

January 2025

# MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE AIA EQUITY PLUS FUND

#### **Investment Objective**

The Fund seeks to maximize medium to long term growth of capital income through investment in a diversified portfolio of well managed large capital companies that are believed to offer above average growth potential. The Fund is suitable for growth-oriented investors who are willing to take moderate to high risk in order to achieve attractive capital gains.

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

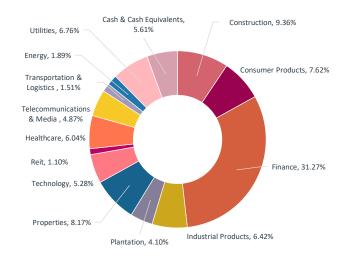
#### **Fund Details**

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Unit NAV (31 January 2025)	: RM 5.18140
Fund Size (31 January 2025)	: RM 4,001.303 million
Fund Currency	: Ringgit Malaysia
Fund Inception	: 15 March 2000
Offer Price at Inception	: RM1.00
Fund Management Charge	: 1.50% p.a.
Investment Manager	: AIA Bhd.
Basis of Unit Valuation	: Net Asset Value
Frequency of Unit Valuation	: Daily

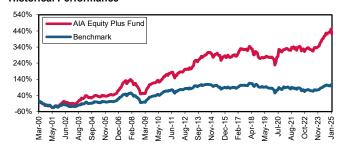
#### **Top Holdings**

1	MALAYAN BANKING BHD	9.01%
2	CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS BHD	8.67%
3	TENAGA NASIONAL BHD	6.76%
4	GAMUDA BHD	5.34%
5	PUBLIC BANK BHD	4.48%

# Sector Allocation



## **Historical Performance**



Cumulative Performance	1-Mth	6-Mth	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Since Inception
Fund^	-6.17%	-1.65%	11.29%	23.54%	40.07%	418.14%
Benchmark*	-5.63%	-4.40%	6.16%	9.53%	8.41%	94.96%
Excess	-0.55%	2.75%	5.12%	14.01%	31.66%	323.18%

<sup>^</sup> 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.

# <u>Notice</u>: Past performance of the Fund is not an indication of its future performance.

#### Market Review

The FBMKLCI ("Index") fell 5.2% Month-on-Month ("MoM") to close at 1,556.92 points in January 2025. The Index underperformed the MSCI Asia ex Japan Index, which rose by 0.3% MoM in Malaysian Ringgit ("MYR") terms over the same period. Foreign investors remained net sellers of Malaysian equities amounting to MYR3.1 billion while local institutions remained net buyers amounting to MYR1.2 billion during the month. Bursa Malaysia's average daily transaction value ("ADTV") grew 5.8% MoM to MYR2.7 billion in January 2025, During the month, CelcomDigi (+3.6%), Petronas Dagangan (+1.6%) and Maybank (+1.0%) were the key gainers while key detractors were YTL Power (-29.2%), YTL Corp (-28.5%) and Gamuda (-14.8%). Sector wise, REIT (+0.4%) and Energy (+0.1%) were the key performers, while Construction (-13.5%), Technology (-10.5%) and Utilities (-9.9%) were the key detractors. Major news during the month included Malaysia and Singapore formalising an agreement to establish the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone ("JS-SEZ") at their border and setting a target of 50 projects within five years, the Biden administration proposing new rules governing the export of advanced AI chips and technologies to about 120 countries, Bank Negara Malaysia keeping interest rates unchanged citing sustained growth and manageable inflation, and Gateway Development Alliance announcing that it had secured enough shares to delist and privatise Malaysia

## **Market Outlook**

Moving into 2025, we are cautiously optimistic about the equity market, though volatility is expected in the near term due to uncertainties due to US President Trump's tariff policies which are expected to stoke inflationary pressure and hurt global growth. We expect performance divergence between developed and emerging markets, including currencies, with a positive outlook for the US market due to pro-domestic growth policies. In Asia, geopolitical tensions and a strong US Dollar ("USD") may weigh on Asian equities. China is focusing on fiscal stimulus to support domestic growth and stabilize property markets, though structural challenges remain. In Malaysia, while our optimism on equitites has moderated, we remain positive due to strong corporate earnings, government initiatives, and rising foreign direct investment. The successful implementation of key initiatives, such as the National Energy Transformation Roadmap ("NETR"), Malaysia My Second Home ("MMZH"), and infrastructure projects, will be crucial. We opine that investment in data centres in Malaysia will slow but not contract despite the implementation of the US Artificial Intelligence Diffusion Policy and the disruption caused by the discovery of Deep Seek by the Chinese.



## Lipper Leader Fund for:

- 1. Consistent Return
- Preservation

Lipper uses a ranking system of 1 to 5. A ranking of 5 means the fund is in the top 20% of funds in that category while a ranking of 1 means the fund is in the bottom 20%. Source : www.lipperleaders.com

<sup>100%</sup> FBM100 Index (Source: Bursa Malaysia)