

# **FUND OBJECTIVE**

To provide a steady income stream over the medium to long-term period through investments primarily in bonds and other fixed income securities.

| FUND DETAILS         |                                                                                                     |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Launch Date          | 16 January 2018                                                                                     | Domicile     | Malaysia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| Currency             | Ringgit Malaysia                                                                                    | Launch Price | RM1.0000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| Units in Circulation | 8.74 million units<br>(29 January 2021)                                                             | Fund Size    | RM10.22 million<br>(29 January 2021)                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| Unit NAV             | RM1.1701<br>(29 January 2021)                                                                       | Dealing      | Daily<br>(as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |
| Fund Manager         | Affin Hwang Asset Management<br>Berhad                                                              | Target Fund  | Affin Hwang Select Bond Fund                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |
| Benchmark            | Maybank 12-Month Fixed Deposit<br>Rate                                                              | Taxation     | 8% of annual investment income                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |  |
| Risk Profile         | Suitable for investors:  Have a medium to long term investment horizon Risk averse and conservative | Fees         | <ul> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Select Bond Fund</li> <li>Up to 1.0% p.a. of fund management charge is applied on the Target Fund's NAV by Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad</li> </ul> |  |  |

| ASSET ALLOCATION  |                   |                                   |  |  |  |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Bonds             | Cash              | Money Market Instruments/Deposits |  |  |  |
| Min 70%; Max 100% | Remaining Balance | Min 0%; Max 30%                   |  |  |  |



| SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE | TARGET FUND |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Real Estate              | 21.10%      |
| Banks                    | 19.40%      |
| Government               | 15.60%      |
| Industrials              | 9.90%       |
| Oil & Gas                | 6.30%       |
| Financial Services       | 4.80%       |
| Insurance                | 3.40%       |
| Utilities                | 3.10%       |
| Consumer Goods           | 2.20%       |
| Consumer Services        | 1.90%       |
| Basic Materials          | 1.80%       |
| Telecommunications       | 1.20%       |
| Others                   | 1.80%       |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents  | 7.50%       |
| Total                    | 100.00%     |

| TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND |        |               |     |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------|-----|--|--|--|
| Bonds Issuer                    | Coupon | Maturity Date | %   |  |  |  |
| United States Treasury N/b      | 0.63%  | 15.08.30      | 2.0 |  |  |  |
| China Government Bond           | 2.68%  | 12.05.30      | 1.7 |  |  |  |
| Santos Finance Ltd              | 5.25%  | 13.03.29      | 1.3 |  |  |  |
| MGS                             | 4.64%  | 07.11.33      | 1.2 |  |  |  |
| GII                             | 3.73%  | 31.03.26      | 1.1 |  |  |  |
| Eco World Capital Assets Bhd    | 6.50%  | 12.08.22      | 1.1 |  |  |  |
| Lafarge Cement Sdn Bhd          | 5.06%  | 08.07.22      | 1.1 |  |  |  |
| Yinson Juniper Ltd              | 7.85%  | 05.10.49      | 1.1 |  |  |  |
| Standard Chartered Plc          | 6.00%  | 29.12.49      | 1.0 |  |  |  |
| Sinopec Grp Oversea Dev't 2018  | 2.30%  | 08.01.31      | 1.0 |  |  |  |

## PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Affin Hwang Select Bond Fund ("Target Fund") with the objective to provide a steady income stream over the medium to long-term period through investments primarily in bonds and other fixed income securities.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Select Bond Fund versus its benchmark as at 29 January 2021:

| %         | YTD  | 1M   | 3M   | 6M   | 1-Year | 3-Years | Since<br>Inception |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|--------|---------|--------------------|
| Fund*     | 0.04 | 0.04 | 1.47 | 2.11 | 4.73   | 17.23   | 17.01              |
| Benchmark | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.46 | 0.93 | 2.12   | 8.89    | 9.15               |

<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**

- The Fed left interest rates unchanged at 0-0.25% in January, stating that the pace of the recovery has moderated in recent months. The Fed will not consider tapering until it believes the economy is reaching towards maximum employment. On inflation, they expect an uptick in inflation in coming quarters due to the low base effect from 2020.
- The 10-year U.S. Treasury yields rose above 1% for the first time since March, reflecting increased bets on additional fiscal stimulus after Democrats won control over the Senate election. Similarly, DXY has been hovering around the 90 level in January from 89.93 at end-December.
- Primary issuances in Asia continue to see strong demand. A majority of these saw strong oversubscription. A
  synchronised recovery in the region as well as accommodative central banks, could lead to credit spreads tightening
  further.
- Asian credits continue to see healthy buying interest as credit spreads for both Asian IG and HY tightening. This was
  driven by improved market sentiments following the inauguration of Joe Biden as the new US President, and on
  expectations of a broad market recovery.
- Indonesia's central bank left its key interest rate unchanged at a record low at 3.75%, projecting optimism that the
  economy is recovering and inflation will remain tame even with new restrictions in place to fight a surge in Covid-19
  infections.

**STRATEGY**: Rates are likely to remain low given concerns on low growth and lack of inflationary pressures. Focus will be on credit selection with government bonds to provide liquidity and trading opportunities.

- The Chinese property sector continues to be the main contributor for yield. We also added positions in Chinese govt bonds due to the attractive yield, strong reserves, and the economic recovery from the pandemic.
- We continue to favor quality names with a slight tilt towards the IG segment. Invested level is at ~93% and we intend to keep invested level at 90-95% for better opportunities.
- Duration remained at around 5.5 years while open FX positions were further reduced.



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

Market risk

Market risk refers to the possibility that an investment will lose value because of a general decline in financial markets, due to economic, political and/or other factors, which will result in a decline in the target fund's NAV.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk refers to two scenarios. The first scenario is where an investment cannot be sold due to unavailability of a buyer for that investment. The second scenario exists where the investment, by its nature, is thinly traded. This will have the effect of causing the investment to be sold below its fair value which would adversely affect the NAV of the target fund.

Credit and default risk

Credit risk relates to the credit worthiness of the issuers of the bonds or money market instruments ("Investment") and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuer may impact the value as well as liquidity of the Investment. In the case of rated investment, 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.

Interest rate risk

This risk refers to the impact of interest rate changes on the valuation of bonds or money market instruments ("Investment"). When interest rates rise, the investment prices generally decline and this may lower the market value of the Investment. The reverse may apply when interest rates fall.

**Currency risk** 

As the Investments of the target fund may be denominated in currencies other than the base currency, any fluctuation in the exchange rate between the base currency and the currencies in which the investments are denominated may have an impact on the value of these investments. Investors 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.

Currency risk at the target fund level

The impact of the exchange rate movement between the base currency of the target fund and the currency of the underlying investments may result in a depreciation of the value of the investments as expressed in the base currency of the target fund.



### **RISKS**

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

# Structured products risk

The NAV of the target fund will be impacted by the valuation of the structured product. Factors that may impact the valuation of the structured products will include, but not be limited to movement of the underlying assets, volatility of the underlying assets, interest rate levels, the correlation of the underlying assets and other such factors. Any change in the aforesaid factors would either positively or negatively impact the valuation of the structured products, hence impacting the NAV of the target fund. As such, the target fund's NAV will be exposed to potential price volatility, which will be dependent on the valuation of the structured products that the target fund invested in.

### Country risk

Investments of the target fund in any country may be affected by changes in 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 prices of units to fall.

### Regulatory risk

The investments of the target fund would be exposed to changes in the laws and regulations in the countries the target fund is invested in. These regulatory changes pose a risk to the target fund as it may materially impact the investments of the target fund. In an effort to manage and mitigate such risk, the fund manager seeks to continuously keep abreast of regulatory developments (for example, by closely monitoring announcements on regulators' website and mainstream media) in that country. The fund manager may dispose its investments in that particular country should the regulatory changes adversely impact the investors' interest or diminish returns to the target fund.

Source : Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad

Date : 29 January 2021

#### 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.