

# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## METRO ASPIRE BALANCED FEEDER FUND KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Month Ended February 29, 2024

### FUND FACTS

Classification:	Multi-Asset - Feeder	Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVPU):	1.024371
Launch Date:	August 27, 2015	Total Fund NAV (in Php Mns):	28.69
Trust Fee (per annum):	None	Dealing Day	12:00NN for Branch Channels
Minimum Investment:	Php1,000	(any banking day):	2:30PM for Electronic Channels
Additional Investment:	Php500	Redemption Settlement:	2 Banking Days after date of redemption
Minimum Holding Period:	None	Early Redemption Charge:	None

### COOLING-OFF PERIOD

Pursuant to BSP Circular No. 857, the TRUSTOR (individual participants) shall have the right to cancel their initial subscriptions or contributions, without penalty, upon written notice to the Trustee within two (2) banking days immediately following the signing of agreement or contract evidencing their participation in the Fund. Further, the net amount of payment or delivery due the TRUSTOR shall be based on the transaction day's NAVPU when notice of redemption, termination or cancellation was received.

### FEES COLLECTED FOR THE MONTH<sup>1</sup>

Trustee Fees:	Custodianship Fees:	External Auditor Fees:	Other Fees:
0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%
Metrobank-Trust Banking Group	Standard Chartered Bank	SGV & Co.	Others

<sup>1</sup> As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at (in Php Mns): 28.75

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

The Investor Fund is a Peso-denominated balanced Unit Investment Trust Fund structured as a feeder fund and aims to achieve for its participants, high growth and high income primarily by investing in the Metro Balanced Fund. The Fund's composite benchmark is composed of 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index and 40% Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5.

### CLIENT SUITABILITY

A client profiling process is performed prior to participating in the Fund to guide the prospective investor if the Fund is suited to his/her investment objectives and risk tolerance. Clients are encouraged to update the resulting profile every three (3) years or if there's any change in his/her personal/financial circumstances. Before deciding to invest, clients are advised to read the Declaration of Trust/Plan Rules of the Fund, which may be obtained from the Trustee, or seek an independent/professional opinion when necessary.

### The METRO ASPIRE BALANCED FEEDER FUND is suitable only for investors who:

- Have an Aggressive profile.
- Want high growth and high income primarily by investing in Metro Balanced Fund.
- Recommended investment horizon is at least five (5) years
- Participation in the Investor Fund shall be open to Filipino individuals, resident and non-resident aliens and corporate accounts.

### KEY RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

You should not invest in this Fund if you do not understand or are not comfortable with the accompanying risks.

Interest Rate Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in interest rates. The purchase and sale of a debt instrument may result in profit or loss because the value of a debt instrument changes inversely with prevailing interest rates.
Market/Price Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market prices of bonds and stocks/equities. It refers to the portfolio's exposure to marked-to-market valuation due to market price fluctuations of the bonds and stocks/equities.
Liquidity Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a price that could result in a loss. This may be caused by low trading volume due to different reasons such as securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers and/or sellers (limited buy/sell activity) or underdeveloped capital market.
Credit Risk / Default Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely manner on instruments such as bonds, loans, or other forms of fixed income security which the borrower issued. This inability of the borrower or counterparty to make good on its financial obligations may have resulted from adverse changes in its financial condition thus, lowering credit quality of the security, and consequently lowering the price (market/price risk) which contributes to the difficulty in selling such security.
Reinvestment Risk:	The possibility of having lower returns or earnings when funds mature and are reinvested. Investors in the UITF who redeem and realize their gains run the risk of reinvesting their funds in an alternative investment outlet with lower yields. Similarly, the UIT fund manager is faced with the risk of not being able to find better yielding alternative investment outlets as some of the securities in the fund matures.
Other Risks:	Your participation in the UITFs may be further exposed to the risk of any actual or potential conflicts of interest in the handling of in-house or related party transactions by Metrobank. These transactions may include own-bank deposits; purchase of own-institution or affiliate obligations (stocks, mortgages); purchase of assets from or sales to own institution, directors, officers, subsidiaries, affiliates or other related interests/parties; or purchases or sales between fiduciary/managed accounts.

The Fund invests only in high-credit quality assets which are evaluated using a rigorous internal scoring model required under the Trustee's accreditation process and BSP regulations. Internal risk limits and position limits together with regulatory exposure limits are monitored, reviewed and strictly adhered to on a daily basis. The Fund may also use financial derivatives solely for hedging risk exposures.

THE UIT FUND IS NOT A DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (PDIC).

RETURNS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND HISTORICAL NAVPU IS FOR ILLUSTRATION OF NAVPU MOVEMENTS/FLUCTUATIONS ONLY.

WHEN REDEEMING, THE PROCEEDS MAY BE WORTH LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL INVESTMENT AND ANY LOSSES WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT.

THE TRUSTEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS UNLESS UPON WILLFUL DEFAULT, BAD FAITH OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)



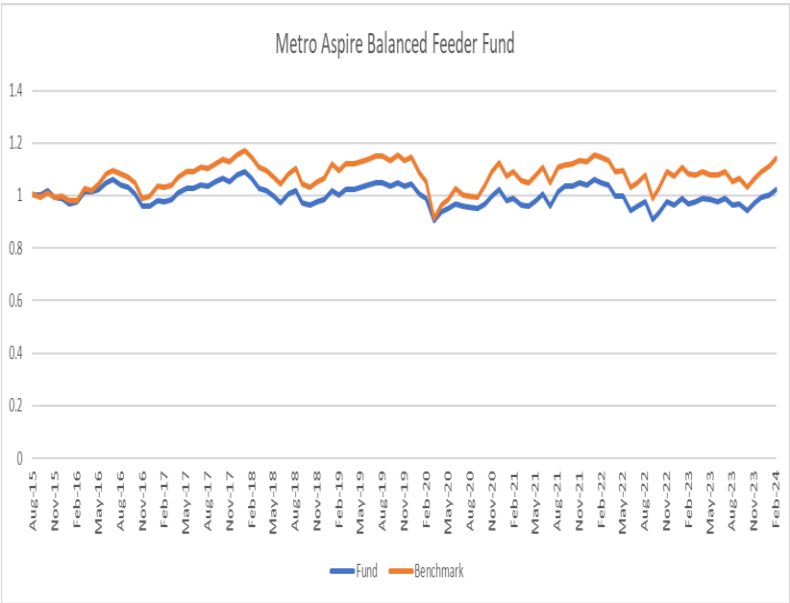
# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS as of

February 29, 2024

(Purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of future results)

### NAVPu GRAPH



### NAVPu OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Highest	1.006249
Lowest	0.941050

### STATISTICS

Weighted Average Duration (in years)	4.29
Volatility, Past 1 Year (in %) <sup>2</sup>	6.34%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.06
Information Ratio <sup>4</sup>	0.15

<sup>2</sup> Volatility measures the degree to which the Fund fluctuates vis-à-vis its average return over a period of time. The lower the number, the more stable the Fund's return is relative to its average return over time. Starting December 2017, computation is based on the annualized standard deviation of monthly returns.

<sup>3</sup> Sharpe Ratio is used to characterize how well the return of a Fund compensates the investor for the level of risk taken. The higher the number, the better.

<sup>4</sup> Information Ratio measures reward-to-risk efficiency of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. The higher the number, the higher the reward per unit of risk.

### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception <sup>5</sup>
Fund	2.071%	5.461%	6.402%	5.626%	3.444%	2.053%	2.437%
Benchmark	2.778%	7.410%	8.552%	5.466%	4.576%	4.154%	14.142%

<sup>5</sup> Benchmark return was based on the original benchmark of 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) and 40% HSBC Local Currency Bond Index (HSLI) 1-5 years (net of taxes) since inception, and was changed to 60% PSEi and 40% Bloomberg Philippine Sovereign Bond Index 1-5 year (BPHIL15) Adjusted effective May 2016.

The BPHIL15-Adjusted Index was tentatively discontinued when the GS pricing basis shifted from PDST -R2 of PDEx to BVAL of Bloomberg effective October 29, 2018. The Fund used, an equivalent benchmark namely, the BPI Philippine Government Bond 1-5 Year Index (from October 30, 2018 to December 31, 2020) and Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5 (from January 2020 until October 20, 2020). Effective October 21, 2020, the Fund benchmark is 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) and 40% Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5.

### PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

Allocation	% of Fund
Metro Balanced Fund	98.11%
Time Deposits	1.94%
Cash	0.36%
Other Receivables - Net of Liabilities <sup>6</sup>	-0.41%

<sup>6</sup> Includes accrued income from investments, receivables from brokers/counterparties and unpaid expenses.

### Sector Holdings of the Target Fund

Sector	% of Fund
Holdings	37.04%
Financials	20.81%
Properties	15.76%
Industrials	12.85%
Services	12.59%
Mining And Oil	0.95%

### TOP 10 HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Name	Maturity	% of Fund
1. FXT	06.23.32	8.18%
2. SM		7.04%
3. FXT	10.13.29	6.66%
4. FXT	01.10.29	5.60%
5. SMPH		4.61%
6. ACPAR		4.51%
7. BDO		4.29%
8. MBTC PHP TD	03.01.24	4.23%
9. BPI		3.96%
10. ICT		3.83%

### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related Party	Transaction	Market Value (in Php Mns)
MBTC	Time Deposit Placement	0.56

Investments in the said outlets were approved by the Trust Committee.

Likewise, all related party transactions are conducted on an arm's length and best execution basis and within established limits.

### TARGET FUND FACTS

**Name of Target Fund:** Metro Balanced Fund

**Fund Currency:** Philippine Peso

**Fund Manager:** Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company

**Inception Date:** April 8, 2005

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

Aims to provide growth and high income from a portfolio of diversified fixed income instruments and blue-chip, fundamentally sound PSE-listed equities and peso-denominated fixed income securities. The Fund may invest between 40% and 60% of its market value in equities listed in Philippine Stock Exchange and a minimum of 40% of its market value in peso-denominated fixed income securities.

**Domicile:** Philippines

**Regulator:** Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

**Benchmark:** 60% Philippine Stock Exchange Index, 40% Markit iBoxx ALBI Philippines 1-5



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)



# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## INVESTMENT POLICY

The Fund may be invested and reinvested in the following instruments:

- Units/shares in a collective investment schemes subject to the conditions enumerated under BSP Circular 767
- Deposits
- BSP deposit facilities
- Other investments allowed under BSP regulations

## OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY

Since bottoming out in October 2023, the PSEI has been on a steady uptrend, rallying +4.5% MoM to close at 6,944.71 in February, pushing the index up +7.7% YTD. This upward movement was fueled by improving macroeconomic indicators domestically, stable corporate earnings releases, and robust foreign inflows. Notably, the banking (+8.6% MoM) and industrials (+8.6%) sectors led the gains, while properties (-2.7%) and mining (-8.0%) ended in the red. ICT emerged as the top index gainer primarily due to foreign inflows and anticipation of strong core earnings results. Average volume turnover for the month stayed tepid at P5.2bn as investors lacked conviction beyond 7,000. On the flipside, foreigners were consistently buyers in the local equities market by USD129mn, extending their buying streak to 4 months.

In terms of corporate earnings, most of the nine PCOMP index constituents that reported 2023 full-year earnings met market expectations. However, SCC lagged estimates due to lower average selling prices despite improved coal sales in 4Q23. Banks, particularly BDO, BPI, and MBT, reported robust earnings, benefiting from the high-interest rate environment in the previous year. MBT surprised with a larger dividend payout, translating to an 8% dividend yield. Property companies also showed improvement, with ALI driven by better property development revenues while SMPH was lifted by its mall segment.

On the macroeconomic front, the BSP maintained its policy rates unchanged in its first Monetary Board meeting for 2024. The BSP slightly adjusted its inflation estimates, signaling the need to keep monetary policy tight to anchor inflation expectations amid various risks, including geopolitical tensions, higher rice and electricity prices due to El Nino, and increased gasoline prices. On that note, February's inflation print surpassed expectations, at 3.4% YoY versus 3.0% market consensus and January's print of 2.8%, driven by a significant increase in rice inflation, the fastest in 15 years.

On the fixed income space, the BTr announced five T-Bond auctions, including 3-year, 5-year, 7-year, 10-year, and 20-year issuances. However, the BTr cancelled three auctions (5-year, 7-year, and 10-year) to accommodate the offer period of the new 5-year RTB. Only the 3-year re-issuance of FXT3-30 and the new 20-year FXT2026 were auctioned for the month. Surprisingly, the BTr awarded the new 20-year FXT2026 coupon at 6.25%, the same rate as the coupon of the new 5-year RTB5-18. The tendered bids received for the new 20-year issuance amounted to PhP91.423 billion, making it 3.05 times oversubscribed. Yields across the curve were higher by an average of 15 bps MoM. Both the 20-year and 25-year BVAL rates increased by an average of 19 bps MoM, reaching 6.31% compared to the previous month's BVAL of 6.12%. In March, the BTr plans to sell government securities aiming to raise PhP180 billion. The T-Bond issuances will have revised tenors of 7 years, 10 years, 20 years, and 6 years, differing from the original advisory of 3 years, 5 years, 7 years, and 10 years. The BTr attributed the revised tenors to the outcome of the new 5-year RTB offering. For the balanced funds, the strategy of maintaining overweight duration compared to the benchmark and keeping cash at a minimum was also upheld.

The Philippine economy's stable growth, disinflation outlook, and potential 2024 policy easing offer an optimistic investment landscape. We project corporate earnings to grow by 6% in 2024, considering a 13x PE for FY2024, which puts our FY2024 PSEI target at 7,400.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company is regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). For any inquiries and complaints relating to Trust Products and Services you may (1) call our hotline: 8-8700-700 (Mondays-Fridays from 9:00am to 6:00pm); (2) send an email to [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph); or (3) visit our website at <https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf> to know more. You may also file complaints at BSP Financial Consumer Protection Department at (632) 8708-7087 or [consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph](mailto:consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph). To know your rights under BSP Circular No. 857 (Regulations on Financial Consumer Protection), please access a copy at the BSP website ([www.bsp.gov.ph](http://www.bsp.gov.ph)).



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)

