

Lion Fixed Income Fund

Fund Objective

A fund which invests in fixed income securities, for example government and corporate bonds as well as cash and cash equivalents. This fund seeks to provide consistent return at low levels of volatility. Although the fund invests mainly in Malaysia (40% to 100%), it may also partially invest in foreign fixed income securities (up to 50%), to enhance the fund's returns.



Lion Fixed Income Fund
Benchmark - 12 Months Fixed Deposit

Notice

Actual return is based on net basis (net of tax and charges). Past Performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance. This is strictly the performance of the unit fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums paid of the Investment-Linked insurance product.

Inve	stmen	t Strat	egy	
The	fund	shall	be	ł

The fund shall be actively managed to generate additional return to consistently outperform the benchmark in the long-term using top-down approach. The fund will focus on capital preservation and steady income by investing in fixed income securities with good credit fundamentals.

Percentage Return (N	AV LO NAV	<u>) </u>					
	YTD	1-Mth	6-Mth	1Y	3Y	5Y	Since Inception
Lion Fixed Income Fund	1.5%	0.4%	3.7%	5.9%	13.1%	21.9%	279.7%
Benchmark - 12 Months Fixed Deposit	0.7%	0.2%	1.4%	2.9%	7.4%	13.0%	117.9%
					Sou	rce: 12mth Con	ventional FD - Maybank

Asset Allocation

Fixed Income Securities: 40%-100%

Foreign Fixed Income Securities: up to 50%

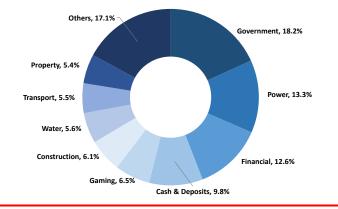
Remaining : Cash / Cash Equivalent

Top 5 Holdings (as at 31-Mar-2024)Name% of NAVMalaysia Government Bond9.0%Government Investment Issue8.0%Sarawak Energy Bhd5.5%Tenaga Nasional Bhd4.5%Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd3.4%

Fund Info (as at 31-Mar-2024)

Inception Date	08 March 2000	For Single Pricing Product		
Fund Size (RM mil)	3,224.1	NAV per unit (RM) 3.797		
Management Fee	0.50% p.a. on NAV	For Dual Pricing Product		
Other Charges	Nil	Bid Unit Price (RM) 3.797		
Fund Manager	GELM Investment	Offer Unit Price (RM) 3.997		
Valuation	Daily based on market prices	Risk Profile Low		

Sector Allocation (as at 31-Mar-2024)



The fund performance updates presented by Great Eastern Life Assurance (Malaysia) Berhad ("the Company") are to be used as an information source only.

Please read and understand the contents of the fund fact sheet before investing. The fund performance updates should be read in conjunction with the fund fact sheet, product brochure, Product Disclosure Sheet, sales illustration, and policy contract.

There can be no assurances that the fund will be able to maintain its net asset value per security at a constant amount or that the full amount of your investment in the fund will be returned to you. Customers should consider the fees and charges involved.



Fixed Income

Market review

In March, the market had to recalibrate its expectations for the U.S. Federal Reserve's (Fed) policy rate path amid mixed data - inflation was hotter than expected while U.S. services sector and employment cooled. U.S. Treasuries rose before heading lower post the Fed meeting where they decided to keep interest rates unchanged and stuck to their earlier forecast of a three-quarters of a percentage point cut by the end of 2024. Domestically, the strong onshore demand kept Malaysian Government Securities (MGS) yields steady. The 109 MGS ended March at 3.88%, unchanged from the previous month.

USD/MYR ended the month at 4.7250, strengthening from the 4.7428 recorded at end February, partly due to Bank Negara Malaysia's (BNM) engagement efforts with governmentlinked companies and government-linked investment companies to encourage more consistent conversion of foreign currencies into ringgit. In its Monetary Policy Committee meeting this month, the central bank maintained the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) at 3.00%. Interestingly, 3m KLIBOR has been inching up, ending the month at 3.59%, 3 bps higher month-onmonth. Headline inflation rose to 1.8% in February 2024 (January: 1.6%), largely because of higher water tariffs. BNM's inflation rate forecast for 2024 is 2%-3.5% as recovering supply chains help to contain price pressures.

The Bank of Japan finally abandoned its negative interest rate policy in March, the last of the major developed market central banks to do so. However, the yen weakened to record levels against the USD as the bank is expected to still maintain an accommodative policy stance in the near term. Credit spreads continued to confound, further tightening about 3 bps this month, with a number of new issues helping in the price discovery. Hong Leong Bank Berhad, CIMB Islamic Bank Berhad, OSK Rated Bond Sdn Berhad, JJM Treasury Management Sdn Berhad and Gamuda Berhad were among the issuers in the primary space.

Market outlook

Strong pension demand should continue to be supportive of domestic fixed income. While auctions have been very well received year-to-date, Quarter 2 will bring more duration supply of government securities to test this.

Lower developed market rates should also be a tailwind. However, much of this has been priced-in and until the Fed actually cuts there could be periods of turbulence (as observed when market went from pricing in six cuts at the beginning of the year to just three at time of writing). It does seem from the Fed Chair's comments that he is looking for reasons not to cut rather than the other way round.

Geopolitics and China's economic woes along with its currency remain the key risks to the otherwise constructive outlook on Malaysian fixed income.

On the OPR, even though the MYR has been one of the weakest performing currency in Asia, downside risks to growth should keep BNM on hold this year. While second round effects from the soon-to-be implemented fuel subsidy reforms are possible, the drag on demand from higher prices and the weaker MYR could contain this.