Ride On Growth Opportunities in the Sustainable Investing Sphere



nvestors who wish to participate in the long-term growth prospects of sustainability-focused companies primarily in the domestic market may consider investing in PB Sustainable Growth Fund (PBSTGRF).

PBSTGRF is the first domestic equity fund offered under the PB Series of Funds with the objective to achieve capital growth over the long term by investing in stocks of companies which incorporate sustainability considerations – i.e. environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors – in their business practices.

To seek long-term capital growth, 75% to 98% of PBSTGRF's net asset value (NAV) will be invested in shares or securities equivalent to shares primarily in the domestic market, with the balance invested in money market instruments and deposits.

Up to 30% of PBSTGRF's NAV may also be invested in the foreign markets to diversify the Fund's portfolio and tap into the broader array of sustainable investment opportunities globally.

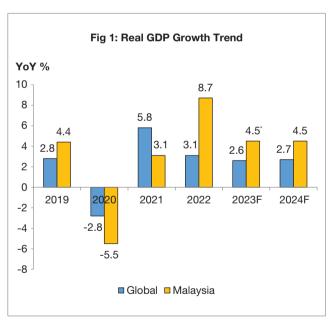
Long-Term Growth through Sustainable Efforts

PBSTGRF aims to capitalise on the long-term growth prospects of companies primarily in the domestic market that incorporate sustainability/ ESG considerations in their business practices. As companies invest in ESG efforts that lead to sustainable outcomes for the environment and community, they also gain competitive advantages in terms of improved efficiency¹ and greater innovation². This, in turn, contributes positively to the companies' revenue growth and overall profitability³, and potentially provides investors with added value in return for their investments.

Outlook for the Domestic and Global Economy

Following a strong gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 8.7% in 2022 amid the re-opening of Malaysia's economy, the growth of the domestic economy is expected to be sustained at 4.5% per annum in 2023 and 2024.

Looking ahead, the pace of economic growth for the regional and global economies is also expected to moderate to a more sustainable pace as global central banks are nearing the peak of their interest rate hiking cycle.



Source: Bloomberg consensus as at 30 June 2023 *Ministry of Finance (MOF)

Sectors PBSTGRF may Invest in

The Fund may target to invest in sectors with resilient growth prospects such as financial, technology, healthcare and consumer, among others.



Banking and financial institutions are proxies to the underlying economy and selected banking stocks within the domestic and regional markets provide stable dividends at attractive yields of 3%-6%.



The Fund may look to invest in technology companies within the software, hardware, semiconductor and Internet-related segments with earnings that are underpinned by the structural digitalisation trend. Newer growth areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), cloud computing, 5G and autonomous driving will also be explored.



The long-term outlook for the healthcare sector is underpinned by the ageing demographic profile of the global population, increasing demand for improved healthcare services as well as innovations in robotic surgery and new drug discoveries. The Fund will look to be positioned in companies which stand to benefit from these health and medical trends.



Stocks within this sector include quality consumer companies with stable earnings growth profiles and strong balance sheets, as well as selected consumer companies that stand to benefit from the re-opening of international borders globally and the recovery of tourism-related activities.

The Fund's Benchmark

The benchmark of PBSTGRF is the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index, which is designed to highlight Malaysian-listed companies that demonstrate a leading approach to addressing ESG risks.

Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the Prospectus of PB Sustainable Growth Fund dated 5 September 2023 and the fund's Product Highlights Sheet (PHS) before investing. Investors should understand, compare and consider the risks, fees, charges and costs involved in investing in the fund. A copy of the Prospectus and PHS can be viewed at our website www.publicmutual.com.my. Investors should make their own assessment of the merits and risks of the investment. If in doubt, investors should seek professional advice. Please refer to www.publicmutual.com.my for our investment disclaimer.

¹ Why ESG scores are here to stay | McKinsey

² The Missing Link Between ESG and Corporate Innovation - Knowledge at Wharton (upenn.edu)

³ Climate check: Business' views on environmental sustainability (https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/global/Documents/About-Deloitte/gx-climate-check-business-views-on-environmental-sustainability-report.pdf)