

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KENANGA INVESTORS AT THE EDGE | THOMSON REUTERS LIPPER AWARDS 2017

Kenanga Investors Berhad Wins Best Equity Group Award (Islamic).



Kuala Lumpur, 20 March 2017: Kenanga Investors Berhad (“Kenanga Investors”) walked away from The Edge Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards 2017 a proud winner of the Best Equity Group (Islamic) at the award ceremony held at Hilton Hotel Kuala Lumpur recently.

Award winners are determined based on the lowest average decile rank of three years’ consistent return measure of the eligible funds per asset class and group.

The strong outperformance of Kenanga Investors’ funds can be credited to the fund house’s long term investment philosophy of “bottom-up stock picking” approach which focuses on off-benchmark bets which are often under-researched investment opportunities overlooked by other index trackers. According to the fund house, there was no significant rebalancing exercise to the funds throughout 2016 in accordance to their stock-picking strategy.

“We saw the volatility that 2016 brought us as a source of opportunity to invest in mispriced assets. We further capitalised on this by adopting a slightly more flexible and wider range of asset allocation targets to take advantage of the short-term volatility,” said Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kenanga Investors Berhad. “We relied on our strong research capabilities to weather through the downturns and our internal governance policies to manage risk levels.” On plans to introduce new Islamic products and services, he expands “We want to work closely with industry partners to offer more Shariah-compliant investment alternatives in line with the Islamic fund and wealth management blueprint launched early this year. There is more interest in this now due to efforts from the government in building a sustainable Islamic finance framework. Investors are also getting a better grasp of Islamic finance which is another contributing factor.”

For 2017, he advised investors to consider a balanced and diversified approach which can include foreign exposure to act as a safety net against possible down cycles experienced by the local market while cashing in on performances of foreign funds. “With some recovery signs in the global economy at the beginning of 2017, we will favour sectors such as construction and infrastructure”, says De Alwis. He also adds that a

cyclical rebound on commodity prices and the asset reflation theme will place the oil and gas sectors favourably in 2017.

For more information about Kenanga Investors, please visit www.kenangainvestors.com.my.

###

Disclaimer: You must read and understand the Master Prospectus dated 30 June 2016 ("Master Prospectus") and the Supplemental Prospectus (if any), its Product Highlight Sheet ("PHS") or relevant PHS before investing. The Master Prospectus, Supplemental Prospectus (if any) and PHS have been registered and/or lodged with the Securities Commission Malaysia, who takes no responsibility for its contents. A copy of the said Master Prospectus, Supplemental Prospectus (if any) and the relevant PHS is obtainable at our offices or any authorized distributors. Application for units can only be made on receipt of application form referred to in and accompanying the Master Prospectus and/or Supplemental Prospectus and relevant PHS. Investors are advised to read and understand the Master Prospectus and/or Supplemental Prospectus and PHS and consider the fees, charges and risk factors before investing. Unit prices and distributions may go down as well as up. A Fund's track record does not guarantee its future performance. Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the unit trust loan financing risk disclosure statement before deciding to borrow to purchase units. Investors are advised that following the issue of distribution, the NAV per unit will be reduced from cum-distribution NAV to ex-distribution NAV. If you are in doubt when considering the investment or on any of the information provided, you are advised to consult a professional adviser. "Cooling – Off Period" or "Cooling – Off Right" is not applicable to EPF Member Investment Scheme (EPF MIS). Kenanga Investors Berhad is committed in preventing conflict of interest between its various businesses and activities and between its clients/ shareholders and employees by having in place: procedures and measures for identifying and properly managing any apparent, potential and perceived conflict of interest by making disclosures to clients, where appropriate. Kenanga Investors Berhad (353563 – P).

About Kenanga Investors Berhad (353563-P)

We provide investment solutions ranging from collective investment schemes, portfolio management services and alternative investments for retail, corporate, institutional and high net worth clients via a multi-distribution network.

Kenanga Investors prides itself on its reputation for its consistent top performing funds. Kenanga Growth Fund (KGF) won Best Performing Equity Malaysia Fund for the fourth time running (5 years) and third time running (10 years) at the Lipper Fund Award 2016 (Malaysia) for the year ended 31 December 2015. Besides that, KGF and Kenanga Syariah Growth Fund have been recognised by the FundsSupermarket.com's Recommended Unit Trusts Awards 2016/2017 in the Core Equity Malaysia category and Core Equity Malaysia (Islamic) categories respectively. KGF went on to receive the 2016 Asia Investment Management Award by Institutional Investor under the Malaysia Equity Fund category for 3-years and 10-years respectively.

Kenanga Investors also won the Hong Kong based Asia Asset Management's Best of the Best Awards 2016 for Best Institutional House category and 2 other individual awards with their Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Ismitz Matthew De Alwis named Malaysia CEO of the Year and their Chief Investment Officer, Ms Lee Sook Yee named Malaysia CIO of the Year.

Kenanga Investors has a long standing track record of offering first-in-the-market award-winning services. This includes AMP Plus service in which a Portfolio Manager actively monitors and oversees the investors' funds to ensure that they are invested in the best market opportunities.

Kenanga Investors is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad, the largest independent investment bank by equity trading value and volume.

This Press Release was issued by Kenanga Group's Marketing & Communications department.

For more information, please contact:

Chuah Sze Phing

DID: +603 – 2172 2918

Email: szepingchuah@kenanga.com.my

Muhammad Khumeini Hairudin

DID: +603 – 2172 2917

Email: khumeini@kenanga.com.my



Also featured in:

The Edge: <http://www.theedgemarkets.com/my/article/2017-edge-thomson-reuters-lipper-fund-awards-eastspring-and-manulife-biggest-winners-year%E2%80%99s>

Edition:
[International](#)
[Malaysia](#)
[Singapore](#)

Google play
Download on the App Store

THE EDGE MARKETS
MAKE BETTER DECISIONS

FORESTER
THE EXTRAORDINARY SUV

STARTING FROM
RM113,890*

Extraordinary Savings
*On-the-road with GST, without insurance

DRIVE & SAVE!

Thursday, March 16 2017

[HOME](#)
[CORPORATE](#)
[ENTERPRISE](#)
[PERSONAL WEALTH](#)
[THE EDGE TV](#)
[OTHERS](#)
[新聞](#)
[THE EDGE PROPERTY](#)

→ News Search

PERSONAL WEALTH FROM THE EDGE

Edge Weekly

2017 The Edge Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards: Eastspring and Manulife biggest winners at this year's awards

By Nur Azlin Abdul Karim and Khairani Afifi Noordin / The Edge Malaysia | March 14, 2017 : 3:06 PM MYT

Translated by Google Translator:
Select Language

(From left) Hoo See Kheng, CEO of Hong Leong Asset Management; Nik Hazim Nik Mohamed, chief investment officer at RHB Islamic International Asset Management; Ho Kay Tat, The Edge Media Group publisher and group CEO; Datuk Ahmad Fairuz Zainol Abidin, deputy chief executive of the Securities Commission Malaysia; Tock Chin Hui, head of equities at Manulife Asset Management; Datuk Mohamad Nasir Ab Latif, deputy CEO (investments) of the Employees Provident Fund; Raymond Tang, CEO of Eastspring Investments; Sharon Leong, head of marketing at Kenanga Investors; and Raymond Lee, director and senior site leader at Thomson Reuters.

The Edge:

<http://article.isentia.asia/viewarticles/default.aspx?acc=uYkt5hChRIQ=&app=KRJC/iIOPME=&file=6PcHrpe mZoZZ9mZWGKn70E0VsB72pN30xglAKVtcGfIXIkNBnXt8g==>

2017 Winners list	
GROUP AWARD WINNERS	
AWARD	COMPANY
Best Overall Group (Provident)	Manulife Asset Management Services Bhd
Best Bond Group (Provident)	RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd
Best Equity Group (Provident)	Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd
Best Equity Group (Islamic)	Kenanga Investors Bhd
Best Mixed Asset Group (Provident)	Eastspring Investments Bhd

The Edge:

<http://article.isentia.asia/viewarticles/default.aspx?acc=uYkt5hChRIQ=&app=KRJC/iIOPME=&file=6PcHrpe mZo0ZZ9mZWGKn71xEMma0zn91ga2fjVsGgZMQnW2wP09Mrg==>



The Edge:

<http://article.isentia.asia/viewarticles/default.aspx?acc=uYkt5hChRIQ=&app=KRJC/iIOPME=&file=6PcHrpe mZo204uiYL5bOqIFT5wRn4zKPU8f/Ni+Ui9zOpoJXwauBKO==>

Kenanga bags Islamic group award

Kenanga Investors Bhd clinched the prestigious award for Best Equity Group (Islamic) at The Edge-Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards 2017. Executive director and CEO Ismitz Matthew De Alwis attributes the out-performance of its Islamic funds to its bottom-up stock-picking approach. He says the fund house

has been able to identify off-benchmark bets that are often under-researched or largely ignored by typical index trackers.

"Our Islamic investing strategy is aligned with and adheres to the same investment philosophy and strategy applied to our conventional funds, which have also outperformed the market and peers in their respective categories over the last 10 years. In fact, some of our conventional equity funds are leading their performance peer ranking. On an absolute return basis, our conventional funds outperform our Islamic funds most of the time due to the absence of shariah-related constraints and, hence, the wider investment choices," says De Alwis.

He says stringent factors are taken into consideration during the fund house's research on companies, including their business model, competitive edge, value proposition, management quality, earnings growth potential, balance sheet strength and relative valuations.

"Supporting our systematic research capabilities is the firm's good governance and dedicated investment risk analytics modules, which serve to monitor consistency in investment styles and set risk-return metrics according to our investment philosophy and processes. We manage our stock, sector, country and any identifiable cluster exposures to avoid taking on excessive risk in any one risk factor while maximising upside potential," he adds.

Shariah-compliant funds have been gaining traction and experiencing strong growth. But the supply of stocks remains limited, creating a "scarcity premium", especially for some of the more liquid and better known names. "As a result, most shariah stocks trade at premium valuations versus their conventional counterparts, making the search for alpha generation more challenging over time," says De Alwis.

Adding to the challenge is the persistent volatility in the global markets, which have been exacerbated by geopolitical turmoil around the world. The

slowdown in China and steep devaluation of the renminbi, rising populist sentiment in the European Union member states following the UK's decision to leave the EU and the policy direction in the US following Donald Trump's election have brought down the markets.

These events have had a drastic impact on Malaysia as capital outflows have heightened due to fears of rising interest rates and inflationary expectations in the US, causing the ringgit to weaken and the local equities market to decline for the third consecutive year. While the volatility in the markets has caused investors to become jittery, it is an opportunity to invest in mispriced assets and take profit on holdings that have overshot their fair values, says De Alwis.

To continue leveraging the situation, the fund house has adopted a more flexible and wider range of asset allocation targets to take advantage of short-term market volatility. "We will continue to invest in companies with resilient earnings and have exposure to select themes such as government-linked company reform/restructuring plays, domestic consumption and infrastructure, including stocks that will benefit from the Malaysia-China partnership," he says.

Despite the poor market sentiment, as the FBM KLCI was down 3% last year, the growth of its client base was encouraging due to the increase in corporate and retail sales, says De Alwis.

He also says there was no significant rebalancing of the funds last year and that its strategy is largely driven by bottom-up stock picking. "Asset allocation is merely a by-product of our stock-picking results. In other words, we maintain our investments at certain levels as long as we continue to find suitable investment candidates to add to our portfolio."

"Having said that, we sometimes tactically scale back on our investment levels if market valuations are deemed too high or unsustainable. Throughout 2016, we kept our investment levels at a wider range of 75% to 85% as we chose to be more tactical and adaptable to the various macro developments during the year."



Going forward, the fund house is betting on sectors such as construction as it is poised to benefit from higher fiscal spending and foreign direct investments. "A cyclical rebound on commodity prices and the asset reflation theme will be favourable to the oil and gas and plantation sectors this year," says De Alwis. — By Pathma Subramaniam



ISMITZ MATTHEW DE ALWIS/THE EDGE

The Edge:


<http://www.theedgemarkets.com/my/article/2017-edge-thomson-reuters-lipper-fund-awards-kenanga-bags-islamic-group-award>


Friday, March 17 2017

[HOME](#)
[CORPORATE](#)
[ENTERPRISE](#)
[PERSONAL WEALTH](#)
[THE EDGE TV](#)
[OTHERS](#)
[新聞](#)
[THE EDGE PROPER](#)

→ News Search



ANOTHER RECORD
BREAKING YEAR



PERSONAL WEALTH FROM THE EDGE

Edge Weekly

2017 The Edge Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards: Kenanga bags Islamic group award

By Pathma Subramaniam / The Edge Malaysia | March 17, 2017 : 11:30 AM MYT

Translated by Google Translator:
[Select Language](#)
[f](#)
[t](#)
[p](#)
[e](#)
[r](#)

This article first appeared in *Personal Wealth, The Edge Malaysia Weekly*, on Month 6 - 12, 2017.

Kenanga Investors Bhd clinched the prestigious award for Best Equity Group (Islamic) at The Edge-Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards 2017. Executive director and CEO

Ismits Matthew De Alwis attributes the outperformance of its Islamic funds to its bottom-up stock-picking approach. He says the fund house has been able to identify off-benchmark bets that are often under-researched or largely ignored by typical index trackers.

"Our Islamic investing strategy is aligned with and adheres to the same investment philosophy and strategy applied to our conventional funds, which have also outperformed the market and peers in their respective categories over the last 10 years. In fact, some of our conventional equity funds are leading their performance peer ranking. On an absolute return basis, our conventional funds outperform our Islamic funds most of the time due to the absence of shariah-related constraints and, hence, the wider investment choices," says De Alwis.

He says stringent factors are taken into consideration during the fund house's research on companies, including their business model, competitive edge, value proposition, management quality, earnings growth potential, balance sheet strength and relative valuations.

"Supporting our systematic research capabilities is the firm's good governance and dedicated investment risk analytics modules, which