# August 2022

## **Fund Features**

# 1. Investment Objective

This fund provides investors an affordable access into a diversified investment portfolio which offers steady and consistent return over a long-term investment horizon by investing into local and global equities and fixed income securities that comply with Shariah requirements.

# 2. Investment Strategy & Approach

At inception, this fund will invest by feeding into Hong Leong Dana Maa'rof and HLA Venture Dana Putra ("Target Funds") with the option to increase the number of funds or replace the Target Funds in future.

Generally, the Target Funds select undervalued companies that have the potential to offer good Medium-To-Long Term capital growth. In terms of fixed income instruments, selection depends largely on credit quality to assure relative certainty in profit income, principal payment, and overall total return stability.

## 3. Asset Allocation

Hong Leong Dana Maa'rof (HLDM) will invest a minimum 40% and maximum 60% of its NAV into Shariah-compliant equities while HLA Venture Dana Putra (HLAVDP) will invest up to maximum 90%, but not less than 40% of fund's NAV into Shariah approved equities. Generally, HLA Dana Suria may invest up to a maximum of 95% of its NAV into Shariah-compliant equities or a maximum of 100% of its NAV into Shariah-based deposits or Islamic money market instruments.

# 4. Target Market

This fund is suitable for investors who have moderate risk-reward temperament and are looking for returns from Shariah-compliant investments in a medium-to-long term investment horizon.

# **Fund Details**

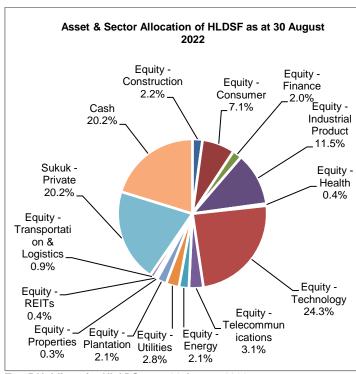
Unit Price (30/8/2022)	:RM1.4178
Fund Size (30/8/2022)	:RM11.5 mil
Fund Management Fee	:1.30% p.a.
Fund Manager	:Hong Leong Assurance Berhad
Fund Category	:Managed
Fund Inception	:24 Sept 2013
Benchmark	:(70% x FTSE Bursa Malaysia EmasShariah Index) + (30% x 3-month Klibor)
Frequency of Unit Valuation	:Daily

Fund management charge of underlying Collective Investment Scheme(s) is part of Fund Management Fee as stated in table above. There are no additional charges being charged to the Policy Owner. The Company reserves the right to change the Fund Management Fee (% p.a.) by giving the Policy Owner ninety (90) days prior written notice.

With effect 27 April 2020, the frequency of unit valuation will be changed from weekly to daily.

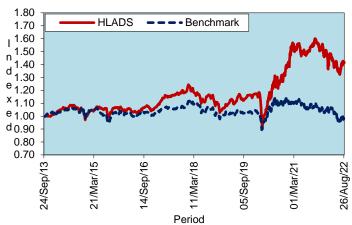
Although the funds invest in Shariah-approved securities, the Investment-Linked Insurance plan that utilizes these funds is not classified as a Shariahcompliant product.

Asset Allocation for HLADS as at 30 August 2022	%
Hong Leong Dana Maa'rof	49.50
HLA Venture Dana Putra	49.69
Cash	0.81
Total	100.0



Top 5	Holdings for HLADS as at 30 August 2022		%
1.	Samalaju Industrial Port Sdn Bhd	Sukuk	4.5
2.	Government Investment Issue 2024	Sukuk	4.4
3.	Government Investment Issue 2023	Sukuk	2.8
4.	Inari Amertron Berhad	Equity	2.3
5.	Government Investment Issue 2028	Sukuk	2.3
	Total Top 5		16.3

# **Historical Performance**



	YTD	1 month	1 year	3 years	5 years	Since Inception
HLADS	-8.62%	1.34%	-7.67%	24.70%	21.39%	41.78%
Benchmark*	-7.20%	0.52%	-9.35%	-3.40%	-6.03%	-0.86%
Relative	-1.42%	0.82%	1.68%	28.10%	27.42%	42.64%

Source: Bloomberg

Notice: Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance.



## Market Review, Outlook & Strategy

The rebound in global equities and most risk assets fizzled out in August. This was following the Fed Chair's speech at the 2022 Jackson Hole Economic Symposium where he signalled "higher interest rates for longer" and the need for restrictive monetary policy to restore price stability as well as cautioning against any premature loosening of monetary conditions, with important emphasis on the experience of the 1970s and 1980s. The Fed also indicated the willingness to accept negative growth and labour market consequences in order to restore price stability. These reverberated across markets, supporting the US\$ strength and pushing up sovereign bond yields. Rising recession concerns have also overshadowed China's announcement of an additional RMB1 trillion stimulus package to help boost the economy. The stimulus will be targeting investments in new energy projects, high-speed rail and water tunnels. Commodity prices continued to retrace as China's bumpy recovery added to worries that aggressive tightening by central banks to rein in inflation are denting demand. On a positive note, China and the US have reached a landmark audit inspection agreement which will allow the US Public Company Accounting Oversight Board inspectors to travel to Hong Kong or China for inspection of Chinese companies listed in New York.

Domestically, we saw the release of a relatively good set of economic data. A strong 2Q22 GDP print of +8.9% yoy was led by recovery in both the manufacturing and services segments as well as the low base effect from Jun 21. Unemployment rate also improved further to 3.8%, the lowest since the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak two years ago. However, inflationary pressures are also broadening with July's CPI picking up to +4.4% yoy. The broad trend is reflective in the 2Q22 results where most companies reported results that met expectations; topline growth appeared to be robust on the back of economic reopening activities but bottomline was constrained by higher input costs (materials and wages), supply disruption and labour shortages. Towards monthend, Petronas announced an additional RM25b dividend payment to the government, bringing total dividend paid out to RM50b for 2022.

Average daily trading value increased to RM1.7b in August from RM1.3b in July. Retailers turned net buyers +RM100m while local institutions turned net sellers -RM2.3b, Foreign institutions remained net buyers with +RM2b. Retailers and local institutions accounted for 26% and 37% of the value traded with foreign institutions contributing the balance 24%. The FBMKLCI continued to outperform the broader market with a +1.3% mom gain to 1,512.05 pts. The FBM Shariah, FBM Emas and FBMSC increased by +0.7% mom, +0.9% mom and +0.5% mom respectively.

Macroeconomic risks remain centred on monetary policy trajectory coupled with an evolving geopolitical environment that will affect investors' risk appetite. In the near term, investors are likely to remain cautious as 1) inflation remains elevated despite some relief from the easing of commodity prices and supply chain bottlenecks and 2) the Fed is unlikely to pivot despite signs of deterioration in economic growth. China will also be hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October and investors may remain sidelined until then for better clarity of the development plans for China over the next 5 years as well as the new leadership. Domestically, Budget 2023 was brought forward to 7<sup>th</sup> October, potentially paving the way for GE15 by end-2022. Political uncertainty could be a near term overhang for the market. We remain defensive, investing in both value and growth. Sectors that we continue to favour include interest rate hike beneficiaries (banks), selected recovery/reopening names (consumers with pricing power) and 5G/ technology (easing of supply chain bottlenecks).

# Market Review, Outlook & Strategy - Fixed Income Market

UST rates increased in August as inflationary concerns took center stage and eclipsed concerns of an impending recession. The 2-, 5-, 10- and 30-year UST yields increased by 61, 67, 54 and 28 bps respectively m-o-m. Market participants opined that inflation was nearing its peak and has started to come off subsequent to July's CPI readings which came in lower than June. CPI reading in July registered an 8.5% y-o-y increase, a decline from the staggering 9.1% increase recorded a month prior. Investors were receptive of the news and deduced that the lower readings would temper the Fed's aggressiveness. This was reflected in a rally shortly after the announcement with the 10Y note declining to 2.67%. The end of the month closing speech from Fed Chairman at the Jackson Hole Symposium sent a clear message to the investment community that the Fed will remain steadfast in its attempt to bring inflation down to 2% and that current levels are still far from ideal. Market participants took heed from the implication that aggressive tightening will still be in play which sent yields surging with the 2Y note reaching 3.49%, its highest level since October 2007.

On the local front, relatively similar trends were observed in govvies yield as it continued to track the trend in the US albeit to a smaller magnitude. The yields on the 5-, 10-, and 15 year tenors increased by 3, 9, and 3 bps respectively. Fundamentally, the economy has displayed concrete signs of growth and recovery which was accompanied by higher inflation readings. GDP in the 2Q came in at a strong 8.9% y-o-y which suggested that a tightening would be warranted to curb price increases given that the economy is now perceived to be on steady footing. As anticipated by most market participants, inflation readings began to creep up with July's CPI increasing by 4.4% y-o-y, higher than June's 3.4%. These factors have contributed to the increase in yield given the relatively ripe macro environment for BNM to implement further rate hikes. The 10Y MGS settled at 3.99% at the end of August against 3.90% a month prior.

In the corporate bonds segment, some prominent new issuances during the month were Lembaga Pembiayaan Perumahan Sektor Awam (RM4.0 billion, GG), Cagamas Berhad (RM1.6 billion, AAA), Danainfra Nasional Berhad (RM1.6 billion, GG) and Prasarana Berhad (RM1.5 billion, GG).

# Outlook & Strategy

The UST is likely to be influenced by inflation data coupled with comments from Fed officials who are currently headstrong in their attempt to bring inflation down to 2%, a far cry from current levels. The upcoming FOMC in September will likely result in a rate hike and the only thing up for debate is the magnitude of it which in our view will be a function of upcoming inflation related data. We are also cognizant of recessionary risk and will continue monitoring economic data to gauge if a reversal in aggressive tightening is on the cards.

Domestically, MGS will likely track the movement of its US counterpart. Yields would most likely trend higher on account of the Fed's current aggressive trajectory. The upcoming MPC meeting in September will likely result in a rate hike owing to strong GDP growth and creeping inflation. MGS could rise should the hike amount to more than 25bps, higher than most market participants' expectation. In view of the above, we would stay cautious and gradually take profit on the bonds that are currently rich in valuation.

# Actual Annual Investment Returns for the Past Eight (8) Calendar Years

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Benchmark	3.3%	-1.4%	2.2%	0.4%	7.5%	-7.5%	4.3%	6.7%	-4.0%
<b>HLADS - Gross</b>	2.7%	1.5%	7.4%	-0.6%	17.0%	-12.6%	14.5%	24.1%	12.2%
HLADS - Net	1.2%	0.1%	5.5%	-1.9%	14.3%	-12.9%	12.0%	20.9%	9.8%

Net returns are adjusted for tax and fund management fees.

Those are the actual returns in the past eight (8) years, or since inception if shorter, and are strictly the performance of the investment-linked fund. Thus, the returns are not earned on the actual premium paid of the investment-linked product.

Notice: Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance.

The fund was only launched on 24 September 2013. The actual investment returns are calculated based on unit price from 24 September to 31 December 2013.

#### Investment Risks

All investments carry risks. Policy Owners must be prepared to accept certain degree of risk associated with this Investment. The following are the non-exhaustive list of risks associated to this fund.

## 1. Market Risk

Market risk stems from the fact that there are other economy-wide perils, which threaten all businesses. It is mainly caused by uncertainties in the economy, political and social environment.

#### 2. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the fund invested cannot be readily sold and converted into cash. This may arise when the trading volume is low and/or where there is a lack of demand for the security.

## 3. Country Risk

The foreign investment of a fund may be affected by the political & economic conditions of the country which the investments are made.

# 4. Currency Risk

This risk is associated with investments that are denominated in foreign currencies. Fluctuation in foreign exchange rates will have an impact on the value of the funds.

## 5. Concentration Risk

This risk is associated with a feeder fund whereby the investments of such fund are not diversified. A feeder fund invests mainly into another collective investment scheme.

## **Risk Management**

The company has in place its Authorized Investment Framework which forms part of the Risk Management process. The authority framework covers the nature and scope of the investment authority that is exercisable by various parties in managing the Company's investments. The potential investment risks that are taken into consideration in managing the fund include economic conditions, liquidity, qualitative and quantitative aspects of the securities. The investment manager(s) have put in place the following controls to reduce the risks through:

- a) having a flexible tactical asset allocation
- b) investing in a wide range of companies across different sectors
- c) setting prudent investment limits on various exposures
- d) taking into account the liquidity factor in selecting securities
- e) engaging in the hedging of foreign currency exposure where appropriate

# **Basis of Unit Valuation**

- 1. The assets of every fund are to be valued to determine the value at which units of a particular fund can be liquidated or purchased for investment purposes.
- 2. The unit price of a unit of a fund shall be determined by the Company but in any event shall not be less than the value of fund of the relevant fund (as defined below), divided by the number of units of the given fund in issue on the business day before the valuation date, and the result adjusted to the nearest one hundredth of a cent.
- 3. The maximum value of any asset of any fund shall not exceed the following price:
  - a) The last transacted market price at which those assets could be purchased or sold on the business day before the valuation date; or
  - b) In the case of securities for which market values are not readily available, the price at which, in our Investment Manager's opinion, the asset may have been purchased on the business day before the valuation date;
- plus any expenses which would have been incurred in its acquisition.
- 4. To ensure fair treatment to all unit holders, the cost of acquiring and disposing of assets is recouped by making a transaction cost adjustment to the net asset value per unit.

# **Exceptional Circumstances**

The Company reserves the right to defer the payment of benefits (other than death benefit) under this Policy for a period not exceeding six (6) months from the date the payment would have been normally effected if not for intervening events such as temporary closure of any Stock Exchange in which the fund is invested which the Company, in its discretion, may consider exceptional.

# **Target Fund Details**

1. Hong Leong Dana Maa'rof is a Balanced fund managed by Hong Leong Asset Management Berhad. The past performance of this fund is as follows:

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Performance	6.4%	7.0%	0.1%	9.1%	-1.2%	13.1%	-11.1%	17.8%	28.5%	19.8%

Source: Hong Leong Asset Management Berhad

2. HLA Venture Dana Putra is an Equity fund managed by Hong Leong Assurance Berhad. The past performance of this fund is as follows:

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Performance	7.8%	28.6%	-2.4%	3.1%	-3.6%	17.7%	-17.7%	8.3%	18.9%	2.1%

Source: Hong Leong Assurance Berhad



# Basis of Calculation of Past Performance

The historical performance of the fund is calculated based on the price difference over the period in consideration compared to the older price of the period in consideration.

Unit Price<sub>t</sub> – Unit Price<sub>t-1</sub>

For the underlying Target Fund, past performance is calculated after adjusting for distribution and/or additional units, if any.

# Others

HLA Dana Suria is managed by Hong Leong Assurance Berhad (HLA). Any amount invested in this fund is invested by HLA on behalf of Policy Owner into Islamic unit trust/investment-linked funds which will invest in Shariah-compliant fixed income securities, equities, collective investment scheme, foreign asset, derivatives and money market instrument/s. If the financial institutions and/or corporations issuing the funds default or become insolvent, the Policy Owner risks losing part or all of his/her amount that were invested into the fund on his/her behalf by HLA.

THIS IS AN INSURANCE PRODUCT THAT IS TIED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE UNDERLYING ASSETS, AND IS NOT A PURE INVESTMENT PRODUCT SUCH AS UNIT TRUSTS.

#### Disclaimer:

Policy Owner must evaluate your options carefully and satisfy yourself that the investment-linked fund chosen meets your risk appetite. Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance. The intention of this document is to enable Policy Owner to better understand the fund features and details in order to assist Policy Owner to making an informed decision. This document shall not be construed as professional advice on investment choices.