

Alternatives for investors

The financial markets have performed well in 2017 but the coming year has all the markers for a volatile economic environment. In an exclusive interview with Hubbis, Carol Wong, Managing Director, Old Mutual Global Investors (OMGI) explains what investors can do to weather tough market conditions and grow their portfolio



CAROL WONG
Old Mutual Global Investors

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN GOOD FOR MOST FUND MANAGERS, irrespective of what kind of funds they traded. Equities, fixed income, alternative funds are all performing well. In the coming year, however, Carol Wong of OMGI believes that there will be more volatility in the market.

Valuations this year have reached historical highs, especially for the US and a lot of money parked in fixed income has still not moved to equities because investors understand the uncertainties that exist in the market.

OMGI carries a good range of alternative funds which perform regardless of market conditions, says Wong. Products that her firm carries in its portfolio such as market neutral strategy, long/short, gold and silver, and contingent convertibles investments are all investments that can help investors weather the upcoming volatility in the market in the coming year.

The firm also plans to introduce some popular institutional style investment strategies such as Premia Investing to high net worth individuals. The firm also intends to continue to promote their quantitative strategy in the coming year. Wong says that OMGI sees itself as an innovative company and hence, aims to develop and offer more unique products in the region over the coming months.

Finally, Wong suggests that China will be a priority for OMGI in 2018. The firm currently only has a few distributors in the country but aims to formulate a strategy that will establish a footprint in the region very soon. ■