



PRESS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## KENANGA INVESTORS WINS TWO AWARDS AT REFINITIV LIPPER GLOBAL ISLAMIC AWARDS

**Kuala Lumpur, 24 May 2021:** Kenanga Investors Berhad's ("Kenanga Investors") Kenanga SyariahEXTRA Fund ("KSEF") was awarded **Best Mixed Asset MYR Balanced for 3 Years** and **5 Years** at the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards 2021 – Global Islamic ("the Awards") bringing the total number of awards the fund has won this year to six.

In the past year, the KSEF invested primarily in a mixture of Shariah-compliant equity securities, Islamic fixed income securities and Islamic money market instruments in order to achieve diversification in the portfolio. For Islamic fixed income allocation, the Fund invested in a careful selection of high grade sukuk with emphasis placed on credit-worthy issuers of sukuk.

Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer says "The strategy employed for KSEF is in line with an active investment strategy for different market conditions to enhance risk-adjusted returns through riding market cycles, situational opportunities, value emergence and trend reversal plays. The investment team identifies key sectors or groups of Shariah-compliant securities that the fund manager believes should perform well under an anticipated economic condition. Individual Shariah-compliant securities selection will then focus on well-managed, financially sound companies with attractive relative valuations and potential for high earnings growth over the medium to long term time frame."

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, KSEF delivered returns of 40.29%\* (3-years), 62.78%\* (5-years), 119.79%\* (10-years). Launched in 1996, KSEF aims to provide investors with a medium to long-term capital appreciation through investments in specified asset classes by adopting a balanced approach towards equities and fixed income exposure based on Shariah principles.

The increased interest in Shariah-compliant funds has been further bolstered by their defensive nature in sectors such as utilities, healthcare, and telecommunications. As such, portfolios with Shariah funds can provide investors with more diversity and flexibility when withstanding sudden high market volatility.

The firm has previously announced its intention to focus on the development of SRI principles and ESG-values for its products and services mix. The Kenanga Waqf Al-Ihsan Fund was a recent addition to its suite of Shariah-compliant funds. Consistent with waqf principles, half of its returns will be evenly distributed for purposes of economic empowerment and environmental preservation.

"The universe of Shariah investments provides a wealth of opportunities to create long-term value for both our internal and external stakeholders as its indicators offer additional insight in evaluating a company's longevity beyond traditional financial performance. We are excited to explore its values and concepts and to apply it within our business to drive further growth," adds De Alwis.

"For more information about Kenanga Investors, please visit [www.kenangainvestors.com.my](http://www.kenangainvestors.com.my)

*\*Source: Lipper Investment Analytics, 31 December 2020*

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The Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards, granted annually, highlight funds and fund companies that have excelled in delivering consistently strong risk-adjusted performance relative to their peers. The Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards are based on the Lipper Leader for Consistent Return rating, which is a risk-adjusted performance measure calculated over 36, 60, and 120 months. The fund with the highest Lipper Leader for Consistent Return (Effective Return) value in each eligible classification wins the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Award. For more information, see [lipperfundawards.com](http://lipperfundawards.com) Although Refinitiv Lipper makes reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained herein, the accuracy is not guaranteed by Refinitiv Lipper.

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#### **About Kenanga Investors Berhad 199501024358 (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.

Most recently at the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards 2021, KIB won overall best Malaysia Islamic Funds Group Awards (Equity) and Malaysia Provident Funds Group Awards (Mixed Assets). The Kenanga SyariahEXTRA Fund was awarded "Mixed Asset MYR Balanced - Malaysia" award for 3-years and 5-years in both categories of Malaysia Islamic Funds and Malaysia Provident Funds while the Kenanga Growth Opportunities Fund won "Equity Malaysia Small & Mid Caps" for 3-years under the Malaysia Provident Funds category.

The Hong Kong-based Asia Asset Management's 2021 Best of the Best Awards awarded KIB under the following categories, Malaysia - Best Equity Manager, Malaysia CIO of the Year, Malaysia – Best Islamic Fund (Equity), and Malaysia Best House for Alternatives. The Kenanga Growth Fund ("KGF") won Core Equity – Malaysia while the Kenanga Syariah Growth Fund ("KSGF") won Core Equity – Malaysia (Islamic) at the FSMOne Recommended Unit Trusts Awards 2020/2021. The Kenanga Balanced Fund was recognized under the Balanced – Malaysia category.

For the fourth consecutive year, KIB was affirmed an investment manager rating of IMR-2 by Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad since first rated in 2017. The IMR rating reflects the fund management company's well-established investment processes and sound risk management practices. For 2020, the average one-year, three-year and five-year annualized returns for its top 20 largest unit trust funds outperformed its benchmarks.

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

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