



AVOID BEING A VICTIM OF ILLEGAL FINANCIAL SCHEME SCAMS

What is IFS?

Illegal Financial Schemes (IFS) refers those companies or individuals that are dealing in securities, trading in future contracts, and providing fund management services and investment that is illegal, without being licensed by Malaysian regulators. (*Securities Commission (SC) under the Capital Markets & Services Act 2007*)

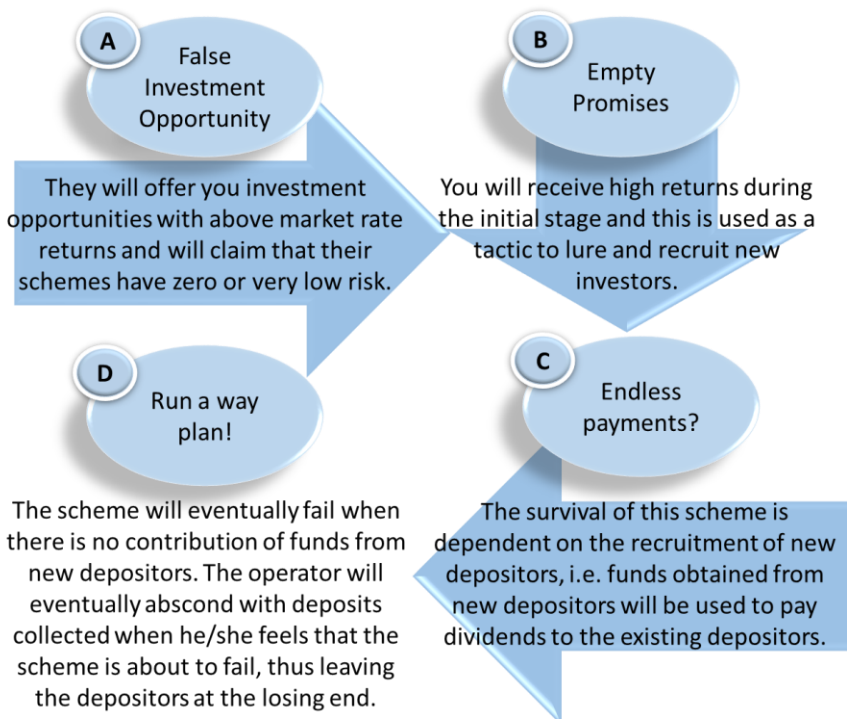
How do IFSs typically operate?

The perpetrators (*also known as operators*) will convince you to invest in their product and promise you above average returns. They will use some vague jargons such as "hedge futures trading", "high-yield investment programs", or "offshore investment" to describe their income strategy.

Initially, the operator will pay high returns to entice current investors to invest more money. A cascade effect will be triggered when other investors begin to participate. The operator pays a "return" to initial investors from the investments of new participants, rather than from genuine profits.

With the Internet becoming a common part of daily life, it should be no surprise that perpetrators have made cyberspace a prime hunting ground for victims. Always remain vigilant and cautious as many have cheated through these illegal schemes!

How does the scam work?



How to protect yourself?

- Remember the golden rule - if it sounds **too good to be true**, it's probably a scam;
- Deal only with BNM/SC licensed financial institutions and authorised dealers;
- Check with your bank before investing/ depositing;
- Don't be pressured or rushed into investing;
- **Be extra careful** with investments over the internet;
- Be skeptical of any investment opportunity that is not in writing; and
- In case an investment has been made, keep copies of all the investment and communications