

Fullerton Asia Income Return Fund - Class E (SGD)

April 2025

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to generate regular income and long term capital appreciation for investors by investing in equities, fixed income, cash and other permissible investments.

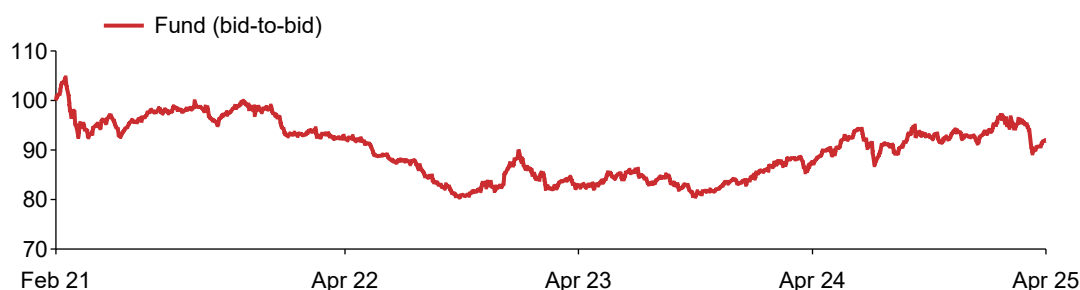
Investment Focus and Approach

The Fund may invest in collective investment schemes and other investment funds (including exchange traded funds ("ETFs")), securities and/or hold cash, in accordance with its investment objective and asset allocation strategy, as we deem appropriate.

We may use Financial Derivative Instruments (FDIs) (including, without limitation, treasury, bond or equities futures, interest rate swaps and foreign exchange forwards) for hedging, efficient portfolio management, optimising returns or a combination of all three objectives.

The Fund may also invest in other Authorised Investments.

Performance (%)



	1 mth	3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	3 yrs	Sl. Ann. Ret.	Sl. Ann. Vol.
Fund (bid-to-bid)	-3.38	-2.20	-0.75	5.44	-0.12	-1.95	7.92
Fund (offer-to-bid)	-7.10	-5.96	-4.57	1.38	-1.42	-2.85	NA

Returns of more than 1 year are annualised. Returns are calculated on a single pricing basis in SGD with net dividends and distributions (if any) reinvested. Offer-to-bid returns include an assumed preliminary charge of 4% which may or may not be charged to investors.

Fullerton Total Return Fund (FTRF) updated its name to Fullerton Asia Income Return (FAIR) on 21 December 2017.

Source: Fullerton Fund Management Company Ltd.

Market Review

April began with global markets grappling with a complex mix of slowing economic growth, persistent inflation, and divergent central bank policies. The situation escalated sharply when President Trump announced high tariffs on all U.S. trading partners, triggering a swift sell-off in risk assets worldwide. Concerns about hedge funds unwinding leveraged positions and basis trades intensified market volatility, pushing long-duration Treasury yields higher. Market tensions eased only after Trump suspended the initial tariffs plan for 90 days and replaced it with a temporary 10% tariff on U.S. imports from all countries except China where a 145% tariff is imposed.

U.S. economic data showed slowing momentum, yet inflation - especially in energy and core services - remained above the Federal Reserve's 2% target. In response to tariff uncertainties, the Federal Reserve kept its federal funds rate steady at 4.25% to 4.50% during its 30 March meeting but indirectly eased by slowing its balance sheet run-off pace from \$60 billion to \$40 billion monthly. Meanwhile, the European Central Bank cut rates twice - by 25 basis points each time - in early March and mid-April, citing weaker eurozone growth and rising trade tensions, which helped moderate financial market volatility.

In Asia, the economic picture was mixed. China posted strong first-quarter GDP growth, buoyed by exports and early signs of domestic recovery, supported by a policy shift toward growth-oriented measures. Manufacturing and credit activity improved, though structural challenges remained. Japan's central bank maintained a cautious stance on policy normalization despite inflation pressures.

Global equity markets delivered mixed results. The MSCI AC World Index returned 0.9% in dollar terms, driven by strong gains in Europe (+4.4%) and Japan (+5.2%) in dollar terms, as investors rebalanced portfolios away from U.S. equities. Lower valuations and easing energy concerns were sufficient to entice the move. In emerging markets Asia, the MSCI Asia ex-Japan Index gained 0.7% in dollar terms, despite a -4.3% decline in the MSCI China Index in dollar terms, due to structural growth concerns and tariff-related uncertainties. Also in dollar terms, India (+4.8%), Taiwan (+2.4%), and Korea (+4.7%)

Inception date

02 Feb 2021

Fund size

SGD 521.98 million

Base Currency

USD

Pricing Date

30 Apr 2025

NAV*

SGD 0.68

Management fee

Currently 0.60% p.a.

Expense Ratio

0.92% p.a. (For financial year ended 31 Mar 2024)

Distributions paid per unit

Mar 2024: SGD 0.012

Jun 2024: SGD 0.013

Sep 2024: SGD 0.012

Dec 2024: SGD 0.012

Jan 2025: SGD 0.007**

Mar 2025: SGD 0.012

Minimum Initial Investment

SGD 1 Million

Minimum Subsequent Investment

SGD 1 Million

Preliminary Charge

Up to 4%

Dealing day

Daily, up to 5pm (Singapore time)

Bloomberg Code

FULTRE SP

ISIN Code

SGXZ28035020

The Fund is available for SRS subscription.

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* Figures have been truncated to 2 decimal places. The official price is published on Fullerton's website.

Please refer to our website for more details.

**Figure includes a special dividend of \$0.0070

Market Review (Cont'd)

outperformed, benefitting from lower U.S. tariffs.

Short- to medium-term U.S. Treasuries saw modest buying on the back of cooling inflation and slowing growth, while long-term bond yields rose due to basis trade unwinding. While the 30-year U.S. Treasury yield rose 11 basis points to 4.68%, the 10-year yield ended April slightly lower at 4.16%, and Germany's 10-year Bund fell 30 basis points in April to 2.44% following ECB's easing. High-quality government bonds led gains in the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Index, returning 2.94% unhedged in dollars (+0.98% hedged), while the J.P. Morgan JACI Investment Grade Index returned 0.25% in dollars. Credit markets were mostly muted as spreads widened amid rate volatility and unwinding of risks. The U.S. dollar index (DXY) declined 4.6% as long dollar positions unwound alongside global equity rebalancing.

Commodity performance was mixed. Gold stood out, rising 5.3% as investors sought safe havens amid macroeconomic uncertainty. In contrast, oil prices fell sharply, with Brent crude declining -21.2% due to concerns that demand is not keeping pace with increased production. This imbalance, coupled with fears of a recession triggered by U.S. tariffs, weighed heavily on the market.

Geopolitical risks continued to shape commodity markets, with conflicts in the Middle East, Ukraine, and U.S.–China strategic competition disrupting supply chains and commodity flows. Investors favoured over-sold quality assets, defensive sectors, and gold as hedges against uncertainty.

Investment Outlook & Strategy

Looking ahead, the investment environment remains highly uncertain, with downside risks to growth forecasts mainly stemming from U.S. tariffs. At the same time, the Federal Reserve is reluctant to ease interest rates as a policy response due to concerns that inflation could rise as a result. In view of these uncertainties, Fullerton-managed funds with absolute return objectives are prioritising risk management, recognising the longer-term market implications of the current environment.

We are closely monitoring economic data and market signals, assessing the wide range of possible outcomes as trade policy rhetoric evolves. A nimble approach is essential until a clear path emerges toward resolving trade tensions and restoring risk appetite. Markets generally dislike uncertainty, so any U.S. trade agreement could serve as a catalyst to rebuild investor confidence and encourage risk-taking.

Sector Breakdown (Equities)		Geographical Breakdown (Equities)		Asset Allocation	
Communication Services	17.8%	China	30.9%	Fixed Income	28.3%
Financials	17.8%	India	23.0%	Equities	44.7%
Industrials	14.8%	Singapore	12.5%	Cash and cash equivalents	26.9%
Consumer Discretionary	14.0%	US	11.3%		
Real Estate	13.6%	Taiwan	9.2%		
Information Technology	10.7%	Korea	5.1%		
Utilities	6.3%	Germany	3.0%		
Materials	2.6%	Japan	1.6%		
Consumer Staples	1.8%	Hong Kong	1.3%		
Others	0.6%	France	1.0%		
		Others	1.1%		

Ratings Breakdown (Fixed Income)		Geographical Breakdown (Fixed Income)	
AAA	10.3%	US	25.8%
AA	4.7%	Australia	15.8%
A	38.2%	Korea	14.8%
BBB	46.8%	Singapore	8.5%
		Japan	7.9%
		China	6.2%
		Indonesia	4.5%
		Philippines	2.4%
		Hong Kong	2.2%
		Malaysia	1.9%
		UK	1.7%
		United Arab Emirates	1.5%
		India	1.3%
		Taiwan	1.2%
		Macau	1.0%
		Others	3.2%

Top 5 Holdings (Equities, as % of NAV)		Top 5 Holdings (Fixed Income, as % of NAV)	
United Overseas Bank Ltd	HEA	SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT 2.75% MAR 2046	1.7%
Lion-Phillip REIT	HEA	MEIJI YASUDA LIFE INSURA 6.1% JUN 2055	0.5%
Tencent Holdings Ltd	FEA	AUST & NZ BANKING GROUP 5.204% SEP 2035	0.4%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	FEA	MIZUHO FINANCIAL GROUP 5.422% MAY 2036	0.4%
NTPC Ltd	FEA	FIRST ABU DHABI BANK PJS 5.804% JAN 2035	0.4%

Country and Sector breakdown (Equities) does not include Cash and Cash equivalents.

Country breakdown (Fixed Income) does not include Cash and Cash equivalents.

Credit Rating : Where the security is not rated by external rating agencies, Fullerton's internal rating methodology will apply.

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