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Silk Invest hires Renaissance man for push into frontier bond market

By [Drazen Jorgic](#) | 11:01:52 | 20 April 2009

Fledgling investment boutique Silk Invest has hired Renaissance Capital's John Bates to spearhead its drive into the frontier fixed income market.

Bates, who was Renaissance Capital's head of research for Africa and has also had a spell as a senior emerging market credit analyst for ABN Amro, will report to Silk chief executive Zin Bekkali.

Bekkali said Bates hire was part of a strategy that will see firm launch a specialised bond fund. He said: 'We will offer a liquid frontier market fixed income product, hopefully in the next six months. Although largely focused on Sovereigns, there will be a corporate element that will represent up to 20% of the portfolio.'

Daniel Broby, Silk Invest's chief investment officer, added: 'He (Bates) is truly one of the few people who not only know the universe inside out but he is also of the few able to capitalise on that knowledge to obtain equity like returns in the frontier fixed income space.'

The news comes after earlier this year Silk Invest [announced the launch of its Luxembourg domiciled African Lions and Arab Falcons funds](#).

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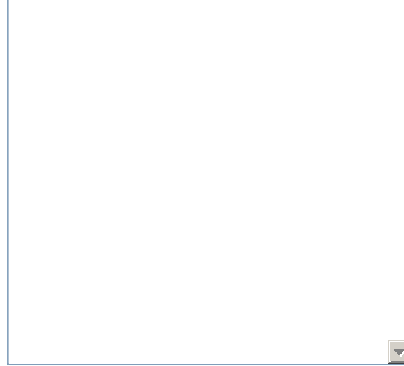
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