

# First State Bridge

## Monthly factsheet (in SGD)

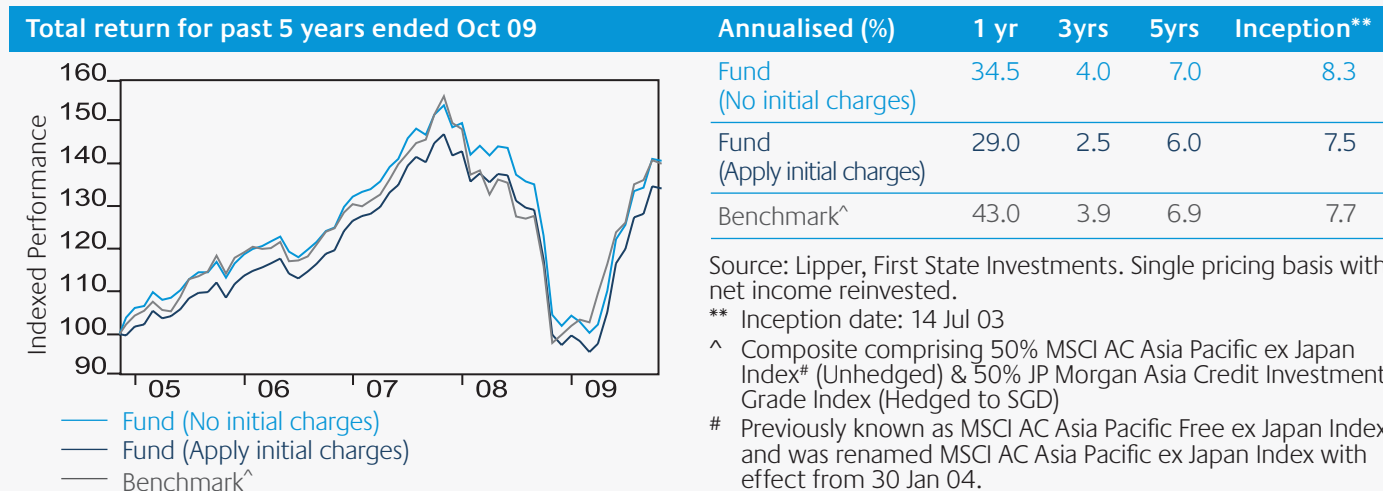
October 2009

### Investment objective

To provide investors with an annual distribution and medium term capital stability from investments focused in the Asia-Pacific ex Japan region by investing all or substantially all of its assets in the Dublin-domiciled First State Asian Equity Plus Fund (in relation to the equity portion) and the Dublin-domiciled First State Asian Quality Bond Fund (in relation to the fixed income portion).

Fund information			
Launch Date	2 Jun 03	Minimum Investment	S\$1,000 (Initial) S\$100 (Subsequent)
NAV Price	S\$1.3043	Management Fee	1.25% p.a.
Fund Size	S\$1309.3mn	Initial Charge	4.0% (Cash) 3.0% (CPF - Ordinary/Special Account)
Dealing	Monday to Friday (except public holidays)	CPF Classification	Medium to High Risk-Narrowly Focused (Regional)
Distribution Policy	Semi-annually on 30 Apr and 31 Oct*		

\* Effective 31 Oct 06, the Manager intends to make semi-annual distributions of 1.5% of the net asset value on 30 Apr and 31 Oct each year. The distributions will be made out of the income, capital gains and/or capital of the Fund. First State Investments (Singapore) has the sole discretion to determine whether a distribution be made as well as on the rate and frequency of distribution to be made. The distributions are not guaranteed by First State Investments (Singapore) or its distributors.



Asset allocation	%	Sector allocation	%	Top 10 equity holdings	%
Fixed Income	47.0	Fixed Income	47.0	QBE Insurance Group Ltd	1.9
Hong Kong	10.5	Consumer Staples	11.8	Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg Co	1.8
China	7.7	Financials	11.7	Shinsegae Co Ltd	1.8
Taiwan	6.8	Information Technology	6.8	Chunghwa Telecom Co Ltd	1.5
Singapore	5.8	Telecommunication Services	5.0	Cheung Kong (Hldgs) Ltd	1.4
South Korea	5.6	Consumer Discretionary	3.6	Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp	1.4
Australia	5.1	Industrials	3.3	Yuhan Corp	1.4
India	3.9	Utilities	2.7	Brambles Ltd	1.3
Thailand	1.5	Health Care	1.8	Newcrest Mining Ltd	1.2
Philippines	1.2	Materials	1.5	Jardine Matheson Hldgs Ltd	1.1
Malaysia	1.0	Energy	1.0		
Sri Lanka	0.1	Liquidity	3.8		
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### Manager's comment

- Most Asian markets declined in October after a sustained period of strong performance, although Hong Kong and China continued their upward trend.
- Financial companies were the best performers in China as third quarter results were better than expected.
- Asian bonds posted a positive return, although the strength of the recent upward trend slowed during the month.
- Investor demand was focused on investment grade bonds and at a sector level, Consumer Products, Utilities and Financials outperformed.
- A flood of fresh supply hit the market as issuers took advantage of strong demand.
- More than \$8 billion of new deals were issued over the month, weighing on the performance of Asian dollar bonds.
- There were issues from highly rated investment grade names such as Korea Expressway Corp and Temasek and successful high yield issues from Sri Lanka, PLN and INDIKA of Indonesia.
- Asian economic data continued to show signs of gradual improvement with various purchasing managers' surveys pointing to an expansion of manufacturing activity.
- Central banks in Asia (ex-Australia) held official interest rates steady during October as data pointed towards a recovery.
- Some central banks, in particular the Bank of Korea, appear to be increasing rhetoric about the possibility of raising official rates in 2010.
- We believe that much of the recovery is already reflected in share prices.
- We have reduced our exposure to the Information Technology sector and increased weighting in Telecom Services which is currently out of favour given its defensive nature.

### For further information

Address: 1 Temasek Avenue #17-01 Millenia Tower Singapore 039192

Telephone: +65 6538 0008 Facsimile: +65 6538 0800 Email: [info@firststate.com.sg](mailto:info@firststate.com.sg) Website: [www.firststateasia.com](http://www.firststateasia.com)

Distributor Hotline: +65 6580 1360 Investor Service Hotline: +65 6580 1390 Fund Price Hotline: +65 6580 1388

### DISCLAIMER

Except for the benchmark index, performance stated for relevant indices are quoted in the respective local currency unless otherwise specified.

Note: The above asset allocation pertains to the underlying fund. This report is prepared by First State Investments (Singapore) and is provided for information purposes only. Investors should read the Prospectus before deciding whether to subscribe for or purchase units in the Fund. The prospectus is available and copies may be obtained from the Manager and Distributors. The value of the units in the Fund and the income from them may rise as well as fall. Past performance figures are not necessarily a guide to future performance. Neither is any forecast made necessarily indicative of the future or likely performance of the Fund. Where information is provided on top holdings, such information does not constitute a recommendation to buy these securities. Units are not available to U.S. persons.

The CPF interest rate for the Ordinary Account (OA) is based on the 12-month fixed deposit and month-end savings rates of the major local banks. Under the CPF Act, the Board pays a minimum interest of 2.5% per annum when this interest formula yields a lower rate. From 1 January 2008, the new interest rate for the Special, Medisave and Retirement Accounts (SMRA) will be pegged to the yield of 10-year Singapore government bond plus 1%. For 2008 and 2009, the minimum interest rate for the SMRA will be 4.0% per annum. After 2009, the 2.5% per annum minimum interest rate, as prescribed by the CPF Act, will apply to the SMRA. In addition, from 1 January 2008, the CPF Board will pay an extra interest rate of 1% per annum on the first \$60,000 of a CPF member's combined balances, including up to \$20,000 in the OA. From 1 April 2008, the first \$20,000 in the Ordinary Account will not be allowed to be invested under the CPF Investment Scheme; and from 1 May 2009, the first \$30,000 in the Special Account will not be allowed for investments.