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Michael Lai is senior vice president and portfolio manager within Franklin Templeton Emerging Markets Equity's (FTEME) China investment team.

Prior to joining Franklin Templeton, Mr. Lai was an Investment Director at GAM Investments, where he headed the Asian equity team and was the lead manager of GAM Star China Equity fund. Prior to joining GAM in December 1998, he held similar roles managing Asian equity strategies for Trust Company of the West (Asia) and BZW Investment Management, after having begun his investment career at Lehman Global Asset Management in 1989.

Mr. Lai holds an MSc in Econometrics from the London School of Economics and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder.