

# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## METRO BALANCED FUND KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Month Ended October 31, 2023

### FUND FACTS

<b>Classification:</b>	Balanced	<b>Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVPU):</b>	3.091217
<b>Launch Date:</b>	April 8, 2005	<b>Total Fund NAV (in Php Bns):</b>	1.05
<b>Trust Fee (per annum):</b>	2.0% based on NAV	<b>Dealing Day:</b>	12NN, any banking day
<b>Minimum Investment:</b>	Php10,000	<b>Redemption Settlement:</b>	2 Banking Day after date of redemption
<b>Additional Investment:</b>	Php1,000	<b>Early Redemption Charge:</b>	50% of income on redeemed amount
<b>Minimum Holding Period:</b>	7 calendar days from date of participation		

### COOLING-OFF PERIOD

Pursuant to BSP Circular No. 857, the TRUSTOR (individual participants) shall have the right to cancel their initial subscriptions or contributions, without penalty, upon written notice to the Trustee within two (2) banking days immediately following the signing of agreement or contract evidencing their participation in the Fund. Further, the net amount of payment or delivery due the TRUSTOR shall be based on the transaction day's NAVPU when notice of redemption, termination or cancellation was received.

### FEES COLLECTED FOR THE MONTH<sup>1</sup>

Trustee Fees:	Custodianship Fees:	External Auditor Fees:	Other Fees:
<b>0.172%</b>	<b>0.001%</b>	<b>0.000%</b>	<b>0.001%</b>
<i>Metrobank-Trust Banking Group</i>	<i>Standard Chartered Bank</i>	<i>SGV &amp; Co.</i>	<i>Others</i>

<sup>1</sup> As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at (in Php Bns): 1.07

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

The Fund is a Peso-denominated balanced Unit Investment Trust Fund that aims to achieve for its participants, growth and high income from a portfolio of diversified, blue-chip and fundamentally sound equities listed at the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) and peso-denominated fixed income securities. The Fund may invest between 40% and 60% of its market value in equities listed in Philippine Stock Exchange and a minimum of 40% of its market value in peso-denominated fixed income securities. The Fund's composite benchmark is composed of 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index and 40% Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5.

### CLIENT SUITABILITY

A client profiling process is performed prior to participating in the Fund to guide the prospective investor if the Fund is suited to his/her investment objectives and risk tolerance. Clients are encouraged to update the resulting profile every three (3) years or if there's any change in his/her personal/financial circumstances. Before deciding to invest, clients are advised to read the Declaration of Trust/Plan Rules of the Fund, which may be obtained from the Trustee, or seek an independent/professional opinion when necessary.

### The METRO BALANCED FUND is suitable only for investors who:

- Have an Aggressive profile.
- Want capital growth over the long-term and are willing to be exposed to a higher level of risk that may involve possible loss of principal in the short-term in exchange for higher long-term gains.
- Recommended investment horizon is at least five (5) years
- Participation in the Fund shall be open to Filipino individuals, resident and non-resident aliens and corporate accounts.

### KEY RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

You should not invest in this Fund if you do not understand or are not comfortable with the accompanying risks.

<b>Interest Rate Risk:</b>	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in interest rates. The purchase and sale of a debt instrument may result in profit or loss because the value of a debt instrument changes inversely with prevailing interest rates.
<b>Market/Price Risk:</b>	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market prices of bonds and stocks/equities. It refers to the portfolio's exposure to marked-to-market valuation due to market price fluctuations of the bonds and stocks/equities.
<b>Liquidity Risk:</b>	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a price that could result in a loss. This may be caused by low trading volume due to different reasons such as securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers and/or sellers (limited buy/sell activity) or underdeveloped capital market.
<b>Credit Risk / Default Risk:</b>	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely manner on instruments such as bonds, loans, or other forms of fixed income security which the borrower issued. This inability of the borrower or counterparty to make good on its financial obligations may have resulted from adverse changes in its financial condition thus, lowering credit quality of the security, and consequently lowering the price (market/price risk) which contributes to the difficulty in selling such security.
<b>Reinvestment Risk:</b>	The possibility of having lower returns or earnings when funds mature and are reinvested. Investors in the UITF who redeem and realize their gains run the risk of reinvesting their funds in an alternative investment outlet with lower yields. Similarly, the UIT fund manager is faced with the risk of not being able to find better yielding alternative investment outlets as some of the securities in the fund matures.
<b>Other Risks:</b>	Your participation in the UITFs may be further exposed to the risk of any actual or potential conflicts of interest in the handling of in-house or related party transactions by Metrobank. These transactions may include own-bank deposits; purchase of own-institution or affiliate obligations (stocks, mortgages); purchase of assets from or sales to own institution, directors, officers, subsidiaries, affiliates or other related interests/parties; or purchases or sales between fiduciary/managed accounts.

The Fund invests only in high-credit quality assets which are evaluated using a rigorous internal scoring model required under the Trustee's accreditation process and BSP regulations. Internal risk limits and position limits together with regulatory exposure limits are monitored, reviewed and strictly adhered to on a daily basis. The Fund may also use financial derivatives solely for hedging risk exposures.

THE UIT FUND IS NOT A DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (PDIC). RETURNS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND HISTORICAL NAVPU IS FOR ILLUSTRATION OF NAVPU MOVEMENTS/FLUCTUATIONS ONLY. WHEN REDEEMING, THE PROCEEDS MAY BE WORTH LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL INVESTMENT AND ANY LOSSES WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT.

THE TRUSTEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS UNLESS UPON WILLFUL DEFAULT, BAD FAITH OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)

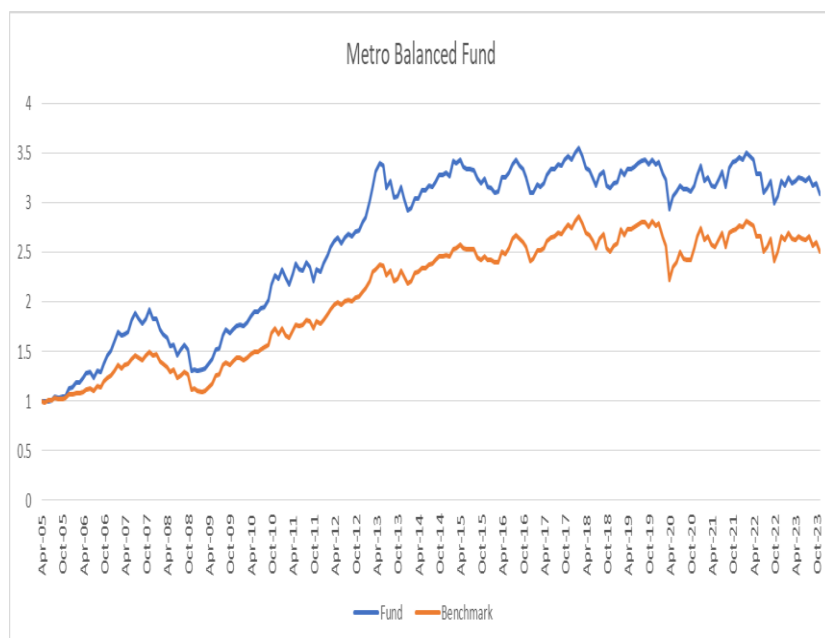


# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS as of October 31, 2023

(Purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of future results)

### NAVPu GRAPH



### NAVPu OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Highest	3.330391
Lowest	3.052434

### STATISTICS

Weighted Average Duration (in years)	4.20
Volatility, Past 1 Year (in %) <sup>2</sup>	7.38%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	-0.57
Information Ratio <sup>4</sup>	0.32

<sup>2</sup> Volatility measures the degree to which the Fund fluctuates vis-à-vis its average return over a period of time. The lower the number, the more stable the Fund's return is relative to its average return over time. Starting December 2017, computation is based on the annualized standard deviation of monthly returns.

<sup>3</sup> Sharpe Ratio is used to characterize how well the return of a Fund compensates the investor for the level of risk taken. The higher the number, the better.

<sup>4</sup> Information Ratio measures reward-to-risk efficiency of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. The higher the number, the higher the reward per unit of risk.

### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception <sup>5</sup>
<b>Fund</b>	-3.110%	-4.922%	-5.159%	0.837%	-2.660%	-1.643%	209.122%
<b>Benchmark</b>	-3.475%	-5.519%	-5.583%	0.060%	-1.092%	0.008%	151.014%

<sup>5</sup> Benchmark return was based on the original benchmark of 50% 91-day Tbill and 50% Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) since inception, and was changed to 50% 91-day PDST-F and 50% PSEi from June 1, 2007 to August 31, 2010 then 60% PSEi and 40% HSBC Local Currency Bond Index (HSLI) 1-5 years (net of taxes) from September 1, 2010 to April 30, 2016 then 40% HSLI 1-5 years (net of taxes) was changed to 40% Bloomberg Philippine Sovereign Bond Index 1-5 year (BPHIL15) Adjusted, effective May 2016.

The BPHIL15-Adjusted Index was tentatively discontinued when the GS pricing basis shifted from PDST -R2 of PDEX to BVAL of Bloomberg effective October 29, 2018. The Fund used, an equivalent benchmark namely, the BPI Philippine Government Bond 1-5 Year Index (from October 30, 2018 to December 31, 2019) and Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5 (from January 2020 until October 20, 2020). Effective October 21, 2020 the Fund benchmark is 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) and 40% Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5.

### PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

Allocation	% of Fund
Equities	46.93%
Government Securities	44.31%
Time Deposits	5.11%
Corporate Bonds	3.73%
Cash	-0.11%
Other Receivables - Net of Liabilities <sup>6</sup>	0.02%

<sup>6</sup> Includes accrued income from investments, receivables from brokers/counterparties and unpaid expenses.

### Sector Holdings

Holdings	37.94%
Financials	20.56%
Properties	15.42%
Services	12.71%
Industrials	12.58%
Mining And Oil	0.79%

### TOP 10 HOLDINGS

Name	Maturity	% of Fund
1. FXT	06.23.32	8.39%
2. FXT	10.13.29	6.71%
3. SM		6.31%
4. FXT	01.10.29	5.81%
5. FXT	04.12.25	4.73%
6. EQP AC Ser Ae		4.70%
7. SMPH		4.52%
8. BDO		4.13%
9. GENTD MBTC	12.05.23	4.12%
10. BPI		3.47%

### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related Party	Transaction	Market Value (in Php Mns)
MBTC	Time Deposit Placement	43.24
MBTC	Corporate Bonds	18.42
MBTC	Shares of Stock	21.51
GT Capital	Shares of Stock	16.95

Investments in the said outlets were approved by the Trust Committee. Likewise, all related party transactions are conducted on an arm's length and best execution basis and within established limits.



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customer@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customer@metrobank.com.ph)



# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## INVESTMENT POLICY

The Fund may be invested and reinvested in the following instruments:

- Equities listed in the PSE
- Fixed Income Instruments and Securities
- Deposits
- Other investments allowed under BSP regulations

## OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY

October proved to be one of the worst months this year for domestic equities as shares plunged -5.5% MoM, breaching the 6000 psychological support, sparing no one as all sectoral indices ended in the red. Much of the move can be attributed to macroeconomic challenges related to policy rates, inflation, and geopolitical tensions. That said, market participants were mostly sidelined with average daily turnover ending at \$80.1mn, significantly lower than the 10-year average of \$145.7mn, while foreign funds continued to be net sellers in the amount of \$171mn. Notably, foreign selling was concentrated on Banks and FBT (food, beverage, tobacco), particularly URC (-8.1% MoM) and JFC (-10.6% MoM).

Inflation in the Philippines for September came in much higher than expected at 6.1%, surpassing the consensus estimate of 5.3%. The primary driver of this surge in inflation was rising food prices, particularly due to issues with the rice supply in the country. As a result of this inflationary pressure, speculations about an off-cycle interest rate hike by the BSP increased. Indeed, the central bank announced a 25bp hike after the markets closed on October 27. This hike brought the cumulative increase in policy rates to 450bps since May 2022, placing the policy rate at 6.5%. Furthermore, the BSP revised its 2024 inflation forecast to 4.7% from 4.3%.

Meanwhile, 3Q23/9M23 corporate earnings season also kicked off during the month, with 8 index names already reporting their results. Banks continued to expand their NIMs, although they experienced slower loan growth. BDO (-10.2% MoM) and MBT (-3.6% MoM) met expectations, while BPI (-10.3% MoM) exceeded expectations due to lower provisioning. Retail companies showed mixed results; PGOLD (-6.2% MoM) was in line on steady SSSG for Puregold stores while WLCON's (-10.0% MoM) SSSG declined on softer demand and margin contraction. AEV (-8.7% MoM) was mostly in line with all their subsidiaries reporting stronger earnings, with the exception of UBP (+0.70% MoM). Lastly, DMC (-5.4% MoM) and subsidiary SCC (-19.9% MoM) disappointed on coal and nickel prices contracting.

On the fixed income space, Peso bond yields moved higher by an average of 44bps across the curve MoM, led by 6month BVAL up by a whopping 64bps closing October at 6.62% level versus the previous month's close of 5.98%. Yields of the 7Y, 10Y, 20Y and 25Y BVAL rates were also up by an average of about 50bps, at around 7% levels for these tenors. For the TBond auctions, the BTr fully awarded the auctions for the month, accepting the total issue size of PHP 90Bn. Accepted yields for the auctions were higher by around 40bps from the average levels awarded by the BTr in September. The bond funds continue to participate in the auctions for the month, across all tenors of the curve.

Given the uncertainties in the equity markets, maintaining a cautious stance is advisable. Various threats, both local and global, including persistent higher interest rates and elevated inflation, may continue to keep investors cautious. However, the PSEI is potentially looking to establish a strong support level amidst these uncertainties. The current market valuation appears attractive, and selective bottom-fishing, particularly for stocks that have experienced significant declines and have valuations significantly deviating from their historical averages, may be warranted.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company is regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). For any inquiries and complaints relating to Trust Products and Services you may (1) call our hotline: 8-8700-700 (Mondays-Fridays from 9:00am to 6:00pm); (2) send an email to [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph); or (3) visit our website at <https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf> to know more. You may also file complaints at BSP Financial Consumer Protection Department at (632) 8708-7087 or [consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph](mailto:consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph). To know your rights under BSP Circular No. 857 (Regulations on Financial Consumer Protection), please access a copy at the BSP website ([www.bsp.gov.ph](http://www.bsp.gov.ph)).



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)

