# **Diversified Balanced Fund**

Information is correct as at the 30th September 2010

Volatility/Risk



### **How the Fund Works**

The Diversified Balanced Fund invests in equities, bonds, property and alternative assets classes. The fund is designed to produce a mid-range level of expected returns with reduced levels of ups and downs. This fund is suitable for investors who are willing to accept some risk from equity markets while still limiting volatility.

The return of this fund since launch (27th April 2009) is 12.30%p.a.

#### **Asset Distribution Equity Distribution Performance** 49.8% 44.5% Equity Eurozone Period Return 21.9% US 24.2% Bond Last Mth 0.94% 10.6% Global 11.4% Property Qtr to date 2.43% Multi-Asset 10.0% Pacific 7.9% YTD 3.87% Cash 7.7% UK 4.6% 1 Year 7.27% p.a. Japan 4.4% Europe ex Eu 3.0% The figures quoted are before tax and after management charges. Source: Irish Life.

## **Market Commentary**

September 2010 was one of the best months on record for equity investors. The FTSE world traded over 7% higher, while both corporate and government bonds in Europe traded slightly lower. Despite this solid performance for equity markets, risk aversion was still evident. AAA government bond yields have remained close to historical low levels reached in August and gold, the ultimate safe haven, is now trading at record levels. Other commodity sectors such as energy, metals and agriculture also made strong gains. The Euro also regained some of the recent losses that it made against the Dollar.

European bond markets continued to dominate in September as the peripheral markets continued to sell off. The health of the Eurozone banking system contributed to volatility in the bond markets as concerns that German Banks will need to raise an additional €105bln in new capital. However news that Deutsche Bank was successful in raising €9bln eased some of these concerns. Elsewhere, the capital needs of the Irish banking system pushed the cost of borrowing for Ireland higher, as the ten year Irish government bond yield increased to 6.6% from 5.8% at the start of the month. Some of the stresses in Irish bond markets eased after the government provided clarity on the capital requirements on each of the banks.

Equity markets were boosted by a notable improvement from economic data especially in the US. Despite this, the Federal Reserve has retained its cautious tone, noting weakness in several key economic indicators such as household wealth, residential construction, employment and retail sales. Chairman Bernanke outlined that groundwork for further quantitative easing if economic conditions.

### In Stock News

**Google** rose 16.8% as it is set to benefit from the growing maturity of the mobile advertising market where the monetisation rate is improving and the ad market is increasing.

Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up. This fund may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

