

Income investing is often associated with retirees or those nearing retirement age. However, the significance of income extends far beyond just retirement, as it plays a crucial role in driving total returns and reducing portfolio volatility across an investor's lifecyle.

In our latest Fundamental Flash, we explore the role of income across different life stages, tracing the journey of an investor named Alex as he navigates through each phase of his investment journey.

[Early Career]

During the early career stage, individuals typically prioritise growth-oriented investments to capitalise on long-term wealth accumulation. However, incorporating incomegenerating assets can provide numerous benefits, even at this stage.

Meet Alex, a recent graduate who has just stepped into the working world. Excited about the prospects of his budding career, Alex focuses on growth-oriented investments such as equities and small-cap stocks for long-term capital growth.

However, he soon realises the importance of diversification and stability, especially amidst the uncertainties of early career life. Allocating a portion of his portfolio to dividend-paying stocks or bonds provides Alex with a steady income stream to cover some expenses. However, Alex could also choose to reinvest the rest of it back into his portfolio to further fuel his portfolio's growth potential by harnessing the power of compounding.

[Mid-Career]

In the mid-career stage, individuals often face a myriad of financial obligations, from managing mortgages to funding their children's education and planning for retirement. During this phase, the importance of income- generating investments becomes even more pronounced as individuals seek to balance their growth objectives with the need for stable cash flow.

Fast forward a few years, and Alex now finds himself in the prime of his career with a growing family to support. Recognising the need to secure his financial future, Alex incorporates income-generating assets, such as real estate investment trusts (REITs) or dividend stocks, into his investment portfolio. These assets provide Alex with a reliable source of income to help meet his various financial goals and commitments.

Moreover, income investments play a crucial role in helping Alex create a more defensive and diversified portfolio as his portfolio grows in size. By allocating a portion of his investments to income-generating assets, Alex can mitigate overall portfolio volatility and smooth out returns. This defensive strategy becomes particularly valuable during market downturns, where a dependable income stream acts as a financial cushion, providing Alex with greater financial resilience and peace of mind.

[Pre-Retirement]

As individuals approach retirement, the focus shifts towards preserving wealth and generating sustainable income to support their desired lifestyle during retirement. Income investments take centre stage during this phase, providing a steady cash flow to supplement other sources of retirement income.

As Alex now approaches his late 50s, retirement planning moves to the forefront of his financial priorities. With retirement on the horizon, the focus shifts towards preserving wealth and generating sustainable income to support his desired lifestyle.

In response, Alex tilts his investment portfolio more heavily towards income-generating assets. While growth assets still have their place, a significant portion of Alex's portfolio is allocated to income-generating investments such as sovereign bonds, investment-grade corporate bonds and dividend-paying stocks. This diversified income stream ensures financial security during retirement, allowing Alex and his spouse to enjoy their golden years without worrying about outliving their savings.

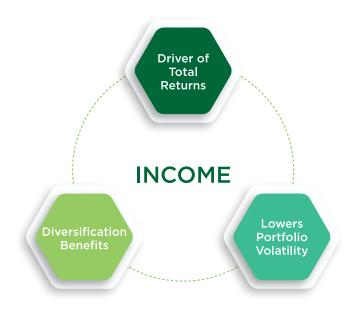
[Retirement]

In retirement, income investments often form the cornerstone of investment portfolios, providing retirees with a reliable source of cash flow to cover living expenses and enjoy their golden years.

By strategically allocating his investment portfolio to different income-generating assets, Alex achieves financial security and peace of mind through multiple income sources. This income provides the foundation for a fulfilling retirement, allowing Alex to pursue his passions and enjoy the fruits of his labour.

[Why Income Matters]

From enhancing total returns through compounding to providing stability during market downturns, income investments play a vital role in achieving financial goals and securing a prosperous future. By recognising the importance of income across various life stages, investors can build resilient portfolios to help them achieve their financial goals.



Global **Asia** AHAM Smart Invest Portfolio - Income AHAM Select Bond Fund AHAM World Series - Global Income Fund AHAM ESG SGD Bond Fund AHAM World Series -AHAM RMB Bond Fund Global Corporate Bond Fund AHAM World Series - AHAM World Series -Asian High Yield Fund Global High Income Fund AHAM World Series -US Short Duration High Income Fund AHAM Aiiman Global Sukuk Fund Our **Income** Solutions AHAM World Series - AHAM World Series -Income and Growth Fund Global Infrastructure Income Fund AHAM World Series - Income Fund AHAM World Series -AHAM Select Income Fund Global Dividend Growth Fund AHAM Aiiman Select Income Fund AHAM Select Dividend Fund AHAM Select Balanced Fund AHAM World Series - Dividend Value Fund AHAM Aiiman Balanced Fund AHAM Select Asia Pacific AHAM Select AUD Income Fund (ex Japan) Dividend Fund AHAM Select SGD Income Fund **Equity Income** Multi Asset

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There are fees and charges involved when investing in the Fund. Investors are advised to consider the fees and charges as well of the risks carefully before investing. Investors should make their own assessment of the risks involved in investing and should seek professional advice, where necessary. The price of units and distribution payable, if any, may go down as well as up and past performance of the Fund should not be taken as indicative of its future performance. The Securities Commission Malaysia takes no responsibility for the contents of this marketing / promotional material and expressly disclaims all liability, however arising from this marketing / promotional material.