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UNITED ASIA PACIFIC DIVERSIFIED STRATEGIES FUND BY UOB ASSET MANAGEMENT (UOBAM)

The fund is UOBAM's first fund to offer retail investors access to alternative investments, allowing them to diversify their portfolio.

Alternative investment, such as funds that invest in private equity and hedge funds, is an emerging asset class here that is typically held by institutional or high-net-worth investors.

The fund is designed to provide capital appreciation through periods of market volatility. For example, it invests in long-short equity strategy funds that buy stocks expected to increase in value and short-sell those expected to drop, before buying them back at a lower price to make a profit. It offers a daily liquidity feature which provides investors the flexibility to purchase the fund daily and to sell it back to the fund at any time.

Mr Low Han Seng, chief executive of UOB Alternative Investment Management, said: "Alternative investment funds offer investors better long-term risk-adjusted returns when compared with traditional asset classes such as equities and bonds, due to their ability to capture opportunities in different market conditions."

Asian alternative investment funds had an annualised return of 7.9 per cent from Jan 1, 2006 to Jan 31, 2018, according to Bloomberg data. In comparison, the annualised returns of the region's equities and bonds were 5.8 per cent and 3 per cent respectively over the same period.

The minimum investment sum for the fund is $1,000 or US$1,000 (S$1,300), and it is distributed via Professional Investment Advisory Services.