**August 2025**

# MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE
# AIA BALANCED FUND

## Investment Objective

The Fund is to maximize total returns with reasonable safety of principal through investment in a diversified portfolio of equity, fixed income securities and cash equivalent securities. The Fund is suitable for investors who are willing to take moderate risk to achieve a reasonable return.

Notice: Please refer to the Fund Fact Sheet for more information about the Fund.

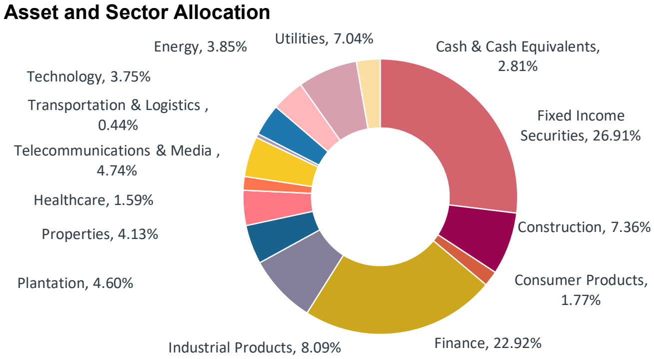
## Fund Details

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Unit NAV (31 August 2025) | : | RM 4.80647 |
| Fund Size (31 August 2025) | : | RM 3,219.970 million |
| Fund Currency | : | Ringgit Malaysia |
| Fund Inception | : | 15 March 2000 |
| Offer Price at Inception | : | RM1.00 |
| Fund Management Charge | : | 1.20% p.a. |
| Investment Manager | : | AIA Bhd. |
| Basis of Unit Valuation | : | Net Asset Value |
| Frequency of Unit Valuation | : | Daily |

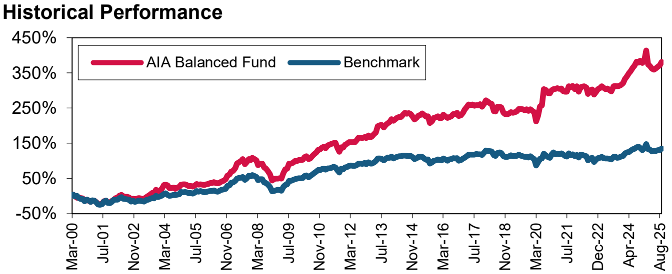
## Top Holdings

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | MALAYSIA GOVERNMENT SECURITIES | 11.16% |
| 2 | CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS BHD | 6.56% |
| 3 | TENAGA NASIONAL BHD | 5.75% |
| 4 | GAMUDA BHD | 4.66% |
| 5 | MALAYAN BANKING BHD | 4.42% |

## Asset and Sector Allocation




## Historical Performance




| Cumulative Performance | 1-Mth | 6-Mth | 1-Year | 3-Year | 5-Year | Since Inception |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fund^ | 2.19% | 2.31% | 0.40% | 19.25% | 19.76% | 380.65% |
| Benchmark* | 2.15% | 1.33% | -2.19% | 12.42% | 9.34% | 134.79% |
| Excess | 0.04% | 0.99% | 2.59% | 6.83% | 10.42% | 245.86% |

*^ Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV. This is strictly the performance of the investment fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/contributions paid of the investment-linked product.*

** 70% FBM 100 (Source: Bursa Malaysia) + 30% MGS All Index (Source: RAM QuantShop @ www.quantshop.com)*

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

## Market Review

The FBMKLCI ("Index") jumped 4.1% Month-on-Month ("MoM") to close at 1,575 pts in August 2025. The Index outperformed the MSCI Asia ex Japan Index, which gained 0.1% MoM in Malaysian Ringgit ("MYR") terms over the same period. Foreign investors were net sellers of Malaysian equities with net sell flows of MYR3.4billion while local institutions remained net buyers amounting to MYR3.3billion during the month. Bursa Malaysia's average daily transaction value ("ADTV") rose 17.1% MoM to MYR2.8billion in August 2025. During the month, Sime Darby Berhad (+26.9%), CIMB (+13.4%) and Petronas Chemical (+11.6%) were the key gainers while key detractors were Axiata (-10.3%), MR DIY (-10.3%) and CelcomDigi Berhad (-4.1%). Sector wise, Construction (+5.8%), Technology (+5.6%) and Finance (+5.5%) were the key performers, while Healthcare (-5.3%), Telecommunications (-2.4%) and REIT (-2.5%) were the key detractors. Major news during the month included the release of Malaysia's economy Q2 2025 Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") growth, which came in at 4.4%, supported by strong domestic demand, higher household spending, and robust investment activity. A one-off RM100 cost-of-living subsidy was launched via the MyKad, benefiting all citizens aged 18 and above. Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") maintained the Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") at 2.75%, following July 2025's cut, signaling a cautious stance amid global uncertainties.

Malaysian Government Securities ("MGS") yield curve continued to bull steepen in August 2025, supported by strong demand at the belly of the curve and selective long-end buying, while offshore flows were active in the 10Y and beyond. Market tone improved as participants engaged in residual portfolio rebalancing and relative value trades, with onshore real money extending duration and offshore accounts adding exposure across the curve. Sentiment was further buoyed by dovish signals from US Federal Reserve ("Fed") Chair Powell at Jackson Hole Symposium, which spurred buying in the short-to-belly tenors. On the currency front, Malaysian ringgit ("MYR") strengthened against the US dollar ("USD") by 0.94% to MYR4.2248. MGS levels as at end August 2025 were: 3Y at 2.99% (-6 bps), 5Y at 3.08% (-7 bps), 7Y at 3.29% (-4 bps), 10Y at 3.39% (1 bp), 15Y at 3.59% (-3 bps), 20Y at 3.74% (-2 bps) and 30Y at 3.88% (-3 bps).

Fixed income foreign outflows continued for a 2nd consecutive month at MYR5.5 billion in July 2025 (June 2025: -MYR5.4 billion). Foreign holdings in MGS and Government Investment Issue ("GII") eased to 21.1% in July 2025 (June 2025: 21.8%).

There were 4 government security auctions during the month: The 20Y MGS 5/44 reopening auction with a tender size of MYR2.5 billion and private placement of MYR2.0 billion drew a bid-to-cover ("BTC") ratio of 2.725x at an average yield of 3.75%; the 15Y GII 7/40 reopening auction with a tender size of MYR3.0 billion and private placement of MYR1.0 billion drew a BTC ratio of 2.848x at an average yield of 3.577%; the 5Y MGS 5/30 reopening auction with a tender size of MYR5.0 billion drew a BTC ratio of 1.867x at an average yield of 3.086%; and the 20Y GII 5/45 reopening auction with a tender size of MYR3.0 billion and private placement of MYR2.0 billion drew a BTC ratio of 1.841x at an average yield of 3.755%.

On the economic data front, Malaysia's foreign reserves increased by USD0.7 billion to USD122.0 billion as of 15 August 2025 (31 July 2025: USD121.3 billion). The reserves are sufficient to finance 4.8 months of retained imports and 0.9x of short-term external debt. Malaysia's headline inflation increased marginally to 1.2% Year-on-Year ("YoY") in July 2025 (June 2025: 1.1% YoY). Across components, food & beverages and housing & utilities moderated while transport and insurance & financial services rose. Core inflation held steady at 1.8% YoY in July 2025 (June 2025: 1.8% YoY). Malaysia's exports rebounded sharply by 6.8% YoY in July 2025 (June 2025: -3.6% YoY) supported by frontloading in manufacturing exports ahead of the extended US tariff deadline. Imports eased to 0.6% YoY in July 2025 (June 2025: 1.3% YoY) on weaker imports of consumption and intermediate goods, partially offset by resilient imports of capital goods. Malaysia's industrial production index increased by 3.0% YoY in June 2025 (May 2025: 0.3% YoY). The electricity and manufacturing indices led the growth by 4.1% YoY and 3.6% YoY respectively. Meanwhile, Malaysia's 2Q2025 Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") grew at a steady pace of 4.4% YoY (1Q2025: +4.4% YoY). Stronger domestic demand was the main contributor to growth, counterbalancing the weakness in external demand. Services, manufacturing, construction and agriculture sectors continued to post expansion while mining sector saw contraction.

On the primary corporate bond space, notable issuances included MYR2.5 billion CIMB Group Holdings Berhad IMTN, MYR2.5 billion CIMB Bank Berhad IMTN, MYR1.8 billion Malayan Banking Berhad IMTN and MYR2.0 billion Petroleum Sarawak Exploration & Production Sdn Bhd IMTN. On rating actions, MARC Ratings has revised the rating outlook on JB Cocoa Sdn Bhd's MYR500 million IMTN (Sukuk Wakalah) Programme to stable from negative. The rating on the Sukuk Wakalah programme has been affirmed at A+IS. Separately, RAM Ratings has upgraded the rating of MEX I Capital Berhad's MYR1.13 billion Senior Sukuk Musharakah to AA2/Stable from A1/Positive. RAM Ratings has also upgraded the long-term rating of Solarvest Holdings Berhad's MYR1 billion IMTN Programme to AA3 from A1. Concurrently, the outlook on the facility has been revised to stable from positive.

## Market Outlook

We remain cautiously optimistic on equities, as recent trade talks have helped stabilize the earnings outlook for most markets. At this juncture, markets remain supported by fundamentals and indication of future monetary easing. Trade tariffs continue to weigh on corporate sentiment, leading to delays in capital expenditure and a more cautious business outlook. At the macro level, persistent inflation pressures and labour market uncertainties are limiting policy flexibility and constraining the scope for further monetary easing. Against this backdrop, we remain proactive in adjusting the portfolio to manage risks while positioning to capture emerging opportunities.

Although there is clarity now in terms of the quantum of reciprocal tariffs on Malaysian goods from the US at 19%, uncertainties remain on the imposition of tariffs on specific sectors such as semiconductors and pharmaceutical products which pose risks to external trade. Against the backdrop of trade policy uncertainties, Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") has proceeded to cut policy rate by 25 basis points ("bps") in its recent July 2025 Monetary Policy Committee ("MPC") meeting as a pre-emptive move to support growth, which should be supportive of the local bond market. Our view is for BNM to stand pat for now as it awaits further economic data releases to guide its next policy action. But there is room for further easing beyond 2025 if growth weakens meaningfully. As such, volatility will still likely persist in the near term as markets react to further developments in trade negotiations and key economic data releases both domestically and in the US.