

**Dr D Chambers, 1 September 2014**  
**Activities and Achievement Questionnaire**  
**Non-Technical Summary**

A 500 word (maximum) summary of the main research results, in non-technical language, should be provided below. It should cover the aims and objectives of the project, main research results and significant academic achievements, dissemination activities and potential or actual impacts on policy and practice.

Investing in emerging market equities is an area characterised by asymmetric information problems. This suggests the fund managers with professionals located away from head office in the markets in which they are investing should in some way be advantageous. Whilst such firms exist, in practice we also observe managers who do not seem to believe this to be the case and operate from a single office located in a major financial centre in the West.

Hence, the research objectives of this project are to examine the following question:

1. the role of geographic location in influencing mutual fund flows, manager attitudes to risk-taking and fund performance in emerging markets

We are also interested in a related question:

2. a comparison of the trading behaviour of emerging market closed-end and open-end fund managers during financial crises

We require access to the Morningstar Direct data base to facilitate this research.

**Dissemination**

A. Please outline any specific plans you have for further publication and/or other means of dissemination of the outcomes and results of the research.

The intention is for the publication of at least one and possibly two working papers by the end of the project.

B. Discuss any potential or actual impacts on policy and practice that your work may have.

We expect our results to be of great interest to practitioners who are actively investing in emerging markets and to help them understand the various competing claims of managers about the importance of having members of their investment team located in emerging markets or otherwise

**Outputs**

Please give full details of the outputs which should accompany this report. For each research paper, please, provide:

- a) the title
- b) an abstract
- c) web link where the paper can be downloaded
- d) bibliographical reference in case the paper is accepted for publication
- e) details regarding conferences or seminars where the paper has been presented

For other outputs (such as software, datasets), please, provide a description of the output and a web link through which the output can be downloaded. If a web link is not available then provide an electronic copy with this report. If the grant included arranging conferences, please complete the separate conference form as well.

None as yet

**Major difficulties**

Please detail below any major difficulties, scientific or administrative/logistical, encountered during your research and comment on any consequent impact on the project. Further details can

be included in section 11 at the end of this report, including any advice you might have for resolving such problems in future projects.

We have encountered problems with respect to the second research question above. It has proven difficult to obtain sufficient detailed data on the security holdings of closed end funds which has shrunk the size of the sample to a level at which is very difficult to make the necessary statistical inferences.

As a result, the intention is to focus on the first research question regarding the role of geographic location in emerging market mutual funds.

**Other issues and unexpected outcomes**

Please describe any outcomes of your research, beneficial or otherwise that were not expected at the outset or other issues which were important to the research, where these are not addressed above. Further details can be included in section 11 at the end of this report.

Kirsty McLaren who is a PhD student and the other main investigator on this project was able to visit Cornell University for 6 months ended June 2014 and work with Professor Andrew Karolyi as a result of undertaking this research.