

If Asian issuers hear as many pitches for a capital markets financing as IFR Asia receives awards submissions, it's a wonder that any deals get done at all. Rather than follow the trend of splitting every mandate between a dozen or more institutions, however, IFR sets out to name a single winner in each category. This page presents some of the numbers behind the decisions.

**W**elcome to the 2019 edition of the IFR Asia Awards for Excellence. These awards are designed to recognise the best deals, issuers and arrangers in the Asian capital markets over the past 12 months, with special focus on the institutions and transactions that have moved the region's capital markets forward through innovation or outstanding performance. The IFR Awards are selected by IFR's

expert capital markets journalists and are 100% independent of external influence or commercial considerations.

Starting in late October, senior reporters and editors conduct an exhausting round of interviews with hundreds of market participants, this year including meetings in Tokyo, Mumbai, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Sydney, Singapore and Hong Kong.

These meetings provide an opportunity for capital markets professionals to stake

their claim to individual awards and give their views on broader market trends. They also give reporters the insight they need to identify the most significant transactions of the year.

Conversations with bankers, investors and frequent issuers help determine a shortlist in each category, and the final decision is then made by the senior IFR editorial team.

Congratulations to all the winners.

■ **TOTAL NUMBER OF CATEGORIES UP FOR GRABS**

**42**

■ **TOTAL NUMBER OF DEALS NOMINATED, DOWN FROM 313 IN 2018**

**259**

■ **MOST NOMINATIONS IN A SINGLE CATEGORY, FOR INVESTMENT-GRADE BOND, UP FROM 30 IN 2018**

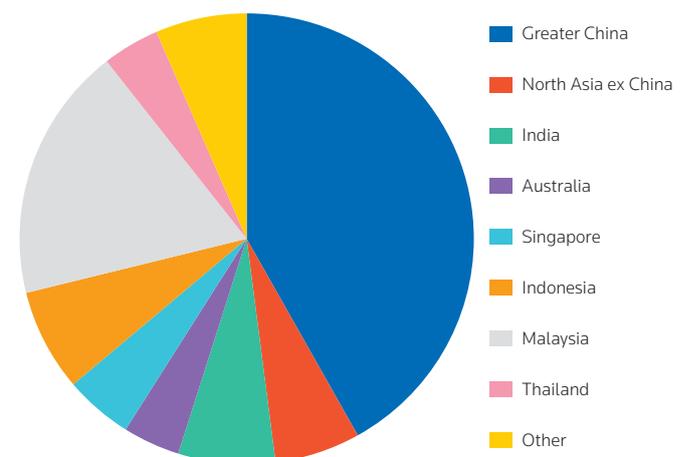
**42**

■ **ENQUIRIES ABOUT ENTRY FEES, DOWN FROM THREE IN 2018 (NONE TAKEN)**

**2**

**CHINA FIRST**

SUBMISSIONS FOR DEAL AWARDS BY REGION



■ **NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS SUBMITTING FORMAL NOMINATIONS, UNCHANGED FROM 2018**

**74**

■ **TOTAL NOMINATIONS, EXCLUDING DUPLICATE DEAL ENTRIES, UP FROM 450 IN 2018**

**473**