

# BPI Equity Value Fund

**Financial Statements**

**As at and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022**



## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Unitholders and Trustee of  
**BPI Equity Value Fund**  
27th Floor, Ayala Triangle Gardens 2  
Paseo de Roxas corner Makati Avenue  
Makati City

### Our Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of BPI Equity Value Fund (the "Fund") as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards (PFRSs).

#### *What we have audited*

The financial statements of the Fund comprise:

- the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2023 and 2022;
- the statements of total comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022;
- the statements of changes in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022;
- the statements of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022; and
- the notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with Philippine Standards on Auditing (PSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### *Independence*

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in the Philippines (Code of Ethics), together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the Philippines, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and Code of Ethics.

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#### **Other Matter - Restriction on Use**

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the unitholders, the trustee of BPI Equity Value Fund and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and is not intended for any other purpose.

#### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with PFRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with PSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



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As part of an audit in accordance with PSAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



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We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Isla Lipana & Co.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth F. Blasco".

Ruth F. Blasco  
Partner

CPA Cert No. 112595

P.T.R. No. 0018519, issued on January 11, 2024, Makati City

TIN 235-725-236

BIR A.N. 08-000745-133-2023, issued on May 9, 2023; effective until May 8, 2026

BOA/PRC Reg. No. 0142, effective until November 14, 2025

Makati City  
June 19, 2024

## BPI Equity Value Fund

Statements of Financial Position  
As at December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(All amounts in Philippine Peso)

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Deposits in banks	2	151,711,535	281,667,755
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3,9	3,614,052,168	4,046,503,221
Receivables	4	149,904,978	3,123,979
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>3,915,668,681</b>	<b>4,331,294,955</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	5	82,162,085	62,475,932
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HOLDERS OF REDEEMABLE UNITS</b>	6	<b>3,833,506,596</b>	<b>4,268,819,023</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units</b>		<b>3,915,668,681</b>	<b>4,331,294,955</b>

(The notes on pages 1 to 14 are an integral part of these financial statements.)

## BPI Equity Value Fund

Statements of Total Comprehensive Income  
For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(All amounts in Philippine Peso)

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>INCOME (LOSS)</b>			
Net income (loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss			
Fair value gain (loss), net	3	53,745,429	(245,718,879)
Realized loss on sale	3	(77,826,121)	(110,618,143)
Dividend income	3	108,060,136	97,491,769
Interest income on:			
Deposits in banks	2	7,499,621	3,095,087
Other investments		-	2,778
		91,479,065	(255,747,388)
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Trust fees	8	60,967,697	65,410,458
Other	7	776,842	800,768
		61,744,539	66,211,226
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TAX</b>		29,734,526	(321,958,614)
FINAL WITHHOLDING TAX		1,499,924	619,573
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR</b>		28,234,602	(322,578,187)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR</b>		28,234,602	(322,578,187)

(The notes on pages 1 to 14 are an integral part of these financial statements.)

## BPI Equity Value Fund

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units  
For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(All amounts in Philippine Peso)

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>BALANCES AS AT JANUARY 1</b>		4,268,819,023	4,698,321,395
<b>COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)</b>			
Net income (loss) for the year		28,234,602	(322,578,187)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year		28,234,602	(322,578,187)
<b>TRANSACTIONS WITH UNITHOLDERS</b>			
Issuance of units	6	626,321,624	736,572,629
Redemption of units	5,6	(1,089,868,653)	(843,496,814)
Total transactions with unitholders		(463,547,029)	(106,924,185)
<b>BALANCES AS AT DECEMBER 31</b>	6	3,833,506,596	4,268,819,023

(The notes on pages 1 to 14 are an integral part of these financial statements.)



## BPI Equity Value Fund

Statements of Cash Flows  
For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(All amounts in Philippine Peso)

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Income (loss) before tax		29,734,526	(321,958,614)
Adjustments for:			
Net (income) loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss			
Fair value (gain) loss, net	3	(53,745,429)	245,718,879
Realized loss on sale	3	77,826,121	110,618,143
Dividend income	3	(108,060,136)	(97,491,769)
Interest income:			
Deposits in banks	2	(7,499,621)	(3,095,087)
Other investments		-	(2,778)
Dividends received	3,4	106,212,288	95,942,628
Interest received	2,4	7,520,022	3,049,087
Operating income before change in working capital		51,987,771	32,780,489
Change in working capital			
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued expenses		(522,728)	(600,276)
Net cash from operations		51,465,043	32,180,213
Payments on acquisition of securities	3,5	(962,521,949)	(1,236,320,423)
Proceeds from sale of securities	3,4	1,216,883,578	1,360,949,008
Final taxes withheld		(1,499,924)	(619,573)
Net cash from operating activities		304,326,748	156,189,225
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from issuance of redeemable units	6	626,321,624	736,572,629
Payments for redemption of redeemable units	6	(1,060,604,592)	(854,755,426)
Net cash used in financing activities		(434,282,968)	(118,182,797)
<b>NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN DEPOSITS IN BANKS</b>		(129,956,220)	38,006,428
<b>DEPOSITS IN BANKS</b>			
At January 1		281,667,755	243,661,327
At December 31	2	151,711,535	281,667,755

(The notes on pages 1 to 14 are an integral part of these financial statements.)

## **BPI Equity Value Fund**

Notes to the Financial Statements

As at and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

(In the notes, all amounts are shown in Philippine Peso unless otherwise stated)

### **1 General information**

BPI Equity Value Fund (the “Fund”) is a Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF) established in accordance with, and operates subject to the provisions of, the Fund’s Plan Rules and regulations issued by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). UITFs are created by virtue of BSP Circular No. 447 which also governs the administration and investments of UITFs and requires that an external audit of the Fund be conducted annually.

The BSP approved the Fund’s Plan Rules on March 16, 2005. It has been operating as a UITF since April 4, 2005 after it was converted from a Common Trust Fund (CTF) product following the directive of the BSP to phase out CTF products effective October 1, 2006.

On April 26, 2012, an amendment was made on the Fund’s Plan Rules to change its name from BPI Equity Fund to BPI Equity Value Fund. The change was approved by the BSP on July 18, 2012.

The Fund was organized to engage in the sale of its units and investment of the proceeds thereof in medium-term to long-term diversified portfolio of equity securities. As an open-end pooled trust fund, the Fund stands ready at any time to redeem its outstanding units at a value defined under the Fund’s Plan Rules.

BPI Asset Management and Trust Corporation (“BPI AMTC”) serves as the Fund Manager (“Fund Manager”) and Trustee (“Trustee”) of the Fund. The Fund has no employees.

In February 2023, BPI AMTC announced the change in its trade name from BPI Asset Management and Trust Corporation to BPI Wealth - A Trust Corporation, or simply BPI Wealth.

On June 19, 2019, the Board of Directors of BPI Wealth approved the amendments to the Fund’s Plan Rules to reflect the change in the name of the Fund from BPI Equity Value Fund to BPI Invest Equity Value Fund. The change was noted by the BSP on August 16, 2019 and was effective on September 16, 2019.

On July 19, 2023, the Board of Directors of BPI Wealth approved the amendments to the Fund’s Plan Rules to reflect the change in the name of the Fund from BPI Invest Equity Value Fund to BPI Equity Value Fund. The change was noted by the BSP on August 3, 2023 and was effective on August 24, 2023.

The Fund Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of the Philippine Islands (“BPI” or “Parent Bank”), a domestic commercial bank with an expanded banking license in the Philippines.

The Fund’s proprietary assets and/or assets owned within and outside the Philippines are under the custody of Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. (HSBC) (Note 8).

#### *Approval of the financial statements*

These financial statements have been approved and authorized for issue by the Fund’s Trustee on June 19, 2024.

## 2 Deposits in banks

The account at December 31 consists of:

	2023	2022
Time	145,850,000	276,670,000
Savings	5,861,535	4,997,755
	151,711,535	281,667,755

Deposits in banks earn interest in 2023 at effective rates ranging from 1.40% to 6.00% (2022 - 0.06% to 4.40%).

For the year ended December 31, 2023, interest income earned from the above deposits amounts to P7,499,621 (2022 - P3,095,087), of which P28,377 represents interest receivable as at December 31, 2023 (2022 - P48,778) (Note 4).

## 3 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)

The account at December 31, 2023 and 2022 consists of listed equity securities. The detailed list of investments is presented in Note 9.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, dividend income earned from investments in listed equity securities amounts to P108,060,136 (2022 - P97,491,769), of which P4,923,049 represents dividend receivable as at December 31, 2023 (2022 - P3,075,201) (Note 4).

Movements in the account for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

	2023	2022
At January 1	4,046,503,221	4,475,612,361
Additions	953,466,769	1,279,548,704
Disposals	(1,439,663,251)	(1,462,938,965)
Fair value adjustment, net	53,745,429	(245,718,879)
At December 31	3,614,052,168	4,046,503,221

Payments on acquisition of securities in 2023 amount to P962,521,949 (2022 - P1,236,320,423).

Proceeds from disposals of financial assets at FVTPL for the year ended December 31, 2023 amount to P1,216,883,578 (2022 - P1,360,949,008). Realized loss on sale of financial assets at FVTPL amounts to P77,826,121 (2022 - P110,618,143).

## 4 Receivables

The account at December 31 consists of:

	Notes	2023	2022
Due from brokers		144,953,552	-
Dividend receivable	3	4,923,049	3,075,201
Interest receivable	2	28,377	48,778
		149,904,978	3,123,979

Due from brokers represent receivables for securities sold that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered at the end of reporting period. Trading transactions are generally settled three days after the transaction date.

## 5 Accounts payable and accrued expenses

The account at December 31 consists of:

	Note	2023	2022
Capital shares redeemed payable		42,862,409	13,598,348
Due to brokers		34,173,101	43,228,281
Trust fees payable	8	4,930,933	5,455,877
Others		195,642	193,426
		82,162,085	62,475,932

Capital shares redeemed payable represents redemptions made by investors yet to be paid as at year-end.

Due to brokers represent payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered at the end of reporting period.

Others represent accrued professional and custodian fees.

## 6 Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units

The consideration received or paid for units issued or re-purchased is based on the value of the Fund's net asset value (NAV) per redeemable unit at the date of the transaction. The total equity as shown in the statement of financial position represents the Fund's NAV based on Philippine Financial Reporting Standards (PFRS NAV).

NAV consists of principal and accumulated earnings.

As at December 31, 2023, the PFRS NAV is equal to the Fund's trading NAV amounting to P3,833,489,334 (2022 - P4,268,834,042) increased by adjustment on accrual of professional fees amounting to P17,262 (2022 - decreased by P15,019). This adjustment is due to timing differences only and does not materially affect the reported trading NAV of the Fund.

Details of the Fund's trading NAV per unit at December 31 follow:

	2023	2022
Trading NAV	3,833,489,334	4,268,834,042
Outstanding units	26,545,798	29,744,798
Trading NAV per unit	144.41	143.52

Proceeds from issuance and payments for redemption of units for the year ended December 31, 2023 amount to P626,321,624 and P1,060,604,592, respectively (2022 - P736,572,629 and P854,755,426, respectively).

The movements in the number of redeemable units of the Fund are as follows:

	2023	2022
At January 1	29,744,798	30,346,655
Issuances	4,378,942	4,995,479
Redemptions	(7,577,942)	(5,597,336)
At December 31	26,545,798	29,744,798

## 7 Other expenses

The account for the years ended December 31 consists of:

	2023	2022
Custody fees	604,559	654,837
Professional fees	168,593	139,170
Other	3,690	6,761
	<u>776,842</u>	<u>800,768</u>

The Fund has an existing custodian agreement with HSBC for custodial services of the Fund's proprietary assets and/or assets owned in the Philippines. Relative to this, the Fund pays monthly custodian fees of not more than 0.0012% of the average daily market value of the assets.

## 8 Related party transactions

As the Fund's Trustee, BPI Wealth shall have the exclusive management, administration, operation and control of the Fund, and full discretion in respect of investments, and the sole right, at any time, to sell, convert, reinvest, exchange, transfer, or otherwise change or dispose of the assets comprising the Fund.

In consideration for the above management, distribution and administration services, the Fund pays BPI Wealth a fee of not more than 1.50% per annum based on the Fund's trading NAV, net of applicable taxes.

Total trust fees for the year ended December 31, 2023 amount to P60,967,697 (2022 - P65,410,458), of which P4,930,933 (2022 - P5,455,877) remains unpaid and recorded under accounts payable and accrued expenses in the statement of financial position (Note 5).

The Fund's units are being distributed through BPI branches. BPI acts as the receiving bank for the subscriptions and redemptions related to the Fund.

There were no remunerations paid by the Fund to the members of the Trustee's Board of Directors.

## 9 Breakdown of financial assets at FVTPL

The details of the Fund's investments in listed equity securities are as follows:

*As at December 31, 2023*

Security description	Number of shares	Market value
SM Investments Corporation	599,010	522,336,720
SM Prime Holdings, Inc.	11,960,064	393,486,106
Ayala Land, Inc.	9,342,275	321,841,374
BDO Unibank, Inc.	2,385,395	311,294,048
Bank of the Philippine Islands	2,848,986	295,724,747
International Container Terminal Services, Inc.	1,117,858	275,887,354
Ayala Corporation	368,583	251,005,023
Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company	2,856,451	146,535,936
Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	3,115,795	138,964,457
JG Summit Holdings, Inc.	3,587,704	136,870,908
Universal Robina Corporation	1,105,913	130,718,917
PLDT, Inc.	92,070	117,757,530
Jollibee Foods Corporation	366,665	92,179,581
Manila Electric Company	167,995	67,030,005
Bloomberry Resorts Corporation	6,121,564	60,236,190
Globe Telecom, Inc.	33,357	57,374,040
Monde Nissin Corporation	5,128,900	42,980,182
Aboitiz Power Corporation	1,090,560	41,223,168
DMCI Holdings, Inc.	3,980,000	38,884,600
Robinsons Land Corporation	2,370,977	37,793,373
Semirara Mining and Power Corporation	1,183,400	35,797,850
First Generation Corporation	1,858,230	32,333,202
Puregold Price Club, Inc.	969,550	26,080,895
Wilcon Depot, Inc.	800,700	16,734,630
ACEN Corporation	3,000,000	13,140,000
GT Capital Holdings, Inc.	10,000	5,900,000
Megaworld Property & Holdings, Inc.	2,000,677	3,941,332
		<b>3,614,052,168</b>

As at December 31, 2022

Security description	Number of shares	Market value
SM Investments Corporation	668,190	601,371,000
SM Prime Holdings, Inc.	12,585,834	446,797,107
Ayala Land, Inc.	9,542,275	293,902,070
BDO Unibank, Inc.	2,703,374	285,746,632
Bank of the Philippine Islands	2,707,944	276,210,288
Ayala Corporation	382,992	266,179,440
International Container Terminal Services, Inc.	997,418	199,483,600
Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company	3,620,178	195,489,612
JG Summit Holdings, Inc.	3,838,980	193,100,694
Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	3,273,685	188,891,625
Universal Robina Corporation	1,135,920	154,485,120
Jollibee Foods Corporation	451,665	103,882,950
Manila Electric Company AREIT, Inc.	323,705	96,723,054
	2,422,930	85,771,722
Globe Telecom, Inc.	33,357	72,718,260
PLDT, Inc.	49,210	64,809,570
Monde Nissin Corporation	4,918,000	54,491,440
GT Capital Holdings, Inc.	102,919	44,769,765
Puregold Price Club, Inc.	1,264,250	44,122,325
Semirara Mining and Power Corporation	1,233,400	42,552,300
Metro Pacific Investments Corporation	12,012,715	41,083,485
Robinsons Land Corporation	2,639,744	39,490,570
First Generation Corporation	2,235,800	37,874,452
Aboitiz Power Corporation	1,090,560	37,133,568
DMCI Holdings, Inc.	2,600,000	31,200,000
Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	1,504,000	23,883,520
Robinsons Retail Holdings, Inc.	425,200	22,897,020
ACEN Corporation	2,800,066	21,336,503
Megaworld Property & Holdings, Inc.	10,529,547	21,059,094
LT Group, Inc.	2,201,200	20,251,040
RL Commercial REIT, Inc.	3,217,700	18,823,545
Security Bank Corporation	154,150	13,411,050
Wilcon Depot, Inc.	222,400	6,560,800
	93,889,308	4,046,503,221

## 10 Financial risk and capital management

### 10.1 Risk management process

The Fund's activities expose it to financial risks: market risk (primarily price risk), credit risk, and liquidity risk. The Fund's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimize potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance.

The management of these risks is carried out by the Trustee under the policies approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors approves written policies covering overall risk management. Any prospective investment shall be limited to the type of investments described in the Plan Rules of the Fund thereby limiting the risk exposure of the Fund to the risk inherent on investments approved by the investors.

The Fund intends to achieve for its participants long-term capital growth by investing, to the extent possible, in equity securities issued by Philippine domiciled companies which have a value style bias. The Fund aims to provide returns in excess of the return of the Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi).

## 10.2 Market risk

The Fund trades in financial instruments, taking tactical and strategic positions in traded equity instruments. Trading positions are reported at estimated market value with changes reflected in profit or loss. Trading positions are subject to various risk factors, which primarily include exposures to price risks. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which prices in the future are uncertain.

The Fund's overall market position is monitored on a daily basis by the Trustee and is reviewed on a monthly basis by the Board of Directors. Compliance with the Fund's investment policies is reported to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis.

The Trustee manages price risk through diversification and careful selection of securities within specified limits as indicated in the Fund's Plan Rules. The exposure of the Fund to a single entity and its related parties shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the NAV except for non-risk assets as defined by the BSP. In the case of exchange-traded equity securities, the maximum exposure of the Fund to each issuer shall be 15% or the benchmark percent weighting of the issuer, whichever is higher.

The Fund's policy is to concentrate its investment portfolio in sectors where the Fund can maximize the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed. The table below is a summary of the percent exposures of the Fund to each sector as at December 31:

	2023	2022
Holdings	32%	35%
Property	22%	22%
Banks	22%	19%
Food, beverage and tobacco	8%	8%
Transportation	8%	5%
Power and energy	4%	4%
Services	2%	0%
Mining	1%	0%
Communications	0%	4%
Others	1%	3%
	100%	100%

To estimate its exposure to price risk, the Trustee evaluates the impact of changes in the PSEi on the Fund's net income (loss) on financial assets at FVTPL for years ended December 31:

	2023	2022
Changes in PSEi	14.53%	21.06%
Increase/decrease on net income (loss) on financial assets at FVTPL	547,204,491	862,691,918

The sensitivity analysis takes into account the annualized volatility of the PSEi in the past year. Annualized volatility determines how much the return of the Fund will deviate from normal returns because of the movement in the PSEi.

## 10.3 Credit risk

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The Fund's main credit risk exposures are from deposits in banks and receivables. The carrying amounts of these financial assets, as shown in the statement of financial position, represent the Fund's maximum exposure to credit risk.

Credit risk is minimized through diversification or by investing in a variety of investments belonging to different sectors or industries. The Fund manages credit risk by the selection and approval of counterparties and brokers with stable credit ratings.



In accordance with the Fund's policy, the Fund's overall credit position is monitored on a daily basis by the Trustee and is reviewed on a monthly basis by the Board of Directors.

All transactions in traded securities are coursed through approved counterparties. Pre-settlement and/or settlement risk exposures are earmarked against approved trading lines and lifted upon settlement of the transaction.

The maximum exposure to credit risk before any enhancements at December 31 is the carrying amount of the financial assets as set out below:

	2023	2022
Deposits in banks	151,711,535	281,667,755
Receivables	149,904,978	3,123,979
	301,616,513	284,791,734

For financial assets at amortized cost, the Fund measures credit risk and the expected credit losses (ECL) using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward-looking information in determining any ECL. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognized based on 12-month ECL as any such impairment would be insignificant to the Fund.

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, all of the Fund's financial assets are classified as Stage 1 accounts (performing). There are no financial assets classified under Stage 2 (underperforming) and Stage 3 (impaired).

The credit quality of the Fund's financial assets as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 follows:

*(a) Deposits in banks*

The Fund's deposit accounts are maintained with highly reputable universal banks in the Philippines with an average credit rating of Baa2 by Moody's.

*(b) Receivables*

The Fund's receivables pertain to due from brokers, dividend receivable and interest receivable.

Due from brokers arise from sale of investments in equity securities during the last three trading days of the reporting period and are usually settled three days after trade date. The Fund's brokers are registered trading participants of the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE).

Dividend receivable arises from dividends declared but not yet distributed as at year-end.

Interest receivable arises from interest earned on bank deposits but not yet collected as at year-end.

The receivables balance as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 is considered to be fully collectible.

**10.4 Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund may not be able to generate sufficient cash resources to settle its obligations in full as they fall due or can only do so on terms that are materially disadvantageous to the Fund. The Fund is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units. It therefore invests the majority of its assets in securities that are regularly traded in an active market and can be readily disposed of. The Fund's portfolio consists of equity securities listed in the PSE.

In accordance with the Fund's policy, the Trustee monitors the Fund's liquidity position on a daily basis and excess cash positions are invested in securities that are readily realizable to ensure that redemptions are funded within the prescribed period indicated in the Fund's Plan Rules.

The Trustee also has in place a liquidity contingency plan drawn up specifically for its UITFs and other managed accounts. The liquidity contingency plan provides a framework for addressing potential liquidity crisis situations which consists of identifying early warning indicators of a potential liquidity problem, setting out response action plans and defining the roles and responsibilities of key units and personnel to effectively manage the liquidity situation and ensure client's liquidity requirements are met in a timely and orderly manner.

The Fund's financial liabilities pertain to capital shares redeemed payable, due to brokers, trust fees payable and accrued professional and custodian fees, which are all contractually due within twelve (12) months from the reporting date.

Overall, due to the Fund's structure and strong liquidity position, the liquidity risk exposure of the Fund is negligible.

## **10.5 Capital management**

The capital of the Fund is represented by the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable units as shown in the statement of financial position. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for unitholders of the Fund. Units are redeemed on demand at the holder's discretion.

As at reporting date, the Fund does not foresee any imminent significant redemptions as holders of these investments typically retain their holdings for the medium-term to long-term period.

The Fund is not subject to externally imposed minimum capital requirements.

## **10.6 Fair value of financial instruments**

As at December 31, 2023, the Fund's financial assets at FVTPL amounting to P3,614,052,168 (2022 - P4,046,503,221) are classified under Level 1. There are no financial instruments at fair value which are classified under Level 2 and Level 3. There were no transfers between categories in the fair value hierarchy during the reporting periods.

The fair value of equity securities which are listed in the PSE is based on the closing price in Bloomberg.

The carrying amounts of the Fund's other financial assets and financial liabilities at reporting period approximate their fair values considering that these have short-term maturities.

## **11 Summary of material accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to both years presented, unless otherwise stated.

### **11.1 Basis of preparation**

The financial statements of the Fund have been prepared in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards (PFRSs). The term PFRSs, in general, includes all applicable PFRSs, Philippine Accounting Standards (PAS), and interpretations of the Philippine Interpretations Committee, Standing Interpretations Committee and International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee which have been approved by the Financial and Sustainability Reporting Standards Council and adopted by the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets at FVTPL.

There are currently no areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the Fund's financial statements.

## Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

### *(a) Amendments to existing standards adopted by the Fund*

The following amendments to existing standards have been adopted by the Fund effective January 1, 2023:

#### *i. Amendments to PAS 1, 'Presentation of Financial Statements', and PFRS Practice Statement 2*

The amendments require entities to disclose their material rather than their significant accounting policies. The amendments define what is 'material accounting policy information' (being information that, when considered together with other information included in an entity's financial statements, can reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements) and explain how to identify when accounting policy information is material. They further clarify that immaterial accounting policy information does not need to be disclosed. If it is disclosed, it should not obscure material accounting information.

To support these amendments, PFRS Practice Statement 2, Making Materiality Judgements, was also amended to provide guidance on how to apply the concept of materiality to accounting policy disclosures.

The adoption of these amendments resulted in changes in the accounting policies disclosed by the Fund.

There are no other new standards, amendments to existing standards and interpretations effective on January 1, 2023 that are considered relevant or have a material impact on the financial statements of the Fund.

### *(b) New standards, amendments to standards, and interpretations not yet adopted*

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024 and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements. None of these are considered relevant and expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

## 11.2 Financial Instruments

### *11.2.1 Measurement methods*

#### *Initial recognition, measurement and derecognition*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognized when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognized on trade date, the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the asset.

At initial recognition, the Fund measures a financial asset or financial liability at its fair value plus or minus, in the case of a financial asset or financial liability not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are incremental and directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability, such as fees and commissions. Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities carried at FVTPL are expensed in the statement of total comprehensive income. Immediately after initial recognition, an ECL allowance is recognized for financial assets measured at amortized cost and investments in debt instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI), if any, as described in Note 11.3.2.

When the fair value of financial assets and liabilities differs from the transaction price on initial recognition, the Fund recognizes the difference as follows:

- When the fair value is evidenced by a quoted price in an active market for an identical asset or liability (i.e. a Level 1 input) or based on a valuation technique that uses only data from observable markets, the difference is recognized as a gain or loss.
- In all other cases, the difference is deferred and the timing of recognition of deferred day one profit or loss is determined individually. It is either amortized over the life of the instrument, deferred until the instrument's fair value can be determined using market observable inputs, or realized through settlement.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets at FVTPL.

There are currently no areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the Fund's financial statements.

### **11.3 Financial assets**

#### *11.3.1 Classification and subsequent measurement*

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories: at FVTPL and at amortized cost.

The classification requirements for debt and equity instruments are described below:

##### *Debt instruments*

Debt instruments are those instruments that meet the definition of a financial liability from the issuer's perspective, such as loans, government and corporate bonds and trade receivables purchased from clients in factoring arrangements without recourse.

Classification and subsequent measurement of debt instruments depend on the Fund's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristics of the asset.

Based on these factors, the Fund classifies its debt instruments at amortized cost.

Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI), and that are not designated at FVTPL, are measured at amortized cost. The carrying amount of these assets is adjusted by any ECL recognized and measured. Interest income from these financial assets is included in 'Interest income' using the effective interest rate method.

Amortized cost financial assets include deposits held at call with banks and short-term highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition which are considered as cash equivalents.

*Business model:* The business model reflects how the Fund manages the assets in order to generate cash flows. That is, whether the Fund's objective is solely to collect the contractual cash flows from the assets or is to collect both the contractual cash flows and cash flows arising from the sale of assets. If neither of these is applicable, then the financial assets are classified as part of 'other' business model and measured at FVTPL. Factors considered by the Fund in determining the business model for a group of assets include past experience on how the cash flows for these assets were collected, how the asset's performance is evaluated and reported to key management personnel, how risks are assessed and managed and how managers are compensated.

*SPPI:* Where the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows or to collect contractual cash flows and sell, the Fund assesses whether the financial instruments' cash flows represent SPPI (the 'SPPI test'). In making this assessment, the Fund considers whether the contractual cash flows are consistent with a basic lending arrangement i.e. interest includes only consideration for the time value of money, credit risk, other basic lending risks and a profit margin that is consistent with a basic lending arrangement. Where the contractual terms introduce exposure to risk or volatility that are inconsistent with a basic lending arrangement, the related financial asset is classified and measured at FVTPL.

The Fund reclassifies debt investments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes. The reclassification takes place from the start of the first reporting period following the change. Such changes are expected to be very infrequent and none occurred during the period.

### *Equity investments*

The Fund subsequently measures all equity investments at FVTPL, except where the Fund's management has elected, at initial recognition, to irrevocably designate an equity investment at FVOCI. When this election is used, fair value gains and losses are recognized in other comprehensive income and are not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss, even on disposal. Impairment losses (and reversal of impairment losses) are not reported separately from other changes in fair value.

Dividends, when representing a return on such investments, continue to be recognized in profit or loss as dividend income when the Fund's right to receive payments is established. Gains and losses on equity investments at FVTPL are included in 'Net income (loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' in the statement of total comprehensive income. Equity investments classified as financial assets at FVTPL are disclosed in Notes 3 and 9.

#### *11.3.2 Impairment*

The Fund assesses on a forward-looking basis the ECL associated with its debt instruments carried at amortized cost. The measurement of ECL reflects:

- An unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes;
- The time value of money; and
- Reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

At each reporting date, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance on deposits in banks and receivables at an amount equal to the lifetime ECL if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month ECL. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparties, probability that the counterparties will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganization, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

### **11.4 Financial liabilities**

The Fund classifies its financial liabilities at amortized cost. The liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued expenses.

### **11.5 Fair value measurement**

The Fund classifies its fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the reporting date. A market is regarded as active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. These instruments are included in Level 1.

The Fund has no financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value other than its investments in listed equity securities classified as financial assets at FVTPL (Notes 3 and 9).

### **11.6 Subscriptions and redemptions**

Subscriptions and additional investments are recorded upon receipt of notice of subscription from unitholders. Redemptions are recorded upon receipt of notice of redemption.

## 11.7 Redeemable units

The Fund issues redeemable units, which are redeemable at the holder's option and are classified as equity in accordance with PAS 32, *Financial Instruments: Presentation*. The equity of the Fund is represented by the net assets attributable to holders of the redeemable units. Each unit has the following features which allow it to be classified as an equity:

- it entitles the holder to a pro rata share of the Fund's net assets in the event of the Fund's liquidation;
- the unit has no priority over other claims to the assets of the Fund on liquidation, and it does not need to be converted into another instrument before it is classified as such; and
- all units impose a contractual obligation on the Fund to deliver a pro rata share of its net assets on liquidation.

In addition, the Fund has no other financial instrument or contract that has:

- total cash flows based substantially on profit or loss, the change in the recognized net assets or the change in the fair value of the recognized and unrecognized net assets of the Fund (excluding any effects of such instrument or contract); and
- the effect of substantially restricting or fixing the residual return to the unitholders.

Should the redeemable units' terms or conditions change such that they do not comply with the strict criteria as mentioned above, the redeemable units would be reclassified to a financial liability from the date the instrument ceases to meet the criteria. The financial liability would be measured at the instrument's fair value at the date of reclassification. Any difference between the carrying value of the equity instrument and fair value of the liability on the date of reclassification would be recognized in equity.

Redeemable units are issued and redeemed at prices based on the Fund's trading NAV per unit at the time of issue or redemption. The Fund's trading NAV per unit is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to the holders of redeemable units with the total number of outstanding redeemable units. In accordance with the provisions of the Fund's regulations, investment positions are valued based on the last traded market price for the purpose of determining the NAV per unit for subscriptions and redemptions.

Redeemable units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's NAV calculated in accordance with the Fund's regulations.

## 11.8 Revenue and expense recognition

*Net income (loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss*

Net income (loss) on financial assets at FVTPL includes all realized and unrealized fair value changes.

*Interest income on financial assets measured at amortized cost*

Interest is recognized on a time-proportion basis using the effective interest rate method. Interest income on financial assets measured at amortized cost includes interest from deposits in banks and other investments.

*Dividend income*

Dividend income is recognized when the right to receive payment is established.

*Trust fees and other expenses*

Expenses are recognized in the period in which they are incurred.

## **11.9 Taxation**

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which the applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation and establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

The Fund has interest income from cash deposits and other investments which are subject to final withholding tax. Such income is presented at gross amount and the related final tax is presented in the statement of total comprehensive income as final withholding tax. Realized gain on sale of financial assets at FVTPL is recorded net of applicable taxes.

## **11.10 Functional and presentation currency**

The subscriptions and redemptions of the Fund's redeemable units are denominated in Philippine Peso. The performance of the Fund is measured and reported to the investors in Philippine Peso. The Fund's Trustee considers the Philippine Peso as the currency that most faithfully represents the economic effects of the underlying transactions, events and conditions. The financial statements are presented in Philippine Peso, which is the Fund's functional currency.

## **11.11 Related party relationships and transactions**

Related party relationship exists when one party has the ability to control, directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, the other party or exercises significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. Such relationship also exists between and/or among entities which are under common control with the reporting enterprise, or between, and/or among the reporting enterprise and its key management personnel, directors, or unitholders. In considering each possible related party relationship, attention is directed to the substance of the relationship, and not merely the legal form.