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

**April 2025** 



### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

To provide a balanced exposure into equities and bonds.

### **INVESTMENT STRATEGY & APPROACH**

Please refer to the Master Fund Fact Sheets at <a href="https://www.sunlifemalaysia.com/insurance-and-takaful/investment-linked-">https://www.sunlifemalaysia.com/insurance-and-takaful/investment-linked-</a> fund/yearly-fund-fact-sheet/ for more information on the Investment Strategy and Approach for the target fund.

FUND DETAILS						
Launch Date	20 October 2008	Domicile	Malaysia			
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000			
Units in Circulation	12.78 million units (30 April 2025)	Fund Size	RM27.61 million (30 April 2025)			
Unit NAV	RM2.1595 (30 April 2025)	Performance Benchmark	50% FBM100 + 50% 12 month FD			
Fund Manager	Principal Asset Management Bhd	Frequency and Basis of Unit Valuation	The unit price is determined daily based on value of the holdings in the target fund, net of expenses, divided by the total number of units in that fund			
Taxation	8% of annual investment income	Other Charges	Inclusive of auditor fee			
Target Market	Suitable for investors:  Want a balanced portfolio between equities and bonds  Are risk neutral between bonds and equities	Fund Management Charge	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%				

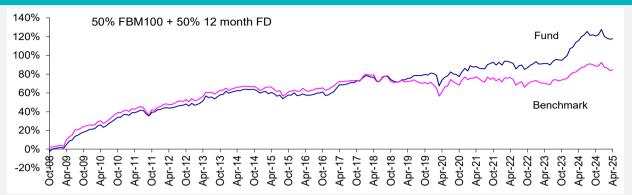
WHERE THE FUND INVESTS							
Sun Life Malaysia Conservative Fund			Total				
49.56%	50.35%	0.09%	100.00%				

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#### **PERFORMANCE RECORD**



%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	-4.37	0.22	0.87	12.89	25.33	35.72	117.73
Benchmark	-4.06	0.47	-0.05	4.70	14.69	11.08	84.73

<sup>\*</sup> Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV

Source: Lipper

#### **FUND MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

In April 2025, the Fund's performance increased by 0.22%, underperforming the benchmark by 0.25%.

The KLCI rose 1.8% in April 2025 (+4.6% in USD terms). The index appeared to have fully recovered from the "Liberation Day" sell-off. Investors sentiment was mainly buoyed by hopes of the US dialing back on tariffs against major trading nations, therefore easing concerns on the dérailment of global trade and prospects of a recession. Gainers were led by Telcos, Consumer and Healthcare, while main laggards were Energy and Transport. Within the broader market, Tech continues to languish.

Malaysia's manufacturing sector moderated further in April, with a softer PMI reading of 48.6pts vs 48.8pts in the previous month. S&P Global stated that demand conditions remain subdued while firms opted to work through backlogs in the absence of new orders while also scaling back employment, purchases and stock holdings. Inflation pressure trended downwards once again in April but only mildly. Business confidence slipped to the lowest level since July 2023, with firms expressing concerns about the potential adverse impacts of muted global economy and US tariffs. The latest PMI data still suggests modest growth in GDP for 1Q25 – advanced estimates show MY GDP grew 4.4% in 1Q25. To recap, Malaysia's GDP grew by 5% in 4Q24 and 5.1% for 2024. BNM maintained its GDP growth forecast of 4.5-5.5% in 2025 during the recent briefing but highlighted potential risk to growth due to the trade restrictions.

Local government bond market rallied in April, following a steepening trend in the US Treasuries as the market began pricing in the potential impacts from the retaliatory tariffs which could result in slower global growth. The Malaysian Government Securities ("MGS") yield curve steepened with the 3-year moving lower by 21 bps, while the 10-year and 30-year adjusted lower by 12bps and 8bps, respectively. The Malaysian Government Investment Issue ("MGII") yields also shifted lower during the month between 8 to 18bps throughout the curve. During the month, local government bonds remained supported with yields drifting lower in a bull-steepening fashion. However, credit spreads widened across all tenors and rating categories during the month, with the short end experiencing the most significant widening. Meanwhile, the long-end corporate bonds saw a more modest increase of 1 to 3 bps across all rating categories.

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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 April 2025

#### **Disclaimer:**

This is strictly the performance of the investment fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums paid of the investment-linked product. Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance. 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.