

## Manulife Global Aqua Fund

Offering diverse investment opportunities in the *water sector* 

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# Why invest in global water equities now?

The water domain is poised for continued attractive growth potential due to these *five* compelling drivers:

#### **Urbanisation**

- 68% of the world's population is expected to live in cities by 2050¹.
- Governments are placing more focus on urban development and infrastructure planning and management.

#### New infrastructures and upgrades

- Ageing infrastructure has caused inefficiencies in water supply and may present health risks<sup>2</sup>.
- Countries such as China, India, Singapore and the US are expected to invest in the upgrading of their infrastructure to meet water demand and tackle water pollution<sup>3</sup>.
- This has positive implications for growth opportunities within water sector companies.

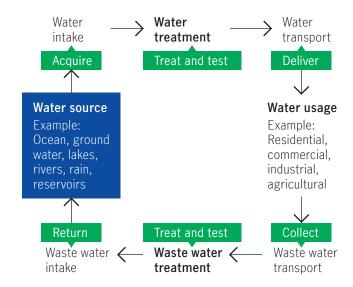
#### Water scarcity

- Increased urbanisation and high water consumption due to modern lifestyles are driving an increasing demand for clean water.
- Demand for water is expected to exceed supply by 40%4.

#### Rapidly growing water value chain

There are numerous growth opportunities for investors across the entire water value chain, in order to keep up with supply and demand.

#### Mapping of the water value chain<sup>5</sup>



#### **Technological innovation**

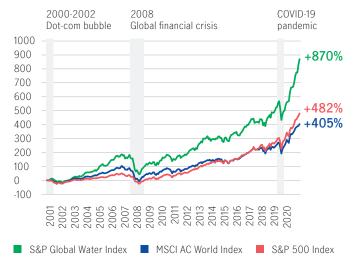
In the UK, a center of excellence will be established to allow water companies to collaborate, access skills and drive transformational change through water innovation<sup>6</sup>.

- <sup>1</sup> United Nations, 2018 Revision of World Urbanization Prospects.
- <sup>2</sup> Source: Google; Epoch Times, Civic Exchange: The Illusion of Plenty" report May 2017, SCMP July 2017.
- <sup>3</sup> Source: Impax Water Report, June 2021 and India Water Portal, December 2020.
- <sup>4</sup> Option for decoupling economic growth from water use and water pollution, United Nations Environment Programme, 2016.
- <sup>5</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management, June 2022. Individual stock performance is not indicative of the performance of the Target Fund. Target Fund refers to BNP Paribas Funds Aqua. The above flow chart is for illustrative purpose only and does not constitute an exhaustive mapping or any investment recommendation.
- <sup>6</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: UK 2050 water innovation strategy, September 2020. The above may contain projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or estimates. There is no assurance that such events will occur, and actual results may be significantly different from what is contained herein.

### Resilient performance

The water opportunity is surprisingly diverse and resilient. It runs through the global economy; across many end-markets, sectors and regions, providing attractive opportunities through the full economic cycle encompassing both defensive and cyclical businesses.

## The water-related sector proven to be resilient throughout the economic cycle



Source: Bloomberg for the period 31 December 2001 – 31 August 2021. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

# A deep and diverse range of opportunities in the water sector<sup>7</sup>

Investment opportunities that cut across:

The various sectors provide exposure to the entire water value chain, enable flexible investment allocation and take the different economic cycles into consideration:

Many of these companies are also highly innovative and in the technology space:

#### **End-markets**

Consumer to industrial

#### Sectors

Water infrastructure, utility, treatment and efficiency

#### **Regions**

Developed to emerging countries

#### Water infrastructure

Cyclical in nature

- Pipeline network facilities
- Buildings and industrial equipment
- Infrastructure services
- Irrigation systems

#### Water treatment

Slightly cyclical in nature

- Filtration equipment and advanced solutions
- Traditional maintenance mode
- Efficiency enhancement solutions
- Testing and monitoring

#### Water utilities

Defensive in nature

- Provision of clean water supply
- Growing areas include energy efficiency, infrastructure investment and desalination

### Leak detection and meter reading

Real time monitoring and data

#### **Smart irrigation**

Global positioning system data collection and manipulation applying precision agriculture to increase crop yields and efficiency of water use

#### Treatment and diagnostics

UV disinfection

#### Desalination

More advanced, efficient and cost effective conversion of seawater into fresh water

Target Fund\*: Awarded with sustainable investing labels



SRI (Sustainable and Responsible Investment) label<sup>8</sup>



Towards Sustainability label<sup>9</sup>

- \* Target Fund refers to BNP Paribas Funds Aqua.
- Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: Label SRI, June 2022. The "Sustainable and Responsible Investment" (SRI) label is a tool for selecting responsible and sustainable investments. It also aims to ensure that the management of the fund is based on a solid methodology, with a high degree transparency and quality information. More information is available on www.lelabelisr.fr.
- <sup>9</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: Towards Sustainability, June 2022. Created by the Belgian federation of the financial sector in 2019 (Febelfin), the Towards Sustainability label was designed as a standard or quality standard that all funds claiming to be sustainable, socially responsible, or ethical must respect. It aims to become a market standard, at least for Belgium. More information is available on the www.towardssustainability.be/

# About the Investment Manager of the Target Fund

#### Impax Asset Management<sup>10</sup>

- With experience in managing a water strategy since 2008.
- A partner of BNP Paribas Asset Management since 2007.
- Recognised for expertise in sustainable investing.



2020 UNPRI assessment: A+ Strategy and Governance<sup>11</sup>



Double award winner of UK Queen's Award for 'Enterprise: Sustainable Development' (2014 and 2020)<sup>12</sup>

- <sup>10</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: Impax Asset Management, June 2022.
- Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: Principles for Responsible Investment, 2020.
- <sup>12</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022: The Queen's Award Enterprise, April 2020.

Past performances are not an indication of future performances.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Source: BNP Paribas Asset Management – BNP Paribas Aqua, Investing in Blue Gold, July 2022.

#### **Key fund information**

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Name of the fund	Manulife Global Aqua Fund ("The Fund")	
The Manager	Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad 200801033087 (834424-U)	
Fund category	Feeder fund	
Base currency	EUR	
Currency class	A (RM-Hedged) Class, A (AUD-Hedged) Class, A (SGD-Hedged) Class and A (USD-Hedged) Class	
Investment objective	The Fund aims to provide capital appreciation by investing in one collective investment scheme with investment focus on companies tackling the water-related challenges and helping to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable world.	
Investor profile	The Fund is suitable for investors who:  • seek capital appreciation;  • are willing to accept higher level of market risks and tolerate volatility;  • have a medium-term investment horizon; and  • wish to seek investment exposure in companies within global water value chain.	
Investment policy and strategy	The Fund will invest at least 85% of the Fund's NAV in Share class UI9 (Euro) of the BNP Paribas Funds Aqua (the "Target Fund"), and the remaining NAV of the Fund will be invested in liquid assets such as cash, money market instruments (including fixed income securities which have a remaining maturity period of less than 365 days), placement of deposits with financial institutions for liquidity purposes and/or derivative for hedging purposes.	
Performance benchmark	MSCI World (Net Return) Index  Note: The performance benchmark above is only used as a reference for investment performance comparison purpose. The performance benchmark of the Fund is the same as the benchmark of the Target Fund. The risk profile of the Fund is not the same as the risk profile of this performance benchmark. The performance benchmark information is available at www.manulifeim.com.my	
Initial offer price	A (RM-Hedged) Class A (AUD-Hedged) Class A (SGD-Hedged) Class A (USD-Hedged) Class	RM 0.5000 AUD 0.5000 SGD 0.5000 USD 0.5000
Sales charge	Distribution channels IUTA UTC Manager	Sales charge (applicable to all classes of units)  Up to 5.00% of the NAV per Unit
Annual management fee	Up to 1.80% per annum of the NAV of the Fund calculated and accrued on a daily basis.	
Annual trustee fee	0.04% per annum of the NAV of the Fund (including local custodian fees, but excluding foreign custodian fees and charges).	
Minimum initial investment	A (RM-Hedged) Class A (AUD-Hedged) Class A (SGD-Hedged) Class A (USD-Hedged) Class	RM2,000.00 AUD2,000.00 SGD2,000.00 USD2,000.00
Minimum additional investment	A (RM-Hedged) Class A (AUD-Hedged) Class A (SGD-Hedged) Class A (USD-Hedged) Class	RM1,000.00 AUD1,000.00 SGD1,000.00 USD1,000.00
Distribution policy	Distribution of income, if any, is incidental. Note: For details, please refer to the Fund's Master Prospectus.	
Financial year end	31 January	
Cooling-off	The cooling-off period is only applicable to any individual investing for the first time in any unit trust funds managed by the Manager and excludes staff of the Manager and persons registered with a body approved by the Securities Commission Malaysia to deal in unit trusts. You have the right, within six (6) Business Days from the day of the receipt by the Manager of your application form, to call for a withdrawal of your investment.	

#### Disclaimer

The above information has not been reviewed by the SC and is subject to the relevant warning, disclaimer, qualification or terms and conditions stated herein. Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the Master Prospectus dated 15 May 2023 and its First Supplemental Master Prospectus dated 20 October 2023 and all the respective Product Highlights Sheet(s) (collectively, the "Offering Documents"), obtainable at our offices or website, before investing. The Offering Documents have been registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC), however the registration with the SC does not amount to nor indicate that the SC has recommended or endorsed the product. There are risks involved with investing in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes. Some of these risks associated with investments in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes are interest rate fluctuation risk, foreign exchange or currency risk, country risk, political risk, credit risk, non-compliance risk, counterparty risk, target fund manager risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. For further details on the risk profile of all the funds, please refer to the Risk Factors section in the Offering Documents. The price of units and income distribution may go down as well as up. Investors should compare and consider the fees, charges and costs involved. Investors are advised to conduct own risk assessment and consult the professional advisers if in doubt on the action to be taken.