## **Sun Life Malaysia Balanced Moderate Fund**

November 2021



### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

To provide a balanced exposure into equities and bonds.

FUND DETAILS				
Launch Date	20 October 2008	Domicile	Malaysia	
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000	
Units in Circulation	in Circulation 9.48 million units (30 November 2021)		RM17.85 million (30 November 2021)	
Unit NAV	RM1.8822 (30 November 2021)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)	
Fund Manager	d Manager Principal Asset Management Bhd		50% FBM100 + 50% 12 month FD	
Taxation	8% of annual investment income	Other Charges	Inclusive of auditor fee	
Risk Profile	Suitable for investors:  Want a balanced portfolio between equities and bonds  Are risk neutral between bonds and equities	Fees	The fund will feed into Sun Life Malaysia Growth Fund and Sun Life Malaysia Conservative Fund which applies the following fund management charges:  Sun Life Malaysia Growth Fund: 1.5% p.a.  Sun Life Malaysia Conservative Fund: 1.0% p.a.  There are no other fund management charges on this fund	

ASSET ALLOCATION				
Sun Life Malaysia Conservative Fund	Sun Life Malaysia Growth Fund			
50.00%	50.00%			

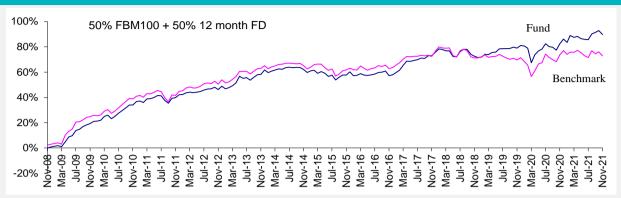
WHERE THE FUND INVESTS							
Sun Life Malaysia Conservative Fund	Sun Life Malaysia Growth Fund	Cash	Total				
50.59%	49.34%	0.07%	100.00%				

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#### **PERFORMANCE RECORD**



%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	1.95	-1.58	3.96	9.95	20.69	35.80	89.77
Benchmark	-2.34	-1.80	-0.50	0.95	6.18	22.22	72.90

<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**

In November 2021, the Fund's performance decreased by 1.58%, outperforming the benchmark by 0.22%.

FBMKLCI lost 48.3pts or 3.1% and landed at 1,513.98pts in November. The market was in consolidation mode post-Budget 2022 mainly due to the tax measures and the hike in stamp duty. The discovery of a seemingly more virulent variant of the Covid-19 virus named Omicron and the new wave of infections in several parts of the world dashed hopes of an uninterrupted reopening and triggered another round of broad-based sell-off. Glove stocks dominated the gainers leaderboard, while the broader market languished.

Malaysia's manufacturing PMI improved further to 52.3pts from 52.2pts in October and was the second straight month of growth in factory activity and the strongest since April. Production and new order volumes expanded at the fastest pace in seven months, aided by lifting of movement restrictions. Employment rose for the first time since March as firms add capacity to fulfill orders. On inflation, input prices rose at the sharpest pace since May due to high raw material and freight costs. Exports however remained subdued with sustained supply-chain constrains often the reason cited. IHS Markit indicated that, "Confidence has strengthened due to hopes that national and international pandemic restrictions would lift and aid a recovery in production and sales".

Data released in November showed Malaysia's consumer price index (CPI) increased by 2.9% in October 2021 from a year earlier on factors including rising fuel prices and discontinuation of electricity bill discounts by the government. On a monthly basis, CPI increased by 0.7% whilst year to date the CPI increased by 2.3% between January to October 2021. Exports in October 2021 maintained its steady growth momentum as it rose 25% YoY with a value of RM114.4 billion while imports also grew 21.8% YoY to RM801.2 billion. Total trade grew by 23.5% to RM1.8 trillion compared to the same period in 2020. Exports increase was driven by petroleum products, manufacture of metal and electrical and electronics, while imports rise was mainly due to electrical and electronics amongst others. The Malaysian economy contracted by 4.5% YoY in 3Q2021 (2Q2021:+16.1% YoY) which was largely due to the strict containment measures particularly in July under the National Recovery Plan. The construction sector contracted the most during the period with domestic demand declining by 4.1% YoY (2Q2021: +12.4%) weighed down mainly by the contraction in private consumption and investment activities, while continued increase in public sector consumption spending provided support to growth.

With the expectation of an interest rate hike intensifies, the yield curve will likely bear flattened with total return on the 7year bonds likely to be higher compared to 3- and 5-year bonds. Additionally, as the economy begins to recover, we can expect corporate bond yields to stabilize and possibly tighten from here. As such, the Portfolio will keep a neutral duration with more focus on high grade credits.

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#### **RISKS**

Market risk

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

Market risk is the risk of negative movement that affects the price of all assets in a particular capital market. The factors influencing the performance of the markets include:

- Economic and financial market conditions
- Political change
- Broad investor sentiment
- Movements in interest rate and inflation
- Currency risks

Stock and/or securities values fluctuate in response to the activities and performance of individual companies and general market or economic conditions. Such movements in the underlying values of the share of the investment portfolio will cause the NAV or prices of units to fall as well as rise. Market risk is mitigated through careful selection of securities and diversification through spreading of risk across a basket of assets and/or sectors.

Interest rate risk

Interest rates are inclined to fluctuate over time. A rise in the general level of interest rates will result in a decline of the value of all bonds and fixed interest securities. Hence a bond fund's NAV will most probably decrease with the rise of interest rates. Maintaining an appropriate diverse mix of assets with different yield and maturity profiles will lessen the impact of interest rate risk.

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 volumes traded on the market. Liquidity risk is mitigated through the selection of stocks with an active trading volume in the open market. This ensures that exit strategies can be executed with little/minimal impacts to price fluctuations.

Company or security specific risk There are many specific risks, which apply to individual companies or securities. Examples include the possible effect on a company of losing a key executive or the unforeseen entry of a new competitor into the market. The risk is mitigated by conducting in-house periodic reviews and analysis. In-house analysis is then supplemented by periodic reviews from rating agencies and market analysts.

Credit risk

Credit risk refers to an issuer's ability to make timely payments of profit and principal. In the event that the issuer of the instrument is faced with financial difficulties, leading to a decrease in their credit worthiness (i.e Bond prices will change/drop in the event of rating downgrade) and default in the payment of profit and principal, the value of the fund may be adversely affected. Credit risk is mitigated by conducting in-house periodic reviews and analysis. In-house analysis is then supplemented by periodic reviews from rating agencies and market analysts.

Source: Principal Asset Management Bhd

Date : 30 November 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.