

ANNOUNCEMENT: RHB ILLEGAL FINANCIAL SCHEME (IFS) AWARENESS

IFS refers to any financial scheme offered by companies or individuals who did not obtain approval/license from Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Securities Commission of Malaysia (SC) or other relevant authorities prior to offering their financial products.

Examples of IFS (non-exhaustive)	Type of activities
Illegal Deposit Taking (IDT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receiving, taking or accepting of deposits with promises of repayments.
Illegal Foreign Exchange Trading Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buying or selling of foreign currency by an individual/company not licensed/approved by BNM.
Illegal Internet Investment Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDT through internet platforms (e.g. emails or websites) as the primary channel

To safeguard you, RHB Banking Group would like to share some red flags and tactics that perpetrators may use to trick you:

Red Flags on IFS	Tactics used by perpetrators
Promising high investment returns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will be promised to earn good returns with minimal or no risk within a short time period. (e.g. To invest RM2000 with 40% returns in 3 months!).
Funds are requested to be transferred into personal bank account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may be requested to transfer the investment funds into an individual or a business account that has no relation to its nature of investment.
Investment campaign is offered in a short timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaigns may include “limited time offer” to disguise you into making a fast decision to invest.
Campaigns are mislead with “Shariah-compliant” slogan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaigns are designed to intentionally disguise you that the investment is in-line with Shariah laws.
Use of public figures to attract potential investors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credential of public figures/celebrities are used to convince potential investors.
Pose as legitimate entities or authorities to earn trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The perpetrators will use legitimate entities’ names, logos, credentials, website and other details to promote bogus investment schemes. Misuse the authorities’ name (BNM, SC, Companies Commission of Malaysia or Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia) or fake certificate from these authorities to gain your trust to invest with them.

Below are some examples of precautions measures you may exercise while dealing with financial products to ensure it is approved/licensed by the relevant authorities.

Precautions (non-exhaustive)	Measures
Educate Yourself	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep up-to-date with the latest fraud alerts and warnings from reputable sources like government agencies.
Verify Legitimacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before investing or engaging in financial transactions, research and verify the legitimacy of the individuals or organizations involved. Look for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Registered and licensed financial advisors. ✓ Reviews and complaints about companies or individuals. ✓ Check PDRM's "Semak Mule" portal to verify whether the bank accounts, telephone number or company name have been reported to the police. https://semakmule.rmp.gov.my/ ✓ Verification from relevant regulatory bodies such as SC's Investment Checker. https://www.sc.com.my/investment-checker
Be Cautious with Sharing Personal Information and Details of Transactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid sharing sensitive personal or financial information unnecessary to anyone. Never deposit your money into a unrelated personal or entity bank account.
Avoid High-Pressure Tactics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take your time to evaluate offers and consult with trusted financial advisors before making decisions.
Use Secure Channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for "https://" in website URLs and be cautious of links in unsolicited emails or messages.
Monitor Financial Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly check your bank and credit card statements for any unauthorized transactions.
Be Skeptical of Too-Good-to-Be-True Offers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If an investment or opportunity promises unusually high returns with little risk, it's likely a scam.
Report Suspicious Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you encounter or suspect a financial scam, report it to the relevant authorities, such as the Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) or Securities Commission of Malaysia (SC).
Implement Strong Cybersecurity Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use strong, unique passwords for your financial accounts, enable two-factor authentication (2FA), and regularly update your software to protect against malware and phishing attacks.

Contact your nearest RHB Branch or Customer Care Center 03-92068118 or email customer.service@rhbgroup.com to report any doubtful matters.