

East Capital launches China Environmental strategy

East Capital, a specialist in emerging and frontier markets, is pleased to announce the transition of its East Capital China Fund to a thematic environmental strategy for China. Called East Capital China Environmental, the strategy looks to capture the favourable investment backdrop that the environmental challenges offer in China.

The fund, a Luxembourg domiciled UCITS vehicle, was launched in 2007 and received in early 2015 approval to invest up to 100 per cent in A-shares via the Stock Connect program. From 18 January 2016, the fund will mainly invest in issuers whose products, services, technologies and infrastructure bring sustainable development solutions to environmental challenges in China. The investment universe, which consists of onshore (A-shares) and offshore China equities, includes sectors such as clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transport, clean water & air, environmental assets and sustainable agriculture.

Karine Hirn, Partner at East Capital comments:

“The fight against pollution is a fundamental and structural trend in China, and has also become a governmental priority. This implies strong policy support and large investments, as well as stricter implementation of regulations for the non-environmental friendly companies. China is the largest clean-tech market in the world and the investment universe of environmental stocks consists of fast-growing innovative companies and often upcoming global leaders.”

The fund is managed by East Capital’s Chief Investment Officer and Partner Peter Elam Håkansson, supported by an experienced local Hong Kong team led by François Perrin. François Perrin was previously head of Greater China at BNP Paribas Investment Partners Asia and recently joined East Capital, adding considerable expertise in the management of clean technologies and environmental funds.

“The new fund is a unique strategy to be exposed to a very attractive investment theme, and also offers interesting investment opportunities through valuation arbitrage in onshore and offshore equities across the value chain. Our investment capability in the A-shares market, combined with François Perrin’s unique background and expertise are key to this strategy”, adds Hirn.

East Capital was the first asset manager in Northern Europe to get a QFII license, providing access to China’s onshore equity markets, and in March 2015 the first asset manager to receive approval by the CSSF in Luxembourg for the East Capital China Fund to invest up to 100% in A-shares via the Stock Connect program.

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East Capital is a specialist in emerging and frontier markets. The company, founded in 1997, bases its investment strategy on thorough knowledge of the markets, fundamental analysis and frequent company visits by its investment teams. East Capital actively manages EUR 2.1 billion in public equity, private equity and real estate. It is headquartered in Stockholm, with offices in Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Moscow, Oslo, Paris and Tallinn www.eastcapital.com