



EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BALANCED FUND

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



Dear Valued Investor,

Greetings from Eastspring Investments Berhad!

First and foremost, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing to invest with Eastspring Investments Berhad.

We are pleased to enclose a copy of the Annual/Semi-annual/ Quarterly Fund Reports of Eastspring Investments Berhad's fund(s) for the reporting period ended 31 December 2023.

You may also download these reports from our website at www.eastspring.com/my

Should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Client Services at 03-2778 1000.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Tang Chee Kin

Non-Independent, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

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FUND INFORMATION

Name of Fund

Eastspring Investments Balanced Fund (the "Fund")

Fund Category/ Type

Balanced/growth and income

Fund Objective

The Fund seeks to provide investors with capital appreciation and a reasonable level of current income* by investing in a mixed portfolio of companies with good** dividend yield and low*** price volatility and a portfolio of investment grade fixed income securities.

Note: The Fund's focus is on growth.

ANY MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE FUND'S OBJECTIVE WOULD REQUIRE UNIT HOLDERS' APPROVAL.

- Income distributed to a Unit Holder will be reinvested into additional Units unless Unit Holder opts for the distribution to be paid out.
- ** good generally refers to potentially higher dividend yield than the market average.
- *** low generally refers to potentially lower price volatility than the market average.

FUND INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Performance Benchmark

The performance benchmark of the Fund is 50% FTSE Bursa Malaysia 100 Index ("FBM100") + 50% Maybank 12-month fixed deposit rate.

The composite benchmark index is a reflection of the Fund's average asset allocation over the long-term of 50% of the Fund's NAV in equities and equity-related securities, and 50% of the Fund's NAV in fixed income securities and Deposits or liquid assets.

Source:

FTSE Bursa Malaysia 100 Index ("FBM100") (www.bursamalaysia.com) Maybank 12-month fixed deposit rate (www.maybank2u.com.my)

The performance of the Fund against the benchmark is published in the Manager's monthly factsheet and is available from the Manager's website at www.eastspring.com/my.

Note: The risk profile of the Fund is different from the risk profile of the performance benchmark.

Fund Income Distribution Policy

At least once a year, subject to the availability of income.

KEY PERFORMANCE DATA

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED

Category	2023	2022	2021
	(%)	(%)	(%)
Quoted securities			
Construction	1.22	0.46	1.06
Consumer Products & Services	4.86	8.84	7.79
Energy	2.24	2.84	2.04
Financial Services	13.18	16.26	14.41
Health Care	1.31	2.20	2.91
Industrial Products & Services	7.25	4.15	6.73
Plantation	8.29	8.67	6.54
Property	2.62	1.64	1.98
Technology	2.94	4.08	5.02
Telecommunications & Media	6.33	5.14	5.96
Transportation & Logistics	1.99	1.17	1.06
Utilities	5.05	1.60	2.65
	57.28	57.05	58.15
Unquoted fixed income securities	36.57	36.51	37.26
Cash and other assets	6.15	6.44	4.59
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

KEY PERFORMANCE DATA (CONTINUED)

Category	2023	2022	2021
Net Asset Value (NAV) (RM'000)	56,280	57,613	59,856
Units In Circulation (Units '000)	61,014	62,417	61,271
Net Asset Value Per Unit (RM)	0.9224	0.9230	0.9769
Highest Net Asset Value Per Unit (RM)#	0.9233	0.9230	0.9769
Lowest Net Asset Value Per Unit (RM)#	0.9207	0.9125	0.9519
Total Return (%)			
- Capital Growth	(0.07)	(5.52)	(4.64)
- Income Distribution	4.50	4.09	3.17
Total Return (%)	4.43	(1.65)	(1.61)
Gross Distribution Per Unit (RM)	0.0414	0.0376	0.0302
Net Distribution Per Unit (RM)	0.0414	0.0376	0.0302
Total Expense Ratio (TER) (%)*	1.63	1.63	1.64
Portfolio Turnover Ratio (PTR) (times)^	0.37	0.47	0.81

[#] Figures shown as ex-distribution.

^{*} There were no significant changes to the TER during the period under review.

[^] There were no significant changes to the PTR during the period under review.

KEY PERFORMANCE DATA (CONTINUED)

			1.1.2023 to	3 years 1.1.2021 to 31.12.2023	
			(%)	(%)	(%)
Average total return			4.43	0.35	4.12
	1.1.2023 to	1.1.2022 to	1.1.2021 to		

 Year ended
 1.1.2023 to 31.12.2023
 1.1.2022 to 31.12.2021
 1.1.2021 to 1.1.2020 to 1.1.2019 to 31.12.2020
 1.1.2019 to 31.12.2020

 (%)
 (%)
 (%)
 (%)
 (%)
 (%)

 Annual total return
 4.43
 (1.65)
 (1.61)
 20.40
 0.59

Source: The above total return of the Fund was sourced from Lipper for Investment Management.

Bases of calculation and assumptions made in calculating returns:

Percentage growth = $\frac{NAV_t}{NAV_0}$ -1

NAVt = NAV at the end of the period

NAV₀ = NAV at the beginning of the period

Performance annualised = $(1 + \text{Percentage Growth})^{1/n} - 1$ Adjusted for unit split and distribution paid out for the period = Number of years

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance and unit prices and investment returns may go down, as well as up.

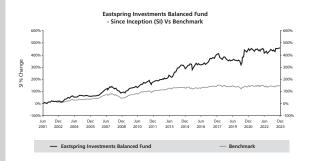
MANAGER'S REPORT

Fund Performance

Over the 5-year period, the Fund recorded a return of 22.37%, outperforming the benchmark return of 2.72% by 19.65%.

During the period under review, the Fund registered a return of 4.43%, outperforming the benchmark return of 1.87% by 2.56%.

The Fund outperformance was mainly due to stock and sector selections. The exposure to property, telco and energy sectors boosted relative performance return vis-à-vis broad market. The detractors came from exposure to plantation, consumer discretionary and underweight in utilities stocks. The Fund performance was supported by positive return from investments in corporate bonds.



The performance is calculated on NAV-to-NAV basis with gross income or dividend reinvested.

Benchmark: 50% FBM100 + 50% Maybank 12-month fixed deposit rate

Source: Lipper for Investment Management and www.bursamalaysia.com, as at 31 December 2023.

Past performance of the Fund is not necessarily indicative of its future performance.

Analysis of Fund Performance

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023:

Income Return	Capital Return*	Total Return	Total Return of Benchmark
(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
4.50	(0.07)	4.43	1.87

^{*} Capital return components (NAV per unit to NAV per unit).

Distribution/ Unit Split

Ex-Date	15-Dec-23
Distribution Per Unit	(RM)
Gross	0.0414
Net	0.0414

Impact on NAV arising from distribution for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

Ex-Date	15-Dec-23
	(RM per Unit)
Net Asset Value before distribution Less: distribution	0.9621 (0.0414)
Net Asset Value after distribution	0.9207

No unit split were declared for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

Investment Strategy During the Period Under Review

Equity Strategy

The Fund will continue to focus on stocks which can provide good capital appreciation potential and some dividend yield with strong fundamental. During this period, the Fund sought to invest in export-oriented sectors such as Electronic Manufacturing Services, Technology and Plantation to leverage on the potential global recovery play. The Fund also sought to invest in Consumer Discretionary, Materials and Industrial sectors for domestic consumption play on the back of a potential tourism recovery into 2023 and government pump priming efforts.

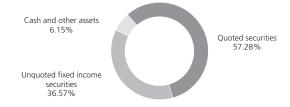
Bond Strategy

The Fund participated in selected quality issuances for yield pickup, and trade on market volatility, subject to liquidity constraints.

Asset Allocation

Asset Allocation	31-Dec 2023	31-Dec 2022	Changes
	(%)	(%)	(%)
Quoted securities Unquoted fixed income securities Cash and other assets	57.28 36.57 6.15	57.05 36.51 6.44	0.23 0.06 (0.29)

Asset Allocation as at 31 December 2023



There were no significant changes in asset allocation of the Fund for the period under review.

State of Affairs of the Fund

There have been neither significant change to the state of affairs of the Fund nor any circumstances that materially affect any interests of the unit holders during the period under review.

We have issued the Eighth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024 with the following changes:

- a. We, as the Manager reserves the right to change the minimum amounts and number of units in relation to investments into the Fund. We will notify unit holders by way letter should we decide to increase the minimum amounts and number of units;
- To lower minimum initial and/or additional investments amount, minimum redemption and minimum holding units for investments via our digital platform as well as on our distributor's digital platform;
- To only allow income distribution payments via electronic bank transfer (e-payment);
- d. To implement auto-reinvestment of the income distributions in the absence of a registered bank account; and
- e. To implement auto-reinvestment enhancement for income distributions paid to unit holders should there be unclaimed income distribution payment for the last three (3) consecutive distributions

With above, unit holders may refer to **Appendix 1** for the detailed list of changes.

MARKET REVIEW

Equity

Malaysian equities started 1Q2023 with a relatively short trading month as Chinese New Year fell on 22-23 January. Nevertheless, the start of the year was an eventful month for Malaysian politics, as UMNO which is part of PM Anwar Ibrahim's unity government, expelled former health minister Khairy Jamaluddin, while former defence minister Hishammuddin Hussein was among a number of politicians suspended from the party. A total of 4 UMNO members were suspended, whilst 42 others were sacked from the party. BNM surprised the market by keeping the OP unchanged at 2.75% at the January MPC, after four consecutive hikes.

By mid-1Q2023 equity markets corrected in line with global and regional markets. Investors were cautious ahead of Budget 2023 which was read on 24 February 2023, which failed to provide any positive catalysts for the market. The economy and cost of living issues remain a priority in Budget 2023, the government announced lower taxes for the M40 while the T20 would see higher taxes and there was also an announcement for a tax on luxury goods (details to release later). By the end of 1Q2023, Malaysian equity markets posted its third consecutive month of decline in, as investor sentiment remained weak due to concerns over a potential global banking crisis, following the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank, Signature Bank and the takeover of the Credit Suisse by UBS Bank. As a result, foreign investors remained net sellers in the month of March of RM1.4b, and have been net sellers for 7 consecutive months. EPF declared the dividend for 2022 of 5.35% for Conventional Savings and 4.75% dividend rate for Shariah Savings.

Malaysian equity markets continued its correction into the 2Q2023. The news was fairly light during the month with some focus on OPEC+ and crude oil prices initially spiking to USD85/bbl, post the announcement by OPEC+ to indicate continued production cuts in coming months. However, the International Energy Agency ("IEA") came out with a statement that the surprise cut (by OPEC+) risked exacerbating global supply deficits in oil and could impact global economic growth. Brent crude oil prices subsequently ended the month below USD80/bbl. Domestically, PM Anwar Ibrahim made an official visit to China, and secured RM170b in investment pledges. The focus for the month of May was around corporate earnings, with most reporting earnings below consensus expectations. News flow was light during the month, with some focus on interest rates in Malaysia as BNM raised OPR by 25bps. Malaysian Ringgit also saw a lot of pressure versus the US dollar, weakening to above RM4.60/USD. Foreign investors continued to be net sellers of equities for the 202023 and have been for the tenth consecutive months. In June, Bank Negara Malaysia announced that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong has consented to the appointment of Datuk Shaik Abdul Rasheed bin Abdul Ghaffour as Governor for a five-year term effective 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2028.

Malaysian equity markets performed well in the beginning of 3Q2023, after 6 months of consecutive monthly declines, outperforming regional markets, especially on USD basis, as the MYR appreciated by 3.54% against the USD. In the second half of July, we saw foreign inflows into Malaysian equities, and we ended the month with net foreign buying of RM1.4b, after 10 consecutive months of foreign outflows since September 2022. Towards the end July, PM Anwar Ibrahim unveiled his plans for an economic reset via the MADANI Economy Framework, and then announced the National Energy Transition Roadmap (Phase 1) the same day. Malaysian equity markets continued to outperform regional markets for the second consecutive month in August. Malaysia had an eventful month where the State Elections were held for 6 states, which resulted in a status quo outcome: PH/BN won 3 states and PN won 3 states as well. The government launched Phase 2 of NETR end of August, providing some details on the energy exchange hub to enable cross border RE trading, with the Prime Minister hinting that the Energy Exchange will hopefully be expedited to ready by end 2023. The surprise for July was the M&As announced. KLK announced that they will be acquiring a 33% +1 share in Boustead Plantations (with intention to acquire the remaining shares not owned, acting in concert with LTAT), and Sime Darby is proposing to take over UMW. The Malaysian Ringgit depreciated 3.1%, after hitting a low of RM4.507/USD on 31 July 2023. By the end of the 3Q2023, Malaysian equity markets managed to eke out a positive return for the period and maintain their outperformance over other regional markets. The government announced the New Industrial Master Plan ("NIMP") 2030, which is targeting a 6.5% increase in manufacturing value-added by 2030 to RM587.8b, expecting to require a total investment of RM95b over seven years. News that the Malaysian prosecution was withdrawing all 47 charges of criminal breach of trust, graft, and money laundering faced by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, after applying to discharge all the charges, came as a surprise. Corporate earnings reported in September were overall weaker than expected, resulting in downgrades to consensus earnings. Foreign investors continued to be net buyers of equity in September 2023, for the third consecutive month, after previously being net sellers for 10 consecutive months.

Malaysian equities performed relatively well in the 4Q2023. October was a fairly eventful month, with the announcement of Budget 2024 which investors took to be fairly neutral. Within the Budget, subsidies are lower for 2024 at 10% of operating expenditures (versus 14% in 2023), and the announcement of additional infrastructure goodies were announced such as the restoration of LRT3 stations and extension of LRT to the mainland. Not long after this, a slew of economic data released in the US, continued to highlight the strength of the US economy, withstanding the surge in interest rates thus far. Investors speculated that this would be a risk for the US Federal Reserve to remain hawkish on their interest rate policy, providing strength to the US Dollar. The MYR traded at Asian Financial Crisis lows at RM4.79/USD on the 24 October 2023, lowest level in more than 25 years.

November was results reporting month for 3Q2023. Generally, the results reported were weaker and missed expectations more than meet or beat. Those that had exposure to external demand for example tech, came in below, whilst many companies across a broad range of sectors continued to be impacted by cost pressures. Foreign investors turned net buyer of Malaysian equities in November of RM1.6b. December was a quiet month for Malaysian equities, with few events and announcements. However, during the month, the media reported on the proposal of the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone, with the MoU to be signed in January 2024. The Prime Minister announced the cabinet reshuffle mid-December, adding 5 new ministers appointed to his cabinet. The Cabinet which had 28 ministers previously has been expanded to 31, with two ministerial portfolios split up and the appointment of a second Finance Minister. In December, we saw net foreign buying of RM0.3m for the second month in a row. However, Malaysia ended the year with net foreign outflows of RM2.4b. YTL Corp and YTL Power replaced Westports and Dialog as KLCI constituents effective 18 December 2023.

The FBM KLCI closed the period under review at 1454.66 points, down 2.73%. The broader FBM Emas ("FBMEmas") Index closed the period under review higher by 1.14%. The MSCI Asia Pacific ex-Japan Index rose by 4.6% in USD terms.¹

Bond

2023 was a year of transition for the global economy and financial markets. As extreme inflation subsided, investors' attention shifted to slowing growth and prospects for rate cuts. During the period, the Federal Reserve ("Fed") raised its federal funds rate by 100 bps during the review period to 5.25%-5.50% citing that the U.S. economy has been expanding at a moderate pace while inflation remains elevated. However, in its September Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC") meeting, the Fed left the federal funds rate unchanged as its indicators suggest that "growth of economic activity has slowed" from its strong pace in the third quarter and with a much clearer shift to a more dovish tone in its December meeting led to an accelerated the market rally. Towards year end, the revised dot plot – a chart plotting FOMC projections for the federal funds rate - indicated that the three rate cuts are now anticipated for 2024, up from the previously expected two. With more encouraging news on inflation, the FOMC appears more comfortable with the progress made in bringing inflation back towards the target.

¹ Source: Bloomberg: World indices

Also, the U.S. was confronted with a banking crisis which saw Silicon Valley Bank ("SVB") failing after a bank run in mid-March, marking the second largest bank failure by asset size in U.S. history. The collapse of SVB was due to the significant withdrawals from its technology and start-up depositors, as well as its over-exposure to investments that had suffered huge mark-to-market losses. Also, the U.S. debt ceiling issue came to an end in June with the final agreement to suspend the debt limit until 2025 (after the next presidential election). At the initial, there was some investor caution around U.S. debt ceiling concerns, but legislation that suspended the debt ceiling was approved by U.S. Congress in the first days of June in a deal that included concessions on spendings. Separately, the U.S. also had avoided the shutdown of Federal agencies as the Congress approves temporary funding and pushes the fight over the federal budget into the new year 2024.

In Malaysia, Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") increased its Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") to 3.00% in its May Monetary Policy Committee ("MPC") meeting as it noted that the decision remains supportive of the economy and is consistent with the current assessment of the inflation and growth prospects. In its last MPC statement, it added a new paragraph touching on currency volatility, attributing MYR weakness to a strong USD, tight US monetary policy and concerns over geopolitical tensions, BNM emphasized that FX volatility would not derail Malaysia's growth prospects. The approach to "manage risks of heightened volatility, including to provide liquidity, to ensure the orderly functioning of the domestic foreign exchange market" echoes prior statements from the Financial Markets Committee. Also, the MPC retains its data-dependent stance, noting the government's intention to review price controls and subsidies in 2024 will affect the outlook for inflation and demand conditions.

During the period, the 10-year MADANI economy roadmap was unveiled by the Malaysian government. Among the key initiatives include taking Malaysia into one of the top 30 economies in the world over the next decade, improving Malaysia's standing in the Global Competitiveness Index to 12th and Human Development Index to 25th, growing GDP by 5.5% to 6.0% and reducing the fiscal deficit to 3.0% or lower. Also, Malaysia unveiled its New Industrial Master Plan ("NIMP") 2030 and National Energy Transition Roadmap ("NETR") as part of its medium-long term plan to drive Malaysia's future growth.

Also, Malaysian PM Anwar Ibrahim tabled Budget 2024 in October, targeting a fiscal deficit of 4.3% of GDP with an expenditure allocation of RM393.8bn and a revenue projection of RM307.6bn. Among the key measures announced include the hike in sales and service tax ("SST") from 6% to 8%, the introduction of capital gains tax on sale of unlisted shares in Mar 2024, and a Luxury Goods Tax which will be set at 5-10%. Diesel subsidies will also be rationalized, however, logistic companies would be exempted, while the ceiling price for chicken and eggs would be removed. Meanwhile, Allocation for Rahmah Cash Aid ("STR") was raised to RM10bn from RM8bn and will benefit 9m recipients. A Budget Monitoring Committee will be established to ensure allocations under Budget 2024 are well disbursed for the people's benefit.

Malaysia's CPI and core CPI continued to decline to 1.5% and 2.0% year-on-year ("y-o-y") respectively in November (October: 1.8%; 2.4%). The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.4% from June to October 2023. BNM international reserves increased to US\$112.8bn as of mid-December (mid-Nov: US\$110.5bn). The reserves position is sufficient to finance 5.5 months of imports and is 1.0x of the total short-term external debt.

Malaysia's MGS yield curve traded lower and flatter during the period with 3-, 5-, 10- and 15-year yields closed at 3.46%, 3.56%, 3.73% and 3.98%, respectively. The decrease in yields was driven by global inflation expectations declining, reduction in political risk and low prospects of further policy hike by BNM. MGII yields too ended the same across the curve with the 3-, 5-, 10- and 15-year MGII close at 3.48%, 3.59%, 3.78% and 3.95% respectively.

REBATES AND SOFT COMMISSIONS

During the period under review, the Manager, and its delegates (if any) received soft commissions from brokers/dealers in the form of goods and services which directly assist the investment management of the Fund, including research and advisory services, market analyses, data and quotation services, and computer hardware and software used for and/ or in support of the investment process of fund managers. Such soft commissions received are utilised in the investment management of the Fund and are of demonstratable benefit to the Fund and Unitholders. There were no churning of trades.

The Manager and its delegates (if any) have not received any rebates or shared any commissions from any brokers during the same period under review.

SECURITIES LENDING OR REPURCHASE TRANSACTIONS

No securities lending or repurchase transaction have been carried out during the financial period under review.

EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BALANCED FUND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT BY THE MANAGER

We, Tang Chee Kin and John Campbell Tupling, being two of the Directors of Eastspring Investments Berhad, do hereby state that, in the opinion of the Manager, the accompanying financial statements set out on pages 24 to 76 are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Deeds and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance, changes in equity and cash flows for the financial year ended on that date in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

For and on behalf of the Manager,

EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BERHAD

TANG CHEE KIN

Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer

JOHN CAMPBELL TUPLING

Independent, Non-Executive Director

Kuala Lumpur

Date: 23 February 2024

TRUSTEE'S REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BALANCED FUND ("Fund")

We have acted as Trustee of the Fund for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 and we hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge, after having made all reasonable enquiries, Eastspring Investments Berhad has operated and managed the Fund during the year covered by these financial statements in accordance with the following:-

- 1. Limitations imposed on the investment powers of the management company under the deed, securities laws and the Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds;
- 2. Valuation and pricing is carried out in accordance with the deed; and
- 3. Any creation and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the deed and any regulatory requirement.

We are of the opinion that the distribution of income by the Fund is appropriate and reflects the investment objective of the Fund.

For Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad

Ng Hon Leong

Head, Fund Operations

Sylvia Beh

Chief Executive Officer

Kuala Lumpur

Date: 23 February 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BALANCED FUND

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Eastspring Investments Balanced Fund ("the Fund") give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the financial year then ended in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

What we have audited

We have audited the financial statements of the Fund, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information, as set out on pages 24 to 76.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence and other ethical responsibilities

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the By-Laws (on Professional Ethics, Conduct and Practice) of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants ("By-Laws") and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) ("IESBA Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the By-Laws and the IESBA Code.

Information other than the financial statements and auditors' report thereon

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Manager's Report, but does not include the financial statements of the Fund and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements of the Fund does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Fund, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements of the Fund or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Manager for the financial statements

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund that give a true and fair view in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. The Manager is also responsible for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements of the Fund, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intends to liquidate the Fund or to terminate the Fund, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Fund as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- a. Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the Fund, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- b. Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- c. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Manager.
- d. Conclude on the appropriateness of the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements of the Fund or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.

e. Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements of the Fund, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements of the Fund represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

OTHER MATTERS

This report is made solely to the unit holders of the Fund and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS PLT LLP0014401-LCA & AF 1146 Chartered Accountants

Kuala Lumpur Date: 23 February 2024

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		RM	RM
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Gross dividend income Interest income from deposits		1,168,710	1,163,188
with licensed financial institutions Interest income from unquoted		160,343	115,147
fixed income securities Net gain/(loss) on financial assets		797,337	817,201
at fair value through profit or loss	7	1,310,225	(1,885,483)
		3,436,615	210,053
EXPENSES			
Management fee	3	(834,246)	(865,623)
Trustee fee	4	(44,493)	(46,167)
Audit fee		(7,400)	(7,400)
Tax agent fee		(3,700)	(3,400)
Other expenses		(18,313)	(21,004)
Transaction costs		(123,583)	(164,645)
		(1,031,735)	(1,108,239)
PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION		2,404,880	(898,186)
TAXATION	5	-	
PROFIT/(LOSS) AFTER TAXATION AND TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)		2,404,880	(898,186)
Profit/(loss) after taxation is made up of the following:			
Realised amount		383,032	205,614
Unrealised amount		2,021,848	(1,103,800)
		2,404,880	(898,186)

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		RM	RM
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents Financial assets at fair value through	8	3,534,702	3,540,053
profit or loss	7	52,821,366	53,903,798
Amount due from Manager		95,406	26,300
Amount due from brokers		-	222,870
Dividends receivable	_	42,948	26,452
TOTAL ASSETS	_	56,494,422	57,719,473
LIABILITIES			
Accrued management fee		71,617	72,997
Amount due to Manager		123,329	10,334
Amount due to Trustee		3,820	3,893
Other payables and accruals	_	15,678	19,657
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	214,444	106,881
NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND	_	56,279,978	57,612,592
EQUITY			
Unit holders' capital		23,340,355	24,665,159
Retained earnings		32,939,623	32,947,433
NET ASSET ATTRIBUTABLE	_		
TO UNIT HOLDERS	_	56,279,978	57,612,592
NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION	9 _	61,014,239	62,416,898
NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (EX-DISTRIBUTION) (RM)	_	0.9224	0.9230

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unit holders' capital	Retained earnings	Total
		RM	RM	RM
Balance as at 1 January 2023		24,665,159	32,947,433	57,612,592
Movement in unit holders' contribution: Creation of units from				
applications		4,443,284	-	4,443,284
Creation of units from distribution Cancellation of units		2,355,699 (8,108,165)	-	2,355,699 (8,108,165)
Distribution (Gross/Net: 4.14 sen) Total comprehensive income	6	(15,622)	(2,412,690)	(2,428,312)
for the financial year			2,404,880	2,404,880
Balance as at 31 December 2023		23,340,355	32,939,623	56,279,978
Balance as at 1 January 2022		23,806,570	36,049,741	59,856,311
Movement in unit holders' contribution: Creation of units from				
applications		3,369,887	-	3,369,887
Creation of units from distribution		2,198,437	-	2,198,437
Cancellation of units		(4,652,742)	-	(4,652,742)
Distribution (Gross/Net: 3.76 sen) Total comprehensive loss	6	(56,993)	(2,204,122)	(2,261,115)
for the financial year			(898,186)	(898,186)
Balance as at 31 December 2022		24,665,159	32,947,433	57,612,592

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		RM	RM
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of investments		24,591,483	31,479,569
Purchase of investments		(22,254,896)	(30,707,484)
Dividends received		1,152,214	1,143,547
Interest received from unquoted			
fixed income securities		952,693	975,031
Interest received from deposits			
with licensed financial institutions		160,343	115,147
Management fee paid		(835,626)	(867,731)
Trustee fee paid		(44,566)	(46,280)
Payment for other fees and expenses	_	(33,391)	(36,397)
Net cash generated from operating activities	_	3,688,254	2,055,402
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash proceeds from units created		4,374,178	3,467,900
Payments for cancellation of units		(7,995,170)	(4,740,646)
Distribution paid		(72,613)	(62,678)
Net cash used in financing activities		(3,693,605)	(1,335,424)
NET (DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(5,351)	719,978
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	-	3,540,053	2,820,075
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	8 _	3,534,702	3,540,053

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The following accounting policies have been used in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

A. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards ("MFRS") and International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities (including derivative financial instruments) at fair value through profit or loss.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with MFRS and IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reported financial year. It also requires the Manager to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund's accounting policies. Although these estimates and judgement are based on the Manager's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may differ.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note K.

a. Standards and amendments to existing standards effective 1 January 2023:

There are no standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for financial periods beginning on 1 January 2023 that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

b. New standards, amendments and interpretations effective after 1 January 2023 and have not been early adopted:

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2023 and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

B. INCOME RECOGNITION

Interest income from short-term deposits placed with licensed financial institutions and unquoted fixed income securities are recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest rate method.

Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset except for financial assets that subsequently become credit-impaired. For credit-impaired financial assets, the effective interest rate is applied to the net carrying amount of the financial asset (after deduction of the loss allowance).

Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date, when the right to receive the dividend has been established

Realised gain or loss on disposal of quoted securities are accounted for as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of investments, determined on a weighted average cost basis.

Realised gain or loss on disposal of unquoted fixed income securities accounted for as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the unquoted fixed income securities determined on cost adjusted for accretion of discount or amortisation of premium.

C. TAXATION

Current tax expense is determined according to the Malaysian tax laws at the current rate based upon the taxable income during the financial year.

D. FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY

Items included in the financial statements of the Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates (the "functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in Ringgit Malaysia ("RM"), which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

E. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

i. Classification

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value through profit or loss, and
- those to be measured at amortised cost

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the assets' performance and to make decisions.

The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income. The contractual cash flows of the Fund's debt securities are solely principal and interest, however, these securities are neither held for the purpose of collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business model's objective. Consequently, all investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Fund classifies cash and cash equivalents, amount due from Manager, amount due from brokers and dividends receivable as financial assets at amortised cost as these financial assets are held to collect contractual cash flows consisting of the amount outstanding.

The Fund classifies accrued management fee, amount due to Manager, amount due to Trustee and other payables and accruals as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

ii. Recognition and measurement

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when it is extinguished, i.e. when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expired.

Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the "financial assets at fair value through profit or loss" category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within "net gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss" in the financial year in which they arise.

Quoted securities in Malaysia are valued at the last done market price quoted on the Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad ("Bursa Securities") at the date of the statement of financial position.

Unquoted fixed income securities are carried at cost and adjusted for any amortisation of premium or accretion of discount from acquisition date to maturity date. The carrying cost is revalued to reflect its fair value on a daily basis based on fair value prices quoted by a bond pricing agency ("BPA") registered with the Securities Commission as per the Securities Commission's ("SC") Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds. Where such quotations are not available or where the Manager is of the view that the price quoted by the BPA for a specific unquoted fixed income security differs from the market price by more than 20 basis points, the Manager may use the market price, provided that the Manager:

- (i) records its basis for using a non-BPA price;
- (ii) obtains necessary internal approvals to use the non-BPA price; and
- (iii) keeps an audit trail of all decisions and basis for adopting the market yield.

If a valuation based on the market price does not represent the fair value of the securities, for example during abnormal market conditions or when no market price is available, including in the event of a suspension in the quotation of the securities for a period exceeding 14 days, or such shorter period as agreed by the Trustee, then the quoted securities are valued as determined in good faith by the Manager, based on the methods or basis approved by the Trustee after appropriate technical consultation.

Financial assets and other financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

iii. Impairment for assets carried at amortised costs

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. Management considers the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12 months expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

iv. Significant increase in credit risk

A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due.

v. Definition of default and credit-impaired financial assets

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

vi. Write-off

The Fund writes off financial assets, in whole or in part, when it has exhausted all practical recovery efforts and has concluded there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The assessment of no reasonable expectation of recovery is based on unavailability of debtor's sources of income or assets to generate sufficient future cash flows to repay the amount. The Fund may write-off financial assets that are still subject to enforcement activity. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off will result in impairment gains. There are no write-offs/recoveries during the financial year.

F. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise bank balances and deposits with licensed financial institutions with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

G. DISTRIBUTION

A distribution to the Fund's unit holders is accounted for as a deduction from realised reserves. A proposed distribution is recognised as a liability in the financial year in which it is approved by the Trustee.

H. UNIT HOLDERS' CAPITAL

The unit holders' contributions to the Fund meet the criteria to be classified as equity instruments under MFRS 132 "Financial Instruments: Presentation". Those criteria include:

- the units entitle the holder to a proportionate share of the Fund's net asset value;
- the units are the most subordinated class and class features are identical;
- there are no contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset other than the obligation on the Fund to repurchase; and
- the total expected cash flows from the units over its life are based substantially on the profit or loss of the Fund.

The outstanding units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at each financial year if unit holder exercises the right to put the unit back to the Fund.

Units are created and cancelled at prices based on the Fund's net asset value per unit at the time of creation or cancellation. The Fund's net asset value per unit is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to unit holders with the total number of outstanding units.

I. AMOUNT DUE FROM/(TO) BROKERS

Amount due from and to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statement of financial position date respectively. The amount due from brokers balance is held for collection.

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance on amount due from brokers at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12 months expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the brokers, probability that the brokers will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required.

If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due.

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

J. TRANSACTION COSTS

Transaction costs are costs incurred to acquire financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. They include fees and commissions paid to agents, advisors, brokers and dealers. Transaction costs, when incurred, are immediately recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as expenses.

K. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, rarely equal the related actual results. To enhance the information contents on the estimates, certain key variables that are anticipated to have material impacts to the Fund's results and financial position are tested for sensitivity to changes in the underlying parameters.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated by the Manager and the Trustee and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In undertaking any of the Fund's investment, the Manager will ensure that all assets of the Fund under management will be valued appropriately, that is at fair value and in compliance with the SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. INFORMATION ON THE FUND

Eastspring Investments Balanced Fund (the "Fund") was constituted pursuant to the execution of Master Deed dated 4 May 2001, Supplemental Master Deed dated 26 May 2003, Supplemental Master Deed dated 15 February 2006, Master Supplemental Deed dated 25 July 2007, and Second Supplemental Master Deed dated 30 November 2009 between BHLB Trustee Berhad ("BHLB Trustee") and Eastspring Investments Berhad (the "Manager"). The Fund replaced BHLB Trustee with Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad (the "Trustee") effective 1 October 2010. A Supplemental Master Deed was entered into between Eastspring Investments Berhad (the "Manager") and Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad (the "Trustee") on 30 July 2010 to effect the change of trustee from BHLB Trustee to the Trustee, followed by Second Supplemental Master Deed dated 28 January 2011, Third Supplemental Master Deed dated 9 March 2011, Fourth Supplemental Master Deed dated 20 January 2012, Fifth Supplemental Master Deed dated 26 March 2014, Sixth Supplemental Master Deed dated 2 January 2015, Seventh Supplemental Master Deed dated 11 July 2016, Eighth Supplemental Master Deed dated 25 January 2017, Ninth Supplemental Master Deed dated 11 December 2017, Tenth Supplemental Master Deed dated 4 June 2018, Eleventh Supplemental Master Deed dated 30 September 2021, Twelfth Supplemental Master Deed dated 29 June 2022 and Thirteenth Supplemental Master Deed dated 29 November 2022 (collectively referred to as the "Deeds").

The Fund was launched on 29 May 2001 and will continue its operations until terminated by the Trustee or the Manager as provided under Part 12 of the Deed.

The main objective of the Fund is to seeks to provide investors with capital appreciation and a reasonable level of current income by investing in a mixed portfolio of companies with good dividend yield and low price volatility and a portfolio of investment-grade fixed income securities.

The Fund will invest in a balanced portfolio consisting of equities, equity-related securities and fixed income securities.

All investments will be subjected to the Securities Commission's ("SC") Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds, the Deeds, and the Fund's objective.

The Manager is a company incorporated in Malaysia and is related to Prudential Plc., a public listed company in the United Kingdom. The principal activity of the Manager is the establishment and management of unit trust funds and asset management.

2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Fund is exposed to a variety of risks which include market risk (inclusive of price risk and interest rate risk), stock/issuer risk, liquidity risk, non-compliance risk, fund management risk, capital risk and credit/default risk.

Financial risk management is carried out through internal control processes adopted by the Manager and adherence to the investment restrictions as stipulated in the Deeds.

Financial instruments of the Fund are as follows:

	Note	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Total
		RM	RM	RM
2023				
Cash and cash equivalents	8	3,534,702	-	3,534,702
Quoted securities Unquoted fixed income	7	-	32,239,964	32,239,964
securities	7	-	20,581,402	20,581,402
Amount due from Manager		95,406	-	95,406
Dividends receivable		42,948	-	42,948
		3,673,056	52,821,366	56,494,422
2022				
Cash and cash equivalents	8	3,540,053	-	3,540,053
Quoted securities	7	-	32,867,293	32,867,293
Unquoted fixed income				
securities	7	-	21,036,505	21,036,505
Amount due from Manager		26,300	-	26,300
Amount due from brokers		222,870	-	222,870
Dividends receivable		26,452	-	26,452
		3,815,675	53,903,798	57,719,473

All liabilities are financial liabilities which are carried at amortised cost.

Market risk

i Price risk

Price risk arises mainly from the uncertainty about future prices of investments. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The Manager manages the risk of unfavourable changes in prices by continuous monitoring of the performance and risk profile of the investment portfolio.

The table below shows assets of the Fund as at 31 December which are exposed to price risk:

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Quoted securities Unquoted fixed income securities*	32,239,964 20,581,402 52,821,366	32,867,293 21,036,505 53,903,798

^{*} Includes interest receivables of RM208,572 (2022: RM260,332).

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's profit/(loss) after tax and net asset value to movements in prices of quoted securities and unquoted fixed income securities at the end of each reporting financial year. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the market price of the quoted securities and unquoted fixed income securities increased by 5% and decreased by 5% with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the quoted securities and unquoted fixed income securities, having regard to the historical volatility of the prices.

% Change in price	Market value	Impact on profit/(loss) after tax and net asset value
	RM	RM
<u>2023</u> +5% -5%	55,243,434 49,982,154	2,630,640 (2,630,640)
<u>2022</u> +5% -5%	56,325,639 50,961,293	2,682,173 (2,682,173)

ii. Interest rate risk

Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates.

In general, when interest rates rise, unquoted fixed income securities prices will tend to fall and vice versa. Therefore, the net asset value of the Fund may also tend to fall when interest rates rise or are expected to rise. However, investors should be aware that should the Fund holds an unquoted fixed income securities till maturity, such price fluctuations would dissipate as it approaches maturity, and thus the growth of the net asset value shall not be affected at maturity. In order to mitigate interest rates exposure of the Fund, the Manager will manage the duration of the portfolio via shorter or longer tenured assets depending on the view of the future interest rate trend of the Manager, which is based on its continuous fundamental research and analysis.

Investors should note that the movement in prices of unquoted fixed income securities and money market instruments are benchmarked against interest rates. As such, the investments are exposed to the movement of the interest rates.

This risk is crucial since unquoted fixed income securities portfolio management depends on forecasting interest rate movements. Prices of unquoted fixed income securities move inversely to interest rate movements, therefore as interest rates rise, the prices of unquoted fixed income securities decrease and vice versa. Furthermore, unquoted fixed income securities with longer maturity and lower yield coupon rates are more susceptible to interest rate movements.

Such investments may be subject to unanticipated rise in interest rates which may impair the ability of the issuers to make payments of interest income and principal, especially if the issuers are highly leveraged. An increase in interest rates may therefore increase the potential for default by an issuer.

The table below summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's profit/(loss) after tax and net asset value to movements in pricing of unquoted fixed income securities held by the Fund at the end of each reporting financial year as a result of movement in interest rate. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the interest rate changed by 1% (2022: 1%) with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the interest rate, having regard to the historical volatility of the interest rate.

		Impact on profit/(loss) after tax and net asset value
% Change in interest rate of unquoted fixed income securities	2023	2022
	RM	RM
+1% (2022: +1%) - 1% (2022: -1%)	(27,127) 27,191	(34,401) 34,504

The Fund's investments in deposits with licensed financial institutions are short-term in nature. Therefore, exposure to interest rate fluctuations is minimal.

Stock/Issuer risk

This risk refers to the individual risk of the respective companies issuing the securities. Specific risk includes but is not limited to changes in consumer tastes and demand, legal suits, competitive operating environments, changing industry conditions and management omissions and errors. However, this risk is minimised through investing in a wide range of companies in different sectors and thus function independently from one another.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting its financial obligations. Generally, all investments are subject to a certain degree of liquidity risk depending on the nature of the investment instruments, market, sector and other factors. For the purpose of the Fund, the Manager will attempt to balance the entire portfolio by investing in a mix of assets with satisfactory trading volume and those that occasionally could encounter poor liquidity. This is expected to reduce the risks for the entire portfolio without limiting the Fund's growth potentials.

The Fund maintains sufficient level of liquid assets, after consultation with the Trustee, to meet anticipated payments and cancellations of units by unit holders. Liquid assets comprise bank balances, deposits with licensed financial institutions and other instruments which are capable of being converted into cash within 7 days.

The table below summarises the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period as at the statement of financial position date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

Less than 1 month	Between 1 month to 1 year	Total
RM	RM	RM
•	-	71,617
123,329	-	123,329
3,820	-	3,820
-	15,678	15,678
198,766	15,678	214,444
72,997	-	72,997
10,334	-	10,334
3,893	-	3,893
-	19,657	19,657
87,224	19,657	106,881
	1 month RM 71,617 123,329 3,820 - 198,766 72,997 10,334 3,893 -	Less than 1 month to 1 year RM RM 71,617 - 123,329 - 3,820 - - 15,678 198,766 15,678 72,997 - 10,334 - 3,893 - - 19,657

Non-compliance risk

Non-compliance risk arises when the Manager and others associated with the Fund are not compliant to the rules set out in the Fund's constitution or the laws that govern the Fund or applicable internal control procedures, or acts of fraudulence or dishonesty.

Non-compliance may expose the Fund to higher risks which may result in a fall in the value of the Fund which in turn may affect its investment goals. However, the risk can be mitigated by the internal controls and compliance monitoring undertaken by the Manager.

Fund management risk

There is the risk that the management company may not adhere to the investment mandate of the respective Funds. With close monitoring by the investment committee, back office system being incorporated with limits and controls, and regular reporting to the senior management team, the management company is able to manage such risk. The Trustee have an oversight function over management of the Fund by the management company to safeguard the interests of unit holders.

Capital risk

The capital of the Fund is represented by equity consisting of unit holders' capital of RM23,340,355 (2022: RM24,665,159) and retained earnings of RM32,939,623 (2022: RM32,947,433). The amount of equity can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily subscriptions and redemptions at the discretion of unit holders. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for unit holders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of the investment activities of the Fund.

Credit/Default risk

Credit risk refers to the ability of an issuer or a counter party to make timely payments of interest income, principals and proceeds from realisation of investments.

Credit risk arising from cash and bank balances is managed by ensuring that they are held by parties with credit rating of AA1 or higher.

The credit risk arising from placements of deposits with licensed financial institutions is managed by ensuring that the Fund will only place deposits in reputable licensed financial institutions. For amount due from brokers, the settlement terms are governed by the relevant rules and regulations as prescribed by Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad ("Bursa Malaysia"). The settlement terms of the proceeds from the creation of units receivable from the Manager are governed by the SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

The credit/default risk is minimal as all transactions in quoted securities are settled/paid upon delivery using approved brokers.

For unquoted fixed income securities, the Manager regularly reviews the rating assigned to the issuer so that necessary steps can be taken if the rating falls below those described by the Deeds and SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

The following table sets out the credit risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund.

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Cash and cash equivalents	Dividends receivable	Amount due from Manager	Amount due from brokers	Total
	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM
2023						
Financial Services						
- AAA	1	3,480,930	•	1	1	3,480,930
- AA1	1	53,772	•	1	1	53,772
- AA2	•	•	4,500	1	1	4,500
Energy						
- NR	•	•	8,608	•	•	8,608
Plantation						
- NR	•	'	22,307	•	•	22,307
Property						
- NR		1	4,475	1	1	4,475
Technology						
- NR	•	1	3,058	1	1	3,058

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Cash and cash equivalents	Dividends receivable	Amount due from Manager	Amount due from brokers	Total
	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM
2023 (continued) Unquoted Fixed						
Income Securities						
Consumer						
Discretionary						
- AA1 (S)	4,668,285	•	•	1	•	4,668,285
Energy & Utilities						
- AAA	1,972,012	1	1	1	1	1,972,012
- AA1	4,077,157	1	1	1	1	4,077,157
Government Bond						
- NR	5,243,358	1	1	1	1	5,243,358
Industrials						
- AAA IS	3,557,796	1	1	1	1	3,557,796
Public						
Administration						
- NR	1,062,794	1	1	1	1	1,062,794
Other						
- NR	•	1	1	95,406	1	95,406
	20,581,402	3,534,702	42,948	95,406		24,254,458

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Cash and cash equivalents	Dividends receivable	Amount due from Manager	Amount due from brokers	Total
	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM
<u>2022</u> Financial Services						
- AAA	•	3,490,555	1	1	1	3,490,555
- AA1	1	49,498	1	1	1	49,498
Technology						
- NR	1	1	3,952	1	1	3,952
Telecomunications						
& Media						
- NR	•	1	22,500	1	1	22,500
Unquoted Fixed						
Income Securities						
- AAA	1,929,732	1	1	1	1	1,929,732
- AAA IS	3,549,886	1	1	1	1	3,549,886
- AAA (S)	1,122,884	1	ı	1	ı	1,122,884
- AA1 (S)	3,095,402	1	1	1	1	3,095,402
- AA1	4,076,887	1	1	1	1	4,076,887
- NR	7,261,714	1	1	1	1	7,261,714
Other						
- NR	•	1	1	26,300	222,870	249,170
	21,036,505	3,540,053	26,452	26,300	222,870	24,852,180

None of these financial assets are past due or impaired.

Fair value estimation

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e. an exit price).

The fair value of financial assets traded in active market (such as trading securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the financial year end date. The Fund utilises the last traded market price for financial assets where the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager will determine the point within the bid-ask spread that is representative of the fair value.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

The fair value of financial assets that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques.

i. Fair value hierarchy

The following table analyses financial instruments carried at fair value by valuation method.

The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active market for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are
 observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or
 indirectly (that is, derived from prices).
- Level 3: Inputs for the asset and liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs).

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a Level 3 measurement

Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

The determination of what constitutes "observable" requires significant judgement by the Fund. The Fund considers observable data to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy of the Fund's financial assets (by class) measured at fair value:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	RM	RM	RM	RM
2023 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
Quoted securities Unquoted fixed income	32,239,964	-	-	32,239,964
securities	-	20,581,402	-	20,581,402
	32,239,964	20,581,402	-	52,821,366
2022 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Quoted securities Unquoted fixed income securities	32,867,293 	21,036,505 21,036,505	- -	32,867,293 21,036,505 53,903,798

Investments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets, and are therefore classified within Level 1, includes active quoted securities. The Fund does not adjust the quoted prices for these instruments. The Fund's policies on valuation of these financial assets are stated in Note E to the financial statements.

Financial instruments that trade in markets that are considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within Level 2. These include unquoted fixed income securities. As Level 2 instruments include positions that are not traded in active markets and/or are subject to transfer restrictions, valuations may be adjusted to reflect illiquidity and/or non-transferability, which are generally based on available market information. The Fund's policies on valuation of these financial assets are stated in Note E to the financial statements.

ii. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, amount due from Manager, amount due from brokers, dividends receivable and all liabilities are a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to their short term nature.

3. MANAGEMENT FEE

In accordance with the Deed, the Manager is entitled to a management fee at a rate not exceeding 3.00% per annum of the net asset value of the Fund accrued and calculated on daily basis.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023, the management fee is recognised at a rate of 1.50% (2022: 1.50%) per annum on the net asset value of the Fund, calculated on daily basis.

There will be no further liability to the Manager in respect of the management fee other than the amounts recognised above.

4. TRUSTEE FEE

In accordance with the Deed, the Trustee is entitled to an annual fee at a rate not exceeding 0.20% per annum of the net asset value of the Fund, subject to a minimum fee of RM35,000 per annum.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023, the Trustee fee is recognised at a rate of 0.08% (2022: 0.08%) subject to a minimum fee of RM35,000 per annum on the net asset value of the Fund, inclusive of local custodian fee, calculated on daily basis.

There will be no further liability to the Trustee in respect of the trustee fee other than the amounts recognised above.

5. TAXATION

	2023	2022
	RM	RM
Tax charged for the financial year: Current taxation		_

The numerical reconciliation between profit/(loss) before taxation multiplied by the Malaysian statutory tax rate and tax expense of the Fund is as follows:

	2023	2022
	RM	RM
Profit/(loss) before taxation	2,404,880	(898,186)
Tax at Malaysian statutory rate of 24% (2022: 24%)	577,171	(215,565)
Tax effects of: Investment income not subject to tax Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Restriction on tax deductible expenses for	(824,787) 45,622	(50,413) 56,452
Unit Trust Funds Taxation	201,994	209,526

6. DISTRIBUTION

	2023	2022
	RM	RM
Distribution to unit holders is from the following sources:		
Prior financial years' realised income	1,361,465	1,011,197
Dividend income	1,123,405	995,072
Interest income	1,013,298	854,652
Accretion of discounts	(98,483)	(15,453)
Distribution equalisation (Memorandum		
account)	15,622	56,993
Gross realised income	3,415,307	2,902,461
Less: Expenses	(986,995)	(641,346)
	2,428,312	2,261,115
Gross distribution per unit (sen)	4.14	3.76
Net distribution per unit (sen)	4.14	3.76
Ex-Date	15 December 2023	16 December 2022

Gross distribution is derived using total income less total expenses. The distribution is made from current and prior financial years' realised income.

Gross distribution per unit is derived from gross realised income less expenses divided by the number of units in circulation, while net distribution per unit is derived from gross realised income less expenses and taxation divided by the number of units in circulation.

Distribution equalisation represents the average amount of distributable income included in the creation and cancellation prices of units. It is computed as at each date of creation and cancellation of units. For the purposes of determining amount available for distribution, distribution equalisation is included in the computation of realised gain or income available for distribution.

During the financial year ended 31 December 2023, the Fund incurred unrealised loss of RM Nil (2022: RM1,103,800).

7. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	2023	2022
	RM	RM
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Quoted securities (Note 7 (i)) Unquoted fixed income securities (Note 7 (ii))	32,239,964 20,581,402 52,821,366	32,867,293 21,036,505 53,903,798
Net gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Realised loss on disposals Change in unrealised fair value gain/(loss)	(711,623) 2,021,848 1,310,225	(781,683) (1,103,800) (1,885,483)

i. **Quoted securities**

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Construction				
Gamuda Berhad	53,800	236,720	246,942	0.44
IJM Corporation Berhad	234,000	429,481	439,920	0.78
	287,800	666,201	686,862	1.22
•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		•	
Consumer Products & Services				
Genting Berhad	40,000	204,930	184,800	0.33
Genting Malaysia Berhad	67,000	198,028	180,230	0.32
Mr D.I.Y. Group (M)				
Berhad	192,000	385,914	278,400	0.49
Padini Holdings Berhad	47,000	169,030	164,970	0.29
PETRONAS Dagangan				
Berhad	12,400	304,280	270,816	0.48
PPB Group Berhad	33,000	564,270	477,840	0.85
QL Resources Berhad	60,800	355,678	347,168	0.62
Sime Darby Berhad	354,000	841,004	831,900	1.48
	806,200	3,023,134	2,736,124	4.86
-				
Energy Dialog Group Berhad Hibiscus Petroleum	82,000	293,067	169,740	0.30
Berhad	430,400	1,081,689	1,093,216	1.94
	512,400	1,374,756	1,262,956	2.24

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Financial Services AMMB Holdings Berhad Bursa Malaysia Berhad CIMB Group Holdings Berhad Malayan Banking Berhad Public Bank Bhd RHB Bank Berhad	75,000	273,915	300,750	0.53
	38,500	311,024	266,035	0.47
	355,000	1,945,374	2,076,750	3.69
	126,000	1,128,683	1,120,140	1.99
	737,000	3,220,775	3,161,730	5.62
	90,600	510,902	493,770	0.88
	1,422,100	7,390,673	7,419,175	13.18
Health Care IHH Healthcare Berhad KPJ Healthcare Berhad	47,000	279,927	283,410	0.50
	316,000	331,272	455,040	0.81
	363,000	611,199	738,450	1.31

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
<u>Industrial Products</u> & Services				
HSS Engineers Berhad	275,000	194,260	266,750	0.47
Malayan Cement Berhad Malaysia Smelting	71,000	275,608	300,330	0.53
Corporation Berhad PETRONAS Chemicals	171,000	346,853	347,130	0.62
Group Berhad Press Metal Aluminium	205,000	1,690,806	1,467,800	2.61
Holdings Berhad Solarvest Holdings	232,000	1,285,565	1,115,920	1.98
Berhad	210,000	280,686	273,000	0.49
Sunway Berhad	150,000	275,386	309,000	0.55
	1,314,000	4,349,164	4,079,930	7.25
<u>Plantation</u> Hap Seng Plantations				
Holdings Berhad	336,000	816,292	577,920	1.03
IOI Corporation Berhad Kuala Lumpur Kepong	188,000	855,507	738,840	1.31
Berhad Sarawak Oil Palms	65,600	1,477,394	1,431,392	2.54
Berhad Sime Darby Plantation	200,000	652,477	518,000	0.92
Berhad	251,000	1,225,405	1,119,460	1.99
TSH Resources Berhad	287,000	397,491	279,825	0.50
	1,327,600	5,424,566	4,665,437	8.29

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Property Matrix Concepts Holdings				
Berhad	179,000	273,691	295,350	0.52
S P Setia Berhad Sime Darby Property	479,000	493,925	383,200	0.68
Berhad	523,000	406,751	326,875	0.58
UEM Sunrise Berhad	579,000	310,349	471,885	0.84
	1,760,000	1,484,716	1,477,310	2.62
Technology CTOS Digital Berhad Frontken Corporation	195,000	378,644	274,950	0.49
Berhad Genetec Technology	53,000	173,864	171,720	0.31
Berhad	113,000	281,506	266,680	0.47
Inari Amertron Berhad	139,000	477,841	418,390	0.74
ITMAX System Berhad	160,000	250,608	286,400	0.51
SNS Network Technology				
Berhad	1,000,000	252,857	235,000	0.42
_	1,660,000	1,815,320	1,653,140	2.94

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
<u>Telecommunications</u> & Media				
Axiata Group Berhad	199,000	854,442	473,620	0.84
CelcomDigi Berhad	192,000	797,474	783,360	1.39
Maxis Berhad	68,000	307,221	261,800	0.47
REDtone Digital Berhad	650,000	337,346	455,000	0.81
Telekom Malaysia Berhad	208,000	998,402	1,154,400	2.05
TIME dotCom Berhad	80,300	345,407	433,620	0.77
_	1,397,300	3,640,292	3,561,800	6.33
Transportation & Logistics Malaysia Airports				
Holdings Berhad	39,000	283,269	287,040	0.51
MISC Berhad	114,000	838,127	831,060	1.48
_	153,000	1,121,396	1,118,100	1.99

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Utilities PETRONAS Gas Berhad Tenaga Nasional Berhad YTL Corporation Berhad YTL Power International	27,000 167,000 202,000	465,140 1,774,887 272,780	469,800 1,676,680 381,780	0.83 2.98 0.68
Berhad	123,000 519,000	296,896 2,809,703	312,420 2,840,680	0.56 5.05
TOTAL QUOTED SECURITIES	11,522,400	33,711,120	32,239,964	57.28

ACCUMULATED UNREALISED LOSS ON FINANCIAL **ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS**

(1,471,156)

TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

32,239,964

i. Quoted securities

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Construction				
IJM Corporation Berhad	167,000	316,265	267,200	0.46
Consumer Products & Services				
AEON Co. (M) Berhad	207,000	312,386	283,590	0.49
DRB-HICOM Berhad	192,000	291,800	307,200	0.53
Genting Berhad	132,000	676,269	591,360	1.03
Genting Malaysia Berhad	163,000	487,603	438,470	0.76
Mr D.I.Y. Group (M)				
Berhad	423,000	917,517	846,000	1.47
Padini Holdings Berhad	58,000	179,120	194,300	0.34
PETRONAS Dagangan	15 100	270 525	2.47.200	0.60
Berhad	15,100	370,535 602,165	347,300	0.60 1.10
PPB Group Berhad Senheng New Retail	36,400	002,105	634,816	1.10
Berhad	360,000	311,328	217,800	0.38
Sime Darby Berhad	388,000	921,779	892,400	1.55
UMW Holdings Berhad	98,000	307,953	340,060	0.59
	2,072,500	5,378,455	5,093,296	8.84
F=====				
Energy Dialog Group Berhad Hibiscus Petroleum	234,000	836,312	573,300	1.00
Berhad	719,000	738,255	769,330	1.34
Velesto Energy Berhad	1,939,000	309,888	290,850	0.50
	2,892,000	1,884,455	1,633,480	2.84

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Financial Services Alliance Bank Malaysia				
Berhad	60,000	229,230	220,200	0.38
AMMB Holdings Berhad	149,000	540,239	616,860	1.07
Bursa Malaysia Berhad CIMB Group Holdings	38,500	311,024	256,025	0.44
Berhad Hong Leong Bank	203,000	1,047,094	1,177,400	2.04
Berhad	28,000	534,436	575,680	1.00
Malayan Banking Berhad	367,000	3,325,275	3,192,900	5.54
Public Bank Berhad	678,000	2,972,951	2,928,960	5.08
RHB Bank Berhad	71,007	396,766	411,131	0.71
	1,594,507	9,357,015	9,379,156	16.26
Health Care Duopharma Biotech				
Berhad	250,107	632,030	402,672	0.70
IHH Healthcare Berhad	139,000	929,298	864,580	1.50
	389,107	1,561,328	1,267,252	2.20

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Industrial Products & Services PETRONAS Chemicals				
Group Berhad Press Metal Aluminium	146,000	1,287,723	1,255,600	2.18
Holdings Berhad	232,000	1,285,565	1,132,160	1.97
	378,000	2,573,288	2,387,760	4.15
<u>Plantation</u> Genting Plantations Berhad	64,000	625,469	409,600	0.71
Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Berhad	251,000	647,695	486,940	0.85
IOI Corporation Berhad Kuala Lumpur Kepong	188,000	855,507	761,400	1.32
Berhad Sarawak Oil Palms	46,000	1,067,695	1,028,560	1.79
Berhad Sime Darby Plantation	216,000	704,675	561,600	0.97
Berhad	251,000	1,225,405	1,167,150	2.03
TSH Resources Berhad	538,000	745,123	575,660	1.00
	1,554,000	5,871,569	4,990,910	8.67

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
Property IOI Properties Group				
Berhad	282,000	318,829	298,920	0.52
S P Setia Berhad S P Setia Berhad - Redeemable convertible preference	241,000	326,989	144,600	0.25
shares Sime Darby Property	161,470	61,359	55,707	0.10
Berhad	523,000	406,751	235,350	0.41
UEM Sunrise Berhad	810,000	434,167	206,550	0.36
	2,017,470	1,548,095	941,127	1.64
<u>Technology</u>				
CTOS Digital Berhad D&O Green Technologies	311,000	603,888	441,620	0.77
Berhad Genetec Technology	66,000	286,577	282,480	0.49
Berhad	83,000	230,744	198,370	0.34
Inari Amertron Berhad	152,000	530,877	396,720	0.69
ITMAX System Berhad Malaysian Pacific	331,100	354,277	470,162	0.82
Industries Berhad	3,700	112,546	106,412	0.18
My E.G. Services Berhad TT Vision Holdings	325,000	305,955	282,750	0.49
Berhad	515,200	175,168	175,168	0.30
	1,787,000	2,600,032	2,353,682	4.08

Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
Units	RM	RM	%
250,000	1,073,419	772,500	1.34
71,000	298,683	284,000	0.49
66,000	328,121	253,440	0.44
940,000	487,854	470,000	0.82
109,000	501,133	588,600	1.02
121,000	520,476	592,900	1.03
1,557,000	3,209,686	2,961,440	5.14
90 000	662 488	675 000	1.17
	250,000 71,000 66,000 940,000 109,000 121,000	Quantity cost Units RM 250,000 1,073,419 71,000 298,683 66,000 328,121 940,000 487,854 109,000 501,133 121,000 520,476 1,557,000 3,209,686	Quantity Aggregate cost as at 31.12.2022 Units RM RM 250,000 1,073,419 772,500 71,000 298,683 284,000 66,000 328,121 253,440 940,000 487,854 470,000 109,000 501,133 588,600 121,000 520,476 592,900 1,557,000 3,209,686 2,961,440

Name of counter	Quantity	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	Units	RM	RM	%
<u>Utilities</u> PETRONAS Gas Berhad Tenaga Nasional Berhad	35,000 33,000 68,000	602,960 473,350 1,076,310	599,200 317,790 916,990	1.04 0.56 1.60
TOTAL QUOTED SECURITIES	14,566,584	36,038,986 __	32,867,293	57.05

ACCUMULATED UNREALISED LOSS **ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH** PROFIT OR LOSS

(3,171,693)

TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

32,867,293

ii. Unquoted fixed income securities

Name of counter	Nominal value	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	RM	RM	RM	%
4.47% Aman Sukuk Berhad 8.5.2025				
(AAA IS) 4.53% Danainfra Nasional Berhad	3,500,000	3,550,950	3,557,796	6.32
1.4.2037 (NR) 5.07% GENM Capital	1,000,000	1,013,771	1,062,794	1.89
Berhad 5.5.2028 (AA1 (S)) 5.30% GENM Capital Berhad	1,500,000	1,511,668	1,529,908	2.72
11.7.2028 (AA1 (S)) 4.504% Malaysia Government	3,000,000	3,287,496	3,138,377	5.58
30.4.2029 (NR) 3.32% Pengurusan Air SPV	5,000,000	5,092,945	5,243,358	9.32
Berhad 4.6.2027 (AAA)	2,000,000	1,996,679	1,972,012	3.50

<u>Unquoted fixed income securities</u> (continued)

Name of counter	Nominal value	Aggregate cost	31.12.2023	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	RM	RM	RM	%
4.95% YTL Power International Berhad 11.10.2024 (AA1)	4,000,000	4,072,598	4,077,157	7.24
TOTAL UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES	20,000,000	20,526,107	20,581,402	36.57
ACCUMULATED UNREALISED GAIN ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS	-	55,295		
TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS	_	20,581,402		

ii. Unquoted fixed income securities

Name of counter	Nominal value	Aggregate cost	Fair value as at 31.12.2022	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
	RM	RM	RM	%
4.47% Aman Sukuk Berhad 8.5.2025 (AAA IS)	3,500,000	3,570,697	3,549,886	6.16
4.53% Danainfra Nasional				
Berhad 1.4.2037 (NR) 5.30% GENM Capital Berhad 11.7.2028	1,000,000	1,013,786	1,014,760	1.76
(AA1 (S)) 4.504% Malaysia Government	3,000,000	3,329,274	3,095,402	5.37
30.4.2029 (NR) 4.93% Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan	5,000,000	5,102,127	5,180,820	8.99
Tinggi Nasional 17.8.2032 (NR) 3.32% Pengurusan Air	1,000,000	1,082,140	1,066,134	1.85
SPV Berhad 4.6.2027 (AAA) 4.65% Toyota Capital	2,000,000	1,994,462	1,929,732	3.35
Malaysia Sdn Berhad 20.1.2023 (AAA (S))	1,100,000	1,123,585	1,122,884	1.95

Unquoted fixed income securities (continued)

Name of counter	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Percentage of net asset value of the Fund
4.65% YTL Power International Berhad 24.8.2023 (AA1)	4,000,000	7441	 7.08
TOTAL UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES		21,302,521	36.51
ACCUMULATED UNREALISED LOSS ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS	-	(266,016)	
TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS	_	21,036,505	

The effective weighted average interest rate of unquoted fixed income securities per annum as at the date of the statement of financial position are as follows:

	2023	2022
	%	%
Unquoted fixed income securities	4.04	4.35

8. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023	2022
	RM	RM
Bank balance with a licensed bank	53,772	49,498
Deposits with licensed financial institution	3,480,930	3,490,555
	3,534,702	3,540,053

The effective weighted average interest rate of short term deposits with licensed financial institution per annum as at the date of statement of financial position are as follows:

	2023	2022
	%	%
Deposits with licensed financial institution	3.25	2.90

The deposits have an average maturity of 2 days (2022: 2 days).

9. UNITS IN CIRCULATION

	2023	2022
	No. of units	No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year Creation of units during the financial year:	62,416,898	61,271,417
Arising from applications	4,692,735	3,599,823
Arising from distribution Cancellation of units during the financial year	2,558,596 (8,653,990)	2,390,385 (4,844,727)
At the end of the financial year	61,014,239	62,416,898

10. TRANSACTIONS WITH BROKERS/DEALERS

Details of transactions with the top 10 brokers and dealers are as follows:

Name of brokers/ dealers	Value of trades	Percentage of total trades	Brokerage fees	Percentage of total brokerage fees
	RM	%	RM	%
2023 RHB Investment Bank Berhad	7,722,934	18.60	8,095	11.82
Maybank Investment	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		3,033	2
Bank Berhad J.P. Morgan Securities	4,950,168	11.92	9,549	13.95
(Malaysia) Sdn Bhd Kenanga Investment	4,475,711	10.78	8,504	12.42
Bank Berhad CGS - CIMB Securities	3,875,596	9.33	6,979	10.19
Sdn Bhd CLSA Securities Malaysia	3,711,411	8.94	7,052	10.30
Sdn Bhd Macquarie Capital	3,494,593	8.42	7,419	10.84
Securities (Malaysia)				
Sdn Bhd	2,406,244	5.80	4,580	6.69
KAF Equity Sdn Bhd UOB Kay Hian Securities	2,221,078	5.35	4,220	6.16
(M) Sdn Bhd Credit Suisse Securities	2,214,896	5.33	4,217	6.16
(Malaysia) Sdn Bhd	1,504,245	3.62	2,868	4.19
Others	4,944,580	11.91	4,987	7.28
	41,521,456	100.00	68,470	100.00

Name of brokers/ dealers	Value of trades	Percentage of total trades	Brokerage fees	Percentage of total brokerage fees
	RM	%	RM	%
2022 Maybank Investment				
Bank Berhad J.P. Morgan Securities	5,419,853	10.38	12,416	13.80
(Malaysia) Sdn Bhd	5,076,448	9.72	10,152	11.29
Maybank Islamic Berhad Macquarie Capital Securities Malaysia)	5,066,000	9.70	-	-
Sdn Bhd CLSA Securities Malaysia	4,602,195	8.81	9,224	10.26
Sdn Bhd CGS - CIMB Securities	4,471,105	8.56	8,942	9.94
Sdn Bhd Standard Chartered	4,469,243	8.56	11,439	12.72
Bank Malaysia Berhad Credit Suisse Securities	4,033,400	7.72	-	-
(Malaysia) Sdn Bhd RHB Investment Bank	3,920,919	7.51	7,802	8.67
Berhad Kenanga Investment	3,262,286	6.25	6,525	7.25
Bank Berhad	2,586,006	4.95	5,184	5.76
Others	9,328,176	17.84	18,261	20.31
	52,235,631	100.00	89,945	100.00

All brokers and dealers highlighted above are not related to the Manager.

11. UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER

The related parties and their relationship with the Fund are as follows:

Related parties	Relationship
Director of Eastspring Investments Berhad	Director of the Manager
Eastspring Investments Berhad	The Manager
Eastspring Investments Group Private Limited	Immediate holding company of the Manager
Prudential Plc	Ultimate holding company of the Manager

Units held by Manager:

		2023		2022
	No. of units	RM	No. of units	RM
Eastspring Investments Berhad	1,732	1,598	1,657	1,530

The above units were transacted at the prevailing market price.

The units are held legally and beneficially by the Manager and are within the prescribed limit allowed by SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds. Other than the above, there were no units held by the Directors or parties related to the Manager.

In addition to the related parties disclosure mentioned in the financial statements, there were no other significant related parties transactions and balances.

12. TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO ("TER")

	2023	2022
	%	%
TER	1.63	1.63

TER is derived from the following calculation:

TER =
$$\frac{(A + B + C + D + E)}{F}$$
 X 100

A = Management fee

B = Trustee fee

C = Audit fee

D = Tax agent fee

E = Other expenses (excluding sales and service tax on transaction cost and withholding tax)

F = Average net asset value of the Fund calculated on a daily basis

The average net asset value of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis is RM55,595,492 (2022: RM57,720,217).

13. PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATIO ("PTR")

	2023	2022
PTR (times)	0.37	0.47

PTR is derived from the following calculation:

(Total acquisitions for the financial year + total disposals for the financial year) \div 2

Average net asset value of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis

where:

total acquisitions for the financial year = RM22,195,554 (2022: RM30,563,098) total disposals for the financial year = RM19,332,854 (2022: RM23,740,551)

14. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been approved for issue by the Manager on 23 February 2024.

CORPORATE DIRECTORY

THE MANAGER

NAME

EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BERHAD

COMPANY NO.

200001028634 (531241-U)

REGISTERED OFFICE

Level 25, Menara Hong Leong

No. 6, Jalan Damanlela

Bukit Damansara

50490 Kuala Lumpur

BUSINESS OFFICE

Level 22, Menara Prudential

Persiaran TRX Barat

55188 Tun Razak Exchange

Kuala Lumpur

TELEPHONE NO.

603-2778 3888

FAX NO.

603-2789 7220

EMAIL

cs.my@eastspring.com

WEBSITE

www.eastspring.com/my

TRUSTEE

NAME

DEUTSCHE TRUSTEES MALAYSIA BERHAD

COMPANY NO.

200701005591 (763590-H)

REGISTERED OFFICE & BUSINESS OFFICE

Level 20, Menara IMC

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50250 Kuala Lumpur

TELEPHONE NO.

603-2053 7522

FAX NO.

603-2053 7526

SALE & PURCHASE OF UNITS

Eastspring Investments Berhad

Level 22, Menara Prudential Persiaran TRX Barat

55188 Tun Razak Exchange

Kuala Lumpur

TELEPHONE NO.

603-2778 1000

BRANCHES

Petaling Jaya

Eastspring Investments Berhad A-17-P1 & M Block A, Jaya One 72A, Jalan Profesor Diraja Ungku Aziz 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

TELEPHONE NO. 603-7948 1288

Kota Kinabalu

Eastspring Investments Berhad Suite E3, 9th Floor CPS Tower, Centre Point Sabah No. 1, Jalan Centre Point 88000 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

TELEPHONE NO. 6088-238 613

ENQUIRIES

CLIENT SERVICES 603-2778 1000

APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF CHANGES FOR EASTSPRING INVESTMENTS BALANCED FUND

Unless otherwise stated, the following changes are affected via the Eight Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024.

Current disclosure in the Master Prospectus dated 15 July 2017. the First Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2018. the Second Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 31 October 2018, the Third Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 January 2019. the Fourth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 August 2019, the Fifth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 October 2020. the Sixth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 15 December 2021 and the Seventh Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 30 December 2022

Revised disclosure in the Eighth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024

Section

Transaction Information – Transaction Details 7th paragraph:

The Manager reserves the right to change the minimum amounts and number of Units stipulated above from time to time. 7th paragraph:

The Manager reserves the right to change the minimum amounts and number of Units stipulated above from time to time. Should the Manager decide to increase the minimum amounts and number of units as stipulated under the transaction details section, the Manager shall notify the Unit Holders by way of a letter at least fourteen (14) days prior to the effective date of such change. Investment made via digital platforms may have a lower minimum initial investment, minimum additional investment amount, minimum redemption and/or minimum holding of Units of the Fund, subject to the respective digital platforms' terms and conditions, which may be amended from time to time.

Current disclosure in the Master Prospectus dated 15 July 2017. the First Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2018, the Second Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 31 October 2018, the Third Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 January 2019, the Fourth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 August 2019. the Fifth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 October 2020. the Sixth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 15 December 2021 and the Seventh Supplementary **Master Prospectus dated 30** December 2022

Section

Transaction Information – Income Reinvestment Policy

Income distributed to a Unit Holder will automatically be reinvested into additional Units in the Fund at the NAV per Unit at the end of the Business Day of the income distribution date at no cost if the Unit Holder did not elect the mode of distribution in the master account opening form or provide any written instruction to the Manager.

Should a Unit Holder elect the mode of distribution in the master account opening form or provide any written instruction to the Manager for the income distribution to be paid out, the income distribution proceeds will either be paid by cheque or credited to a Malaysian domiciled bank account via telegraphic or online transfer. Any fees or charges imposed by the bank will be borne by the Unit Holder

Revised disclosure in the Eighth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024

Income distribution to a Unit Holder will automatically be reinvested into additional Units in the Fund at the NAV per Unit at the end of the Business Day of the income distribution date at no cost if the Unit Holder did not elect the mode of distribution in the master account opening form or provide any written instruction to the Manager.

Should a Unit Holder elect the mode of distribution in the master account opening form or provide any written instruction to the Manager for the income distribution to be paid out, the income distribution proceeds will be paid via e-payment ONLY (i.e. income distribution proceeds will be credited to a Malaysian domiciled bank account via telegraphic or online transfer). Any fees or charges imposed by the bank will be borne by the Unit Holder.

Current disclosure in the Master Prospectus dated 15 July 2017. the First Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2018, the Second Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 31 October 2018, the Third Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 January 2019, the Fourth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 August 2019. the Fifth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 October 2020. the Sixth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 15 December 2021 and the Seventh Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 30 December 2022

Section

Transaction Information – Income Reinvestment Policy (continued) The Manager reserves the right to reinvest income distribution without providing any reason if the instruction in the master account opening form or written instruction is incomplete.

Applicable only to Eastspring Global Target Income Fund

Distribution payment which is less than or equal to the amount of RM300* or such other amount which will be determined by the Manager will be reinvested into additional Units in the Fund at the NAV per Unit at the end of the Business Day of the income distribution date at no cost.

* should this amount be increased in the future, Unit Holder will be informed via post mail or email at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the implementation of such increase.

Revised disclosure in the Eighth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024

The Manager reserves the right to reinvest income distribution without providing any reason if the instruction in the master account opening form or written instruction is incomplete. In the absence of a registered bank account, the distribution (if any) will be reinvested.

Distribution payment which is less than or equal to the amount of RM300* or such other amount which will be determined by the Manager will be reinvested into additional Units in the Fund at the NAV per Unit at the end of the Business Day of the income distribution date at no cost.

* should this amount be increased in the future, Unit Holder will be informed via post mail or email at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the implementation of such increase.

Current disclosure in the Master Prospectus dated 15 July 2017, the First Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2018, the Second Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 31 October 2018, the Third Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 January 2019, the Fourth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 August 2019. the Fifth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 1 October 2020, the Sixth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 15 December 2021 and the Seventh Supplementary **Master Prospectus dated 30** December 2022

Revised disclosure in the Eighth Supplementary Master Prospectus dated 2 February 2024

Section

Transaction Information – Auto Reinvestment Policy Not applicable.

(added)

2nd Paragraph:

The Manager reserves the right to change the income distribution instruction to "reinvestment" if the Unit Holder did not claim the income distribution payment for the last three (3) consecutive distributions.