SBM Universal Fund

NAV per share MUR 35.00



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

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

Inception date: 1 Jun 2002 Fund size: MUR 464.1M 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

Performance

Period	1M	3M	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	Launch	Annualised	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Fund	-0.3%	3.0%	8.6%	9.5%	15.3%	34.6%	454.1%	8.1%	11.7%	3.9%	0.7%	19.1%	-1.8%	0.3%
Benchmark	0.2%	2.4%	7.6%	8.9%	16.2%	33.7%	408.1%	7.6%	10.7%	4.3%	1.6%	16.8%	-1.5%	1.7%

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	0.98	0.97	0.98	0.89
Regression alpha (%)	-0.39	-0.24	0.08	4.29
Beta	1.11	1.00	1.01	0.88
Annualised volatility	6.0%	5.9%	8.4%	7.3%
Annualised tracking error	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	3.7%

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

Asset allocation

Asset class	% Fund
International Equities	32.1%
Domestic Equities	30.9%
Domestic Fixed Income	32.9%
Cash	4.1%
Total	100.0%

rop 5 countries	% Fullu
Mauritius	63.8%
United States	21.6%
India	3.1%
Japan	1.7%
United Kingdom	1.0%
Total	91.2%

Top currency	% Fund
Mauritian Rupee	65.7%
US Dollar	31.8%
Euro	2.5%
Total	100.0%

Domestic sectors	% Fund
Banking & Insurance	15.6%
Commerce	3.8%
Investment	3.3%
Industry	3.0%
Leisure & Tourism	2.7%
Property	1.5%
ICT	1.0%
Total	30.9%

Top 10 international industries	% Fund
Semiconductors & Equipment	3.7%
Software & Services	3.6%
Pharmaceuticals, Biotech & Life Sciences	2.8%
Technology Hardware & Equipment	2.4%
Media & Entertainment	2.3%
Financial Services	2.3%
Capital Goods	2.3%
Banks	2.1%
Consumer Discretionary Distribution & Retail	1.6%
Energy	1.0%
Total	24.1%



Asset allocation (continued)

Top 10 holdings	% Fund	Top 10 international holdings *	% Fund	
MCB Group Limited	11.0%	Apple Inc.	1.8%	
iShares MSCI World ETF	6.3%	Microsoft Corp	1.6%	
Vanguard S&P 500 ETF	3.6%	NVIDIA Corp	1.6%	
Government of Mauritius Bond 14/01/37	3.3%	Amazon.com Inc	0.9%	
Government of Mauritius Bond 20/08/2036	3.3%	Berkshire Hathaway Inc - Class B	0.7%	
IBL Notes 26/06/31	3.3%	Meta Platforms Inc - Class A	0.7%	
CIM Financial Services Ltd 31/07/2025	3.2%	Alphabet Inc - Class A	0.7%	
SBM India Fund	3.1%	Eli Lilly & Co	0.6%	
IBL Ltd	3.1%	Broadcom Inc	0.5%	
SBM Holdings Ltd	3.0%	Alphabet Inc - Class C	0.4%	
Total	43.2%	Total * Look-through of foreign investments	9.5%	

Market comments

The Net Asset Value per unit (NAV) of the Fund fell from MUR 35.09 in June to MUR 35.00 in July, equivalent to a return of -0.3% while the benchmark posted a return of 0.2%. Local indices registered mixed returns in July as the SEMDEX recouped part of its previous month's losses to close higher at 2,113.49 points while the DEMEX registered its third consecutive losing streaks heading to 238.83 points, equivalent to respective returns of +0.2% and -1.3%. The main leaders, that is, companies which contribute to the positive performance of the SEMDEX were MCBG, ASCE, NMHL while the main laggards were SUN, ROGERS and ALTG. The top three price gainers were NIT (+22.0%), CAUDAN (+20.5%) and BLL (+14.0%) while the main detractors were SUN (-12.0%), ASL (-9.1%) and ALTG (-7.9%).

On the primary market, the yield on the 91D Treasury Bills remained unchanged at 3.89% since there was no fresh issuance. The yield on the 182D Treasury Bills and 364D Treasury Bills marginally rose by 2bps and 1bp to reach 3.48% and 3.72% respectively, following corresponding issuances of MUR 3.5Bn and MUR 4.0Bn. A 3Y GOM Note worth MUR 2.17Bn was issued at a weighted yield of 4.59%, 4bps above the previous month. The yield on the 7Y GoM Bond fell by 39bps to 4.90% post an issuance of MUR 4.1Bn. Yield on the 15Y GOM Bond stood at 5.38% against an earlier reading of 5.20%, following an auction of MUR 4.6Bn. There were no fresh auctions of 10Y and 20Y GoM Bonds during the month.

International equities maintained its upward momentum in July, driven by a series of soft US economic data which revived hopes of a September rate cut by the Federal Reserve. Gains were however capped as a self-off within megacaps dragged down the broader market; the MSCI World index posted 1.7% MoM.

The S&P 500 index registered 1.1% MoM, closing out a volatile month amid a rotation out of the tech megacaps into small caps and cyclical sectors. This rate-led rotation steered the largest monthly outperformance of the Russell 2000 index versus the heavy tech-gauge index, Nasdaq 100, in over 20 years. 9 out of the 11 major industry groups recorded positive returns, led by the economically sensitive groups, that is, Real Estate, Utilities and Financials. Value stocks outperformed their growth counterparts, with the S&P Value index registering a gain of 4.6% versus -1.3% for the S&P Growth index. The S&P Global US Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) signalled a deterioration in the health of the manufacturing sector, with the index falling below the 50-threshold for the first time in seven months; the indicator edged down to 49.6 in July against 51.6 in June following a drop in new orders. Input cost inflation eased for a second month, falling to a one-year low.

Eurostoxx 50 index retreated by 0.4% MoM following a slate of disappointing earnings which raised concerns about the health of the broader economy. The CAC 40 and DAX 30 indices recorded respective performances of 0.7% and 1.5% while the FTSE MIB index added 1.8%. The Eurozone manufacturing sector remained in contraction territory due to the sustained weakness in demand. The slump in new orders led to an acceleration in output contraction with the PMI reading unchanged at 45.8 in July. Input costs data reflected a marked acceleration in cost pressures with prices increasing at the fastest rate in a year and a half. In the UK, the FTSE 100 index registered 2.5% MoM, driven by robust economic data. The first interest rate cut since 2020 by the Bank of England also added to the positive sentiment. The recovery in the manufacturing sector strengthened in July with PMI edging up to a two-year high of 52.1 (June 2024: 50.9), driven by expansions in output, new orders and employment. Input price inflation rose to a 18-month high on account of the Red Sea crisis and related freight issues.

The Nikkei 225 index slid by 1.2% MoM following the sharp rally in the Japanese yen. The Bank of Japan's decision to hike rates also amplified market volatility. Operating conditions deteriorated for the first time in three months as a steep decline in new orders led to the renewed decline in production levels. New order volumes fell at its strongest rate since March, mainly attributable to subdued demand in domestic as well as international markets. PMI tumbled to 49.1 in July against 50.0 in June. Inflationary pressures intensified in the latest survey period with input price inflation rising to the steepest rate in 15 months on account of higher raw material, labour, oil and logistic costs.

Emerging markets' equities underperformed developed markets after the MSCI Emerging Markets index posted -0.1% in July. The CSI 300 index registered -0.6% MoM in local currency and 0.1% in USD. China's manufacturing activity expanded at the slowest pace in nine months amid a renewed fall in new orders – PMI fell to 49.8 in July, down from 51.8 in June. Although market conditions softened, employment remained relatively stable with business confidence improving across the sector. In India, the BSE Sensex gained 3.4% MoM. The manufacturing sector maintained its growth momentum, buoyed by robust demand from both domestic and international markets, resulting in significant upturn in both new order inflows and production; PMI stood at 58.1 in July against a previous reading of 58.3.

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