

Investing In Asia Not As Easy As It Sounds

Keeping abreast of the financial markets is often the key to successful investing. However, in these uncertain times merely keeping up with them is not enough. It is important, almost a necessity, to be *ahead* of the market and that is not an easy task. . . especially when it comes to investing in Asia.

Asia, it's the fastest growing economy on the planet but is not one single market. Not even talking about China specifically, where businesses are listed on a half dozen exchanges through an equal number of equity classes based on their location and the direction of their business (into or out-of the country), there are literally dozens of stock markets to choose from. Without detailed knowledge and market savvy picking a country to invest in, let alone an individual stock, is little more than a crap shoot.

Adding to the complex issue is government and regulation. Take for instance China where regulators have tight control of markets and display time and time again a lack of understanding and knee jerk reaction to problems that have ultimately been the cause of much of today's global market volatility. Take for instance the issue with market "circuit breakers". These fail-safes were intended to alleviate market volatility caused by the many governmental mis-steps of 2015. Instead of ending volatility they increased it and were withdrawn only days after implementation, needless to say adding risk to the Asian market and decreased investor confidence. The upshot to volatility and low investor confidence in Asian markets is a decrease in valuation. This decrease is offering unprecedented opportunities for investors, if they know where to look.

Experience Is Crucial To Long Term Success

This is why investing with an experienced asset manager is the best way for westerners to enter the Asian market. Norman Ho and Philip Li, managers of the Value Partners Asia Pacific Fund, have their fingers on the pulse of the region, working closely with their team seeking out undervalued businesses with strong balance sheets and high growth prospects. They are not only located in the heart of the Asian investing world, Hong Kong, they have the experience and knowledge required to sift through the noise in order to find the best possible investments, with the brightest prospects and safest returns.

Mr. Ho is a Chartered Financial Analyst with over 20 years of experience in the Asian market. He began his career with Ernst & Young and Dao Heng Securities before joining the Value Partners team in 1995. As Investment Manager he is closely tied to Value Partners investment research and operations, the leading asset manager in Asia. Mr. Li is also a Chartered Financial Analyst. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business. He joined the Value Partners/Asia Pacific Fund Team in 2010 following stints as a portfolio manager with GAM, Alliance Bernstein and INVESCO.

About The Asia Pacific Fund

The Asia Pacific Fund is a diversified closed end fund with focus on the greater Asian economic region, ex-Japan. Why ex-Japan? Japan by itself is the 2nd largest world economy among *developed* nations and therefore an investment region all of its own. Asia Pacific Fund investments are made across the spectrum of sectors but tend to focus on those with the best prospects for growth, as well as valuation. Currently the Asia Pacific Fund is holding assets located in Hong Kong, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia. Within the umbrella of China businesses investments are spread across H and A shares, as well the Red Chips. Top holdings by sector are industrials, real estate and consumer discretionary reflecting the ongoing change in the regions economy from fast growing infrastructure to consumer driven.