# CHINABANK DOLLAR FIXED INCOME FUND

(formerly Chinabank Dollar Fund)

## **KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

CHINABANK Since 1920

As of February 29, 2024

FUND FACTS			
Classification:	Long-Term Fixed Income Fund	Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVP	u): 2.069448
Launch Date:	September 9, 2005	Total Fund Net Asset Value (NA	V): USD8.33 million
Minimum Investment:	USD500.00	Dealing Day:	Daily up to 12:00nn
Additional Investment:	At least USD100.00	Redemption Settlement:	3 banking days from date of notification
Minimum Holding Period:	30 calendar days	Early Redemption Fee:	1.00% of the proceeds
FEES <sup>1</sup>			
Trustee Fees: 0.0604%	Custodianship Fees: 0.0012%	External Auditor: 0.0010%	Licensing Fee: 0.0038%
China Bank – Trust and	Deutsche Bank AG, Manila Bran	ch SGV & Co.	Bloomberg Index
Asset Management Group			Services Limited

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at USD8.49 million.

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY**

The Chinabank Dollar Fixed Income Fund intends to achieve a steady stream of income by investing in a diversified portfolio of high-grade marketable securities comprised mainly of Philippine sovereign bonds as well as US treasury bonds of varying tenors with a weighted average portfolio modified duration of not more than ten (10) years. The Fund aims to outperform its benchmark which is the Bloomberg EM USD Sovereign-Philippine Total Return Index.

#### **CLIENT SUITABILITY**

A client profiling process shall be performed prior to participating in the Fund to guide the prospective investor if the Fund is suited to his/her investment objectives and risk tolerance. Before deciding to invest, clients are advised to read the Declaration of Trust, a copy of which is available at the Trustee's principal office.

# The Chinabank Dollar Fixed Income Fund is suitable only for investors who:

- have a moderate risk appetite;
- are willing to assume a certain level of risk in consideration for higher returns; and
- have an investment horizon of at least five (5) years.

## **KEY RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

The client should not invest in this Fund if the client does not understand or is not comfortable with the accompanying risks.

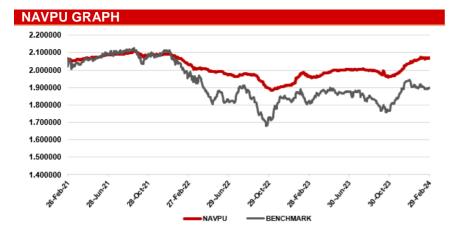
- Interest Rate Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in interest rates. The purchase and sale of a debt instrument may result in profit or loss because the value of a debt instrument changes inversely with prevailing interest rates.
- Market/Price Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market price of securities. It is the exposure to the uncertain market value of a portfolio due to price fluctuations.
- Liquidity Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a loss. These may be caused by different reasons such as trading in securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers, limited buy/sell activity or underdeveloped capital market.
- Credit/Default Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely manner on instruments such as bonds, loans or other forms of security which the borrower issued. It also includes risk on a counterparty (a party the Trustee trades with) defaulting on a contract to deliver its obligation either in cash or securities.
- Reinvestment Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to have lower returns or earnings when maturing funds or the interest earnings of funds are reinvested.
- Country Risk. This is the possibility for an investor to experience losses arising from investments in securities issued by/in foreign countries due to political, economic and social structures of such countries. There are risks in foreign investments due to the possible internal and external conflicts, currency devaluations, foreign ownership limitations and tax increases of the foreign country which are difficult to predict but must be taken into account when making such investments.

The Trustee only transacts with reputable counterparties and invests in debt securities issued by countries and prime corporate borrowers which have undergone a rigorous accreditation and evaluation process. Regulatory exposure limits as well as the Fund's average duration are monitored regularly to ensure that exposures are managed. The Fund also employs risk management measures to monitor significant declines in the Fund's NAVPu and alert the Trustee to review current strategies and take corrective action as necessary. Furthermore, the Fund undergoes an annual review to ensure that it is equipped to fund any redemption requirement in a timely manner and at a reasonable cost during times of financial stress.

- THE UITF IS A TRUST PRODUCT AND NOT A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT, AND IS NOT INSURED NOR GOVERNED BY THE PDIC.
- THE UITF IS NOT AN OBLIGATION OF, NOR GUARANTEED, NOR INSURED BY THE TRUST ENTITY OR ITS AFFILIATES OR SUBSIDIARIES.
- DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE INVESTMENTS OF A UITF, THE RETURNS/YIELDS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.
   HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE, WHEN PRESENTED, IS PURELY FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES AND IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF SIMILAR FUTURE PERFORMANCE.
- ANY LOSSES AND INCOME ARISING FROM MARKET FLUCTUATIONS AND PRICE VOLATILITY OF THE SECURITIES
  HELD BY THE UITF, EVEN IF INVESTED IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, ARE FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT. AS
  SUCH, THE UNITS OF PARTICIPATION OF THE CLIENT IN THE UITF, WHEN REDEEMED, MAY BE WORTH MORE OR
  WORTH LESS THAN HIS/HER INITIAL INVESTMENT/CONTRIBUTION.
- THE TRUSTEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR LOSSES UNLESS UPON WILLFUL DEFAULT, BAD FAITH OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.
- THE INVESTOR MUST READ THE COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE FUND IN THE UITF'S PLAN, MAKE HIS/HER OWN RISK ASSESSMENT, AND WHEN NECESSARY, SEEK AN INDEPENDENT/PROFESSIONAL OPINION BEFORE MAKING AN INVESTMENT.

#### **FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2024**

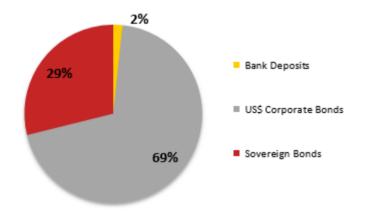
(Purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of future results)



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)					
Period	1mo	3mos	6mos	1yr	3yrs
Fund	0.07%	4.03%	3.50%	5.33%	0.57%
Benchmark	-1.06%	1.72%	2.32%	4.05%	-7.87%

The Bloomberg EM USD Sovereign-Philippine Total Return Index is a market value-based, unhedged index that tracks the performance of Philippine sovereign bonds denominated in US Dollars, particularly ROP bonds of different maturities. This Index is adjusted for tax by the Trustee. Additional information on the benchmark and/or its administrator can be found on Bloomberg, and be made available to investors upon request.

#### **PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION**



NAVPU OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS		
Highest	2.074708	
Lowest	1.953548	

STATISTICS	
Weighted Average Duration	4.47
Volatility, Past 1 year <sup>2</sup>	2.64%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.28
Information Ratio <sup>4</sup>	0.70

<sup>2</sup>Volatility measures the degree to which the Fund fluctuates vis-à-vis its average return over a period of time. This is computed by getting the standard deviation of the yearly returns for the past 12 mos.

<sup>3</sup>Sharpe Ratio is used to characterize how well the return of a Fund compensates the investor for the level of risk taken. The higher the number, the better. This is computed by dividing the excess return of the fund against the risk-free rate over the fund's volatility.

<sup>4</sup>Information Ratio measures the reward-to-risk efficiency of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. The higher the number, the higher the reward per unit of risk. This is computed by dividing the excess return of the fund against the benchmark over the fund's volatility.

TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)	
RDB 5.5-01	18.6%
MWCPM 4.375% 07/30	13.6%
ICTPM 4.75% 06/30	12.9%
ROP28	7.8%
VLLPM 7.25% 7/27	7.1%
MEGPM 4.125% 7/27	6.9%
AEVPM 4.2% 1/30	6.8%
ACNRGY 5.1 PERP	6.8%
JGSPM 4.125% 07/30	5.7%
GLOPM 3% 07/35	4.7%

# OTHER DISCLOSURES RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Fund has deposits with the Bank Proper, amounting to USD140.03 thousand, which were approved by the Board of Directors/Trust Investment Committee. Likewise, all related parties transactions are conducted on an arm's length basis.

## **OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY**

In February, the yield curve shifted upwards as the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) tempered expectations for policy rate cuts. Yields across the curve jumped by an average of 29 basis points (bps), with the belly of the curve as the underperformer. The 2-year rate increased by 37 bps to fetch 4.64%, while the 10-year rate rose by 26 bps to end at 4.25%. This widened the 2-year versus 10-year spread to -0.39 bps from -0.28 bps in January. In the Philippines, ROP rates similarly increased month-onmonth, averaging a jump of 22 bps. The 5-year ROP rate increased the most at 33 bps to end at 4.899%. Meanwhile, the 2-year ROP ended at 4.701%, up by 16 bps, and the 10-year ROP fetched 5.008%, up by 23 bps versus the previous month.

The month began with January's inflation coming out higher than expected. Consumer price index (CPI) rose by 3.1%, slightly above consensus estimates but down from December's 3.4%. Month-on-month, inflation increased by 0.3%, driven by higher shelter costs and a 0.4% rise in food prices, partly due to winter storms. Core inflation, which excludes volatile items, remained unchanged at 3.9%. The producer price index (PPI) also exceeded expectations, with a 0.3% monthly increase and a 0.9% year-on-year rise. Services saw significant increases, particularly in hospital care and portfolio management fees. Core PPI, excluding food and energy, rose by 0.5% monthly and 2.0% annually.

Meanwhile, indicators of economic activity released in February were mixed. The services sector showed growth, with both the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) and S&P Global surveys indicating expansion. The ISM's purchasing managers' index (PMI) increased to 53.4 from December's 50.5, while S&P Global's US Services PMI rose to 52.5 from 51.4. This growth was driven by stronger demand and new orders and marked the fastest expansion since June 2023. However, retail sales saw a

decline of 0.8% to \$700.3billion in January, with decreases in building materials, auto sales, and gas stations, partly due to snowy weather. Additionally, home construction fell to its lowest level in five months, with housing starts dropping by 14.8% to 1.33 million units and building permits slipping by 1.5% to 1.470 million, likely impacted by high mortgage rates and adverse weather conditions which delayed construction.

As for the broad economy, the revised US GDP grew by 3.2% in Q4 2023, slightly below the initial estimate of 3.3%, mainly due to a decline in private inventories. Consumer spending was revised higher to 3%, led by the services sector. Government spending rose more than anticipated at 4.2%, and both exports and imports increased beyond expectations. For the full year 2023, the US economy grew 2.5%, compared to 1.9% in 2022.

The labor market, meanwhile, is showing signs of softening. The latest weekly unemployment claims increased to 215k, surpassing the expected 210k. Meanwhile, continuing jobless claims rose to 1.91 million, the highest since November, indicating challenges despite historically tight levels. The data suggests a shift in the labor market amid the Fed's prolonged restrictive monetary policy. Similarly, the Fed's hawkish stance allowed their preferred inflation gauge, the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) index, to ease in January. The core PCE index, which excludes food and energy items, increased 0.4% month-on-month and 2.8% year-on-year, in line with expectations. The annual figure was an improvement versus December's 2.9%. Headline PCE increased 0.3% monthly and 2.4% on a 12-month basis. Both the headline and core figures remain ahead of the Fed's target of 2% annual inflation, however, the core reading on an annual basis was the lowest since February 2021.

For the coming month, we expect the market to take its cue from the release of February CPI, PPI, retail sales and key jobs data to possibly signal the FOMC's policy rate decision moving forward.

#### **INVESTMENT POLICY / PROSPECTIVE INVESTMENTS**

The Fund may be invested or reinvested in the following:

- a) Securities issued by or guaranteed by the Philippine government or the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP);
- b) Tradable securities issued by the government of a foreign country, any political subdivision of a foreign country or any supranational entity;
- Tradable fixed income securities issued by private and public corporations which are listed and traded in an organized exchange/market such as bonds, notes and preferred shares which are classified as debt securities under appropriate accounting standards;
- d) Deposits and tradable money market instruments issued by local banks, including those of the Trustee's own bank, and foreign banks or their Philippine branches or any financial institution in any foreign country;
- e) Financial derivatives instruments solely for the purpose of hedging risk exposures of the existing investments of the Fund, provided that these are accounted for in accordance with existing BSP hedging guidelines as well as the Trustee's risk management and hedging policies duly approved by the Trust Investment Committee and disclosed to participants; and
- f) Such other tradable investment outlets/categories as the BSP may allow.

OTHER BASIC FUND FACTS			
Trust Fee:	0.75% p.a.	Minimum Maintaining Amount:	USD500.00
Initial NAVPu:	\$1.069018	Minimum Redemption Amount:	None. Partial redemptions shall be allowed provided that the amount redeemed will not result to a balance below the minimum maintaining amount.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

China Banking Corporation (Chinabank) may receive customer complaints, inquiries or any concern about its products and services through Customer Contact Center 24/7 Hotline: (+632) 8885-5888 or email: online@chinabank.ph.

Chinabank is regulated by the BSP with contact number (+632) 8708-7087 and email address: consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph.