

Clearstream Spotlight

Enhancing access to Central Asia



The new settlement link to Kazakhstan further expands Clearstream's international market coverage.

Following the activation of our market links in Georgia and Armenia during 2016, Clearstream has further enhanced its offering in the Central Asia region by opening a new settlement link to Kazakhstan.

Our network extension to Kazakhstan, representing Clearstream's 57th market link, is part of our ongoing efforts to provide international investors with improved access to the Eastern region. Customers will be able to access Kazakhstani Tenge (KZT)-denominated government bonds and national bank notes via an indirect link through Citibank Kazakhstan.

In an initial phase, we will offer external free-of-payment settlement with local Kazakh counterparties and full free of payment and against

payment settlement in all eligible currencies within Clearstream plus our full custody, reconciliation and asset servicing offering for these instruments. The payment of all income and redemption proceeds will be conducted in the local currency, whereas customers will have the option of receiving payment in KZT or any other currency currently offered by Clearstream.

Adding the Kazakhstan market to our network reinforces our position as a leader for ICSD global market coverage. Institutional investors who are active in the Caucasus and Central Asian markets will be able to access this growing market through Clearstream, acting as your single gateway to Kazakhstan's capital markets, the entire region and beyond.

One belt, one road

Clearstream is committed to strengthening ties throughout the Caucasus region. These strategic network expansions represent key steps in our approach to increasing our customers' access to Russian, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Central Asian assets. Our emerging market approach enables us to drastically accelerate our time to market for new links whereby as demand for new services grow and volume develops these links can be upgraded.

Georgia

Following the enhancement of the Georgian Lari (GEL) to a full settlement currency, in January 2016 Clearstream opened a new settlement link to the country. Through this domestic link, we offer Georgian government bonds and supranational bonds via our local partner, the Bank of Georgia. Furthermore, we have recently made a selection of GEL-denominated corporate bonds available for settlement, custody and asset servicing.

Armenia

In July 2016, our 56th domestic market link was opened, a direct link to the Armenian market. Representing the first step in further strengthening customers' access to the Caucasus region as a whole, the Armenia link offered customers' new possibility to settle in Armenian Dram (AMD).

The wider region

In the view of further reinforcing our leading position in terms of domestic market coverage by an ICSD we are continuously looking at opening new market links in line with customer demand. These market additions may be in the greater CIS region or elsewhere in the Middle East and Africa.

More information

For more information on these topics, please contact your Relationship Manager. If you would prefer not to receive our email news, please ask your RM to remove you from the mailing list.