Aug 2023

# MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE A-DANA STRATEGIC DYNAMIC

#### **Investment Objective**

The Fund seeks long-term total return (combination of capital growth and income) through a portfolio of Shariah-compliant investments across global markets and asset classes. The Fund adopts a dynamic and flexible asset allocation to mitigate downside risk. The Fund will aim to achieve a target net return of 6% per annum over the long term.

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

#### Fund Details

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Unit NAV (31 Aug 2023)	: RM 1.10192
Fund Size (31 Aug 2023)	: RM 19.936 million
Fund Currency	: Ringgit Malaysia
Fund Inception	: 15 June 2022
Offer Price at Inception	: RM1.00
Fund Management Charge	: 1.50% p.a.
Takaful Operator	: AIA PUBLIC Takaful Bhd.
Fund Type	: Feeder Fund
Basis of Unit Valuation	: Net Asset Value
Frequency of Unit Valuation	: Daily

## **Underlying Fund Details**

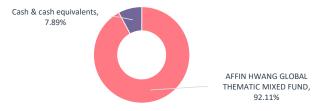
Name	:	Affin Hwang AllMAN Global Thematic Mixed Asset Fund
Type	:	Mixed Assets (Shariah)

Investment Manager : Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad

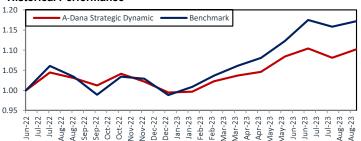
### **Top Holdings**

1.	Affin Hwang Global Thematic Mixed Fund Islamic Global Equity Index Fund	92.11%
2.	Shariah compliant money market instruments and/or Cash	7.89%

#### **Sector Allocation**



#### **Historical Performance**



Cumulative Performance	1-Mth	6-Mth	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Since Inception
Fund~	1.93%	7.76%	6.94%	N/A	N/A	10.19%
Benchmark*	1.19%	13.07%	13.37%	N/A	N/A	17.19%
Excess	0.73%	-5.31%	-6.43%	N/A	N/A	-7.00%

- ~ 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.
- \* 65.0% Dow Jones Islamic Market World Total Return Index + 35.0% Dow Jones Sukuk Index (Source. Bloomberg)

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

#### **Market Review**

Global equity markets fell in August 2023 amid concerns over renewed weakness in the Chinese real estate sector and its impact to the overall economy. MSCI AC World Index declined 2.8% while the DJIM World Index returned -2.3%. S&P 500 fell 1.6% against the backdrop of positive economic data reflecting resilient activity. However, investors remain concerned over future rate hikes given no clear indication of the US Federal Reserve ("Fed")'s immediate direction. MSCI Europe traded down 3.9%. While steady core inflation data suggests that the European Central Bank ("ECB") could be edging towards a rate pause, ongoing uncertainty in the China economy nudged investors to proceed with caution.

Japan equities rose in August 2023 with the Topix up 0.4% in local terms but declining 1.9% in USD terms as Japanese yen ("JPY") weakness continued amid expectations that the Bank of Japan (BoJ) will maintain its accommodative monetary policy for a while longer.

MSCI Asia Pacific ex-Japan dropped 6.1% with MSCI China experiencing a sharper decline of 9.0%. Slowing economic momentum and renewed weakness in the real estate sector eroded confidence in the Chinese macro outlook. This was further heightened by fears of inadequate policy stimulus which is pivotal to turn the sluggish economy around. The deteriorating risk sentiment also weighed on the performance of emerging markets, with MSCI Emerging Markets ("EM") declining 6.2%.

In bond markets, Fitch Ratings downgraded the US rating from AAA to AA+, citing concerns over its growing debt burden and an "erosion of governance". The US Treasury's recent announcement to issue larger-than-expected debt quanta at future auctions pushed the US 10-year yield to a nine-month high. This increased from 3.95% to 4.10% over the month while the 2-year fell slightly to 4.85% from 4.87%. Sukuks declined 0.2%. Commodities fell 1.2% in August 2023, with energy being the best performing sector, buoyed by tighter oil supply. Meanwhile, Gold returned -1.3%. Within currencies, the US dollar ("USD") strengthened 1.7% (as measured by the DXY index) while the Malaysian ringgit ("MYR") depreciated by 2.9% against the greenback in August 2023.

## Market Outlook

The Underlying Manager's view remains that global growth is likely to weaken further in 2024. However, the Underlying Manager recognises that the US economy remains resilient, supported by government spending. In addition, compared to other regions, it is less impacted by weakness in China and tighter monetary policy due to fixed rate mortgages and US corporates extending their borrowing. As a result, the Underlying Manager is constructive on US equities. The Underlying Manager is also expressing a positive view on Japanese equities to reflect that fundamentals in Japan remain strong, and that despite the Bank of Japan's recent policy change, an appreciation of the JPY seems unlikely in the short term.

In fixed income, the Underlying Manager has reduced interest rate exposures in longer-dated maturities and favour the shorter end of the market as the Underlying Manager sees a risk of curves steepening from here. Most of its bond positions are now focused in the 2- to 5-year sector of the yield curve. The Underlying Manager believes these adjustments can insulate its portfolios from the increase in longer-dated bond yields while the shorter end can benefit most from more evidence of weakening growth as central banks pivot from tighter to easier policy. Meanwhile in credits, the Underlying Manager continues to believe high yield corporates are vulnerable to a weakening growth outlook and that their credit risk premium provide insufficient compensation for this risk. Higher quality investment grade credits remain the Underlying Manager's favoured allocation with credit spreads providing a premium that is sufficient to cover the low risk of default even in a recession. Furthermore, its holdings such as local Emerging Market debt and European Investment Grade credits act as a mean of generating income for their portfolios.

In other asset classes, the Underlying Manager is positive on commodities as the asset class had suffered from growth fears. Commodities also offer good diversification against supply or demand-driven inflationary risks. In summary, the Underlying Manager thinks the current volatile economic regime favours a diversified exposure and nimble approach in their strategic views. With September historically being the worst month of the year for stock market returns, the Underlying Manager prefers to wait for more clarity around the next phase of the cycle. Meanwhile, the Underlying Manager stays focused on generating income, pro-cyclical positions within equities and commodities, and trading the ranges in government bonds.