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# Cutting through the noise: Investors bullish on Islamic markets despite geopolitical chaos

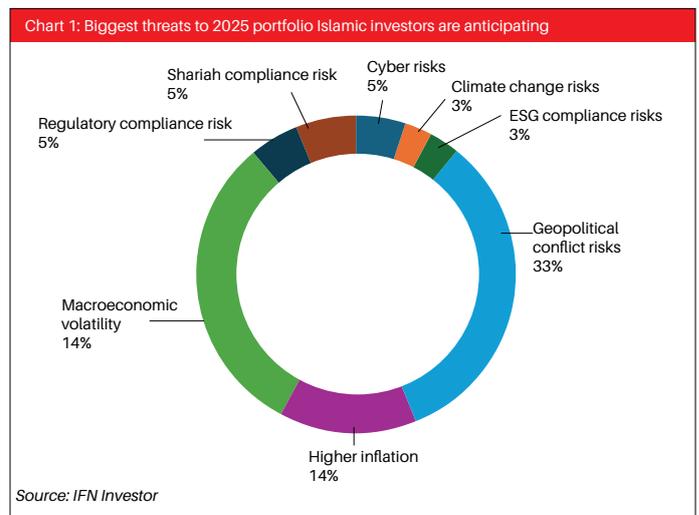
Deepening geopolitical tensions and macroeconomic volatilities have kept investors worried - triggering bouts of selling in stock markets.

With Donald Trump promising to hold his protectionist stance threatening trade tariffs as he steers the world’s largest economy, policymakers and investors are left in a state of flux as greater uncertainties hang, compelling central banks to reconsider their monetary easing policies as they try to delicately balance slowing economic growth and rising inflation.

Speaking to Islamic institutional investors from the GCC, the UK and Southeast Asia, IFN Investor learned that they have all adapted their investment strategies for a higher inflation and higher interest rate environment as they perceive geopolitical conflicts and macroeconomic volatility as the main threats to their portfolios in 2025

## Eye of the storm

However, despite the pressures on the investment climate due to persistent and disruptive nationalism and protectionism across the



world, Islamic investment managers are still fairly bullish on returns, believing they will be able to beat, or at the very least, price in, market risks so as to not compromise on returns - they expect their portfolios to perform better in 2025, or to deliver similar levels of profits seen in 2024.

Chart 2: Most attractive Islamic investment markets for institutional investors

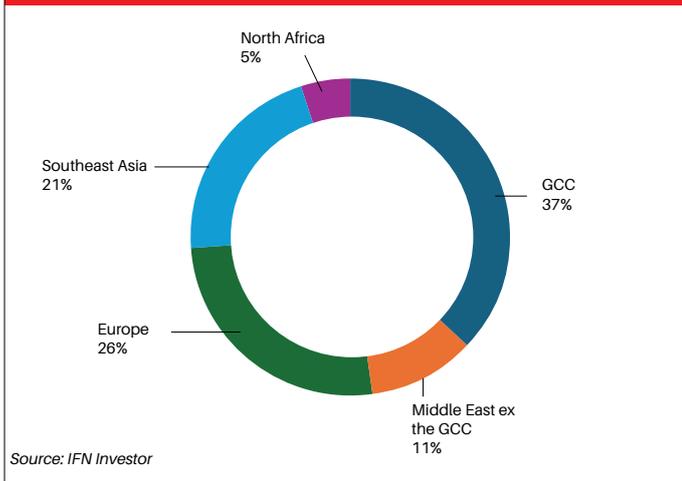
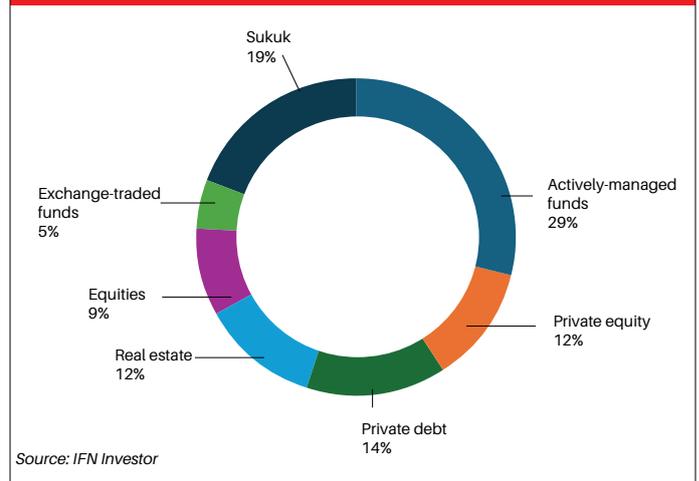


Chart 3: Most attractive Islamic investment asset classes in 2025



This could be explained by the fact that most of the asset managers interviewed expect the GCC to contribute the bulk of yield appreciation (See Chart 2). This is not only due to the diversity and availability of Shariah compliant avenues in the region, but the fact that the GCC has been largely insulated from tariff impact threats and uncertainty over external demand. The GCC has also shown to be resilient to regional geopolitics despite being close to conflicts of Israel and Iran.

“

**Most of the asset managers interviewed expect the GCC to contribute the bulk of yield appreciation**

”

Economists forecast the GCC economy to outperform the 2.5% global average (S&P Global) in 2025: the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales anticipates the region’s GDP to about double to 4%; First Abu Dhabi Bank expects it to hit 4.2% while the IMF puts the number at 4.7%.

Such optimistic projections are anchored by the region’s economic reforms and robust diversification strategy to reduce its reliance on hydrocarbons, which has been attracting significant foreign direct investments. GCC countries – particularly Saudi Arabia and the UAE – are also ripe with Islamic private equity and Shariah compliant private credit opportunities – which are the top asset classes of interest for the investors we spoke to (See Chart 3).

While Europe may not fare as well as the GCC in terms of economic growth (the European Commission projects a lackluster 1.5% GDP expansion), the asset classes Islamic investors are keen on – such as real estate – in Europe are poised for strong performance this year.

The property market in the UK for example (an Islamic investor favorite), stands to potentially receive an injection of GCC monies in the coming year as London maintains its lure for residential and commercial property capital gains, while other cities such as Liverpool and Manchester also deliver favorable returns.

Given the enduring appeal of Sukuk and actively-managed funds to Islamic investors, it is unsurprising that Southeast Asia is in the top three most favored Islamic investment destination for investors, considering that the region is one of the most prolific Sukuk issuers and providers of Islamic funds.

### Comfort in the familiar

It is interesting to note that despite the phenomenal rise of cryptocurrencies as an asset class among conventional investors, Islamic investors are taking a significantly more cautious approach. While some have expressed interest (or intrigue) in crypto assets, none would actually commit capital into digital currencies this year; instead, they are taking a wait-and-see approach.

This is understandable considering how cryptocurrencies still divide Shariah scholars due to their utility and highly speculative nature, despite key Islamic financial markets already regulating digital assets in one form or another. This discrepancy in risk appetite can be illustrated by the sheer difference in the number of Shariah compliant and conventional crypto funds. Out of nearly 900 crypto funds globally (managing about US\$56 billion in assets, according to Crypto Fund Research), IFN Investor Fund Database confirmed that there are only three which have been certified Shariah compliant, and together they hold under US\$17 million in assets.

Keeping digital assets at arm’s length, our focus group instead prefers to park their money in tried-and-tested sectors such as energy including renewable energy and real estate (See Chart 4).

Investing in renewables is in line with the Islamic finance industry aligning itself with the wider ESG movement, despite heightening opposition against the latter as anti-ESG sentiment sweeps across the US and Europe.

One Islamic fund manager even noted that the sector needs to be better at integrating charitable-giving vehicles if we want to meaningfully grow the space.

### Pursuing alpha

Islamic investors generally are not dissociating themselves from the ESG movement, despite their conventional peers – especially those

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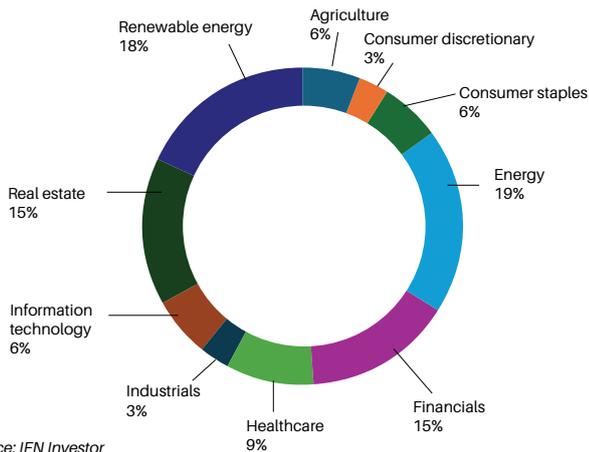
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Chart 4: Most appealing investment sectors in 2025



Source: IFN Investor

in the West - being more careful with the ESG label (witnessed by the outflows from ESG-related funds).

Fueled partly by altruism and religious obligations, the majority of Islamic investors are nonetheless prioritizing alpha generation when it comes to sustainable investment.



**Finding an available investment compliant with three perspectives – Shariah, ESG and profits simultaneously, is the biggest challenge we face when it comes to Islamic investments**



“Finding an available investment compliant with three perspectives – Shariah, ESG and profits simultaneously, is the biggest challenge we face when it comes to Islamic investments,” shared one investor.

The pursuit of outperforming the market and to sustain “targeted returns and preserve invested capital” is at the top of the agenda with several noting that cost of Islamic products or deals are still an issue while citing the lack of diversity in products. A handful mentioned that educating their clients about Islamic financial instruments remains a priority as poor Shariah finance literacy continues to be a core challenge, particularly in non-traditional markets.

Yet, despite the systemic and macroeconomic challenges Islamic investor face, they are optimistic about the year ahead – most of the fund managers interviewed plan to roll out new products in 2025 – boding well for the growing sector, which currently boasts 2,494 funds and over US\$456.56 billion in assets under management as of the end of 2024, according to IFN Investor Fund Database. ☺

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# Channel Capital Advisors banks on innovation economy to bolster Shariah strategy

London-based Channel Capital Advisors is focusing on onboarding investors from Western Europe, the UK, the US and the GCC to its Corniche I Shariah compliant asset-backed private credit strategy while exploring potential new areas of investments which would comply with ESG principles such as solar and data centers. VINEETA TAN has the story.

Speaking to IFN, Walter Gontarek, CEO and the chairman of Channel, shared that the company is finding exciting opportunities in the innovation economy, life sciences, software development and technology.

While artificial intelligence is the flavor of the month, Walter explained that the firm’s technology focus extends beyond fads.

“It could actually be technology that has been around for five or 10 years, but we use it in new ways. For example, one of our clients uses smart contracts to locate receivables in the global telecom market. It would take a lot of work for human beings to do this but smart contracts can do it a lot faster and we can fund more accurately and quicker.”

**“**  
*The investing environment is ripe with opportunities but at the same time, the borrowing costs are high*  
**”**

The alternative investment fund manager launched Corniche I last month in response to growing demand for Islamic investments. Operating for almost two decades, Channel officially entered the Islamic space in 2019 with a trade finance fund, prompted by a client seeking Shariah compliant strategies.

Since then, the company has more than doubled its GCC exposure to about 13%, according to Walter. Since 2015, Channel has closed over US\$1 billion in cumulative lending in the GCC, with a particular focus on the UAE.

Channel’s latest Islamic private credit strategy focuses on the origination of short-term asset-backed credit facilities. The strategy incorporates several protective features including repayment from segregated collateral pools,



floating rate pricing, pull-to-par dynamics and self-liquidating features for primary repayment sources.

“The investing environment is ripe with opportunities but at the same time, the borrowing costs are high and that can impact the quality of company earnings,” explained Walter. “It is a great time to be investing but it’s also a time you need to be careful.” ☺

*This is an excerpt of an interview with Walter Gontarek of Channel Capital Advisors. For the full discussion on the rise of Islamic private credit strategies, log on to IFN Podcast. ☺*

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# Traditional investment channels evolving into hybrid digital platforms, says expert

The Islamic fintech and digital investment sectors are rapidly growing, underlining a significant shift in the financial habits and preferences of Islamic investors worldwide. Munirah Khairuddin, the country head and CEO of Principal Asset Management Malaysia, spoke to IFN's **NESSREEN TAMANO** about the impact of digital investing, especially in the context of Shariah compliant finance, in Malaysia and beyond.

According to the Global Islamic Fintech Report 2022, the top five subsectors for Islamic fintech are crowdfunding; payments; challenger banking; robo-advisory and alternative finance. MENA-GCC and Southeast Asia are established as dominant regions in terms of producing Islamic fintech companies, the report said.

In Asia, the investment landscape is still very much focused on serving the affluent, high-net-worth segment, which heavily features traditional intermediaries.

**“**  
*I am still very upbeat about the innovation in the investment and product space for Shariah compliant products, and not just limiting to serving institutions but also retail investors*  
**”**

“But we are seeing a nascent growth into digital investing, as financial markets have gone through quite a cycle in the last couple of years and have been volatile. So investors who are not very savvy may have been a bit confused with market volatility or movement. What digital platforms such as gold base, robo-advisory, portfolio management have offered is the alleviation of those concerns,” Munirah shared.

The traditional investment channels are beginning to embrace a hybrid digital journey, with basic transactions facilitated through a digital process, while more complex transactions, such as financial planning and balancing taxes, for instance, are handled by an adviser, Munirah explained.

This trend is mirrored globally, Munirah said, adding an observation that there is a lack of offerings in the space. There just aren't enough products;



there are a very limited number of approved products on the shelf, she noted. “I am still very upbeat about the innovation in the investment and product space for Shariah compliant products, and not just limiting to serving institutions but also retail investors. And what better way to do that than on a digital platform?”

*This is an excerpt of an interview with Munirah Khairuddin, the country head and CEO of Principal Asset Management Malaysia, about the opportunities in the Islamic digital investment space in the GCC and Southeast Asia. Listen to the full discussion on IFN Podcast. [🔊](#)*





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# Credit ratings agency highlights resilience of Islamic sovereign finance and hydrocarbon diversification

Islamic sovereigns show resilience in the face of global financial shifts, enhanced by hydrocarbon exports and diversification efforts. While loosening financial conditions and geopolitical challenges shape the credit outlook, opportunities for growth remain as these economies adapt to evolving macro trends and ESG concerns. RADHIKA DAS has the story.

On the IFN Podcast, Christian de Guzman, senior vice-president - manager at Moody's Ratings's sovereign risk group, shared insights into macro and credit trends among Islamic sovereigns. He began by highlighting the global macro-outlook, characterized by a steady, but lower real GDP growth for G20 economies. This reflects a bounce back from Europe following the energy crisis, slower growth in the US and structural deceleration in China.

Despite this, Islamic sovereigns have demonstrated resilience, largely driven by hydrocarbon-based economies such as those in the GCC, Malaysia and Indonesia. "The growth performance for Islamic sovereigns in general is fairly healthy, with many of these economies actively diversifying away from hydrocarbons, driving non-hydrocarbon growth," Christian commented.

The Federal Reserve's recent decision to ease rates by 50bps was discussed as a significant development. This has helped loosen global financial conditions, providing much-needed liquidity and advancing growth across various markets.

When evaluating risks and opportunities, the podcast explored how loosened financial conditions might influence credit growth in Islamic sovereigns, particularly those with exchange rates fixed to the US dollar. Export-dependent economies, like Malaysia, stand to gain from a cyclical uptick in exports, especially electronics, fueled by the churn in the Asia-Pacific region.

The conversation also touched on Malaysia's Ekonomi MADANI, a framework enabled by the country's recent political stability under the current government. Associated reforms such as the Natural Energy Transition Roadmap and the Industrial Master Policy are critical in Malaysia's move away from hydrocarbon dependency, reaffirming a positive outlook. Amid broader geopolitical shifts and trends of investment and trade diversion away from China, Malaysia is capitalizing on these advantages, attracting foreign direct investment.



Regarding geopolitical risks, the podcast included concerns over the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and how it may particularly impact ship-bound trade and traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. Christian added: "Risks of the broadening of the conflict that we're seeing in Israel are higher, but at the same time, we haven't really seen evidence that those risks will materialize anytime soon. So, against that backdrop, we haven't seen any weakening in terms of confidence; the rest of the Middle East continues to see a lot of investment as well as financial flows and economic activity has been sustained which is helping to underpin some of the positive outlooks we have in the region."

Over the next 30 to 50 years, global demand for hydrocarbon products is expected to decline, so, countries that rely heavily on hydrocarbon revenue must implement mitigating measures to avoid detrimental impacts on economic growth and fiscal stability. Islamic sovereigns face a unique risk known as carbon transition risk, besides, Malaysia and Indonesia are also grappling with physical climate risks including rising sea levels and flooding. These factors become critical in assessing the credit ratings of these nations.

Christian concluded: "We have increasingly integrated ESG considerations into our ratings assessments. So, we're trying to see how those environmental, social and governance risks impact the creditworthiness of a country." (🗣️)

*This is an excerpt of the interview with Christian de Guzman, senior vice-president - manager at Moody's Ratings's sovereign risk group. For the full discussion on macro and credit trends among Islamic sovereigns, log on to IFN Podcast. (🗣️)*





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### Macro and credit trends among Islamic sovereigns

*Christian de Guzman, senior vice-president – manager with Moody's Ratings' Sovereign risk group*

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## Commodities: Gold demand stays strong

### Key Highlights

- Price rally in Q3 2024, following cut in US interest rate
- Turkiye leads with 19 gold funds
- Africa region charted largest percentage growth in AuM value

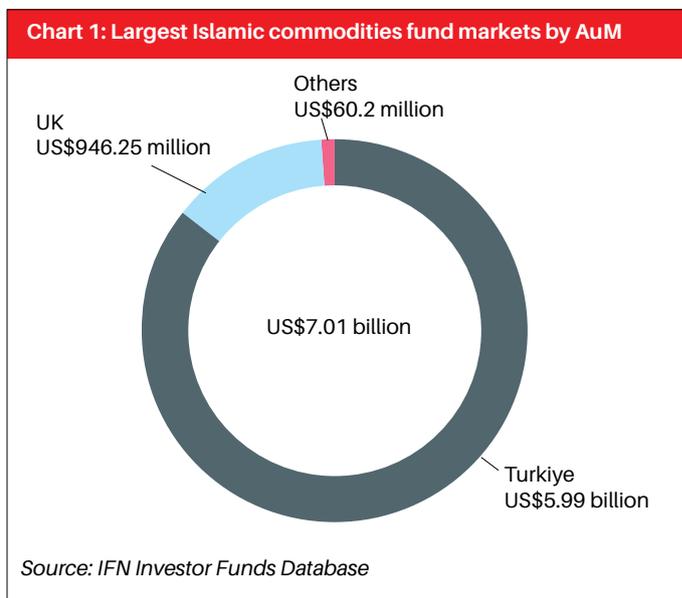
### Overview

During Q3 2024, the average spot gold price on global markets grew from US\$2,336 per troy ounce at the end of Q2 2024 and rose to US\$2,470 in August 2024, as reported by the World Bank. The rally continued after the US cut interest rates in late September, by 50bps, propelling the bullion to break the US\$2,600 mark.

With the US rate cuts expected to stimulate economic growth and support demand in global trades, investor focus has since shifted to the biggest gold buyers of China and India.

China was the single biggest gold buyer in 2023 due to geopolitical tensions and Indian investors showed interest in gold ETFs, with this latter attention due to the cut in gold import duty and also capital gain tax. But China experienced weak demand in Q2 2024 and the absence of broader domestic economic stimulus measures contributed to a downward trend in metal prices. Hence, the Asia Pacific region overall saw a fall in assets under management (AuM) by 3.56%.

The IFN Investor Funds Database identified 26 Islamic commodities funds across six jurisdictions. These funds are heavily invested in



precious metals, especially gold, which is favored for mutual fund investments. Gold mutual funds allow for investment in gold without the need to physically possess it, offering advantages like diversification and liquidity, though they also encounter challenges such as regulatory uncertainties and price fluctuations.

Turkiye leads the Islamic commodities asset class with 19 funds totaling approximately US\$5.99 billion. The largest of these is the Turkiye



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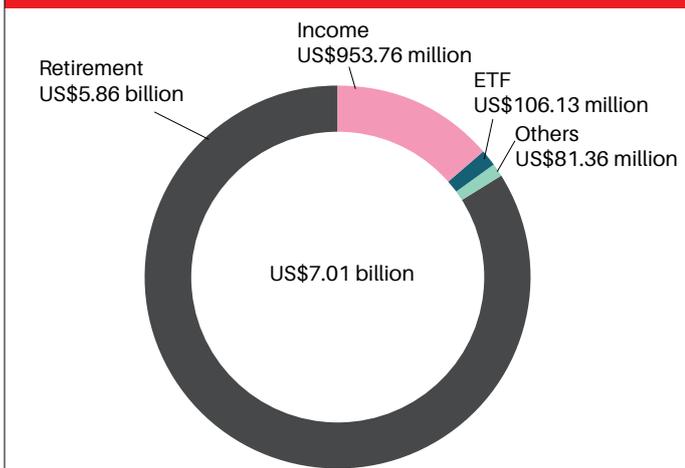


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Chart 2: Islamic commodities fund types



Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

Life and Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund, managed by Turkiye Hayat ve Emeklilik, which focuses on gold assets. As of the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024, the fund’s assets under management were valued at US\$2.89 billion.

The UK ranks second with US\$946.25 million, led by The Royal Mint Responsibly Sourced Physical Gold ETC fund. Malaysia follows with the TradePlus Shariah Gold Tracker ETF, which has US\$23.4 million in assets.

Egypt has one fund, AZ-Gold by Azimut Egypt Asset Management, totaling US\$17.05 million. Saudi Arabia has two funds with a combined total of

US\$10.15 million. Pakistan rounds out the list with two funds managed by Al Meezan Investment Management, amounting to US\$9.6 million.

**AuM growth**

In Q3 2024, Islamic commodities funds in Africa experienced the greatest growth in AuM at 11.97%, followed by Middle East with a 7.18% increase. The values of Islamic commodities funds in Asia Pacific region fell by 3.56%.

- Asia Pacific: Down 3.56% from US\$34.22 million to US\$33 million.
- Europe: Tracked extra 19 funds from Turkiye, AuM increase from US\$873.24 million to US\$6.95 billion
- Middle East: Up 7.18% from US\$9.47 million to US\$10.15 million
- Africa: Up 11.97% from US\$15.23 million to US\$17.05 million

The Americas do not have any Islamic commodities funds at the time of writing.

**Outlook**

At the time of writing, gold price is hovering at the US\$2,600 level. China and India are among the main engines driving gold prices, with China notably being the single biggest gold buyer in 2023 due to geopolitical tensions. Indian investors had shown growing interest in gold ETFs, with demand surging from the cut in gold import duty and capital gain tax. As we are inching closer to 2025, investors seemed to have shifted appetite by venturing into other classes of riskier assets, with better than historical return – as seen in the IFN Investor Funds Database’s quarter over quarter comparison. However, geopolitical tension remains, and the importance of precious metals as a diversification and hedging tool remains in the playbook for investment managers. ☺

Table 1: Top performing Islamic commodities funds by region in Q3 2024

Region	Fund	Fund manager	Three-month returns (%)
Asia Pacific	AXA Life and Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AXA Hayat ve Emeklilik	26.02
Europe	Meezan Gold Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	10.13
Middle East	Albilad Gold ETF	Albilad Capital	6.87

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

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## Equities: Reacting to US Fed rate cut

### Key Highlights

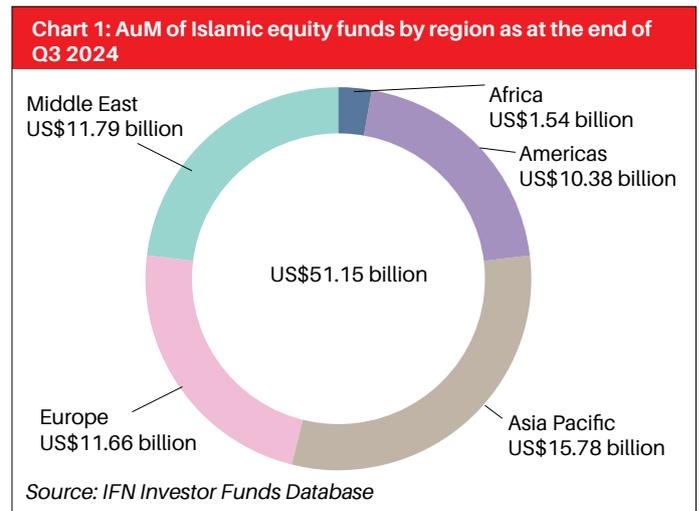
- Asia exhibits healthy growth
- Islamic equity funds grew on a global level in Q3 2024
- Launch of three new fully Islamic equity funds

### Overview

Tentative performance trends since early this year for global equities, due to uncertainties related to when the US Federal Reserve would cut interest rates, firmed towards the end of Q3 2024 once the US rate cuts were announced on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

In line with earlier investment trends, this US rate cut led to strong inflows into emerging market equities – while causing dips in developed economies. Economic stimulus announced by China next led to Asian stocks rallying in response, together with emerging markets in Africa.

While tensions in the Middle East continue to cast a shadow over that region, other jurisdictions generated their greatest returns in Q3



2024. The IFN Investor Funds Database showed Singapore, Pakistan, Luxembourg, Malaysia and the US charting the highest three-month average returns in Q3 2024.

**Table 1: Largest Islamic equity funds globally as at the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

Fund name	Fund manager	AuM (US\$ billion)
HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund – Islamic Global Equity Index Fund – Class ACGBP	HSBC Asset Management	5.11
Amana Growth Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	2.87
Amana Growth Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	2.69
Amana Income Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	1.05
Public Ittikal Fund	Public Mutual	1.04

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

# Al Rayan GCC Fund

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Al Rayan GCC Fund: Cumulative return since inception (May 2010)

### Net Annual Return

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD 2024	Since Inception
4.9%	23.3%	0.2%	19.6%	11.4%	24.3%	5.7%	219.9%

- The fund invests in Sharia-compliant GCC equities, sukuk and cash
- Net of all fees, 219.9% cumulative return since May 2010 launch (annualised 8.5%)
- The fund pays dividends in January and July
- Investors can invest on any business day in Qatar
- Open to all investors, regardless of place of residence

Source: Al Rayan Investment

**Table 2: Top five countries with the largest Islamic equity funds as at the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

Region	Country	AuM (US\$ billion)
Asia Pacific	Malaysia	13.69
Middle East	Saudi Arabia	10.52
Americas	US	9.98
Europe	UK	9.32
Europe	Turkiye	1.75

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

Islamic equity funds grew 3.28% overall from US\$47.83 billion as at the end of Q2 2024 to US\$49.4 billion for Q3 2024. As at publication time, The IFN Investor Funds Database is tracking 704 equity funds – an increase of 38 funds compared to previous quarter.

With the addition of 32 Turkiye Islamic equity funds, with a total combined assets under management (AuM) of US\$1.75 billion, the tracking total stands at US\$51.15 billion

The Middle East hosts 176 funds, Asia Pacific has 385 funds, Europe features 96 funds, Africa offers 27 funds and the Americas manage 20 funds.

### AuM growth

Islamic equity funds experienced growth in most regions as Africa led the way with a 17% increase, followed by the Asia Pacific region. The Middle East AuM grew slightly while that for the Americas saw a mild reduction, as did Europe.

- Africa: Up by 17.1% to US\$1.54 billion from US\$1.32 billion.
- Asia Pacific: Up by 10.43% to US\$15.78 billion from US\$14.29 billion,
- Middle East: Up by 0.43% to US\$11.79 billion from US\$11.74 billion.
- Europe: Down by 0.6% to US\$9.91 billion from US\$9.97 billion.
- Americas: Down by 1.29% to US\$10.38 billion from US\$10.52 billion.

### ROI analysis (Three-month returns)

**Table 3: Top performing Islamic equity funds in Q3 2024**

Region	Fund	Fund manager	Three-month returns (%)
Asia Pacific	Pacific Saham Syariah III	Pacific Capital Investment	32%
Middle East	Derayah GCC Growth and Income Equity Fund	Derayah Financial	25.02%
Europe	Metlife Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	MetLife Emeklilik ve Hayat	15.72%
Americas	SP Funds S&P Global Technology ETF	ShariaPortfolio	14.11%
Africa	Old Mutual Global Islamic Equity Portfolio	Old Mutual Unit Trust	3.7%

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

### New players and products

In the third quarter of 2024, IFN Investor reported the launch of three fully Islamic equity funds.

Al Rajhi Capital introduced two new funds: the Al Rajhi Large-Cap Fund, valued at US\$246.55 million, and the Al Rajhi Petrochemical Fund, worth US\$160.84 million. Both funds focus on the equity asset class.

Additionally, Alfalah Asset Management launched the Alfalah Islamic Stable Return Plan-III Fund, an income fund currently valued at US\$92,268. Since the beginning of the year, IFN Investor has observed a total of 18 equity fund launches globally, with a combined value of US\$666.63 million.

### Outlook

As H2 2024 is seeing a shift in the equities market in reaction to the US Fed rate cuts and US election uncertainties, the nascent volatility in markets continue to operate as anticipatory mechanisms – attempting to forecast growth and/or recessions, though their track record has been inconsistent. Other potential impacts could be the continued tensions in Ukraine and the Middle East, together with spillover effects of global oil prices potentially spiking due to the proximity of these clashes to major crude sources. (F)

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# Fixed Income: Rising on robust Sukuk landscape

## Key Highlights

- Global fixed income and Sukuk funds market valued at US\$20.23 billion at end of Q3 2024
- Asia Pacific grew the most in Q3 2024
- Development of digital Sukuk has become a key growth driver

## Overview

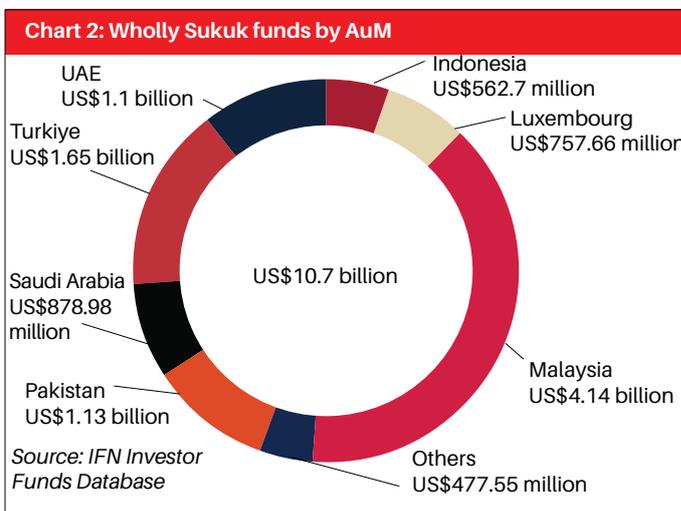
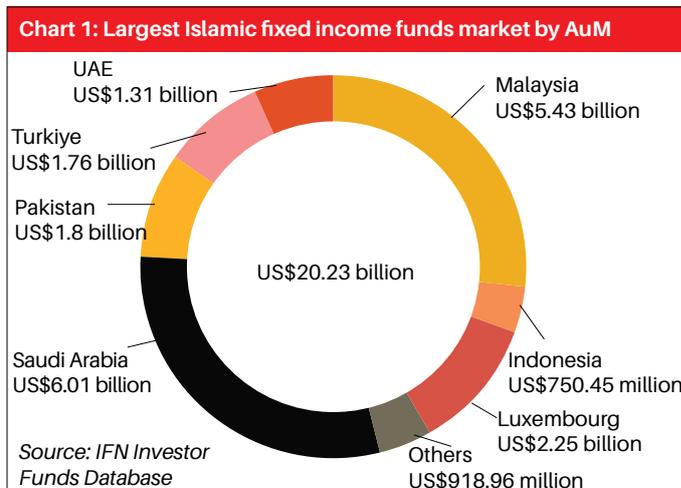
Compared to Q2 2024, global Islamic fixed funds exhibited better performance in terms of assets under management (AuM) growth in Q3 2024 - as these investments are underpinned by a robust Sukuk landscape. The global Sukuk market, a cornerstone of Islamic finance, has experienced significant growth in recent years, solidifying its position as one of the largest and most influential sectors within the broader financial landscape.

According to Fitch Ratings statistics, the global outstanding Sukuk market grew 8.5% year-on-year to US\$900 billion by the end of Q3 2024. Projections indicate that this category will continue its upward trajectory, with a compound annual growth rate of 12.6% through 2029. This expansion is driven by a combination of factors, including increased demand for Shariah compliant financial instruments, diversification in funding sources and the growing recognition of Sukuk as a key tool for both investors and issuers.

A major trend shaping the future of the Sukuk market is the increasing focus on sustainability. As the global financial community intensifies its commitment to ESG principles, Sukuk issuances are increasingly aligned with sustainability goals. Analyses conducted using IFN Investor Funds Database suggests that the Islamic fixed income, including Sukuk, funds market sits at US\$20.23 billion - showing a 22.18% improvement from Q2 2024 to Q3 2024. As of Q3 2024, the IFN Investor Funds Database reported a global total of 357 fixed income and Sukuk funds. Malaysia leads the list with the largest number, featuring 101 funds valued at US\$5.43 billion.

However, when comparing AuM across jurisdictions, Saudi Arabia holds the highest AuM, with US\$6.01 billion from 38 funds. Luxembourg follows with US\$2.25 billion across nine funds. Turkiye has a notable presence in the Islamic fixed income and Sukuk market, with 53 funds totaling US\$1.76 billion in AuM. Pakistan accounts for 50 funds with US\$1.8 billion, while the UAE holds US\$1.31 billion in assets. Indonesia, with 54 funds, falls outside the billion dollar club with a total AuM of US\$750.45 million.

Global Sukuk funds currently total US\$10.7 billion, spread across 244 funds. Malaysia leads the market, hosting the largest share in both the number of funds and AuM, with US\$4.14 billion in 82 funds. Bank Negara



Malaysia Deputy Governor Adnan Zaylani reportedly said Sukuk plays a vital role in supporting the country's economic funding needs.

Turkiye ranks second with US\$1.65 billion in 39 funds. Pakistan and the UAE have similar-sized Sukuk funds markets, with each country managing around US\$1.13 billion (15 funds) and US\$1.11 billion (12 funds) in assets respectively. Indonesia, while home to a large number of funds, faces challenges such as government and capital market debt, resulting in smaller average AuM for its Sukuk funds compared to other markets.

## AuM growth

In Q3 2024, Islamic fixed income and Sukuk funds in the Asia Pacific region saw the largest growth in AuM, rising by 18.73%. This was followed by the

**Table 1: Top performing Islamic fixed income funds by region in Q3 2024**

Region	Fund	Fund manager	Three-month returns (%)
Asia Pacific	HBL Islamic Pension Fund	HBL Asset Management	22.23
Europe	BNP Paribas Cardif Retirement Initial Participation Retirement Investment Fund	BNP Paribas Cardif Emeklilik	12.4
Middle East	ANB Capital Saudi Sovereign Sukuk Fund	ANB Capital	6.02
Americas	Amana Participation Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	3.55
Africa	27four Shariah Income Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	1.64

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

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Beyond Net Zero carbon reduction targets, halting and reversing nature loss is also a critical imperative. Through the creation of Shariah compliant investment opportunities and products aligned directly with nature-positive projects, Neter seeks to align financial systems and investment strategies more closely with enhanced ecological and environmental health.



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Top 10 fixed income Islamic funds by AuM			
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Riyad SAR Diversified Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	1,562
2	Albilad SAR Murabaha Fund	Albilad Capital	888.67
3	Aiiman Income Extra Fund	AIIMAN Asset Management	819.72
4	SNB Capital Diversified Saudi Riyal Fund	SNB Capital	810.79
5	AZ Multi Asset - AZ Islamic Global Sukuk - Accumulation	Azimut Investment	653.57
6	AZ Multi Asset - AZ Islamic Global Sukuk - Income	Azimut Investment	653.57
7	Riyad SAR Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	557.4
8	AlJazira Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund	Aljazira Capital	417.52
9	Amana Participation Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	187.87
10	Principal e-Cash Fund	Principal Asset Management	180.35

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

Americas, which experienced a 9.77% increase, and Africa, which saw a modest 1.51% gain. In contrast, Islamic fixed income funds in the Middle East experienced a decline, with AuM falling by 4.51%.

- Asia Pacific: Up by 18.73% to US\$8.07 billion from US\$6.79 billion.
- Americas: Up by 9.77% to US\$444.63 million from US\$409.62 million.
- Middle East: Down by 4.51% to US\$7.37 billion from US\$7.72 billion.
- Africa: Up by 1.51% to US\$152 million from US\$150.71 million.
- Europe: Up by 1.32% to US\$1.59 billion from US\$1.57 billion.

Note: The IFN Investor Funds Database is tracking an additional 53 fixed income and Sukuk funds from Turkiye as of Q3 2024 – resulting in the AuM tracked for Europe rising to US\$3.82 billion.

### New players and products

The growing interest in fixed income and Sukuk asset classes within mutual funds has garnered attention from investors worldwide. According to the latest data from the IFN Investor Funds Database, 30 fixed income and Sukuk funds were launched globally in 2024, across 19 asset managers, contributing a total of US\$423.34 million in AuM.

The largest number of these funds were launched in Pakistan, which saw a combined total of US\$149.91 million across several funds. Indonesia follows with four funds from three asset managers, totaling US\$126.38 million. Turkiye and the UK each launched three funds, with AuM of US\$36.44 million and US\$40.26 million, respectively. Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the UAE each introduced one fund, collectively amounting to US\$70.32 million in AuM.

In Q3 2024, the IFN Investor Funds Database recorded the launch of five funds from five asset managers. Pakistan led this quarter with three Islamic

fixed income funds and one Sukuk fund, collectively amassing US\$19.22 million. Notably, Lunate Capital launched its Chimera JPMorgan Global Sukuk ETF Fund, which at the time of writing is valued at US\$3.96 million. SICO Asset Management, a Bahrain-based company launched the Turkish Shariah opportunities fund which allows investors to tap into Turkiye's fixed income market.

### Regulatory development

The theme of debt instrument digitalization in the conventional space is nothing new, such as the European Investment Bank's EUR50 million (US\$53.59 million) bond through HSBC's platform and Hong Kong's HKD800 million (US\$102.90 million) green bond via Goldman Sachs. This method of financing in fact gained traction due to the quick liquidity turnover period when depositors choose to remove funds. Likewise, the development of digital Sukuk has become a key area of growth. Platforms like Fusang – who are one of the earliest players for Sukuk digitalization – are utilizing blockchain technology and facilitating the tokenization of Sukuk.

One of the main value propositions for such method of Sukuk digitalization is similar to that of mutual funds, in which mutual funds allow for fractional ownership of certain equities or a diversified pool of equities. This opens up Sukuk markets to a broader base of investors, including those of the retail market. The tokenization and digitalization of Islamic financial assets pose another challenge for Shariah professionals worldwide to deem whether current practices and structures are playing by ethically acceptable rules.

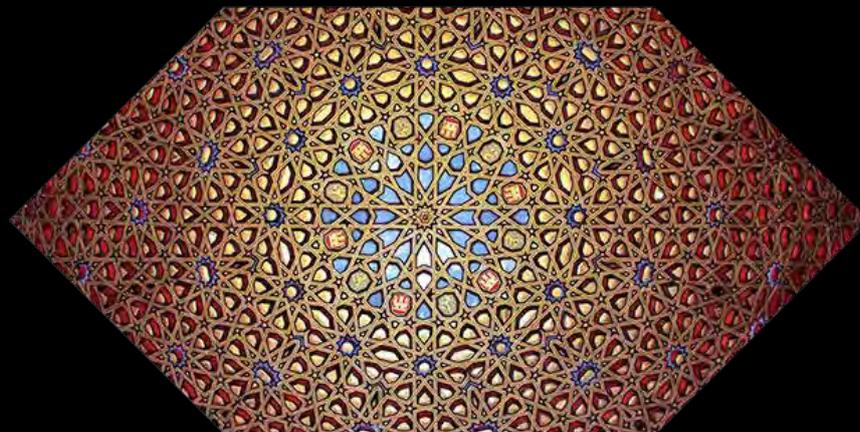
Early this year, Oman revised their 2016 Sukuk regulation and now allows issuance of Sukuk in any foreign currency so long as convertible to its domestic currency of Omani rial. The new regulation also demands issuers to retain relevant documentation for a period of 10 years. (3)

Top 10 Sukuk funds by AuM			
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Franklin Global Sukuk Fund - A	Franklin Templeton	742.3
2	Meezan Sovereign Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	712.28
3	Turkiye Life And Retirement Oks Participation Standard Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	531.35
4	AHAM Aliman ESG Income Plus Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	462.28
5	Emirates Global Sukuk Fund (Luxembourg)	Emirates NBD Asset Management Ltd.	440.61
6	Principal Islamic Institutional Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	428.72
7	SC Global Sukuk Fund Class D USD	Sedco Capital	416.36
8	Principal Islamic Lifetime Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	284.39
9	AmanahRaya Syariah Trust Fund	AmanahRaya Investment Management	270.97
10	AmAl-Amin	AmIslamic Funds Management	256.03

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

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HSBC Asset Management



## Money Market: Weighed by US Fed

### Key Highlights:

- Saudi Arabia leads with the largest Islamic money market funds by AuM
- Asia Pacific experienced an AuM growth of 24.69% by the end of Q2 2024
- Eight Islamic money market funds were launched in the first half of 2024

### Overview

Global money markets, including in the Shariah sector, were on tenterhooks during the second quarter of 2024 due to mixed signals from the US Federal Reserve (US Fed) on when it would implement the much-anticipated interest rate cuts that most economies reference against.

Being short-term instruments, typically maturing with a year’s period, this uncertainty led to extra cautious trades in the overall money market – as there was a risk of the US Fed’s action impacting returns for this otherwise low-risk investment. As was seen with the IFN Investor Funds Database, tracking the average returns of 213 Islamic money market funds from both Q1 2024 and Q2 2024, there was a mild reduction in average annual returns from 7.64% to 7.16%.

Saudi Arabia continues to lead the Islamic money market in terms of total assets under management (AuM), with US\$10.59 billion across 30 funds. Malaysia follows with 58 funds, handling US\$7.82 billion. Pakistan ranks third, with the AuM tally of US\$3.34 billion. When viewed from the perspective of a country having the greatest number of funds, Pakistan takes the lead at 60 funds, followed by Malaysia.

### AuM growth

While the Islamic money market in the Asia Pacific experienced healthy growth in AuM during Q2 2024, the Middle East saw a dip in overall performance.

Chart 1: Islamic money market funds AuM by region (Q2 2024)

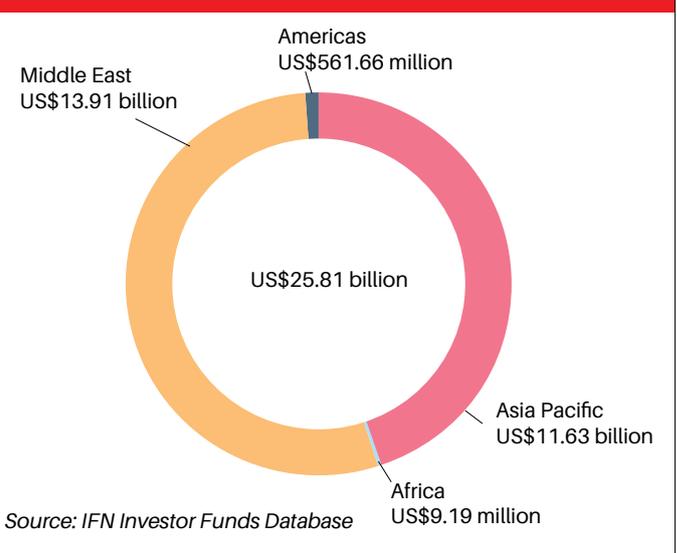
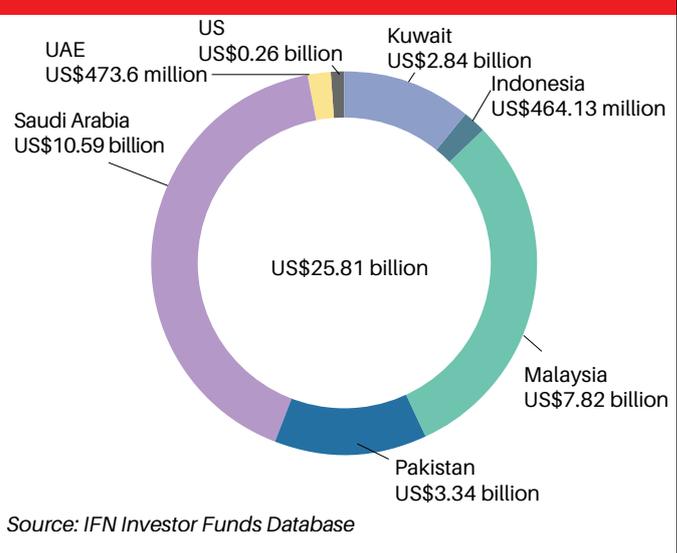


Chart 2: Islamic money market top seven nations by fund AuM





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**Table 1: Largest Islamic money market funds as at the end of Q2 2024**

Fund	Fund manager	AuM (US\$ billion)
AHAM Aiman Money Market Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	3.13
SNB Capital Al Sunbullah SAR	SNB Capital	2.61
SNB Capital Saudi Riyal Trade Fund	SNB Capital	2.32
Watani KD Money Market Fund II	NBK Wealth	1.37
Alpha Murabaha Fund	Alpha Capital	1.15

Source: IFN Investor Fund Database

- Middle East: Down by 4.39% from US\$14.54 billion to US\$13.91 billion.
- Asia Pacific: Up by 24.69% from US\$9.33 billion to US\$11.63 billion.
- Americas: Up by 1.33% from US\$258.22 million to US\$261.66 million.

\* Q1 2024 comparison data for Europe and Africa not available.

## New players and products

According to the IFN Investor Funds Database, four Islamic money market funds were launched in the second quarter of 2024. Three of these funds – Meezan Paaidaar Munafa Plan IX, X, and XII – were introduced by Al Meezan Investment Management, collectively accumulating an AuM of US\$15.83 million. Additionally, Mandiri Manajemen Investasi launched the Mandiri Pasar Uang Syariah fund, which had an AuM of US\$12.4 million as of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

In total, eight Islamic money market funds were launched in the first half of 2024, with the largest being the Al Rajhi Awaheed Fund, boasting an AuM of US\$768.15 million.

## Outlook

It was only in Q3 2020 that, on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024, did the US Fed announced a rate cut of 50bps- higher than the expectations of many analysts.

**Table 3: Top 3 Islamic money market funds launched in H1 2024**

Fund manager	Fund name	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
Al Rajhi Capital	Al Rajhi Awaheed Fund	Saudi Arabia	768.15
Mandiri Manajemen Investasi	Mandiri Pasar Uang Syariah (Kelas C)	Indonesia	12.4
Al Meezan Investment Management	Meezan Paaidaar Munafa Plan X	Pakistan	10.1

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

It isn't clear if the US Fed may consider another interest rate cut in 2024, but the market sentiment is that the global economy should remain stable in the latter half of this year, supported by favorable labor market conditions and easing inflation.

Additionally, the monetary policy adjustments by advanced economies in emulating the US Fed's rate cut would likely to further enhance growth in the short- to medium-term. Global trade growth is expected to continue its recovery, driven by a resurgence in technological advancements.

Even so, the impact on money markets would not be well reflected as the US Fed rate cut came at the tail end of Q3 2024. But with some sense of stability established, the outlook for the Islamic money market in 2024 is optimistic, fuelled by a rising demand for Shariah compliant investments, stronger regulatory support, and a more stable economic environment.

Increasing awareness among both retail and institutional investors is expected to drive growth, while supportive regulations will enhance confidence and encourage market participation. Furthermore, innovations in product offerings, along with a growing emphasis on sustainability and responsible investing, are likely to draw in more investors. Collectively, these factors contribute to a promising landscape for the development of Islamic money markets in the upcoming year. <sup>(2)</sup>

**Table 2: Top performing Islamic money market funds by region in Q2 2024**

Region	Fund	Fund manager	Three-month returns (%)
Africa	27four Best View Shariah Global Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	-1.9%
Americas	Azzad Wise Capital Fund	Azzad Asset Management	0.83%
Asia Pacific	Mahaana Islamic Cash Fund	Mahaana	20.79%
Middle East	GIB Murabaha Fund - Class B	GIB Capital	6.57%

Source: IFN Investor Funds Database

\* Data on Europe not available

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## Real Estate: Positive recovery trend

### Key highlights:

- Dubai remains an attractive destination for real estate investments
- Middle East came back strong, with Islamic real estate funds growing 23.9% in Q3 2024 after losing some in the previous quarter
- Saudi Arabia leads the Islamic real estate funds market with 69.59% global share

### Overview

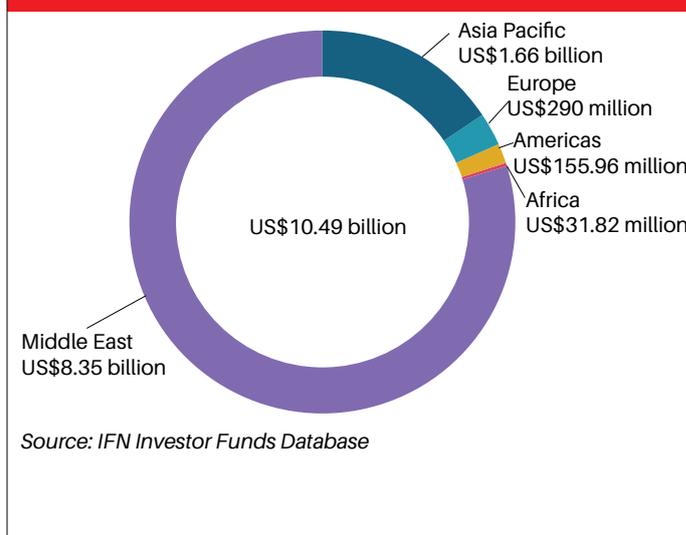
With the global economy already showing positive trends ahead of the much-anticipated US Federal Reserve rate cut in late September 2024, Q3 2024 reinforced the general perception that the commercial real estate sector has largely stabilized.

Shrugging off lingering effects of pandemic restrictions, hybrid job norms and retail visitations are shifting to more in-person interactions – bringing about cheer to the dampened office and malls sub-sectors. Logistics and warehousing demand continues to be strong with e-commerce drivers while the AI advance is spurring mushrooming growth in data centers.

These developments have boosted the REIT market. The Islamic REIT sector, in particular, has experienced a strong rally, enabling it to outperform the broader global equity markets.

The IFN Investor Funds Database is currently tracking a total of 58 funds – with 36 from Middle East, eight from Asia Pacific, two from Americas, 11 from Europe and one from Africa.

**Chart 1: Islamic real estate funds (including REITs) breakdown by region**



### AuM growth

On a regional level, the IFN Investor Funds Database recorded a mixed performance in overall assets under management (AuM) tracked.

The Middle East, Europe and the Americas saw a significant growth in the real estate funds market – increasing by 23.8%, 14.13% and 4.27% respectively. The African region saw a decline in AuM at 4.36% and a slight drop in the Asia Pacific region of US\$7 million.

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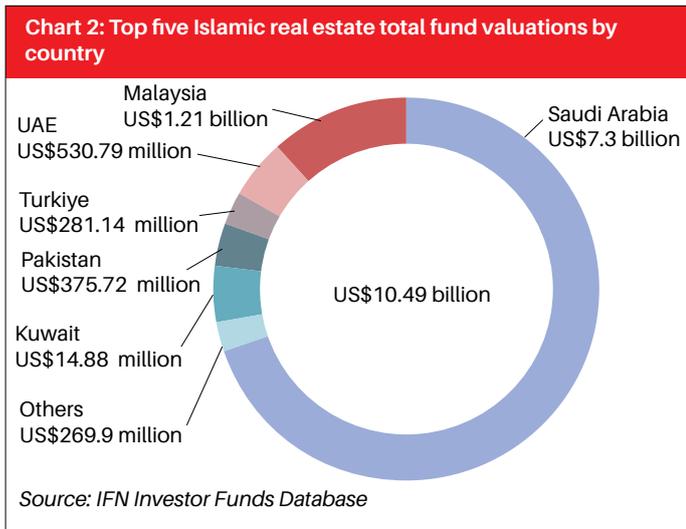
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**Table 2: Largest Islamic real estate funds by AuM in Q3 2024**

Fund Name	Fund manager	AuM (US\$ million)
Amanah Hartanah Bumiputera	Pelaburan Hartanah	1,070.92
Al Rajhi REIT Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	833.12
SC REIT Fund	Sedco Capital	652.96
AlAhli REIT Fund (1)	SNB Capital	542.56
Alkhabeer REIT Fund	Alkhabeer Capital	538.61

- Middle East: Up by 23.8% to US\$8.35 billion from US\$6.74 billion.
- Europe: Up by 14.19% to US\$8.85 million from US\$7.75 million
- Americas: Up by 4.27% to US\$155.96 million from US\$149.57 million.
- Africa: Down by 4.36% to US\$31.82 million from US\$33.27 million
- Asia Pacific: Down by 0.42%, a decrease of US\$7 million from US\$1.66 billion.

to US\$281.14 million. Pakistan is represented by two funds totaling US\$375.72 million, while Kuwait rounds out the list with three funds worth US\$14.88 million.

This distribution highlights the regional variations in market size and the diverse investment opportunities across the Islamic real estate sector.

**Outlook**

Most property analysts concur that negative cyclical forces for the past 18 months have bottomed out and reached a turning point venturing into 2025 – especially with the lowering of interest rates as major central banks and economies are adopting dovish policies to further boost their respective economies.

The forecast shows positivity and growing investor optimism. Inflation and the prolonged recession have come to a close and investors are on the hunt again. Europe real estate prices have stabilized, the North American region is expected to outpace European market and prices for commercial space continued to improve.

In this respect, the UAE enjoys a particularly strong head start among many others and recent sales figures show this nation had lured significant investments in its real estate market. The global economic data continues to indicate a stable and moderating economic environment. With further rate cuts expected to persist through the end of 2024 and into 2025, the outlook for Islamic REITs remains favorable.

*This report was produced by Elliot Yip and Aravinth Rajendran, financial data analysts at IFN Investor.* (📄)

The Bonyan REIT, Derayah REIT, Taleem REIT, Global Shariah REITs portfolio and Al Rajhi Real Estate Monthly Distribution Fund are the top five Middle East Islamic funds which grew the most within the time span of the latest three-month period in terms of absolute AuM. These five funds contributed to an increase of about US\$500 million for this region.

*Note: The IFN Investor Funds Database is tracking an additional 10 Islamic real estate funds from Turkiye as of Q3 2024 – resulting in the AuM tracked for Europe rising to US\$290 million.*

The Middle East and Asia Pacific regions present significant uptick opportunities, driven by strong demand for both commercial and residential real estate. Within the Islamic real estate sector, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia are the dominant players in their respective regions. Saudi Arabia leads the market, controlling approximately 69.59% of global Islamic real estate funds, which total US\$7.3 billion across 28 funds. Malaysia ranks second with 11.54%, representing US\$1.21 billion across four funds.

The UAE follows with five real estate funds, valued at US\$530.79 million. Turkiye maintains a solid presence with 10 funds, amounting

**Table 1: Top Islamic real estate funds by AuM percentage growth in Q3 2024**

Fund	Q2 2024 AuM (US\$ million)	Q3 2024 AuM (US\$ million)	% Change
Derayah REIT	252.4	428.87	69.92%
Taleem REIT Fund	146.8	230.56	57.06%
Bonyan REIT	378.07	574.81	52.04%
Global Sharia REITS Portfolio	47.38	68.93	45.49%
Hejaz Property Fund	8.6	10.89	26.61%



## Investment in the Islamic finance ecosystem

### *ICIEC’s investment strategy and defining role in supporting intra-OIC investments*

*Dr Khalid Khalafalla, Officer-in-Charge*

*Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC)*

Investments like small-and medium-sized enterprises(SMEs) are often regarded as the backbone of an economy, especially in low- and medium-income countries (LMICs). Investments typically straddle a wide spectrum of policies, strategies and products, each suited to the requirements of a requisite national, bilateral and multilateral investment playbook and involving several facilitators.

These may include governments, bilateral and multilateral institutional financing arrangements, domestic investors both institutional such as pension and social security funds, sovereign wealth funds, private sector capital, and more recently, the ascendancy of philanthropic capital.

Investment flows, of course, could be domestic - government, institutional and private funds including through family offices and incentivized tax and guaranteed retail mobilization - or through foreign direct investment (FDI) flows through direct project financing especially in infrastructure and key economic sectors such as energy, agriculture and food security, healthcare and climate related activities, via cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&As) and through collaborative co-financing and blended financing mechanisms. This is in tandem with the risk mitigation and credit enhancement solutions offered by multilateral insurers such as the World Bank Group’s MIGA, the IsDB Group’s ICIEC, national export credit agencies (ECAs) and private providers of credit and investment insurance.



*Dr Khalid Khalafalla,  
Officer-in-Charge*

#### **Investment in the global context**

The mainstay however remains as global FDI flows, which according to the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)’s World Investment

Report 2024, decreased marginally by 2% to US\$1.3 trillion in 2023.

The global environment for international investment, stated the Report, remains challenging in 2024. This is due to “weakening growth prospects, economic fragmentation trends, trade and geopolitical tensions, industrial policies and supply chain diversification” which are reshaping FDI patterns, causing some multinational enterprises (MNEs) to adopt a cautious approach to overseas expansion.

FDI observes the OECD, a group of the 20 largest economies including three ICIEC member states - Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Turkiye - lies at the heart of globalization and serves as an important conduit for the transfer of capital, goods, services and information across economies. “Measuring FDI helps us better understand how countries are interconnected and integrated into today’s global economy. The OECD provides operational guidelines on how FDI activity should be measured and sets global standards for collecting FDI statistics. The OECD also disseminates comprehensive and comparable FDI data as well as in-depth insights into global FDI trends to support economic analysis and inform policy decisions and enhance investment strategies.”

With the global push to attract and retain financial flows, online information portals and single windows have proliferated to foster a conducive business and investment climate.

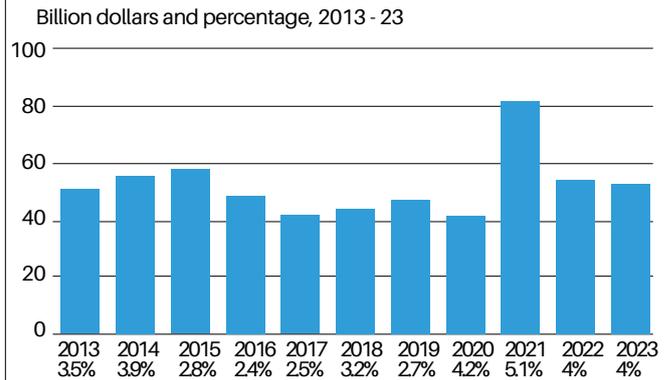
According to the UNCTAD report, FDI flows to developing countries fell by 7% to US\$867 billion last year, reflecting an 8% decrease in developing Asia. FDI flows to Africa fell by 3% to US\$53 billion in 2023. Two of the largest recipient economies - Egypt and South Africa - drove the overall trend. Asia and Africa account for the majority of ICIEC member states, with Azerbaijan, the host country for COP29 and the Togolese Republic acceding to membership as the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> member states.

In contrast, flows to developed countries were strongly affected by financial transactions of MNEs, partly due to efforts to implement a global minimum tax rate on the profits of these corporations. Inflows to most parts of Europe and the US were down by 14% and 5%, respectively. A disturbing trend in 2023 was a 10% reduction in investment in sectors linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda, most notably impacting agrifood systems, water and sanitation power generation and renewables due to a 25% drop in investment flows in SDG-linked projects due in turn to the tight global financing and economic conditions.

Similarly, according to the OECD, preliminary estimates in Q1 2024 show global FDI flows increased by 78% compared to Q4 2023, reaching US\$462 billion. However, on a year-on-year basis, global FDI flows remained comparable to the level recorded in Q1 2023. The top three sources of FDI outflows worldwide were the US (US\$131 billion), the Netherlands (US\$71 billion) and Japan (US\$45 billion).

From a credit and investment insurance perspective, 2023 was an encouraging year for export credit with Berne Union (BU) members (including ICIEC) providing over US\$3 trillion in new support for cross-border trade, with expansion across almost all business lines, auguring well for 2024 and beyond. The two stand out performance metrics for the industry in 2023 states the BU included a 40% increase to over US\$165 billion for medium- and long-term businesses, following strong growth in manufacturing, infrastructure and transport sectors alongside a continuing rapid growth in renewable energy investments.

Figure 1: Africa - foreign direct investment inflows and share in world inflows



Note: The value for each year represent the share of total inflows. Data exclude financial centres in the Caribbean and special purpose entities in reporting countries.

Source: UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), FDI/MNE database

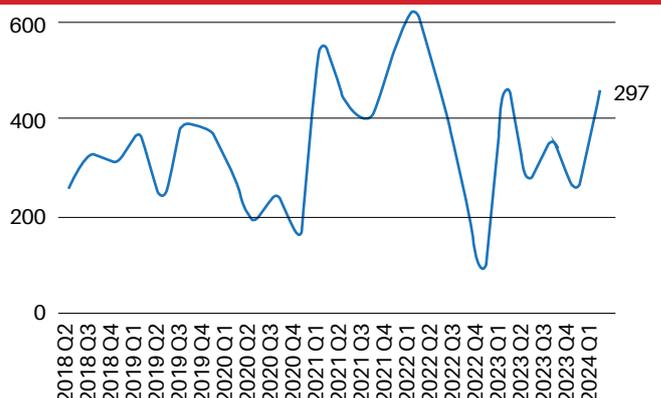
According to the BU, climate and the green transition are the main drivers of new opportunities with a record US\$20.5 billion in reported new commitments for renewable energy across 68 countries in 2023.

### Enter ICIEC as the pioneering alternative investment insurer disruptor

For a multilateral credit and investment insurer and serving effectively as the insurance pillar of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group, ICIEC has emerged in a relatively short period of a mere 30 years with a unique new model for the global industry - the ICIEC Takaful System, which is the market standard for Shariah-based credit and investment insurance. This makes ICIEC the only dedicated Shariah-based multilateral insurer in the world, currently with 50 member states and rising with a cumulative business insured since its inception in 1994 exceeding US\$108.3 billion including US\$22.1 billion in investment insurance.

Takaful is often described as the Islamic equivalent to conventional insurance, literally meaning solidarity or mutual support or guarantee, whereby a group of participants agree among themselves to support one another jointly for the losses arising from specified risks. The word ‘Takaful’ is derived from the Arabic word, Kafalah, which means ‘guaranteeing each other’ or ‘joint guarantee’ or ‘solidarity’, whereby a group of participants agree among themselves to support one another jointly for the losses

Figure 2: Global FDI flows, US\$ billion



Source: OECD July 2024



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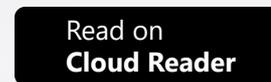
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arising from specified risks. Similarly, re-Takaful is the Islamic equivalent to conventional reinsurance where Takaful operators protect themselves against the risks they underwrite. The re-Takaful market is even smaller than the Takaful market with the major challenge being the lack of reliable data, capacity and the small number of re-Takaful providers and underwriters. In this respect, ICIEC brings a unique faith-based social finance.

As the corporation marks its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024, ICIEC has excelled despite several constraints in spreading the message of the importance of export credit and investment insurance both through its increased membership, its product suite and its business activity in line with the specificities of the development agendas of its constituent member states.

As ICIEC continues to consolidate its market education and awareness as well as technical assistance functions among its member states, global partners and counterparties, it has the potential and capacity to dramatically increase its credit and investment insurance underwriting, reinsurance capacity. As in the Corporation’s stated commitment to helping member states achieve their development goals including resilience, mitigation and adaptation to the threats posed by climate change and food security, so devastatingly exposed by the fuel and food supply chain disruptions caused by the conflict in Ukraine, the Red Sea and Panama Canal trade route disruptions.

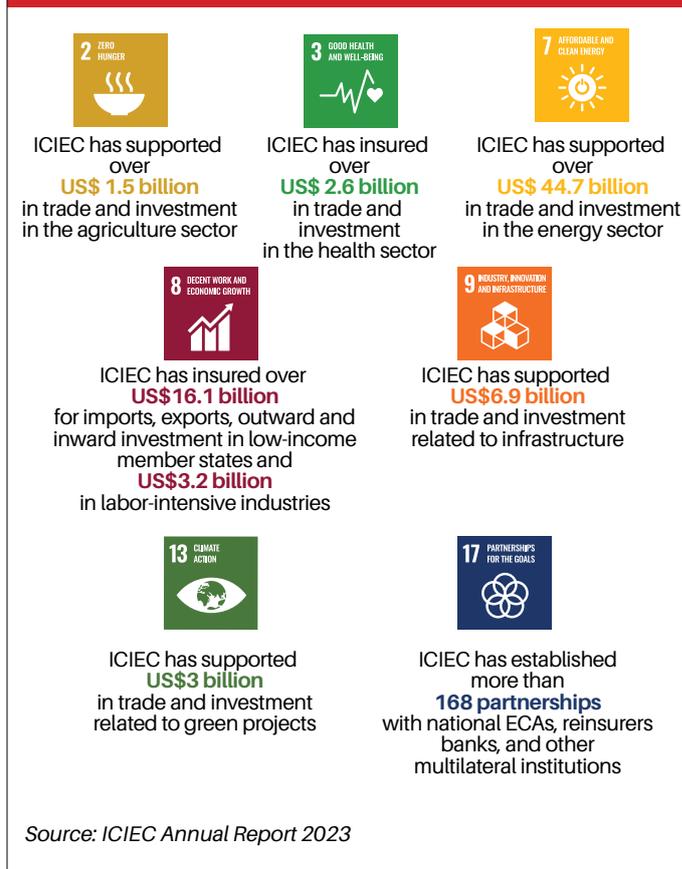
Noteworthy is the fact that ICIEC investment risk cover is directed toward various sectors, with US\$2.35 billion in 2023 going specifically into clean energy initiatives such as solar energy systems and wind farms – assisting with their importation and use in national infrastructure projects. At COP28, IsDB President, H.E. Dr Muhammad Al Jasser also unveiled a US\$1 billion group climate finance initiative for fragile and conflict-affected member countries over the next three years.

As H.E. Dr Al Jasser, who is also chairman of ICIEC’s board of directors, observed: “The journey of ICIEC is deeply intertwined with the vision and mission of IsDB. Our mutual commitment to fostering sustainable economic growth in member countries and Muslim communities in non-member countries has been the foundation of our collaborative endeavors.”

The IsDB Group’s commitment to developing green infrastructure will go a long way toward addressing this issue, as well as other issues related to the quality and sustainability of member states’ infrastructure. Equally important, a healthy and steady pipeline of good quality projects focusing on green and resilient infrastructure will allow the Group to be a leader in mobilizing cost-effective funds from global capital markets and private capital through green, sustainable and impact Sukuk targeting Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and SRI investor base, thus helping achieve the SDGs.

Investment facilitation is well-embedded in the IsDB Group’s Investment Promotion Technical Assistance Program (ITAP), an initiative by the IsDB Group, established in 2005. It was managed by ICIEC until 2016. ITAP aims at helping to unlock the developmental potential of the IsDB member states through a comprehensive and integrated program of foreign investment promotion technical assistance. Its focus areas include institutional development, sharing best practices, information dissemination on investment opportunities, needs assessment studies, specific sectors studies, capacity building of investment promotion agencies, country promotion events including seminars

Figure 3: Business insured by SDG impact since inception

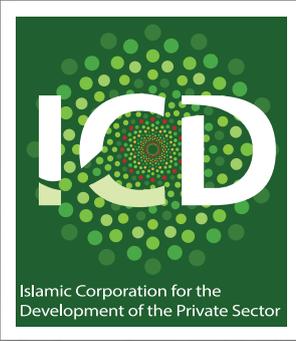


and conferences as well as policy advice to improve the investment environment.

Another major development which augurs well for ICIEC’s future operations is the 150% increase in ICIEC’s authorized capital from its current ID0.4 billion (US\$0.54 billion) to ID1 billion (US\$1.34 billion) and a 268% increase in its subscribed capital by ID500 million (US\$670 million) to ID797 million (US\$1.07 billion) which has already materialised in subscription commitments by several member states. The capital increase boosts the Corporation’s ability to underwrite more business and its reinsurance capacity.

The capital increase also enhances ICIEC’s financial strength, boosts its loss-bearing equity resources, improves its internal capital generation capacity, helps to continue its operation on a solid and stable foundation and strengthens its credit fundamentals. In addition, the Board of Governors approved a special share class comprising 20% of the increase in subscribed capital of ID100 million (US\$134 million) for subscription by financial institutions owned/controlled by member states.

Another important factor which ICIEC brings to the table is its ability to leverage its capital which, in turn, determines capacity through the re-insurance market. Over the last few years, ICIEC indeed has re-engineered its insurance treaty to absorb some of the capital requirements that are needed instead of using its ordinary capital resources. In other words, ICIEC was using its insurance capacity to underwrite that business. At the same time, the corporation also initiated a study internally for the need of risk implications of recapitalization, taking in the experience of peer institutions in the multilateral development bank (MDB) domain and looking at new innovative ways to recapitalize.



# Leading Together

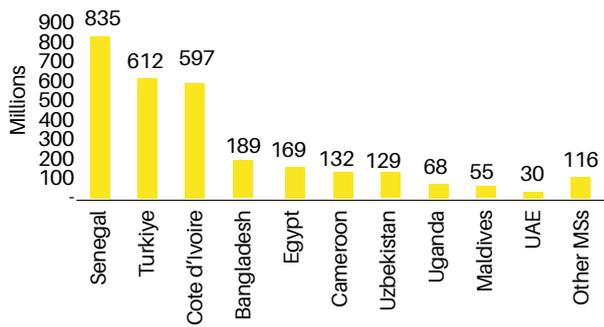
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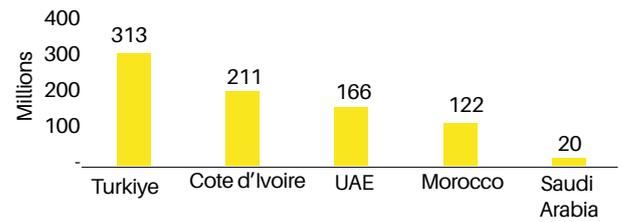
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Figure 4: Major member states by inward investment facilitated in 2023 (US\$ million)



Source: ICIEC Annual Report 2023

Figure 5: Major member by outward investment facilitated in 2023 (US\$ million)



ICIEC supported outward investments in 2023, to Turkiye, Cote d'Ivoire, UAE, Morocco and Saudi Arabia

Source: ICIEC Annual Report 2023

Under its erstwhile authorized capital of ID400 million (US\$556 million) for instance, ICIEC on average leveraged its capital five times from the reinsurance market over the last few years. For every dollar given to invest in a project, ICIEC could bring five dollars from the international market which is supported by its reinsurance capacity. Imagine the power of leveraging insurance can bring to the table as a major player that can release capacity to the developers.

### ICIEC's investment facilitation strategy

The ICIEC's investment facilitation strategy is embedded through two core pathways – its business operations and its championing of the intra-OIC trade and investment and cooperation.

Over three decades since its inception in 1994, ICIEC has insured US\$114 billion in trade and investment across the globe for its 50 member states, including US\$90.7 billion in export credit and US\$23.3 billion in investment insurance. The corporation has been a champion of intra-OIC businesses, supporting US\$53.6 billion in trade and investment within OIC countries.

The flagship investment policies include: i) **Equity Investment Insurance Policy (EIIP)** - a policy that provides insurance coverage for cross border equity investment by any individual or company against transfer and convertibility, expropriation, war and civil disturbance and breach of contract, ii) **Financing Facility Insurance Policy (FFIP)** - a policy that provides insurance coverage for cross border financing by banks and financial institutions against transfer and convertibility, expropriation, war and civil disturbance and breach of contract, and iii) **Non-Honouring of Sovereign Financial Obligations (NHSFO)** - a policy that provides insurance coverage for corporates against the default of governments and government-owned entities in meeting their sovereign obligations.

This playbook can be further segmented into - i) Investment insurance for banks and financial institutions covering risks associated with NHSFO and political risk insurance of cross-border financing, ii) Investment insurance for corporates covering political risk insurance for equity investments and projects thus acting as a credit enhancement tool, and iii) Export credit and investment reinsurance for ECAs and insurers through a fronting exercise encompassing reinsurance and co-insurance.

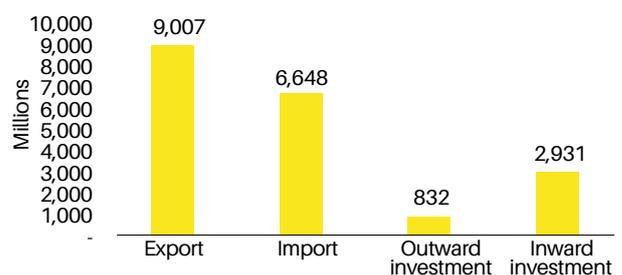
Furthermore, ICIEC has also pioneered a Sukuk Insurance Policy, a third-party guarantee for standard Sukuk issuance aimed especially at investment grade, sub-investment grade or unrated member states, with a focus on green Sukuk issuance projects related to renewables in power generation, food security and agri-business, climate related projects and

value-added healthcare transformation programs such as the ICIEC's first public-private partnership (PPP) hospital project in 2015 - the Adana City Research and Training Hospital in Turkiye - a state-of-the-art facility with 1,550 beds, which was spared any damage as a result of the devastating earthquake in southern Turkiye in February 2023 and where treatment was provided to thousands of patients who were injured in the earthquake that caused extensive damage in 11 cities. This is just one example of ICIEC's compelling success in delivering true development and life-enhancing impact investment outcomes in member states. On the commodities side, ICIEC played a key underwriting role in supporting the exports as well as imports of strategic commodities for member states.

In essence, ICIEC's investment strategy and playbook are firmly embedded in its overall vision "to be recognized as the preferred enabler of trade and investment for sustainable economic development in member states," in its mission "to facilitate trade and investment between member states and the world through Shariah compliant risk mitigation tools," and through its mandate "to promote cross-border trade and FDI in its member states." ICIEC also serves its mandate by providing alternative Shariah compliant risk mitigation and credit enhancement solutions to member states' exporters selling to buyers and to investors from across the world investing in member states. The corporation also supports international exporters selling to member states if the transactions are for capital goods or strategic commodities.

In 2023, ICIEC's business insured (BI) reached US\$13.3 billion, of which US\$10.4 billion was for supporting exports and imports and US\$2.9 billion for supporting FDI flows into member states. The major recipients were the energy sector with US\$6,302 million, followed by manufacturing at US\$3,340 million and services at US\$2,086 million. The BI in infrastructure was only US\$426 million, in healthcare US\$287 million and in the

Figure 6: ICIEC support provided to its member states in 2023 (US\$ million)



Source: ICIEC Annual Report 2023

agricultural sector US\$67 million. BI by region was overwhelmingly in favor of Asia (including the MENA region) at US\$6.2 billion, followed by sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) at US\$3.91 billion, Europe at US\$2.78 billion, the US at US\$0.41 billion and Oceania at US\$0.02 billion.

A notable shift in 2023 for new commitments was from short-term insurance to investment insurance as the share of foreign investment insurance increased from 27% to 43%, while medium-term business declined from 13% to 8%, and short-term business decreased from 60% to 49%. The significant growth in the combined medium-term and foreign investment insurance business indicates a strategic focus on more diversified and long-term investments.

In terms of the three business lines in 2023, the short-term business insured increased by 7% to US\$10 billion from US\$9.4 billion, while the combined medium-term and foreign investment insurance business insured increased by 48% to US\$3.3 billion from US\$2.2 billion in the previous year. The top 10 recipients of ICIEC support in 2023 are demographically varied dominated by Turkiye, the UAE, Kazakhstan, Egypt, Algeria and Saudi Arabia. However, Senegal historically has been featured as a prime destination for ICIEC investment insurance cover for iconic impact projects with the unique ability to attract foreign private investment and project finance especially from global banking majors. Turkiye is also a major partner of ICIEC in this respect.

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In Turkiye, ICIEC was involved with its NHSFO Insurance Policy in the Yerkoj Kayseri High Speed Railway (HSR) project, allowing for a direct rail connection between Yerkoj and Kayseri, which will eventually connect Ankara and Kayseri with a travel time of only two hours by HSR where it is currently seven hours by conventional train. Turkiye embarked on a significant infrastructure development in 2023 with the HSR project, funded through a syndicated financing facility of USD143.5 million, with MUFG Securities leading a syndication comprising six banks including MUFG itself, playing a pivotal role in the transaction.

Another pathway for ICIEC in facilitating investment insurance is through collaboration with peer multilateral development institutions such as the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group. In a landmark collaboration between the AfDB Group and ICIEC, a strategic risk-sharing engagement was established to drive sustainable development in Cote d'Ivoire. ICIEC provided an insurance capacity of €194 million (US\$212.86 million) in support of a €400 million (US\$438.9 million) partial credit guarantee (PCG) issued by the AfDB. This PCG serves as protection against non-payment risk associated with a EUR533 million (US\$584.83 million facility

extended by Standard Chartered Bank to the government of Cote d'Ivoire. The funds are dedicated to a diverse array of eligible environmental and social projects, aligning with Cote d'Ivoire's Sustainable Framework, encompassing areas such as renewable energy, education, pollution prevention, health infrastructure and water management.

A crucial aspect of this collaboration is ICIEC's role in covering EUR184 million (US\$212.86 million) of the PCG, optimizing the AfDB's balance sheet and demonstrating a balanced risk-sharing approach. The bank retains a EUR206 million (US\$226.03 million) stake (51.5%) in the PCG, emphasizing commitment to the project's success.

The partnership enhances Cote d'Ivoire's capacity to attract long-term, competitive financing for ESG projects and highlights collaborative efforts among multilateral institutions to support common member countries' sustainable development aspirations. The transaction not only facilitates the realization of Cote d'Ivoire's National Development Plan but also improves the country's funding terms under challenging market conditions. It sets a precedent for future cooperation between ICIEC and the AfDB in common member states.

In relation to the Abidjan access to clean water project, Marc Guigni, deputy CEO of the Société Générale Cote d'Ivoire said, "ICIEC facilitated the implementation of credit at a very long maturity, which allows for smoothing repayments and reduction of the impact of debt service on the state budget. The choice of ICIEC for this project was natural and necessary for many reasons. One of them is that ICIEC was able to optimize the bank's balance sheet through its participation. Thus, Société Générale de Côte d'Ivoire was able to participate with a much higher amount to finance this large-scale and strategic project for the state."

### The ICIEC-Senegal infrastructure investment partnership

The substantial infrastructure needs in Africa as elsewhere in the developing countries cannot be met unless there is a sizeable response from private sector financing. Attracting private sector investment is critical for SSA countries to make progress also towards achieving the SDGs. ICIEC has supported several landmark transactions and projects in Senegal in various sectors over the last few years through its risk mitigation and credit enhancement solutions and through its reinsurance capacity. These include the Abdoulaye Wade Stadium (the National Stadium), Dakar Expo Center, the Market of National Interest, the Dakar Truck Station. Since inception, ICIEC has supported Senegal to the tune of USD5 billion, or 2.92% of its total operations.

One of the iconic impact investment projects for which ICIEC provided NHSFO insurance to cover an EUR266 million (US\$291.87 million) Murabahah facility extended by Standard Chartered Bank, AKA Ausfuhrkredit-Gesellschaft mbH, Société Générale-Paris and Saudi National Bank, was the construction of Abdoulaye Wade National Olympic Football Stadium.

The stadium's financing model developed in the form of EPC+F (Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Financing), and based on close collaboration between public and private players, proved to be particularly innovative, according to The Public Infrastructure Management Company in the Urban Centers of Diamniado and Lac Rose. In fact, the financing model adopted for the Stadium offered more flexibility to the executing company on its choice of imports and sub-contracting.

According to Selim Bora, chairman of Summa Group, Turkiye, the contractor that built the stadium “This ambitious project was also an EPC+F contract awarded in 2020, right before the COVID-19 pandemic hit the world and everything stopped. Even during those months of lock-down we were able to communicate and continue our correspondence with ICIEC officials which in fact saved the project since a Standard Chartered Bank led consortium were to facilitate the credit for 100% financing provided that the political risk insurance was covered by ICIEC.”

Senegal embarked on an ambitious infrastructure project in November 2023 involving the financing of the Dakar-Tivaouane Highway, including the construction of 37 bridges. With a total cost of EUR336 million (US\$401.59 million) and a tenor of 12 years, the project represents a significant step in enhancing the country’s infrastructure.

Société Générale, managing the special purpose entity (SPE), sought the involvement of ICIEC, whose role was crucial, providing an NHSFO policy to cover the sovereign obligations of the government of Senegal. This coverage was pivotal for an Islamic financing facility amounting to EUR300 million (US\$329.17 million) plus associated profit, as part of a larger EUR489 million (US\$536.55 million) contract. The project is part of an overarching EUR1 billion (US\$1.1 billion) initiative, supported by the World Bank, AfDB, the Saudi Fund for Development and the Government of Senegal.

Other projects of note in which ICIEC played similar crucial investment insurance roles to help mobilize long-term funding include: i) The new Blaise Diagne International Airport which is at the heart of Senegal’s ‘Emerging Senegal’ Plan, ii) The CICAD Business Hotel, CICAD Expo Center and Diamniadio Multifunctional Sports Center (Dakar Arena) iii) The rehabilitation of a wastewater collector in Dakar, Senegal, iv) and the construction of the Dakar market of national interest and truck station. ICIEC’s collaboration with Senegal was further cemented in 2023 with the signing of an MoU with APIX S.A, which is Senegal’s main agency for attracting inward FDI and facilitating business creation and development, including that of SMEs. The agreement also facilitates joint efforts to promote Senegal as an FDI destination for ICIEC and IsDB Group member states.

ICIEC also signed an MoU with the Sovereign Fund for Strategic Investments (FONSIS), the investment arm of the Government of Senegal. Under the agreement, ICIEC seeks to catalyze FDI flows into Senegal by promoting FONSIS among ICIEC member states and facilitating access to ICIEC’s political risk insurance products and guarantees.

### The power of programs and partnerships

It is no coincidence that the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 Agenda culminates with Partnerships for the Goals. “Never has there been a more critical time for strengthening cross-sectoral partnerships and securing the next 10 years of collaboration for sustainable development,” says the global body, urging much greater investment in empowering solutions in attempting to achieve the other 16 goals, whose sheer scope and challenges are matched by their urgency and complexity.

Estimates from the IMF/World Bank, OECD and UN put the cost of achieving the SDGs at US\$3.9 trillion annually over the next 10 years. Sustainable development projects cannot be achieved by governments alone. The pressure on national budgets and scarce resources due to the impact of the pandemic and the global economic and geopolitical

uncertainties has severely limited the ability of governments to mobilize the necessary funds.

As a signatory to the principles for responsible insurance and the fact that it is the only Shariah-based multilateral insurer, sustainable investment is firmly embedded in ICIEC’s due diligence process through linking all new business and other queries with the SDGs and climate action indicators. In this respect, ICIEC actively targets real impact and change in all its financing, insurance policies it underwrites and projects it supports, and acts as a catalyst for private sector capital mobilization towards achieving the SDGs.

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**Estimates from the IMF/World Bank, OECD and UN put the cost of achieving the SDGs at US\$3.9 trillion annually over the next 10 years**

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ICIEC’s insurance policies, whether the policyholder is a financial institution, specialized company or contractor, that covers political and commercial risks, can contribute to the flow of climate action and food security related investments, specialized technology and equipment or services into member states. These projects help reduce electricity imports, lessening dependency on fossil fuels, creating jobs, supporting the local economy via local procurement of services and equipment, fostering technology transfer, empowering local people with new knowledge about renewable energy and improving local infrastructure via road construction and improvements in transmission lines and electricity distribution.

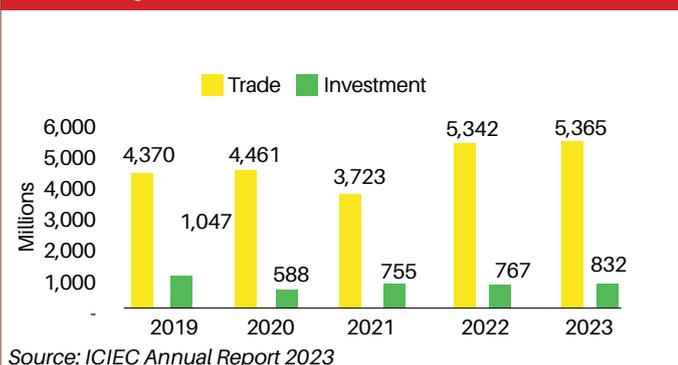
PPPs, such as the Adana City Hospital Project, have emerged as a critical tool for mobilizing the necessary resources and expertise to finance infrastructure and development projects in OIC countries. PPPs involve collaboration between public and private sector entities to achieve a common goal. PPPs can help to mobilize private sector investment, expertise and innovation to support the development of infrastructure and technologies.

Private sector engagement requires credit enhancement, which insurers such as ICIEC are uniquely positioned to do through their sustainability policies and access to their member country’s national and subnational bodies, which engage with relevant climate action and food security projects and transactions. Indeed, private sector development is one of the main pillars of ICIEC’s strategy. Embedding commercial opportunities and helping corporates and banks make a material difference to support positive development project outcomes is something that risk mitigation tools can facilitate.

Innovative finance solutions and partnerships are ideal to mitigate rising project and investment costs. ICIEC has been at the forefront of several initiatives over the last few years. They include:

- i) The Arab Africa Guarantee Fund (AAGF), which was initiated by ICIEC under the Arab-Africa Trade Bridges Programme (AATB), of which the corporation is the insurance pillar. The AATB has been instrumental in fostering partnerships and enhancing trade and

Figure 7: Intra-trade and intra-investment facilitated for OIC member states during 2019 to 2023 (US\$ million)



investment flows between Arab and African regions, to which ICIEC has already contributed USD25 billion. The AAGF aims to provide a scalable structure that aims at mobilizing financial resources and risk mitigation capacity to support trade and investment in Arab and African countries and ensuring that all-in pricing of transactions is optimized for the end beneficiaries through blended structures. The fund encompasses three sub-funds: the Arab Africa Green Facility, the Arab Africa Food Security Facility and the Arab Africa Health Facility.

- ii) The Africa Co-Guarantee Platform was established by ICIEC, AfDB, the African Trade and Investment Development Insurance (ATIDI), the multilateral African ECA, AUDA-NEPAD, and GuarantCo, part of the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) which is supported by the governments of the UK, Switzerland, Sweden, Netherlands and Australia. It was set up in response to the growing need for de-risking instruments in Africa, with the focus on infrastructure development, intra-regional trade, addressing the food and fertilizer crises and enhancing coverage for various investments. Its mandate is to support trade and investment projects, to find proactive risk mitigation solutions which will help projects reach financial close by making them bankable especially relating to PPP projects, building capacity and in supporting African sovereigns respond to macro-economic challenges that may arise (e.g. food security, future pandemics, periods of extreme weather resulting from climate change, better debt management, balance sheet optimization for DFIs and commercial banks.) The CGP crucially has two in-built innovation components - a 'financial products incubation' pillar and a transaction-based longer-term risk mitigation capacity building pillar. There are currently 26 projects in the CGP pipeline, with total project costs of over USD6 billion. These projects are currently seeking an estimated USD2.3 billion in risk mitigation.

ICIEC leverages its already extensive network of relationships with multilaterals, regional agencies, industry bodies, ECAs and private insurance companies including the MIG, the Berne Union, the AMAN Union and DHAMAN. In August 2024, for instance, ICIEC signed its latest landmark MoU with the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) to enhance cooperation and support the development of trade and investment flows between ICIEC's member states and Japan by leveraging ICIEC's insurance services and JBIC's financial facilities. The partnership will facilitate transactions involving Japanese companies as exporters, EPC contractors or investors in projects that promote the development of ICIEC's member states, with a particular focus on Central Asia.

An important development more recently is the accession of the IsDB and ICIEC to the Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAf) Platform and Toolkit of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) during COP28 in December 2023. By acceding membership of ETAf, The IsDB and ICIEC commit to promoting renewable energy production in member states, to assisting with addressing climate change-related challenges and capitalizing on opportunities inherent to green growth. The IsDB and ICIEC also pledged USD250 million to projects on the platform by 2030. Through the ETAf Platform, ICIEC will provide credit and political risk insurance solutions to support the financing of renewable energy projects recommended by IRENA for the benefit of common member countries.

### ICIEC and the facilitation of intra-OIC investment

One of the core mandates of COMCEC, the OIC and the IsDB Group specifically requires all three institutions to promote intra-OIC trade and FDI flows in their member states. In fact, COMCEC has set an IsDB Group target of reaching 25% of intra-OIC trade by 2025.

The fact that intra-OIC trade and investment has not even hit 25% of their total exports and imports and FDI flows, suggests what an uphill struggle it remains for member states to upscale their bilateral and multilateral trade and investment flows. According to the ICIEC 2023 Annual Report, intra-OIC trade facilitated by ICIEC increased from US\$4,370 million in 2019 to US\$4,461 million in 2020, reaching US\$5,365 million in 2023. Similarly, intra-OIC investments decreased from US\$1,047 million in 2019 to US\$832 million in 2023.

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ICIEC’s involvement in intra-OIC trade and investment is commendable – facilitating US\$51 billion in intra-OIC trade and investment since inception  
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ICIEC’s involvement in intra-OIC trade and investment is commendable – facilitating US\$51 billion in intra-OIC trade and investment since inception. The latest data for FY2023 shows that there is much room for improvement despite the various barriers to boost such facilitation.

Intra-OIC trade and investment has the potential to be a game-changing facilitator to lead the OIC economies into recovery from the impacts of the post-pandemic era, the subdued global economic recovery and the vagaries of geopolitical tensions and their impacts on commodities price volatility, sovereign indebtedness, a global cost of living crisis and acting as a break on reaching the SDGs and Paris Net Zero targets – all of which affect developing countries including the IsDB ones disproportionately. The OIC countries, which represent a sizeable portion of the global economy, are not immune to these global headwinds. Economic growth within the OIC, according to IMF data, is projected to follow a moderating trend, with estimates pointing to a growth rate of 5.6% in 2022, tapering to 3.5% in 2023 and 3.9% in 2024.

Nevertheless, Saudi Arabia’s outward FDI stock, according to the UNCTAD’s World Investment Report 2023, rose significantly from US\$151.5 billion in 2021 to US\$167.5 billion in 2022. Saudi investments



within ICIEC member states are strategically placed across the Middle East, Africa and Asia. According to the Annual Report on Investment Climate and Opportunities in OIC Countries, 2022, Saudi Arabia holds the third-largest share of intra-OIC inward FDI stocks, in core investment markets including Egypt, Bahrain, the UAE, Turkiye, Pakistan and Jordan. The OIC has set a target of achieving 25% intra-Islamic trade and investment by 2025. The Kingdom is in pole position to demonstrate its role as a key investor in boosting ties with the OIC states towards achieving the 25% target.

**Potential of ICIEC’s Sukuk insurance policy in facilitating investment**

Sukuk, being asset-backed or based, are particularly well-suited for raising capital for projects and other developmental initiatives. The challenge many member states have faced in issuing Sukuk is their credit rating. Given that many member states do not have an investment grade credit rating, access to the capital market on favorable terms has become challenging. The role of ICIEC is implicit. While covering non-payment risk, ICIEC, with its credit rating of ‘Aa3’ by Moody’s and ‘AA-’ by S&P, may provide a boost to the Sukuk issuance of most of its member states. ICIEC has over the years developed the ICIEC Sukuk Insurance Policy (SIP) to help member states to mobilize resources from international capital markets, to realize their developmental projects consistent with their declared developmental objectives, the SDGs, or other ESG factors. Some countries, especially those with credit ratings equal to or better than ICIEC’s credit rating, may not need ICIEC’s support to mobilize financial resources.

However, the ICIEC’s SIP will be very useful for member states rated below ICIEC’s credit rating. It will not only assist member states rated lower than ‘Aa3’ to access the international capital markets, but it is also expected to reduce their borrowing costs.

The policy is in line with ICIEC’s mandate to facilitate the flow of investments and project finance to its member states. As such, the corporation took the initiative to launch this innovative insurance product, which is the first of its kind in the market. It is the only Shariah-based Takaful product used as a credit enhancement in the Islamic capital and finance market and provided by a multilateral institution having long experience in the credit and political insurance industry.

The SIP is aimed at helping member states, especially those who have difficulties to access international capital markets with reasonable cost, to raise Shariah compliant resources to finance developmental projects. SIP is a credit enhancement and third-party guarantee aimed at promoting sovereign domestic issuances by member states especially those rated below investment grade and consequently attract less private capital for sustainable development projects. The SIP would allow issuers to attract capital for green projects better including for food security.

**Future prospects for ICIEC investment facilitation and insurance**

Last year saw a growing interest in diversifying sources of liquidity, with both investment-grade and sub-investment grade borrowers in many OIC countries increasingly turning to ECA finance. This trend underscores the evolving trust in ECA-backed financial instruments. This trend is set to increase in 2024 and beyond reflecting the rise in capital projects and infrastructure, especially related to sustainable and ESG finance linked to climate-related, food security and clean energy transition projects. The post-pandemic era ushered in a wave of capital expenditure across various industries. This surge is not just a sign of economic recovery but also a testament to the mounting pressures on traditional capital sources for borrowers.

For ICIEC, this trend signifies an expanded clientele base and an opportunity to further its mission. By offering tailored financial solutions that cater to this diversifying borrower landscape, ICIEC can solidify its reputation as a versatile and reliable financial partner for its member states well into the near- and medium-future.

The challenge lies in navigating these amplified demands, but the opportunity is in positioning itself as the go-to entity for its member states of ECA-supported financing during these transformative times. ICIEC’s foresight and agility in this space will determine its influence on shaping the economic and development trajectories of its member nations. ☺



## Islamic fund management needs a game-changer



By Hakan Ozyon

**If Islamic fund management is to continue being a significant force on the global front, it has to go down a new path and chart a different route from what has been done so far. It's just that organic growth is not doing the job anymore and a real game changer has to come.**

Right now, there are a lot of small players – which is a problem and an issue as well. As was seen in Australia, mainly small players make market participants less confident in the providers. These providers are finding and servicing the same small group of clients, which means they are literally not growing.

To expand the pool of clients, there is a critical need for economies of scale to achieve more efficient price points. There also has to be upscaling to serve bigger players, especially for Shariah compliant investments, which will need significant resources that small players cannot deploy.

A possible solution will be for some of the stronger players to buy out the smaller players – for the benefit of both. Buying just to eliminate the competition is not a good thing.

What we need is true merging of talents, ideas and products and innovation. And a behemoth to come out of that. Companies that are genuinely taking on the world and growing on a global stage and providing products all over the world.

There should be a few innovative companies that result from such consolidation and these have to operate like lean and aggressive fintechs. They cannot act like banks, which are historically very slow movers. While

that is good for the stability of the financial system, banks are not game changers.

We have seen it with WeChat and AliPay in the Chinese economy and many Chinese people around the world have adopted those services. It's really changed the way that they do things. In the Islamic world, we need something like that, we need a global player.

Another lesson from these China successes is that the focus cannot be local – as this mindset will not create the products that are suitable for the Islamic community worldwide. Building the product is the hardest task as it takes many years of effort until it becomes revenue-generating in the right form.

This is an important aspect that many fintechs fail to embrace. While they've been a facilitator, enabling access to a wider population, many of their products haven't been genuinely owned by them.

To be truly successful, you need to be a holistic provider as a fintech – by offering all the different asset classes plus different types of funding and financing as well. This is the solution which will be meaningful for the Islamic community globally – and non-Muslims will adopt as well.

If done right, the Islamic principle can be enough of an underlying guide to become the dominant financial system – because it ticks many of the key requirements for ethical financing and investments. The Shariah systems stayed solid during recent financial crises, they should secure our future as well.

*Hakan Ozyon is the founding CEO of Hejaz* 🇸🇦

## Bridging the Islamic investments gap



By Muzzammil Dhedhy

**Practical financial education is often lacking among the young and this perpetuates a problem well into adulthood. The average Muslim is not exactly going to school and learning about Islamic finance. They learn about that at home.**

Unfortunately, these insights are very superficial. Their parents probably tell them that interest is not Halal. Other than that, they probably don't understand the fact that their pension or superannuation needs to be compliant. Or that for Muslims, investments and all finances need to be compliant too.

Seeing this issue, the Hejaz Group makes it easy to achieve Shariah compliance for financial needs. We have financing solutions for everyday moms and dads who want to buy a vehicle or a home. All the way through to large developers to commercial property and business financing.

Our comprehensive financial services offerings cater to both the retail and wholesale sophisticated investor segments. We have retail funds, ETFs (exchange traded funds) for the retail audience. We have wholesale funds that cater for more sophisticated high net worth and complex clients.

We cater for senior clients with a very well-established financial position to young first-time investors and homebuyers and everyone in between. We build our products, services and offerings around educating, informing and engaging at a grassroots level.

The focus is to build that foundational understanding of Islamic finance, how it works and how we're different from conventional. Blending between ETFs, mutual funds and pension products. We are not reselling or rebadging anybody else's products and services. It's all our own, end to end. That gives the consumer a lot of confidence about who we are and what we do.

These robust and comprehensive solutions take a lot of effort and endeavor to build. We're trying to find that balance between Shariah compliance and regulatory compliance because we don't want our customers to in any way be disadvantaged.

Fortunately, Australian regulators have always been very friendly and accommodating towards Islamic finance. They have been very understanding of the need for inclusivity and giving everybody the opportunity to engage with financial services that meet their requirements.

Our customer base is becoming diversified, about 5% are non-Muslims and they come to us because our investments are aligned with their ethical and moral philosophies. They don't want to be funding things which are socially injurious. Shariah has strict guidelines on this aspect and that's what they prefer.

But going beyond Australia, we need to have a framework across countries that sets standards clearly how Islamic financial institutions need to behave to ensure products are Shariah compliant. These prescriptions should not just be at face value but evident even after lifting the veil.

For widespread acceptance AAOIFI and the IFSB need to set the standards such that there is no need for a customer with low financial literacy or even time and motivation to check for Shariah compliance.

We have also seen the rise globally in ESG and socially responsible investing. Australia is one of the leading economies from that perspective and having common Shariah standards should align very well with such an investment focus.

*Muzzammil Dhedhy is co-founder and executive director of Hejaz Group, Australia* ☺



## Kenanga Alternative Series: Islamic Global Responsible Strategies Fund

**Kenanga Investors Executive Director and CEO Ismitz Matthew De Alwis shares insights into the Kenanga Alternative Series: Islamic Global Responsible Strategies Fund.**

### ***Why did Kenanga Investors decide to bring this product to market?***

Innovation in Islamic asset management has been relatively limited over the past 20 years, with Shariah compliant investment products accounting for less than 1% of the world's financial assets. Islamic investors have been largely underserved, with few options beyond concentrated, actively managed funds or passive index trackers.

However, the industry is now at a turning point, driven in no small part by increasing issuer and investor sophistication, as well as the exponential growth of financial data. With approximately 2.5 quintillion bytes of data generated each day worldwide, traditional methods are no longer adequate.

The target fund manager, Chicago Global (CG) addresses this gap, leveraging advanced machine learning techniques to offer an advanced, data-driven solution designed specifically for Shariah compliant investors.

At Kenanga Investors, we continuously push the boundaries of what is possible, to offer our clients cutting-edge investment solutions.

These innovative products serve as cornerstones for portfolios designed to fulfil lifelong needs and lifestyle aspirations.

Our partnership with CG is a big step forward in this mission. By leaning on their extensive experience in applying AI and machine learning to investment strategies, we have a partner that can build a Shariah compliant feeder fund, i.e. the Kenanga Alternative Series: Islamic Global Responsible Strategies Fund ("Fund"), which offers a sophisticated, data-driven approach to investing.

The Fund's significance cannot be overstated. As the first of its kind in the Asian market, it has the potential to redefine Shariah investing on a global scale. We believe this unique product will set a new standard in the industry, uniting the ethical principles of Islamic investing with cutting-edge technology.

### ***Could you share the story behind Chicago Global and what makes them unique in the market?***

The core team behind CG came together in 2015 at University of Chicago. A few big things were happening at the time.

First, the gap between what was possible at the frontier of finance and what was available to investors was wider than ever. Next, the market moving data was growing faster than ever. And the power

to process this data was becoming cheap enough to deploy these technologies outside the lab. These factors converged to create a wave of opportunity, which the CG team set out to ride.

By redefining investing as an information problem, the team could deploy information technology to attack it. This allowed them to benefit from leaps in AI, combining the pattern recognition capabilities of neural networks with the adaptive learning of machine learning algorithms.

The target fund manager's strategies are rooted in the rigorous approach to asset pricing pioneered at the University of Chicago over the last 70 years.

What sets them apart is the integration of advanced technology with battle-tested investment strategies, building upon decades of research in behavioral finance and quantitative asset pricing. This unique blend of cutting-edge technology and time-tested investment strategies distinguishes it from other fund managers, offering a distinctive approach that goes beyond the limits of conventional methods.

The idea to bring machine learning and big data into Shariah investing stems from the belief that responsible, ethical investing works better when it encapsulates a richer information set. The result is a very special product that combines moral principles with sophisticated risk management and return optimization.

This innovation was recognized by the Monetary Authority of Singapore through the award of a Financial Sector Technology and Innovation grant.

***What sets the Fund's strategy apart from other asset management companies, especially in an era where AI and ML are widely adopted, and how will it maintain a competitive edge?***

The investment landscape is evolving rapidly, and while legacy methods still hold value, the sheer volume and speed of financial data can be overwhelming. Many asset management companies have begun exploring AI and machine learning (ML), but few have fully embraced these technologies as core drivers of their investment strategies.

When we look at AI-focused funds today, we can place them on a spectrum. On one end, you have existing tech funds that have simply been rebranded as AI. The managers buy shares in "AI stocks" but have not evolved to using AI in their investment decisions. Essentially, they are chasing market sentiment rather than leveraging AI.

The investment process has yet to evolve – it is still driven by people reading about AI and discussing it in conferences and pubs.

On the opposite end of the spectrum are the so-called black box funds. They are not run by traditional portfolio managers but by computer scientists, physicists and statisticians. Their strategy revolves around gathering vast data sets, constructing a diverse array of AI models, forcing these models to compete with each other, and then handing control over to the best. Human oversight is minimal. The machines call the shots.

Chicago Global occupies a unique position in the middle of this spectrum, blending AI with human judgment and creativity. This balance is considered appropriate given the current state of technology, the constantly evolving market landscape and – most importantly – the profound responsibility of managing people's life savings.

In this approach, AI is a tool, not a decision-maker. It does the heavy lifting role in sifting data and assessing risk. However, decisions are made by experienced human investors.

Furthermore, the companies selected are not necessarily technology companies – they are diverse businesses identified through AI-driven insights, combined with human oversight, as offering compelling value.

This balanced approach offers several key benefits.

First, the AI-assisted strategy identifies opportunities across various sectors, ensuring diversification that pure tech or AI-focused funds often lack.

Second, high level of transparency and accountability are maintained, with AI's capabilities supporting, rather than replacing, human decision-making. This ensures a level of explainability that's often missing in black box AI funds.

Lastly, the approach recognizes the profound responsibility of managing people's life savings, balancing innovation with a careful awareness of risk and combining advanced technology with timeless investment strategies.

In summary, this hybrid model leverages the strengths of both AI and human intelligence, representing a responsible deployment of technology in investment management, especially when entrusted with safeguarding people's financial futures.

*Disclaimer: Investors are advised to read and understand the Master Prospectuses (MPs), the Supplemental Master Prospectus (SMP) (if any), Information Memorandums (IM) (if any), Schemes' Disclosure Documents (DD), Supplemental Disclosure Documents (SDD) (if any), Product Highlights Sheets (PHS) as well as consider the fees, charges and risk factors involved before investing. The MP, SMP (if any), IM (if any), DD, SDD (if any) and PHS have been registered and/or lodged with the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC), who takes no responsibility for its contents and related advertisement or marketing materials, does not indicate that the SC has recommended or endorsed the product/service. The advertisement has not been reviewed by the SC. Investors have the right to request for a copy of PHS and other relevant product disclosure documents which are available at our office, at any authorized distributors and our corporate website before making investment decisions. If you are in doubt when considering the investment or any of the information provided, you are advised to consult a professional adviser. A Fund's track record does not guarantee its future performance. Kenanga Investors Berhad is committed to prevent conflict of interest between its various businesses and activities and between its clients/director/shareholders and employees by having in place procedures and measures for identifying and properly managing any apparent, potential and perceived conflict of interest by making disclosures to clients, where appropriate. Kenanga Investors Berhad 199501024358 (353563-P) *

# Neter to align capital markets with protecting nature's assets

**Mobilizing capital markets to protect Earth's biosphere, Neter is focused on developing conventional and Shariah financial instruments, and creating nature-positive strategies that can shape the future of capital markets.**

With this new company launched on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Neter CEO Seth Elliott emphasized: "Economic and market forces continue to inflict enormous damage on the natural world - and adjacent communities - in the pursuit of financial gain.

"It's more than net-zero. There are a multitude of declining environmental and natural assets that could be preserved, protected and improved with greater capital markets engagement and support."

Mandated net-zero targets for 2030 and 2050, ESG obligations and other regulations require industries and businesses to demonstrate positive action with respect to mitigating environmental (climate) threats.

Beyond reporting on, and offsetting, carbon emissions there is an equally pressing imperative to protect Earth's biosphere from continuing degradation and potentially irrevocable damage.

Neter's strategy will leverage fiscal policies and regulatory frameworks and mandates to influence and drive adoption of new financial mechanisms for capital investment that have a direct, positive impact on the environment.

By expounding the value and benefits of nature as an investable asset, Neter aims to work with capital markets partners to unlock innovative financing solutions and create investment opportunities aimed at the collective financial markets community beyond 'green' investors.

XTCC, part of the Neter Group, has announced a number of recent initiatives that demonstrate the interrelationship between finance and nature. XTCC's listed investment products are part of Neter's product portfolio.

Outside of carbon reduction targets and emissions reporting, there is a growing imperative to mobilize global capital markets to more directly align with nature-positive funding and investment opportunities.

Neter aims to be at the forefront of this transformative movement and moment in capital market development, said Seth.

"Investing in the health of our planet is crucial for building a sustainable future for generations to come. Through recognising the intrinsic value of Earth's biosphere and integrating it into financial decision-making, nature finance can drive a new era of economic growth that is both inclusive and resilient."

From engaging wealth managers to institutional investors, Neter seeks to raise awareness and create investment opportunities that support the global transition to a nature-positive world. Neter' has roots in ancient Egyptian cultures and is synonymous with the word 'nature'. In Egyptian etymology, 'neter' or 'netjer' describes a power to generate



and maintain life and derives from the Ancient Egyptian 'neteru' - divine energies or forces of nature.

Neter also embraces the natural law of energy conservation - the principle that the total energy in a physical system such as the universe is finite (can't be increased or reduced), and rather than being consumed, simply changes form.

An example of this might be the water cycle - water evaporates, clouds form and rain comes back to earth in a cyclical transformation of energies.

Neter believes that nature-based assets, including carbon credits and other environmental initiatives, have the potential to become major asset classes within global capital markets, in the same way that real estate and infrastructure-linked assets evolved previously. A new, nature-backed asset class has the potential to generate significant financial returns while also benefiting nature and the environment.

Neter's leadership team brings extensive expertise in finance, economic strategy, technology innovation, and sustainable development, united by a commitment to harness capital markets for environmental preservation - with aims of:

- **Developing financial instruments and products with direct and measurable nature-positive alignment and benefits.**
- **Supporting financial market participants in the pursuit of dual returns, finance and nature.**

Neter's primary targets are the wealth management, independent financial adviser and asset management investor communities. These segments are essential to drive up 'buy side' demand for nature-based assets, and to accelerate their integration within mainstream investment portfolios. (F)



## Is Qatar’s Sukuk market turning the corner toward greater diversification?

*Qatar is a vignette of what a robust dollar Sukuk market would look like, but from a non-dollar vantage point, the space is still largely undeveloped. Optimism is running high that the Qatari riyal Sukuk market could be on the cusp of transformational change, but market participants tell VINEETA TAN that certain challenges remain, and the journey may still be a long one.*

### Shy corporates

In Qatar, two main types of issuers drive the Sukuk market: financial institutions and the government. Together they’ve been propping up the Sukuk sector, more than doubling issuance volume in H1 2024 (122%) to US\$500 million.

While Islamic structures account for only about 10% of its total debt capital market, the State has established itself as a formidable dollar Sukuk issuer, which has aided its debt capital market’s ascendancy to become the third largest in the GCC after Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

But the gaps are glaring. The riyal Sukuk market is nowhere as successful as its dollar counterpart. Corporates have stayed away from Sukuk, preferring to turn to banks to plug their funding needs.

For a while, it looked like Qatar’s Sukuk issuer base would remain undiversified and the riyal market shallow, until local conglomerate Estithmar Holding came to market

about six months ago with a Qatari riyal offering that experts believe has laid the foundation for others to follow (see Page 52 for a case study on the landmark transaction).

“It was a very promising transaction for the future of Islamic instruments in Qatar and we hope this will lead to many other issuances; but it is a gradual process – we have to be patient,” thinks Hadi El Kadi, a senior associate of deal advisory at Al Rayan Investment.

Estithmar’s QAR500 million (US\$137.36 million) Sukuk – which was so sought after that a subsequent tap issuance was made to meet demand, interestingly, mainly from retail investors – may be a good indicator of the strong appetite for Islamic investment opportunities, but the indications were plenty, even before this offering.

Half of the banks in Qatar are fully Islamic – a rarity in dual-banking jurisdictions where Islamic outfits are usually outnumbered – and about a third of total banking



*Hadi El Kadi*

## FEATURES

assets are Shariah compliant. This also means that the potential investor base for Sukuk – which has traditionally been non-corporate investors – is substantial and more often than not, would favor Sukuk over bonds, according to dealmakers.

### Promising pipeline

All it takes is one... and that one was Estithmar's Sukuk for several reasons. Firstly, individual investors were snapping up the paper – underscoring the immense demand for riyal Sukuk.

"Given the fact that this was the first issuance where retail investors were targeted, we have seen a great deal of interest from them and this is growing," confirms Tahir Hayat Pirzada, the general manager of group treasury and financial institutions of Masraf Al Rayan. "The market is now gearing for more issuances, whether it's from financial institutions or from the corporate sector."

Secondly, and rather significantly, it showed Qatari businesses that a Qatari riyal Sukuk can be listed internationally – on the London Stock Exchange specifically – a feat never achieved by any local corporate before, thereby widening the investor base even further.

But apart from this deal clearing the path and assuring Qatari companies that there are merits to raising riyal Sukuk, market conditions are also favorable. Falling interest rates are likely going to push investors to the more lucrative Sukuk market – whether it be in Qatari riyal or dollar.



Tahir Hayat Pirzada

million) Sukuk program to vary its funding sources. Telecommunications giant Ooredoo and Qatar Energy are also understood to be preparing their entry to the debt capital market this year.

"We have further issuances in the pipeline that have the momentum to carry us into summer," echoes Lee Irvine, a partner at Simmons & Simmons, who added: "We're starting to see now with this Sukuk, the broadening of that issuer base to beyond financial institutions and outside of government entities."

### Regulatory impetus needed

Having said that, hurdles remain. Mainly, the listing process is lengthy and documentation cumbersome and these have indeed deterred corporates from going to list in London.

"What would be helpful would be [for the regulator] to facilitate the listing on the Qatar Stock Exchange – that would give a platform for a lot of issuers to list one going forward, and it would be welcomed by a lot of marketplaces," believes Lee.

IFN understands that the Qatar Financial Markets Authority is working on ironing out the kinks.

"The regulator has been working on this and is near implementing a primary dealer framework for banks to be more active not only in primary issuance but also in the secondary market," shares Tahir.

A deeper, broader and generally more developed domestic debt capital market will benefit Qatari issuers with smaller balance sheets, saving them from more expensive issuance costs and more complex additional disclosure requirements as demanded by international offerings – hassles that may not be worthwhile considering that smaller firms tend to have smaller funding needs.

A more robust local market would also enable investors – domestic and regional or international – to have more investment options, particularly as the Qatari riyal is pegged to the US dollar. This would support investors in managing their assets and liabilities as they would avoid additional currency risk exposure.

Of course, according to Akber, the onus is nonetheless on the Islamic finance industry to continue to innovate to remain relevant and to continue "to find ways to give investors and customers the products and services they want and not take that for granted".

But at least, the groundwork has been set – it will be faster and potentially cheaper for Qatari businesses – medium-sized and larger ones – to tap the Qatari riyal market now.

"The hard work is already done, and we are going to reap the benefits but it's going to be done gradually," Tahir says realistically. "We're not going to see a flurry of issuances right away – it's a gradual process and we will continue to work on that." ☺



Akber Khan

“

**The fact that we've moved to a benchmark size of QAR350-500 million as opposed to US\$350-500 million, means that the [riyal] Sukuk or bond path makes financial sense for medium-sized companies**

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"The fact that we've moved to a benchmark size of QAR350-500 million as opposed to US\$350-500 million, means that the [riyal] Sukuk or bond path makes financial sense for medium-sized companies," opines Akber Khan, the acting CEO of Al Rayan Investment, who revealed to IFN that the firm is in talks with several corporates keen to raise domestic Sukuk.

"There's a lot of interest... we're trying to channel it toward the end result where people are actually going to market," Akber explains. "There's a lot of activity; I think we will be kept busy for many quarters to come."

The market has indeed signaled its interest: Gulf Warehousing Company, for example, recently greenlit a QAR2 billion (US\$549.45



Lee Irvine

# Estithmar clears the way for Qatari corporates to tap riyal market and latent retail demand with landmark Sukuk

Estithmar Holding’s debut Sukuk offering is one for the books as it heralded a new chapter in Qatar’s Sukuk market, opening the doors for a new asset class in a market driven by financial institutions and foreign currency issuances, experts behind the deal tell VINEETA TAN.

The QAR500 million (US\$137.36 million) Sukuk achieved several landmark milestones including the fact that it is Qatar’s first corporate Sukuk denominated in Qatari riyal; the first Qatari riyal debt instrument listed on the London Stock Exchange; and the first riyal Islamic offering opened to retail investors.

The uniqueness of the transaction, and stature of the issuer – a public-listed firm which became a household name for its active participation in preparing Qatar for the 2022 FIFA World Cup – made it incredibly attractive to both institutional and retail investors resulting in overwhelming demand.

“This was highlighted by the fact that after the first QAR500 million issuance, this was followed by a tap issuance to clear any excess demand that could not be met in the first transaction,” shares Hadi El Kadi, a senior associate in deal advisory at Al Rayan Investment, one of the arrangers of the deal.

The tap issuance was mainly driven by retail demand, which is a positive signal for the Qatari Sukuk market which has long been an institutional play.

“We’ve done well in terms of marketing Sukuk as a new product to retail investors in Qatar especially to those who are not familiar with this asset class, but this is just the beginning and we see a promising future for Sukuk going forward,” believes Tahir Hayat Pirzada, the general manager of group treasury and financial institutions of Masraf Al Rayan.

The Qatari conglomerate – which boasts 66 companies across healthcare, services, ventures and specialized contracting – had initially explored the idea of raising an equity round rather than debt to fund its expansion plans but ultimately chose the Sukuk route due to a variety of factors including prevailing market conditions and an opportunity to diversify its funding sources.

“They wanted to remain within the Islamic universe and within the investor base in Qatar; there is a fair amount of sensitivity,” Akber Khan, the acting CEO of Al Rayan Investment, explains. “If you have a Sukuk, you have access to a far larger market than if you have a bond.” But being the first is not easy.

One of the main challenges in bringing this deal to market was that there was no clear and direct pathway to list a Qatari riyal paper internationally as Clearstream did not accept the local currency as a settlement currency.

Estithmar Holding’s debut Sukuk

QAR500 million under QAR3.4 billion program



23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

<b>Issuer</b>	Estithmar Sukuk
<b>Obligor</b>	Estithmar Holding
<b>Tenor</b>	Three years
<b>Profit rate</b>	8.75%
<b>Bookrunners and arrangers</b>	Al Rayan Investment and The First Investor
<b>Bookrunner</b>	Lesha Bank
<b>Legal counsel for the issuer</b>	White & Case
<b>Legal counsel for the arrangers</b>	Simmons & Simmons Middle East
<b>Ratings</b>	‘qaBBB (stable)’ – Capital Intelligence
<b>Listing</b>	London Stock Exchange’s International Securities Market

“This was very unusual because usually Clearstream and Euroclear work together to seamlessly settle currencies – it was just an anomaly that Euroclear would clear the currency and Clearstream wouldn’t,” explains Lee Irvine, a partner at Simmons & Simmons, who advised the deal’s arrangers. Nonetheless, after multiple discussions, Clearstream came to an agreement, which allowed the Sukuk to be listed on the London Stock Exchange’s International Securities Market and marked the first time the Qatari riyal has been cleared through Eurosystems.

While it is still not as straightforward as it should be – the bridge between Euroclear and Clearstream is not yet operational – there are bespoke settlement processes for the Qatari riyal as the currency of choice and this opens new pathways for Qatari corporates to issue in their home currencies and in the global market.

“At Al Rayan Investment, we’re already working with other issuers who will be issuing in Qatari riyal,” Akber reveals. “The reason why we were so excited about this issuance is because it opened the door and paved the road for what we think will be a very exciting new sub asset class. We’re excited about the demand from issuers as well as hopefully investors.”

To listen to the full roundtable discussion on the landmark Estithmar debut Sukuk, log on to [IFN Podcast](#). 





## IFN LATEST PODCAST

### Estithmar Holding's debut Sukuk - A Qatari first

Akber Khan, Acting CEO, Al Rayan Investment  
Tahir Hayat Pirzada, GM, Group Treasury and Financial Institutions, Masraf Al Rayan  
Hadi El Kadi, Senior Associate, Deal Advisory, Al Rayan Investment  
Lee Irvine, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

# Eq8 FTSE Malaysia Enhanced Dividend Waqf ETF

By Francis Nantha

**Making its Bursa Malaysia debut on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024, the latest exchange-traded fund (ETF) offering from Eq8 Capital aims to provide Shariah compliant returns while contributing to a charitable cause, explained Eq8 Capital Executive Director and Acting CEO Syed Umar Abdul Rahman Alhadad.**

“The ETF appeals because it is an instrument to generate Waqf assets that comes from its efficiency, transparency and regulatory oversight. Being on Bursa Malaysia means it is highly regulated, just as the rigor a listed company is required to adhere to. The reporting of the Waqf asset utilization will be issued annually to unitholders.”

As an open-ended passively-managed Islamic equity ETF with an initial size of up to one billion units, the Eq8 FTSE Malaysia Enhanced Dividend Waqf ETF is benchmarked against the FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Shariah Factor Enhanced Target Dividend Index. Following the initial Shariah certification, Amanie Advisors will conduct quarterly reviews for compliance.

Fund manager Eq8 Capital, formerly known as i-VCAP Management, may use techniques like indexing – via full or partial replication strategy – to achieve investment objectives. Up to 90% of the fund will be invested in index-designated securities while a 10% cap applies on its assets invested in Islamic money market instruments and/or deposits placed with Islamic financial institutions.

Primary subscription to this fund, denominated in ringgit, is made in multiples of 100 units with participating dealers like Kenanga Investment Bank or as secondary purchases of 100-unit trading lots at Bursa Malaysia.

Syed Umar told IFN Investor this ETF trading on Bursa Malaysia makes it accessible at low entry levels, apart from promoting liquidity and

Eq8 FTSE Malaysia Enhanced Dividend Waqf ETF	
Fund manager	Eq8 Capital
Launch date	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
Asset class	Shariah compliant equities, money market instruments and deposits
Base currency	RM
Initial investment	In multiples of RM100 (US\$22.47) for 100 units, institutional investors may opt for ‘Creation Unit Block’ process involving multiples of 500,000 units
Investment objective	To provide Shariah compliant returns while contributing to a charitable cause
Benchmark	FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Shariah Factor Enhanced Target Dividend Index
Risk profile	High risk
Distribution	Annually after 30 <sup>th</sup> June, with 50% in cash directly to unitholders and 50% to the designated Waqf entity

Source: Eq8 Capital



flexibility of holdings. Larger transactions for institutional investors would be via a ‘Creation Unit Block’ process involving multiples of 500,000 units, including redemptions.

Islamic cash financing for meeting redemption requests and for short-term bridging requirements should be for no more than one month and the value is capped at 10% of the fund’s assets. Eq8 Capital can also charge the ‘Establishment Cost’ of no more than RM500,000 over two years.

Ahead of the ETF listing, the top 10 constituents of the benchmark and their respective weightings were:

No	Company Name	Weightings (%)
1	Inari Amertron	10
2	Time Dotcom	10
3	Bursa Malaysia	8.52
4	Gamuda	8.4
5	Kossan Rubber	6.35
6	VS Industry	5.5
7	Axis Real Estate Investment Trust	5.44
8	Bank Islam Malaysia	4.46
9	Bermaz Auto	4.42
10	United Plantations	4.24

Source: FTSE Russell, as at the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Annual distributions are made after the financial year closing on the 30<sup>th</sup> June, with a 50:50 split between the unitholders and the designated charity – which is the nation’s Islamic endowment entity Yayasan Waqaf Malaysia, operating under the auspices of the Prime Minister’s Department.

The Waqf proceeds will be channeled into projects related to education, healthcare, environment, economic empowerment and any other sector deemed beneficial to the community.

\*Disclaimer: The opinions and viewpoints expressed in the Fund Profile do not constitute as a recommendation for any funds highlighted. The information presented is not investment advice and should not be treated as such. (Ⓜ)

# Ishraq Endowment Investment Fund

By Francis Nantha

**Oman’s Ishraq Endowment Investment Fund is the IFN Social Impact Deal of the Year 2024 Award winner, providing individuals, companies and endowment establishments with “opportunities to contribute to charitable fields and community projects consistent with Islamic values”.**

Its subscription options cater for target three distinct investor classes – permanent endowments, temporary endowments and investment-focused subscriptions – explained the fund’s advocate Thamer Al Shahry, partner at Saeed Al Shahri & Partners Law Firm & Legal Consultants.

By introducing such innovative and diverse categories for unit subscription, this fund initiative sets a new precedent by providing investors with enhanced flexibility and customized options to align with their unique financial objectives.

The fund’s establishment required significant legal effort in navigating complex regulatory frameworks. The process involved obtaining exemptions from the Financial Services Authority and required innovative approaches to balance subscriber flexibility with strict adherence to Shariah principles, Omani endowment regulations and Omani securities and capital market regulations.

The Omani Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs and the Sultan Qaboos Higher Centre for Culture and Science and Bank Nizwa, in cooperation with Oman National Investments Development Company (Tanmia), launched the OMR10 million (US\$25.97 million) fund on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Initial subscriptions opened on the 12th December 2024 through to the 30th January 2025, with a minimum of 5,000 units for institutional applicants and 500 units for individuals, including foreign nationals. Subsequent subscriptions are in multiples of 100 units, with no maximum set. The fund is required to have at least 1.5 million units issued to remain operational.

With permanent endower subscribers, “returns from these endowments are allocated to specific causes,” Thamer shared with IFN Investor.

“All allocations are supervised by Oman’s Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs to ensure proper management and adherence to Endowment Law and Islamic Shariah principles.”

Temporary endowment subscribers can choose periods of one, three or five years – renewable for similar periods and in accordance with the controls specified in Oman’s Endowments Law. The subscriber may specify disbursements to mosques, the needy, orphans or general charitable causes.

“This model provides a practical approach for contributors who wish to support a cause for a defined period while retaining the flexibility to redirect their resources after the lapse of the defined endowment period,” Thamer explained.

Ishraq Endowment Investment Fund	
Fund manager	Oman National Investments Development Company (Tanmia)
Launch date	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
Asset class	Mixed assets
Base currency	OMR
Initial investment	OMR5,000 (US\$12,987) for institutions, OMR500 (US\$1,299) for individuals, subsequent multiples of OMR100 (US\$259.75)
Investment objective	To achieve long-term growth in its capital base, with regular investment income returns for Waqf purposes.
Risk profile	High risk
Distribution	Annually in cash

Source: Bank Nizwa

The third subscriber category would be the typical investor seeking financial returns from a share of the fund’s investments, without endowing any units.

It is not possible to switch categories once subscribed. Unitholders are locked in for at least a year and would need to redeem the investments – before using the cash to subscribe to a different category.

Temporary endowments subscribers can redeem units only after their chosen periods are completed, before switching to another category. Permanent endowments cannot be redeemed. However, unitholders may transfer, assign or mortgage their units.

Fund manager Tanmia can invest at least 80% of assets in listed securities, special purpose companies and Islamic fixed income instruments issued in GCC countries – including short-term investments to ensure availability of liquidity.

Up to 20% can be held in shares of unlisted companies in the GCC countries or placed in special purpose companies or investment funds that opens the fund’s access to other Shariah compliant opportunities that are not easily available.

No more than 60% of its assets can be invested in any one country and a 50% cap applied for holdings in any single economic sector. The fund aims to achieve long-term growth in its capital base, with regular investment income returns for Waqf purposes.

Distribution for this open-ended public endowment and investment fund, listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange, is conducted annually. There is no tax on receipt of the fund’s unit profits in Oman, nor on the proceeds of redeeming units – but the fund is taxed on revenues in jurisdictions outside Oman.

*\*Disclaimer: The opinions and viewpoints expressed in the Fund Profile do not constitute as a recommendation for any funds highlighted. The information presented is not investment advice and should not be treated as such. ☺*

# Halogen Shariah Crypto Titans Fund

By Kavitha Manimaharan

**The Halogen Shariah Crypto Titans Fund is aimed at investors seeking exposure to cryptocurrencies while adhering to Shariah principles.**

Launched by Malaysia digital asset firm Halogen Capital, this fund’s index is designed to track the performance of a basket of leading Shariah compliant cryptocurrencies based on market capitalization.

The fund aims to outperform Bitcoin by actively managing a diverse portfolio of large-cap digital assets. It selects tokens based on market cap and adjusts their sizes based on volatility to maintain a balance between Bitcoin and Ethereum which can mitigate risks associated with individual cryptocurrencies while potentially enhancing returns through exposure to multiple assets.

The fund holds 8-12 tokens at a time, excluding underperforming tokens outside the top 20 by market capitalization. By rebalancing the portfolio and taking profits when needed, the fund aims to maximize returns compared to just holding Bitcoin.

This strategy allows investors to benefit from exposure to different digital assets that may offer higher returns than Bitcoin, aiming to outperform Bitcoin’s performance over time.

The minimum initial investment amount for the Halogen Shariah Crypto Titans Fund is RM10,000 (US\$2,121.4) while the minimum additional investment amount is RM1,000 (US\$212.14). The fund is designed for sophisticated investors with an extremely high-risk tolerance and a long-term investment horizon.

To achieve its goal, the fund will invest between 70% and 100% of its net asset value in at least four Shariah compliant digital assets of Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin and Stellar Lumens - which are traded on licensed exchanges and serve various purposes such as payments, privacy coins, decentralized finance and other related functions.

The balance in the fund will be invested in Islamic liquid assets such as Sukuk, Islamic money market instruments and/or Islamic deposits for liquidity purposes and to safeguard the value of investments during periods of high volatility.

The fund allocates 70% of its Ethereum holdings to proof-of-stake staking. This means that cryptocurrency holders lock up a set amount of their coins as collateral to validate transactions on the blockchain. They earn extra coins as rewards for helping secure the network, boosting Ethereum’s security and generating additional income from staking rewards.

*\*Disclaimer: The opinions and viewpoints expressed in the Fund Profile do not constitute as a recommendation for any funds highlighted. The information presented is not investment advice and should not be treated as such. (2)*



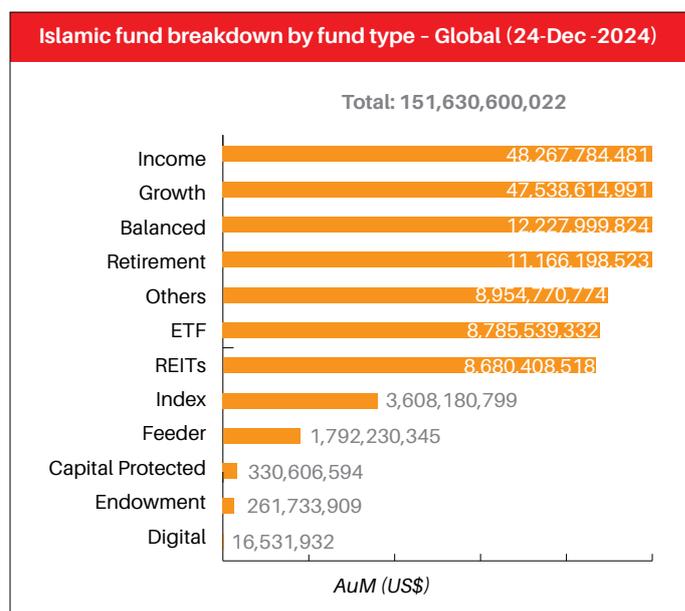
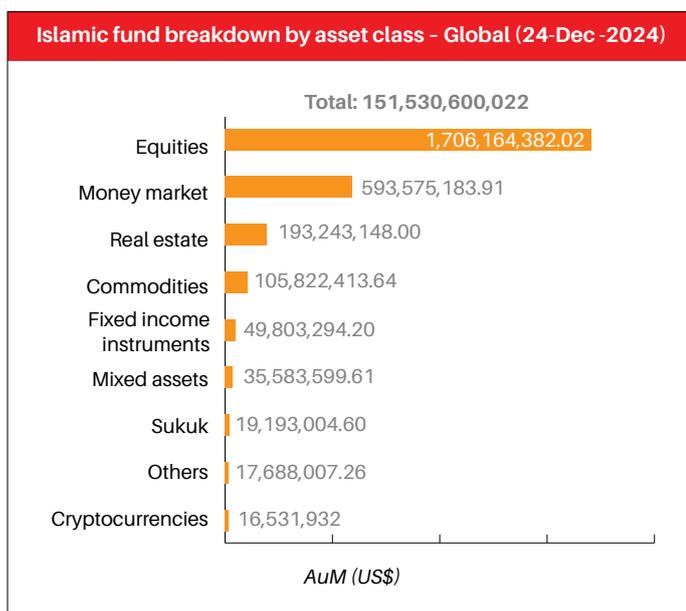
Halogen Shariah Crypto Titans Fund	
Fund manager	Halogen Capital
Launch date	20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Investment objective	The fund aims to provide long-term capital appreciation by investing substantially in Shariah compliant digital assets traded on the Digital Asset Exchange (DAX) registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and/or other trading platforms as may be approved by the Shariah Advisory Council of the SC or foreign DAX approved by the Shariah adviser. The fund is not expected to make distributions. Note: Any material change to the investment objective would require unitholders’ approval.
Fund category	Digital assets
Investors’ profile	The fund is suitable for a sophisticated investor who has an extremely high-risk tolerance, a long-term investment horizon and seeks long-term capital appreciation from exposure to Shariah compliant digital assets.
Base currency	Malaysian ringgit
Initial offer price	RM1,000 (US\$212.14)
Minimum initial investment	RM10,000 (US\$2,121.4)
Financial year end	31 <sup>st</sup> December Note: The launch date of the fund is the date on which the sale of units of the fund may first be made.

# **IFN Investor Data**

Top 20 Islamic funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	PMB Shariah Premier Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	40.31
2	PMB Shariah Dividend Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	38.3
3	Principal Islamic Small Cap Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	37.61
4	Sanabel Islamic Fund	CI Capital Asset Management	Equities	37.47
5	Principal Islamic Malaysia Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	36.97
6	AHAM Aiiman Quantum Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Equities	35.3
7	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC EUR	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	35.12
8	PMB Shariah Small-Cap Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	34.96
9	PMB Shariah Tactical Fund	PMB Investment	Mixed assets	34.86
10	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class AC EUR	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	34.63
11	Principal Islamic Enhanced Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	34.25
12	Chimera S&P US Shariah Growth ETF - Accumulating	Lunate Capital	Equities	33.65
13	Albilad MSCI US Tech ETF	Albilad Capital	Equities	33.5
14	Global Iman Fund Series A	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	33.13
15	Osool & Bakheet Parallel Market Trading Equity Fund	Osool and Bakheet Investment Company	Equities	33.08
16	SP Funds S&P Global Technology ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	33.05
17	Global Iman Fund Series F	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	33.01
18	Eq8 Dow Jones U.S. Titans 50 ETF	Eq8 Capital	Equities	32.86
19	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - USD Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	32.51
20	Al Baraka Fund (EGP)	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Mixed assets	32.3

Top 20 Islamic funds globally by AuM (24-Dec -2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ billion)
1	HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund - Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class A2CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	5.56
2	AHAM Aiiman Money Market Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Money market	3.16
3	SNB Capital Al Sunbullah SAR	SNB Capital	Money market	3.13
4	Amana Growth Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	2.91
5	Turkiye Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Commodities	2.81
6	Amana Growth Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	2.69
7	SNB Capital Saudi Riyal Trade Fund	SNB Capital	Money market	2.45
8	Al Rajhi Awaheed Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Money market	2.26
9	Agesa Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Commodities	1.95
10	Al Rajhi Growth Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Mixed assets	1.76
11	Riyad SAR Diversified Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	Fixed income instruments	1.51
12	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Money market	1.48
13	Watani KD Money Market Fund II	NBK Wealth	Money market	1.37
14	Alpha Murabaha Fund	Alpha Capital	Money market	1.28
15	Garanti Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Commodities	1.16
16	Albilad CSOP MSCI Hong Kong China Equity ETF	Albilad Capital	Equities	1.12
17	Anadolu Life Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Commodities	1.11
18	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Money Market Participation (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Others	1.09
19	SP Funds S&P 500 Sharia Industry Exclusions ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	1.08
20	Amana Income Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	1.07

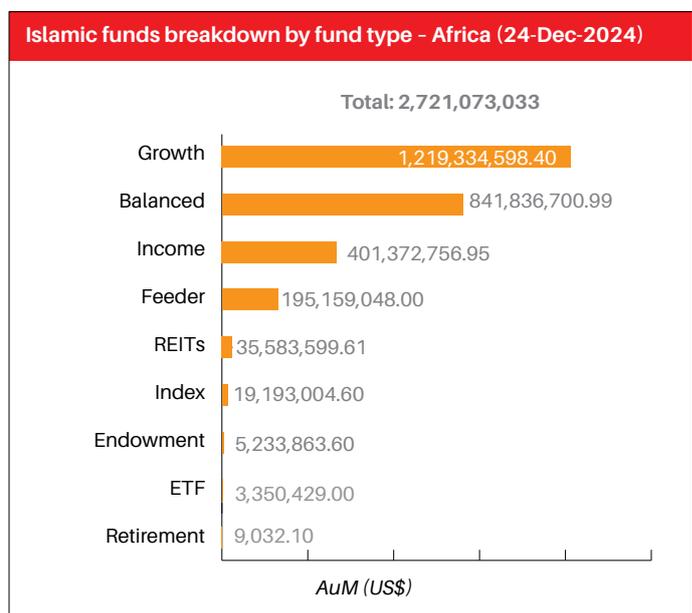
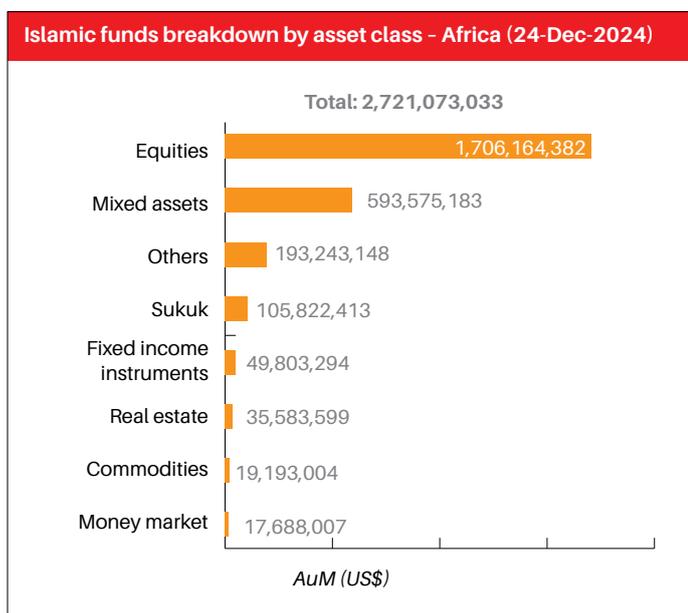
Top 20 Islamic fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ billion)
1	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	10.53
2	Public Mutual	Malaysia	10.09
3	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	9.96
4	HSBC Asset Management	United Kingdom	8.63
5	Saturna Capital	United States	7.92
6	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	6.7
7	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	4.88
8	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	4.27
9	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	4.01
10	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	3.93
11	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	3.3
12	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	2.87
13	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	2.74
14	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	2.54
15	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	2.41
16	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	2.4
17	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	2.27
18	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	2.17
19	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	2.01
20	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	1.7



Top 20 Islamic funds in Africa by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	Sanabel Islamic Fund	CI Capital Asset Management	Equities	37.47
2	Al Baraka Fund (EGP)	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Mixed assets	32.3
3	Stanbic IBTC Imaan Fund	Stanbic IBTC Asset Management	Equities	32.16
4	ARM Ethical Fund	ARM Investment	Mixed assets	29.33
5	Al Barakat Bank Islamic Money Market Fund	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Money market	28.7
6	Al Baraka Bank Egypt Money Market Mutual Fund With Accumulative Daily Return (Al Barakat Certificate)	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Money market	21.56
7	Education for Life Fund	NI Capital	Mixed assets	19.79
8	Sentio Sanlam Collective Investment Hikma Shariah General Equity Fund	Sentio Capital Management	Equities	18.44
9	Faisal Islamic Fund	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Equities	15.85
10	FSDH Halal Fund	FSDH Asset Management	Sukuk	15.57
11	Old Mutual Global Islamic Equity Portfolio	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Equities	14.9
12	Sentio Sanlam Collective Investments Hikma Shariah Balanced Fund	Sentio Capital Management	Mixed assets	14.81
13	Old Mutual Global Islamic Equity Feeder Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Others	14.3
14	Visio BCI Shariah Equity Fund	Visio Fund Management	Equities	13.82
15	Islamic High Yield Fund	Camissa Asset Management	Mixed assets	12.2
16	Element Islamic Global Equity SCI Fund	Element Investment Managers	Equities	12.1
17	27four Best View Shariah Global Equity Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	Equities	9.35
18	Stanlib Multi-Manager Shariah Balanced Fund of Funds	Stanlib Multi-Manager	Equities	9.32
19	27four Shariah Wealth Builder Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	Equities	9.09
20	Old Mutual Albaraka Equity Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Equities	8.9

Top 20 Islamic funds in Africa by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Oasis Crescent Equity Fund	Oasis Crescent	Equities	290.12
2	Old Mutual Albaraka Balanced Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Equities	290.12
3	Islamic Balanced Fund	Camissa Asset Management	Mixed assets	238.12
4	Old Mutual Global Islamic Equity Portfolio	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Equities	221.3
5	Oasis Crescent Income Fund	Oasis Crescent	Mixed assets	175.17
6	Old Mutual Albaraka Equity Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Equities	136.85
7	Islamic Equity Fund	Camissa Asset Management	Equities	131.92
8	Stanlib Multi-Manager Shariah Balanced Fund of Funds	Stanlib Multi-Manager	Equities	128.09
9	Islamic Global Equity Fund	Camissa Asset Management	Equities	125.23
10	Old Mutual Albaraka Income Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	Sukuk	98.53
11	Oasis Crescent International Feeder Fund	Oasis Crescent	Others	93.06
12	27four Shariah Multi-Managed Balanced Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	Mixed assets	89.7
13	Oasis Crescent Balanced Progressive Fund Of Funds	Oasis Crescent	Equities	65.69
14	Oasis Crescent Retirement Annuity Fund (High Equity)	Oasis Crescent	Equities	65.69
15	Islamic Global Equity Feeder Fund	Camissa Asset Management	Others	59.67
16	27four Shariah Active Equity Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	Equities	42.98
17	27four Shariah Wealth Builder Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	Equities	36.79
18	Nigeria Real Estate Investment Trust	Chapel Hill Denham Management	Real estate	35.58
19	Oasis Crescent Balanced Stable Fund Of Funds	Oasis Crescent	Mixed assets	29.96
20	27four Shariah Balanced Fund of Funds	27 Four Investment Managers	Equities	28.91

Top 20 Islamic fund managers in Africa by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Oasis Crescent	South Africa	807.56
2	Old Mutual Unit Trust	South Africa	760.43
3	Camissa Asset Management	South Africa	564.08
4	27 Four Investment Managers	South Africa	234.68
5	Stanlib Multi-Manager	South Africa	128.09
6	Sentio Capital Management	South Africa	40.26
7	Chapel Hill Denham Management	Nigeria	35.58
8	Azimut Egypt Asset Management	Egypt	25.52
9	Visio Fund Management	South Africa	24.86
10	Element Investment Managers	South Africa	24.76
11	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Egypt	17.93
12	Lion Global Investors	Nigeria	16.61
13	NI Capital	Egypt	8.97
14	FNB Multi Management	South Africa	7
15	FBN Quest Asset Management	Nigeria	5.26
16	Stanbic IBTC Asset Management	Nigeria	4.69
17	Satrix	South Africa	4.6
18	Lotus Capital	Nigeria	3.9
19	United Capital Asset Management	Nigeria	2.56
20	ARM Investment	Nigeria	1.14

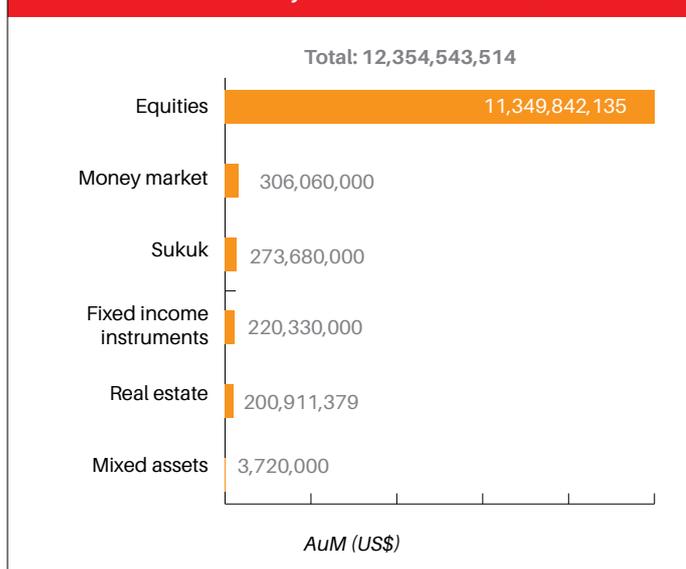


Top 20 Islamic funds in Americas by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	Global Iman Fund Series A	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	33.13
2	SP Funds S&P Global Technology ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	33.05
3	Global Iman Fund Series F	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	33.01
4	Mackenzie FuturePath Shariah Global Equity Fund	Mackenzie Investments	Equities	31.2
5	Sands Capital Global Shariah A US Dollar Accumulating Class	Sands Capital	Equities	21
6	Iman Fund	Allied Asset Advisors	Equities	20.6
7	Invesco Dow Jones Islamic Global Developed Markets UCITS ETF Acc	Invesco Capital Management	Equities	18.16
8	Wahed FTSE USA Shariah ETF	Wahed Invest	Equities	16.6
9	Amana Growth Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	16.02
10	Amana Growth Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	15.75
11	Amana Income Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	13.16
12	Amana Income Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	12.88
13	Wealthsimple Shariah World Equity Index ETF	Wealthsimple	Equities	12.52
14	SP Funds S&P 500 Sharia Industry Exclusions ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	9.51
15	SP Funds S&P World ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	8.92
16	Amana Developing World Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	7.22
17	Amana Developing World Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	6.93
18	Manzil Mortgage Investment Fund	Manzil	Real estate	5.78
19	Wahed Dow Jones Islamic World ETF	Wahed Invest	Equities	4.7
20	Azzad Wise Capital Fund	Azzad Asset Management	Money market	4.52

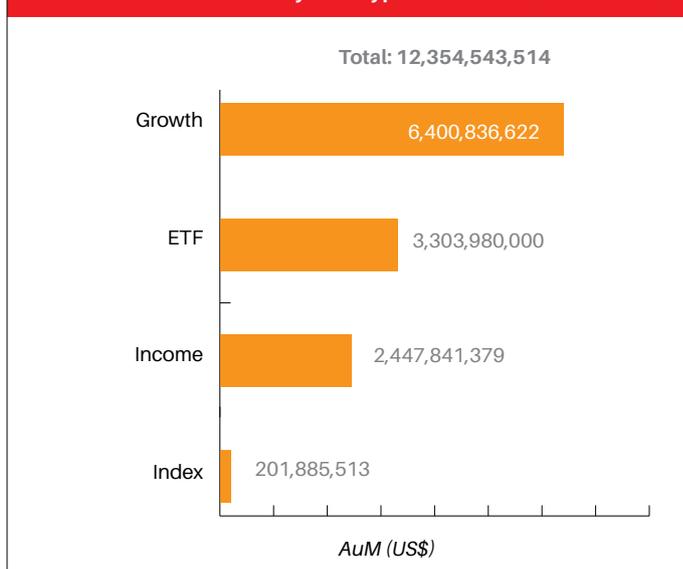
Top 20 Islamic funds in Americas by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Amana Growth Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	2,910
2	Amana Growth Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	2,690
3	SP Funds S&P 500 Sharia Industry Exclusions ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	1,080
4	Amana Income Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	1,070
5	Invesco Dow Jones Islamic Global Developed Markets UCITS ETF Acc	Invesco Capital Management	Equities	876.56
6	Amana Income Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	838.05
7	Wahed FTSE USA Shariah ETF	Wahed Invest	Equities	575
8	Azzad Wise Capital Fund	Azzad Asset Management	Money market	306.06
9	Global Iman Fund Series F	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	210
10	Global Iman Fund Series A	Global Growth Assets Inc	Equities	204
11	Wealthsimple Shariah World Equity Index ETF	Wealthsimple	Equities	201.89
12	Iman Fund	Allied Asset Advisors	Equities	199.8
13	Amana Participation Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Fixed income instruments	191.17
14	Azzad Ethical Fund	Azzad Asset Management	Equities	143.4
15	Wahed Dow Jones Islamic World ETF	Wahed Invest	Equities	117
16	Amana Developing World Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	96.64
17	Manzil Mortgage Investment Fund	Manzil	Real estate	45.78
18	Amana Developing World Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Equities	38.35
19	Amana Participation Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	Fixed income instruments	29.16
20	SP Funds S&P Global Technology ETF	ShariaPortfolio	Equities	28.61

Top 20 Islamic fund managers in Americas by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Saturna Capital	United States	7,920.65
2	ShariaPortfolio	United States	1,564.76
3	Invesco Capital Management	United States	876.56
4	Wahed Invest	United States	692
5	Azzad Asset Management	United States	449.46
6	Global Growth Assets Inc	Canada	414
7	Wealthsimple	Canada	201.89
8	Allied Asset Advisors	United States	199.8
9	Manzil	Canada	45.78
10	Mackenzie Investments	Canada	24.09
11	Sands Capital	United States	16.6
12	OneVest Management Inc	Canada	6.24

Islamic funds breakdown by asset class - Americas (24-Dec-2024)



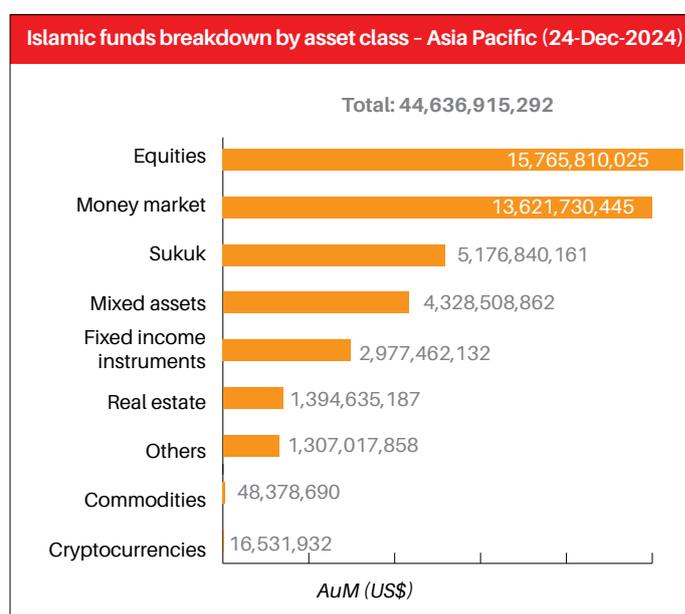
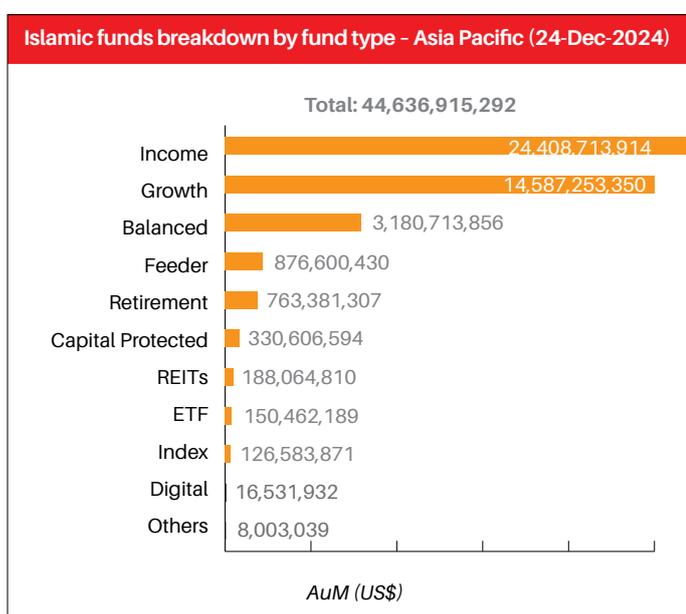
Islamic funds breakdown by fund type - Americas (24-Dec-2024)



Top 20 Islamic funds in Asia Pacific by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	PMB Shariah Premier Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	40.31
2	PMB Shariah Dividend Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	38.3
3	Principal Islamic Small Cap Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	37.61
4	Principal Islamic Malaysia Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	36.97
5	AHAM Aiman Quantum Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Equities	35.3
6	PMB Shariah Small-Cap Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	34.96
7	PMB Shariah Tactical Fund	PMB Investment	Mixed assets	34.86
8	Principal Islamic Enhanced Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	34.25
9	Eq8 Dow Jones U.S. Titans 50 ETF	Eq8 Capital	Equities	32.86
10	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - USD Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	32.51
11	Manulife Investment - HW Shariah Flexi Fund	Manulife Investment Management	Mixed assets	32.15
12	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - RMB Hedged Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	30.69
13	Principal DALI Equity Growth Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	30.44
14	PMB An-Nur Waqf Income Fund	PMB Investment	Mixed assets	29.75
15	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - GBP Hedged Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	29.71
16	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - MYR Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	29
17	PMB Shariah Growth Fund	PMB Investment	Equities	28.89
18	Public e-Islamic Flexi Allocation Fund	Public Mutual	Mixed assets	28.79
19	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - SGD Hedged Class	TA Investment Management	Equities	28.76
20	Makmur myWakaf Fund - AUD Class	BIMB Investment Management	Equities	28.26

Top 20 Islamic funds in Asia Pacific by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ million)
1	AHAM Aiman Money Market Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Money market	3,163.47
2	Amanah Hartanah Bumiputera	Pelaburan Hartanah	Real estate	1127.5
3	Public Ittikal Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	999.7
4	Meezan Sovereign Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Money market	962.29
5	Public Ittikal Sequel Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	921.47
6	Public Asia Ittikal Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	900.19
7	Principal Islamic Deposit Fund - Class AI	Principal Asset Management	Money market	882.59
8	Aiiman Income Extra Fund	AIIMAN Asset Management	Fixed income instruments	851.26
9	Public Islamic Dividend Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	844.8
10	RHB Islamic Cash Management Fund	RHB Asset Management	Money market	817.08
11	Takafulink Dana Ekuiti	Prudential BSN Takaful	Mixed assets	662.88
12	Principal Islamic Asia Pacific Dynamic Equity Fund	Principal Asset Management	Equities	649.61
13	Public Islamic Asia Tactical Allocation Fund	Public Mutual	Mixed assets	548.35
14	Maybank Retail Money Market-I Fund	Maybank Asset Management	Money market	469.75
15	AHAM Aiman ESG Income Plus Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Sukuk	447.11
16	Principal Islamic Institutional Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	Sukuk	424.01
17	Public Islamic Asia Leaders Equity Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	392.56
18	BOSWM Islamic Deposit Fund	BOS Wealth Management	Money market	389.6
19	Tata Ethical Fund	Tata Asset Management	Equities	387.46
20	Public Islamic Equity Fund	Public Mutual	Equities	385.73

Top 20 Islamic fund managers in Asia Pacific by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Public Mutual	Malaysia	10,093.38
2	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	4,861.45
3	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	4,272.43
4	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	2,395.02
5	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	2,136.39
6	RHB Asset Management	Malaysia	1,135.68
7	Pelaburan Hartanah	Malaysia	1,127.5
8	Prudential BSN Takaful	Malaysia	1,018.45
9	AIIMAN Asset Management	Malaysia	928.28
10	Kenanga Investors	Malaysia	911.74
11	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	874.48
12	Eastspring Investments	Malaysia	784.16
13	AIA Public Takaful	Malaysia	722.87
14	Manulife Investment Management	Malaysia	716.64
15	UBL Funds	Pakistan	550
16	MCB Funds	Pakistan	522.51
17	Alfalah Asset Management	Pakistan	522.21
18	UOB Asset Management	Malaysia	484.88
19	Sucorinvest Asset Management	Indonesia	476.54
20	Amlslamic Funds Management	Malaysia	467.82



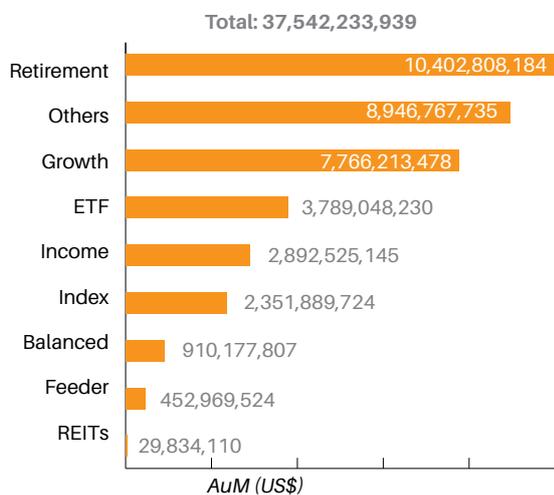
Top 15 Islamic funds in Europe by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC EUR	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	35.12
2	RAC Staff Pension Scheme HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index	Aviva	Equities	30.91
3	Aviva SPS HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index	Aviva	Equities	30.9
4	HSBC Amanah Global Equity Index USD	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	30.22
5	Aviva Pension HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index IE/XE	Aviva	Equities	30.1
6	HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund - Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class A2CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	29.73
7	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Pn	Phoenix Wealth	Equities	29.22
8	The Royal Mint Responsibly Sourced Physical Gold ETC	HANetf Management	Commodities	26.45
9	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class EC	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	24.52
10	Franklin Shariah Technology Fund	Franklin Templeton	Equities	24.2
11	HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund - Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class A4CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	23.96
12	Foord-Hassen Shariah Equity Fund C2 USD Acc	Foord-Hassen	Equities	22.99
13	BNP Paribas Islamic Equity Optimiser Fund - USD	BNP Paribas Asset Management	Equities	21.33
14	Forward Lucy Global Islamic Equity Strategy DI USD	Forward You	Equities	15.64
15	HSBC Global Funds ICAV - Shariah Multi Asset Fund - BC	HSBC Asset Management	Mixed assets	14.94

Top 15 Islamic funds in Europe by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ million)
1	HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund - Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class A2CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	5,564.07
2	Turkiye Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Commodities	2814.8
3	Agesa Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Commodities	1,943.92
4	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Money market	1,481.18
5	Garanti Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Commodities	1,153.67
6	Anadolu Life Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Commodities	1,107.89
7	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Money Market Participation (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Others	1,092.38
8	Ziraat Portfolio Gold Participation Exchange Investment Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Commodities	1,052.38
9	The Royal Mint Responsibly Sourced Physical Gold ETC	HANetf Management	Commodities	953.74
10	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Seventh Participation Free (Foreign Exchange) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Others	818.06
11	Albaraka Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Albaraka Portfoy	Money market	790.41
12	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC	HSBC Asset Management	Equities	780.3
13	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Fifth Participation Free (Foreign Exchange) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Others	747.78
14	Franklin Global Sukuk Fund-A	Franklin Templeton	Sukuk	746.68
15	Ziraat Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Commodities	661.26

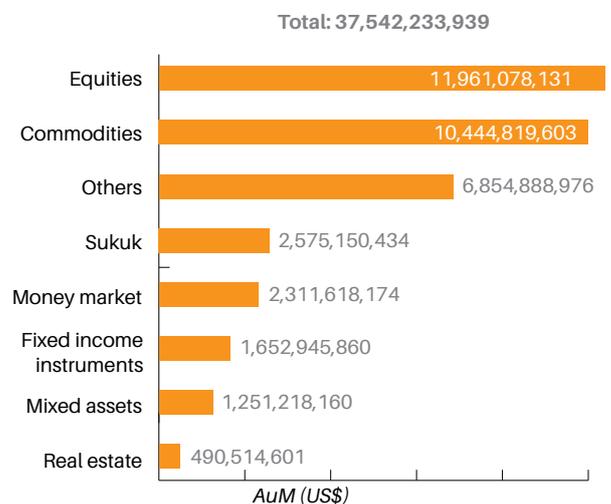
Top 20 Islamic fund managers in Europe by AuM (24-Dec-2024)

Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	HSBC Asset Management	United Kingdom	8,632.28
2	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	6,698.84
3	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	4,006.06
4	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	2,866.23
5	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	2,405.86
6	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	2,014.68
7	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	1,522.56
8	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Turkiye	1,266.02
9	iShares (BlackRock)	United Kingdom	1,164.97
10	Franklin Templeton	Luxembourg	1,002.39
11	HANetf Management	United Kingdom	968
12	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	796.7
13	Azimet Investment	Luxembourg	725
14	Aegon Asset Management	United Kingdom	376.1
15	Aviva	United Kingdom	260.18
16	State Street Global Advisors	United Kingdom	243.34
17	Comgest	France	235.47
18	QNB Finans Portfoy	Turkiye	221.49
19	The People Pension	United Kingdom	199.22
20	Hargreaves Lansdown	United Kingdom	169.37

Islamic funds breakdown by fund type - Europe (24-Dec-2024)



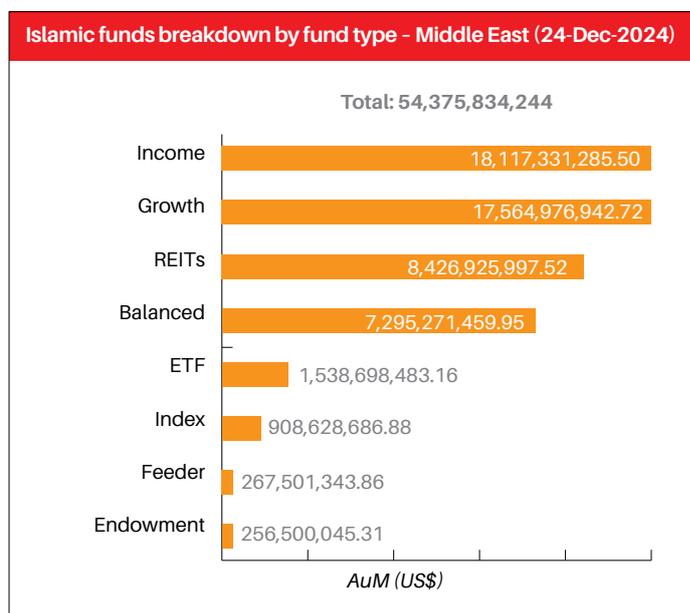
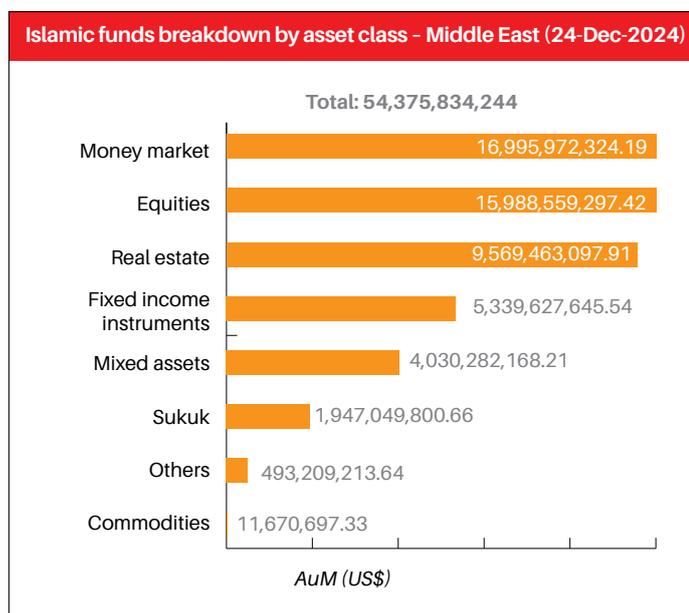
Islamic funds breakdown by asset class - Europe (24-Dec-2024)



Top 20 Islamic funds in Middle East by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	Returns (%)
1	Chimera S&P US Shariah Growth ETF - Accumulating	Lunate Capital	Equities	33.65
2	Albilad MSCI US Tech ETF	Albilad Capital	Equities	33.5
3	Osool & Bakheet Parallel Market Trading Equity Fund	Osool and Bakheet Investment Company	Equities	33.08
4	Riyad Emaar Fund	Riyad Capital	Equities	32.12
5	GIB Opportunistic MENA ESG Equity Fund - Class C	GIB Capital	Equities	29.08
6	Chimera S&P Turkey Shariah ETF - Income	Lunate Capital	Equities	27.91
7	Miyar Saudi Equity Fund	Miyar Capital	Equities	27.57
8	Al Qasr GCC Real Estate & Construction Equity Trading Fund	BSF Capital	Equities	27.04
9	SAB Invest GCC Companies Equity Income Fund	SAB Invest	Equities	25.35
10	Jadwa Saudi Equity Fund - Class C	Jadwa Investment	Equities	25.3
11	Yaqeen Gold Fund	Yaqeen Capital	Commodities	25.18
12	Jadwa Saudi Equity Fund - Class A	Jadwa Investment	Equities	24.91
13	SAB Invest Global Equity Index Fund	SAB Invest	Equities	24.7
14	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC US Equities Passive Fund - Class D USD	Sedco Capital	Equities	24.44
15	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC US Equities Passive Fund - Class R USD	Sedco Capital	Equities	24.28
16	Jadwa Saudi Equity Fund - Class B	Jadwa Investment	Equities	23.91
17	Albilad Gold ETF	Albilad Capital	Commodities	23.79
18	SAB Invest GCC Equity Fund	SAB Invest	Equities	23.63
19	SHUAA North American Equity Fund	SHUAA Capital	Equities	21.6
20	Chimera S&P China HK Shariah ETF - Income	Lunate Capital	Equities	21.43

Top 20 Islamic funds in Middle East by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Asset class	AuM (US\$ million)
1	SNB Capital Al Sunbullah SAR	SNB Capital	Money market	3,130.75
2	SNB Capital Saudi Riyal Trade Fund	SNB Capital	Money market	2,451.94
3	Al Rajhi Awaeed Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Money market	2,263.48
4	Al Rajhi Growth Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Mixed assets	1,756.43
5	Riyad SAR Diversified Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	Fixed income instruments	1,510.41
6	Watani KD Money Market Fund II	NBK Wealth	Money market	1,374.5
7	Alpha Murabaha Fund	Alpha Capital	Money market	1,276.08
8	Albilad CSOP MSCI Hong Kong China Equity ETF	Albilad Capital	Equities	1,124.95
9	Albilad SAR Murabaha Fund	Albilad Capital	Fixed income instruments	899.59
10	Boubyan KD Money Market Fund II	Boubyan Capital	Money market	867.12
11	Al Rajhi REIT Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Real estate	837.76
12	Al Rajhi Freestyle Saudi Equity Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Equities	815.27
13	SNB Capital Diversified Saudi Riyal Fund	SNB Capital	Fixed income instruments	812.99
14	Jadwa REIT Saudi fund	Jadwa Investment	Real estate	748.34
15	Jadwa REITs Fund	Jadwa Investment	Real estate	713
16	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC US Equities Passive Fund - Class D USD	Sedco Capital	Equities	700.52
17	SNB Capital Al Raed Saudi Equity Fund	SNB Capital	Equities	667.37
18	ANB Capital SAR Trade Fund	ANB Capital	Money market	654.82
19	Emirates REIT	Equitativa Group	Real estate	648.1
20	Jadwa Saudi Equity Fund - Class B	Jadwa Investment	Equities	639.25

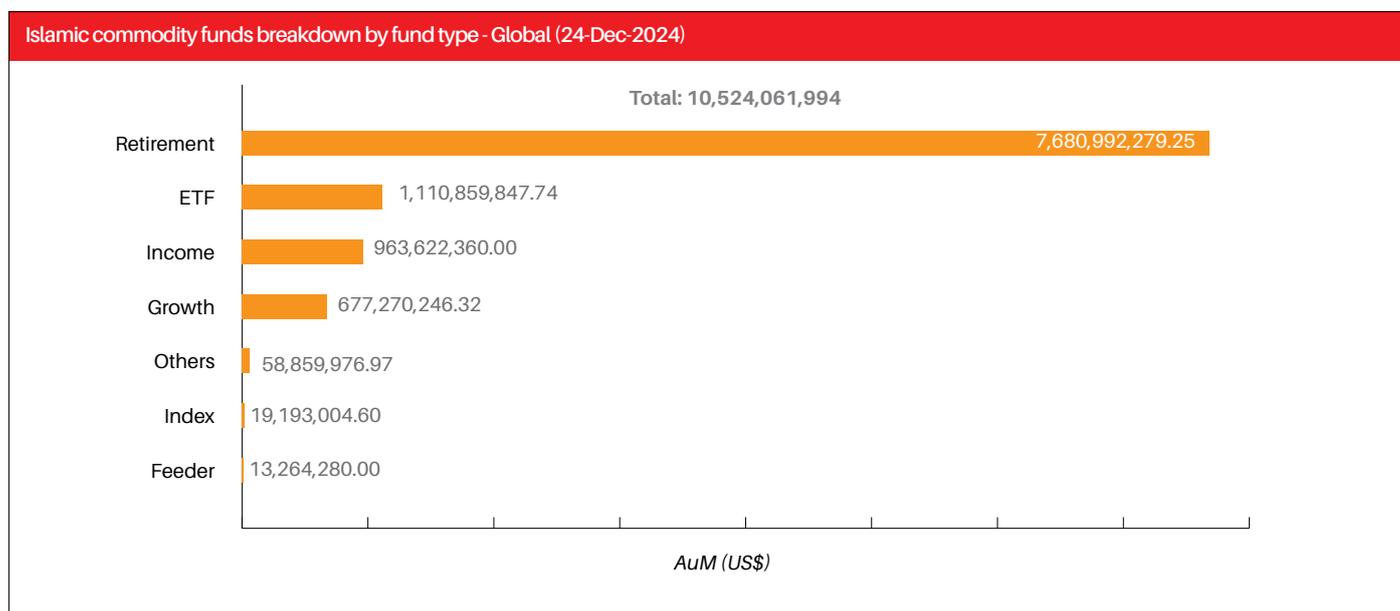
Top 20 Islamic fund managers in Middle East by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	10,534.15
2	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	9,962.79
3	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	3,927.59
4	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	3,301.83
5	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,744.87
6	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,543.09
7	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	2,169.15
8	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,697.72
9	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	1,691.49
10	NBK Wealth	Kuwait	1,567.24
11	Alpha Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,549.91
12	Aljazira Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,432.22
13	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	1,365.28
14	Boubyan Capital	Kuwait	981.45
15	Alkhabeer Capital	Saudi Arabia	970.81
16	ANB Capital	Saudi Arabia	905.7
17	Derayah Financial	Saudi Arabia	817.41
18	Equitativa Group	United Arab Emirates	648.1
19	Alistithmar Capital	Saudi Arabia	518.99
20	SHUAA Capital	United Arab Emirates	314.7



Top 20 Islamic commodity funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	Bereket Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Bereket Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	70.84
2	Anadolu Life Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Turkiye	65.46
3	Turkiye Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	64.36
4	AXA Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AXA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	61.98
5	Garanti Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	61.41
6	Agesa Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	60.53
7	Nurol Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Nurol Portfoy	Turkiye	59.52
8	Azimet Portfolio Precious Metals Participation Fund	Azimet Portfoy	Turkiye	57.54
9	MetLife Retirement Gold Participation Fund	MetLife Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	56.97
10	Turkiye Life And Retirement Precious Metals Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	56.27
11	Participation Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	53.42
12	Ziraat Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	52.99
13	ATA Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	ATA Portfoy	Turkiye	52.65
14	Active Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Aktif Portfoy	Turkiye	52.37
15	Participation Retirement And Life Precious Metals Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	51.63
16	Re-Pie Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Re-Pie Portfoy	Turkiye	51.46
17	Oyak Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	OYAK Portfoy	Turkiye	50.67
18	Albaraka Portfolio Bereket Foundation Support Gold Participation Fund	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	43.78
19	Meezan Gold Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	26.81
20	The Royal Mint Responsibly Sourced Physical Gold ETC	HANetf Management	Republic of Ireland	26.45

Top 20 Islamic commodity funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Turkiye Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	2,814.8
2	Agesa Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	1,948.92
3	Garanti Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	1,158.67
4	Anadolu Life Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Turkiye	1,107.89
5	Ziraat Portfolio Gold Participation Exchange Investment Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	1,052.38
6	The Royal Mint Responsibly Sourced Physical Gold ETC	HANetf Management	Republic of Ireland	953.74
7	Ziraat Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	661.26
8	Participation Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	326.87
9	MetLife Retirement Gold Participation Fund	MetLife Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	109.48
10	Turkiye Life And Retirement Precious Metals Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	79.42
11	AXA Life And Retirement Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	AXA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	56.75
12	Bereket Retirement And Life Gold Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Bereket Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	42.16
13	Participation Retirement And Life Precious Metals Participation Retirement Investment Fund	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	33.73
14	Active Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	Aktif Portfoy	Turkiye	25.65
15	Azimet Portfolio Precious Metals Participation Fund	Azimet Portfoy	Turkiye	24.75
16	TradePlus Shariah Gold Tracker ETF	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	22.93
17	AZ-Gold	Azimet Egypt Asset Management	Egypt	19.19
18	Albaraka Portfolio Bereket Foundation Support Gold Participation Fund	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	15.14
19	AHAM Shariah Gold Tracker Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	13.26
20	Oyak Portfolio Gold Participation Fund	OYAK Portfoy	Turkiye	11.1

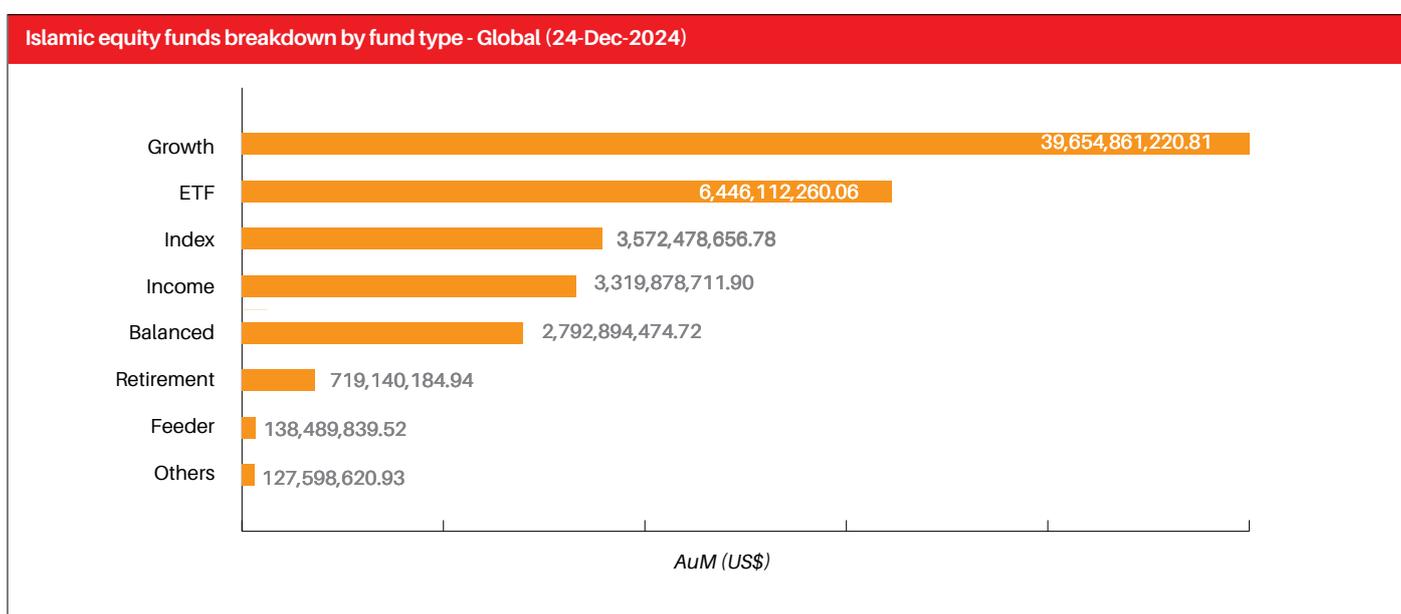
Top 20 Islamic commodity fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	2,894.22
2	AgeSA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	1,948.92
3	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	1,713.64
4	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	1,158.67
5	Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik	Turkiye	1,107.89
6	HANetf Management	United Kingdom	953.74
7	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	360.6
8	MetLife Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	109.48
9	AXA Hayat ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	56.75
10	Bereket Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	42.16
11	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	36.19
12	Aktif Portfoy	Turkiye	25.65
13	Azimet Portfoy	Turkiye	24.75
14	Azimet Egypt Asset Management	Egypt	19.19
15	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	15.14
16	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	12.18
17	OYAK Portfoy	Turkiye	11.1
18	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	10.8
19	Garanti Portfoy	Turkiye	8.02
20	ATA Portfoy	Turkiye	7.34



Top 20 Islamic equity funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	PMB Shariah Premier Fund	PMB Investment	Malaysia	40.31
2	PMB Shariah Dividend Fund	PMB Investment	Malaysia	38.3
3	Principal Islamic Small Cap Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	37.61
4	Principal Islamic Malaysia Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	36.97
5	AHAM Aiiiman Quantum Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	35.3
6	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC EUR	HSBC Asset Management	Luxembourg	35.12
7	PMB Shariah Small-Cap Fund	PMB Investment	Malaysia	34.96
8	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class AC EUR	HSBC Asset Management	Luxembourg	34.63
9	Principal Islamic Enhanced Opportunities Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	34.25
10	Chimera S&P US Shariah Growth ETF - Accumulating	Lunate Capital	United Arab Emirates	33.65
11	Albilad MSCI US Tech ETF	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	33.50
12	Osool & Bakheet Parallel Market Trading Equity Fund	Osool and Bakheet Investment Company	Saudi Arabia	33.08
13	SP Funds S&P Global Technology ETF	ShariaPortfolio	United States	33.05
14	Eq8 Dow Jones U.S. Titans 50 ETF	Eq8 Capital	Malaysia	32.86
15	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - USD Class	TA Investment Management	Malaysia	32.51
16	Stanbic IBTC Imaan Fund	Stanbic IBTC Asset Management	Nigeria	32.16
17	Riyad Emaar Fund	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	32.12
18	RAC Staff Pension Scheme HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index	Aviva	Republic of Ireland	30.91
19	Aviva SPS HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index	Aviva	Republic of Ireland	30.9
20	TA Global Absolute Alpha-i Fund - RMB Hedged Class	TA Investment Management	Malaysia	30.69

Top 20 Islamic equity funds globally by Aum (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	HSBC UCITS Common Contractual Fund - Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class A2CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Republic of Ireland	5,564.07
2	Amana Growth Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	United States	2,910
3	Amana Growth Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	United States	2,690
4	Albilad CSOP MSCI Hong Kong China Equity ETF	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,124.95
5	SP Funds S&P 500 Sharia Industry Exclusions ETF	ShariaPortfolio	United States	1080
6	Amana Income Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	United States	1070
7	Public Ittikal Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	999.7
8	Public Ittikal Sequel Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	921.47
9	Public Asia Ittikal Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	900.19
10	Invesco Dow Jones Islamic Global Developed Markets UCITS ETF Acc	Invesco Capital Management	Republic of Ireland	876.56
11	Public Islamic Dividend Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	844.8
12	Amana Income Investor Fund	Saturna Capital	United States	838.05
13	Al Rajhi Freestyle Saudi Equity Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	815.27
14	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC	HSBC Asset Management	Luxembourg	780.3
15	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC US Equities Passive Fund - Class D USD	Sedco Capital	Luxembourg	700.52
16	SNB Capital Al Raed Saudi Equity Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	667.37
17	Principal Islamic Asia Pacific Dynamic Equity Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	649.61
18	Jadwa Saudi Equity Fund - Class B	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	639.25
19	iShares MSCI World Islamic UCITS ETF	iShares (BlackRock)	Republic of Ireland	628.65
20	HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index Fund - Class IC GBP	HSBC Asset Management	Luxembourg	624.79

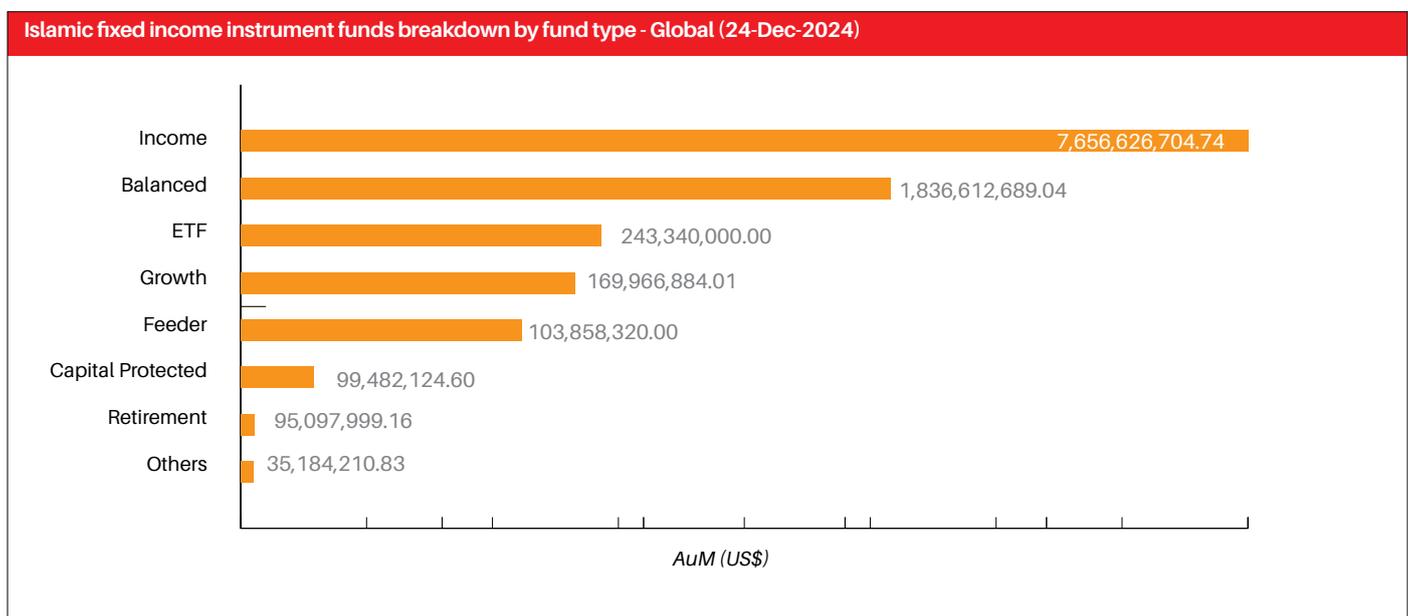
Top 20 Islamic equity fund managers globally by Aum (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	HSBC Asset Management	United Kingdom	7,838.34
2	Saturna Capital	United States	7,643.04
3	Public Mutual	Malaysia	7,451.4
4	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	3,237.62
5	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,689.71
6	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	1,724.43
7	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	1,517.65
8	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,448.35
9	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,270.26
10	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	1,244.58
11	ShariaPortfolio	United States	1,132.23
12	iShares (BlackRock)	United Kingdom	1,118.86
13	Invesco Capital Management	United States	876.56
14	Aljazira Capital	Saudi Arabia	851.11
15	Wahed Invest	United States	692
16	Old Mutual Unit Trust	South Africa	648.27
17	Kenanga Investors	Malaysia	573.73
18	AIA Public Takaful	Malaysia	545.75
19	Manulife Investment Management	Malaysia	528.49
20	Oasis Crescent	South Africa	473.71



Top 20 Islamic fixed income funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	Dana Syariah Seimbang	Etiqa Family Takaful	Malaysia	14.95
2	Arqaam Islamic Income Fund	Arqaam Capital	United Arab Emirates	9.27
3	Target 2024 Sukuk Fund Series II	Azimut DIFC	United Arab Emirates	8.73
4	Sentio Sanlam Collective Investments Hikma Shariah Income Fund	Sentio Capital Management	South Africa	7.83
5	27four Shariah Income Fund	27 Four Investment Managers	South Africa	7.67
6	Hejaz Income Fund	Hejaz Financial Services	Australia	7.60
7	I-Hajj Syariah	Insight Investments Management	Indonesia	7.15
8	Alistithmar Capital SAR Murabaha Fund	Alistithmar Capital	Saudi Arabia	6.7
9	Target 2024 Sukuk Fund OEIC	Azimut DIFC	United Arab Emirates	6.69
10	Albilad SAR Murabaha Fund	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.81
11	SNB Capital Multi-Asset Conservative Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.80
12	PNM Kaffah	PNM Investment Management	Indonesia	5.71
13	Saudi Fransi Capital Fixed Income Fund Class A	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.66
14	MEFIC Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund	MEFIC Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.59
15	Saudi Fransi Capital Fixed Income Fund Class B	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.55
16	Nomura i-Income Fund 2 - Class H	Nomura Asset Management Malaysia	Malaysia	5.47
17	SAB Invest Sukuk & Murabaha Fund	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	5.32
18	SNB Capital International Trade Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.28
19	AlJazira Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund	Aljazira Capital	Saudi Arabia	5.26
20	Simas Income Syariah	Sinarماس Asset Management	Indonesia	5.22

Top 20 Islamic fixed income funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Riyad SAR Diversified Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,510.41
2	Albilad SAR Murabaha Fund	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	899.59
3	Aiiman Income Extra Fund	AiIMAN Asset Management	Malaysia	851.26
4	SNB Capital Diversified Saudi Riyal Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	812.99
5	AZ Multi Asset AZ Islamic - MAMG Global Sukuk A-ME (USD ACC)	Azimut Investment	Luxembourg	644
6	Riyad SAR Trade Fund	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	470.38
7	AlJazira Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund	Aljazira Capital	Saudi Arabia	366.86
8	Principal e-Cash Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	250.91
9	Alhamra Islamic Income Fund	MCB Funds	Pakistan	246.21
10	SPDR JP Morgan Saudi Arabia Aggregate Bond UCITS ETF	State Street Global Advisors	Republic of Ireland	243.34
11	Alistithmar Capital SAR Murabaha Fund	Alistithmar Capital	Saudi Arabia	237.2
12	Ziraat Portfolio Amber Money Market Participation Free (TL) Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	219.23
13	Ziraat Portfolio Short-Term Rental Certificate Participation (TL) Fund	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	197.04
14	Amara Participation Institutional Fund	Saturna Capital	United States	191.17
15	Al-Ameen Islamic Sovereign Fund	UBL Funds	Pakistan	172.48
16	AWT Islamic Income Fund	AWT Investment	Pakistan	171.62
17	I-Hajj Syariah	Insight Investments Management	Indonesia	131.59
18	SNB Capital International Trade Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	130.91
19	SNB Capital Diversified US Dollar Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	130.62
20	Alkhabeer Diversifies Income Traded Fund	Alkhabeer Capital	Saudi Arabia	129.58

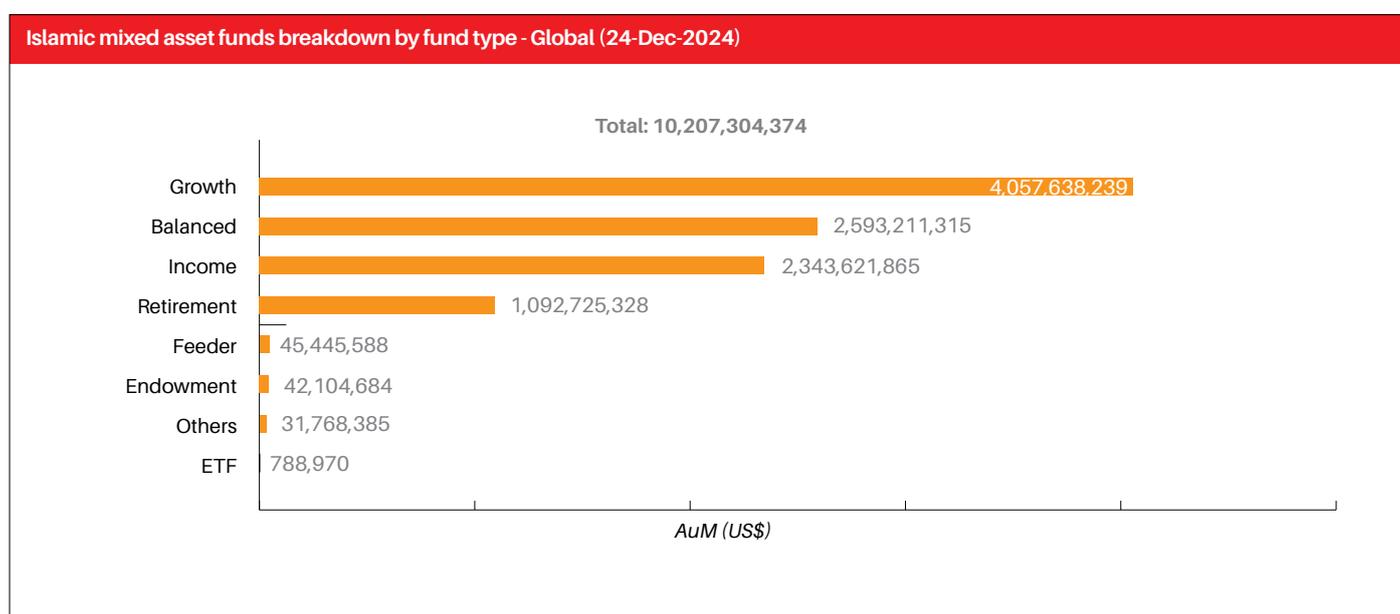
Top 20 Islamic fixed income fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,082.6
2	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,200.98
3	Albilad Capital	Saudi Arabia	899.59
4	AIIMAN Asset Management	Malaysia	851.26
5	Azimut Investment	Luxembourg	725
6	Ziraat Portfoy	Turkiye	561.89
7	Aljazira Capital	Saudi Arabia	383.61
8	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	250.91
9	MCB Funds	Pakistan	248.15
10	State Street Global Advisors	United Kingdom	243.34
11	Alistithmar Capital	Saudi Arabia	237.2
12	Saturna Capital	United States	220.33
13	UBL Funds	Pakistan	180.15
14	AWT Investment	Pakistan	171.62
15	NBP Fund Management	Pakistan	157.22
16	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	132.66
17	Insight Investments Management	Indonesia	131.59
18	Alkhabeer Capital	Saudi Arabia	129.58
19	Arqaam Capital	United Arab Emirates	109
20	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	103.23



Top 20 Islamic mixed asset funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	NBP Islamic Sarmaya Izafa Fund	NBP Fund Management	Pakistan	74.8
2	Meezan Pakistan Exchange Traded Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	70.13
3	Meezan Financial Planning Fund of Funds (Moderate)	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	47.14
4	Meezan Balanced Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	44.11
5	Al-Ameen Islamic Asset Allocation Fund	UBL Funds	Pakistan	40.61
6	Atlas Conservative Allocation Islamic Plan	Atlas Asset Management	Pakistan	38.32
7	ABL Islamic Financial Planning Fund (Aggressive Allocation Plan)	ABL Asset Management	Pakistan	37.84
8	PMB Shariah Tactical Fund	PMB Investment	Malaysia	34.86
9	Al Baraka Fund (EGP)	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Egypt	32.3
10	Manulife Investment - HW Shariah Flexi Fund	Manulife Investment Management	Malaysia	32.15
11	Lakson Islamic Tactical Fund	Lakson Investment	Pakistan	30.91
12	Al-Ameen Islamic Aggressive Income Fund	UBL Funds	Pakistan	30.4
13	PMB An-Nur Waqf Income Fund	PMB Investment	Malaysia	29.75
14	ARM Ethical Fund	ARM Investment	Nigeria	29.33
15	Public e-Islamic Flexi Allocation Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	28.79
16	Faysal Islamic Asset Allocation Fund	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	23.42
17	Al-Ameen Islamic Aggressive Income Plan-I	UBL Funds	Pakistan	21.36
18	Kenanga Sustainability Series: Emergency Waqf Musa'adah Fund	Kenanga Investors	Malaysia	21.19
19	ABL Islamic Asset Allocation Fund	ABL Asset Management	Pakistan	21.15
20	Al-Ameen Islamic Income Fund	UBL Funds	Pakistan	20.93

Top 20 Islamic mixed asset funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Al Rajhi Growth Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,756.43
2	Takafulink Dana Ekuiti	Prudential BSN Takaful	Malaysia	662.88
3	Public Islamic Asia Tactical Allocation Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	548.35
4	Al Rajhi Monthly Distribution Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	454.54
5	Al Rajhi Monthly Distribution Fund 2	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	345.88
6	Islamic Balanced Fund	Camissa Asset Management	South Africa	238.12
7	Principal Islamic Lifetime Balanced Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	218.32
8	Public Islamic Mixed Asset Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	206.99
9	SAB Invest Multi Assets Balanced Fund	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	189.65
10	SC Balanced Fund - Class D	Sedco Capital	Luxembourg	187.44
11	Turkiye Life And Retirement Participation Contribution Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	176.57
12	Oasis Crescent Income Fund	Oasis Crescent	South Africa	175.17
13	Meezan Islamic Income Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	165.14
14	Takafulink Dana Urus	Prudential BSN Takaful	Malaysia	157.77
15	Emirates Islamic Global Balanced Fund (Luxembourg)	Emirates NBD Asset Management	Luxembourg	151.42
16	Public Ehsan Mixed Asset Conservative Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	136.79
17	SAB Invest Multi Assets Growth Fund	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	127.52
18	SNB Capital Multi-Asset Moderate Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	122.17
19	Garanti Retirement And Life Participation Contribution Retirement Investment Fund	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	119.46
20	United-i Global Balanced Fund - MYR hedged Class	UOB Asset Management	Malaysia	119.02

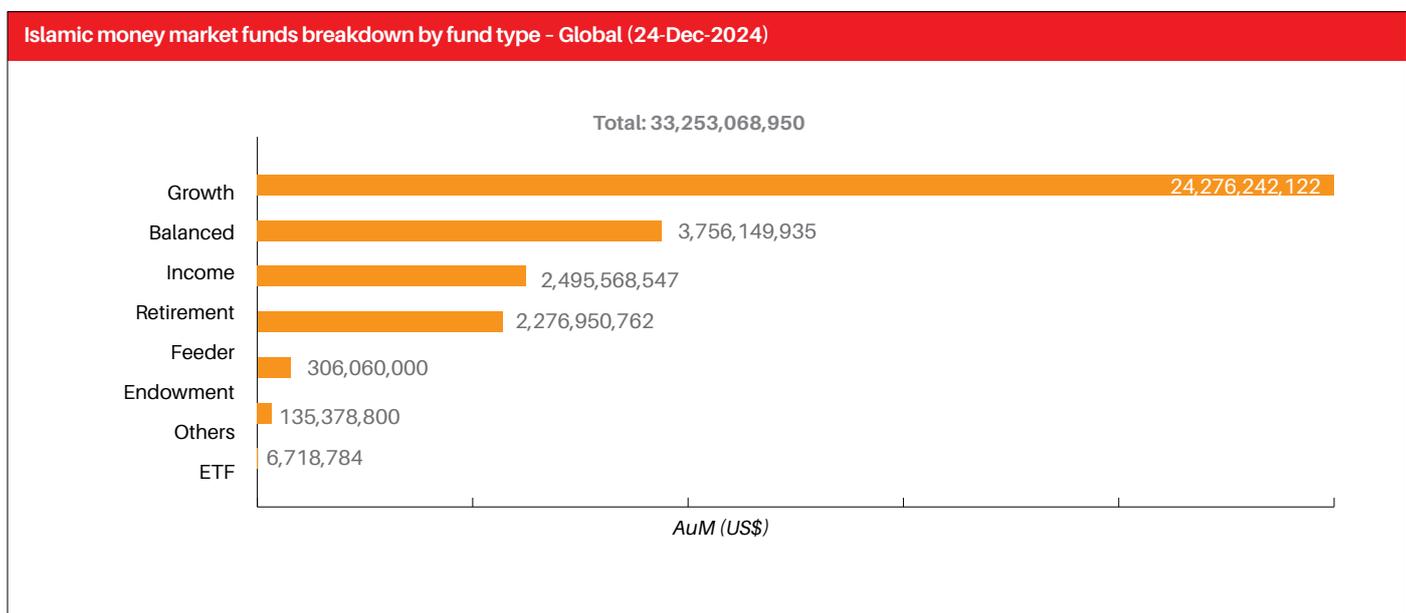
Top Islamic mixed asset fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,561.39
2	Public Mutual	Malaysia	1,067.02
3	Prudential BSN Takaful	Malaysia	820.65
4	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	383.09
5	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	357.32
6	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	354.42
7	Garanti Emeklilik Ve Hayat	Turkiye	329.08
8	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	267.42
9	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	249.48
10	Camissa Asset Management	South Africa	247.26
11	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	246.52
12	Oasis Crescent	South Africa	213.9
13	UOB Asset Management	Malaysia	211.31
14	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	194.88
15	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	178.32
16	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	155.18
17	Kenanga Investors	Malaysia	154.3
18	Hejaz Financial Services	Australia	116.84
19	AIA Public Takaful	Malaysia	103.8
20	Manulife Investment Management	Malaysia	103.3



Top 20 Islamic money market funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	Albaraka Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	56.96
2	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	55.13
3	ABL Islamic Financial Planning Fund (Capital Presevation Plan-II)	ABL Asset Management	Pakistan	32.23
4	Meezan Financial Planning Fund of Funds (Conservative)	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	31.85
5	ABL Islamic Financial Planning Fund (Capital Preservation Plan-I)	ABL Asset Management	Pakistan	31.6
6	Al Barakat Bank Islamic Money Market Fund	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Egypt	28.7
7	Participation Retirement And Life Aggressive Participation Variable (Foreign Exchange) Retirement Investment Fund	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	26.64
8	Al Baraka Bank Egypt Money Market Mutual Fund With Accumulative Daily Return (Al Barakat Certificate)	Hermes Fund Management (EFG Holdings)	Egypt	21.56
9	JS Islamic Pension Savings Fund (Money Market)	JS Investments	Pakistan	21.28
10	Al-Ameen Islamic Retirement Savings Fund - Money market	UBL Funds	Pakistan	20.83
11	JS KPK Islamic Pension Fund (Money Market)	JS Investments	Pakistan	20.41
12	NBP GOKP Islamic Pension Fund - Money market Sub Fund	NBP Fund Management	Pakistan	20.4
13	Faysal Islamic Pension Fund - Money Market	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	20.26
14	Faysal Islamic Cash Fund	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	20.09
15	ABL Islamic Income Fund	ABL Asset Management	Pakistan	20.07
16	HBL KPK Islamic Pension Fund (Money Market Sub Fund)	HBL Asset Management	Pakistan	19.8
17	Mahaana Islamic Cash Fund	Mahaana	Pakistan	19.8
18	Atlas Islamic Money Market Fund	Atlas Asset Management	Pakistan	19.75
19	Alhamra Cash Management Optimizer	MCB Funds	Pakistan	19.7
20	NBP Islamic Daily Dividend Fund	NBP Fund Management	Pakistan	19.7

Top 20 Islamic money market funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	AHAM Aiiman Money Market Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	3,163.47
2	SNB Capital Al Sunbullah SAR	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	3,130.75
3	SNB Capital Saudi Riyal Trade Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,451.94
4	Al Rajhi Awaheed Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,263.48
5	Kuveyt Turk Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	1,481.18
6	Watani KD Money Market Fund II	NBK Wealth	Kuwait	1,374.5
7	Alpha Murabaha Fund	Alpha Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,276.08
8	Meezan Sovereign Fund	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	962.29
9	Principal Islamic Deposit Fund - Class AI	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	882.59
10	Boubyan KD Money Market Fund II	Boubyan Capital	Kuwait	867.12
11	RHB Islamic Cash Management Fund	RHB Asset Management	Malaysia	817.08
12	Albaraka Portfolio Short-Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	790.41
13	ANB Capital SAR Trade Fund	ANB Capital	Saudi Arabia	654.82
14	Emirates Islamic Money Market Fund	Emirates NBD Asset Management	Jersey	580.69
15	Al Rajhi Saving and Liquidity Fund - SAR	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	545.35
16	AlBadr Murabaha Fund SAR	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	471.04
17	Maybank Retail Money Market-I Fund	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	469.75
18	Jadwa Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund - Class A	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	441.41
19	SAB Invest Saudi Riyal Murabaha Fund	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	439.12
20	Alinma Saudi Riyal Liquidity Fund	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	436.42

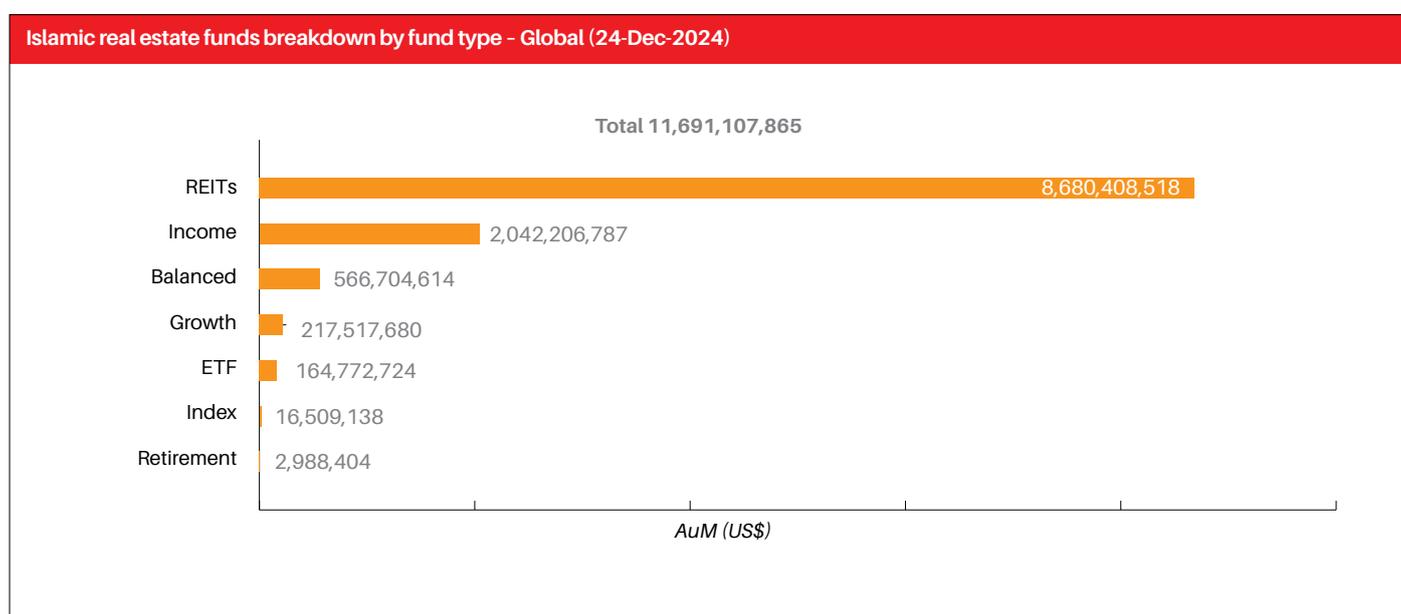
Top 20 Islamic money market fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	5,759.78
2	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	3,545.64
3	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	2,986.89
4	Al Meezan Investment Management	Pakistan	1,877.2
5	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	1,481.52
6	NBK Wealth	Kuwait	1,398.9
7	Alpha Capital	Saudi Arabia	1,289.17
8	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	1,282.98
9	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	1,100.55
10	Boubyan Capital	Kuwait	938.31
11	RHB Asset Management	Malaysia	817.23
12	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	790.41
13	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	671.35
14	ANB Capital	Saudi Arabia	662.24
15	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	580.69
16	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	560.72
17	SAB Invest	Saudi Arabia	466.39
18	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	436.42
19	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	426.02
20	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	420.03



Top 20 Islamic real estate funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	Albaraka Portfolio Real Estate Participation Short Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Albaraka Portfooy	Turkiye	54.02
2	Allianz Life And Retirement Oks Aggressive Participation Variable Retirement Investment Fund	Allianz Yasam ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	47.64
3	Markaz Real Estate Fund	Markaz (Kuwait Financial Center)	Kuwait	12.77
4	Rasmala European Real Estate Income Fund	Rasmala Holdings	Cayman Islands	10.42
5	Musharaka REIT Fund	Musharaka Capital	Saudi Arabia	7.8
6	Hejaz Property Fund	Hejaz Financial Services	Australia	7.74
7	Rasmala North American Real Estate Income Fund	Rasmala Holdings	Cayman Islands	6.27
8	Manzil Mortgage Investment Fund	Manzil	Canada	5.78
9	MCCA Income Fund	MCCA Asset Management	Australia	4.5
10	Amanah Hartanah Bumiputera	Pelaburan Hartanah	Malaysia	4.45
11	AlMa'ather REIT Fund	Osool and Bakheet Investment Company	Saudi Arabia	4.4
12	Rasmala Long Income Fund	Rasmala Holdings	Cayman Islands	4.32
13	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC Global Real Estate Equities Passive Fund - Class D	Sedco Capital	Luxembourg	3.56
14	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC Global Real Estate Equities Passive Fund - Class R	Sedco Capital	Luxembourg	3.45
15	HSBC FTSE EPRA NAREIT Developed Islamic UCITS ETF	HSBC Asset Management	Republic of Ireland	2.77
16	SP Funds S&P Global REIT Sharia ETF	ShariaPortfolio	United States	2.35
17	Global Sharia REITS Portfolio	Invesense Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	2.3
18	Nigeria Real Estate Investment Trust	Chapel Hill Denham Management	Nigeria	1.31
19	KFH Capital REIT Fund	KFH Capital	Kuwait	-3.83
20	SNB Capital Global REITs Fund	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	-4.09

Top 20 Islamic real estate funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Amanah Hartanah Bumiputera	Pelaburan Hartanah	Malaysia	1,127.5
2	Al Rajhi REIT Fund	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	837.76
3	Jadwa REIT Saudi fund	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	748.34
4	Jadwa REITs Fund	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	713
5	Emirates REIT	Equitativa Group	United Arab Emirates	648.1
6	Bonyan REIT	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	575.89
7	Alkhabeer REIT Fund	Alkhabeer Capital	Saudi Arabia	542.25
8	AlAhli REIT Fund (1)	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	532.85
9	SEDCO CAPITAL REIT Fund	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	498.39
10	Derayah REIT	Derayah Financial	Saudi Arabia	439.58
11	Riyad REIT	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	375.51
12	Alinma Retail REIT Fund	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	314.59
13	Albaraka Portfolio Real Estate Participation Short Term Participation Free (TL) Fund	Albaraka Portfooy	Turkiye	279.4
14	Mulkia Gulf Real Estate REIT	Mulkia Investment	Saudi Arabia	276.64
15	Alinma Hospitality REIT Fund	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	271.94
16	Markaz Real Estate Fund	Markaz (Kuwait Financial Center)	Kuwait	237.18
17	Taleem REIT Fund	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	230.99
18	Musharaka REIT Fund	Musharaka Capital	Saudi Arabia	202.99
19	ENBD REIT	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	202
20	Jadwa REIT Al Haramain	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	189.91

Top 20 Islamic real estate fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	1,651.25
2	Pelaburan Hartanah	Malaysia	1127.5
3	Al Rajhi Capital	Saudi Arabia	961.84
4	BSF Capital	Saudi Arabia	806.88
5	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	666.64
6	Equitativa Group	United Arab Emirates	648.1
7	SNB Capital	Saudi Arabia	607.66
8	Alinma Investment	Saudi Arabia	586.53
9	Alkhabeer Capital	Saudi Arabia	542.25
10	Derayah Financial	Saudi Arabia	439.58
11	Riyad Capital	Saudi Arabia	375.51
12	Albaraka Portfooy	Turkiye	324.03
13	Mulkia Investment	Saudi Arabia	276.64
14	Rasmala Holdings	United Arab Emirates	269.56
15	Markaz (Kuwait Financial Center)	Kuwait	237.18
16	Musharaka Capital	Saudi Arabia	202.99
17	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	202
18	KFH Capital	Kuwait	177.02
19	Alistithmar Capital	Saudi Arabia	156.54
20	ShariaPortfolio	United States	155.13



Top 20 Islamic Sukuk funds globally by one-year return (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	Returns (%)
1	Faysal Islamic Pension Fund - Debt	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	20.2
2	Faysal Islamic Sovereign Plan-I	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	19.22
3	HBL Islamic Asset Allocation Fund - Plan I	HBL Asset Management	Pakistan	18.68
4	786 Smart Fund	786 Investment	Pakistan	18.62
5	HBL Islamic Asset Allocation Fund - Plan II	HBL Asset Management	Pakistan	18.26
6	FSDH Halal Fund	FSDH Asset Management	Nigeria	15.57
7	Public Islamic Enhanced Bond Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	10.64
8	Hejaz Sukuk Active ETF	Hejaz Financial Services	Australia	10.22
9	Principal Islamic Lifetime Enhanced Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	10.07
10	BIMB ESG Sukuk Fund - Class C - SGD	BIMB Investment Management	Malaysia	9.73
11	Jadwa Global Sukuk Fund - Class B	Jadwa Investment	Saudi Arabia	9.62
12	Principal Islamic Wholesale Sukuk Fund (Class C)	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	9.59
13	Principal Islamic Wholesale Sukuk Fund (Class B)	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	9.51
14	Principal Islamic Wholesale Sukuk Fund (Class A)	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	9.44
15	Shinhan Sukuk Syariah I	Shinhan Asset Management	Indonesia	9.27
16	Trimegah Dana Tetap Syariah Kelas A	Trimegah Asset Management	Indonesia	8.14
17	Maybank Malaysia Income-I Fund (USD)	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	7.50
18	STAR Stable Amanah Sukuk	Surya Timur Alam Raya Asset Management	Indonesia	7.38
19	BNP Paribas Islamic Hilal Income Fund USD Privilege Capitalisation	BNP Paribas Asset Management	Luxembourg	7.27
20	Old Mutual Albaraka Income Fund	Old Mutual Unit Trust	South Africa	6.9

Top 20 Islamic Sukuk funds globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)				
Rank	Fund name	Fund manager	Domicile	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Franklin Global Sukuk Fund - A	Franklin Templeton	Luxembourg	746.68
2	Turkiye Life And Retirement Oks Participation Standard Retirement Investment Fund	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	553.01
3	AHAM Aiiaman ESG Income Plus Fund	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	447.11
4	SEDCO CAPITAL GLOBAL UCITS - SC Global Sukuk Fund - Class D USD	Sedco Capital	Luxembourg	437.32
5	Emirates Global Sukuk Fund (Luxembourg)	Emirates NBD Asset Management .	Luxembourg	426.54
6	Principal Islamic Institutional Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	424.01
7	Principal Islamic Lifetime Sukuk Fund	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	326.65
8	SP Funds Dow Jones Global Sukuk ETF	ShariaPortfolio	United States	273.68
9	AmanahRaya Syariah Trust Fund	AmanahRaya Investment Management	Malaysia	267.99
10	HSBC Global Funds ICAV - Global Sukuk UCITS ETF - Class S1CGBP	HSBC Asset Management	Republic of Ireland	251.87
11	Public Islamic Infrastructure Bond Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	248.95
12	AmAl-Amin	Amlslamic Funds Management	Malaysia	247.84
13	ASN Sukuk	Amanah Saham Nasional	Malaysia	187.88
14	Maybank Malaysia Sukuk Fund	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	184.04
15	Public Islamic Bond Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	183.05
16	Principal Islamic Malaysia Government Sukuk Fund (Class C)	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	159.49
17	Faysal Islamic Sovereign Plan-II	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	153.7
18	PB Islamic Bond Fund	Public Mutual	Malaysia	152.57
19	Emirates Global Sukuk Fund (Jersey)	Emirates NBD Asset Management .	Jersey	146.38
20	Aditum Global Sukuk Fund (UCITS - SICAV)	Aditum Investment Management	Luxembourg	436.42

Top 20 Islamic Sukuk fund managers globally by AuM (24-Dec-2024)			
Rank	Fund manager	Country	AuM (US\$ million)
1	Public Mutual	Malaysia	1,124.6
2	Principal Asset Management	Malaysia	979.02
3	Franklin Templeton	Luxembourg	746.68
4	Turkiye Hayat Ve Emeklilik	Turkiye	583.78
5	Emirates NBD Asset Management	United Arab Emirates	572.92
6	AHAM Capital Asset Management	Malaysia	457.68
7	Sedco Capital	Saudi Arabia	437.32
8	AmanahRaya Investment Management	Malaysia	320.39
9	AmlIslamic Funds Management	Malaysia	316.84
10	HSBC Asset Management	United Kingdom	304.55
11	Faysal Asset Management	Pakistan	303.67
12	ShariaPortfolio	United States	273.68
13	Maybank Asset Management	Malaysia	271.62
14	Amanah Saham Nasional	Malaysia	187.88
15	Aditum Investment Management	United Arab Emirates	145.52
16	Kuveyt Turk Portfoy	Turkiye	138.96
17	Katilim Emeklilik ve Hayat	Turkiye	133.73
18	SHUAA Capital	United Arab Emirates	130.5
19	Kenanga Investors	Malaysia	130.04
20	Albaraka Portfoy	Turkiye	119.27

