he topic of retirement is one that either brings excitement or worry, depending on which side of the fence you are on. For those that have built up a nest egg for comfortable living, it can be a tantalising prospect, but those that struggle to save may find this worrisome.

Last year, the Employers Provident Fund (EPF) said that only 3% of contributors can afford retirement, and it is not the first time that it has raised concerns about this. In 2017, the EPF increased its minimum savings target by the age of 55 from RM197,000 to RM228,000. This figure was bumped up once more in 2019 to RM240,000.

For millions of Malaysians, the worryingly stark numbers do not make for great reading. Reportedly, there are around 3.6 million EPF members with less than RM1,000 in their accounts, while a further 6.1 million members have less than RM10,000.

Such figures highlight the importance of investing, and even more so at an early age. But when is the right time to invest?

INVESTING FOR FREEDOM

The pandemic prompted many millennials to learn more about investing, with many intrigued about the concept and feasibility of financial freedom. This is evidenced by the massive growth of Malaysian financial content creators over the past two years, with well-established creators building up loyal audiences while several new blogs and YouTube channels coming to life as well.

Armed with this newfound financial knowledge, some first-timers may choose to dabble in the stock market; others may yet opt for safer routes like exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and real estate investment trusts (REITs). The go-getters might decide to invest in a friend's or

relative's business while the daredevils traverse the murky waters of cryptocurrency trading.

But no matter how big the risk appetite, it is always important to maintain a diverse portfolio. While many investors have dreams of making it big, the majority of active traders often lose money. This can be attributed to many factors such as a lack of knowledge, impulsive decision-making and greed.

The old adage "Don't put all your eggs in one basket" has always rung true, and even more so in the world of investing. For those with no time to actively monitor markets or study the various investing instruments available, it may be wise to leave the investing to professionals. And thankfully, there are a wide array of options available in this space, with Maybank Asset Management introducing two new funds to the market.

MAYBANK FLEXIBLE RETIREMENT SOLUTION

The Maybank Global Wealth Moderate-I Fund and Maybank Global Wealth Growth-I Fund are mixed asset funds that are Shariah compliant, both of which work to hit the retirement goal of investors. With the moderate fund targeting a 6% return per annum, and the growth fund pushing for 8%, this gives investors the choice of which to opt for depending on their age, life stages, time horizons and risk appetite.

For example, younger investors may be able to take additional risk through the Maybank Global





How successful are day traders?

- A 2020 study done by researchers from the Sao Paulo School of Economics and University of Sao Paulo showed that 97% of Brazilian futures traders who were in the market for over 300 days lost money
- Only 5% of day traders in between 1995 and 2006
 Taiwan were profitable according to a study by the
 University of California, Berkeley and Peking University
- A U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) study on forex traders' habits found that around 70% of traders lose money each quarter, and on average a retail investor will lose 100% of their investment in less than 12 months
- Almost 80% of eToro day traders lose money over a 12-month period, with an average loss of 36%

Source: Ben Carlson, director of institutional asset management at Ritholtz Wealth Management – awealthofcommonsense.com Wealth Growth-I Fund to grow their capital given their age and more years to regroup in the event of losses. The fund invests between 40% – 90% of its net asset value (NAV) in Shariah compliant securities and equities.

However, those with a lower risk appetite or who simply aim to beat inflation may choose the Maybank Global

ey Fund Data		lobal Wealth ite-I Fund	Maybank Global Wealth Growth-I Fund
Manager	Maybank Asset Management Sdn Bhd ("MAM" or "Manager")		
External Investment Manager	Maybank Islamic Asset Management Sdn Bhd ("MIAM")		
Launch Date	15 February 2022		
Fund Category/ Type	Islamic Mixed Assets / Growth (Retail)		
Investor Profile	The Funds are suitable for investor who: • have a medium to long term investment horizon • seek potential long term capital growth; and • seek opportunity to invest in a diversified portfolio of Shariah-compliant global asse		
Investment Adviser	Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd		
Shariah Adviser	Amanie Advisors Sdn Bhd		
Financial Year End	30 April		31 March
Base Currency	USD		
Initial Offer Period	Up to 21 days from the date of the Prospectus		
Commencement Date	The next Business Day after the end of the Initial Offer Period		
Class	MYR (Hedged) – Accumulation Class¹	MYR (Hedged) – Distribution Class ²	MYR (Hedged) – Accumulation Class ¹
Initial Offer Price	RM0.50	RM0.50	RM0.50
Distribution Policy	The Fund is not expected to distribute income for this Class	Distribution, if any, shall be on an annual basis and at the discretion of the Manager	The Fund is not expected to distribute income for this Class
Mode of Distribution	N/A	Cash Payment mode or Reinvestment mode (effected within 10 days from ex-Dist date)	N/A
Investment Objective	The Fund seeks to achieve capital growth over the medium to long term		
Benchmark	Maybank 12-month MYR Islamic fixed deposit rate + 3%		Maybank 12-month MYR Islamic fixed deposit rate + 5%
Minimum Initial Investment**	RM1,000 for each Class		RM1,000

Wealth Moderate-I Fund which also invests in Shariah compliant securities and equities, but allocates a lesser portion of its NAV (20% - 70%).

There are also capital preservation strategies put in place to protect against downside risks. While this does not mean that funds will automatically grow, it does ensure mitigation against black swan events and minimises fluctuations caused by market turbulence.

Perhaps the key feature of this retirement solution is the fact that investors may withdraw funds at any time for emergencies, without incurring a penalty or redemption charges. While other retirement funds can only be accessed after a certain age or investment threshold, this offers flexibility for members no matter what stage of life they are in.

In addition, investors can also switch between funds at will at no cost or penalty. For example, if first-time investors choose the moderate fund as a way to dip their toes in the water, they can then switch their allocation to the growth fund once they become more comfortable with the idea of added risk.

Similarly, if growth fund investors are now satisfied

	Maybank Global Wealth Moderate-I Fund	Maybank Global Wealth Growth-I Fund	
Investment Policy & Strategy	The Fund invests, directly and indirectly, in global Shariah-compliant equities, globs Shariah-compliant equity-related securities (including Shariah-compliant ADRs, Shariah-compliant GDRs and Shariah-compliant warrants), global fixed and floating rate sukuk issued by governments, government agencies, supranationals and companies, Islamic money market instruments and Islamic deposits. The Fund may also invest in Islamic Collective Investment Schemes (CIS), including but are not limited to, Islamic Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Islamic Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) which may be based on commodities such as gold.		
Minimum Additional Investment**	RM100 for each Class	RM100	
Minimum Unit Holdings**	1,000 units		
Asset allocation	As a % of Net Asset Value (NAV)	As a % of Net Asset Value (NAV)	
Shariah-compliant equities and Shariah-compliant equity-related securities ³	20% - 70%	40% - 90%	
Sukuk	20% - 70%	10% - 50%	
Islamic CIS ⁴	Up to 20%	Up to 20%	
Islamic liquid assets ⁵	Up to 20%	Up to 20%	
Sales Charge***	Up to 5.00% of the NAV per Unit		
Annual Management Fee	Up to 1.80% p.a. of the NAV of each Class		
Annual Trustee Fee	TMF Trustees Malaysia Berhad @0.04% p.a. of the NAV of the Fund		
Minimum Redemption Units	Any amount of units, provided the Minimum Unit Holdings requirement of 1,000 units is met		
Payment of Redemption Proceeds	Within ten (10) calendar days from the date the redemption request is received		
Cooling-Off Period	Six (6) business days commencing from the date the application for Units is receive		
Distribution Class Regular payouts of 2. harlah-compliant Include but are not like Receipts (GDRs) and Include but are not like but are not l	d capital gains back into the Fund, to compound long-term gr 0% - 25% p.a.* to provide a passive income stream to invest mitted to Sharah-compliant American Depository Receipts (A Shariah-compliant warrants. mitted to Islamic RETS and Islamic ETFs which may be based mitted to Islamic denoists and Islamic emoney market instrument	ors, LDRs), Shariah-compliant Global Depository on commodities such as gold.	

with the growth of their investment and want to secure it, they can switch to the moderate fund to lower the amount of market risk they are exposed to. However, such flexibility is rare and should provide investors with additional leeway to invest in a manner they are comfortable with, especially for first-timers. Furthermore, the experts at Maybank Asset Management do all the research and heavy lifting – investors only have to put their money in the funds!

All in all, one should always be mindful of their financial situation as there is no way to tell what tomorrow brings. As for those who have not begun their journey towards financial freedom, keep in mind that it is never too late to start.

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Maybank Relationship Manager or
Personal Financial Adviser; or for
more information, visit www.
maybank-am.com.my

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