

# Sun Life Malaysia

## Islamic Strategic Balanced Fund

February 2024



### FUND OBJECTIVE

To achieve moderate capital growth by investing in a portfolio of Shariah-compliant collective investment schemes that invests in Shariah-compliant equities and/or Sukuk.

### FUND DETAILS

Launch Date	1 December 2017	Domicile	Malaysia
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000
Units in Circulation	7.67 million units (31 January 2024)	Fund Size	RM8.03 million (31 January 2024)
Unit NAV	RM1.0471 (31 January 2024)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)
Fund Manager	Principal Asset Management Bhd	Target Fund	Principal Islamic Balanced Wholesale Fund-of-Funds
Benchmark	30% Quantshop GII Medium Index + 20% CIMB Islamic 1-month Fixed Return Income Account-I (FRIA-i) + 50% FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Shariah Index	Taxation	8% of annual investment income
Risk Profile	<p>Suitable for investors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a long-term investment horizon</li> <li>Want a balanced portfolio that includes Shariah-compliant equities and Sukuk</li> <li>Want a portfolio of investments that adhere to Shariah principles</li> </ul>	Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Strategic Balanced Fund.</li> <li>Up to 1.5% p.a. of fund management charge is applied on the target fund's NAV by Principal Asset Management Berhad.</li> </ul>

### ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Mutual Fund	Cash
97.22%	2.78%

### SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Mutual Fund	97.22%
Cash	2.78%
Total	100.00%

### TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Principal DALI Equity Fund	49.32%
Principal Islamic Lifetime Enhanced Sukuk Fund	23.96%
Principal Islamic Lifetime Sukuk Fund	23.94%
Total	97.22%

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## PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Principal Islamic Balanced Wholesale Fund-of-Funds (“target fund”) with the objective to achieve moderate capital growth by investing in a portfolio of Shariah-compliant collective investment schemes that invest in Shariah-compliant equities and/or Sukuk.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Strategic Balanced Fund versus its benchmark as at 29 February 2024:

%	YTD	1M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund*</b>	2.89	1.57	4.78	8.18	-3.32	9.51	4.71
<b>Benchmark</b>	2.35	1.02	3.38	4.90	-1.50	8.48	6.47

\* 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 Fund rose 2.89% during the month, outperforming the benchmark by 54 bps.

MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Islamic Index declined 3.8% in US\$ terms in January, mainly due to China and Korea amidst volatility in the US risk free rate. The US 10-year bond yield rose for most parts of the month before coming off to end a marginal 3 basis points (bps) higher. The Dollar Index rose by 1.9% while oil price rose 6.1% to US\$81.70/ barrel.

The US Fed has gone from raising rates and tackling inflation in 2023 to calibrating how many rate cuts to implement from 2024 onwards. This should be supportive for equities in terms of multiple expansion provided earnings do not disappoint significantly. In the US Fed's December projections, the median policy rate is expected to decline by 80bps to 4.6% in 2024 and a further 100bps to 3.6% in 2025. The magnitude of rate cuts would highly depend on the inflation and economic growth trajectory, whereby a soft landing is currently expected. In Asia, several themes appear attractive including the recovery of the technology hardware cycle, broad-based growth in India and dividend yielders. While China has turned stimulative in its policies.

**RISKS**

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

<b>Market risk</b>	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.
<b>Inflation risk</b>	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 value of the investment in monetary terms has increased.
<b>Manager's risk</b>	This risk refers to the day-to-day management of the target fund by Principal which will impact the performance of the target fund. For example, investment decisions undertaken by Principal, as a result of an 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 weaknesses in operational process and systems, may adversely affect the performance of the target fund.
<b>Reclassification of Shariah status risk</b>	This risk refers to the risk that the currently held Shariah-compliant securities in the target fund may be reclassified as Shariah non-compliant in the periodic review of the securities by the Shariah Advisory Council of the Securities Commission Malaysia (SACSC), Shariah adviser of the issuer, the Shariah Adviser or the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices. If this occurs, Principal will take the necessary steps to dispose of such securities. There may be opportunity loss to the target fund due to the target fund not being allowed to retain the excess gains derived from the disposal of the Shariah non-compliant securities. In the event that the Shariah non-compliant securities are disposed of at a price lower than the investment cost, it may adversely affect the value of the target fund. Thus, it may cause the NAV of the target fund or price of units to fall.
<b>Risk associated with investing in Islamic CIS</b>	Since the target fund will invest entirely into Islamic CIS, there is a risk of concentration into Islamic CIS, in which the Islamic CIS's management company has absolute discretion over the Islamic CIS's investment technique and knowledge, operational controls and management. In the event of mismanagement of the Islamic CIS and/or the management company, the NAV of the target fund, which invests into those Islamic CIS would be affected negatively. Should the situation arise, Principal will seek for another Islamic CIS that is consistent with the objective of the target fund.
<b>Country risk</b>	The target fund may invest into Islamic CIS which can be domiciled in various countries. Therefore, the target fund will be subjected to risks specific to the countries in which the Islamic CIS are domiciled. Such risks include adverse changes in economic fundamentals, social and political stability, laws and regulations and foreign investments policies. These factors may have an adverse impact on the price of the Islamic CIS, which will depress the Islamic CIS's NAV growth, and consequently depress the target fund's NAV growth.

**RISKS (CONTINUED)**

**Currency risk**

As the target fund may invest into Islamic CIS denominated in currencies other than MYR, any fluctuation in the exchange rate between MYR and the currencies in which the Islamic CIS are denominated may have an impact on the value of these investments. You should be aware that if the currencies in which the Islamic CIS are denominated depreciate against MYR, this will have an adverse effect on the NAV of the target fund in MYR and vice versa. You should note that any gains or losses arising from the fluctuation in the exchange rate may further increase or decrease the returns of the target fund.

*Source : Principal Asset Management Bhd*  
*Date : 29 February 2024*

**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.