

October 2024  
Factsheet

# Manulife Global Aqua Fund

## Fund category

Feeder Fund

## Fund objective

The Fund aims to provide capital appreciation by investing in one collective investment scheme with investment focus on companies tackling the water-related challenges and helping to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable world.

## Investor profile

The Fund is suitable for investors who seek capital appreciation, are willing to accept higher level of market risks and tolerate volatility, have a medium-term investment horizon; and wish to seek investment exposure in companies within global water value chain.

## Fund manager

Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad  
200801033087 (834424-U)

## Trustee

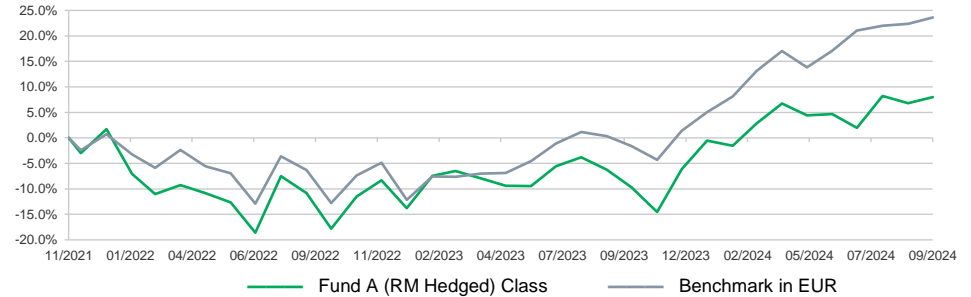
HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad  
193701000084 (1281-T)

## Fund information (as at 30 Sep 2024)

NAV/unit (A (RM Hedged) Class)	RM 0.5399
NAV/unit (A (AUD Hedged) Class)	AUD 0.5341
NAV/unit (A (SGD Hedged) Class)	SGD 0.5461
NAV/unit (A (USD Hedged) Class)	USD 0.5661
Fund size	EUR 11.62 mil
Units in circulation	84.21 mil
Fund launch date	26 Oct 2021
Fund inception date	15 Nov 2021
Financial year	31 Jan
Currency	EUR
Management fee	Up to 1.80% of NAV p.a.
Trustee fee	0.04% of NAV p.a. including local custodian fees but excluding foreign custodian fees and charges
Sales charge	Up to 5.00% of NAV per unit
Redemption charge	Nil
Distribution frequency	Incidental, if any
Benchmark	MSCI World (Net Return) Index
Target fund <sup>#</sup>	BNP Paribas Funds Aqua

## Fund performance

Since inception performance as at 30 September 2024\*



## Total return over the following periods ended 30 September 2024\*

	1 month	6 month	YTD	1 year	3 year	5 year	Since inception
Fund A (RM Hedged) Class (%)	1.09	1.16	8.57	19.55	-	-	7.98
Benchmark in EUR (%)	1.00	5.64	17.65	25.63	-	-	23.61
Fund A (AUD Hedged) Class (%)	1.25	2.02	9.81	20.97	-	-	6.82
Benchmark in EUR (%)	1.00	5.64	17.65	25.63	-	-	23.61
Fund A (SGD Hedged) Class (%)	1.19	1.81	9.46	20.79	-	-	9.22
Benchmark in EUR (%)	1.00	5.64	17.65	25.63	-	-	23.61
Fund A (USD Hedged) Class (%)	1.40	2.93	11.02	23.17	-	-	13.22
Benchmark in EUR (%)	1.00	5.64	17.65	25.63	-	-	23.61

## Calendar year returns\*

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund A (RM Hedged) Class (%)	-	-	1.70	-15.24	15.38
Benchmark in EUR (%)	-	-	0.73	-12.78	19.60
Fund A (AUD Hedged) Class (%)	-	-	0.86	-16.70	15.78
Benchmark in EUR (%)	-	-	0.73	-12.78	19.60
Fund A (SGD Hedged) Class (%)	-	-	1.30	-15.54	16.62
Benchmark in EUR (%)	-	-	0.73	-12.78	19.60
Fund A (USD Hedged) Class (%)	-	-	1.48	-15.02	18.25
Benchmark in EUR (%)	-	-	0.73	-12.78	19.60

\* Source: Lipper; Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. The performance is calculated on NAV-to-NAV basis.

## Top 5 holdings<sup>#</sup>

No.	Security name	% NAV
1	VEOLIA ENVIRON. SA	5.3
2	AMERICAN WATER WORKS INC	4.6
3	SEVERN TRENT PLC	4.0
4	LINDE PLC	3.5
5	A O SMITH CORP	3.4

## Asset/sector allocation<sup>#</sup>

No.	Asset/sector name	% NAV
1	Industrials	56.3
2	Utilities	19.7
3	Materials	14.0
4	Healthcare	4.7
5	Information Technology	1.5
6	Consumer Discretionary	1.5
7	Forex contracts	0.0
8	Cash & Cash Equivalents	2.3

## Highest & lowest NAV

	2021	2022	2023
High	0.5100	0.5081	0.4973
Low	0.4842	0.3945	0.4237

## Distribution by financial year

	2021	2022	2023
Distribution (Sen)	-	-	-
Distribution Yield (%)	-	-	-

## Geographical allocation<sup>#</sup>

No.	Geographical name	% NAV
1	United States	50.0
2	United Kingdom	11.7
3	Switzerland	7.2
4	Others	28.8
5	Cash & Cash Equivalents	2.3

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## Manulife Global Aqua Fund

### Market review

Global equities, as measured by the MSCI All Country World Index (MSCI ACWI), delivered positive returns as monetary easing from the US and Chinese central banks brought new momentum to markets and offset political and geopolitical uncertainty during the quarter. The final weeks of the period saw the start of a new rate-cutting cycle in the US, catalysed by softening inflation and employment data.

The US Federal Reserve's larger-than-expected 50 basis point rate cut followed a politically volatile period that saw a change in presidential candidate in the US and new leadership in Europe and the UK. In the Middle East, rising tensions between Israel and Hezbollah were worsened by the direct involvement of Iran. Throughout this period, markets maintained their poise amid evidence that central banks were willing to respond to economic conditions with additional monetary stimulus.

At the sector level, market breadth improved as the prospect of lower interest rates drove the defensive sectors, including Real Estate and Utilities, to outperform. Energy was a notable laggard, weighed down by declining oil prices, while Technology also lagged as investors rotated away from year-to-date winners.

We maintain a positive bias into year-end. While a soft landing remains our base case for the global economy, we expect elevated political uncertainty into 2025. The earnings growth outlook for companies across our portfolios remains solid, however, going into the Q3 reporting season, we are closely monitoring how the macroeconomic backdrop impacts investee companies' margins as inflation abates.

### Market outlook

The long-term drivers for the Water strategy remain in place and continue to support the positive outlook. The record overconcentration of market returns in a few stocks – which do not form part of the Water strategy's investable universe – has hurt relative performance. However, companies in the portfolio have offered opportunities elsewhere and continued to deliver resilient operational results. In July, there was improved market breadth supported by better-than-expected earnings, as well as more positive than negative earnings surprises overall in the market. This helped to lift the portfolio's performance above the MSCI World in July, more than regaining the losses from June. Recent months have seen an uptick in positive earnings growth forecasts for the portfolio, exceeding those of the broader market.

The portfolio is 20% exposed to the Utilities sector – considered as bond proxies – which provide a defensive balance to the portfolio. The utility stocks in the portfolio generally suffered early in the year due to the higher-for-longer interest rate environment and regulatory uncertainty. As interest rates and bond yields for debt products refinancing begin to fall, Utilities will likely attract investors seeking more favourable dividend yields away from the bond market.

With recent steps towards monetary easing by central banks (particularly the US Federal Reserve), the expectation is for the economic stimulus to spur residential new builds, encourage consumer spending and increase demand for housing-related services. This should benefit companies providing water solutions through pipes, boilers, heaters, meters, filtration and pools.

### Feeder fund review

In September, the Feeder Fund posted a) 1.09% versus the benchmark return of 1.00% for its A (RM Hedged) class; b) 1.25% versus the benchmark return of 1.00% for its A (AUD Hedged) class; c) 1.19% versus the benchmark return of 1.00% for its A (SGD Hedged) class; and d) 1.40% versus the benchmark return of 1.00% for its A (USD Hedged) class. The Feeder Fund will continue to be fully invested into the Target Fund. We rebalance the Feeder Fund when the invested level is affected by market volatilities, inflows and outflows of the Feeder Fund. We aim to maintain a target allocation of around 95%-98%.

The above information has not been reviewed by the SC and is subject to the relevant warning, disclaimer, qualification or terms and conditions stated herein. Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the Master Prospectus dated 15 May 2023 and its First Supplemental Master Prospectus dated 20 October 2023 and all the respective Product Highlights Sheet(s) (collectively, the "Offering Documents"), obtainable at our offices or website, before investing. The Offering Documents have been registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC), however the registration with the SC does not amount to nor indicate that the SC has recommended or endorsed the product. Where a unit split/distribution is declared, investors are advised that following the issue of additional units/distribution, the NAV per unit will be reduced from the pre-unit split NAV/cum-distribution NAV to post-unit split NAV/ex-distribution NAV; and where a unit split is declared, the value of your investment in the Fund's denominated currency will remain unchanged after the distribution of the additional units. Past performances are not an indication of future performances. There are risks involved with investing in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes. Some of these risks associated with investments in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes are interest rate fluctuation risk, foreign exchange or currency risk, country risk, political risk, credit risk, non-compliance risk, counterparty risk, target fund manager risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. For further details on the risk profile of all the funds, please refer to the Risk Factors section in the Offering Documents. The price of units and income distribution may go down as well as up. Investors should compare and consider the fees, charges and costs involved. Investors are advised to conduct own risk assessment and consult the professional advisers if in doubt on the action to be taken.