

Investment objective

SBM Universal Fund is a diversified multi-asset fund with an objective of maximising long-term returns while providing regular income through a balanced strategy. It invests in a diversified portfolio of securities that includes domestic and international equities, equity-linked securities, unit trusts, mutual funds, fixed income securities, money market instruments and cash.

Fund facts

Investment Manager: SBM Mauritius Asset Managers Ltd

Fund Administrator: SBM Fund Services Ltd

Registry and Transfer Agent: SBM Fund Services Ltd

Custody: SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd

Auditor: PwC Mauritius

Benchmark: 30% SEMDEX + 40% 1Y GOM Bill + 30% MSCI World

Distribution: Annual subject to distributable income

Investor profile: Balanced

Inception date: 1 Jun 2002

Fund size: MUR 534.9M

Base currency: MUR

Minimum one-off investment: MUR 500

Minimum monthly investment plan: MUR 200

Management fee: 1.00% p.a.

Entry fee: 1.00%

Exit fee: 1% up to Y2 | 0.75% in Y3 | 0.5% in Y4 | 0.25% in Y5 | Nil after Y5

*Applicable as from Mar-2019. Previous Benchmark: 35% SEMDEX + 30% 1Y GOM Bill + 35% MSCI World

Performance

Period	1M	3M	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	Launch	Annualised	CY	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Fund	1.3%	4.5%	4.7%	6.8%	32.6%	54.4%	518.8%	8.2%		15.9%	8.8%	-6.8%	17.9%	1.6%
Benchmark	1.1%	5.0%	6.1%	8.1%	34.0%	55.8%	472.4%	7.8%		14.2%	8.5%	-5.2%	17.4%	-0.1%

Note: Fund performance is calculated on indicative NAV to NAV. The performance of the index is based on a blended benchmark consisting of 30% SEMDEX, 40% 1Y GOM Bill and 30% MSCI World index (MUR), and rebalanced monthly. The benchmark return is computed in MUR terms. Annual returns refer to calendar year. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Growth of MUR 100,000 since inception



Fund statistics

Period	1Y	3Y	5Y	Launch
Correlation	0.97	0.97	0.98	0.89
Regression alpha (%)	-1.32	-1.21	-0.32	2.98
Beta	1.01	1.07	1.00	0.89
Annualised volatility	5.9%	5.6%	6.4%	7.3%
Annualised tracking error	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	3.6%

Relative metrics such as alpha, beta and tracking error are computed against the composite index.

Asset allocation

Asset class	% Fund	Top 5 countries	% Fund	Top currency	% Fund
International Equities	32.2%	Mauritius	60.3%	Mauritian Rupee	66.0%
Domestic Equities	30.3%	United States	22.7%	US Dollar	32.0%
Domestic Fixed Income	30.0%	India	2.4%	Euro	1.6%
Cash	7.5%	Japan	0.8%	Australian Dollar	0.4%
Total	100.0%	United Kingdom	0.8%	Total	100.0%
		Total	87.0%		

Domestic sectors	% Fund	Top 10 international industries	% Fund
Banking & Insurance	18.1%	Semiconductors & Equipment	5.3%
Investment	3.4%	Software & Services	4.7%
Leisure & Tourism	2.6%	Media & Entertainment	2.5%
Industry	2.3%	Financial Services	2.4%
Commerce	2.1%	Technology Hardware & Equipment	2.4%
Property	1.0%	Banks	2.3%
ICT	0.8%	Capital Goods	2.1%
Total	30.3%	Pharmaceuticals, Biotech & Life Sciences	2.1%
		Consumer Discretionary Distribution & Retail	1.3%
		Health Care Equipment & Services	0.8%
		Total	25.9%

Asset allocation (continued)

Top 10 holdings	% Fund
MCB Group Limited	12.6%
iShares MSCI World ETF	6.0%
SBM Holdings Ltd	3.5%
Vanguard S&P 500 ETF	3.1%
Government of Mauritius Bond 14/01/37	2.9%
IBL Notes 26/06/31	2.9%
CIM Financial Services Ltd 21/05/2028	2.8%
Government of Mauritius Bond 20/08/2036	2.8%
SBM India Opportunities Fund Class A	2.5%
SBM MUR Note Class A2 Series Bond 28/06/2028	2.2%
Total	41.3%

Top 10 international holdings *	% Fund
Nvidia Corp	2.2%
Apple Inc.	1.8%
Microsoft Corp	1.7%
Broadcom Inc	0.9%
Meta Platforms Inc - Class A	0.8%
Alphabet Inc - Class A	0.8%
Amazon.com Inc	0.8%
Berkshire Hathaway Inc - Class B	0.7%
Eli Lilly & Co	0.6%
JPMorgan Chase & Co	0.4%
Total	10.7%

* Look-through of foreign investments

Market comments

The Net Asset Value per unit (NAV) of the Fund decreased from MUR 37.90 in August to MUR 37.86 in September, following a dividend of MUR 0.54. The Fund posted a return of 1.3% against a benchmark return of 1.1%. Local indices registered marginal gains for the month of September with the SEMDEX and DEMEX closing at 2,461.24 and 224.07 points, equivalent to respective returns of 0.5% and 0.4%. The main leaders, that is, companies which contributed to the positive performances of the SEMDEX were SBMH, EMTL and IBL while the main laggards were MCBG, ERL and ENLG. The top three price performers were NIT (+22.2%), POLICY (+14.7%) and SBMH (+8.2%), while the detractors were ENLG (-10.4%), ABCBH (-7.7%) and FINCORP (-4.8%).

On the primary market, yields were generally on the downtrend across the different tenors. The yield on the 91D Treasury Bills remained constant at 4.39% amid no fresh issuance in September. MUR 4.0Bn worth of 182D Treasury Bills were issued with the weighted yield sliding to 4.45%, against 4.56% in the previous month. The yield on 364D Treasury Bills dropped by 12bps to 4.85% following a net issuance of MUR 8.0Bn. The corresponding yield on the 3Y GoM Note decreased from 5.26% to 5.14%, following an auction of MUR 3.5Bn. A 5Y GoM Bond worth MUR 3.5Bn was issued at a weighted yield of 5.41%, at par with its previous issuance. A 10Y GoM Bond was auctioned for MUR 3.2Bn at a weighted yield of 5.69%, representing a decline of 13bps. There were no fresh issuances for the 7Y, 15Y and 20Y GoM Bonds during the month.

Global equity markets advanced further in September, with positive sentiment underpinned by the Federal Reserve's (Fed) decision to deliver a 25bps rate cut and reinforced expectations of additional policy easing ahead. Softer labour market data, alongside contained inflation readings, bolstered confidence that central banks would maintain a supportive stance, while corporate earnings across major markets continued to surprise to the upside; the MSCI World index added 3.1% MoM.

In the United States, the S&P 500 advanced by 3.5% MoM, lifted by the Fed's rate cut which eased pressure on valuations and reignited demand for growth-oriented sectors. Growth stocks outperformed their value counterparts, registering 5.2% vs 1.6% MoM. 7 out of 11 major industry groups recorded positive returns, led by Information Technology, Communication Services and Utilities. The S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI registered 52.0 in September, down from 53.0 in August, indicating a slower but positive growth in the manufacturing sector. The moderation reflected weaker growth in output and new orders, alongside softer demand conditions. Input cost inflation eased slightly, though firms continued to face higher expenses linked to raw materials and supply chains.

The Eurostoxx 50 index gained 3.3% in September, driven by improved risk appetite following the Fed's rate cut, which eased global financial conditions and lifted sentiment across European equities. Market sentiment was further supported by resilient corporate earnings, particularly in industrials and consumer sectors, while contained eurozone inflation allowed the ECB to maintain a steady policy stance, reinforcing confidence in the region's growth outlook. The CAC 40 and FTSE MIB indices recorded respective performances 2.5% and 1.3%, while the DAX 30 index registered -0.1%. Operating conditions worsened in September, with the Eurozone manufacturing sector slipping back into contraction as the headline PMI index fell to 49.8 (August 2025: 50.7), ending its brief return to growth. The downturn reflected weaker demand conditions and a renewed decline in new orders, with softness particularly evident in Germany, France and Italy. In the UK, the FTSE 100 gained 1.8%. Manufacturing activity continued to weaken in September, with production falling for the eleventh successive month, hit by a weak market sentiment and a significant decrease in new export business - PMI declined to a 5-month low of 46.2 in September, down from 47.0 in August.

Japanese equities maintained their momentum with the Nikkei 225 rallying by 5.2% MoM, supported by robust foreign inflows amid a weaker yen. Investor sentiment was further buoyed by resilient corporate earnings in technology and industrial sectors, as well as expectations that the Bank of Japan would keep policy accommodative. Manufacturing activity worsened in September, as the PMI fell from 49.7 in August to 48.5, marking the sharpest deterioration in operating conditions in six months. The contraction was led by a renewed drop in output and new orders, with softer domestic and international demand, particularly from key Asian trading partners.

Emerging markets outperformed developed markets' equities with the MSCI Emerging Markets index recording 7.0% MoM. The CSI 300 index added 3.2% MoM in local currency and 3.3% in USD terms, as policy support measures and improving sentiment helped lift the market. China Manufacturing PMI rose to 51.2 (August 2025: 50.5), pointing to a sustained improvement in operating conditions, with the upturn driven by stronger growth in both output and new orders. Indian equities recovered part of the earlier month's losses with the BSE Sensex gaining 0.6%. Manufacturing activity remained firmly in expansionary territory in September, though momentum softened slightly. The headline PMI came in at 57.7 (August 2025: 59.3), reflecting a slower but still robust pace of growth. Output and new orders continued to rise strongly, supported by resilient domestic and export demand, while employment growth moderated to its weakest level in a year.

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