

# The Hong Kong Mandatory Provident Fund ("MPF") Experience

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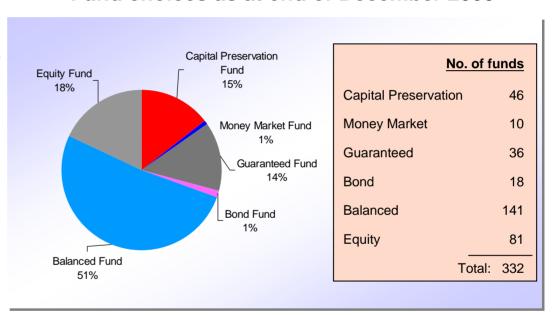


## **Mandatory Provident Fund**

## **Mandatory Provident Fund basics**

- Commencement: December 2000
- A mandatory, privately managed, fully funded contribution system
- For everyone age 18-64 without existing retirement plan
- Members choice style defined contribution schemes
- Must offer Capital Preservation Fund (for minimum investment return)

#### Fund choices as at end of December 2005



MPF schemes are governed by a trust and must be registered with the MPF Authority



## **Mandatory Provident Fund basics**

- Mandatory for employers and employees to contribute 5% of relevant salary each, but up to HKD2,000 each month
- Types of MPF schemes:
  - MasterTrust (for general use)
  - Industry Scheme (for high turnover industries such as catering and construction)
  - Employer Sponsored Scheme (2 only)
- Each member enjoys up to HK\$12,000 tax deduction benefits each year
- Tightly controlled investment guidelines



## **Mandatory Provident Fund basics**

- Fully vested
- Portability upon termination or retirement existing or new master trusts
- Preservation benefits are payable at age 65, but early collection is possible:
  - Early retirement at age 60
  - Permanent departure from Hong Kong SAR
  - Total disability or death
  - Claiming of small account balance

MPF has long-term investment horizon

## **Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority ("MPFA")**

- Ensuring compliance with the MPF Ordinance
- Making rules or guidelines
- Approving trustees, administrators, and fund managers
- Regulating intermediaries
- Registering schemes and funds (working with HKSFC)
- Regulating affairs and activities of approved parties (regular reports and on-site audits)
- Considering and proposing reforms
- Promoting and encouraging development of retirement scheme industry

## Relationship of various parties



**Investors** 



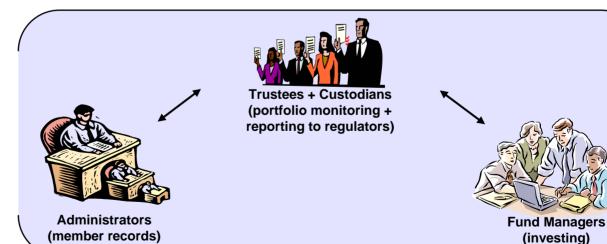
Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority

#### Regulators



證監會

SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION 證券及期貨事務監察委員會



## **Member protection**

#### Four-tier protection

- Stringent approval and registration criteria all funds by both the MPFA and the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission ("HKSFC")
- On-going monitoring regular filing by funds' trustees
- Professional indemnity insurance for all participating service providers
- Compensation fund 0.03% of NAV levy

Investors are well protected

#### **Investment restrictions**

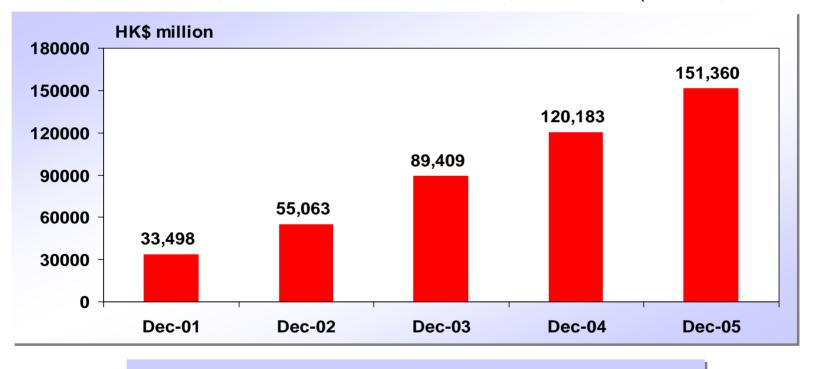
- Spread and concentration limits
- Maintain at least 30% HKD exposure
- No acquisition that incurs unlimited liability
- No securities borrowing, limited securities lending
- No borrowing of money except to pay benefits or settle transactions

## Investment restrictions (cont'd)

- Debt securities / convertible debt securities listed or meet quality requirement (e.g. credit limit)
- Shares listed on approved stock exchanges
- Warrants (<5% of fund)
- Deposits with banks
- Futures and options contracts only for hedging or <10% of fund</p>

#### **Market statistics**

As at the end of 2005, total asset size at HK\$151,360 million (US\$19,522 million)



Steady inflows

Source: MPF Schemes Statistical Digest, December 2005

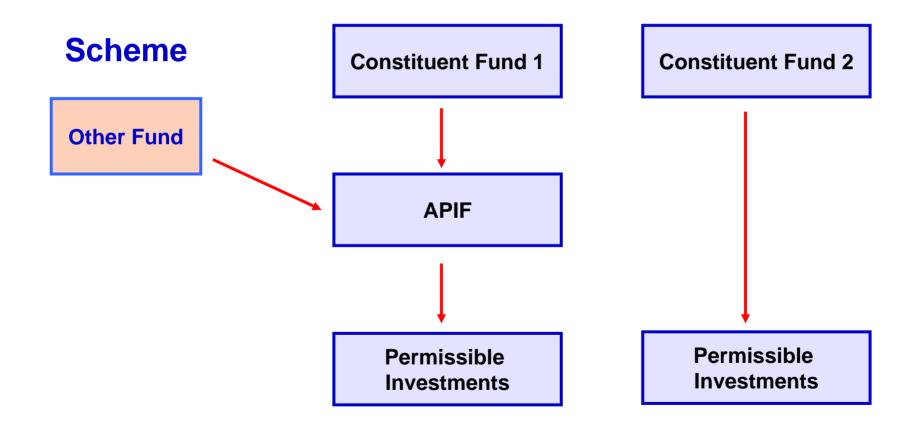


#### **Market statistics**

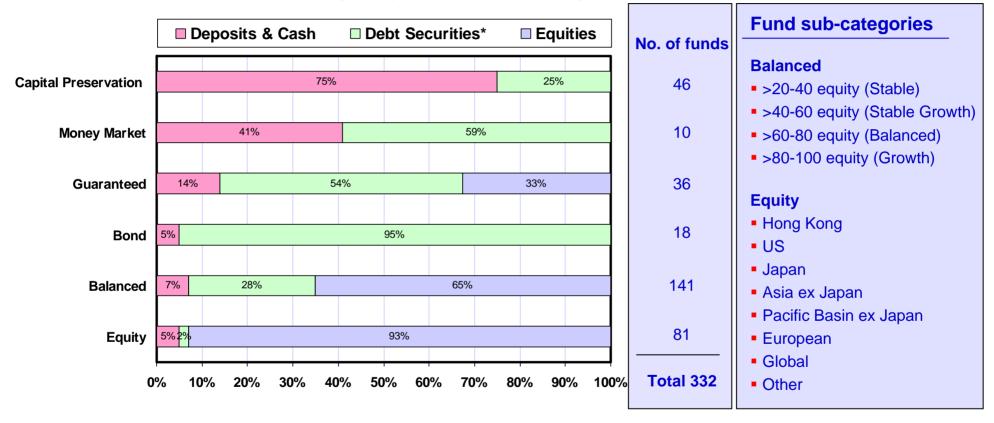
- Coverage:
  - 2.4 million working population
  - 97.4% compliance rate (relevant employees)
- Service providers:
  - 19 approved trustees
  - 46 MPF schemes: 332 constituent funds
  - 24,934 MPF intermediaries

MPF creates jobs for the financial industry

### **Scheme structures**



## MPF asset allocation (September 2005)



<sup>\*</sup> Include convertible debt securities Source: MPF Schemes Statistical Digest



## **Balanced Fund – asset allocation change (2001-2005)**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Deposits & Cash	7.0	7.0	5.0	6.0	7.0
Debt securities*	28.0	30.0	24.0	23.0	21.0
Equities	65.0	63.0	71.0	71.0	72.0



<sup>\*</sup> Include convertible debt securities Source: MPF Schemes Statistical Digest

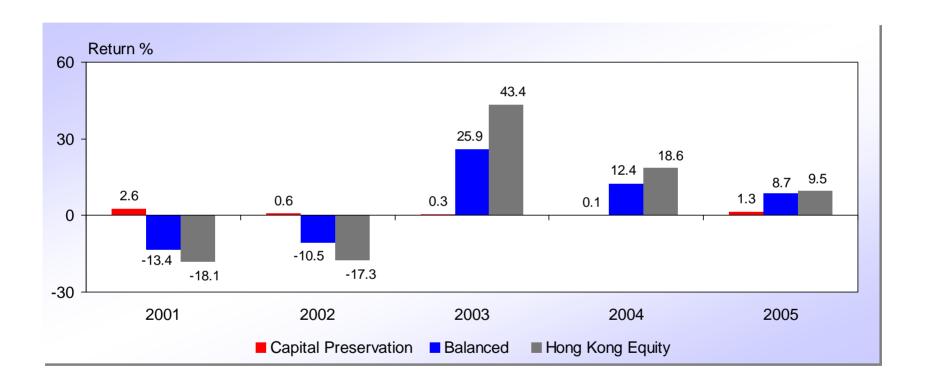
## Lifestyle fund benchmark weightings

	Growth	Balanced	Stable Growth	Stable
Equities				
Hong Kong	30.0	24.0	17.0	10.0
Japan	12.0	9.0	6.5	4.0
Other Asia Pacific	12.0	9.0	6.5	4.0
N. America	18.0	14.0	10.0	6.0
Europe inc. UK	18.0	14.0	10.0	6.0
Sub-total	90.0	70.0	50.0	30.0
Bonds	7.0	25.0	45.0	60.0
Cash	3.0	5.0	5.0	10.0

Benchmark: Hong Kong Equity – (90% FTSE HK + 10% HSBC), US Equity - FTSE MPF US, Japan Equity - FTSE MPF Japan, Europe Equity - FTSE MPF Europe, Asia Pacific Equity- FTSE MPF Asia Pacific ex Japan/HK, Bond - Citigroup WGBI (25% Hedged to HKD), Cash - MPFA prescribed savings rate.



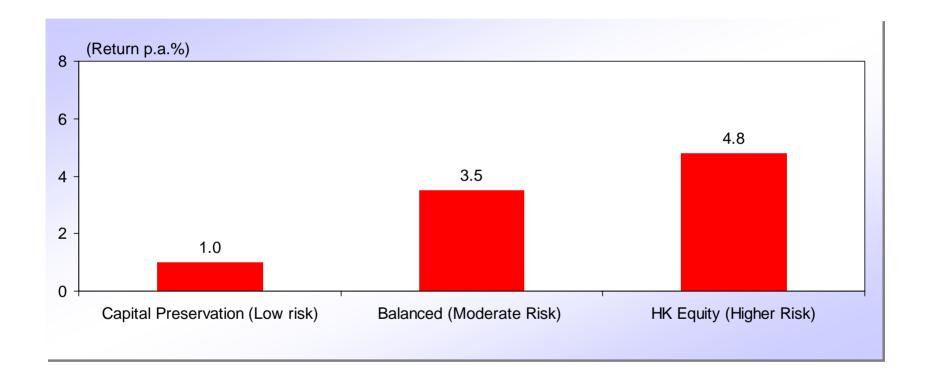
## MPF performance – yearly (market average)



Cumulative performance is calculated based on net asset value (NAV)-to-NAV in Hong Kong dollars. Source: Lippers Peers Comparison Report (MPF), HSBC Investments
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance

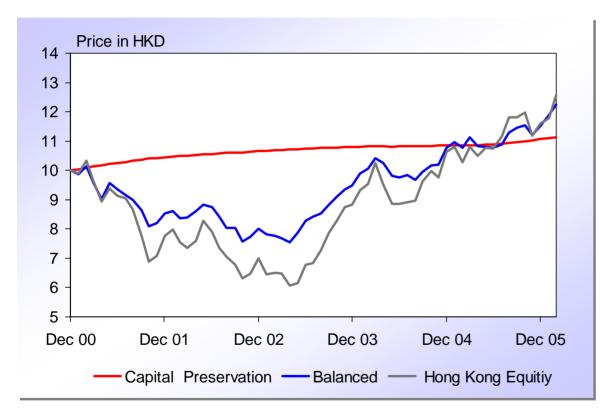


## MPF performance – 5-year annualised (market average)



Performance period: 5-year annualised return (2001-2005)
Cumulative performance is calculated based on net asset value (NAV)-to-NAV in Hong Kong dollars.
Source: Lippers Peers Comparison Report (MPF), HSBC Investments
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance

## **Dollar cost averaging**



	-	Monthly nstalment
Capital Preservation	11.4%	4.5%
Balanced	22.5%	31.4%
Hong Kong Equity	25.8%	47.0%

Data as at 1 February 2006 Source: HSBC Provident Fund Trustee (Hong Kong) Limited Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.



# Risk management for pension providers

## **Major risk categories**

- Market risk uncertainty in future asset and liability values as determined by market forces
- Operational risk
- Political risk

## Major risk categories (cont'd)

#### Market risk

- Main risk amongst the three
- Chief concern asset allocation drives performance
- Market risks include: currency, concentration, credit quality, counterparts, liquidity and beta risks
- Risk of underperformance: benchmark, fund liabilities and return targets
- Formal analysis: attribution analysis, portfolio optimisation, asset liability analysis
- Non-traditional asset classes gaining importance: diversification, enhanced risk adjusted returns

#### **Operational risk**

- Internal and external processes, people and systems
- Range from large-scale corporate accounting fraud to everyday occurrences, e.g. employee errors
- Proper internal controls and systems
- High frequency/low impact: proper records to identify mistakes
- Low frequency/high impact: effective senior leadership, culture of integrity
- Custodians to provide timely and transparent reporting



## Major risk categories (cont'd)

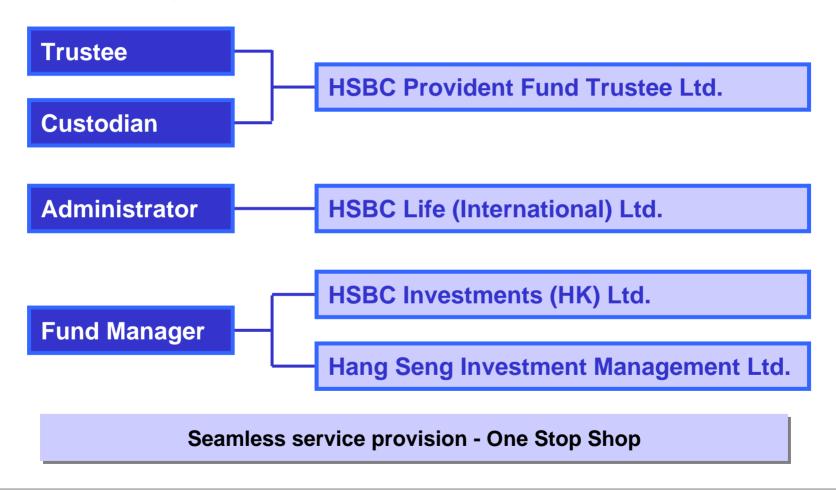
#### Political risk

- Related to political processes or events: legislative change to political turmoil
- Study macro-economic trends
- Prepare to comply with new legislative changes
- Determine if socially responsible investing is an issue
- Develop an approved countries list

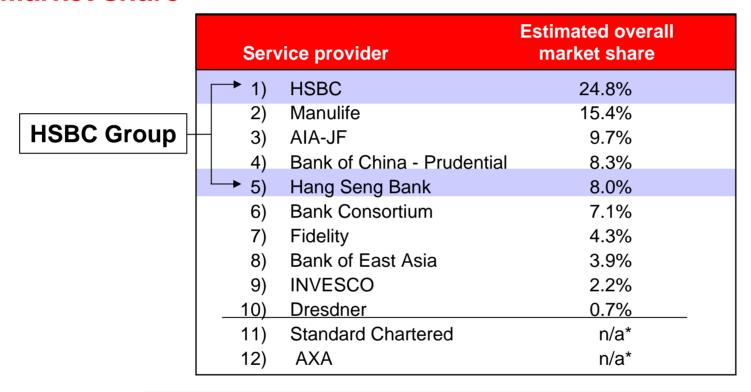
Effective risk management to bring better investment performance and lower risk profile

## **HSBC** and **MPF**

## All four service providers under one roof



#### **Market share**



10 MPF providers accounted for 84% of overall market



<sup>\*</sup> FUM of these MPF service providers are not included in the WW MPF Report.

The FUM universe in the WW MPF Report consisted of only 84% of the total MPF universe Source: Watson Wyatt MPF Report, September 2005

## **HSBC Master Trusts**

### **Investment choices**

Risk profile	HSBC Super	Hang Seng	HSBC ——————SuperTr	Hang Seng	
Low	<ul><li>Capital Preservation Fund</li><li>Guaranteed Fund</li></ul>		<ul><li>Capital Preservation Fund</li><li>Guaranteed Fund</li></ul>		
Medium	<ul> <li>Balanced Fund</li> </ul>		<ul><li>Stable Growth Fund</li><li>Balanced Fund</li></ul>		
High	<ul> <li>Growth Fund</li> <li>Hang Seng Index Tracking Fund</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Growth Fund</li> <li>Hang Seng Index Tracking Fund</li> <li>North American Equity Fund</li> <li>European Equity fund</li> <li>Asian Equity fund</li> <li>Hong Kong Equity Fund</li> </ul>		

## Service by HSBC

- Enrolment confirmation notice with an MPF membership certificate
- Annual benefits statement
- Account and fund information access:
  - HSBC MPF website
  - 24-hour interactive voice response hotline
  - HSBC and Hang Seng Bank automatic teller machine (ATM)
- HSBC MPF Member's Guide
- Voluntary contributions for additional investment at lower than retail fund costs

## Fees and charges

	Capital Preservation Fund*	Guaranteed Fund	Other Funds
Trustee/Custodian/Administration fee	1.70% p.a.	1.20% p.a.	1.20% p.a.
Investment management fee	0.25% p.a.	0.75% p.a.	0.75% p.a.
Total fees	1.95% p.a.	1.95% p.a.	1.95% p.a.
Guarantee charge	N/A	0.75% p.a.	N/A

<sup>\*</sup> Fees for the Capital Preservation Fund are deducted in the form of fund units from a member's account after the investment return and prescribed savings rate for each month have been ascertained.



# Key success factors & future development

## The importance of members education

- Commencement in December 2000
- Tech-bubble bursted in March 2000 that lead to 2 years of down markets that recovered in 2003
- Much negative feelings on MPF during the first 3 years (falling fund prices)
- Dollar-Cost-Averaging: members have been buying funds in small amount for the past 5 years, and dollar-cost-averaging (DCA) helped to smooth-out volatility and purchase costs.

**Members education is very important** 

#### **Lessons learnt**

- Members education is vital
- Lifestyle fund approach (especially for fund beginners)
- Information disclosure
- Development of voluntary top-up
- Expected MPF provider consolidation did not materialise
  - Larger than expected steady inflow of contributions (including 9% total as top-up)
  - Investment market recovery
- Most providers utilise electronic means to accept and disseminate information
  - Monthly contributions
  - Information made available via internet and auto-phone systems (Interactive Voice Response System – IVRS)

#### **Lessons learnt**

- Restrictive investment guidelines
- High administrative costs
- Capital Preservation Fund
  - Portfolio of short-term fixed-income securities
  - Maximum duration of 365 days, and maximum average portfolio duration of 90 days only
  - If return below prescribed savings rate as disclosed monthly by the MPF Authority,
     no fees can be collected by ANY of the service providers
  - Period of close to zero interest return (4Q03 2Q04)

## Suggestions put forward by the industry

- Raise mandatory contribution
- Encourage voluntary contribution promote private retirement savings / insurance schemes
- Move from lump sum settlement towards providing retirement income annuities
- Longer-term objectives: enhance employee choice of scheme
- Members financial education learn more about investment, make better choice

**Everyone working together to make MPF better** 

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