

## KENANGA INVESTORS IS TRIPLE AWARD WINNER

***Kenanga Investors Berhad Awarded Best Equity Manager, Best Wealth Management Platform & Best Investor Education***



***Regional Recognition Clinched:** Mr. Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, Executive Director & CEO, Kenanga Investors Berhad receiving the awards from Mr. Tan Lee Hock, Publisher and Founder of Asia Asset Management.*

**KUALA LUMPUR, 13 MAY 2019** – Kenanga Investors Berhad (Kenanga Investors) walked away with three awards at the 2019 Best of the Best Awards by Hong Kong-based Asia Asset Management held in Singapore recently. The fund house was awarded **Malaysia Best Equity Manager, Malaysia Best Wealth Management Platform** and **Malaysia Best Investor Education**.

Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, CEO and Executive Director says that Kenanga Investors was able to produce returns and stay ahead of its peers due to its bottom-up stock-picking strategy that identifies quality stocks generally undervalued relative to their intrinsic value.

The **Malaysia Best Equity Manager** is in recognition of the success of the fund house's equity products within Malaysia's domestic market given the challenging trading conditions and its abilities in capturing potential growth opportunities.

The **Malaysia Best Investor Education** recognises the fund house's role in raising awareness about financial planning in order to enhance retirement savings, initiatives taken and channels deployed, use of technology as well as the significance of these efforts at the country level.

The **Malaysia Best Wealth Management Platform** recognises the fund house due to it making a difference in the local market by providing a holistic financial approach to wealth management.

"Despite experiencing a relatively bearish environment in 2018, we were able to deliver consistent, risk-adjusted returns; it goes to show that outperformance during market uptrends is just as important as protecting our downside when the opposite occurs."

The fund house's investment strategy is supported by solid risk management policies which ensure that it identifies, assesses and controls risks inherent in products, activities, and systems. Commenting on some of the challenges faced with regards to investor education in Malaysia, De



Alwis says that investors falsely believe they will be able to survive on their EPF savings when they reach retirement age while others lack interest in learning more about the financial market which leaves them susceptible to scams or choose the wrong investment vehicle.

"To combat this, we work continuously with media partners, regulators and educational institutions so that we can reach out to the public on a wider scale, especially tertiary and secondary students."

According to him, the root of the challenge was education. He opines that there is a lack of financial literacy within the local education system. By starting the process when an individual is young is a crucial part in tackling the issue at its core.

The fund house received the green light from the Securities Commission Malaysia to proceed with the offering of financial planning services in January of 2018. The platform operates on an open architecture model which includes services such as education planning, investment planning, insurance planning, estate planning, retirement planning, succession planning and tax planning, all of which are supported by over 25 trusted insurance, wills and trust, and asset management firms.

"We look forward to offering more innovative and tailored solutions. Currently, we are in the midst of expanding our product range to include more alternative products such as exchange-traded funds (ETFs) with equity and fixed income wrappers, as well as private equity opportunities for our clients" says De Alwis.

AAM is the world's longest- running publication focused on Asia's institutional asset management and pension fund industry. Its Best of The Best Awards recognises the finest performers in Asia from financial services companies and institutional investors to service providers whose influence and excellence expands beyond borders. Find out more about the AAM's Best of The Best Awards at: <http://www.asiaasset.com>.

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

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#### **About Kenanga Investors Berhad (353563-P)**

Kenanga Investors Berhad ('KIB') is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad, the largest independent investment bank by equity trading value and volume. KIB is licensed to perform regulated activities of fund management dealing in securities (restricted to unit trust), investment advice, financial planning, and dealing in Private Retirement Scheme ('PRS') under the Capital Markets and Services Act ('CMSA') 2007. KIB provides investment solutions ranging from collective investment schemes, portfolio management services as well as segregated private mandates and alternative investments for retail, corporate and institutional clients.

KIB prides itself on its reputation for its consistently top performing funds. Fundsupermart.com Recommended Unit Trusts Awards 2018/2019 recognised Kenanga Growth Fund under the '*Core Equity – Malaysia*' category for the 9th consecutive year while Kenanga Balanced Fund had its inaugural win under the '*Balanced – Malaysia*' category. For the third consecutive year, KIB was affirmed an investment manager rating of IMR-2 by Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad. The IMR rating on KIB reflects the fund management company's well-established investment processes, sound risk management practices and strong operating track record. KIB was awarded the Transparency Award 2017 at MARC's 2017 Lead Managers League Table Awards, a first for the fund management industry. At the Morningstar Awards 2019, the '*Best Malaysia Large-Cap Equity Fund*' title was awarded to Kenanga Blue Chip Fund while the KLIFF Islamic Finance Awards 2019 named Kenanga Syariah Growth Fund the '*Most Outstanding Islamic Fund Product*'.

Most recently, the Hong Kong-based Asia Asset Management's 2019 Best of the Best Awards awarded KIB under the '*Malaysia Best Equity Manager*', '*Malaysia Best Wealth Management Platform*' and '*Malaysia Best Investor Education*' categories. At the KWAP External Fund Manager Awards, KIB was awarded the '*Best Domestic Conventional Equity 2017*' in its capacity as fund manager.

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