

RHB FOCUS INCOME BOND FUND – SERIES 8

The Fund aims to maximise returns at the Maturity Date from a concentrated portfolio of global debt instruments.

INVESTOR PROFILE

This Fund is suitable for Investors who:

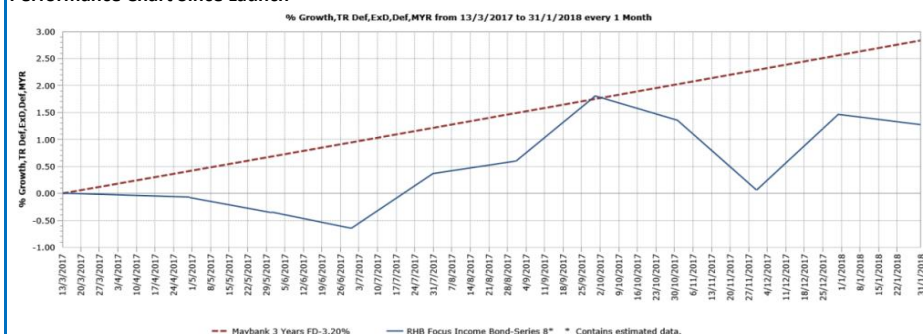
- have a moderate risk appetite;
- seek returns from the income accumulated and/or capital appreciation from a global debt instruments portfolio; and
- have a medium term (i.e. 3 years) investment horizon.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- 90% - 100% of NAV: Investments in global debt instruments, of which at least 70% of NAV in bonds.
- Up to 10% of NAV: Investments in liquid assets including money market instruments and Deposits.

FUND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

Performance Chart Since Launch*



Cumulative Performance (%)*

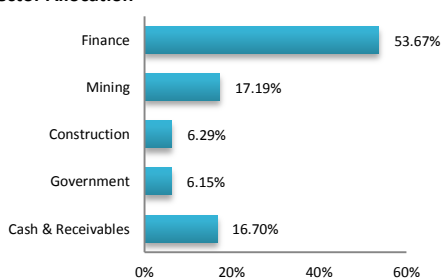
	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
Fund	-0.19	-0.08	0.91	-0.19
Benchmark	0.27	0.80	1.60	0.27

	1 Year	Since Launch
Fund	1.28	1.28
Benchmark	3.20	2.84

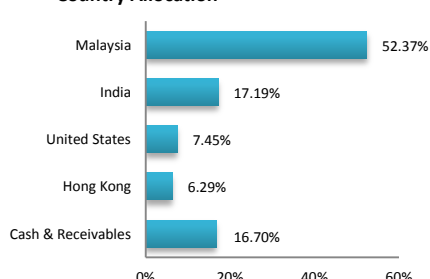
Source: Lipper IM

FUND PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS

Sector Allocation*



Country Allocation*



Top Holdings (%)*

JSW STEEL LTD	17.19
ERESQD	14.15
AKBANK TAS	13.19
TURKIYE IS BANKASI	7.54
TURKIYE SINAI KALKINMA BANKASI AS	7.46

*As percentage of NAV

FUND STATISTICS

Historical NAV (RM)

	1 Month	12 Months	Since Launch
High	1.0216	1.0229	1.0229
Low	1.0128	0.9845	0.9845

Source: Lipper IM

RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (174588-x)

Head Office: Level 8, Tower 2 & 3, RHB Centre, 50400 Kuala Lumpur

General Line: 603-9205 8000

RHB FOCUS INCOME BOND FUND – SERIES 8

The Fund aims to maximise returns at the Maturity Date from a concentrated portfolio of global debt instruments.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS
MARKET REVIEW

US Treasury (“UST”) yields elevated higher during the month of January 2018 as major economic data were stronger than anticipated and these have somewhat resulted in the market reevaluating the risks ahead by adjusting higher rates as shown in UST yields action. Market is currently pricing in more than 90% probability of the first rate hike of the year in this upcoming Federal Open Market Committee (“FOMC”) meeting in March 2018. With inflation expectations adjusting higher, UST yields curve bear-steepened with the longer curve of 10-year and 30-year UST grinding higher at about 30 basis points and 20 basis points accordingly compared to previous month’s closing. At the end of January close, the 2-, 5-, 10- and 30-year UST were last traded at 2.141% (December-2017: 1.883%), 2.514% (2.206%), 2.705% (2.405%) and 2.935 (2.739%) respectively.

The Institute of Supply Management (“ISM”) Manufacturing Index advanced higher to 59.7 in December 2017 compared to a reading of 58.2 in the previous month of November 2017, and it was also higher than consensus forecast of 58.2. The strong reading in ISM manufacturing, particularly the surge in new orders which saw the strongest figure since 2004 confirmed what is already apparent from the other growth data. On the other note, Industrial production (“IP”) in the United States grew 0.9% month-over-month which well above expectation of 0.5% and above the November’s downward revision of -0.1% from 0.2% previously. The December IP number marked the fourth consecutive monthly rise in factory output which further confirming the pick-up in industrial activity in late 2017. With the continuation of strong ISM Manufacturing reading, it implies that IP growth is likely to remain solid over the near future. Also, with recent increases in oil prices and evidence of a rebound in oil rigs suggests that energy-related activity is likely to remain supportive of near-term IP growth. The Nonfarm Payrolls (“NFP”) in the United States added 148,000 in December which is less than consensus estimate of 190,000 and below 228,000 recorded in November. Goods producing categories were especially strong with construction and manufacturing all showing solid progress. The unemployment rate remained at a low of 4.1% and the closely watched wage data rose 0.3% month-over-month in December bringing the year-over-year number to 2.50% which is in line with market expectation. At the time of writing, the NFP number for January 2018 has been released and it appeared to be stronger than expected and much higher than the numbers recorded in the month of December 2017. The NFP in January added 200,000 new jobs against 180,000 consensus estimate. In terms of wage growth of average hourly earnings, January recorded year-on-year growth of 2.9% versus 2.6% estimated. The report neatly summarizes the market expectation of just what the Federal Reserve of United States (“Fed”) needed to justify the next leg of its rate hike path. While we had thought that the Fed might need some more evidence of inflationary pressures to raise rates again in the first quarter of 2018, this employment report seems to be just enough for a wage to underpinning to justify the rate hike in their next FOMC meeting in March 2018. At its first FOMC meeting of the year on 31st January 2018, the Fed has unanimously decided to leave rates unchanged at 1.25%-1.50% as widely expected by the market. However, the Fed was seen to be more confident in the January statement about inflation moving towards its 2% target over the medium-term. With the changes in inflation tone by the Fed, the probability of the rate hike on their next policy meeting has becoming more imminent as the market repricing higher yield curve. The FOMC meeting held in January was also the last meeting chaired by Janet Yellen as she is to be replaced by the newly confirmed 16th Fed Chair, Jerome Powell on 3rd February 2018.

DISCLAIMER:

As this is a close-ended fund, units are no longer available for sale on the basis of the Prospectus dated 17 January 2017. A Product Highlights Sheet (“PHS”) highlighting the key features and risks of the Fund is available and investors have the right to request for a PHS. Investors are advised to obtain, read and understand the PHS and the contents of the Prospectus dated 17 January 2017 and its supplementary(ies) (if any) (“the Prospectus”) before investing. The Prospectus has been registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia who takes no responsibility for its contents. Amongst others, investors should consider the fees and charges involved. Investors should also note that the price of units and distributions payable, if any, may go down as well as up. Where a distribution is declared, investors are advised that following the issue of additional units/distribution, the NAV per unit will be reduced from cum-distribution NAV to ex-distribution NAV. Any issue of units to which the Prospectus relates will only be made on receipt of a form of application referred to in the Prospectus. For more details, please call 1-800-88-3175 for a copy of the PHS and the Prospectus or collect one from any of our branches or authorised distributors.

The Manager wishes to highlight the specific risks factors of the funds are credit/default risk, currency risk, interest rate risk, country risk, inflation/purchasing power risk, concentration risk, and mismatch risk. These risks and other general risk are elaborated in the Prospectus.

This factsheet is prepared for information purposes only. It does not have regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any specific person who may receive it. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Returns may vary from year to year.

RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (174588-x)

Head Office: Level 8, Tower 2 & 3, RHB Centre, 50400 Kuala Lumpur

General Line: 603-9205 8000

www.rhbgroup.com


RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (174588-X)

