

QUARTERLY REPORT 31 January 2024

AHAM World Series – Next Generation Technology Fund

MANAGER AHAM Asset Management Berhad 199701014290 (429786-T) TRUSTEE
TMF Trustees Malaysia Berhad
(200301008392 [610812-W])

AHAM WORLD SERIES – NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

Quarterly Report and Financial Statements As at 31 January 2024

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QUARTERLY REPORT

FUND INFORMATION

Fund Name	AHAM World Series – Next Generation Technology Fund
Fund Type	Growth
Fund Category	Feeder (wholesale)
Investment Objective	The Fund seeks to achieve capital appreciation over medium to long term period.
Benchmark	MSCI ACWI Information Technology Index
Distribution Policy	The Fund is not expected to make distribution. However, incidental distribution may be declared whenever is appropriate.

FUND PERFORMANCE DATA

USD Class

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024	As at 31 Oct 2023
Total NAV (USD'million)	7.337	5.986
NAV per Unit (USD)	0.2973	0.2429
Unit in Circulation (million)	24.680	24.646

MYR Class

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024	As at 31 Oct 2023
Total NAV (RM'million)	0.005	N/A
NAV per Unit (RM)	0.4946	N/A
Unit in Circulation (million)	0.011	N/A

MYR Hedged-class

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024	As at 31 Oct 2023
Total NAV (RM'million)	549.912	463.956
NAV per Unit (RM)	0.2902	0.2386
Unit in Circulation (million)	1895.245	1944.408

SGD Hedged-class

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024	As at 31 Oct 2023
Total NAV (SGD'million)	4.821	3.899
NAV per Unit (SGD)	0.2868	0.2356
Unit in Circulation (million)	16.809	16.552

AUD Hedged-class

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024	As at 31 Oct 2023
Total NAV (AUD'million)	4.407	3.677
NAV per Unit (AUD)	0.2761	0.2268
Unit in Circulation (million)	15.963	16.214

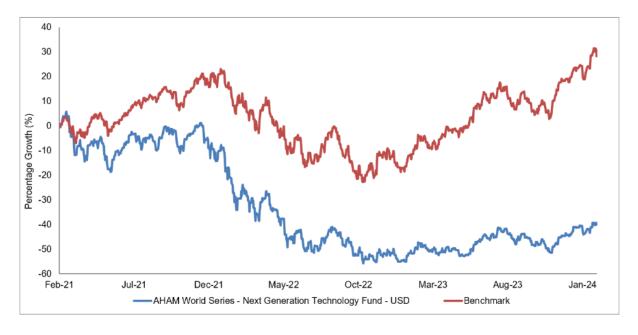
Fund Performance

USD Class

Table 1: Performance as at 31 January 2024

	3 Months (1/11/23 - 31/1/24)	6 Months (1/8/23 - 31/1/24)	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (3/2/21 - 31/1/24)
Fund	23.55%	2.91%	20.18%	(39.98%)
Benchmark	22.28%	10.59%	39.98%	28.21%
Outperformance	1.27%	(7.68%)	(19.80%)	(68.19%)

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark

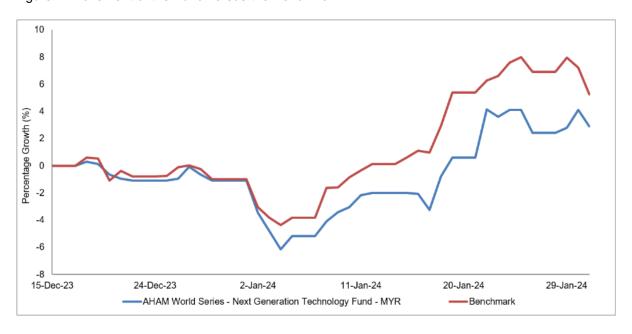


MYR Class

Table 1: Performance as at 31 January 2024

	Since Commencement (16/12/23 - 31/1/24)
Fund	2.90%
Benchmark	5.26%
Outperformance	(2.36%)

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark

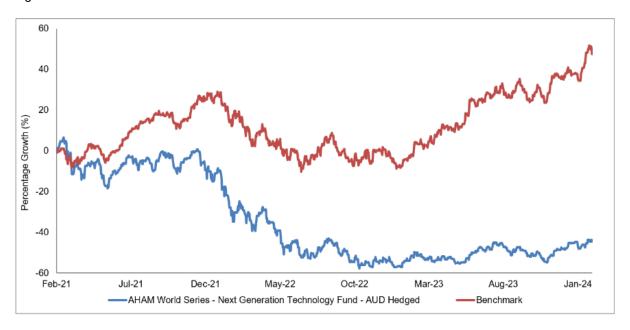


AUD Hedged Class

Table 1: Performance as at 31 January 2024

	3 Months (1/11/23 - 31/1/24)	6 Months (1/8/23 - 31/1/24)	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (3/2/21 - 31/1/24)
Fund	22.62%	1.50%	16.70%	(44.38%)
Benchmark	17.53%	12.77%	49.62%	47.46%
Outperformance	5.09%	(11.27%)	(32.92%)	(91.84%)

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark

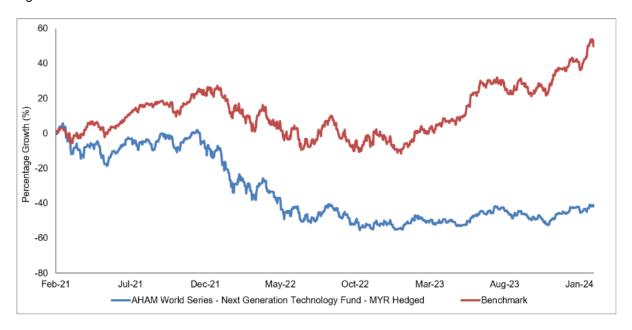


MYR Hedged Class

Table 1: Performance as at 31 January 2024

	3 Months (1/11/23 - 31/1/24)	6 Months (1/8/23 - 31/1/24)	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (3/2/21 - 31/1/24)
Fund	22.42%	1.11%	16.33%	(41.58%)
Benchmark	21.38%	16.06%	55.36%	49.96%
Outperformance	1.04%	(14.95%)	(39.03%)	(91.54%)

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark



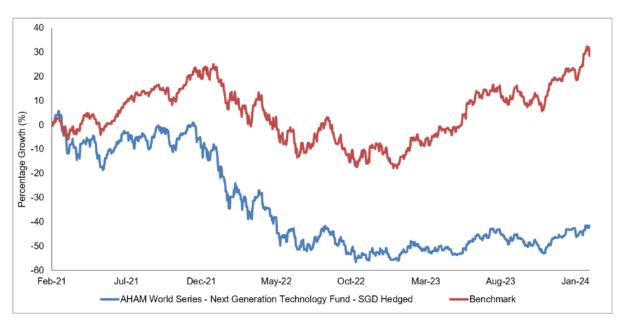
SGD Hedged Class

Table 1: Performance as at 31 January 2024

	3 Months (1/11/23 - 31/1/24)	6 Months (1/8/23 - 31/1/24)	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (3/2/21 - 31/1/24)
Fund	22.67%	1.47%	17.43%	(42.20%)
Benchmark	19.43%	11.36%	42.50%	28.60%
Outperformance	3.24%	(9.89%)	(25.07%)	(70.80%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark



"This information is prepared by AHAM Asset Management Berhad for information purposes only. Past earnings or the fund's distribution record is not a guarantee or reflection of the fund's future earnings/future distributions. Investors are advised that unit prices, distributions payable and investment returns may go down as well as up. Source of Benchmark is from Bloomberg."

Benchmark: MSCI ACWI Information Technology Index

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance and that Unit prices and investment returns may go down, as well as up.

Asset Allocation

Fund's asset mix during the period under review:

	31 January 2024	
	(%)	
Unit Trust	99.06	
Derivative	-2.20	
Cash & money market	3.14	
Total	100.00	

Income Distribution Breakdown

No income distribution or unit split were declared for the financial period ended 31 January 2024.

Strategies Employed

The investment team believes that emerging technology is reshaping industries across the spectrum, as we anticipate investment in disruptive technologies to grow in the coming years. The Fund aims to capture the alpha opportunities created by industry-disrupting, emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing and the internet of things.

Today, disruption has gone well beyond just the technology sector, as technology companies seek to make an impact on any industry that is poised to benefit from operational innovation, such as Al in digital healthcare or autonomous vehicles in the automobile sector. As such, the Fund currently holds positions across more than 24 GICS industries, where innovative firms are reshaping the landscape of their respective fields.

The global technology sector is dominated by a small group of increasingly diversified mega-caps, but the investment team believes that there are increasing opportunities in the vast number of companies not captured in the large behemoths of the space. The winners of tomorrow are unlikely to be the winners of today. The Fund is currently investing in mainly small and mid-cap companies, which provide more pureplay exposure into the emerging technologies than the sector's mega-caps.

Market Review

The quarter began with a sharp rebound in global equity markets, as evidenced by a +9.2% return in the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) in November, driven by signs of economic improvement and falling yields. This positive momentum carried into December, with the S&P 500 hitting its highest level in almost two years, before moderating in January 2024 to a modest +0.6% return for the MSCI ACWI. Over the quarter, sectors such as Information Technology, Real Estate, and Industrials frequently outperformed, benefiting from the initial optimism. In contrast, Energy, Consumer Staples, and later Materials and Utilities, saw weaker performance, reflecting a mixture of economic expectations and market sentiment shifts.

The Federal Reserve's decision to hold interest rates steady in November, coupled with indications of forthcoming rate cuts in 2024, set the tone for central bank policies during the quarter. The European Central Bank (ECB) and the Bank of England (BOE) echoed this cautious optimism, signaling easing in the latter half of the year. However, by January, the Federal Reserve tempered expectations with a less dovish outlook, affecting market sentiment. Additionally, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) took a proactive stance in January by cutting the reserve requirement ratio to inject \$140bn of liquidity into the financial system, aiming to bolster growth.

Inflation dynamics showed signs of easing in November, particularly in the US, UK, and Eurozone, largely due to falling energy prices. The US Consumer Price Index (CPI) in October notably came in at +3.2%, moving closer to the Federal Reserve's target. However, the UK experienced an unexpected uptick in inflation to 4.0% in January 2024, ending a trend of gradual decreases. These inflationary trends were against a backdrop of varying economic indicators, from retail and industrial activity boosts in China to a tight labor market in the US, underlining the complex economic landscape.

Geopolitical tensions were also present, with notable events including the veto of a financial aid package for Ukraine by Hungary and conflicts in the Middle East affecting maritime trade. These events had implications for global markets, including fluctuating oil prices. On a regional level, the quarter saw diverse performance, with Emerging Latin America, Europe excluding the UK, and North America initially leading the returns. By the end of the period, Japan and the United States emerged as the strongest performers, while Emerging Markets and Asia excluding Japan faced declines, reflecting the intricate interplay of global economic and geopolitical factors on market dynamics.

This quarter was marked by optimism tempered by caution, as initial market rebounds faced headwinds from central bank policy adjustments and evolving economic indicators. Sector and regional performances varied widely, illustrating the nuanced and interconnected nature of global financial markets.

Investment Outlook

As we continue into 2024, mixed macroeconomic indicators signal a period of caution, particularly within the realm of IT spending by enterprises, reflective of a conservative stance amid concerns over interest rates and inflation. However, these concerns seem to have already been largely accounted for within tech equities. The tech sector, meanwhile, has experienced a surge of new momentum thanks to recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence. This momentum is initially benefiting mega-cap tech companies that are investing in the infrastructure necessary to train generative AI models, but it also opens up a broad spectrum of opportunities for companies that align with this emerging theme.

In response to these developments, there's a sustained commitment to invest in long-term secular themes that promise substantial growth over the coming years. These themes include not only established areas such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and electric vehicles but also emerging sectors like the metaverse, space exploration, and quantum computing. Despite the current environment where growth assets face challenges due to rising rates, the fundamental strengths of companies within these thematic areas remain undiminished. The underlying secular growth trends driving technological innovation are seen as multi-year transformations that are expected to continue their trajectory, unaffected by short-term macroeconomic shifts or geopolitical uncertainties. This outlook underscores a belief in the enduring potential of these sectors to drive forward-looking investment strategies.

AHAM WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND (FORMERLY KNOWN AS AFFIN HWANG WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND)

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	Financial period ended <u>31.1.2024</u>	Financial period ended 31.1.2023
	USD	USD
INVESTMENT PROFIT		
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost Net gain on foreign currency exchange Net (loss)/gain on forward foreign currency	2,580 2,439	150 418
contracts at fair value through profit or loss	(166,875)	11,780,460
Net gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	25,893,466	8,489,827
	25,731,610	20,270,855
EXPENSES		
Management fee Trustee fee Fund accounting fee Auditors' remuneration Tax agent's fee Other expenses	(570,571) (12,697) (1,573) (432) (189) (2,969)	(604,156) (13,438) (2,116) (476) (194) (1,680)
	(588,431)	(622,060)
NET PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	25,143,179	19,648,795
Taxation	-	-
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDER	25,143,179	19,648,795
Increase in net asset attributable to unitholders is made up of the following:		
Realised amount Unrealised amount	(7,235,520) 32,378,699	(1,281,597) 20,930,392
	25,143,179	19,648,795

AHAM WORLD SERIES – NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND (FORMERLY KNOWN AS AFFIN HWANG WORLD SERIES – NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND)

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

	<u>2024</u> USD	<u>2023</u> USD
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents Amount due from broker Amount due from Manager	4,783,797 -	939,444 594,168
 creation of units management fee rebate receivable Financial assets at fair value 	67,228 160,726	169,509
through profit or loss Forward foreign currency contracts	127,086,573	139,206,385
at fair value through profit or loss	4,161	3,869,625
TOTAL ASSETS	132,102,485	144,779,131
LIABILITIES		
Forward foreign currency contracts at fair value through profit or loss Amount due to broker Amount due to Manager	2,831,380	165,427 1,000,000
- management fee - cancellation of units Amount due to Trustee Fund accounting fee	195,106 779,026 4,336 579	209,981 354,654 4,666
Auditors' remuneration Tax agent's fee	432 929	2,370 1,038
Other payables and accruals	78	(771)
TOTAL LIABILITIES (EXCLUDING NET ASSET ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS)	3,811,866	1,737,365
NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND	128,290,619	143,041,766
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS	128,290,619	143,041,766

AHAM WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND (FORMERLY KNOWN AS AFFIN HWANG WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND)

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

	<u>2024</u> USD	<u>2023</u> USD
REPRESENTED BY:		
FAIR VALUE OF OUTSTANDING UNITS		
AUD Hedged-classMYR classMYR Hedged-classSGD Hedged-classUSD class	2,809,023 16,532 114,613,778 3,620,264 7,231,022 128,290,619	3,108,807 - 127,347,801 3,658,283 8,926,875 - 143,041,766
NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION		
 AUD Hedged-class MYR class MYR Hedged-class SGD Hedged-class USD class 	15,345,000 152,000 1,855,843,000 16,788,000 24,098,000 1,912,226,000	18,610,000 - 2,163,537,000 19,574,000 35,756,000 2,237,477,000
NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (USD)		
AUD Hedged-classMYR classMYR Hedged-classSGD Hedged-classUSD class	0.1831 0.1088 0.0618 0.2156 0.3001	0.1671 - 0.0589 0.1869 0.2497
NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT IN RESPECTIVE CURRENCIES		
AUD Hedged-classMYR classMYR Hedged-classSGD Hedged-classUSD class	AUD0.2781 RM0.5145 RM0.2921 SGD0.2890 USD0.3001	AUD0.2383 - RM0.2511 SGD0.2461 USD0.2497

AHAM WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND (FORMERLY KNOWN AS AFFIN HWANG WORLD SERIES - NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FUND)

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSET ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	Financial period ended 31.1.2024 USD	Financial period ended <u>31.1.2023</u> USD
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	108,624,028	127,393,409
Movement due to units created and cancelled during the financial period		
Creation of units arising from applications	977,312	834,753
- AUD Hedged-class - MYR class	- 19,655	20,070
- MYR Hedged-class	719,077	95,552
- SGD Hedged-class - USD class	140,292 98,288	719,131
Cancellation of units	(6,453,900)	(4,835,191)
- AUD Hedged-class	(153,078)	(132,605)
- MYR class - MYR Hedged-class	(3,671) (5,954,199)	(3,613,621)
- SGD Hedged-class	(90,139)	(80,230)
- USD class	(252,813)	(1,008,735)
Increase in net assets attributable to		
unitholders during the financial period	25,143,179	19,648,795
- AUD Hedged-class	620,079	420,876
- MYR class	548	- 40 240 554
- MYR Hedged-class - SGD Hedged-class	22,409,844 713,423	18,349,554 437,471
- USD class	1,399,285	440,894
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	128,290,619	143,041,766

AHAM Asset Management Berhad Registration No: 199701014290 (429786-T)

Ground Floor, Menara Boustead, 69, Jalan Raja Chulan, 50200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Toll Free Number: 1800 88 7080 T: +603 2116 6000

aham.com.my