

Fund Overview

The Lotus Halal Investment Fund is designed for investors with moderate risk tolerance and a medium to long-term investment horizon. The Fund invests in a broadly diversified portfolio of equities, sukuk and asset backed investments.

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

Fund Facts			
Launch Date	August 2008		
Currency	Naira (NGN)		
Fund Size	₩5.36bn		
Net Asset Value (NAV) Per Unit	₩2.36		
Custodian	Citi Bank Nigeria Limited		
Trustees	FBNQuest Trustees Limited		
Minimum Investment	₩5,000		
Recommended Holding Period	3-5 years		
Income Accrual	Daily		
Risk Profile	Moderate		
Share of Profit	70% (Investor) :30% (Manager)		
Last Distribution	September 2024: ₩0.10/unit		
Asset Class	Allocation Range		
Listed equities	10% - 80%		
Unlisted equities	0% - 30%		
Asset Backed Investment (ABI)	10% - 80%		
Sukuk	0% - 80%		
Near Cash Assets	0% - 40%		

* Asset Backed Investment refers to non-interest finance contracts such as Ijarah (lease) Murabaha (cost-plus) and Mudaraba (joint venture) contracts.

* Cash and equivalents include Shari'ah-compliant short-term investments in Non-Interest Financial Institutions

Current Asset Allocation



Investor Profile

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

Benefits to the Investor

Competitive Returns	Aims to provide attractive returns comparable to conventional instruments with similar risk profile.	
Moderate Risk	Minimizes risk through diversification.	
Long term goals	Suitable for investing towards long term goals such as retirement and education.	
Dividend	Dividend is paid periodically at the discretion of the Fund Manager.	
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 2025)

GLOBAL ECONOMY

In the first quarter of 2025, central banks maintained a cautious approach to monetary policy. The U.S. Federal Reserve kept its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 4.50%, citing inflation concerns and policy uncertainties as key factors for its decision. This position was mirrored in the United Kingdom and China, where benchmark rates also remained at 4.50% and 3.10%, respectively.

In the period, events in the United States shook global markets when the US president imposed a 145% tariff on imports from China and a minimum tariff of 10% on imports from other countries. The potential from disruptions to global trade caused a sharp decline in stock and bond prices as investors sought safe-haven assets like gold.

LOCAL ECONOMY

Nigeria's economic indicators were mostly positive in the first quarter as inflation eased to 23.18% in March 2025 from 34.80% in December 2024, following the rebasing of the consumer price index. The Naira exhibited stability, trading at \pm 1,536.82/\$ in the Nigerian Autonomous Foreign Exchange Market (NAFEM) and \pm 1,550.00/\$ in the parallel market. This stability was bolstered by robust demand from local and foreign investors and increased currency sales by the Central Bank. Consequently, the Monetary Policy Committee maintained the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) at 27.50%.

Investor sentiment in the equities market started the year strong but softened marginally towards the end of the quarter due to fears that the US tariffs would dampen global trade and oil prices. For the quarter, the NGX All Share Index and NGX Lotus Islamic Index were up by 2.67% and 8.56% respectively.

Fund Performance

In the first quarter of 2024, the Halal Investment Fund gained 3.23% to close with a Net Asset Value of **\2.36/unit**. This positive performance was driven by gains from equity investments and profit on asset backed transactions. However, the Fund trailed its benchmark due to exposure to near cash assets.



	Q1'2025	FY'2024	Inception to Date
Fund Return	3.06%	31.24%	191.40%
Benchmark	6.22%	31.21%	-

Fund Outlook

In the upcoming quarter, the Fund plans to expand its Sukuk holdings to enhance its return potential. It also intends to increase exposure to higher-yielding, assetbacked investments while maintaining a cautious position in the equities market amid ongoing developments surrounding global trade and US tariffs.

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.

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