August 2023



## **FUND OBJECTIVE**

To achieve long-term capital growth.

FUND DETAILS				
Launch Date	01 June 2022	Domicile	Malaysia	
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000	
Units in Circulation	1.39 million units (30 August 2023)	Fund Size	RM1.70 million (30 August 2023)	
Unit NAV	RM1.2239 (30 August 2023)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)	
Fund Manager	Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn Bhd	Target Fund	Nomura Global Shariah Sustainable Equity MYR Class A Fund	
Benchmark	Dow Jones Islamic Market Developed Markets Index	Taxation	8% of annual investment income	
Risk Profile	Suitable for investors:  are seeking long term capital growth;  want a portfolio of Shariah compliant investments that provides positive impact on the sustainable development of society;  want to have portfolio with global exposure; and  are prepared to accept moderate level of volatility.	Fees	<ul> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Global Sustainable Fund.</li> <li>Up to 1.6% p.a. fund management charge is applied on the target fund's NAV by Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn Bhd.</li> </ul>	

# ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND Equity Fund 95.89% Cash and Others 4.11% SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND Information Technology 30.29% Microsoft Corp 6.43%

SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Information Technology	30.29%			
Health Care	24.87%			
Industrials	16.78%			
Financials	10.54%			
Communication Services	4.56%			
Consumer Discretionary	3.68%			
Materials	1.92%			
Consumer Staples	1.88%			
Utilities	1.36%			
Cash & Others	4.11%			

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND		
Microsoft Corp	6.43%	
Alphabet Inc-Class A	4.56%	
Visa Inc-Class A Shares	4.23%	
Adobe Inc	4.15%	
Boston Scientific Corp	4.13%	

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#### PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Nomura Global Shariah Sustainable Equity Fund-MYR Class A ("target fund") with the objective to achieve long-term capital growth.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Global Sustainable Fund versus its benchmark as at 30 August 2023:

%	YTD	1M	3M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	24.27	1.13	6.31	16.99	18.93	N/A	22.39
Benchmark	28.48	0.85	7.47	20.24	22.81	N/A	30.19

<sup>\*</sup> 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**

With another wrap of quarterly earnings, we continue to observe that majority of the companies delivered another quarter of better than expected results. The fear of recession was not reflected significantly negative in the earnings or guidance. In the Jackson Hole Federal Reserve meeting, Chairman Jerome Powell mentioned about resilient U.S. economic strength while reiterated that rate hike decisions would be data dependant. These messages help investors to be less nervous about rate hike surprise as the latest negative economic data shown in lower Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expectation revision and job openings were perceived as putting less pressure on the Federal Reserve to implement more rate hikes in the near term.

MYR Class A returned 1.13% outperforming the benchmark by 0.28%. The outperformance was driven by selection in North America. By sector, Healthcare contributed to the outperformance, followed by the Information Technology sector. This is explained by the individual companies across the sectors that have delivered better than expected results.

The top contributors to performance were Novo Nordisk and Eli Lilly. During August, Novo Nordisk announced that their SELECT trial showed a 20% reduction in cardiovascular ("CV") events for those who took Wegovy, its anti-obesity medicine, compared to the control arm. The 20% result was higher than the trial was set for (17%) and will foster increased acceptance of this new class of medicines. In addition, both the companies delivered clean beat on their quarterly result attributed to the strong demand for diabetes drugs. The top detractors were Johnson Control and Orsted. Johnson Control has reported quite decent earnings but there were more concerns about the short-term demand strength. However, we think that the growth of order book put the Company in a better position than peers to deliver stronger results. In addition to delivering earnings that missed expectations, Orsted announced a huge potential asset impairment of up to DKK 16B that is likely to happen due to the supply chain delays and higher interest rates in the U.S.

Impact Focus of the Month: The 20% reduction in cardiovascular events seen across the Novo Nordisk Select Trial has potentially far reaching implications for global health outcomes. Novo Nordisk has estimated that 764mm people are suffering from obesity with around half of this in developed markets. So far around 10% of that population (76mm) seek help for obesity but very few (15mm) are treated with anti-obesity medicines. If all those seeking help (76mm) were treated with Wegovy, which was able to reduce CV events by 20%, it is conceivable that over 15 million CV events could be prevented over time. Given the trial length was 5 years and the take-up of Wegovy has been rapid, it could be possible that these benefits accrue already by 2035 globally. Longer-term the benefits are likely to be even greater as demand for these medicines continues to scale. The 76mm modelled is just 10% of today's obese population, which is still growing, and the penetration rate could move meaningfully higher. Why is it important to reduce CV events? Reducing cardiovascular events at scale should improve key health metrics such as life expectancy both directly (less fatal heart attacks/ strokes) but also because CV events can contribute to other debilitating conditions (just 10% of patients fully recover from a stroke according to the National Stroke Association for example).

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RISKS		
	some form of risks. The potential key risks include but are not limited to the following:	
Returns not guaranteed	The investment of the fund is subject to market fluctuations and its inherent risk. There is NO GUARANTEE on the investment returns, nor any assurance that the target fund's investment objective will be achieved.	
Market risk	The value of an investment will decrease or increase due to changes in market factors i.e. economic, political or other events that impact large portions of the market. Market risk cannot be eliminated, hence the target fund's investment portfolio may be prone to changing market conditions that may result in uncertainties and fluctuations in the value of the underlying of the target fund's investment portfolio, causing the NAV or prices of units to fluctuate.	
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 nominal value of the investment in monetary terms has increased.	
Manager's risk	This risk refers to the day-to-day management of the target fund by Nomura which will impact the performance of the target fund. For example, investment decisions undertaken by Nomura as a result of 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 or weakness in operational process and systems may adversely affect the performance of the target fund. In order to mitigate this risk, the implementation of internal controls and a structured investment process and operational procedures has been put in place by Nomura.	
Country risk	The investment of the target fund may be affected by risk specific to the country in which it invests in. Such risks include changes in the country's economic, social and political environment. The value of the assets of the target fund may also be affected by uncertainties such as currency repatriation restrictions or other developments in the law or regulations of the country in which the target fund invest in.	
Reclassification of Shariah Compliance Status	Shariah-compliant securities and instruments held by the target fund are subject to periodic review by the SAC of the SC, SAC of BNM, the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices or the Shariah Adviser. These securities may be reclassified as non-compliant during such reviews and the target fund may need to take the necessary steps to dispose of such security or instrument, upon the advice of the Shariah Adviser. Consequently, the target fund may realise some losses in the disposal of the same or there may be opportunity loss for the target fund as the target fund may not be permitted to retain excess capital gains derived from such disposal.	

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## **RISKS (CONTINUED)**

As the Base Currency is denominated in USD and the currency denomination of the Classes may be denominated in other than USD, the Classes not denominated in USD are also exposed to currency risk. Any fluctuation in the exchange rates between USD and the currency denomination of the Class (other than Classes denominated in USD) will affect the Unit Holder's investments in those Classes (other than Classes denominated in USD). The impact of the exchange rate movement between the Base Currency and the currency denomination of the Class (other than Classes denominated in USD) may result in a depreciation of the Unit Holder's holdings as expressed in the Base Currency.

## **Currency Risk**

In order to manage currency risk, Nomura may employ currency hedging strategies to fully or partially hedge the foreign currency exposure of the target fund's investments and/or the Classes not denominated in USD. Currency hedging may reduce the effect of the exchange rate movement for the Class being hedged but it does not entirely eliminate currency risk between the Class and the Base Currency. The unhedged portion of the Class will still be affected by the exchange rate movements and it may cause fluctuation of NAV of the Class. You should note that if the exchange rate moves favourably, the Class will not benefit from any upside in currency movement due to the hedging strategy. In addition, hedging is subject to a minimum size of entering into a hedging contract and the cost of hedging will be borne by the hedged class and may affect returns of the hedged class.

## **Default Risk**

Default risk relates to the risk that an issuer of a money market instrument either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the money market instruments. If the financial institution which the target fund places deposits with defaults in payment or become insolvent, the target fund may also suffer capital losses with regards to the capital invested and interest foregone, causing the performance of the target fund to be adversely affected This could affect the value of the target fund as up to 20% of the NAV of the target fund will be invested in Islamic deposits, Islamic money market instruments and/or held in cash.

Source : Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn Bhd

Date : 30 August 2023

#### 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.