

**SBM Universal Fund**NAV per share **MUR 31.58****Investment objective**

SBM Universal Fund is a diversified multi-asset fund with an objective of maximising long-term returns while providing regular income through a balanced strategy. It invests in a diversified portfolio of securities that includes domestic and international equities, equity-linked securities, unit trusts, mutual funds, fixed income securities, money market instruments and cash.

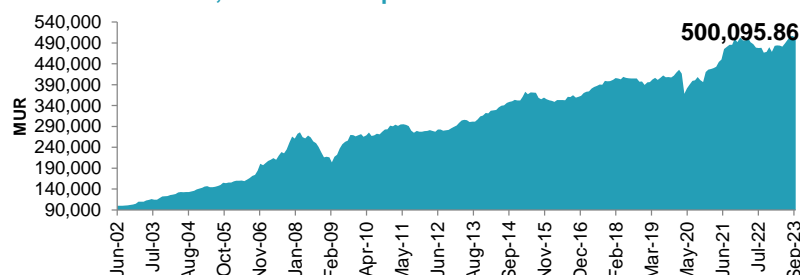
**Fund facts****Investment Manager:** SBM Mauritius Asset Managers Ltd**Fund Administrator:** SBM Fund Services Ltd**Registry and Transfer Agent:** SBM Fund Services Ltd**Custody:** SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd**Auditor:** Deloitte Mauritius**Benchmark:** 30% SEMDEX + 40% 1Y GOM Bill + 30% MSCI World**Distribution:** Annual subject to distributable income**Investor profile:** Balanced**Inception date:** 1 Jun 2002**Fund size:** MUR 462.8M**Base currency:** MUR**Minimum one-off investment:** MUR 500**Minimum monthly investment plan:** MUR 200**Management fee:** 1.00% p.a.**Entry fee:** 1.00%**Exit fee:** 1% up to Y2 | 0.75% in Y3 | 0.5% in Y4 | 0.25% in Y5 | Nil after Y5

\*Applicable as from Mar-2019. Previous Benchmark: 35% SEMDEX + 30% 1Y GOM Bill + 35% MSCI World

**Performance**

| Period    | 1M    | 3M   | YTD  | 1Y   | 3Y    | 5Y    | Launch | Annualised | 2023 | 2022 | 2021  | 2020  | 2019 | 2018 |
|-----------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|--------|------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Fund      | -1.2% | 0.6% | 6.7% | 7.2% | 24.8% | 23.5% | 400.1% | 7.9%       | 3.9% | 0.7% | 19.1% | -1.8% | 0.3% | 4.7% |
| Benchmark | -1.0% | 1.1% | 6.3% | 8.4% | 26.1% | 23.3% | 363.1% | 7.5%       | 4.3% | 1.6% | 16.8% | -1.5% | 1.7% | 6.1% |

Note: Fund performance is calculated on indicative NAV to NAV. The performance of the index is based on a blended benchmark consisting of 30% SEMDEX, 40% 1Y GOM Bill and 30% MSCI World index (MUR), and rebalanced monthly. The benchmark return is computed in MUR terms. Annual returns are for the financial year of the Fund, that is, June. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

**Growth of MUR 100,000 since inception****Fund statistics**

| Period                    | 1Y    | 3Y    | 5Y   | Launch |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|------|--------|
| Correlation               | 0.97  | 0.98  | 0.98 | 0.88   |
| Regression alpha (%)      | -2.07 | -0.34 | 0.07 | 3.86   |
| Beta                      | 1.10  | 0.99  | 0.99 | 0.88   |
| Annualised volatility     | 5.4%  | 6.8%  | 8.3% | 7.4%   |
| Annualised tracking error | 1.6%  | 1.4%  | 1.7% | 3.8%   |

Relative metrics such as alpha, beta and tracking error are computed against the composite index.

**Asset allocation**

| Asset class            | % Fund        | Top 5 countries | % Fund       | Top currency    | % Fund        |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| International Equities | 29.2%         | Mauritius       | 65.2%        | Mauritian Rupee | 67.5%         |
| Domestic Equities      | 30.8%         | United States   | 18.2%        | US Dollar       | 29.0%         |
| Domestic Fixed Income  | 34.4%         | India           | 2.5%         | Euro            | 3.5%          |
| Cash                   | 5.6%          | China           | 1.1%         | <b>Total</b>    | <b>100.0%</b> |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>100.0%</b> | United Kingdom  | 0.9%         |                 |               |
|                        |               | <b>Total</b>    | <b>87.9%</b> |                 |               |

| Domestic sectors    | % Fund       |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Banking & Insurance | 15.3%        |
| Commerce            | 4.2%         |
| Industry            | 3.6%         |
| Investment          | 3.3%         |
| Leisure & Tourism   | 2.8%         |
| Property            | 1.6%         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>30.8%</b> |

| Top 10 international industries          | % Fund       |
|--|--------------|
| Semiconductors & Equipment               | 2.9%         |
| Software & Services                      | 2.8%         |
| Pharmaceuticals, Biotech & Life Sciences | 2.3%         |
| Capital Goods                            | 2.1%         |
| Financial Services                       | 1.9%         |
| Banks                                    | 1.8%         |
| Health Care Equipment & Services         | 1.6%         |
| Media & Entertainment                    | 1.6%         |
| Technology Hardware & Equipment          | 1.5%         |
| Materials                                | 1.5%         |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>20.0%</b> |

**Asset allocation (continued)**

| <b>Top 10 holdings</b>                       | <b>% Fund</b> | <b>Top 10 international holdings *</b> | <b>% Fund</b> |
|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| MCB Group Limited                            | 10.1%         | Microsoft Corp                         | 1.0%          |
| iShares MSCI World ETF                       | 7.6%          | Apple Inc.                             | 1.0%          |
| Vanguard S&P 500 ETF                         | 4.9%          | NVIDIA Corp                            | 0.7%          |
| SIT Bond 25/04/2024                          | 4.4%          | Alphabet Inc - Class A                 | 0.5%          |
| CIM Financial Services Ltd 31/07/2025        | 3.3%          | Amazon.com Inc                         | 0.4%          |
| IBL Ltd                                      | 3.3%          | HDFC Bank Limited                      | 0.4%          |
| Government of Mauritius Bond 14/01/37        | 3.3%          | Novo Nordisk A/S-B                     | 0.3%          |
| Government of Mauritius Bond 20/08/2036      | 3.2%          | ASML Holding NV                        | 0.2%          |
| SBM Holdings Ltd                             | 3.0%          | Alphabet Inc - Class C                 | 0.2%          |
| SBM MUR Note Class A2 Series Bond 28/06/2028 | 2.6%          | Eli Lilly & Co                         | 0.2%          |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>45.7%</b>  | <b>Total</b>                           | <b>4.9%</b>   |

\* Look-through of foreign investments

**Market comments**

The Net Asset Value per unit (NAV) of the Fund fell from MUR 32.42 in August to MUR 31.58 in September, equivalent to a return of -1.2%, while the benchmark posted -1.0%. Local indices maintained its uptrend in September with the SEMDEX and DEMEX closing the month at 2,142.48 and 273.51 points, equivalent to respective returns of 2.9% and 3.1%. The main leaders, that is, companies which contributed to the positive performance of the SEMDEX were MCBG, NMHL and ENLG while the main laggards were TERA, SUN and FINCORP. The top three price gainers were NMHL (+15.4%), ENLG (+11.9%) and SBMH (+6.7%) while the main detractors were POLICY (-12.9%), FINCORP (-8.0%) and MTMD (-6.3%). The price-earnings ratio and dividend yield of the SEMDEX stood at 7.20x and 4.07%, respectively, as at 30 September against corresponding figures of 9.24x and 3.77%, as at 31 August. Foreign flows remained negative to the tune of MUR 186.1M (vs. MUR 215.5M in Aug-23), mainly driven by MCBG, SBMH and TERA.

On the primary market, the yield on the 91D Treasury Bills increased by 11bps to 3.26% post a net issuance of MUR 1B. The yields on the 182D Treasury Bills and 364D Treasury Bills both surged by 25bps to reach 3.43% and 3.59%, respectively, following corresponding auctions of MUR 1.1B and MUR 850M. A 3Y GoM Note worth MUR 2.1B was issued at a weighted yield of 3.79%, 16bps above the preceding rate. The 10Y GoM Bond yield fell by 84bps to 4.41% following an issuance of MUR 2.3B. There were no fresh auctions of 5Y, 7Y, 15Y and 20Y GoM Bonds during the month.

International equities closed in negative territory, with September being the worst-performing month for the broader market since December 2022. Impending fear of a government shutdown and worries that the Fed will keep interest rates higher for longer weighed on risky assets; the MSCI World index posted -4.4% MoM.

The S&P 500 index wrapped up its biggest monthly drop for the calendar year 2023, registering a return of -4.9% in September. Concerns over the potential impact of a government shutdown and the surge in treasury yields spurred a risk-off sentiment. All the major industry groups registered negative performances except for Energy which posted 2.5%. Value stocks outperformed their growth counterparts, with the S&P Value index posting -4.8% against -5.0% for the S&P Growth index. The S&P Global US Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) slightly increased from 47.9 in August to 49.8 in September after improved hiring activity and easing supply helped factories complete backlog orders.

The Eurostoxx 50 index registered -2.8% MoM. The CAC 40 and DAX 30 indices recorded respective performances of -2.5% and -3.5%, while the FTSE MIB index posted -2.0%. The Eurozone manufacturing output remained in contraction territory amidst sharp declines in new orders and output, along with sustained reductions in employment. Manufacturing PMI dropped from 43.5 in August to 43.4 in September, marking the fifteen successive months of the indicator being under the 50 threshold. In the UK, the FTSE 100 index gained 2.3% MoM, leading its global peers – the considerable tilt in energy stocks supported the index after oil prices rose sharply. Manufacturing PMI stood at 44.3 in September against 43.0 in August as weaknesses in both domestic and international markets adversely impacted output and new orders.

In Japan, the Nikkei 225 index registered -2.3% in September. Operating conditions deteriorated with the PMI declining from 49.6 in August to 48.5 in September following steeper reductions in output and new orders. Besides the notable weakness in manufacturing output, input price inflation accelerated for a second consecutive month, running to a four-month high.

Emerging markets' equities outperformed developed markets after the MSCI Emerging Markets index registered -2.8% in September. The CSI 300 index posted -2.0% in local currency and -2.5% in USD, as ongoing concerns over the property sector weighed on sentiment. The manufacturing sector continued its slow recovery, with the rate of output growth improving to a four-month high – PMI stood at 50.6 in September against 51.0 in August. Overseas demand, however, remained weak after the gauge for new export orders flashed a sub-50 reading, suggesting that the overall rise in output was largely driven by the domestic market. In India, the BSE Sensex index rebounded by 1.5% MoM. Despite manufacturing PMI reaching a 5-month low of 57.5 in September from 58.6 in August, the indicator remained well above its long-run average of 53.9. Strong demand and positive market dynamics led to a steep growth in new orders underpinning sustained expansions in factory output.

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For price updates on this fund, please see: <https://nbfc.sbmgroup.mu/asset-management>**Important notes**

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