

HLA Venture Global Fund (HLAVGLF)

March 2024

Fund Features

1. Investment Objective

The objective of the fund is provide investors with steady growth and consistency in income return over a medium to long term investment horizons by investing into global equities.

2. Investment Strategy & Approach

This fund will initially invest in, but not limited to Hong Leong Asia-Pacific Dividend Fund and Hong Leong Strategic Fund that uses equity, fixed income and money market instruments as their underlying assets. This fund will seek to diversify its investment geographically and by asset classes i.e. global equity of companies involved in the extraction, processing, transportation and distribution of natural resources, high dividend yield equities in Asia Pacific region (excluding Japan), global equities and/or local equities.

3. Asset Allocation

The fund will invest up to 95% of its NAV into selected unit trust funds.

4. Target Market

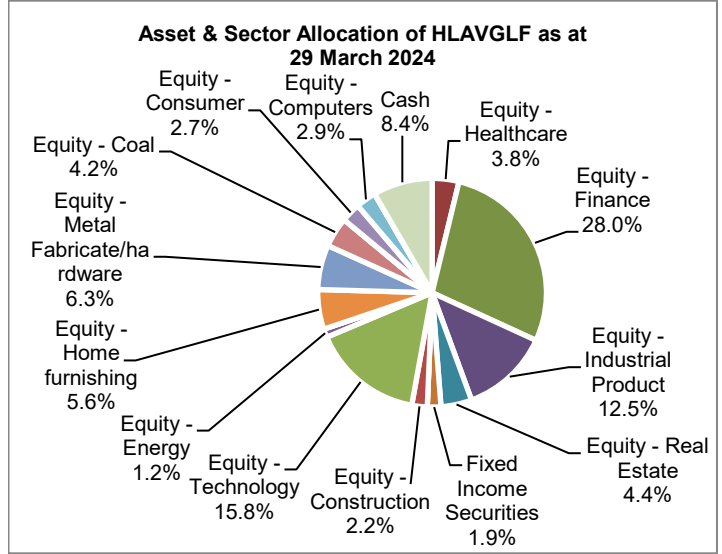
This fund is suitable for investors with moderate to high-risk appetite with a medium to long-term investment horizon.

Fund Details

Unit Price (29/3/2024)	:RM1.4855
Fund Size (29/3/2024)	:RM31.7mil
Fund Management Fee	:1.29% p.a.
Fund Manager	:Hong Leong Assurance Berhad
Fund Category	:Equity
Fund Inception	: 02 April 2007
Benchmark	:MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan + MSCI ACWI Index + RAM Quantshop MGS ALL
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 three (3) months prior written notice.

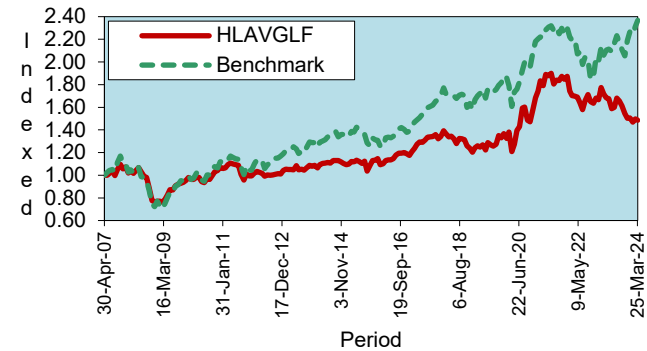
Asset Allocation for HLA VGLF as at 29 Mar 2024	%
Hong Leong Asia-Pacific Dividend Fund	58.55
Hong Leong Strategic Fund	41.24
Cash	0.21
Total	100.0



Top 5 Holdings for HLA VGLF as at 29 March 2024

1.	King Slide Work Company Limited	6.3
2.	PT Bank Mandiri (Persero) Tbk	6.0
3.	China CITIC Bank Corporation Limited	5.8
4.	Lite-On Technology Corporation	5.6
5.	Agricultural Bank of China Limited	5.1
Total Top 5		28.8

Historical Performance



	YTD	1 month	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
HLA VGLF	-1.36%	-0.73%	-11.76%	-17.02%	18.94%	34.62%	48.55%
Benchmark*	4.35%	2.26%	12.48%	6.69%	37.34%	81.73%	136.74%
Relative	-5.71%	-2.99%	-24.23%	-23.71%	-18.40%	-47.11%	-88.19%

Source: Bloomberg, RAM Quantshop

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

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Market Review, Outlook & Strategy relevant to Target Fund

Equity Review

Global

Global equities staged another month of broad-based rally. More economists are removing any probabilities of recession for this year, much less a hard landing. With the United States (US) Federal Reserve (Fed) maintaining a dovish tone, investors risk appetite remains elevated. The Dow Jones Industrial Average Index (DJIA) rose 2.1% and the broader S&P 500 Index rose 3.1%. The Euro Stoxx Index rose 4.2% while the FTSE 100 Index rose 4.2%.

Asia Pacific

Artificial Intelligence (AI)-related technology names rallied hard during the month as Nvidia reported stellar results while indicating a very positive outlook for the company. The Japan market continued to rise higher during the month, despite the Bank of Japan ending its negative interest rate policy after years of unconventional monetary easing. In the region, Taiwan and Korea were the leaders while Malaysia and Philippines were the laggards.

Malaysia

After rallying strongly for the past 2 months, some profit taking were seen in the index stocks while trading activity in the small cap space remains robust. The FTSE Bursa Malaysia (FBM) KLCI declined 1.0% to close at 1,536 points. The broader market outperformed as the FBM EMAS Index rose 0.7% to close at 11,572 points. Small caps outperformed as the FBM Small Cap Index rose 3.1% to close at 17,297 points.

Outlook & Strategy

Global

The latest US economic data shows that inflation remains sticky. On the back of a resilient economy, the prospects of aggressive rate cuts have also faded as market expects at most three rate cuts this year, reduced from as high as seven. In Europe, consumer confidence rose slightly due to optimism about the improving labour market and decline in inflation

Asia Pacific

Taiwan central bank surprisingly raised key policy rates during the month at a quarterly monetary policy meeting, most likely due to inflation fears. Taiwan export trends in AI-related products continue to show strong growth, predominantly to the US. Although China macro data continue to show encouraging trends, investors remain unconvinced about the sustainability of the positive trend.

Malaysia

The potential proliferation of data centres in Malaysia drove renewed interest in the construction sector and the small cap space. We remain positive on high dividend yield stocks against the expectations of a declining global interest rate environment.

Fixed Income Review and Outlook

The Fed kept rates unchanged at 5.25%-5.50% in a unanimous vote and almost identical languages on the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) statement in March. The front-end curve led the decline in yields post-FOMC as market was probably encouraged by no change in the FOMC.

Malaysia's headline Consumer Price Index (CPI) gained speed for the first time since August 2022, to +1.8% year-on-year (YoY) in February, bouncing off a near three-year low of +1.5% YoY seen in January. The adjustment in water tariffs for the domestic category in Peninsular Malaysia and Labuan, coupled with the 5th straight month of increase in transport prices, contributed to the sharp rise in non-food inflation (from +1.1% to +1.7% YoY), and hence, overall CPI.

In the month, there were several new issuances including CIMB Islamic AAA bonds worth RM3.5 billion, MNRB Holdings Berhad subordinated A1 bonds at RM420 million and Hong Leong Bank A1 Perpetual bonds at RM400 million. On the government side, we saw the 10-Year Malaysian Government Securities (MGS) auction that also had a bid-to-cover ratio of more than 2x. Overall, local investors continue to deploy cash into the market despite higher volatility.

With sticky inflation numbers and strong jobs data, the Fed is worried about cutting interest rates too soon as inflation has yet to reach its targeted 2%. Market now expects 3 cuts (or 75 basis points) in the second half of this year. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects the US economy to expand by 2.1% in 2024, supported by a still favorable labor market (2022: +2.5%). Locally, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) projects Malaysia's economic growth to accelerate to 4.0%-5.0% in 2024 from 2023's +3.7% YoY. BNM expects domestic demand to drive the economy, further supported by improvement in the external sector. Inflation expectations seem to have remained fairly well anchored and the economic growth momentum is likely to gain further traction, giving BNM room to extend its interest rate pause. We maintain our view that the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) will be left unchanged at 3.00% for the entire year of 2024. We continue to overweight corporate bonds for additional yield pickup and seek opportunities to rebalance our portfolios.

Actual Annual Investment Returns for the Past Ten (10) Calendar Years

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Benchmark	8.3%	3.9%	-2.2%	6.2%	22.3%	-7.0%	18.7%	16.2%	5.4%	-12.7%
HLAVGLF- Gross	6.0%	1.9%	6.7%	4.2%	16.7%	-9.8%	16.2%	26.7%	13.7%	-10.6%
HLAVGLF - Net	4.2%	0.5%	4.9%	2.6%	14.1%	-10.3%	13.7%	23.3%	11.2%	-10.9%

Net returns are adjusted for tax and fund management fees.

Those are the actual returns in the past ten (10) 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.

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. **Credit risk**

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This refers to the possibility that the issuer of a security will not be able to make timely payments of interest or principal repayment on the maturity date. The default may lead to a fall in the value of the funds.

4. Interest Rate Risk

The level of interest rates has an impact on the value of investments. Any increase in rates will lead to a fall in the value of securities, thus affecting the value of the funds.

5. Country Risk

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

6. 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.

7. 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:

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

Basis of Unit Valuation

- 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.
- The unit price of a unit of a fund shall be determined by us 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.
- The maximum value of any asset of any fund shall not exceed the following price:
 - The last transacted market price at which those assets could be purchased or sold on the business day before the valuation date; or
 - 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.
- 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

- Hong Leong Asia-Pacific Dividend Fund is an Equity fund managed by HLAM. The past performance of this fund is as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Performance	-4.8%	-1.0%	6.5%	1.8%	19.2%	-13.3%	24.9%	50.7%	13.1%	-12.0%

- Hong Leong Strategic Fund is a Mixed Assets fund managed by HLAM. The past performance of this fund is as follows:

Source: *Hong Leong Asset Management Berhad (HLAM)*

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Performance	14.5%	-0.7%	4.3%	4.8%	10.9%	-10.3%	2.2%	-13.4%	6.1%	-13.8%

Note: Hong Leong Global Resources Income Fund has been liquidated on 17 April 2014.

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.

$$\frac{\text{Unit Price}_t - \text{Unit Price}_{t-1}}{\text{Unit Price}_{t-1}}$$

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

Others

HLA Venture Global Fund is managed by Hong Leong Assurance Berhad (HLA). Any amount invested in this fund is invested by HLA on behalf of Policy Owner in equity, fixed income, collective investment scheme, foreign asset, derivatives and money market instrument/s. If the financial institutions and/or corporations issuing the equity, fixed income, collective investment scheme, foreign asset, derivatives and money market instruments defaults or insolvent, the Policy Owner risks losing part or all of his/her amount that were invested into the instruments 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.

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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.