

Peso Wealth Optimizer Fund 2036

An investment fund option for variable life insurance products of **The Manufacturers Life Insurance Co., (Phils), Inc.**

Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to maximize long-term capital growth while managing the risk of capital erosion as the target date approaches through a dynamic rebalancing of exposure to diversified portfolios of peso-denominated fixed income securities and securities listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange and/or pooled funds that invest in these securities and other liquid fixed income instruments.

Fund Information

Inception Date June 2016	Fund Size PHP 249.62 million	Fund Currency Philippine peso	Dealing/Valuation Daily
Price (NAV/unit) PHP 0.871	Management Fee 2.25% per annum (of which 0.18% will go to the Investment advisor, Manulife Investment Management (HK) Limited.)		Bloomberg Ticker MPPHWTY

Performance Return (June 30, 2023)

Peso Wealth Optimizer Fund 2036 (net of management fee)	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Absolute	-0.11%	1.04%	9.15%	5.83%	-8.12%	-12.90%
Annualized	n.a.	n.a.	9.15%	1.91%	-1.68%	-1.93%

Past performance is not an indication of future results. Information about the portfolio's holdings, asset allocation, or country diversification is historical and is not an indication of future portfolio composition, which will vary.

Why Peso Wealth Optimizer Funds?

Investing through a target date approach simplifies asset allocation for an average investor. The asset mix changes over time, becoming more conservative as the investor's financial milestone draws closer.

The change in asset allocation over time is called the **glide path** which Manulife designed specifically for these funds.



The glide path's objectives include:

- To maximize wealth accumulation prior to target date
- To minimize risk as the target date approaches
- To make wealth last long enough to support any financial needs beyond the chosen target date

Top Five Holdings

Bond Pool		Short-Term Bond Pool	
FXTN 03/04/27	13.49%	Manulife Stable Income Fund Class I	36.60%
FXTN 08/12/25	11.03%	FXTN 08/12/25	10.19%
FXTN 09/09/25	6.68%	FXTN 02/14/26	9.02%
FXTN 04/08/26	6.65%	FXTN 04/08/26	8.28%
Manulife Income Builder Fund Class I	5.51%	FXTN 09/09/25	8.02%

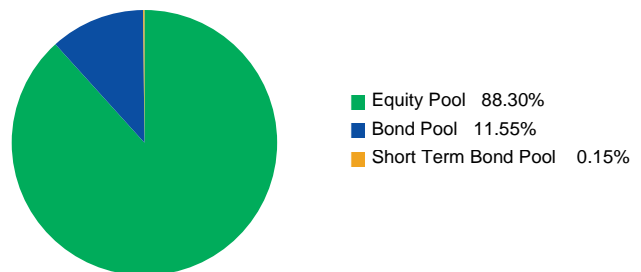
Equity Pool

SM INVESTMENTS CORPORATION	14.04%
SM PRIME HOLDINGS INC	9.59%
Manulife Equity Wealth Fund Class I	9.13%
BDO UNIBANK INC	8.44%
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS	7.70%

Notes:
 FXTN - Fixed Treasury Notes or Peso-denominated debts of the Philippine Government
 RTB - Retail Treasury Bonds of the Philippine Government

Portfolio Breakdown

Asset Allocation (at Market Value)



As per the fund's Investment Policy Statement, initial subscriptions are invested in fixed 93.32% Equities, 6.6% Long term bonds, 0.08% Short term bonds. The investments of these pools consist of the following:

-Peso Bond Pool: Peso-denominated bonds of the Republic of the Philippines and term deposits.

-Short Term Bond Pool: Peso-denominated bonds of the Republic of the Philippines with a term of up to three years and term deposits.

Peso Wealth Optimizer Fund 2036

Market Review

The Philippine Stock Equity index (PSEi) was flat in June, ending at 6,430 level and just -0.09% lower compared to the prior month. The equity market started out June weak due to the concerns over potential interest rate hikes from the US. The weakness reversed as the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas extended its interest rate hike pause in its June meeting.

The macroeconomic picture continued to improve with June inflation slowing down to 5.4% y/y, lower compared to 6.1% in May. This decline provided the BSP with further room to pause interest rate hikes during the month. The Philippine peso also strengthened due to improving trade deficit figures as well as a weaker US Dollar. Meanwhile, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. signed into law the Senate Bill 2020 and House Bill 6608, establishing the Maharlika Investment Fund (MIF). The Maharlika Fund will be initially funded by the National Government together with Landbank and Development Bank of the Philippines. The fund aims to invest in various asset classes such as equities, fixed income, as well as government infrastructure projects. On the other hand, Department of Finance Secretary Benjamin Diokno is planning to impose taxes on 'junk food' or food items that high contents of salt and beverages with sugar.

Overseas, investor sentiment also significantly improved after seeing US Inflation falling down to 3% in June, closer to the US Federal Reserve's target of 2%. Consensus expects the US Fed to raise policy rates by another 25bps in July. Meanwhile, El Nino has already officially started in June. So far, the government expects that this El Nino would be on the mild side of the spectrum. Hence, there is a likelihood that the impact of El Nino to inflation will be minimal.

Yields rose by 30-40bps in June, reversing over half of this year's rally. Despite the continuous moderation in local inflation to 5.4% in June from May's 6.1% print, the market decided to focus on rising yields in the U.S., as well as the Bureau of Treasury's decision to upsize its weekly FXTN auctions from P25b to P30b. Stronger-than-expected activity and jobs data in the U.S. fueled speculation of another Federal Reserve hike this month with possibility of rate cuts pushed back to next year. Nevertheless, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) maintained its stance that it has room to extend its pause in adjusting the policy rate.

Outlook

We have a positive view on Philippine Equities as the macroeconomic environment continues to improve. Philippine inflation appears to be under control which provides the BSP to potential cut interest rates in 4Q23. Note that the new BSP Governor, Eli Remolona, mentioned that they could consider cutting interest rates if inflation falls to 4%. In addition, the appreciation of the Philippine Peso due to declining trade deficit and weaker US Dollar supports a positive view on the local equity market. Meanwhile, the PSEi continues to trade at very attractive valuations, trading at only 12x forward price to earnings, a discount from historical average of 15x. One key challenge the market faces is the potential impact of El Nino on food supply and inflation.

While we acknowledge the presence of upside risks to inflation stemming from El Nino, we continue to expect local inflation to ease through the second half of the year and fall within the BSP's target range of 2-4% in 4Q. Furthermore, the recent sell-off has made local yields attractive with longer tenors approaching 7%. Indeed, volatility in U.S. interest rates has been spilling over to the local bond market, but the Philippines' improving macroeconomic fundamentals, remains supportive of a positive second half.

The investment fund option for The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company's variable life insurance product is managed by Manulife Investment Management and Trust Corporation.

The Fund mentioned in this document is specific to variable life insurance contracts and is not considered a mutual fund. Yields depend on interest and foreign exchange rate levels, both of which may fluctuate. Other factors that affect yield include changes in the credit standing of the issuers and changes in the value of the stocks and dividends received. Further, investments of the Fund may provide that their values be determined based on prices or yields of other securities, instruments or foreign currencies, and such provisions may result in negative fluctuations in the value of these investments and, in turn, the Fund's yields. Thus, the performance of the separate account(s) is not guaranteed and the value of the policy could be less than the capital invested. THE VARIABLE LIFE POLICYHOLDER SHALL BEAR ALL INVESTMENT RISKS. Past performance of the Fund is not necessarily indicative of future performance. Yields are not guaranteed.

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