

Peso Wealth Optimizer Fund 2036

An investment fund option for the 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 180.46 million	Fund Currency Philippine peso	Dealing/Valuation Daily
Price (NAV/unit) PHP 1.044	Management Fee 2.25% per annum (of which 0.18% will go to the investment advisor, MAM Hong Kong Ltd.)	Bloomberg Ticker MPPHWTY	

Performance Return (July 31, 2019)

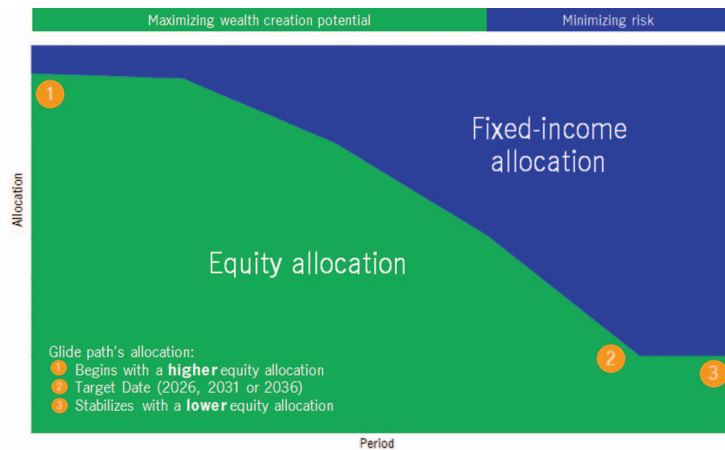
Peso Wealth Optimizer Fund 2036 (net of management fee)	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Absolute	0.87%	7.52%	3.98%	-1.23%	n.a.	4.40%
Annualized	n.a.	n.a.	3.98%	-0.41%	n.a.	1.38%

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

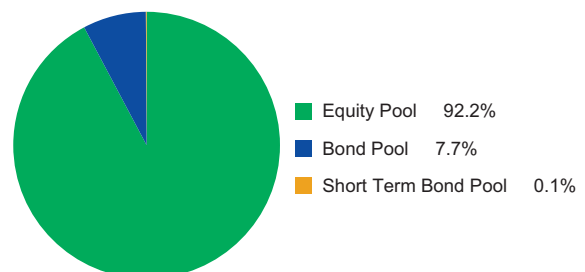
Top Five Holdings

Bond Pool		Short-Term Bond Pool	
FXTN 03/12/24	18.5%	Manulife Stable Income Fund Class I	33.6%
RTB 12/04/22	15.1%	FXTN 01/26/22	17.5%
RTB 06/13/21	6.6%	RTB 06/13/21	16.1%
FXTN 01/10/29	6.3%	FXTN 01/19/22	12.0%
FXTN 01/24/39	5.6%	FXTN 03/20/21	7.7%
Equity Pool			
Manulife Equity Wealth Fund Class I	12.6%	BDO Unibank	8.5%
SM Investments	11.6%	Ayala Corporation	7.8%
Ayala Land	9.4%		

*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 local stock market index closed at 8,046, up 0.6% for the month of July. The market was able to break out of its 6-month consolidation range, closing above the 8,200 resistance level for the first time in 2019, but eventually succumbed to profit-taking during the latter part of the month. Nonetheless, a rosier outlook for the second half has helped boost investor sentiment with inflation tracking lower and the peso remaining stable. Helping boost equities further are global central banks issuing dovish statements and hinting at keeping accommodative monetary policies for longer. Inflation rate slowed in June to 2.7% YoY versus May's 3.2%. The BSP further hinted that third quarter inflation could settle below the BSP's target range of 2-4% because of high-base effect from last year's multi-high rates. This should be supported by the significant drop in oil prices as well as the cost of rice which continue to decline with the ongoing harvest season and the continued arrival of imports. In its June 20 monetary policy meeting, the BSP revised its inflation forecast for FY19 to 2.7% from 2.9% on expectations of lower global oil prices and the peso's appreciation. Philippine 10-year bond yields continue to decline and are beginning to breach below 5%, further supporting a potential equities market re-rating, following a much more benign inflation outlook.

With the US Federal Reserve (Fed) clearly signaling a rate cut for the end of July, numerous central banks, including the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) have followed suit. The BSP's Monetary Board (MB) cut policy rates by 25bps at its May meeting but paused at its July 10 meeting, noting that it's simply a matter of timing for the next policy cut. The next MB meeting is scheduled on August 8, with investors pricing in a high probability of a 25bps policy cut.

Against the loosening policy backdrop, local bonds continued its rally with yields lower by an average of 43bps across the curve. Strong buying momentum emerged given the dovish global sentiment. The injection of approximately PHP 45Bn into the market, as the last 50bp cut tranche of the Reserve Requirement Ratio took effect at the end of July, may have also contributed to the lower yield environment.

Outlook

We have turned more bullish on the Philippine stock market amidst the country's improving macro fundamentals. The lower inflation outlook should give the BSP sufficient room to further adopt a more loose monetary policy stance going forward. Moreover, there seems to be minimal signs for major potential disappointments in the upcoming second quarter earnings season.

With our more bullish outlook on the market, the fund looks to increase exposure in liquid names that are more likely going to be acting as market proxies, particularly for foreign investors, while also remaining well-positioned in select names that should deliver during the upcoming earnings season. We have also lessened our cash position to increase the funds' ability to participate in market rallies.

Outlook for the global yield environment seems to be promising following the Fed's decision to ease policy rates by 25bps last July 31. Recent re-escalation of U.S. and China trade war may also prompt 1-2 more rate cuts this year. Outlook for the Philippine bond market also remains positive with the BSP having ample room to ease following last year's 175bp policy rate hike. As long as inflation continues to moderate and the Philippine currency remains relatively stable, we can expect a further downtrend in peso bond yields for the rest of 2019. In light of the current environment, we will maintain our longer duration positioning vis-a-vis the benchmark and will opportunistically take profit on select securities as the rally continues.

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

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