



EMPOWERING CITIZENS AND ENABLING THE ECONOMY

A vision for Europe's leadership in
investment funds and asset management.

if irish
funds

REPRESENTING THE IRISH FUNDS INDUSTRY IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

The Irish Funds Industry Association (Irish Funds) is the voice of the international investment funds and asset management industry in Ireland. We are a member of the European Fund and Asset Management Association (EFAMA). In cooperation with our European partners, Irish Funds actively engages in policy discussions at EU level. We are also a member of the International Investment Funds Association which brings together representatives from over 40 national and regional fund associations across the globe.

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EMPOWERING CITIZENS AND ENABLING THE ECONOMY



PAT LARDNER
CEO



LISA KEALY
Chairperson

We want to provide European citizens with better opportunities to create a more secure future and enjoy long-term financial well-being. To do so, we need to unlock and facilitate the flow of capital to empower businesses throughout Europe.

The challenges we face are well understood. The post-Covid economic and social recovery will not be achieved by governments alone. Consistently low birth rates and higher life expectancy¹ are transforming the shape of the EU, with a significant surge of those aged over 65. At the same time, housing, education, and healthcare costs have risen, while job security has fallen, and household savings have slumped.² Solutions to some of these challenges exist.

As an industry, we are an integral part of enabling Europe's economy and driving sustainable growth. By engaging with savers and helping them to direct and manage their investments, asset managers have the opportunity to enable a range of enterprises and projects that will fuel growth across the EU for decades to come. To do so, we will empower citizens, providing them with the financial knowledge and insight to understand and decide on the best options open for them to build and protect their nest egg.

We are also firmly committed to championing excellence and awareness in environmental, social, and governance issues to ensure a sustainable future.

We have been a leading voice for the investment funds and asset management industry for more than 30 years. Our wealth of experience and knowledge has contributed to cementing Ireland's reputation as a European centre of excellence when it comes to supporting and enabling investments. EU-based investors have €1 trillion of investments in Irish domiciled funds giving them access to investments in Europe and globally. And by attracting global capital into the EU, Irish domiciled funds have €1 trillion invested into assets across the EU.³

The industry in Ireland has been a significant contributor to the financial well-being of EU citizens and to European policymaking.

In the investment world, Ireland's global reputation for trust, capability and innovation give it a strong understanding of what it takes to enable and support more significant investment into and across the EU. We can help deliver tangible economic benefits to communities and provide the funding for a brighter, more sustainable future for us all.

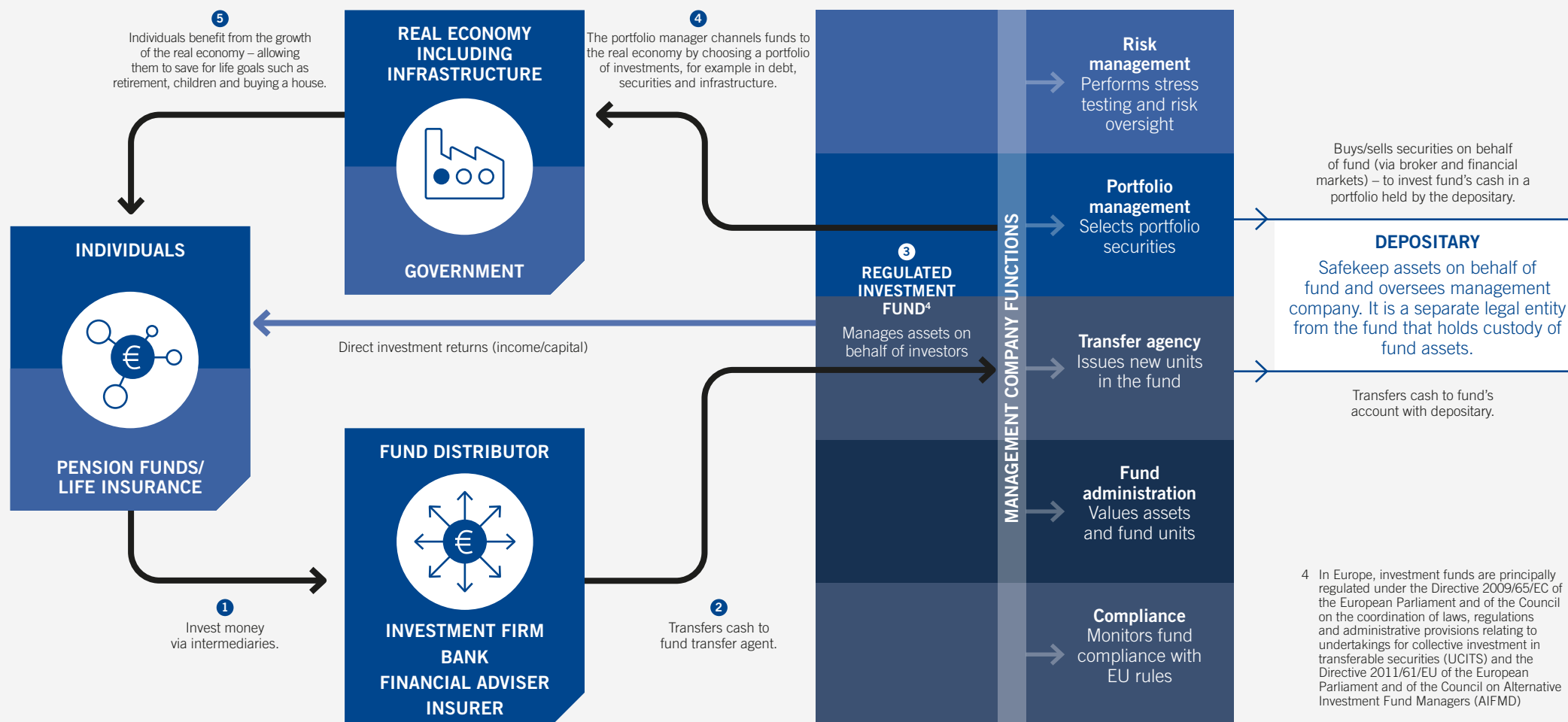
¹ Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Population_structure_and_ageing#The_share_of_elderly_people_continues_to_increase

² Source: <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-and-social-sector/our-insights/the-social-contract-in-the-21st-century>

³ Source: Central Bank of Ireland (Q1 2021)

ASSET MANAGEMENT IN ACTION

Asset managers play a crucial role in supporting European growth and development, empowering citizens, communities, and businesses through the collective power of well-managed investment and savings.



ASSET MANAGEMENT IN ACTION

Continued

SUPPORTING EUROPEAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

There are more than 4,500 asset management companies operating in Europe, with around 115,000 employed directly in the industry.

Net assets of investment funds domiciled in Europe, UCITS and AIFs, totalled €18.8 trillion at the end of 2020. There are investment funds in every European country. Luxembourg and Ireland are the two largest domiciles of UCITS and AIFs, with a market share of 26% and 18% respectively (2020). Germany, France and the United Kingdom follow in this ranking.⁵

Number of asset management companies⁶

COUNTRY	COMPANIES	COUNTRY	COMPANIES
Austria	22	Luxembourg	291
Belgium	70	Malta	121
Bulgaria	31	Netherlands	223
Croatia	20	Norway	33
Cyprus	154	Poland	41
Czech Republic	27	Portugal	65
Denmark	58	Romania	23
Finland	27	Slovakia	11
France	633	Slovenia	6
Germany	372	Spain	119
Greece	47	Sweden	101
Hungary	26	Switzerland	217
Ireland	374	Turkey	54
Italy	257	United Kingdom	1,100
Liechtenstein	16	Europe	4,539

⁵ Source: EFAMA Fact Book 2021

⁶ The table shows the number of management companies registered in the countries concerned, except for Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania where the figures refer to the members of the national trade association, 2018 data. For Ireland, the number refers to the number of UCITS Management Companies and AIF Managers. For Slovenia, the number includes subsidiaries of foreign asset management companies. For the United Kingdom, the number is an estimation. Source: EFAMA, November 2020.

Asset managers facilitate and empower significant and sustainable company growth across all Member States. They do so by providing businesses with vital access to new funds to support long-term growth, offering greater stability while creating jobs and giving employees and customers better value and enhanced services.

At the same time, this financing also fuels a range of large and long-term infrastructure projects, such as transport links and the creation of new schools and hospitals throughout Europe.

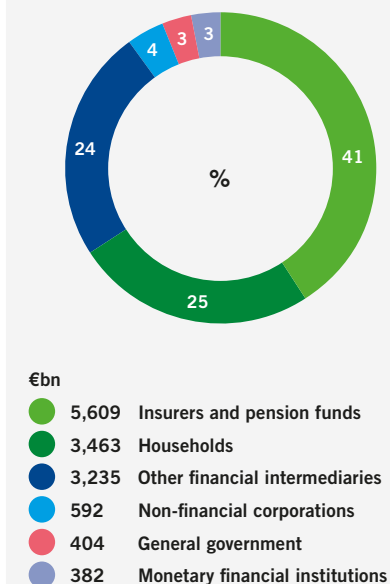
As well as benefiting from significant social improvements, European savers and pensioners also gain financially in the form of returns from capital appreciation and dividends – money that can fund their short, medium, or long-term goals, such as funding retirement or saving for a child's education. Investing can be a better choice than a bank savings account not only for the individual citizen but for society at large.

Not only do asset managers help facilitate frictionless trade throughout Europe, they also fuel global inward investments into the EU and provide opportunities in other parts of the world for European investors.

Indeed, one of the world's leading investment frameworks is managed in Europe and sold worldwide. UCITS are a regulated investment product that provide access for large and small investors to a diversified range of well-regulated investment assets, safe in the knowledge they are well looked after. UCITS is considered a gold standard, facilitating the flow of funds throughout the frictionless borders of the EU single market and beyond, benefiting investment outcomes for EU citizens. In 2020, UCITS recorded net inflows of €466 billion⁷ and accounted for 75% of all collective investments by investors in Europe⁸.

WHO HELD INVESTMENT FUNDS IN EUROPE AT END 2020?

Insurers and pension funds are by far the largest investors in investment funds, followed by households and other financial intermediaries. The five countries with the highest level of fund ownership are Germany, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands and Italy⁹.



⁷ Source: https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/growth-and-investment/investment-funds_en

⁸ Source: <https://www.efama.org/newsroom/news/european-statistics-q4-2020-2020-trends-inflows-ucits-and-aifs-bring-european-fund>

⁹ Source: EFAMA Quarterly Statistical Release, June 2021 No. 85

REINVIGORATING EUROPE'S ECONOMY

By mobilising and harnessing the power of private savings, we can create a robust economy capable of supporting sustainable growth and the diverse needs of an increasingly ageing population.

It is no longer possible, nor expected, that governments alone will finance a long-term economic recovery in Europe. To successfully reshape the world's third-largest economy¹⁰, governments must work in even closer partnership with companies, organisations, and individuals to generate the capital needed to finance our future.

There are multiple challenges in maintaining solid economic growth and productivity while at the same time boosting digitisation and nurturing the innovation required for a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future.

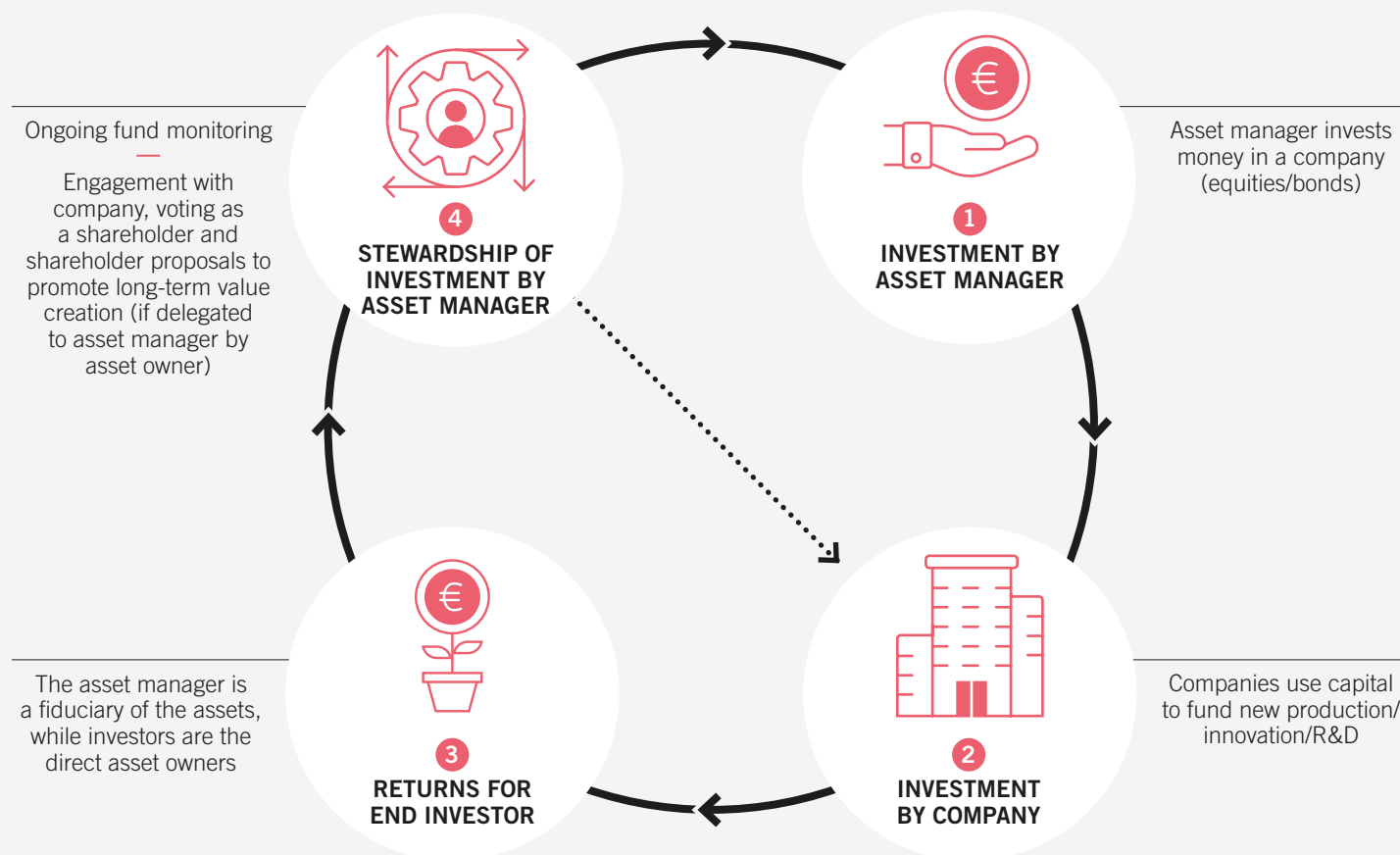
Corporates – and in particular SMEs – will serve to fuel a significant proportion of the economic engine, and they will be facilitated by asset managers who will play a crucial role in mobilising private savings that will help drive the Next Generation EU¹¹.



10 Source: www.thebalance.com, May 2021

11 Source: https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/recovery-plan-europe_en

THE ASSET MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH COMPANIES



REINVIGORATING EUROPE'S ECONOMY

Continued

Capitalising on a diverse investment pool, the equity generated by asset managers will serve as an additional source of much-needed funding ...

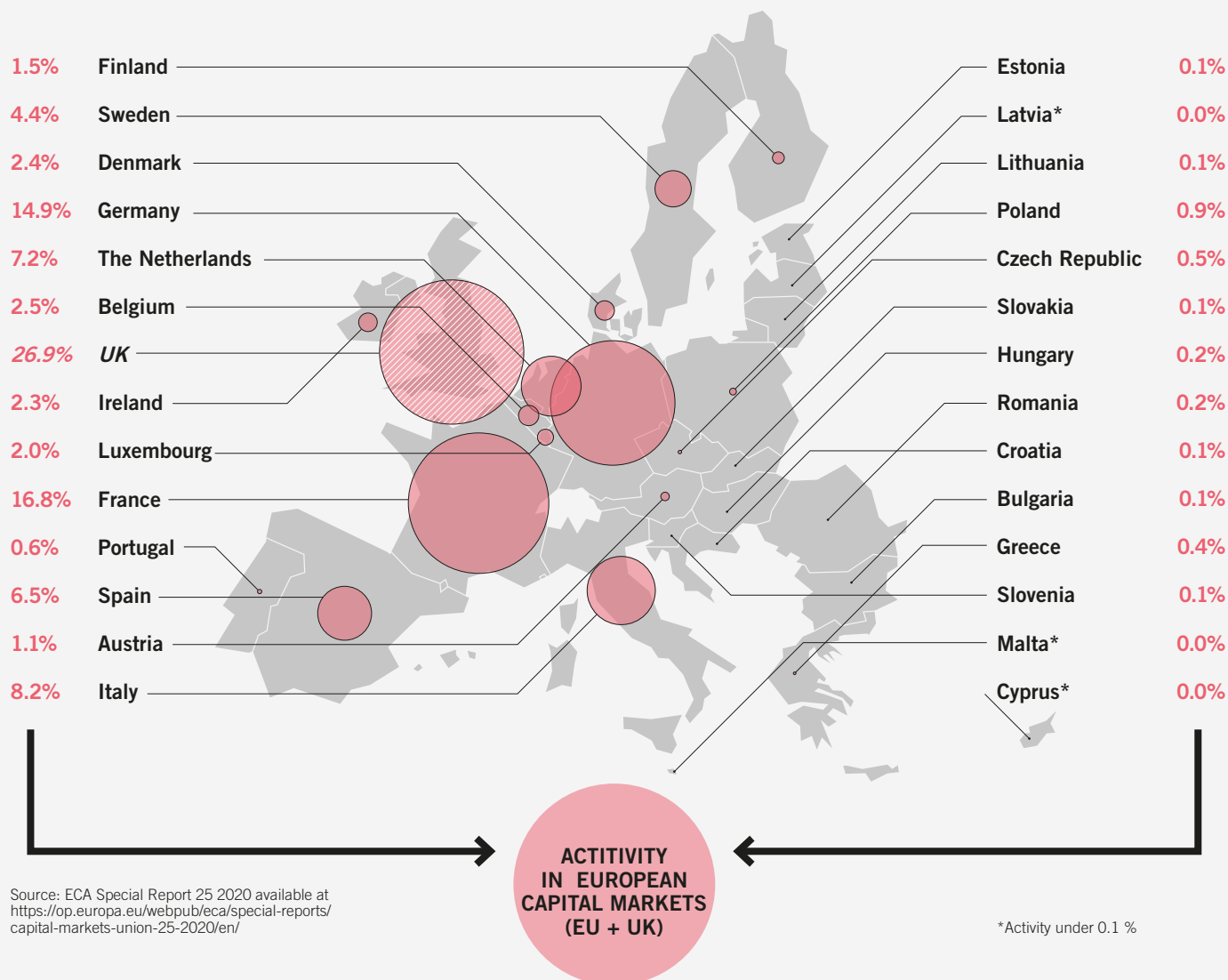
... for companies, supplementing the capital currently available on government and bank balance sheets in addition to supporting the diversification of risks.

There is a growing awareness that the under-development of this function and capital markets in Europe, combined with a dependence on bank and debt finance, will impact the agility and future growth of the European economy. That is why we must engage with individual citizens to help us recover, giving them the tools and the knowledge they need to make informed choices that will support the economy and their own short, medium and long-term needs.

The chart on the right highlights the challenges for the Capital Markets Union (CMU) project following the UK's departure from the EU but it also demonstrates the opportunity and importance for the EU to achieve the CMU. We believe that the CMU will contribute to a more stable financial system that is better equipped to boost growth, create employment, and make Europe even more attractive for foreign investment.

SIZE OF CAPITAL MARKETS BY COUNTRY

Measured by the average share of total activity across 23 different sectors in the three years to 2019 (average) (%)



VISION

OUR ROADMAP FOR RECOVERY

Placing European investors and savers in the driving seat of building the economy will deliver a faster, more resilient route to success.

We believe that an investment-led recovery will provide Europe with a swifter and more resilient return to prosperity than we experienced following the global financial crisis of 2008.

To generate the funding to support this and bolster the Capital Markets Union (CMU), we must empower our citizens to invest. A shift away from the over-reliance on the banking sector provides both the EU and its citizens with an enormous opportunity.

In an evermore open and competitive global economy, Europe must remain at the forefront of innovation and open to flows of knowledge, ideas, capital, and investment with the rest of the world to remain competitive.

By empowering our citizens, we have the potential to place them firmly in the driving seat in our shared journey to a more secure future. Using technology, we can offer people greater access to financial information, services, and products more directly, cheaply and efficiently than before. In doing so, we will help to ensure they are better informed and well-placed to meet their short, medium and long-term goals through careful, well-regulated investment.

Unlocking capital will help to fund the backbone of Europe's economy, supporting essential infrastructure projects and powering more rapid progress in green and digital transitions. At the same time, it will also bring financial benefits to those citizens who have invested in their future in this way.

We believe that, by working together with EU policymakers, we can develop solutions so that Europe can embrace these changes as opportunities to the benefit of European citizens. Europe must remain at the forefront of innovation and be open to flows of knowledge, ideas, capital, and investment.

SPOTLIGHT*

€1 TRILLION
of assets invested
into the EU via Irish
domiciled funds

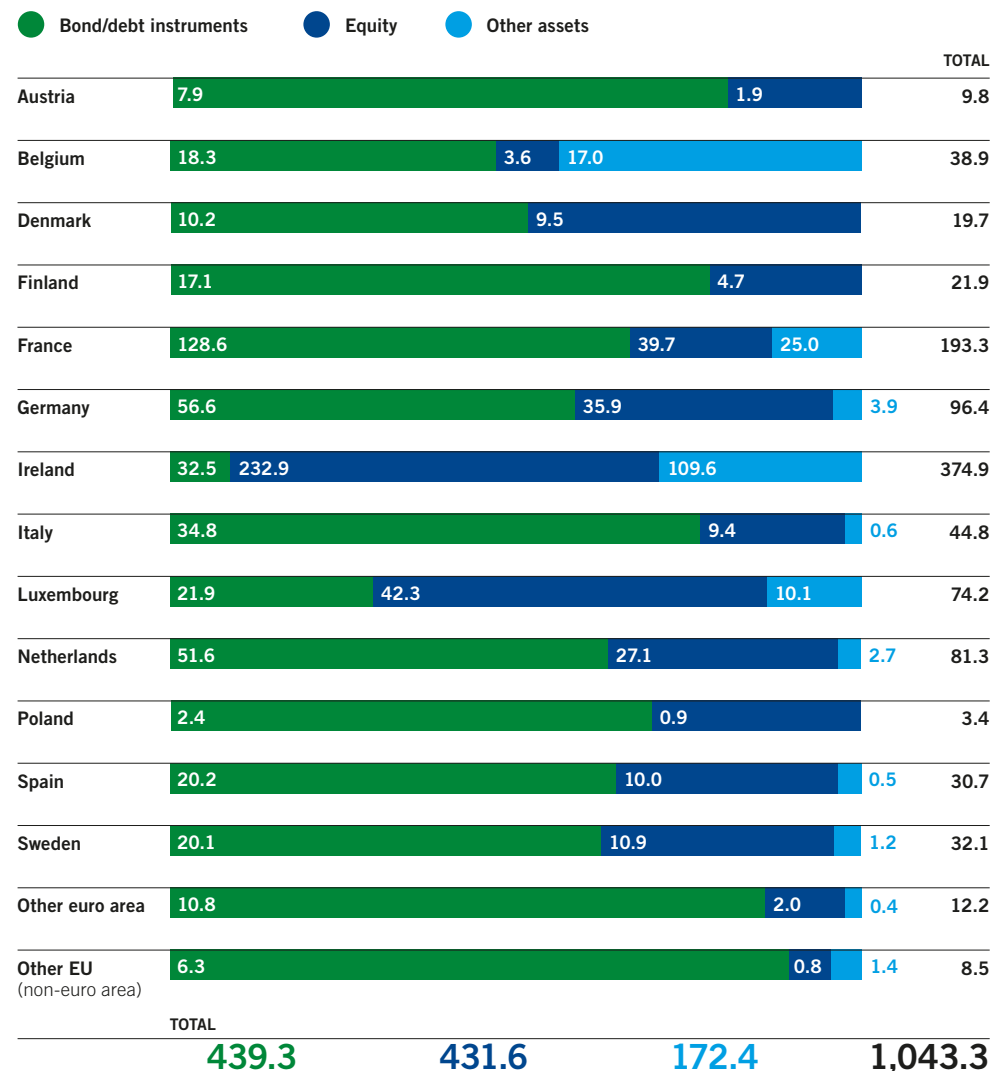
€439 BILLION
invested in EU bond/
debt instruments via
Irish domiciled funds

€172 BILLION
invested in other EU assets
via Irish domiciled funds

€431 BILLION
invested in EU equity
via Irish domiciled
funds

*Source: Central Bank of Ireland (Q1 2021)

Asset holdings by Irish domiciled investment funds – by country (€bn) – Q4 2020*



*Source: Central Bank of Ireland (Q1 2021)

POWERING FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

Improving financial literacy and ensuring access to transparent, reliable advice is key to empowering European citizens to make informed choices.

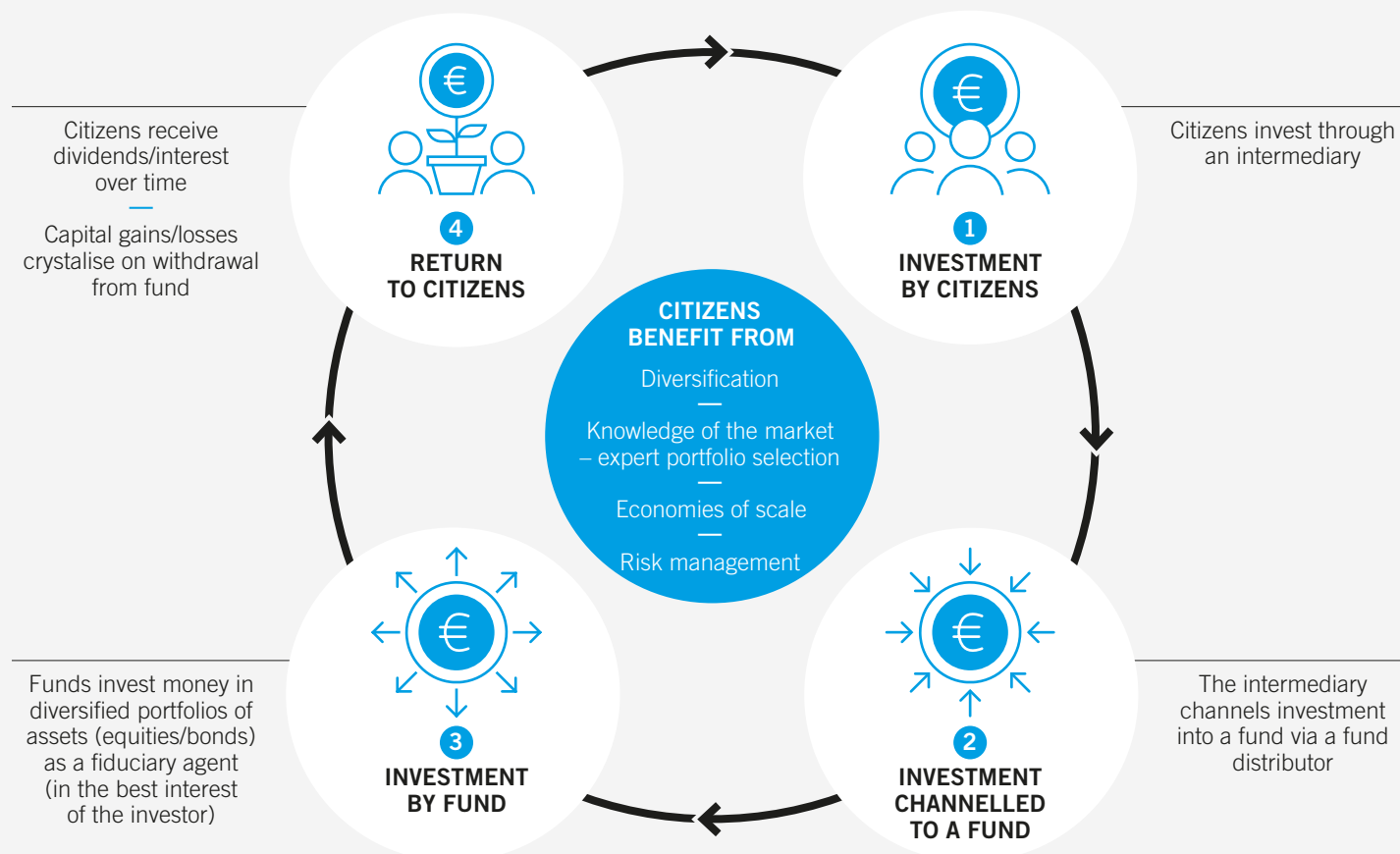
Financial well-being is an increasingly important topic for us all, and not just for investors. It is about how we feel about the control we have over our finances and financial future and our relationship with money in general.

The process of investing in capital markets can be daunting, and its apparent complexity can act as a deterrent. Many of those with savings tend to simply keep them in a bank savings account. These bank deposits tend to offer near-zero returns for savers. In contrast, investment funds have been shown to provide investors with consistently better returns and are particularly important when it comes to planning for longer-term goals.

Only by providing comprehensive financial education from an early age, rather than simply increasing product transparency, can we hope to demystify the process. Research has shown that, as people become more financially literate, they make better saving and borrowing decisions and are more likely to plan for retirement.



THE ASSET MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CITIZENS



POWERING FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

Continued

Improving financial literacy and ensuring access to transparent, reliable advice is key to empowering European citizens to make informed choices about their financial well-being.

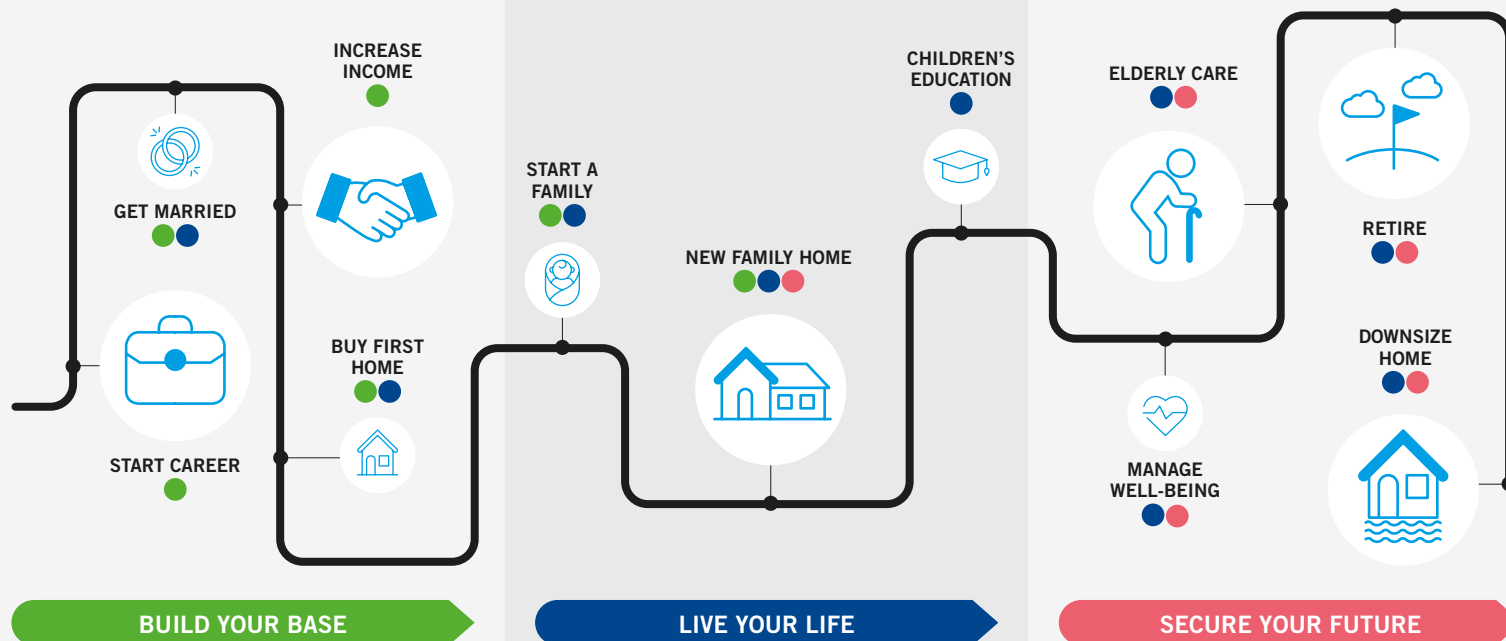
Governments need to work together with industry to build confidence and trust when it comes to investing. We need to effectively empower retail investors and develop an investment culture.

Supported by policymakers and working with our distribution partners and advisors ...

... we believe that we need to rethink the way we communicate with our clients, leveraging advances in digital technologies and new ideas from behavioural science ...

... so that we can provide reliable and meaningful investor information, presented in an understandable format, and based on a complete understanding of consumers' needs and behaviours. This information should complement high-quality advice and better financial literacy, ensuring investors make informed investment choices, fully understanding the different products available and the important balance between risk and reward.

A TYPICAL INVESTOR JOURNEY



WE ARE ALL INVESTORS

You don't have to be on the rich list to be an investor. Individuals, or retail investors, can also invest a portion of their income or wealth in regulated investment fund products that benefit from solid investor protection rules and regulatory supervision. Here are a few examples of how this typically works.

Pension plans

Marek works at a company in Kraków that provides a company pension plan and contributes 5% of his salary to his pension every month. While he can choose which funds to invest in, he opted to leave the investment in the default life cycle fund. So, when the time comes, he can draw down income from his pension to fund his retirement and supplement any state pension income.

Investment advice

Thanks to money from an inheritance, Eva and Tony recently renovated their home in Madrid, where they live with their two teenage daughters. With the money left over, they took advice from their bank's investment adviser to create a fund to support their children. After being provided with a range of investment products matching their needs, they now have a growing fund to support a more secure future.

Digital empowerment

With a new job and a rented apartment in Stockholm, 27-year-old Sofia is planning for her future. To enjoy life in the Swedish capital and buy the house she wants, she knows she needs to make every cent count. That's why, after extensive research online about whether to invest her money or simply open a savings account, and after lots of comparisons between a range of offers and products from companies online, she decided to invest in an Exchange Traded Fund that will grow her savings.

VISION

DEMOCRATISING FINANCE

Empowering personal financial know-how and providing greater access to finance will create overall economic resilience and well-being.

Our vision is of a Europe where citizens have access to investment opportunities and products which offer value and help them obtain a secure financial future, particularly in retirement. We are committed to improving financial well-being for all, helping to empower citizens and give them greater security and control of their money.

Solutions such as digital advice and innovative ways of communicating can help support access to simple, understandable advice and information at the touch of a button, putting investors in the driving seat and stimulating competition in distribution to make it more efficient.

Importantly, better use of technology will allow citizens to have a comprehensive and real time overview of their savings and investments, moving away from static disclosures.

EU investors in Irish domiciled funds*

MEMBER STATE	TOTAL AMOUNT €MN
Ireland	257,534
Luxembourg	248,025
Netherlands	213,574
Italy	98,331
Germany	74,945
Spain	42,024
Belgium	36,694
Finland	36,161
France	35,594
Sweden	34,024
Denmark	7,391
Austria	3,510
Malta	1,042
Greece	968
Czech Republic	876
Cyprus	624
Portugal	605
Other euro area	570
Poland	424
Other EU (non-euro area)	211
Total	1,093,127

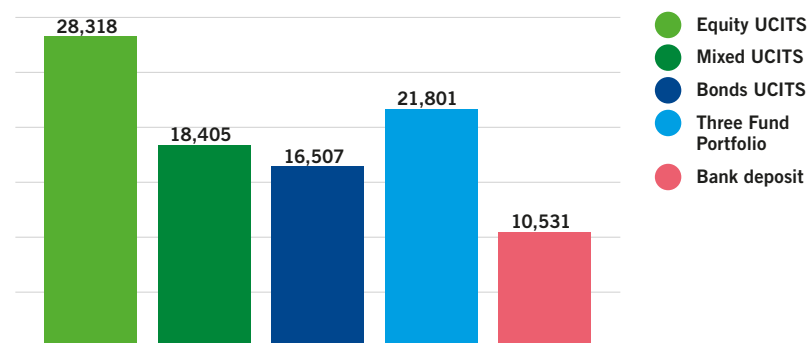
*Source: Central Bank of Ireland (Q1 2021)

LONG-TERM BENEFITS OF INVESTING IN FUNDS

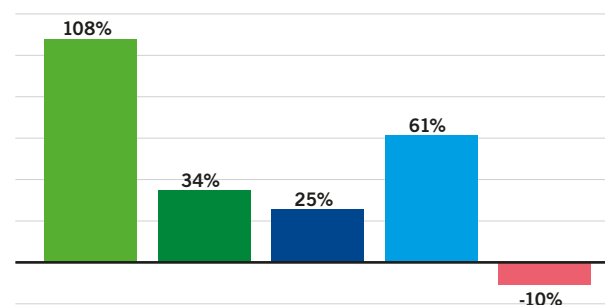
Compared over a 10-year time horizon ending in 2019, investment in capital markets through UCITS funds generates greater returns than cash left in bank deposits (top graph). This still remains true when taking into account the impact of costs and inflation (bottom graph).†

Specifically the below charts compare performance of UCITS invested in equity, UCITS invested in bonds, UCITS invested in a mixed portfolio, a hypothetical retail fund portfolio (40% equity, 30% bond, 30% mixed) and a bank deposit.†

Value of a ten-year investment of €10,000 (2010-2019)†



Net performance in real terms of a ten-year investment of €10,000 (2010-2019)†



†Source: EFAMA Market Insights, Issue #5, July 2021

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY

By carefully considering environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors we can forge a future that benefits European investors and society as a whole.

Citizens are increasingly conscious of the consequences that their financial decisions can have, not only for themselves but also on the environment and for society. The power of active engagement by investors to promote ESG issues is growing. The choices that savers make send a strong signal to companies about how they should behave. The EU's sustainable finance framework is setting the standard and driving changes which the Irish investment funds and asset management industry is responding to and engaged on.

We are committed to supporting sustainable finance from a range of perspectives and are strongly engaged with policymakers in the development of the EU's sustainable finance agenda. To support this, we are helping to develop a National Sustainable Finance Roadmap to guide Irish green and sustainable finance activities in the context of the European Green Deal and the Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy.

We are working closely with Sustainable Finance Ireland, Ireland's national platform working to advance the sustainable finance agenda at home and abroad. The National Sustainable Finance Roadmap will address barriers and opportunities to sustainable finance. It aligns public and private finance activities with a low carbon, socially responsible future.

More and more people want to put their money to work in ways that will deliver a positive environmental and societal impact. The new generation of younger investors, in particular, place ESG priorities at the heart of their decision-making and will want this reflected in their investment choices.

Consequently, asset managers are developing new investment products that follow specific sustainable or responsible investment strategies. They also regularly engage with the companies they invest in on ESG topics.

We believe that making responsible investment mainstream, considering ESG issues, and active ownership and engagement by shareholders should be the ultimate goal.



CLIMATE TRANSITION

A successful transition to a low-carbon economy that underpins the EU's net-zero goal requires a new era of blended finance, harnessing both public investment and private capital. We can more easily secure the €180 billion funding gap to achieve our 2030 energy and climate goals by working together. This will allow us to effectively prioritise and tackle the challenges ahead while maximising the opportunities to deliver the ESG objectives underpinning the Green Deal.

ESG risks are not only societal risks but also investment risks and need to be treated as such as part of sound risk management practices. Asset managers can play an important supporting role in the transition by ensuring that these risks are identified and managed, using investments to drive action on sustainability.

VISION

EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

SPOTLIGHT

IRELAND'S LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

- **1,023 ESG Funds** as defined under the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.¹²
- **ESG Bonds Listed** in Ireland for 2020 surpassed **€28 billion** in cumulative issuance.¹³
- Ireland was one of the first EU Member States to issue **Sovereign Green Bonds** which now stand at **€6.1 billion**.¹²

INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE SKILLS

- Sustainable Finance Skillnet is a national training network, supported by the Irish Government, to develop skills and leadership capacity to advance ESG best practice across Ireland's financial services sector. In 2020, Sustainable Finance Skillnet supported the development of Europe's first Taxonomy training course for asset managers.
- Further training initiatives with a focus on mainstreaming sustainable finance are planned under Ireland's Sustainable Finance Roadmap.

We must champion a clear and effective universal framework on sustainable finance that builds on the foundations of the EU Action Plan and serves as a global benchmark.

The EU framework for sustainable finance has rapidly evolved, setting the standard for disclosures relating to sustainability, providing new ESG product categories, and creating a taxonomy of economically sustainable activities to guide investment. It is critical to ensure an orderly implementation of the detailed regulatory requirements with the right sequencing that provides clarity and is underpinned by the availability of robust data to ensure credibility.

We support efforts under the EU's renewed strategy to enhance sustainability reporting and standardisation, as reliable, comparable ESG data form the bedrock of ESG decision-making and of any sustainable finance regime. We also support efforts to further advance the practical application of the EU Taxonomy. By effectively operationalising the EU sustainable finance framework, European success can serve as an example internationally.

We fully support the EU's ambition to lead in this area and on the development of a global framework for sustainable finance. Like all efforts on sustainability, complete success will only come through global efforts and a universal framework on sustainable finance. Leveraging international best practices and building upon this to bring about international convergence is key.

An effective sustainable finance framework built on common sustainability reporting standards will facilitate investor choice, comparison, and accountability across borders and help to channel sustainable investment. Predictability on the classification of sustainable investment is also required.

This means that active choices need to occur at all levels of the value chain, from the retail investor and asset managers up to the company boards. This is not a quick and easy thing to put in place. We must carefully consider how the different pieces fit together to deliver this overarching goal and meaningful change.



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON SUSTAINABILITY

Europe is recognised as a global leader in promoting sustainable finance, offering international investors a gold standard for ESG investing and disclosure. With its extensive thought leadership and expertise in the area, Europe can play a vital role in building an international framework on sustainable finance. As the Irish investment funds and asset management industry, we fully support a coherent international framework that reflects Europe's Green Deal objectives.

¹² Source: Irish Funds survey based on SFDR offering document filings to the Central Bank of Ireland as of 10 March 2021

¹³ Source: Sustainable Finance Ireland

IRELAND: THE FACTS

Discover why Ireland is regarded as a key strategic location by the world's leading investors.

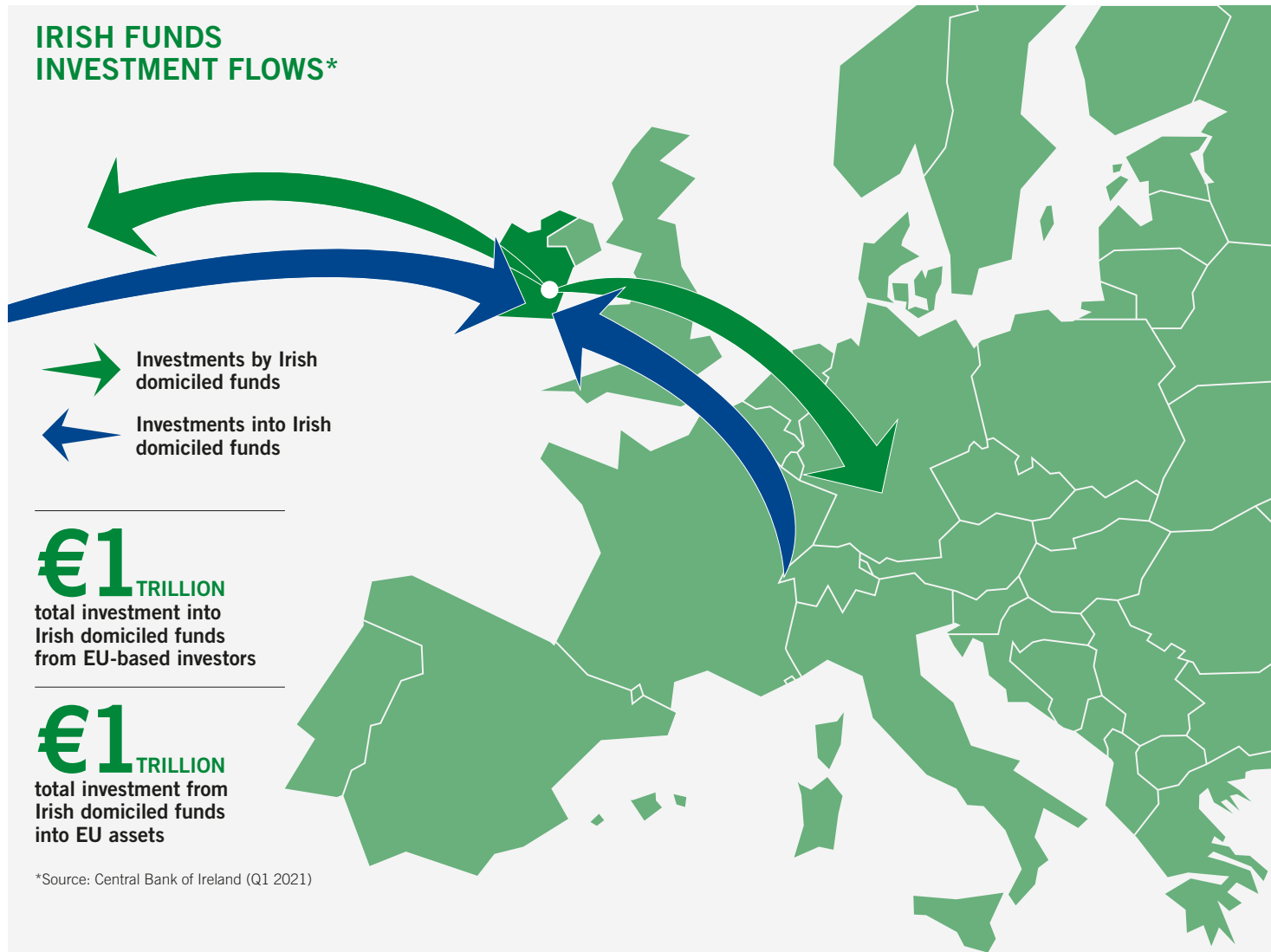
Ireland is consistently ranked as one of the top countries in the world in which to do business and is home to a vibrant financial services ecosystem that supports EU and global investors. The country has a richly deserved international reputation for its robust, transparent, and effective regulatory framework. As a result, over the past three decades, Ireland has established itself as a global leader in investment funds and asset management, offering investors a diverse range of fund structures and investment strategies.

Figures from the Central Bank of Ireland show that today there is €3.5 trillion invested in Irish domiciled funds – an all-time high.¹⁴

Investors are attracted by the country's regulatory excellence, international reach, and competitiveness. But they are also drawn by the innovative products and technology the sector offers. The Irish funds industry recognises that technology is key to enabling more frictionless and fast-moving investments that ultimately offer greater benefits to EU citizens, including more transparency and greater security. With a total automation rate of almost 95%, Ireland is leading the drive for greater efficiencies through fund processing standardisation.



¹⁴ Source: Central Bank of Ireland (Q1 2021)



IRELAND: THE FACTS

Continued

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q Do investors choose Ireland to avoid tax in their Member State?

A No. Investors pay tax on their investment income in the country in which they reside when they receive it.

Irish domiciled funds are not subject to corporation tax at the fund level. Instead, the income and gains are taxed at the level of the investor in their home jurisdiction. There is no Irish tax on income and gains derived from their investments and they are not subject to any Irish tax on their net asset value. There are additionally no net asset, transfer or capital taxes on the issue, transfer or redemption of units owned by non-Irish resident investors. Other than in respect of certain funds which hold interests in Irish real estate (or particular types of Irish real estate-related assets), non-Irish investors are not subject to Irish tax on their investment and do not incur any withholding taxes on payments from the fund.

Q Does the Irish regulator prioritise the protection of Irish citizens over other EU investors?

A No. The Central Bank of Ireland's (CBI) remit is to protect investors, regardless of whether they are domestic or international. Moreover, the CBI discharges its statutory role on investor protection irrespective of where the investor is located. It regulates financial conduct to ensure that the best interests of consumers and investors are protected and that markets operate in a fair, orderly and transparent manner. This is linked

to the CBI mandate on financial stability, which requires the authority to ensure that systemic risks are addressed and mitigated to safeguard the functioning of the financial system and the broader economy. This also ensures that firms under the CBI's oversight are resilient from an operational perspective and are prepared for times of market stress and that cross-border activities are safe and monitored through constant dialogue with regulators across Europe and the globe. Ultimately, this will reflect on financial stability and certainty at the level of investors, wherever they are located.

Q Does Ireland have a lighter regulatory regime than other European jurisdictions?

A No. The foundation of the Irish regulatory regime comes from EU Regulation/Directives as transposed into Irish law, with additional local regulatory requirements overlaid on the relevant EU legislation, often to provide additional instruction/guidance to both firms operating within the jurisdiction and investors. For example, in addition to requirements that derived from the UCITS and AIFM Directives the CBI has developed and implemented Fund Management Companies – Guidance¹⁵ which provides significant instruction to Management Companies established within the jurisdiction and supplements and supports both the UCITS and AIFM Directives. The CBI inspects and supervises firms' application and adherence to such Guidance.

With the introduction of the Investment Limited Partnerships (Amendment) Act 2020, which came into force in February 2021, Ireland has enhanced its reputation as a leading jurisdiction globally for operating investment funds in assets such as real estate, private equity, energy, infrastructure, sustainable finance, credit and loan origination. This domestic legislation lays a foundation for firms wishing to establish such fund structures in Ireland and many of the firms managing such structures will also be regulated

and supervised under MiFID or AIFMD and subject to the CBI's Guidance for Closed-ended Qualifying Investor Alternative Investment Fund¹⁶.

Ireland's robust and competent regulatory environment attracts financial services companies from across the EU seeking stability and certainty and robust investor protections.

Q What has changed in the Irish asset management industry since Brexit?

A There have been significant changes to the asset management industry across the EU and in Ireland since the UK referendum. Already a centre of excellence for the EU asset management industry, Ireland's proximity to the EU and being a native English-speaking country makes it a well placed alternative to the UK. In particular, the past three years have seen a substantial increase in the number of asset managers setting up in Ireland. However, this increase caused a shift in substance requirements for new entities authorised after July 2018 by the CBI and generally more scrutiny from EU authorities on the authorisation policies of EU Member States. This, in turn, has led to demands for additional staff resulting in an increase of those employed specifically in asset/fund management from 2,458 in 2018 to 3,604 in 2020. Overall, the investment funds and asset management industry in Ireland directly employs in excess of 17,000.¹⁷ Despite this changing landscape, the UK remains a significant market in terms of UK investors investing in Irish and EU funds, which helps grow the EU and global economy.

¹⁵ Source: <https://www.centralbank.ie/docs/default-source/regulation/industry-market-sectors/funds/ucits/guidance/fund-mancos-guidance.pdf>

¹⁶ Source: <https://www.centralbank.ie/docs/default-source/regulation/industry-market-sectors/funds/aifs/guidance/qiaif-guidance.pdf?sfvrsn=6>

¹⁷ Source: Economic Assessment of the Funds & Asset Management Industry on the Irish Economy, Indecon, 2021

SPOTLIGHT

Ireland is a leading European domicile for Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). Irish domiciled ETFs represent approximately

65%

of the total European ETF market. (Source: EFAMA International Statistical Release, Q3 2020)

75%

of the assets of Irish domiciled funds are held in UCITS. Irish UCITS are distributed in over 90 countries worldwide. (Source: CBI, Dec 2020)

Net assets in Irish domiciled funds rose to

€3.5 TRILLION

in Q1 2021, with the highest level of net sales in Europe. (Source: CBI Q1 2021)

FOR 30 YEARS

Ireland has been a leading domicile for internationally distributed investment funds

- 1989 – Launch of the first Irish UCITS fund
- 1990 – First European country to launch a regulated Alternative Investment Fund
- 1991 – First Money Market Fund (MMF) launched in Ireland
- 2000 – Launch of the first European Exchange Traded Fund (ETF)
- 2013 – First EU Member State to fully implement the AIFMD and have a fully authorised AIFM
- 2021 – Irish Funds celebrates its 30th anniversary

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