

## **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The Fund aims to provide regular income by investing primarily in the Asia Pacific ex Japan region and at the same time aims to achieve capital appreciation over the medium to long-term.

FUND DETAILS					
Launch Date	13 February 2015	Domicile	Malaysia		
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000		
Units in Circulation	123.42 million units (29 January 2021)	Fund Size	RM213.49 million (29 January 2021)		
Unit NAV	RM1.7298 (29 January 2021)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)		
Fund Manager	Principal Asset Management Bhd	Target Fund	Principal Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund		
Benchmark	8% p.a.	Taxation	8% of annual investment income		
Risk Profile	Suitable for investors:  Have a medium to long-term investment horizon  Want a well-diversified portfolio of Asia Pacific ex Japan region  Seek regular income  Can accept that returns may fluctuate over the investment period	Fees	<ul> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund.</li> <li>1.8% pa of fund management charge is applied on the target fund's NAV by Principal Asset Management Bhd.</li> </ul>		

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Equities (Foreign)	Equities (Local)	Cash		
90.51%	0.96%	8.53%		



SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Information Technology	25.62%			
Financials	15.36%			
Industrials	14.29%			
Consumer Discretionary	8.84%			
Materials	8.65%			
Health Care	5.96%			
Communication Services	5.19%			
Energy	4.94%			
Real Estate	1.33%			
Consumer Staples	1.30%			
Cash	8.53%			
Total	100.00%			

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND	
Taiwan Semiconducter Manuf (Taiwan)	6.75%
Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd (South Korea)	6.72%
Tencent Hldg Ltd (Hong Kong)	5.19%
LG Chem Ltd (South Korea)	4.90%
AIA Group Ltd (Hong Kong)	3.29%
HDFC Bank Ltd (India)	3.18%
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd (Cayman Islands)	3.15%
AirTac International Group (Taiwan)	2.83%
Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing (Hong Kong)	2.76%
Sany Heavy Industry Co Ltd (China)	2.76%
Total	41.53%

## **PERFORMANCE RECORD**

This fund feeds into Principal Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund ("target fund") with the objective to provide regular income by investing primarily in the Asia Pacific ex Japan region and at the same time aims to achieve capital appreciation over the medium to long-term.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Asia Pacific Dynamic Income Fund versus its benchmark as at 29 January 2021:

%	YTD	1M	6M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	4.07	4.07	20.02	26.98	25.26	86.80	72.98
Benchmark	0.64	0.64	3.92	8.00	25.97	46.93	58.69

<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**

The Fund was up 4.07% in MYR terms in January, outperforming the absolute return benchmark by 343bps.

The MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Index advanced by 3.4% in USD terms in January 2021 led by China and Taiwan while the Philippines and Malaysia lagged. The year started with optimism around the momentum in global economic growth, vaccine rollout and Democratic sweep in the US. Oil prices rallied, with Brent closing up 7.9% for the month. The investment environment for equities remains favorable with an economic recovery taking place, the rollout of vaccines, coupled with continued monetary and fiscal support. Emerging markets like Asia are attracting foreign inflows because growth is higher, markets are less over-owned, currencies are on a good footing (positive real rates) and valuations are reasonable. On Covid-19, we reached a milestone recently with global vaccinations exceeding the number of confirmed cases. We continue to expect global economic growth to improve especially in 2H21 as more people get vaccinated. The main risks that could derail the positive fundamental outlook are (1) potential policy missteps such as premature lifting of stimulus measures, (2) slower take-up of vaccines and (3) rising inflation expectations leading to repricing of risk premiums. The roll-out of mass vaccinations is a long road ahead with the threat from new variants, wrangling over supplies especially in the EU and vaccine hesitancy. However, we believe that the risk reward for investing in Asia is still favourable. We are positive on China and the more developed Asian economies. The portfolio is positioned to benefit from the cyclical economic recovery and long-term structural growth drivers. The focus is also on quality companies which are long term winners or market share gainers. Recently, we have been adding exposure to companies that are benefiting from investment in cloud platforms and those in the semiconductor supply chain. We prefer utilities and consumer staples the least.



## **RISKS**

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

Stock specific risk

Prices of a particular stock may fluctuate in response to the circumstances affecting individual companies such as adverse financial performance, news of a possible merger or loss of key personnel of a company. Any adverse price movements of such stock will adversely affect the target fund's NAV.

**Country risk** 

Investments of the target fund in any country may be affected by changes in the economic and political climate, restriction on currency repatriation or other developments in the law or regulations of the countries in which the target fund invests. For example, the deteriorating economic condition of such countries may adversely affect the value of the investments undertaken by the target fund in those affected countries. This in turn may cause the NAV of the target fund or price of units to fall.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk refers to the ease of liquidating an asset depending on the asset's volume traded in the market. If the target fund holds assets that are illiquid, or are difficult to dispose of, the value of the target fund will be negatively affected when it has to sell such assets at unfavourable prices.

Currency risk

As the investments of the target fund may be denominated in currencies other than the base currency of the target fund, any fluctuation in the exchange rate between the base currency of the target fund and the currencies in which the investments are denominated may have an impact on the value of these investments. You should be aware that if the currencies in which the investments are denominated depreciate against the base currency of the target fund, this will have an adverse effect on the NAV of the target fund 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 investment.

Credit and default

The target fund will be exposed to a certain degree of credit and default risk of issuers or counterparties when the target fund invests in debt securities, money market instruments and/or place deposits. Credit risk relates to the creditworthiness of the securities issuers or counterparties and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuers or counterparties may impact the value as well as liquidity of the investments. In the case of rated debt securities, this may lead to a credit downgrade. Default risk relates to the risk that a securities issuer or counterparty either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the investments. This could adversely affect the value of the target fund. Principal (S) aims to mitigate this risk by performing bottom-up and top-down credit research and analysis to determine the creditworthiness of its issuers or counterparties, and impose investment limits on exposures for issuers or counterparties with different credit profiles as a precautionary step to limit any loss that may arise directly or indirectly as a result of a defaulted transaction.



## **RISKS (CONTINUED)**

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the impact of interest rate changes on the valuation of debt securities. When interest rates rise, debt securities prices generally decline and this may lower the market value of the target fund's investment in debt securities. In managing the debt portfolio, Principal (S) takes into account the coupon rate and time to maturity of the debt securities with an aim to mitigate the interest rate risk.

Risk associated with investing in CIS

Since the target fund may invest entirely into CIS, there is a risk of concentration into CIS, in which the CIS's management company has absolute discretion over the CIS's investment technique and knowledge, operational controls and management. In the event of mismanagement of the CIS and/or the management company, the NAV of the target fund, which invests into those CIS would be affected negatively. Should the situation arise, Principal (S) will seek for another CIS that is consistent with the objective of the target fund.

Risk of investing in emerging markets

In comparison with investments in the developed markets, investment in emerging markets may involve a higher degree of risk due to the greater possibility of political or economic instability and societal tensions. Emerging markets are markets that are, by definition, "in a state of transition" and are therefore exposed to rapid political change and economic declines. The securities in the emerging markets may face a higher risk of price drop while the exchange rates in these emerging markets are generally more volatile than those of developed markets. As such, you should be aware that investments in emerging markets may be subject to higher price volatility and therefore will tend to have a higher investment risk that will affect the target fund's growth. Principal (S) will attempt to mitigate these risks through active asset allocation management and diversification, in addition to their continuous bottom-up and top-down research and analysis.

Source : Principal Asset Management Bhd

Date : 29 January 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.