March 31, 2023



Fund Overview

The Lotus Halal Fixed Income Fund (Lotus FIF) is an open-ended mutual fund that invests in fixed income instruments such as Sukuk (non-interest bonds) and fixed-return contracts such as Ijarah (lease) and Murabaha (cost-plus) contracts. The Fund does not invest in equities or interest-bearing securities like treasury bills or conventional term deposits.

The Fund's activities are supervised by an investment committee which meets regularly to take investment decisions, oversee performance and ensure Shariah compliance and proper risk management.

Fund Facts			
Launch Date	May 2016		
Currency	Naira (NGN)		
Fund Size	₩15.673bn		
Units Outstanding	13.213 million units		
Net Asset Value (NAV) Per Unit	₩1,186.15		
Minimum Investment	5 Units		
Minimum Holding Period	30 days		
Income Accrual	Daily		
Risk Profile	Low		
Annual Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value		
Distribution Frequency	Quarterly		
No. of Distributions Since Inception	25		
Last Distribution	January 2023: ₦23.00/unit		
Next Distribution	April 2023: ₦21.00/unit		

Asset Class Allocation Range	
Cash	0%-5%
Sovereign & Sub-Sovereign Sukuk	0%-90%
Corporate Sukuk	0%-60%
Fixed Term Investments	0%-100%
Fixed Income Contracts	0%-70%

 * Fixed Income Contracts include Ijara (lease) and Murabaha (cost-plus) contracts.
* Fixed Term Investments are Shari'ah compliant short-term investments with Non-Interest Banks.

Investor Profile

The Fund is specifically designed for ethically-inclined investors with low-risk appetite. The Fund is suitable for **individuals and institutional investors** seeking non-interest-based returns.

Benefits to the Investor

Competitive Returns	Aims to provide attractive returns comparable to conventional fixed income investments.
Low Risk	Minimizes risk of loss through diversification and focus on low-risk assets.
Regular Income	Aims to pay out 80% of profit to investors on a quarterly basis.
Liquidity	Investors can enter and exit the Fund every business day.
Inclusive	The Fund is targeted at investors with faith-based or ethical preferences, but open to the general investing public. It is reviewed annually for Shariah compliance.

Market Review (First Quarter 2023)

The Nigerian economy grew by 3.52% in the fourth quarter of 2022 (Q3'2022: 2.25%), thus bringing its annual GDP growth for 2022 to 3.10% (2021: 3.40%). This growth is largely attributable to expansion in the non-oil sector, with Agriculture, Construction, ICT, and Trade being the key contributors as low oil production led to a contraction in the size of the oil sector.

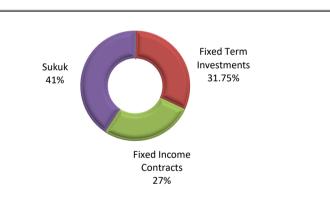
During the review period, the country's external reserves contracted to \$35.50bn (December: \$37.08bn), on account of depressed oil receipts alongside the apex bank's FX sale to support the local currency. Despite the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) attempts, the naira weakened at the investors and exporters window to \$460.85/\$ from \$449.05/\$ at the end of the prior quarter. The trend was similar at the parallel market and the naira traded for \$750/\$ compared to \$736/\$ in the fourth quarter.

In its two meetings in the quarter, the CBN increased the Monetary Policy Rate by 150bps to 18.00% in an effort to curtail inflation which reached 21.91% in February. Following the monetary tightening, fixed income yields ticked higher in the period.

Fund Performance

The Lotus Halal Fixed Income Fund gained 2.96% in the first quarter with a closing Net Asset Value of \$1,186.15/unit. The positive performance was occasioned by profits from fixed-term investments and rental income on Sukuk. In line with the fund's dividend policy, a distribution of \$21.00/unit was declared for the period.

Current Asset Allocation



	Q1'2023	2022	2021	Inception to Date
Fund Return	2.96%	8.80%	8.78%	80.12%
Benchmark	2.20%	9.38%	7.69%	-

Fund Outlook

In the coming quarter, our strategy is to focus on shorter-term fixed income instruments which offer an opportunity to monitor the business environment for yield improvements. We are optimistic that this strategy would yield positive returns for the fund.

Note: Investing in Shariah-compliant products involves risk as the value of investments may rise and fall depending on the performance of the underlying assets. Past performance does not guarantee future performance.