

# AGCM China Stars Fund



ASIA GROWTH CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

January 5, 2019

## Weak finish in 2018 but China is set to outperform the West in 2019

During the month of December, the NAV of AGCM China Stars Fund RC1 SEK share class decreased by -9.1%. This means we gave back the gains made in November, taking valuation levels back to the previous lows in late October. The largest declines in December were in the healthcare sector, largely due to fears of new rounds of government mandated price cuts on certain generic pharmaceuticals.

The year 2018 was challenging not just for Chinese equities but for the entire Emerging Markets space with MSCI's benchmark down 17 percent for the full year, corresponding to a USD 3.8 trillion decline in market value. This represents the largest drop in market capitalization since the 2008 financial crisis. The decline began when investors became concerned of an escalating trade war between China and the US, tighter central bank policies and in some market segments, stretched valuations.

As we have pointed out before, our fund holdings are dominated by domestic Chinese consumption stories, with very little export dependence. In other words, the actual exposure to tariffs and trade barriers is marginal. The growth in earnings of our fund holdings are largely driven by the appetite of the Chinese consumer, for housing, household electronics, autos, financial services, pharmaceuticals, online shopping, communication services, travel and entertainment. The growth in private consumption in China has been very resilient for decades, rising at a high and steady pace throughout the years along with rapidly rising disposable incomes. Due to the ongoing trade dispute with the US, China's manufacturing sector slowed during the final quarter of last year. However, China's service sector, which now accounts for well over half of the economy, is booming. A few days ago, China's non-manufacturing PMI for December was announced, rising to 53.8 from an already impressive 53.4. It seems as if government stimulus aimed at boosting the private consumption is already effective.

In a letter to investors on January 2, Tim Cook, the CEO of Apple guided for significantly lower revenues in 4Q 2018 blaming a weak Chinese economy. In reality, the weak demand for iPhones in China is not due to a weak economy, but rather to Apple's aggressive pricing strategy. Domestic Chinese vendors like Xiaomi and Vivo, offer very similar products but at one third of Apple's high prices.

Chinese economic fundamentals and stock market valuations look increasingly attractive relative to other major markets. Not only are valuations of Chinese equity markets (the Hang Seng, MSCI China and CSI300) substantially lower after the decline in 2018. China's massive tax cut discussed here last month, will have full effect as of January 1 and will provide a powerful boost to consumption and services in the coming year. The outlook for a trade deal between the US and China continues to improve. According to a Trump tweet on December 30, trade negotiations with China are progressing very well. Similar positive comments were made by Xi Jinping in Chinese media after his annual New Year message. In early January, senior trade representatives from both countries will meet to continue the negotiations. We expect a deal to be presented by late February or early March and that should be well received by financial markets. After all, it was fears of a protracted trade war between the World's two largest economies that sparked the massive sell-off in Chinese equities last year. So, the combination of down-beaten valuations, upcoming stimulus and a deal on trade bodes well for Chinese stock market outperformance in 2019.

**Gustav Rhenman**, Chief Investment Officer

# AGCM China Stars Fund

Monthly Report

December 2018



ASIA GROWTH CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

## Performance

As of 31/12/2018	1 month	3 month	YTD	Since launch August 28, 2017
AGCM China Stars Fund RC1 SEK	-9.1%	-10.7%	-17.4%	-9.4%
AGCM China Stars Fund RC8 SEK	-9.0%	-10.6%	-16.8%	-8.2%
AGCM China Stars Fund RC9 SEK	-9.1%	-10.8%	-16.9%	-7.3%

## Top 5 holdings

As of 31/12/2018

Company name
Alibaba Group
Tencent Holdings
Qingdao Haier
China Overseas Land & Inv Ltd
JD.com

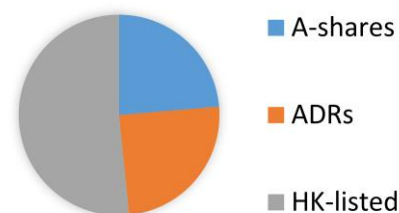
## Industry breakdown

As of 31/12/2018

Consumer	31%
Communic...	16%
Financials	15%
Healthcare	14%
Real Estate	13%
Info Tech	9%
Industrials	2%

## Market breakdown

As of 31/12/2018



## About Asia Growth Capital Management

Asia Growth Capital Management AB (AGCM) is a specialized investment management company managing investment funds investing in listed equities in Asia. The company was founded in Sweden in 2013 by a group of investment professionals and executives with extensive experiences from a wide range of different industries. The Chief Investment Officer has twice before been awarded by Lipper (Thomson Reuters) for managing the best performing Asia Fund among all regulated Asia funds registered for marketing in any EU country.

## Fund Facts

Portfolio manager:	Gustav Rhenman
Inception date:	28-August-2017
Fund size:	SEK 374 million
Number of holdings:	30
Management fee (RC1):	1.35% + 10% perf. fee
Fund management Company:	FundRock Management Company S.A.
NAV:	(RC1) SEK 90.6 (RC8) SEK 91.8 (RC9) SEK 92.7
Minimum subscription:	n.a.
ISIN code:	SEK RC1 LU 1608617111 SEK RC8 LU 1608617384 SEK RC9 LU 1608617467

## Disclaimers

**According to Personuppgiftslagen (PUL):** AGCM can use such personal data which has been given to the company by the registered person or which the company has sourced from other sources (name, e-mail and telephone number) to, via e-mail or telephone, give information about and market its products and services, including direct marketing. The personal data is used mainly in relation to people who orally or in written form have indicated interest to AGCM. If you want to receive information about which personal data about yourself the company is handling, you can in writing, signed by yourself, make a request to Asia Growth Capital Management AB, Birger Jarlsgatan 10, 5 tr, 114 34 Stockholm. You can also make a request in writing to the same address that you wish not to have your personal data used for purposes of direct marketing. Request for correction of personal data can also be made to the same address.

**Risk information:** Money you invest in the Fund can both increase and decrease in value. Historic performance is no guarantee of future return. Saving in funds should be viewed in a long-term perspective, which then may potentially offer a better return than traditional savings in fixed income. We recommend that you read the KIID and prospectus available at [www.agcm.se](http://www.agcm.se) before you make an investment. You can also request such information via e-mail to [info@agcm.se](mailto:info@agcm.se).