur Telephone (603) 2612 3600 Client Careline 1300-88-5055 wecare@sunlifemalaysia.com sunlifemalaysia.com