## **INVESTMENTS FUNDS IN EUROPE**

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## What is an investment funds?

## Investment Funds or Undertaking for Collective Investment (UCI)

- Collective investment of cash
- Capital raised from a number of end investors
- Capital invested in accordance with a defined investment policy and risk spreading
- Shares may be distributed to the general public while others are reserved for some specific types of investors
- Shares may be obtained through several channels: private placement, direct distribution, distributors or stock exchanges
- Portfolio may consist of transferable securities and / or other assets



## Why set up a UCI?

## A UCI offers investors the possibility to

- Generate current income or capital appreciation or both
- Access a diversified portfolio of investments
- Benefit from professional management of the portfolio
- Share the associated costs
- Gain exposure to specific investments could be out of range for some investors
- Get protection from ad hoc regulation



## The creation of a UCI will be driven by several factors

#### Investors

#### **Eligible Investors**

#### Marketing regime

#### **Listing capacity**

Investment strategy / limits

Corporate legal form

Capital requirements

**Taxation** 

- Institutional / professional investors
- Well informed investors
- Private Individuals
- Passporting
- Private regime
- Need for official stock exchange listing
- Risk spreading rules
- Borrowing limitations
- Specific investments
- Contractual form
- Corporate form
- Minimum capital
- Subscription tax
- Withholding tax



## In Europe we have two major families of funds

### **UCITS**

## Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities

- EU Directive in December 1985 to create single European Market for retail investment fund
- European passport
- Investment in Securities quoted on a recognised stock exchange
- Respect rules related to portfolio diversification / asset liquidity / use of hedging
- Equity / Bond / Money Market Funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETF)



## In Europe we have two major families of funds

#### **AIF**

#### **Alternative Investment Funds**

- EU Directive in July 2011 in reaction to 2008 Financial crisis
- All funds not covered by UCITS directive
- European passport
- Specific marketing regime
- Single Hedge Funds
   Fund of Hedge Funds
   Private Equity Funds
  - Real Estate Funds
  - European Long Term Investment Funds



## Several key players in the UCI value chain

#### Actor

### **Key function**

#### Regulator

- Supervises all elements of the value chain
- Approves all intermediaries and service agents
- Controls and approves fund documentation

## The Management Company

- Provides the required capital and complies with the substance requirements
- Can have the European Passport
- Performs oversight duties on delegated tasks

## Several key players in the UCI value chain

#### **Actor**

## **Key function**

#### **Distributor**

- Distributes fund to end investor
- Collects documentation for AML / KYC process
- Transfers cash from / to Central Administration

#### **Depositary Bank**

- Must be a registered credit institution approved by the regulator
- Is responsible to safe-keep the assets of the fund
- Knows at all times how and where the assets of the fund are kept

### **Domiciliary Agent**

- Provides the registered office of the UCI
- Responsible for providing office accommodation facilities to the UCI
- Keep all correspondence of the UCI, and arranging payment of bills on behalf of the UCI



## Several key players in the UCI value chain

#### Actor

## **Key function**

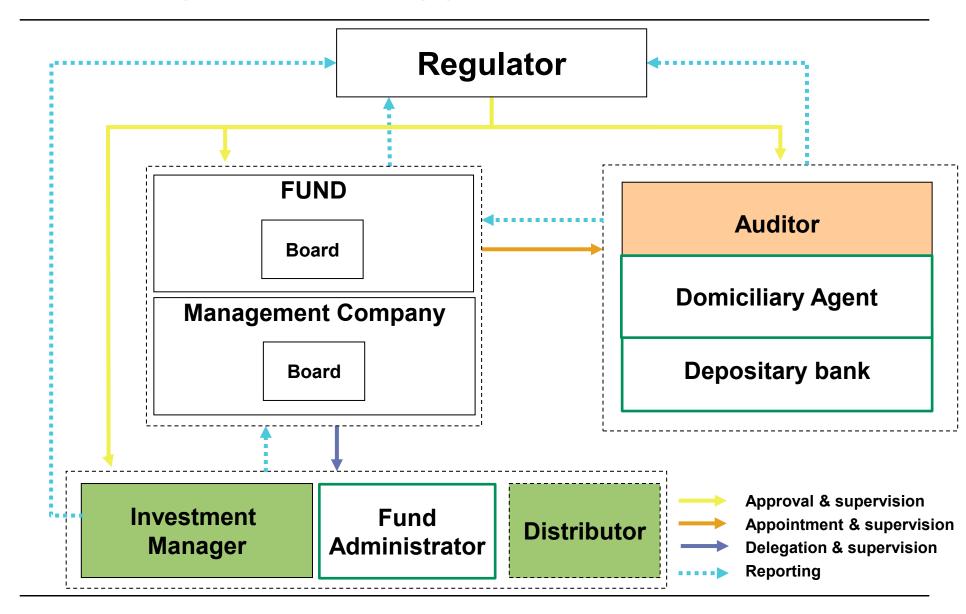
## Fund administrator

- Is in charge of shareholder relationship
- Calculates the net asset value (NAV)
- Ensures monitoring of regulatory compliance
- Provides financial information and reporting

#### **Auditor**

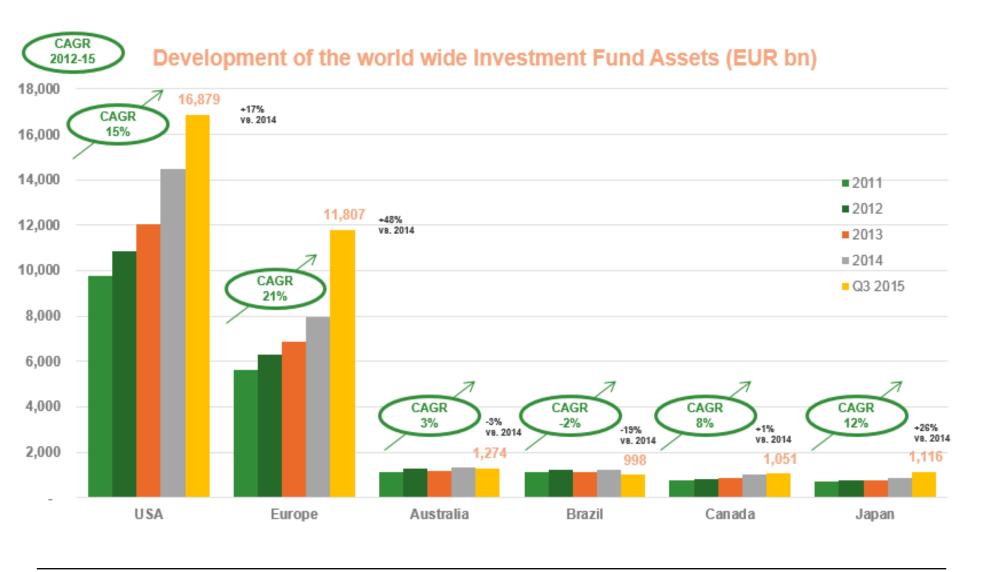
- Audits on annual financial statements
- Reviews fund investment policy & restrictions & inform the regulator of any non-conformity
- Controls fund procedures and verify process to calculate NAV - inform the regulator if procedures are inadequate

## These players are strongly interconnected



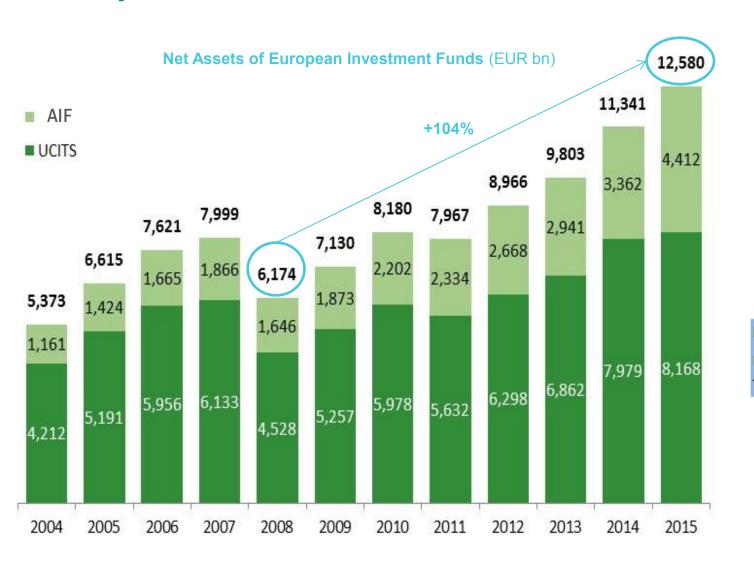


## **European Investments Funds have been very successful**





## UCITS structures are predominant amongst European funds

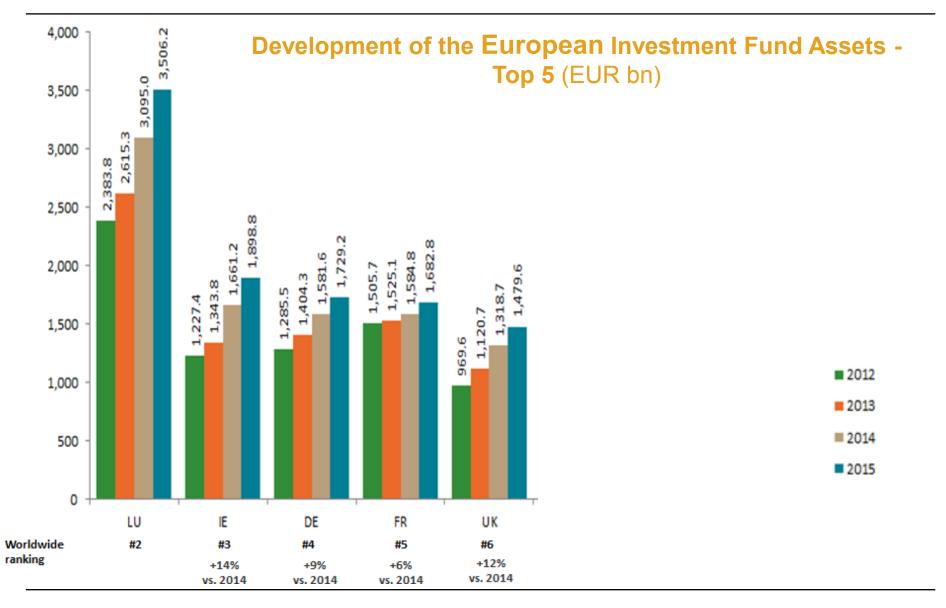


#### Variation from 2014 and 2015

	2015 vs. 2014	
UCITS	2.4%	
non-UCITS	31.2%	
TOTAL	10.9%	

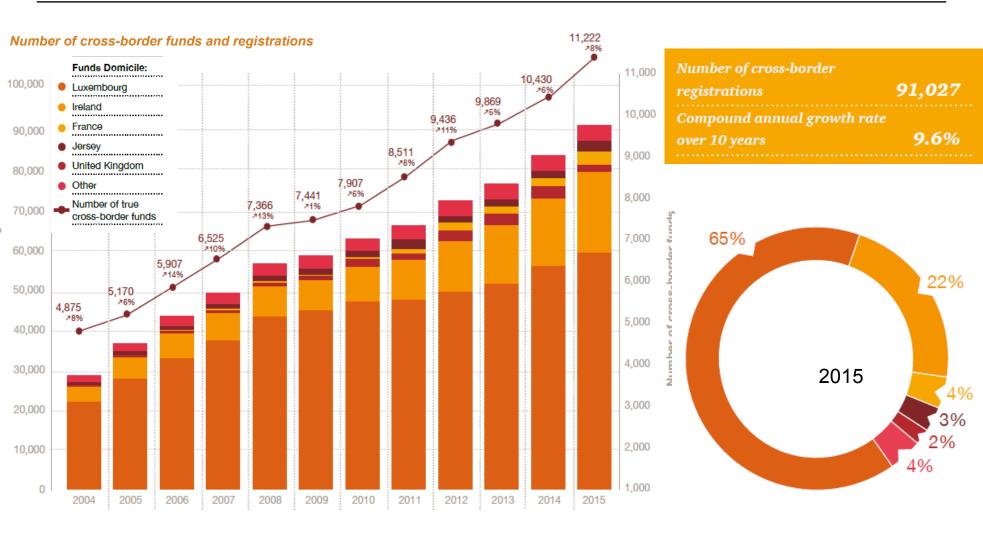


## **Luxembourg Fund Centre is by far #1 in Europe**





# Luxembourg is the first domicile for cross-border funds





# Why is Luxembourg the leading fund domicile in **Europe?**

- Political & economic stability
- Forward looking, innovative & collaborative approach between government, regulator & fund industry
- Large multi-lingual workforce (typically more than 20 languages covered by major service providers)
- Wide range of products & strong innovative capabilities
- Comprehensive and adaptable regulations
- World class fund infrastructure & support: administration, custody and transfer agency
- Experienced fund set-up and structuring capabilities
- 20+ years experience in global fund distribution
- World-wide acceptance of the Luxembourg Fund label



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