

# Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Deposit Fund

January 2024



## FUND OBJECTIVE

The Fund aims to provide investors with liquidity and regular income, whilst maintaining capital stability by investing primarily in Islamic deposits placements that comply with the Shariah principles.

## FUND DETAILS

Launch Date	18 January 2019	Domicile	Malaysia
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000
Units in Circulation	1.16 million units (31 January 2024)	Fund Size	RM1.29 million (31 January 2024)
Unit NAV	RM1.1176 (31 January 2024)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)
Fund Manager	Principal Asset Management Bhd	Target Fund	Principal Islamic Deposit Fund - Class AI
Benchmark	Islamic Interbank Overnight Rate	Taxation	8% of annual investment income
Risk Profile	<p>Suitable for investors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Seek liquid and low risk investment with a short-term investment horizon</li><li>▪ Want a Shariah-compliant investment.</li><li>▪ Seek for security and flexibility in investment.</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 Deposit Fund.</li><li>▪ Up to 0.30% of the NAV of the fund, accrued on a daily basis by the Principal Asset Management Bhd.</li></ul>

## ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Shariah-compliant Money Market	96.63%
Cash	3.37%
Total	100.00%

## TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Al Rajhi Bank M Bhd	5.95%
Public Islamic Bank Bhd	2.39%
RHB Islamic Bank Bhd	2.39%
AmBank Islamic	2.27%
Bank Islam Malaysia Bhd	2.25%
AmBank Islamic	2.23%
Public Islamic Bank Bhd	1.92%
Public Islamic Bank Bhd	1.92%
Hong Leong Islamic Bank Bhd	1.80%
Al Rajhi Bank M Bhd	1.68%
Total	24.80%

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## PERFORMANCE RECORD

This fund feeds into Principal Islamic Deposit Fund - Class AI ("target fund") with the objective to provide investors with liquidity and regular income, while maintaining capital stability by investing primarily in Islamic deposit placements with licensed Islamic financial institutions that comply with Shariah principles.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Deposit Fund versus its benchmark as at 31 January 2024:

%	YTD	1M	3M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	Since Inception
<b>Fund*</b>	0.27	0.27	0.79	1.61	3.31	7.30	11.76
<b>Benchmark</b>	0.25	0.25	0.76	1.52	2.97	7.11	12.97

\* 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 delivered 0.27% in January 2024, which was outperforming the benchmark by 2 bps and delivered 3.31% in the 12-months period ending 31 January 2024, outperforming the benchmark by 34 bps.

Bank Negara Malaysia's Monetary Policy Committee maintained the Overnight Policy Rate at 3.00% at its first meeting of the year in January as widely expected. Overall, the monetary policy statement shows their stance remains neutral and guided by the assessment of policy reforms and demand conditions. The narrative of the statement did not change very much from November 2023, with BNM highlighting that the tightening cycle has peaked for most central banks, but the monetary policy stance will likely remain tight in the near term.

Headline inflation in December printed 1.5% YoY (Nov'23: 1.5% YoY), which was in line with Bloomberg consensus. The December 2023 consumer price index (CPI) brought the annual headline inflation in 2023 to 2.5%, as compared to 3.3% in 2022. Core inflation increased at a slower rate of 1.9% in December 2023 as compared to 2% in November 2023 although this remained higher than the overall national inflation rate.

Malaysia's unemployment rate eased to 3.3% in November 2023 (Oct'23: 3.4%), which was the level right before the Covid outbreak, as employment growth continued to top labour force growth. Job increases were seen across all sectors with informal jobs hitting a fresh high. The statistics department reported that the job growth in November 2023 continued to expand in the services sector.

Malaysian economy grew by 3.4% in Q42023 vs. 3.3% in Q32023. This was below the consensus estimates for a 4.1% increase. Full year 2023 growth is estimated to have moderated to 3.8% YoY (2022: +8.7%) as the boost from Covid reopening faded. By sector, Agriculture and Mining & Quarrying growth improved to 1.2% (3Q23: 0.8%) and 3.7% (3Q23: -0.1%) respectively, but was offset by sharp deceleration in construction to 2.5% (3Q23: 7.2%) and slower services growth at 4.7% (3Q23: 5%). Meanwhile, manufacturing was flattish at 0.1% (3Q23: -0.1%).

**RISKS**

<b>Returns not guaranteed</b>	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.
<b>General market environment 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>Financing risk</b>	This risk occurs when you obtain financing to finance your investment. The inherent risk of investing with money obtained from financing includes you being unable to service the financing payments.
<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, e.g. investment decisions undertaken by Principal as a result of an incorrect view of the market may adversely affect the performance of the target fund.
<b>Reclassification of Shariah non-compliant 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), the Shariah adviser, the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices or the Shariah adviser of the issuer.
<b>Credit and default risk</b>	<p>Investment of the target fund may involve a certain degree of credit and default risk. Generally, credit and default risk is the risk of loss due to the counterparty's and/or issuer's non-payment or untimely payment of the investment amount as well as the returns on investment. Principal aim to mitigate this risk by performing fundamental credit research and analysis to determine the creditworthiness of its counterparty and/or issuer.</p> <p>Investment in the target fund is not the same as placing funds in a Shariah-compliant deposit with a licensed Islamic financial institution. There are risks involved and investors should rely on their own evaluation to assess the merits and risks when investing in the target fund.</p>

Source : *Principal Asset Management Berhad*

Date : *31 January 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.