

Clearstream Spotlight

New settlement link to Armenia



Clearstream has expanded its international coverage to Armenia. The Armenian Dram (AMD) is also now a full settlement currency and AMD-denominated Eurobond issuance can be facilitated through our Global Issuer Hub. This follows implementation of a similar link to Georgia in January this year, which marked the first step in improving customers' access to the Caucasus region.

Customers are able to use this domestic link to access Armenian government bonds and supranational bonds via our direct link to the local central securities depository, the Central Depository of Armenia (CDA) – part of the NASDAQ OMX group.

Customers can benefit from internal free of payment and against payment settlement in all eligible currencies, and external free of payment settlement. We also offer custody and asset servicing with the CDA.

Customers' new possibility to settle in AMD, meanwhile, follows Clearstream's appointment of the Central Bank of Armenia as cash correspondent bank (CCB).

Armenia is Clearstream's 56th link, reinforcing our leading position in terms of domestic market coverage by an ICSD. Clearstream's Armenian link marks continued progress in increasing access for our global customer base to the Caucasus region.

Supporting market development in the Caucasus region

By opening its link to Armenia, Clearstream is supporting efforts made by the Armenian authorities and market participants to align the domestic market infrastructure and legal framework with international standards. Clearstream's new link in addition helps increase access for investors to the CIS and Caucasus region, while also enabling this region to build its liquidity up and outward.

Thanks to its geographical position, Armenia has been a unique transit centre for ancient civilisations since the emergence of the Silk Road. Part of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) region, Armenia is today a growing economy with an average economic growth of 4.4% over the past five years.

Several significant events have positively impacted the Armenian financial market over the past few years, including the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Bank of Armenia and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to develop the capital markets of Armenia.

Other recent positive market events include the launch of a new funded pension system and the issuance of Armenian Eurobonds.

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.