

Sun Life Malaysia

Islamic Strategic Balanced Fund

September 2022



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	3.78 million units (30 September 2022)	Fund Size	RM3.56 million (30 September 2022)
Unit NAV	RM0.9413 (30 September 2022)	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"> Have a long-term investment horizon Want a balanced portfolio that includes Shariah-compliant equities and Sukuk Want a portfolio of investments that adhere to Shariah principles 	Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Strategic Balanced Fund. Up to 1.5% p.a. of fund management charge is applied on the target fund's NAV by Principal Asset Management Berhad.

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Collective Investments	Cash
96.83%	3.17%

SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND

Collective Investments	96.83%
Cash	3.17%
Total	100.00%

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Principal DALI Equity	48.11%
Principal Islamic Lifetime Sukuk	24.40%
Principal Islamic Lifetime Enhanced Sukuk	24.32%
Total	96.83%

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 30 September 2022:

%	YTD	1M	3M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	-10.84	-3.26	-1.96	-8.29	-10.89	-4.19	-5.87
Benchmark	-8.38	-3.52	-1.67	-7.26	-8.60	-3.41	-3.25

* 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 fell 3.26% during the month, outperforming the benchmark by 0.26ppt.

MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Islamic Index fell 11.0% in US\$ terms in September with top detractors being South Korea, Taiwan and China while Indonesia was the most resilient. Sentiment deteriorated post a resolute tone by the Federal Reserve Chair to combat inflation during the Jackson Hole meeting, leading to volatility in most asset classes including currencies, bonds and equities. The US 10-year bond yield rose 64bps to 3.8% while the Dollar Index rose 3.1% during the month. Meanwhile, crude oil declined 8.8% to US\$88/ barrel amidst recessionary fears.

As the Fed continues to tighten its monetary policy, most Asian central banks would have to follow a similar path or risk a depreciation in their currencies. The resultant economic growth reaction to the rate hike cycle would be keenly watched. The futures market is currently implying a further 120bps rate hike up till March 2023 and thereafter to decline. Much of its trajectory would depend on the inflation rate or whether there will be any unintended consequences to the economy/ financial markets in order for the Fed to change its course. In the meantime, central banks globally are playing an active role in managing volatility such as that observed in Japan's currency and UK's bond market recently.

In China, we will be entering the much anticipated five-yearly congress which will begin on Oct 16th. Clarity on wide-ranging policies and its approach toward zero-COVID post meeting would be key, although it may take more time for actual policy announcements or implementation, perhaps in early 2023.

Market risks persist on the path of monetary policy normalization led by the US Fed and reaction from Asian central banks. Also worthy to note are the US-China tensions which can range from company specific sanctions, financial markets such as Chinese listings in the US, military conflicts etc.

RISKS

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.
Inflation risk	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.
Manager's risk	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.
Reclassification of Shariah status risk	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.
Risk associated with investing in Islamic CIS	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.
Country risk	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 : *30 September 2022*

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.