



# **International Fund Awards Methodology, Malaysia**

Morningstar Methodology Paper  
January 2015

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2015

## Morningstar International Fund Awards Methodology

### **Statement of Purpose**

The objective of the Morningstar Fund Awards is to recognise those funds and fund groups that have added the most value within the context of a relevant peer group for investors over the past year and over the longer-term.

The awards are annual, so we believe it is appropriate to emphasise a fund's one-year performance. However, we do not wish to be in the position of giving awards to funds that have posted a strong one-year return, but have otherwise not delivered good results for investors. We also recognise that investors often use awards as a "buy" signal, and we do not wish to steer them to offerings that may not be good longer-term investments.

The awards methodology therefore emphasises the one-year period, but funds must also have delivered strong three-year returns after adjusting for risk within the awards peer groups in order to obtain an award. Further, they must have been at least in the top half of their respective peer groups in at least two of the past three calendar years. We believe this combination will ensure that the awards are given to funds which have earned strong one-year results, and have also shown they have the ability to earn strong long-term returns without undue risk.

## **Eligible Universe**

Awards will be determined for each individual national fund market.

Only funds that are recorded in the Morningstar database as available for sale in a given market will be eligible to receive an award in that market.

For the Morningstar Category Awards for equity only: In order to ensure Morningstar analysts can carry out effective qualitative checks for potential winners, only funds that have reported at least one complete portfolio to Morningstar between 1 September 2013 and 31 December 2014 are eligible for an award.

The following fund types are excluded from the universe: Insurance funds, closed-end funds. Currency-hedged share-classes of funds are also excluded unless they are in a category specifically for currency-hedged funds and classes.

The smallest 10% of funds in each category are excluded from the awards based on the latest June end portfolio size expressed in Malaysian Ringgit. In lieu of this measure, analysts may also exclude funds with less than MYR\$25 million in assets at 30 June or the nearest date for which assets are available.

## **Morningstar Category Awards Methodology**

### **Categories Eligible for Awards**

Equity:

- ▶ Malaysia Equity
- ▶ Islamic Malaysia Equity
- ▶ Asia-Pacific Equity (Includes all Asia-Pacific Equity, Asia ex-Japan Equity, and Asia-Pacific ex-Japan Equity)

Fixed Interest:

- ▶ MYR Bond
- ▶ Islamic MYR Bond

Allocation:

- ▶ MYR Allocation
- ▶ Islamic MYR Allocation

The following categories are excluded from the awards:

- ▶ All non-equity Commodities categories
- ▶ All non-equity Property categories
- ▶ All Alternatives categories
- ▶ All "Other" categories, e.g. Other Europe Equity, etc.
- ▶ All Money Market categories
- ▶ All Target-Date categories
- ▶ Capital Protected
- ▶ Global Equity – Currency Hedged
- ▶ Guaranteed
- ▶ US Equity – Currency Hedged

## Scoring System

Each fund in a relevant grouping will be scored as follows:

### Return Score = 80% of total score

One year: 25% of total score, based on one-year return percentile rank in Morningstar Category  
Three year: 55% of total score, of which three-year return percentile rank in Morningstar Category.

### Risk Score = 20% of total score

Three year: 20% of total score, based on three-year Morningstar Risk percentile rank in Morningstar Category.

Based on above weights, the effective weight of each year in the calculation is as follows, including both risk and return (figures are rounded to nearest whole number):

Past one year	50%
Second year out	25%
Third year out	25%

The weights are designed to place due emphasis on the most recent year given that the awards are annual in nature, but are also meant to favour those funds that have delivered risk-adjusted outperformance on a sustained basis over the longer term.

## Qualitative Review

Based on the above calculations, the 10 funds with the lowest scores in each Morningstar Awards Category will be reviewed by Morningstar's qualitative research analysts in that market.

The analysts will complete the following checks:

- ▶ All institutional share classes will be removed unless readily available to retail investors.
- ▶ Funds that are deemed inaccessible to local market investors will be excluded.
- ▶ If an analyst has reason to believe that a fund cannot continue to outperform, he will submit his concerns to the heads of Morningstar's Research team, and they can elect to remove the fund from consideration at their discretion.
- ▶ Any fund that is deemed to have deviated materially from its stated mandate will be removed from consideration.
- ▶ Any fund that has not outperformed its Morningstar category median in at least two of the past three calendar years will be removed from consideration unless Morningstar's qualitative analysts believe a fund has exceptional merit that the criterion fails to capture.

## Award Selection

Upon the completion of the following screens, the fund with the **lowest** score in each eligible Morningstar Category or grouping thereof will receive the award for that Morningstar Category or Category grouping.