

# CORAL BALANCED FUND

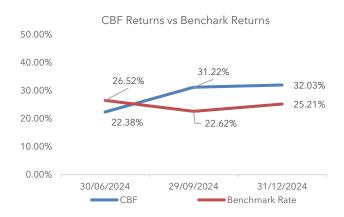
#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Coral Balanced Fund "CBF", established in February 2001, is an actively managed open-ended unit trust scheme that invests a minimum of 40% and a maximum of 60% of its assets in equity securities quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange "NSE", and a minimum of 40% in investment grade fixed income investments.

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

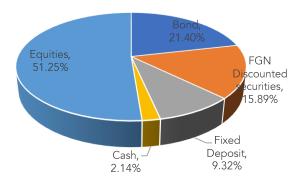
The objective of the Fund is to enable investors achieve capital growth over the long term. In particular, the CBF is designed to enable investors satisfy a broad range of financial needs as it can be used as a private pension/retirement plan, investments plan, or children's educational plan.

## Fund Performance vs NGX ASI



#### ASSET ALLOCATION (% OF TOTAL ASSETS)

## Asset Allocation



#### UPDATE ON THE CBF

You can now monitor your investment online by viewing your statement on our website www.fsdhaml.com.

## **REVIEW OF THE FUND**

Inception date: Net Asset Value: Opening price: Closing price: Management Fee: Expense Ratio: Investment Managers Rating Current Asset Allocation:

Benchmark:

Risk Profile: Fund Custodian: Fund Trustee: Auditors: Registrars: February 2001 N 3.21 billion N 7,112.51 N 7,189.08 1%

BBB Long Term / A3 Short Term (GCR)
51.25% in Equities, 21.40% in Bonds. 15.89% FGN
Discounted Securities, Fixed deposit 9.32%, and Call
placement 2.14%
50% NGX ASI and 12M Nigerian Inter-Bank Treasury
Bill's True Yield
Medium
Stanbic IBTC bank.
United Capital Trustees
KPMG Towers
United Securities Limited

## **Fund Manager's Comment**

The CBF's return for Q4 2024 stood at 32.03% higher than 31.22% in Q3 2024. On the macro front, inflation rate was relatively high at 34.80% as at December 2024. Against this backdrop, we saw relatively high interest rate in the year as the Monetary Authority tried to rein in inflation and stabilize exchange rate. Nevertheless, equity market performance was positive at 37.65% in 2024. Hence, we purchased more shares with strong fundamental in the year amid positive financial results released on quarterly basis. Our focus was more on companies that announced payment of interim dividend and improved financial ratios. The increase in our exposure to equities boosted return on the fund in 2024. On the side of fixed-income asset, we increased our exposure to FGN Discounted Securities, particularly on the long end of the curve, to further lock-in high interest rate.

### **Expectation & Strategy**

We expect monetary policy committee to have gotten to the peak of hawkish stance in Q1 2025 as pressure on the exchange rate and inflation rates cool amid rebasing of the Gross Domestic Products and Consumer Price Index. Hence, we expect gradual reduction of the interest rate across the yield curve. Nonetheless, the downside risks to lower interest rate include disruption to global disinflation and Trump's economic policies. On the back of lower interest rate, we expect the equity market to be slightly bullish in 2025; thus, our strategy would be to acquire more shares in Q1 2025. The ongoing recapitalization is positive for the banks in the medium to long term as they increase capacity to take on more business. We expect better performance in the real sector companies, particularly those in the industrial and oil and gas sectors.

On the fixed-income side, we will be very careful with CPs in the first half of 2025; however, we would consider only high-quality mid-tenor CPs in H2 2025 – when interest rate environment is expected to be less risky for corporates.

#### Increasing your investment in the Coral Balanced Fund just got easier!

- From the comfort of your space, you can increase your investment in the CBF with as little as N5,000 through any of the following:
- Automatic transfer sums from any Nigerian bank to the funds Custodian by issuing a direct debit instruction. You simply fill and execute the form while we will process on your behalf.
- Transfer the investment sum to the funds' custodian.
- Issue a cheque/ bank draft in Favour of "FSDH Coral Growth Fund/UCAT"

You can also reach out to us via email at <u>coralfunds@fsdhgroup.com</u>. Follow us on twitter and Instagram via @Fsdhcoralfunds and like our Facebook page; FSDH Coral Funds www.facebook.com/coralfunds.

The Coral Balanced Fund "CGF" is an actively managed equity-based unit trust scheme managed and administered by FSDH Asset Management Limited "FSDHAM", a wholly owned subsidiary of FSDH Merchant Bank Limited "FSDH". The CGF is registered with the Securities & Exchange Commission. The replication of historical returns is not guaranteed. Equity prices fluctuate and losses in the value of your investment may occur.

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