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First Italian fund-of-funds holds final close

Name Fondamenta

Target € 200m

Focus Primary funds

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Fund

Fondamenta, the first Italian fund-of-funds, has held a final close on € 162.4m. The vehicle, which is advised by Mediolanum State Street, was launched in Q4 of 1999. Terms and conditions include a 1% management fee until the end of the investment period, which is to be followed by a 0.7% stepdown, based on net asset value. There is a 10% carried interest, which is subject to a 7 % hurdle. Carried interest payments are to be paid once the management company has reimbursed its capital expenses. Fondamenta accepts catch-up mechanisms but has no clawback provisions. The vehicle is not subject to any re-investment provisions and monies from divestments will be reimbursed immediately. There are no restrictions concerning new fundraising. The general partners have invested € 5.2m in Fondamenta.

The management company is responsible for handling the payment of abort fees. No other fees are included in the terms and conditions. Fondamenta insists on direct co-investment rights and on no-fault divorce clauses or escape clauses in its agreements with funds.

Investors

Commitments to Fondamenta have been made by six investors, two of which are bank foundations.

Investments

The vehicle aims to invest 60% of its capital in primary funds and 40% in co-investments, although secondary fund positions will also be considered. The fund-of-funds will mainly consider investments in debut funds, preferably of € 100-200m and will seek to co-invest in companies that require development capital. Fondamenta, which has no liquidity requirements, will only invest in Italy, in keeping with its investors' guidelines and a remit to support the Italian economy. Fondamenta expects to make between 10-15 fund commitments in the life of the vehicle and 10 co-investments. Currently, the vehicle's total commitments to funds amount to € 44.5m, including commitments to Arca Impresa 2000, Convergenza, Emerald, Opera and WOPE. In addition, Fondamenta has made two co-investments, Idar Presse Partecipazioni SpA, alongside Emerald, and ACD Technologies SpA, alongside WOPE. Total commitments to co-investments so far total € 7m. Fondamenta is currently considering three new investments (Focus, Vermeer and Lazard) and has a rich co-investments pipeline.

People

The management company is led by chief executive officer Giuseppe Camapanella. His team includes an investment manager, an analyst, two junior analysts and an assistant secretary. The investment committee is made up of Camapanella and six other professionals, three from Mediolanum and three from State Street Global Advisors.