# IMMFA Update: MMFs in Europe

Crane European Money Fund Symposium, Dublin Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Kim Hochfeld, Chair Veronica Iommi, Secretary General



### **IMMFA Update - Agenda**

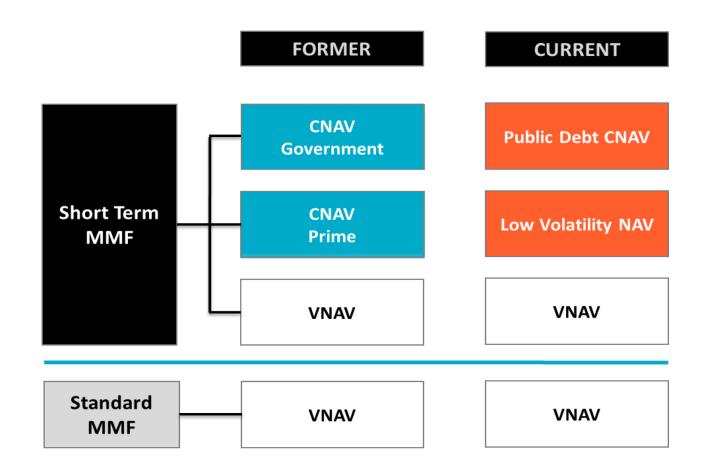
- European money fund landscape today
- SWOT analysis: taking the industry's temperature
- What next for IMMFA?



# European Money Fund Landscape Today



#### **European Money Market Fund Product Range**



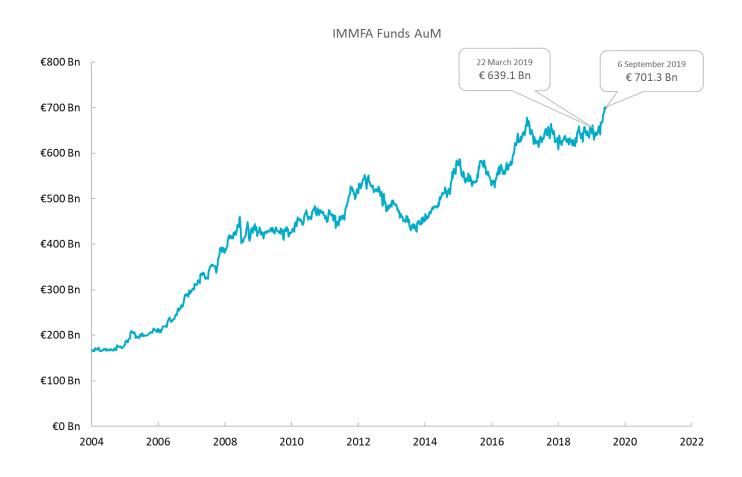


#### **IMMFA MMFs - MMFR Conversions**





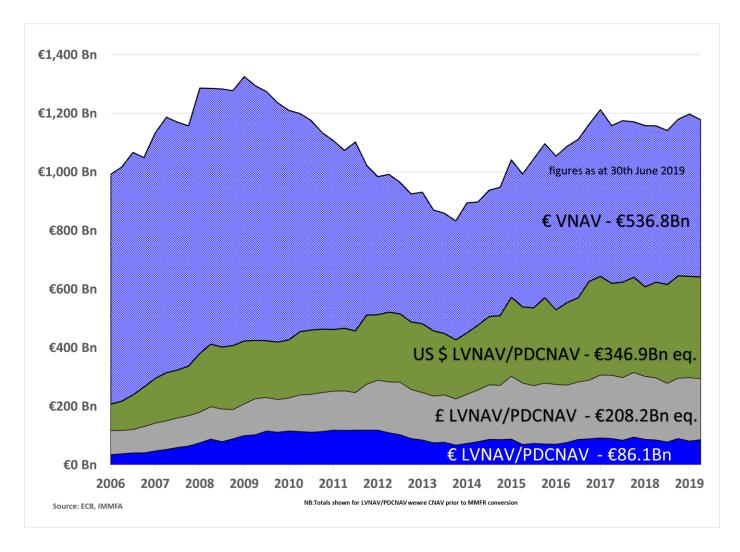
# **Product Appetite - Increased Since Conversion**



Source: IMMFA

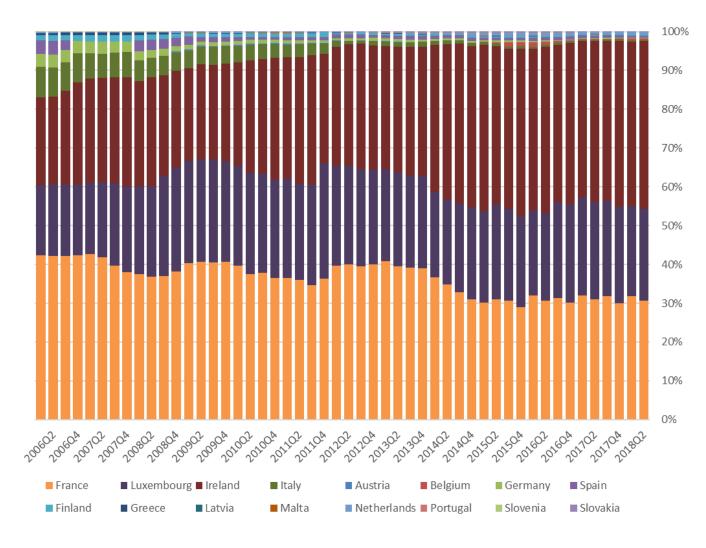


## MMFs in Europe – Total Assets Managed





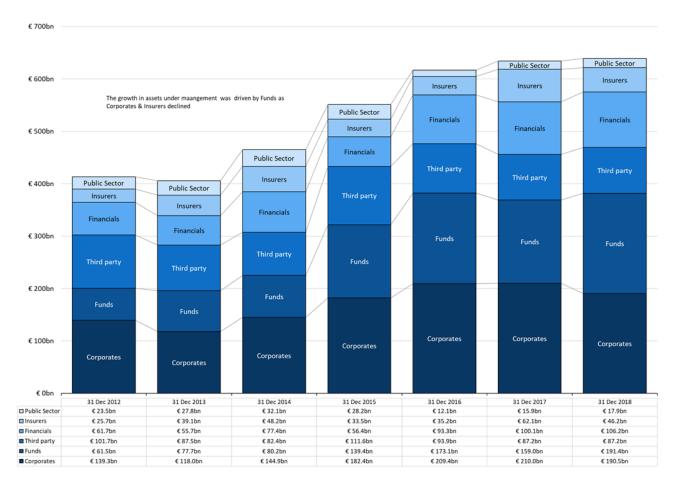
## All European MMFs, by domicile



source: ECB

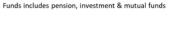


#### **Investors in IMMFA MMFs**



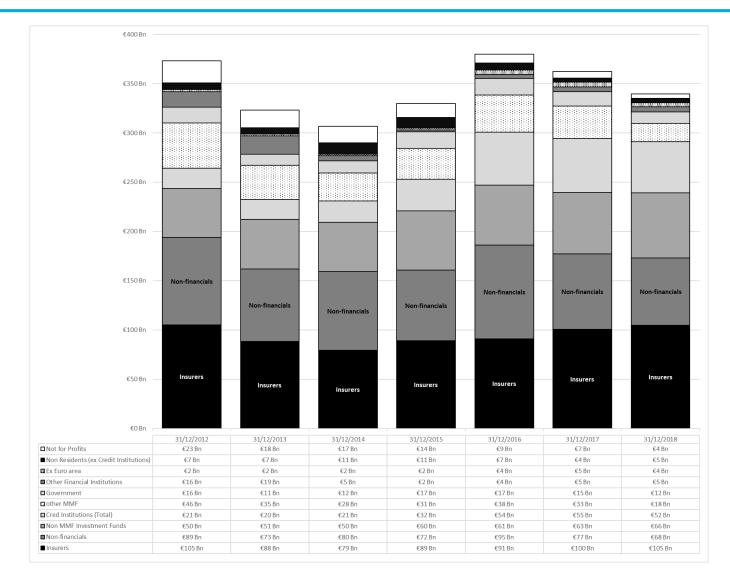
Note: Public Sector includes government bodies and NGO's, charities & universities;

Financials includes banks & investment firms
Third party includes sales platforms & other distributors & aggregators





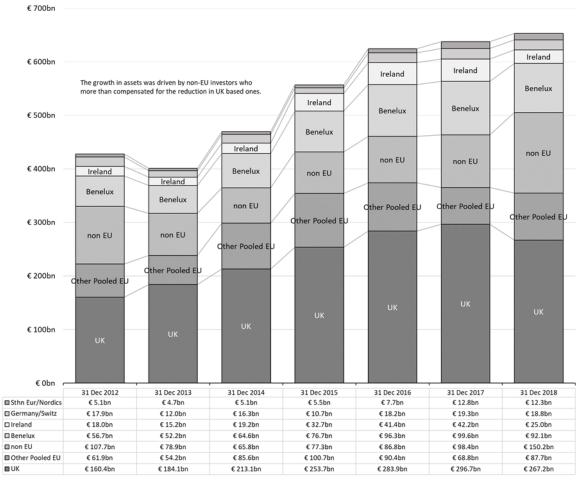
# French VNAV MMFs – By Investor Type





## **IMMFA MMFs – by Investor Location**

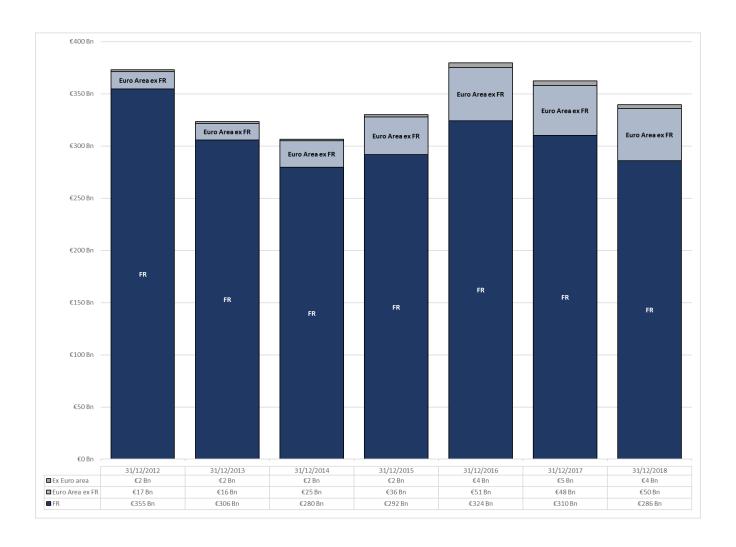
#### IMMFA Money Market Funds - by investor location (in EUR equivalent)



Note - Southern Europe incorporates Spain, Italy & France; Nordics incorporates Norway & Sweden.



# French VNAV MMFs – by Investor Location





# **SWOT** analysis



#### **Strengths**

- Strong and consistent growth of assets
- Good product acceptance/reliance amongst investors
- Strong credit and risk management very important to investors
- Despite negative rates in EUR, MMF AUM has grown
- Basel 3 pressures continue to make MMFs an attractive investment option
- In sterling, MMF have largely taken over role of banks in managing short term liquidity, intermediating for corporates



#### Weaknesses

- Negative yields in euro (and maybe GBP)
- Fee compression allied with increased regulatory compliance costs
- Lack of regulatory clarity on cash equivalence outside US & France
- Inability to offer distributing share classes in €, because of negative yields



#### **Opportunities**

- Regulation: standardisation embeds product, expected asset growth
- Continuing impact of Basel 3 provisions on banks and CMU (capital market union) initiative opens new markets for MMF increases attractiveness of MMF
- Broader product offering for investors, including VNAV
- Increasing acceptance in other markets, including Asia, that MMF product embodies best practice
- Brexit UK regime may provide more attractive MMF for ex-EU distribution
- ESG products are now launching
- Technology and disintermediation



#### **Threats**

- Low rate environment
- Cost of holding short dated cash placed by investors
- ETFs & passive strategies
- Bank balance sheet appetite can make bank deposits and/or repo more attractive than MMFs
- Brexit
- MMF Regulation 5 year review



# What Next for IMMFA?



"May you have the hindsight to know where you've been,
the foresight to know where you are going,
and the insight to know when you have gone too far"

- Traditional Irish Proverb



#### **IMMFA's Mission**

- The Institutional Money Market Funds Association (IMMFA) is the only trade association in Europe dedicated to Money Market Funds
- Our core objective is to promote and support development and integrity of the money market fund industry
  - > Informing and influencing policy makers regarding money market fund issues
  - Educating investors about money market funds
  - Providing timely date on members' funds



#### **Current Priorities**

- Promote growth of the industry
- Investor education
- Anticipate and prepare for regulatory developments
- Position ourselves with the new Commission
- Build new/enhance existing relationships at an EU and individual country level
- Develop closer collaboration with other relevant trade associations



#### **Governance Structure**

- Board
- Secretariat
- Committees and Working Groups:
  - > Investment Committee
  - Regulatory Affairs Working Group
  - Collateral & Client Money Working Group
  - Investor Education Working Group
  - Brexit Working Group
  - > IRIS Working Group



# **Concluding points**



#### **Concluding Points**

- EU MMF Regulation has brought greater transparency and consistency for investors
- Funds under management are growing
- IMMFA has strong member engagement and participation
- Priority now to prepare for the 5 year review

"You have to be fast on your feet and adaptive, or else a strategy is useless"

Charles de Gaulle



# **Questions?**



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