## ARM

## **Mutual Fund Fact Sheet**

March 2025



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## Macroeconomics & Market Update

March 2025



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#### ARM | Classification: INTERNAL USE

## MACRO ECONOMIC UPDATE

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#### GLOBAL

- In March 2025, President Donald Trump implemented sweeping global tariffs, imposing at least 10% on most countries trading with the U.S, including a 14% tariff on Nigeria.
- The U.S. economy expanded at an annualized rate of 2.4% in Q4:2024, slightly higher than previous estimates, driven by a surge in consumer spending to 4.0% (vs. 3.7% in Q3:2024). However, overall growth slowed compared to the 3.1% recorded in Q3:2024, as business investment led by an 8.7% drop in investment in equipment. For 2024FY, the economy grew by 2.8% YoY, a slight decrease from 2.9% YoY in 2023.
- In March 2025, the U.S Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged at 4.5% for the second consecutive meeting, while the European Central Bank lowered its key interest rates by 25 basis points.
- Major global markets closed in negative territory including the NASDAQ (-7.69% MoM), S&P 500 (-5.75% MoM), EURO STOXX 50 (-3.94% MoM) and FTSE 100 (-2.58% MoM), as negative sentiment permeated the markets amid brewing trade tensions and tariff announcements. However, Asian markets including HANGSENG (+0.75% MoM) and SHCOMP (+0.48% MoM) closed positive amid President Trump's tariffs, as positive economic data and policies helped boost investors' confidence.

#### DOMESTIC

- Headline inflation decreased to 23.18% YoY in February 2025 (vs. 24.48% in January 2025) and to 2.04% MoM, (vs. 10.68% MoM in January 2025).
   Food inflation also showed improvement, decreasing to 23.5% YoY and 1.67% MoM in February (vs. 26.8% YoY and 1.67% MoM in January 2025). On the flipside, Core inflation climbed higher to 23.01% in February 2025 (vs. 22.59% YoY in January 20245), however, declined to 2.52% MoM (vs. 10.87% MoM in January 2025). This decline largely mirrors the effect of the rebasing amid improving economic conditions in the period.
- In March 2025, the Dangote refinery temporarily halted gasoline sales in Naira due to mismatches between local sales and international crude purchases.

## FINANCIAL MARKET UPDATE

#### **FIXED INCOME**

#### **Primary Market**

- In March 2025, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) revised the Treasury bill auction calendar, increasing the total offer to NGN 2.70trn compared to NGN1.9trn initially envisaged. The average stop rate declined to 18.19% from 18.38% in February, while the bid-to-cover ratio declined to 2.05x from 4.11x. Despite this, the CBN successfully sold NGN 2.82trn in Treasury bills.
- At the FGN bond auction, the Debt Management Office (DMO) offered NGN 300bn across APR-2029 (NGN 200bn) and FEB-2031 (NGN 100bn). The average stop
  rate increase to 19.50%, while the bid-to-cover ratio stood at 1.77x. Despite this, the auction successfully raised NGN 271.1bn, reflecting steady investor interest
  in long-term instruments.
- The Central Bank of Nigeria conducted a single OMO auction in March, offering NGN600bn at an average stop rate of 19.32%. Strong demand drove the bidto-cover ratio to 3.13x, with total sales hitting NGN1.67trn, split between the 355-day bill (NGN 725bn) and the 362-day bill (NGN 951bn). This underscores robust investor appetite for high-yield, long-tenured instruments.

#### **Secondary Market**

The NT-Bills market saw strong demand in March, driving the average yield down by 45bps MoM to 19.44%. In contrast, the FGN bond market faced mild selling
pressure, pushing yields up by 12bps MoM to 18.65%. Still, the Overall Naira fixed-income market closed on a positive note, with the average yield declining by
17bps MoM to 19.04%.

#### EQUITIES

- In March 2025, the Nigerian stock market declined by 1.99% MoM, closing at 105,670.40 points (vs. +3.18% MoM to 107,821.40 points in February). This pulled the YtD return down to 2.66%, from 4.73% in February. While 2024FY earnings and dividend declarations offered some support, gains were offset by profit-taking and increased interest in high-yield fixed income investments.
- Sector-wise, all the sectors under our coverage closed negative as the Oil and Gas (-4.02% MoM), Industrial Goods (-3.59% MoM), Insurance (-2.48% MoM), Consumer Goods (-1.30% MoM) and Banking (-0.49% MoM) sectors all closed lower.

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## **Mutual Fund Performance**

March 2025

## AGGRESSIVE GROWTH FUND

#### Fund Objective:

The objective of the Fund is to provide long term capital growth opportunities for investors with a high-risk tolerance.

#### Investment Approach:

- The ARM Aggressive Growth Fund is an open-ended fund with a permissible investment limit of 70% - 100% in stocks of companies quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange.
- \* A top-down approach is used in the stock selection into the Fund.
- The Fund is constituted by a trust deed and duly authorized and registered in Nigeria as a unit trust scheme under the Investments & Securities Act 1990.

	Fund Details
Benchmark	NGX30 Index
Comparable	FMAN List of Equity Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	FBNQuest Trustees Nigeria Limited
Launch Date	2007
AuM	₦4.00 Billion
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Annual Expense Ratio (YtD)	2.42%
Min Initial Investment	₦ 50,000.00
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark
Portfolio Allocation	Equity (70% - 100%): Fixed Income (0-30%)

	Top 3 Equity Sector Exposu	res		Top 3 Equity Exposures	
SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING	SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING
Financial Services	23%	OVERWEIGHT	DANGCEM	11%	UNDERWEIGHT
Industrials	16%	UNDERWEIGHT	BUAFOODS	10%	UNDERWEIGHT
Telecoms	16%	UNDERWEIGHT	AIRTELAF	9%	UNDERWEIGHT

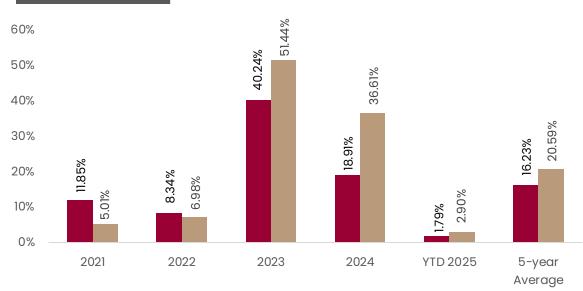
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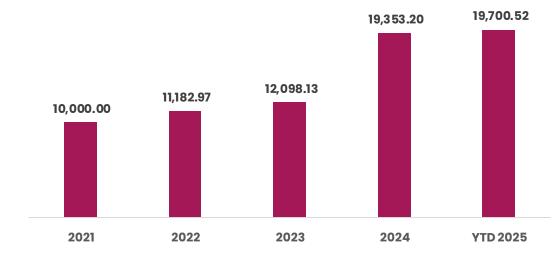
## **AGGRESSIVE GROWTH FUND**



**Fund Performance** 

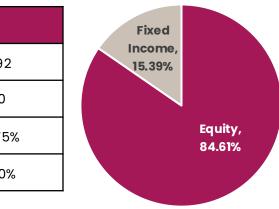


Growth of N10,000 investment from 31/12/2021 to Date



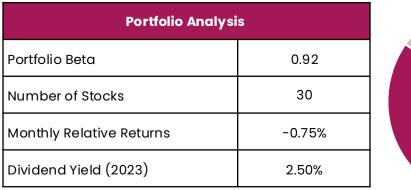
**Asset Allocation** 

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Return Benchmark

	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025	5 YEAR AVG
Annual Net Returns	11.85%	8.34%	40.24%	18.91%	1.79%	16.23%
Benchmark	5.01%	6.98%	51.44%	36.61%	2.90%	20.59%



## **DISCOVERY BALANCE FUND**

#### Fund Objective:

The fund objective is to provide long term capital growth opportunities for investors with a medium risk tolerance.

#### Investment Approach:

- The ARM Discovery Balance Fund is an open-ended fund that invests in equities on the Nigerian Stock Exchange and domestic fixed income securities.
- A top-down approach is used in the variable and non-variable income assets selection into the Fund.
- The Fund is constituted by a trust deed and duly authorized and registered in Nigeria as a unit trust scheme under the Investments & Securities Act 1990.

Тор	3 Equity Sector Exposure	es
SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING
Financial Services	13%	OVERWEIGHT
Industrials	12%	UNDERWEIGHT
Telecoms	9%	UNDERWEIGHT

	Fund Details
Benchmark	NGXASI:40%, NITTY:40%, FGN 2YR BOND 20%
Comparable	FMAN List of Balanced Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	FBNQuest Trustees Nigeria
Launch Date	1995
AuM	₦6.97 Billion
Annual Expense Ratio(YtD)	2.32%
Min Initial Investment	₦10,000.00
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark
Asset Allocation	Equity (40%-60%): Fixed Income (40%-60%)
Risk Profile	Moderate

	Top 3 Equity Exposures	
SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING
DANGCEM	7%	UNDERWEIGHT
BUAFOODS	6%	UNDERWEIGHT
AIRTELAF	5%	UNDERWEIGHT

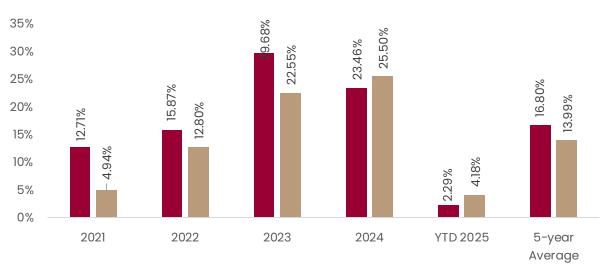
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## **DISCOVERY BALANCE FUND**



**Fund Performance** 

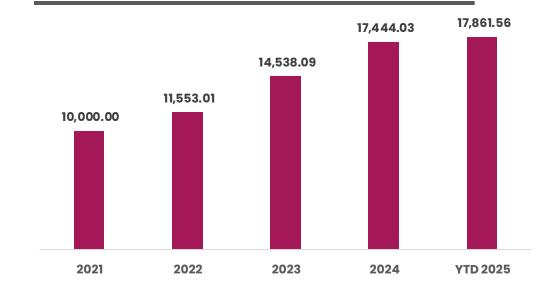


Return Benchmark

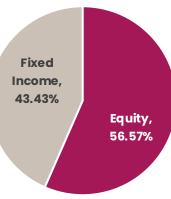
	2021	2022	2023	20234	YTD 2025	5 YEAR AVG
Annual Net Returns	12.71%	15.87%	29.68%	23.46%	2.29%	16.80%
Benchmark	4.94%	12.80%	22.55%	25.50%	4.18%	13.99%

Portfolio AnalysisPortfolio Beta0.72Number of Stocks28Monthly Relative Returns-1.60%Dividend Yield (2023)3.00%

Growth of N10,000 investment since 31/12/2021



#### **Asset Allocation**



## Ethical Fund: Shari'ah Compliant

#### Fund Objective:

The primary objective of the Fund is to achieve long-term capital appreciation and income distribution through investments in a select portfolio of securities and assets in accordance with the principles of Islamic finance and ethical values. The Fund is suitable for investors who wish to achieve long-term capital growth on their investments and have a medium investment risk appetite.

#### Investment Approach:

- Invest in Shari'ah compliant equities on the Nigerian Stock Exchange.
   Invest in investment grade Shari'ah compliant alternative instruments.
- The Fund is constituted by a trust deed and duly authorized and registered in Nigeria as a unit trust scheme under the Investments & Securities Act 1990.

Тор	3 Equity Sector Exposure	es
SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING
INDUSTRIALS	14%	UNDERWEIGHT
AGRICULTURE	10%	UNDERWEIGHT
CONSUMER GOODS	9%	UNDERWEIGHT

	Fund Details
Benchmark	Composite of NSE Lotus Islamic Index and 5- Year Sovereign Sukuk Bond
Comparable	FMAN List of Ethical Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	Royal Exchange Plc
Launch Date	2004
AuM	₦1.06 Billion
Annual Expense Ratio (YtD)	2.25%
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Min Initial Investment	№10,000.00
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark
Asset Allocation	Equity (40%-60%): Alternative Investment (40%-60%)
Risk Profile	Medium

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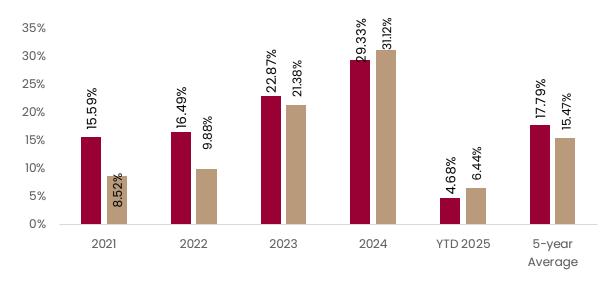
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	Top 3 Equity Exposur	es
SECTOR	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT	RELATIVE WEIGHTING
OKOMUOIL	10%	OVERWEIGHT
MTNN	9%	UNDERWEIGHT
BUAFOODS	7%	UNDERWEIGHT

## Ethical Fund: Balanced (Shari'ah Based)



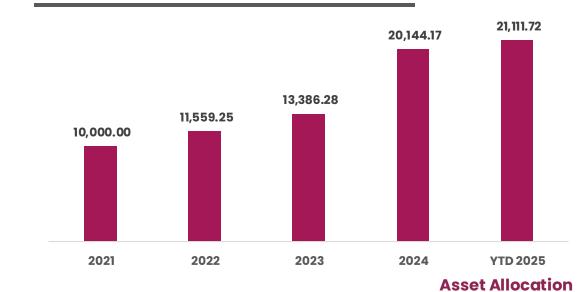
**Fund Performance** 



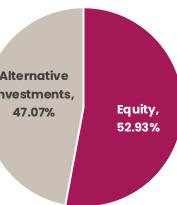
#### Return Benchmark

	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025	5 YEAR AVG
Annual Net Returns	15.59%	16.49%	22.87%	29.33%	4.68%	17.79%
Benchmark	8.52%	9.88%	21.38%	31.12%	6.44%	15.47%

Growth of N10,000 investment since 31/12/2021



Portfolio Analysis	
Portfolio Beta	0.91
Number of Stocks	11
Monthly Relative Returns	-0.76%
Dividend Yield (2023)	3.00%



## **ARM Short-Term Bond Fund**

#### **FUND STRUCTURE**

The ARM Short Term Bond Fund is an open-ended fund authorized and registered in Nigeria as a Unit Trust Scheme under Section 160 of the Investment and Securities Act 2007. The Fund is regulated by the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). The fund can invest a minimum of 70% and maximum of 100% in bond instruments.

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The primary objective of the Fund is to provide investors with competitive returns and diversification benefits through investment in Naira denominated short to medium term investment grade fixed income securities such as money market instruments, FGN and Corporate bonds with a maximum duration of 3 years.

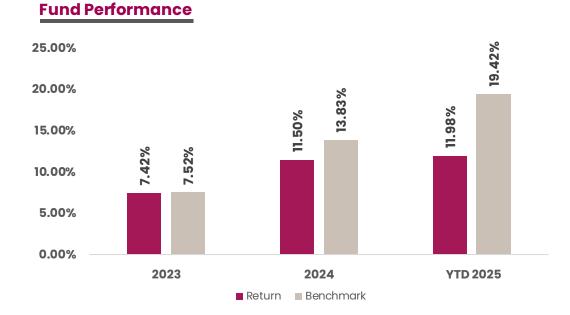
Fund Details	
Benchmark	Composite of 3-Year Nigeria Sovereign Bond and Nigeria Interbank Treasury Bills True Yield
Comparable	FMAN List of Fixed Income Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	STL Trustees Limited
Launch Date	April 2022
Net Asset Value	₩7923mn
Expense Ratio	2.93%
Initial Investment	₩10,000.00
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Incentive Fee	Maximum 20% of excess returns above benchmark

Portfolio Analysis	
Risk Profile	Medium
Fund Duration	1.37
Holding Yield	16.71%
Dividend Yield (2024)	4.23%

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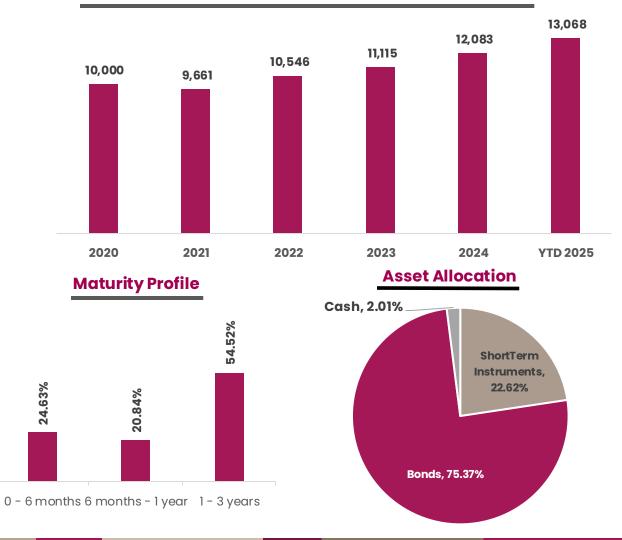
## **ARM Short-Term Bond Fund**

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	2023	2024	YTD 2025
Annual Net Returns	7.42%	11.50%	11.98%
Benchmark	7.54%	13.83%	19.42%

Growth of N10,000 investment since 31/12/22 to Date



## **ARM Fixed Income Fund**

#### **FUND STRUCTURE**

The ARM Fixed Income Fund is an open-ended fund authorized and registered in Nigeria as a Unit Trust Scheme under Section 160 of the Investment and Securities Act 2007. The Fund is regulated by the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). The fund can invest a minimum of 70% and maximum of 100% in bond instruments.

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The primary objective of the Fund is to help investors achieve their medium to long-term investment goals by investing in investment grade fixed income securities such as FGN, corporate bonds, and short-term fixed income instruments.

Fund Details	
Benchmark	Composite of 5-Year Nigeria Sovereign Bond and Nigeri Interbank Treasury Bills True Yield
Comparable	FMAN List of Fixed Income Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	STL Trustees Limited
Launch Date	February 2020
Net Asset Value	₩1.30bn
Expense Ratio	2.50%
Initial Investment	₩5,000.00
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark

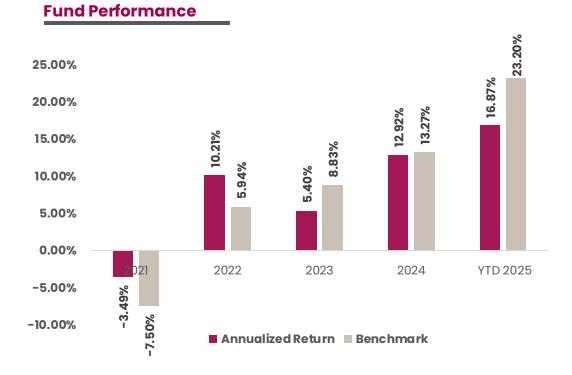
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Portfolio Analysis	ortfolio Analysis	
Risk Profile	Medium - High	
Fund Duration	3.34	
Holding Yield	17.65%	
Dividend Yield (2024)	4.36%	

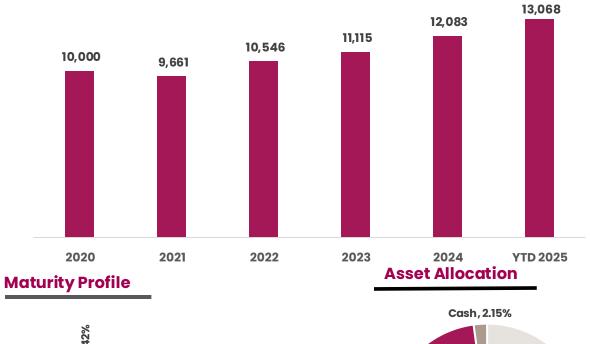
## **ARM Fixed Income Fund**

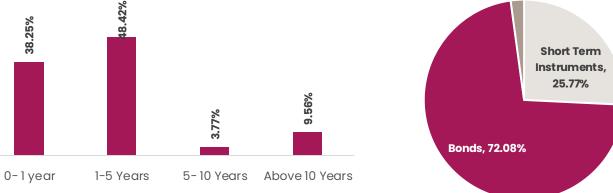
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	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025
Annualized Returns	-3.49%	10.21%	5.40%	12.92%	16.87%
Benchmark	-7.50%	5.94%	8.83%	13.27%	23.20%

Growth of N10,000 investment since 31/12/20 to Date





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## **ARM Eurobond Fund**

#### **FUND STRUCTURE**

The ARM Eurobond Fund is an open-ended fund that invests in US Dollar denominated fixed income instruments. The Fund is authorized and registered in Nigeria as a Unit Trust Scheme under Section 160 of the Investment and Securities Act 2007 and is regulated by the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). The fund can invest a minimum of 70% and a maximum of 100% in bond instruments.

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The main objective of the fund is to help investors achieve their long -term investment goals by investing in a broad range of US Dollar denominated instruments and hereby managing local currency devaluation risk.

Benchmark	Composite of 3-Year Nigeria Sovereign Eurobond and US Treasury Bills Yield
Comparable	FMAN List of Eurobond Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	STL Trustees Limited
Launch Date	February 2020
Net Asset Value	\$10.31mn
Expense Ratio	1.93%
Initial Investment	\$1,000.00
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
ncentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark

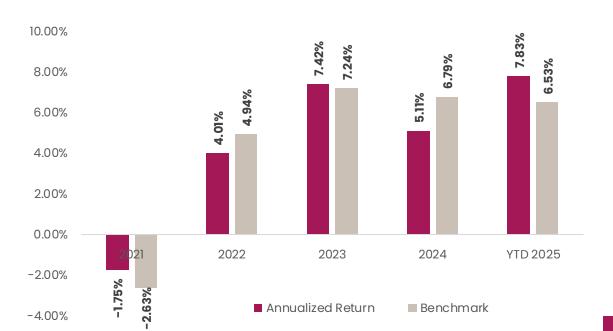
Portfolio Analysis	
Risk Profile	Medium - High
Fund Duration	4.21
Holding Yield	8.36%
Dividend Yield (2024)	2.97%

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## **ARM Eurobond Fund**

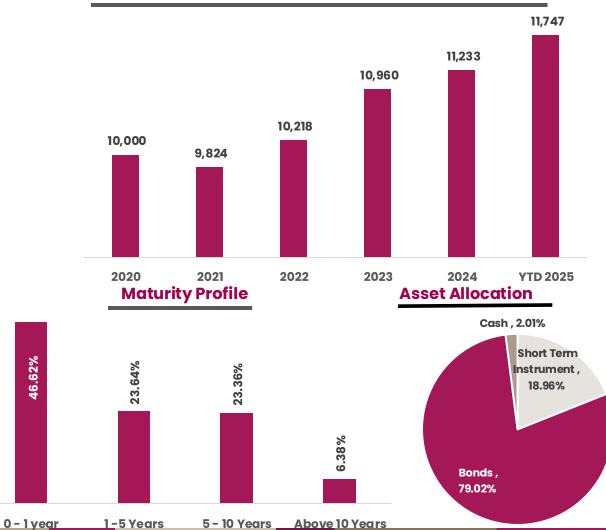






	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025
Annualized Returns	-1.75%	4.01%	7.42%	5.11%	7.83%
Benchmark	-2.63%	4.94%	7.24%	6.79%	6.53%

Growth of \$10,000 investment since 31/12/20 to Date



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### ARM Sharia Compliant Fixed income Fund

### FUND STRUCTURE

The ARM Sharia-Compliant Fixed Income Fund (SCFIF) is an open-ended Naira-denominated ( $\mathbb{N}$ ) mutual fund which seeks to invest only in Sharia compliant fixed income securities such as sovereign and corporate sukuk bonds with a minimum rating of BBB and sharia compliant fixed-term instruments

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by employing an active management strategy, selecting an optimal mix of fixed income instruments that comply with Sharia principles, to deliver competitive returns to investors.

	Fund Details	
CFIF) is		Composite of 3-year Nigerian Sovereign Sukuk and Nigeria Interbank Treasury Bills True Yield
al fund	Comparable	FMAN List of Fixed Income Funds
t fixed	Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
porate	Trustee	FBN Quest Trustees Limited
sharia	Launch Date	November 2024
	Net Asset Value	¥1.21bn
	Expense Ratio	1.92%
	Initial Investment	Retail №10,000.00  Institutional, HNI , UHIN : №10,000,000
tive by	Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value

**Incentive Fee** 

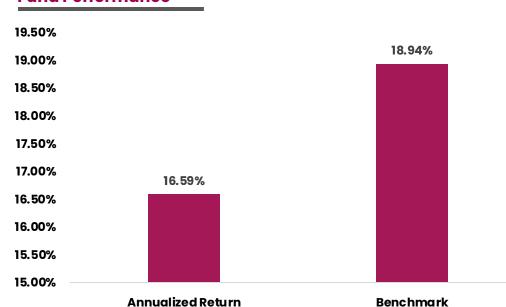
Portfolio Analysis	ortfolio Analysis	
Risk Profile	Medium - High	
Fund Duration	0.83%	
Holding Yield	16.78%	

Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark

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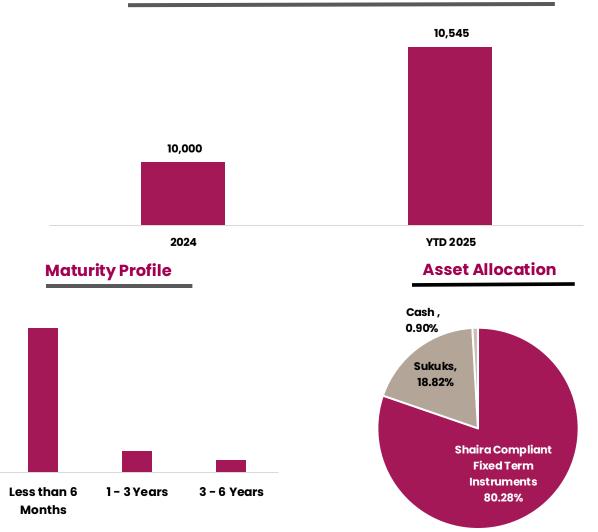
## **ARM Sharia Compliant Fixed Income Fund**

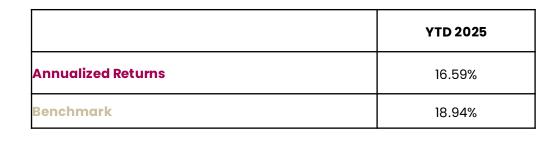




#### **Fund Performance**







## ARM Short Term Eurobond Fund

#### **FUND STRUCTURE**

The ARM Short Term Eurobond Fund (ARM STEF) is a US Dollar denominated fund that invests primarily in short term Eurobonds with maximum duration of 3 years, and money market instruments. The Fund will Invests in Eurobonds issued by the Federal Government of Nigerian (FGN) and rated corporate entities. It will also invest in high-quality money market Instruments.

#### **FUND OBJECTIVE**

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by employing an active management strategy; curating an optimal mix of short-term fixed income investments that match or fall below the portfolio's targeted maximum duration per instrument, thereby minimizing interest rate risk while achieving competitive returns

**Holding Yield** 

7.79%

Fund Details	
Benchmark	1-year US Treasury Bill
Comparable	FMAN List of Eurobond Funds
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited
Trustee	STL Trustees Limited
Launch Date	December 2024
Net Asset Value	\$1.75mn
Expense Ratio	1.96%
Initial Investment	Retail: \$100.00   Institutional: \$5,000
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 20% of excess returns above benchmark
Portfolio Analysis	
Risk Profile	Low - Medium
Fund Duration	0.94%

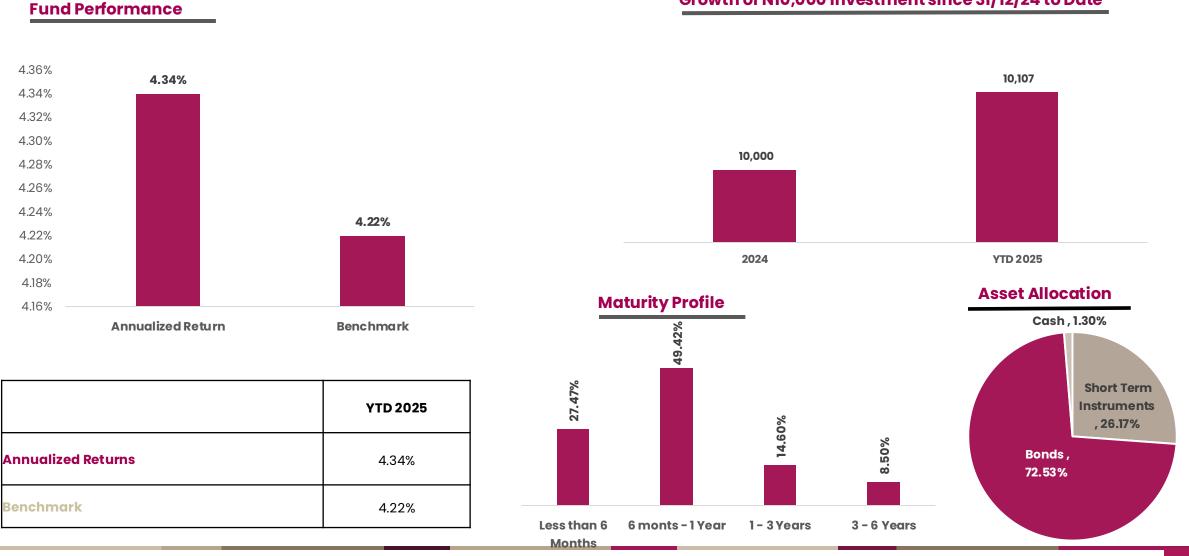
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## **ARM Short Term Eurobond Fund**

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Growth of N10,000 investment since 31/12/24 to Date

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## **Money Market Fund**

#### **Fund Purpose**

The primary objective of the Fund is to provide a steady stream of income to investors.

#### **Investment Approach**

- The Fund invests in high-quality short-term money market instruments and government securities, which include; Banker's acceptances, certificates of deposits, commercial papers, Fixed Deposits with eligible financial institutions; Short term debt securities issued or guaranteed by the Government of Nigeria, Other instruments introduced and approved by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) from time to time, Other money market or fixed income instruments in which the Fund is permitted to invest under the Trust Deed.
- \*A top-down approach is used in securities selection into the Fund.
- The Fund is constituted by a trust deed and duly authorized and registered in Nigeria as a unit trust scheme under the Investments & Securities Act 1990.

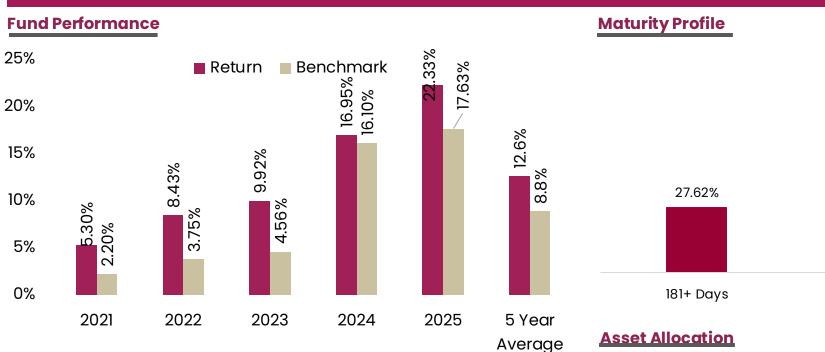
Fund Details						
Benchmark	Average yield on 91-Day Nigerian Treasury Bill primary auction stop rates.					
Comparable	FMAN List of Money market Funds					
Custodian	Rand Merchant Bank Limited					
Trustee	First Trustees Nigeria Ltd., a subsidiary of FBN Capital Ltd.					
Launch Date	2013					
Aum	₦181.80 Billion					
Annual Expense Ratio (YtD)	1.98%					
Min Initial Investment	₦1,000.00					
Management Fee	1.5% of Net Asset Value					
Incentive Fee	Maximum of 15% of excess returns above benchmark					
Portfolio Analysis						
Risk Profile	Low					
Fund Duration	89.98 days					
Monthly Relative Returns	5.25%					

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## **Money Market Fund**

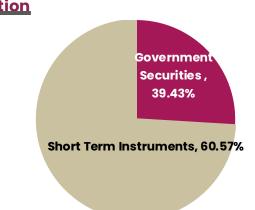
**Fund Performance** 





# 27.62% 2.15% 181+ Days 91-180 Days 1-90 Days

**Maturity Profile** 



	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025
Annual Net Returns	5.30%	8.43%	9.92%	16.95%	22.33%
Benchmark	2.20%	3.75%	4.56%	16.10%	17.63%

## MARKET & MACRO OUTLOOK

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#### **GLOBAL MARKETS**

In April 2025, uncertainties are expected to be sustained as investors become weary of the impact of the newly implemented 10% minimum US tariffs on its trading partners. We expect key countries to counter with retaliatory tariffs, further fueling trade tensions and negative sentiment in global stock markets.

#### **DOMESTIC MARKETS**

#### EQUITY

In April 2025, the equities market is likely to see mixed performance as we still expect investors to pivot towards the fixed income market to lock in on current high yield instruments pending the potential interest rate cut at the MPC meetings this year. However, the release of Q1:2025 earnings could help fuel investors' buying interest in the Nigerian stock market.

#### **FIXED INCOME**

With the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) signaling a potential rate cut in its next meeting, alongside the maturity of NGN349.93bn in FGN bonds and NGN1.24trn in NT-Bills, the fixed-income market is set for a strong performance in April 2025. Investors looking to reinvest maturing funds amid shifting rates could drive increased demand, sustaining positive sentiment.

## ARM

## Thank You



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# ARM

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