

# Bridge the gap between dreams and reality

## Financial Planning

March 2020



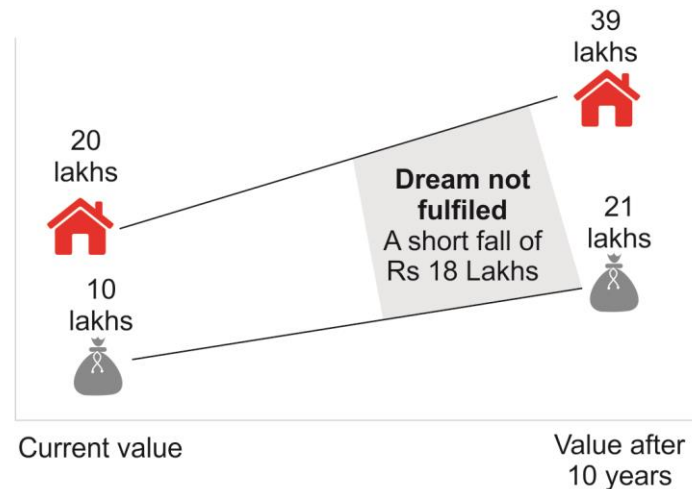
**HSBC**  
Global Asset  
Management

An Investor awareness program initiative

# Are you on track to meet your dream goal?



- Nisha wants to buy a vacation home, which costs around Rs 20 lakh at present
- She mobilises her accumulated savings (Rs 10 lakh) in fixed deposits (FDs) for this purpose. She expects the investment, which is noted for capital safety, to help her reach the goal in future
- After 10 years, Nisha's FD investment grows to around Rs 21 lakh\* and she feels she can fulfill her dream of buying a vacation home
- But her happiness is short-lived after she realises that the price has risen to Rs 39 lakh^
- Nisha can't buy a vacation home because of paucity of funds (shortfall of Rs 18 lakh)



^ Assuming rise in price at an 7% per annum which is the average CPI inflation rate between 1993 and November 2019

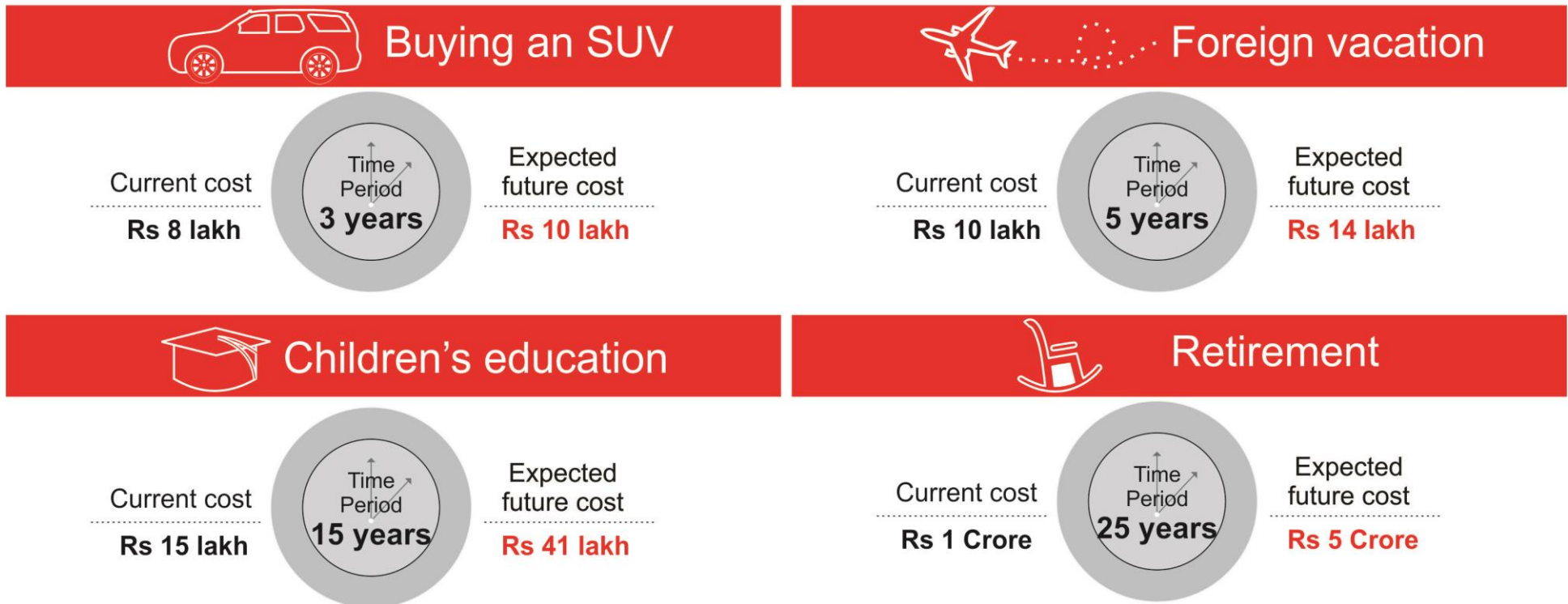
\* #Grown at 7.60% represented by 1-year FD index returns between October 1999 and December 2019

For illustration purpose only



# Are you prepared to achieve goals on time?

- Like Nisha, we all have dreams. But our dreams may not convert into reality as generally we don't quantify them into financial goals
- Every goal requires proper financial planning, which takes into account various factors including the future cost of goal (which Nisha ignored)
- Below are hypothetical illustrations of various priority and lifestyle goals along with their costs and time horizon



Note - Assuming rise in price at an 7% per annum which is the average CPI IW inflation rate between 1993 and November 2019

# Common mistakes in goal planning

Just as many investors fail to factor in future price rise, there are other common mistakes when it comes to goals and investment planning. Some of these blunders are illustrated below.

Failure to think of the goal as a future cost: Investor wants to buy an SUV three years from now. He believes his salary will rise high enough in three years to be able to finance the car.



Resolution: He must estimate the cost of the SUV in three years and predict whether his savings will be enough. If not, he must invest for this purpose.

Not picking the right asset class: A young investor has just begun his career and wants to kick start retirement planning early. For this, he begins investing his savings in FDs.



Resolution: As the investor is young and is capable at this stage of his career to bear higher risk, he should invest in equity and switch to other safer asset classes later in his career.

Delaying goal planning: Investor wants to build corpus for her children's higher education 15 years from now, which would cost around Rs 40 lakh. She feels she can begin planning for this a little later.



Resolution: Investor should not delay. Assuming that savings can be deployed in an investment that provides 15% annual growth, a person who begins investing today needs to save Rs 5,983 per month compared to Rs 14,534 per month five years later.

The above calculations and potential appreciation of investments are given for illustration purposes only. The illustrative appreciation in investments given above are based on the historic performance of 15% annualized returns of S&P BSE SENSEX i.e. average of daily annualized 15 years' rolling returns of S&P BSE SENSEX as of 31 December, 2019 and since June 30, 1979 (Source: CRISIL).

# Behind every successful goal there's an investment plan

- Traditional approach of investing focuses only on return expectations, and uses returns to meet goals as and when they surface.
- In contrast, goal-based planning is a holistic approach that maps investors' goals to their investments in sync with their risk profile, time horizon, inflation and personal factors such as income, expenses, age and other financial responsibilities.
- The biggest benefit of goal-based investing is that it allows investor to bucket his/ her money according to a purpose or goal.
- It increases investor's commitment to goals and helps him/ her measure the progress towards meeting goals.

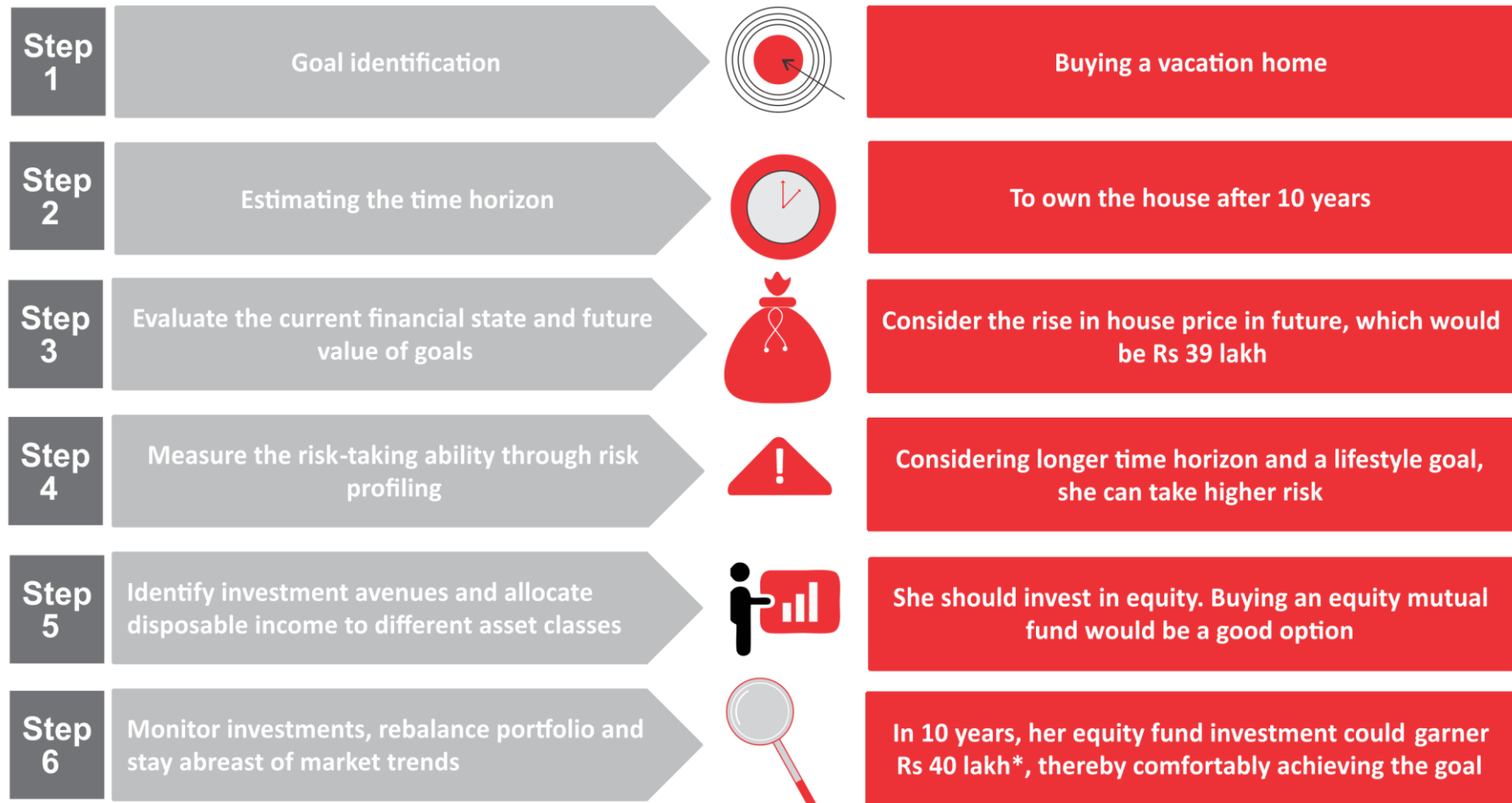
## *Did you know?*

*The global financial crisis of 2008 brought goal-based investing into the limelight, as the steep portfolio losses experienced during this period made investors realise how poor investment performance could set back the attainment of financial goals by considerably long periods.*

# Six steps to achieve your goals



# Goal-based investing – what Nisha should have done

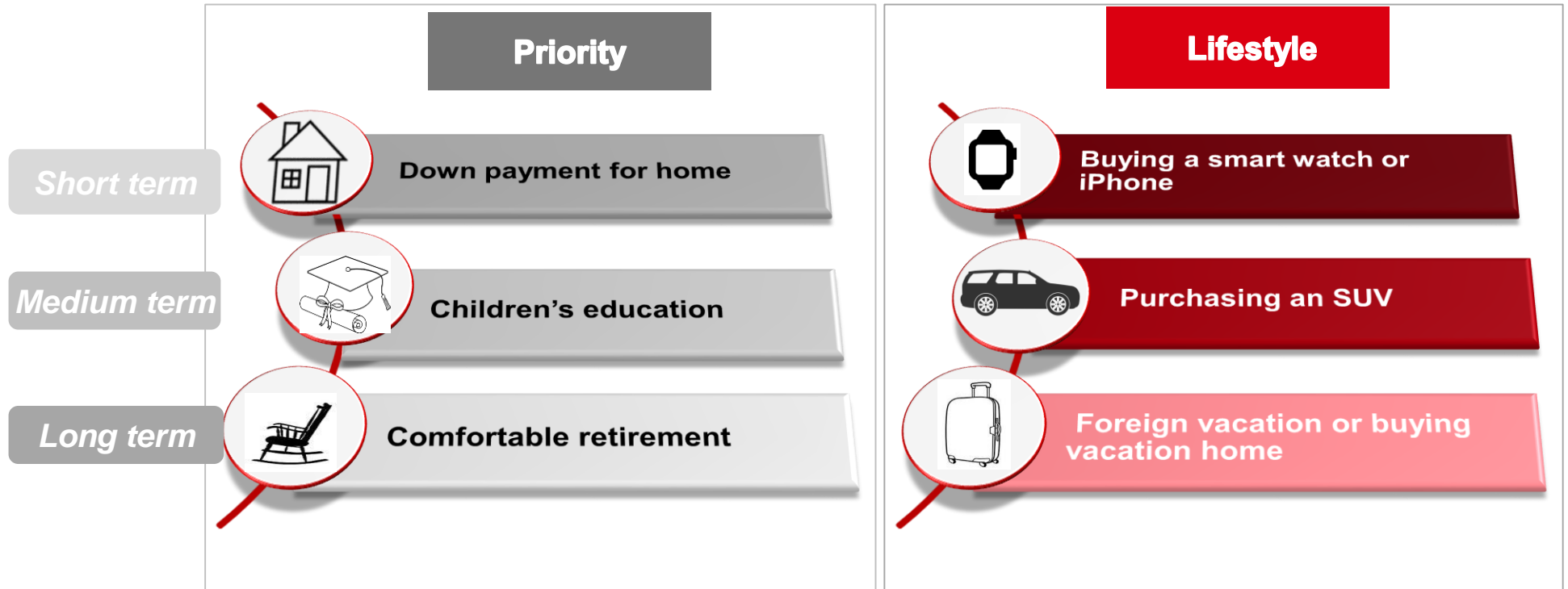


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Note – Past performance may or may not sustain in the future and it does not guarantee or assure any future returns. Investments are subject to market risk, Mutual Funds are subject to market risk, please read the offer document before investing

# Goal planning process – identify and segregate

- Segregate goals into priority and aspirational – priority goals are essentials and, hence, get precedence over aspirational goals.
- Align your priority and aspirational goals to the time horizon. Some of the common ones across life stages are:





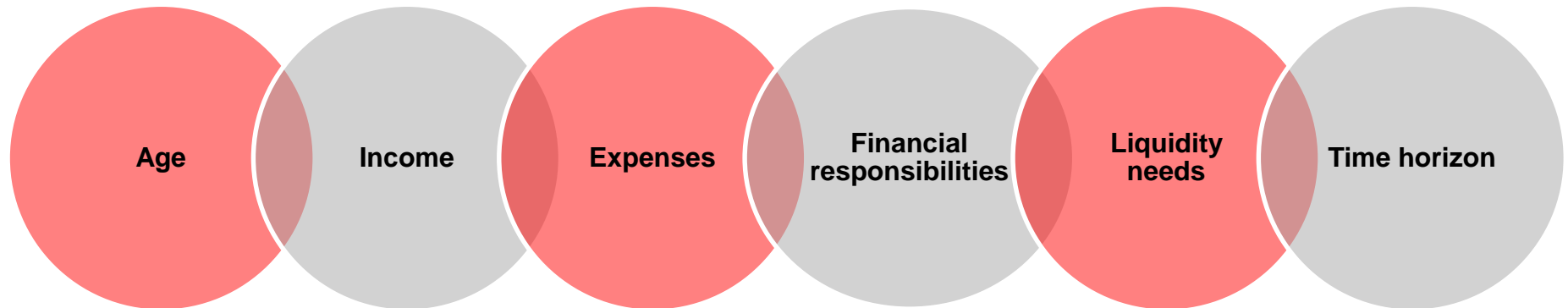
# Goal planning process – do your math

- Make a cash flow statement to understand your income, expenses and savings.
- Find out the amount needed to achieve each goal after factoring in inflation.
- This will help you work out the realistic time span for achieving each goal.

# Goal planning process – what’s your appetite?

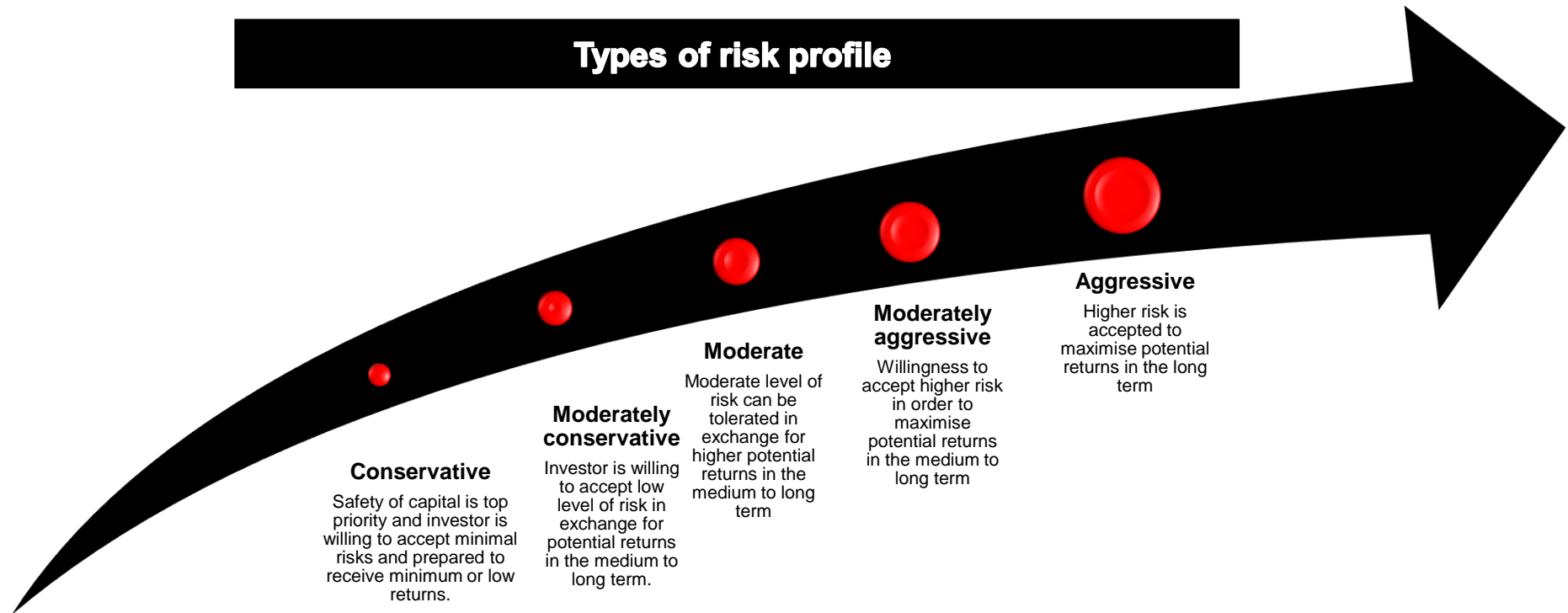
- Friends are known to influence our decision making.
- The “peer effect” can also be seen in the investment field wherein you may try to mirror friends’/ relatives’ investment strategy.
- But every individual has unique financial needs/ goals and risk profile.
- Risk profile comprises two parts – risk appetite (willingness to take a risk) and risk tolerance (willingness to bear the risk). Both vary among individuals.

## Important factors that determine your risk profile



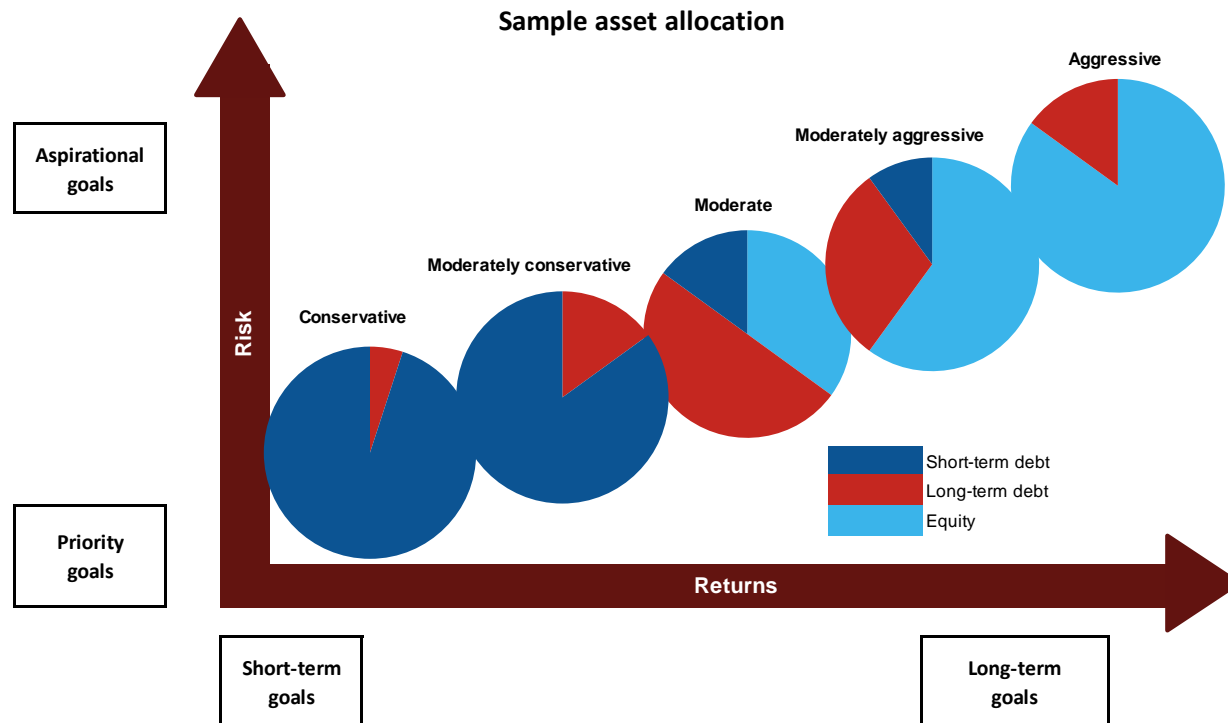
# Goal planning process – how much risk can you handle?

- Risk profiling caters to investors assessing themselves on aforementioned parameters, probing their risk appetite and accordingly allocating money to different asset classes.
- A formal questionnaire-based approach is often the best way to conduct risk profiling. Investors have to answer questions that probe their willingness and ability to take risks.



# Goal planning and risk profile

- Investments should cover different asset classes (equity, debt and cash) to enjoy the benefits of diversified asset allocation.
- Generally, priority short-term goals may have a conservative portfolio. Priority long-term goals may have a moderately aggressive portfolio and long-term non-essential goals can have a more aggressive portfolio.





# Goal planning process – RR: revisit and re-assess

- Revisit your investments on a semi-annual (six months) or annual basis.
- It is crucial as financial markets are dynamic and the portfolio needs to be modified in sync with changes in the underlying asset class.
- Re-assessment will help you weed out the underperformers and realign investments in line with the asset allocation and risk-return profile.

# Mutual funds are a good play for all goals

- Mutual funds are an ideal option to achieve goals as they invest across the spectrum; and are professionally managed; lighter on the wallet; liquid and tax efficient.
- Choice of a mutual fund should be aligned to investors' risk profile, returns expectations and investment horizon.

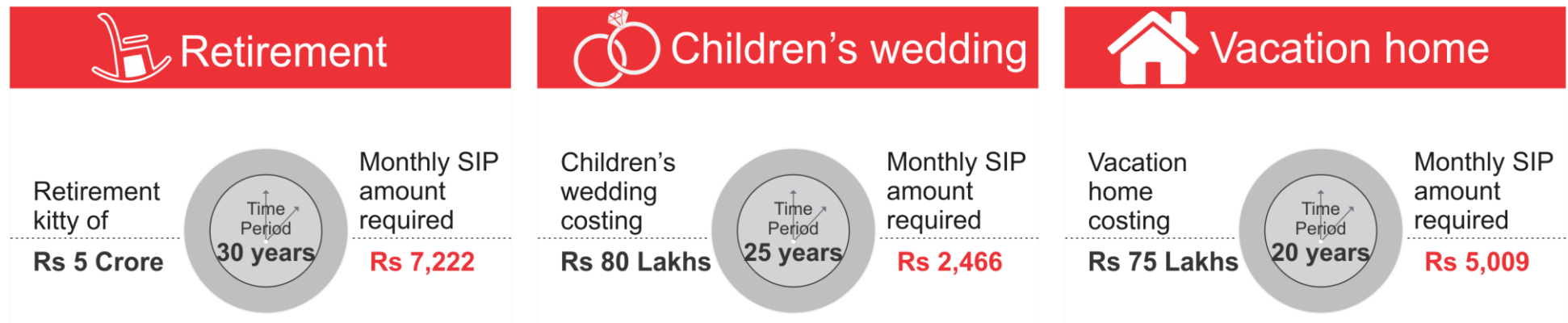
Investment category	Fund type	Expected returns	Expected risk	Indicative Investment Horizon	Achievable goals
<b>Equity-oriented funds</b>	Large cap equity funds	High	Very High	5 years and beyond	Very Long-term goals
	Diversified equity funds				
	Small and midcap equity funds				
	Index Funds (Passively managed)				
	Thematic / Sectoral equity funds, international funds				
<b>Hybrid funds</b>	Aggressive Hybrid funds	Moderate	Moderate	5 years and beyond	Medium to long term goals
	Conservative Hybrid Funds	Moderate	Moderate	3 years and beyond	
<b>Debt-oriented funds</b>	Fixed maturity plans	Low	Low	30 days to 5 years	Short, Medium or Long term goals
	Gilt funds	Moderate	Moderate	3 years and beyond	
	Long duration funds	Moderate	Moderate	7 years and beyond	
	Medium Duration Funds	Moderate	Moderate	3 years to 4 years	
	Low duration funds	Moderate	Low	Around 6 to 12 months	
	Ultra Short duration funds	Low	Very Low	Around 3 to 6 months	
	Liquid funds	Very Low	Very Low	Less than 90 days	
<b>Others</b>	Exchange traded funds (ETFs)	Moderate	Moderate	5 years	Specific goals (tax savings, jewellery, etc.)
	Fund of funds				
	Arbitrage funds	Low	Low	More than 1 year	
	Equity Linked Saving Scheme (ELSS)	High	High	Lock-in period of 3 years	

# Achieve your goals SIP by SIP

## Benefits

- Reduces average price per unit paid through rupee cost averaging
- Makes market timing irrelevant
- Enhances investments as income grows
- Provides compounding benefits
- Instills investment discipline

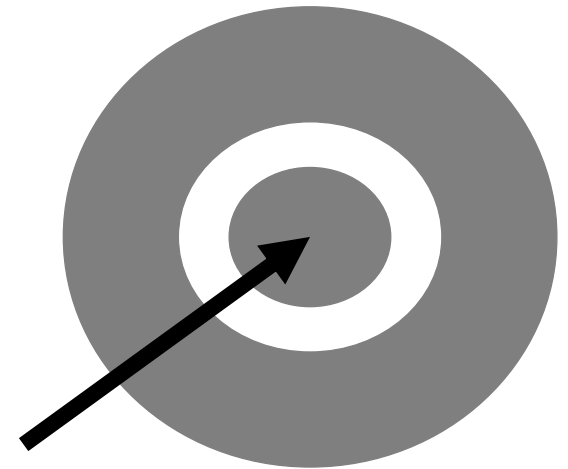
## Illustration – How you can achieve goals by investing in SIP



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# Goal-based investing – key takeaways

- We all have dreams. To turn these into reality, we need to adopt investment planning.
- Often, we are oblivious of our risk profile, our goals, the future cost of goals, etc.
- We need holistic and focused goal-based planning.
- It allows us to allocate money according to a purpose or goal.
- Don't forget the six steps of goal-based planning
  - Define your goals
  - Classify them in terms of duration
  - Evaluate your current financial state and future cost of goals
  - Measure the risk-taking ability through risk profiling
  - Identify investment avenues and allocate your disposable income to different asset classes
  - Monitor your investments
- Mutual funds offer a variety of products suitable for all goals.
- SIP in mutual funds is a good and disciplined way to meet goals.





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