

**INSIGHTS&MANDATE**

# **PROFESSIONAL INVESTMENT AWARDS 2025**

**NOW OPEN FOR SUBMISSION**

**Deadline: 28 January 2025**

# **PROFESSIONAL INVESTMENT AWARDS 2025**

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**Thank you for your interest in entering the Professional Investment Awards 2025.**

This document is a guide for your pitch, with questions to consider for each category.

Please send your submissions and supporting documents in pdf format to **awards@insightsandmandate.com**. There is no limit to the number of awards your organisation can apply for or receive, and no application fee for submission.

We will start accepting submissions on Thursday, 2 January 2025 and the deadline is 6pm (HK time) on Tuesday, 28 January 2025.

Winners will be announced by the end of February 2025 and an awards ceremony will be held on Friday, 23 May in Shenzhen, China. More details of the ceremony will be provided in March 2025. As usual, we will ask the winners to contribute to trophy production and pay for the use of the *Insights & Mandate* awards logo, and for write ups of an interview with the winning team. The cost will be about USD400 per trophy, USD1,200 for the one-year awards logo license and USD6,500 per write-up, which will be produced in English or Chinese. Please note that only winners will be asked to contribute, and any decision on whether to contribute will not affect or change the awards results.

Good luck! We are looking forward to receiving your submissions.

Note:

1. All information and data collected will be used only for the *I&M* 2025 Professional Investment Awards.
2. **The 2025 Professional Investment Awards are based on performance during the 2024 calendar year (1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024).**

# **PROFESSIONAL INVESTMENT AWARDS 2025**

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Please read the following **Submission Guidelines** carefully before applying

## **Submission Guidelines**

1. Submissions should detail your achievements in each category for which you are applying, with a synopsis of no more than 2,000 words and any supporting documents you wish to provide.
2. Should you wish to be nominated for more than one award, separate submissions for each award are a MUST.
3. For Section A, kindly note that each different period will be treated as a separate award. For example, if you are applying for Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equity for 3 years and 10 years, you should make one submission for the 3 years award and another submission for the 10 years award.
4. For Section A, all performance figures and benchmark data must be provided in an Excel attachment. Please clearly identify the Excel file content with the words "Performance Data – Company Name (Fund Name)".
5. Apart from Section A performance figures, all submissions including supporting documents MUST be in pdf format. Supporting documents for each award MUST be no more than 10 A4 size pages.
6. Please send all submissions to [awards@insightsandmandate.com](mailto:awards@insightsandmandate.com). If you have any enquiries, please address these to the same email address.
7. Please DO NOT fax or POST your submissions to us.
8. The basic information form on the next page (see below) should be completed and presented as the FIRST PAGE of each award submission.



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## Professional Investment Awards 2025

**Name:** *(contact person/s for award submission):*

**Job title & department:**

**Company:**

**Contact number:**

**Email address:**

**Name of the award applied for and its section:**

**Number of pages in supporting documents:**

**The number of awards in total you are applying for and the number of this submission (e.g., if you are applying for 6 awards and this is the first submission, then please put 1/6):**



## Awards Categories & Criteria for Consideration

### Awards Categories

#### A. Performance Awards:

- Equity:
  1. ASEAN Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  2. Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  3. China A-share Equity (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  4. Greater China Equity (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  5. Emerging Markets Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  6. Frontier Markets Equity (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  7. Global Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  8. Japan Small Cap Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  9. Japan Large Cap Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  10. US Small-Mid Cap Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  11. US Large Cap Equity (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  
- Bond:
  1. Asian Bonds (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  2. Asian Bonds, Local Currency (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  3. Asian High Yield (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  4. China Bonds, Onshore (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  5. China Bonds, Offshore (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  6. China High Yield, RMB-denominated (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  7. China High Yield, USD-denominated (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
  8. Emerging Market Debt (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  9. Emerging Market High Yield (3 years / 10 years / 15 years) *(new)*
  10. Global Aggregate Bonds (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  11. US Credit, Investment Grade (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  12. US High Yield (3 years / 10 years / 15 years)
  
- Multi-Asset:

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1. China (3 years / 5 years)
  2. Asia (3 years / 5 years)
  3. Global (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
- Alternatives:
1. Asia ex-Japan Hedge Fund (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
    - Commodities & FX
    - Event Driven
    - Fixed Income
    - Fund of Funds
    - Long / Short Equity
    - Macro
    - Market Neutral & Quantitative
    - Multi-Strategy
  2. Asian Private Credit (3 years / 5 years)
  3. Asian REIT (3 years / 5 years)
  4. China Asset-Backed Securities (3 years / 5 years)
  5. China Private Credit (3 years / 5 years)
  6. China REIT (3 years / 5 years)
  7. Greater China Hedge Fund (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
    - Commodities & CTA
    - Event Driven
    - Fixed Income
    - Fund of Funds
    - Long / Short Equity
    - Macro
    - Market Neutral & Quantitative
    - Multi-Strategy
  8. Global Hedge Fund (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
    - Commodities & FX
    - Event Driven
    - Fixed Income
    - Fund of Funds
    - Long / Short Equity
    - Macro
    - Market Neutral & Quantitative

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- Multi-Strategy

9. Global REIT (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)
10. US Private Credit (3 years / 5 years)
11. US REIT (3 years / 5 years / 10 years)

- Thematic Investing (*new category for actively managed funds, active ETFs or passive ETFs with a record of at least 3 years as of 31/12/2024.*)
  1. Artificial Intelligence
  2. Cryptocurrency
  3. Water
  4. Clean Energy
  5. Infrastructure
  6. Consumption
  7. Healthcare

## **B. Market Awards:**

- Hong Kong:

- Company Awards:

1. Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT)
2. Best China Fund House
3. Best Fund House (*new*)
4. Best Multi-Family Office
5. Best Institutional House
6. Best RMB Fund Manager
7. Best Thematic Fund Manager (*new*)
8. Emerging Manager of the Year
9. ETF Sponsor of the Year
10. Fintech Company of the Year
11. Index Provider of the Year
12. Investment Consultant of the Year
13. Multi-Asset Manager of the Year
14. OCIO of the Year
15. Pension Fund Manager of the Year (*new*)
16. Wealth Manager of the Year

- Individual Awards:

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- 17. CEO of the Year
  - 18. CIO of the Year (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset)
  - 19. Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)
    - **Product Awards:**
  - 20. Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Quantitative / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)
  - 21. Best Pension Product
  - 22. Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Quantitative / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)
  - 23. RMB Fund of the Year
- **Mainland China:**
    - **Company Awards:**
    - 1. Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT)
    - 2. Best Bond House
    - 3. Best Fund House
    - 4. Best Multi-Family Office
    - 5. Best Private Fund House
    - 6. Best Quantitative House
    - 7. Best Thematic Fund Manager *(new)*
    - 8. Emerging Manager of the Year
    - 9. ETF Sponsor of the Year
    - 10. Fintech Company of the Year
    - 11. Index Provider of the Year
    - 12. Index Provider of the Year (Fixed Income)
    - 13. Investment Consultant of the Year
    - 14. Multi-Asset Manager of the Year
    - 15. OCIO of the Year
    - 16. Pension Fund Manager of the Year
    - 17. Wealth Manager of the Year
    - 18. WFOE House of the Year



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## ■ Individual Awards:

- 19. CEO of the Year
- 20. CIO of the Year (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset)
- 21. Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)

## ■ Product Awards:

- 22. Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)
- 23. Best Pension Product
- 24. Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)

## ● Taiwan:

### ■ Company Awards:

- 1. Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REITs)
- 2. Best Fund House
- 3. Best Multi-Family Office
- 4. Best Thematic Fund Manager *(new)*
- 5. Emerging Manager of the Year
- 6. ETF Sponsor of the Year
- 7. Fintech Company of the Year
- 8. Investment Consultant of the Year
- 9. OCIO of the Year
- 10. Wealth Manager of the Year

### ■ Individual Awards:

- 11. CEO of the Year
- 12. CIO of the Year (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset)
- 13. Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)

### ■ Product Awards:

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14. Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)
  15. Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)

● **ASEAN:**

■ **Company Awards:**

1. Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT)
2. Best Fund House
3. Best Islamic Fund House
4. Best Multi-Family Office
5. Best Quantitative House
6. Best RMB Fund Manager
7. Best Sukuk House
8. Best Thematic Fund Manager *(new)*
9. Emerging Manager of the Year
10. ETF Sponsor of the Year
11. Fintech Company of the Year
12. Index Provider of the Year
13. Index Provider of the Year (Sukuk)
14. Investment Consultant of the Year
15. Multi-Asset Manager of the Year
16. OCIO of the Year
17. Pension Fund Manager of the Year
18. Wealth Manager of the Year

■ **Individual Awards:**

19. CEO of the Year
20. CIO of the Year (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset)
21. Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic *(new)*)

■ **Product Awards:**

- 
22. Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic *(new)*)
  23. Best Islamic Product
  24. Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic *(new)*)
  25. Best Pension Product
  26. RMB Fund of the Year

### **C. Regional Awards:**

#### **■ Company Awards:**

1. Asian Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT)
2. Asian Investment Consultant of the Year
3. Asian Multi-Asset Manager of the Year
4. Asian New Star of the Year
5. Best Fund House in Asia
6. Best Multi-Family Office in Asia
7. Best Quantitative House in Asia
8. Best Thematic Fund Manager in Asia *(new)*
9. ETF Sponsor of the Year
10. Fintech Company of the Year
11. Index Provider of the Year in Asia
12. Index Provider of the Year in Asia (Fixed Income)
13. OCIO of the Year in Asia
14. Wealth Manager of the Year in Asia

#### **■ Individual Awards:**

15. CEO of the Year in Asia
16. CIO of the Year in Asia (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset)
17. Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Thematic *(new)*)

#### **■ Product Awards:**

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- 
18. Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic *(new)*)
  19. Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Debt / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic *(new)*)

## **D. Sustainable Investment Awards:**

### ■ **Company Awards:**

1. Climate Index Provider of the Year
2. ESG Data Provider of the Year
3. ESG Index Provider of the Year
4. ESG Leader Award
5. Impact Investing Manager of the Year

### ■ **Product / Service Awards:**

6. Best Climate Change Strategy
7. ESG Assessment Tool of the Year
8. Sustainable Fund of the Year (Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT)

Awards	Hong Kong	Mainland China	Taiwan	ASEAN	Regional	Sustainable
Alternative Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Asian New Star of the Year					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best Bond House		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Best China Fund House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Best Fund House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best Islamic Fund House				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Best Multi-Family Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best Institutional House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Best Private Fund House		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Best Quantitative House		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best RMB Fund Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Best Sukuk House				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Best Thematic Fund Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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ETF Sponsor of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fintech Company of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Index Provider of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Index Provider of the Year (Fixed Income / Sukuk)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Investment Consultant of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Multi-Asset Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OCIO of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pension Fund Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Wealth Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
WFOE House of the Year		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
CEO of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CIO of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Star Manager of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best Fund Launch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Best Islamic Product				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Best Pension Product	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Most Innovative Product	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RMB Fund of the Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Climate Index Provider of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ESG Data Provider of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ESG Index Provider of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ESG Leader Award						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Impact Investing Manager of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Best Climate Change Strategy						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ESG Assessment Tool of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Fund of the Year						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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## **Criteria for Consideration**

### **Section A – Performance Awards**

For all Section A – Performance Award categories, please provide annualised returns for the required periods (3, 5, 10 or 15 years) to 31 December 2024 and show the benchmark used.

For Section A, kindly note that each different period is treated as a separate award. For example, if you are applying for Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equity for 3 years and 10 years, you should make separate submissions for 3 years and 10 years.

Please submit your submissions by email with monthly breakdowns and related benchmark data in an Excel file. The Excel files should be named “Performance Data – Company Name (Fund Name)”. Each award submission requires a separate Excel file showing performance.

### **Section B – Market Awards, Section C – Regional Awards & Section D – Sustainable Investing Awards**

For Section B – Market Awards, Section C – Regional Awards and Section D – Sustainable Investing Awards, please send us supporting documents telling us in no more than 2,000 words why you are applying for the award and why your team is the best in the award category. The considerations of the judging panel for each award are listed below for your reference. **Your supporting documents should be based on these considerations.**

### **General Considerations:**

- **Alternative Manager of the Year (ABS / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT).** The winner of this award will have obtained good, stable absolute returns over the past year (as of 31/12/2024), enhanced its reputation, increased AUM and launched new products. Kindly note that only houses with at least US\$100 million in AUM as of 31/12/2024 will be considered.
- **Best Fund House.** This award recognises the achievements of a fund house, including its AUM growth and products launched over the 3 years to 31/12/2024, investment performance and risk management, market share

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gains, the stability of management and employees, and investor education, brand marketing and client services. Integrating ESG factors into investment strategies or corporate governance is a must for this award.

- **Best Multi-Family Office.** This award will go to a multi-family office service provider that has excellent practices and offers an array of benefits—both financial and non-financial—to support more than one client. In your application, please tell us your service achievements in terms of financial benefits, including AUM increase in the 3 years to 31/12/2024, higher returns, lower costs, greater probability of meeting financial goals; and non-financial benefits such as efficient oversight and time saved, informed family members, implementation of the family's long-term vision; support for generational transitions; career opportunities, privacy and relationship continuity.
- **Best Quantitative House (Mainland China, ASEAN and Regional).** This award recognises an investment manager with outstanding practices in active quantitative investment, AUM growth and product line development over the past 3 years. It also considers annual performance and its stability, diversity of investment models and strategies, risk management and investor education. The applicant's AUM shall be at least US\$100 million as of 31/12/2024.
- **Best RMB Fund Manager (Hong Kong and ASEAN).** Any Hong Kong or ASEAN-based fund house can participate in this award. Please describe your RMB fund AUM growth over the past 3 years, new RMB product(s) launched in 2024 with details of their investment strategies, performance, risk management, investor education and your marketing efforts.
- **Best Thematic Fund Manager.** This award recognises a fund company that has built a suite of thematic strategies tapping into key themes to help investors seize opportunities brought about by global megatrends. If you are proud of your achievements, please tell us how many thematic investment funds (active fund and / or passive ETF) you have launched over the past 3 years, details of strategies, AUM, risk management and marketing and investor education efforts.

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- **Emerging Manager of the Year (in the Regional Category, this is the Asian New Star of the Year Award).** This award will go to the new market participant that has demonstrated the most outstanding achievements over the past 3 years in AUM growth, reputation enhancement, product innovation and client references. Any investment manager established in the last 3 years can apply for this award.
- **ETF Sponsor of the Year.** Any company that has sponsored the successful listing of an ETF in 2024 can participate in this award. Please tell us the number of listed ETFs that you sponsored during the year and their combined AUM. Kindly also detail your ETF product line improvements, investor education and marketing efforts over the 3 years to 31/12/2024.
- **Fintech Company of the Year.** Any asset manager, investment consultant, wealth manager, trading service platform or fund distribution platform can apply for this award if your product or service offering made a substantial difference to clients using big data, artificial intelligence or machine learning technologies in 2024. Please explain your business development with the use of technology, the growth of your asset pool or client base during the period, and your product or service promotion and client education efforts. Providing client comments and reference letters is encouraged to add value to your submission, and there is no limit to the number of reference letters you can submit.
- **Index Provider of the Year (Hong Kong, Mainland China, ASEAN and Regional).** This award will recognise an index provider's achievements in doing the most to improve investor outcomes through index introductions, research, and adviser support over the past 3 years. Please supply supporting data on your size of assets and number of funds that track your indexes, especially inflows of capital and newly created products during the year.
- **Index Provider of the Year (Fixed Income / Sukuk) (Mainland China, ASEAN and Regional).** This award will recognise a fixed income (Sukuk in ASEAN) index provider's achievements in doing the most to improve

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investor outcomes in overall portfolios across asset classes, through index introductions, research, and adviser support over the past 3 years. Please supply supporting data on your assets size and number of funds that track your fixed income indexes, especially inflows of capital and products newly created during the year.

- **Investment Consultant of the Year.** This award will address the achievements of an investment consultant based on its commitment to institutional investment communities domestically and (if applicable) overseas. The winner will demonstrate a leading position in terms of service track record over the 3 years to 31/12/2024, strategic input for clients, growth in assets under advisement and consulting team stability. Integrating ESG factors into corporate governance and investment strategies is an added advantage.
- **Multi-Asset Manager of the Year (Hong Kong, Mainland China, ASEAN and Regional).** A growing number of fund managers have adopted multi-asset investing strategies in recent years. If you have a successful multi-asset business, please tell us about your investment philosophy, portfolio construction, risk management, investor education, product development and AUM growth, and the investment team situation over the past 3 years.
- **OCIO of the Year.** This award will address the achievements of an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer (OCIO) service provider not only in portfolio returns, but also the calibre of its administrative and operations teams, proactivity in identifying emerging issues and ability to work within the unique structure and culture of each client. Client comments and reference letters are particularly important in the consideration of this award.
- **Pension Fund Manager of the Year (Hong Kong, Mainland China and ASEAN).** For this award, applicants will be assessed on their achievements with pension investment products. Please tell us how many pension funds, schemes or products you have launched in the last 3 years and detail their performance and combined AUM, including growth, as of 31/12/2024. Please also explain your member communication and market education on

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pension investment, and if any ESG factors are integrated into your investment strategies.

- **Wealth Manager of the Year.** This award recognises the service achievements of a wealth management house during the 3 years to 31/12/2024, based on its AUM growth, increase in client number, and commitments to clients in financial planning and investment management, including effective investment strategy design, product platform construction, risk management and tax planning services.
- **CEO of the Year.** This award will go to a senior executive who demonstrates outstanding leadership and capability as evidenced by total AUM growth and product or service development over at least 3 years as of 31/12/2024, the firm's profitability and governance and the stability of its management team and employees.
- **CIO of the Year (Alternative / Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-Asset).** This award will address the achievements of a key investment officer at an asset manager, multi-family office, OCIO or asset owner, including a pension or insurance asset management arm. The applicant should have served as CIO of their company for at least 3 years as of 31/12/2024 and achieved demonstrable success in strategy implementation, investment performance, risk management, portfolio size and the stability of investment and research teams.
- **Star Manager of the Year (Equity / Fixed Income / Multi-asset / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic).** This award recognises the outstanding performance of an individual manager in each of the above-listed investment types, with an investment track record of at least 3 years as of 31/12/2024, a stable investment approach and ethical practices.
- **Best Fund Launch (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Credit / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic)** Please describe your most outstanding fund launch of 2024, detailing how the fund's strategy is innovative, the amount of AUM



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raised, number of investors (retail and institutional) and the success of the fund's marketing campaigns.

- **Best Pension Product (Hong Kong, Mainland and ASEAN only).** This award is for pension mutual funds or schemes including occupational annuity, enterprise annuity or commercial individual pension investment products. Applicants will be assessed on how well their funds or schemes are governed, the standard of risk management, diversity of product design, quality of member communication and AUM increase over the 3 years to 31/12/2024 and whether any ESG factors have been integrated into their investment strategy.
- **Most Innovative Product (ABS / Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Multi-Asset / Private Debt / Private Equity / Quantitative / REIT / Sukuk / Thematic).** This award recognises a new product launched in 2024. Please detail the success of your new product's innovative features and benefits, explain your investor education programmes and describe your marketing efforts.
- **RMB Fund of the Year (Hong Kong and ASEAN).** Any RMB fund launched in the past year can participate in this award. Please tell us about your RMB fund's investment strategy, AUM raised as of 31/12/2024, performance, risk management, growth in client base (retail and institutional), investor education and marketing efforts.

## **Unique Considerations:**

### **Section B – Market Awards**

#### **■ Hong Kong**

- **Best China Fund House.** This award is for a Hong Kong-based fund company whose parent company or major shareholder(s) is or are Mainland corporations or natural person(s). The judging panel will evaluate candidates' AUM growth and products launched over the past 3 years, investment strategies, performance and risk management, the size and

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stability of research and investment teams, quality of investor education and marketing efforts and international diversity.

- **Best Institutional House.** This award recognises a firm's achievements in institutional business over the past 3 years, including new mandates won, AUM growth, investor education and clients served. Providing client comments and reference letters is encouraged to add value to candidates' submissions.

## ■ Mainland China

- **Best Bond House.** This award addresses the key achievements of a Mainland China-based fund house in fixed income AUM and product growth over the last 3 years, its investment strategies, performance, risk management and product innovation. The stability of its investment team and quality of investor education will also be judging considerations.
- **Best Private Fund Manager.** This award recognises the achievements of an AMAC-registered private fund house based in Mainland China, including its AUM growth and products launched over the past 3 years, investment performance, risk management, stability of management and employees, investor education, brand marketing and client services. Integrating ESG factors into investment strategies and corporate governance is a big value-add.
- **WFOE House of the Year.** This award is only for a wholly foreign-owned fund house established in the Mainland China with a mutual fund license issued by the CSRC or registered as a qualified private fund manager with AMAC. Applicants will be assessed on their investment platform construction, internal team development, distribution arrangements, product development, AUM growth and market acceptance over the 3 years to 31/12/2024.

## ■ ASEAN:

- **Best Islamic Fund House.** This award is open to any ASEAN-based Islamic Fund house and will address its achievements in AUM growth and product development over the past 3 years, distribution (retail and institutional) arrangements, client service, investor education and marketing efforts.

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- **Best Islamic Product.** This award will go to an Islamic product launched in ASEAN in 2024, recognising its unique design concept, market acceptance, capital collected and raised as of 31/12/2024 and investor education achievements.
- **Best Sukuk House.** The award addresses the key achievements of an ASEAN-based house in Sukuk AUM and product growth over the 3 years, its investment strategies, performance, risk management, product innovation, the stability of its investment team, and investor education.

## **Section D – Sustainable Investing Awards**

- **Climate Index Provider of the Year.** The winner of this category will be an index provider with demonstrable achievements in launching climate indexes and entering climate-related cooperation with asset managers and / or asset owners over the 3 years to 31/12/2024.
- **ESG Data Provider of the Year.** If you are specialist provider of ESG-related data, you are welcome to participate in this award. Please show us how the quantity and quality of ESG data you provide is outstanding, how you obtain this data and how you have synthesised it to meet clients' needs in the past 3 years.
- **ESG Index Provider of the Year.** This award recognises an index provider's achievements in ESG index promotion over the past 3 years. Please explain the details of your ESG indexes, including their size, the number of products linked to these indexes and the products' AUM growth, and your provision of value-added services and market education.
- **ESG Leader Award.** This award is open to market participants with demonstrable achievements in and contributions to ESG investment, including but not limited to asset managers, index providers, listed companies, stock exchanges, asset owners and service providers. Please explain your ESG business model, market share, pattern of net ESG inflows (if any), market acceptance and education efforts.
- **Impact Investing Manager of the Year.** This award will be conferred on an investment manager who has set a new sector benchmark in product innovation, attracting commercial or non-traditional capital, investment

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themes, significant documented impact or new portfolio approach, tools and frameworks, and in the process has set new standards for capital allocation in the impact investment industry.

- **Best Climate Change Strategy.** This award recognises an investment strategy which focuses on the exceptional opportunities for long-term investors that abound in a world mobilising to address climate change, helping investors benefit from this unique, diversifying source of returns. Please describe your strategy's design concept, total assets and growth as of 31/12/2024, and its risk profile and performance.
- **ESG Assessment Tool of the Year.** This award will go to an asset or fund manager that has developed a highly practical tool to identify and measure value creation and mitigate any potential ESG risks for portfolios, informing clients' investment approaches and themes.
- **Sustainable Fund of the Year (Equity / ETF / Fixed Income / Hedge Fund / Private Credit / Private Equity / REIT).** Please describe your most outstanding sustainable fund launched in 2024, set out how this fund integrates sustainable factors into its strategy, the AUM it has raised as of 31/12/2024, and detail its investor education and marketing efforts.



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**GOOD LUCK!**