

INSURANCE ASIA NEWS

Institutional Asset Management Awards
2026



Aberdeen Investments

Best Emerging Markets Equity Manager



Matt Williams, Senior Investment Director, Global Emerging Markets Equities

Portfolio positioning is focused on three enduring themes - technology, infrastructure and the rise of domestic brands.

Aberdeen Investments has been recognised with this award, which reflects both the strength of the team's long-term approach and the firm's conviction in the opportunity set across emerging markets. Aberdeen's faith in emerging markets remains steadfast. After a strong year for the asset class in 2025, the asset manager continues to see a compelling backdrop, supported by attractive valuations, improving earnings momentum and rising strategic importance in a world focused on energy security, resource resilience, and technological leadership. Aberdeen believes that emerging markets are increasingly central to the next phase of global capital investment.

Against this backdrop, the strategy delivered strong alpha over 2025, outperforming the MSCI Emerging Markets Index by 5.4% gross of fees. Performance was driven by disciplined stock selection across a broad opportunity set, with particularly strong contributions from holdings in Mexico, South Korea and Taiwan. This highlights the benefit of an active, bottom-up approach in an asset class where dispersion remains high and where market leadership is evolving quickly.

The portfolio is positioned around three enduring structural drivers. First, technology, where emerging markets remain critical to the global semiconductor, hardware and industrial supply chains powering digitalisation and AI-related investment. Second, infrastructure, where rising demand for grid upgrades, transport networks and energy systems is creating long-duration opportunities. Third, the rise of domestic champions, as local brands and service providers benefit from growing income levels and the expansion of middle-class consumption. Aberdeen's approach draws on the reach of our global team to identify mispriced fundamentals and follow cashflow discipline, building a portfolio that combines profitable growth with sustainable value.

Looking ahead, the investment team continues to view significant opportunities in emerging market. A more capital-intensive global economy, shaped by investment in power infrastructure, data centres, decarbonisation, re-industrialisation and supply-chain resilience, should continue to support many of the companies in the universe. Emerging market businesses supply the components, commodities, labour and innovation that sit at the heart of these trends. The strategy is well placed to capture attractive long-term returns, even in a more uncertain geopolitical environment.