# Sustainable Asia Equity Fund

# The Fund

## Investment objective

The Sustainable Asia Equity Fund aims to achieve capital growth by investing at least 80% of its net assets in a diversified portfolio of equity and equity related securities of companies in Asia.

#### **Policy**

The Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets in equity and equity-related securities of companies incorporated, located, listed or with significant business interests in Asia, including Australia and New Zealand, that demonstrate strong or improving sustainability attributes.

# Philosophy

We believe that attractive risk-adjusted returns can be generated by investing in Asia ex-Japan equities that demonstrate superior sustainability attributes. The developing nature of economies and companies in Asia ex-Japan create many inefficiencies which can be exploited through the analysis of fundamental and sustainability factor.

# Share class performance since inception

## Cumulative performance (%)

Total return in USD net of fees, as of 29 February 2024 (rebased to 100)



Sustainable Asia Equity Fund

Index

# Average annual total returns (%)

		3 mths	YTD		3 yrs p.a.	•	10 yrs p.a.	SI p.a.
Fund	6.79	3.71	0.69	2.69	-8.43	2.79	3.17	2.59
Index	5.60	3.35	-0.16	4.94	-8.40	1.78	3.87	2.76

# Calendar year returns (%)

	2023 2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Fund	3.76 -20.40	-0.71	29.39	20.23 -	18.26	41.98	-1.13	-6.33	-2.00
Index	5.98 -19.67	-4.72	25.02	18.17	14.37	41.72	5.93	-9.51	3.16

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Fund	14.88	22.43	-17.36	18.02	64.97	-50.72	0.45	-	-	-
Index	3.76	22.02	-14.78	19.44	68.89	-50.56	0.81	_	_	_

Note: The cumulative chart and tables above show simulated past performance based on the actual (Net) performance of the launched Asia Equity Fund AA USD share class, from the inception date of 19 November 2007 to 17 July 2022. This Fund was repurposed to the Sustainable Asia Equity Fund on 18 July 2022 and has a different investment objective and policy. This simulation reflects the current ongoing charges of the I6 USD Acc class rather than the charges actually incurred by the AA USD class. Thereafter from 18 July 2022 the Fund performance is the class I6 USD Acc. Performance in the first year is partial.



# Key facts

Investment team	Began career
Kenglin Tan, CFA	2000
Marco Giubin	1996

# Fund information

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Inception date	19 March 1993
Benchmark index	MSCI AC Asia ex-Japan Index
Fund size (USDm)	103.6
Base currency	USD
Domicile	Luxembourg
Umbrella	Manulife Global Fund
Dealing deadline	1pm Luxembourg time (daily)

# **Share class information**

Inception date	18 July 2022
ISIN	LU2225682694
Currency	USD
Bloomberg ticker	MLAEI6A LX
Minimum investment	USD 1 Million
Management fee (%)	0.75
Ongoing charges figure (%) (total expenses p.a.)	1.02

Note: The ongoing charges figure is based on an estimate of the charges of the Fund's operations and may vary over time. It includes charges such as the Fund's annual management charge, registration fee and custody fees. More information about charges can be found in the Fund's prospectus and KIIDS. These charges will have an impact on any investment.

# Portfolio parameters

Number of holdings	Typically 40-60
Max stock weight	10%
Tracking error	Expected to be within 3-6%
(not targeted)	p.a.



Past performance is not indicative of future results. The Fund's investment return and principal value will change with market conditions and you may have a gain or loss when you sell your shares. Changes in exchange rates may have an adverse effect. Performance data source: Manulife Investment Management. Includes fees and charges. Returns greater than one year are annualised. Current performance may differ from figures shown.

# **Portfolio**

Portfolio characteristics	Fund	Index
Wtd. avg. market cap (M)	117,846	120,955
Median market cap (M)	12,931	6,690
Number of holdings	45	1,187
Price/Book ratio (x)	2.2	1.6
P/E ratio (1yr forward) (x)	14.1	12.3
Debt/Capital (%)	36.4	42.2
EPS L-T growth rate (%)	18.7	18.0
ROE (%)	13.1	10.9
Operating margin (%)	12.7	8.3

Top ten issuers (%)	Fund	Index
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	8.6	8.9
Samsung Electronics	7.5	4.3
Trip.com Group Ltd.	4.0	0.4
ICICI Bank	3.7	1.1
AIA Group	3.2	1.5
HD Hyundai Electric	2.9	-
Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.	2.7	0.4
NARI Technology Co., Ltd. Class A	2.6	-
Baidu Class A	2.5	0.5
Samsonite International S.A.	2.5	-

Sector allocation (%)	Fund	Index
Information technology	25.9	26.0
Industrials	18.9	7.7
Financials	18.0	20.7
Consumer discretionary	16.0	13.9
Health care	8.8	3.8
Communication services	4.6	8.9
Consumer staples	3.5	4.6
Materials	1.6	4.7
Energy	-	4.1
Real estate	-	2.9
Utilities	_	2.7

Geographical allocation (%)	Fund	Index
China	30.4	29.9
Korea	16.8	14.6
Taiwan	16.0	19.5
India	12.4	20.5
Hong Kong	7.7	5.5
Thailand	4.8	1.9
Singapore	4.0	3.6
Indonesia	3.2	2.2
Australia	1.9	-
Malaysia	-	1.6
Philippines	_	0.8

ESG characteristics	Fund	Index
MSCI ESG score <sup>1</sup>	6.4	6.0
Carbon intensity (scope 1+2+ tier 1 supplier scope 3) (ton CO2e/m USD revenue) <sup>2*</sup> Waste intensity	103.4 2.7	363.3 35.2
(ton/m USD revenue)* Water consumption intensity (m3/m USD revenue)*	1499.1	6132.9
Women on board (%)*	16.6	17.3

Source: Manulife Investment Management, MSCI, S&P Trucost. \*Please refer to definitions. ESG characteristic values for both portfolio and benchmark are calculated on equity holdings only, exclusive of cash, derivatives. If only a subset of the securities in a portfolio or benchmark are in coverage, the weights are readjusted by Manulife Investment Management to add up to 100%. 1 MSCI ESG ratings, source: MSCI ESG data. The ESG Ratings shown represent the opinions of MSCI and may differ from Manulife Investment Management's internal portfolio management views and proprietary ESG ratings methodology. For further information regarding MSCI's ESG scoring methodology: <a href="https://www.msci.com/our solutions/esg-investing/esg ratings">https://www.msci.com/our solutions/esg-investing/esg ratings</a>. The Portfolio and Benchmark Overall Adjusted ESG Scores (0.0 to 10.0) are calculated based on the weighted average of each individual security's industry adjusted rating score, where the relevant securities are within MSCI's research coverage. 2 Carbon intensity data is the most current data available from S&P Trucost, which typically lags by one fiscal year due to the nature of publicly available emissions disclosure across industries and with individual companies.

#### **Definitions**

- Carbon intensity: Carbon intensity is measured on a weighted average basis for companies held and allows investors to know how efficient the portfolio is in terms of carbon (GHG) emissions (tons) per unit of sales revenue (US\$1,000,000). Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy. Tier 1 supplier scope 3 are the company's first-tier upstream supply chain, i.e. their direct suppliers.
- Waste intensity: Waste intensity is the weighted average volume of waste produced by companies in the portfolio to generate one million dollars of sales revenue (expressed in tons / million US\$ revenues).
- Water consumption intensity: Water intensity is the weighted average volume of water resource consumed by companies in the portfolio to generate one million dollars of sales revenue (expressed in cubic meters water / million US\$ revenues).
- Women on board: Weighted average percentage of women on the board of the holdings.

# To find out more visit www.manulifeim.com/institutional

The financial product referenced herein promotes environmental and/or social characteristics and fulfils the requirements of Article 8 of the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SFDR"). We have made available the requisite pre-contractual and website disclosures required under SFDR and further information is available upon request.

The Sustainable Asia Equity Fund is a sub-fund of Manulife Global Fund which is authorised in Luxembourg and regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). The assets of this Sub-Fund are segregated from other sub-funds in Manulife Global Fund.

In the UK: Issued and approved by Manulife Investment Management (Europe) Limited. Registered in England No.02831891. Registered Office: One London Wall, London EC2Y 5EA. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. In the EEA: Issued and approved by Manulife Investment Management (Ireland) Limited. Registered office located Second Floor, 5 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 CK83, Ireland. Authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

The fund is not registered in every jurisdiction and this material and any related materials may not be distributed or published in any jurisdiction where it would be contrary to local law or regulation. See the below website where the fund is registered.

This is a marketing communication therefore any decision to invest in this Fund should be based upon a review of the terms of the prospectus, including the relevant supplement, the relevant KIID and the latest annual and semi-annual accounts which are available in English at www.manulifeim.com/institutional.

A summary of Investor Rights is available in English under the Additional Documents section of this website. For EU Investors: Please note, a fund may be withdrawn from marketing in your jurisdiction upon notice from the Management Company in accordance with applicable regulations.

The Representative in Switzerland is FundRock Switzerland SA (formerly known as ARM Swiss Representatives SA), Route de Cité-Ouest 2, 1196 Gland and the Paying Agent is Banque Cantonale de Genève, Quai de l'Ille 17, CH-1204 Geneva. The prospectus, the KIID, the instrument of incorporation, as well as the semiannual and annual reports can be obtained upon request and free of charge from the Representative in Switzerland.

Portfolio characteristics including holdings, sector weightings and market capitalization are subject to change at any time. Current and future holdings are subject to risk. Ongoing market volatility can dramatically impact short term returns. All material is compiled from sources believed to be reliable and correct, but accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

#### Risks

All investments involve risk, including the possible loss of principal. There is no guarantee investment objectives will be met. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

**Geographical Concentration Risk:** the concentration of the Fund's investments in equity securities of companies related to the PRC, South Korea or Taiwan may result in greater volatility than portfolios which comprise broad-based global investments.

**Political and Regulatory Risk:** changes to government policies or legislation in the markets in which the Fund invests may adversely affect the stability of such markets, limiting the repatriation of foreign capital or the availability of legal redress through the courts. Investments in certain markets may also require the procurement of a substantial number of licences, regulatory consents or approvals. This could adversely affect the value of investments in the Fund.

**Sustainable Investing Risk:** since the Fund invests primarily in issuers demonstrating particular sustainability characteristics, this carries the risk that, under certain market conditions, the Fund may perform differently compared to funds that do not utilize a sustainable investment strategy.

**Emerging Markets Risk:** the investment of the Fund may be exposed to higher risks than in developed economies or markets.

**Currency Risk:** the Fund's assets may be invested primarily in securities denominated in currencies other than U.S. Dollars and the Fund may receive income or realization proceeds from these investments in those currencies, some of which may fall in value against U.S. Dollars.

People's Republic of China Investment Risk: investing in the securities markets in Mainland China is subject to the risks of investing in emerging markets generally as well as to specific risks relating to the Mainland China market

**Liquidity and Volatility Risks:** during certain times, the Fund's investments may become difficult to sell for full value or at all, which could affect performance and could result in delays when you sell your shares.

Use of Financial Derivatives Instruments (FDIs): the Fund may use FDIs to manage risk and manage the Fund more effectively. The use of derivatives exposes the Fund to additional risks, including volatility risk, management risk, market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

For a more detailed explanation of risks, please refer to the **"General Risk Factors"** section and **"Appendix I"** of the Prospectus.