



## ME investors 'to up hedge funds allocations'

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Majority of the investors in the Middle East plan to increase or maintain their existing allocations to hedge funds this year in comparison to 2009 when they were reducing them, according to a new survey by Capintro Partners.

An investment research and placement specialist, Capintro covered 66 investors from the GCC, Lebanon and Jordan for the second 'Middle East Hedge Fund Investor Survey for 2010' survey.

The survey uncovered several unique findings concerning investor behavior relating specifically to the current environment.

Capintro pointed out that most respondents in the survey were keen to have improved liquidity terms compared to the previous year.

Majority of the investors expected emerging markets, Asia (excluding Japan) and the United States to outperform in 2010, the survey added.

"We are pleased to release the results of our second Middle East Hedge Fund Investor Survey 2010. The survey provides our investors and fund managers with interesting insight into the changing behavioral trends of investors in response to the global financial crisis," said Mahmoud Al-Khawaja, CEO of Capintro.

According to Capintro, the respondents' favoured strategies for 2010 include global macro, equity long short and distressed.

The questions in the 2010 survey have been adapted to reflect the environment investors are in and the experiences they have had with their respective fund managers, Al Khaawaja added.

Michael Azlen, CEO of Frontier Capital Management, said Capintro has successfully built upon the 2009 survey and has produced an excellent source of information for both investors and fund managers.

'We now use the Capintro survey as an extremely important guide for all our activities in the Mena region,' he added. -**TradeArabia News Service**