



## Where sustainable finance stands today

Introduction to afternoon program of SSF Members' Assembly, 17 June 2015

Sabine Döbeli, Kelly Hess, Jean Laville, Alberto Stival, Swiss Sustainable Finance



- SSF key figures
- International trends
- Sustainable finance in Switzerland
- Three thesis on Swiss sustainable finance



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### **Key figures SFF Network\***

### SSF represents strong workforce

	Employees	% of total
Employees Global	180′300	
Employees CH	89′457	50 %
Employees with direct SRI responsibilities	1'463	1%

#### Considerable share of sustainable assets

	CHF	% of total
Total AuM	6'615 Bn	
Sustainable AuM	707 Bn	11 %

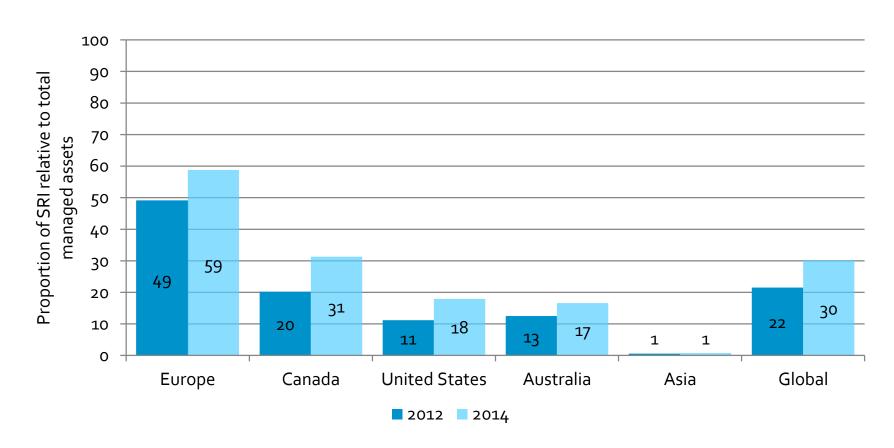
<sup>\*</sup> Values are based on 83 members an partners as of end 2014, based on 53 feedbacks and further estimates (+/- 5%).



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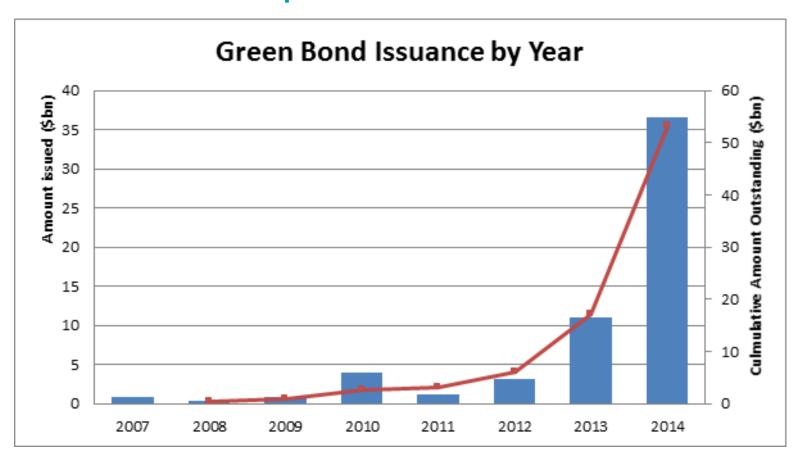
### Global Sustainable Investments – No longer a niche?



Source: GSIA



### **Green Bonds: an impressive rise**





# Stranded Assets – Wave of institutional investors announcing

action 2014/2015

- Axa Group
- Norwegian Government Pension Fund
- KLP Group
- University of Glasgow
- The Rockefeller Brothers
- World Council of Churches
- Oxford City Council
- Stanford University
- Etc.

### Glasgow Divests... This Changes Everything

Louise Hazan October 8, 2014



The University of Glasgow has become the first university in Europe to divest from the fossil fuel industry. After a year of student campaigning the University Court has voted today to begin divesting its entire £129 million endowment from fossil fuels. This is a major victory for the UK and Europe's rapidly growing fossil fuel divestment movement.



# Norway fund could trigger wave of large fossil fuel divestments, say experts

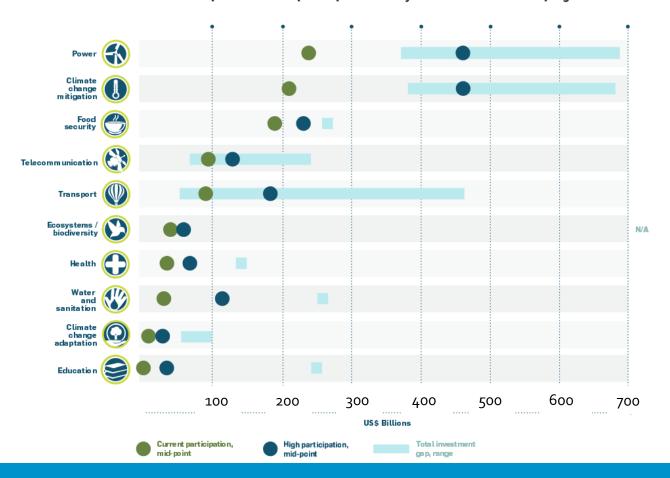
Other investors are likely to follow Norwegian fund's move out of coal-based investments, due to its size as the world's largest sovereign wealth fund





### UN calls for private sector involvement to finance development

Total investment needs and private sector participation in key SDG sectors in developing countries

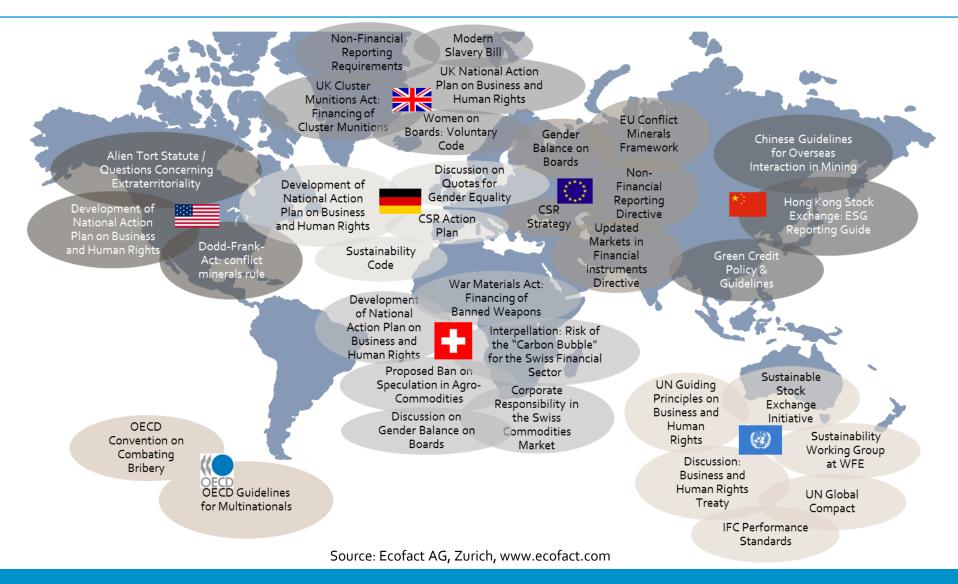


5-7 trillion USD per year to achieve SDGs

Source: UNGC and UNCTAD



# CSR regulation relevant for finance is evolving rapidly (as illustrated by UBS/Ecofact Policy Outlook tool)

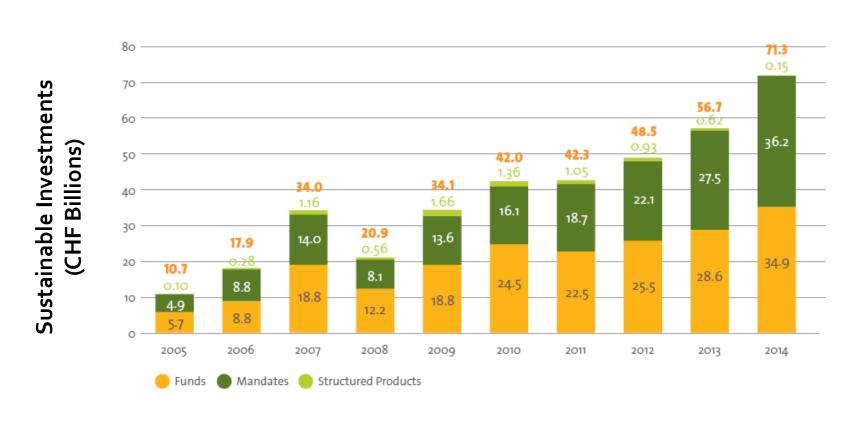




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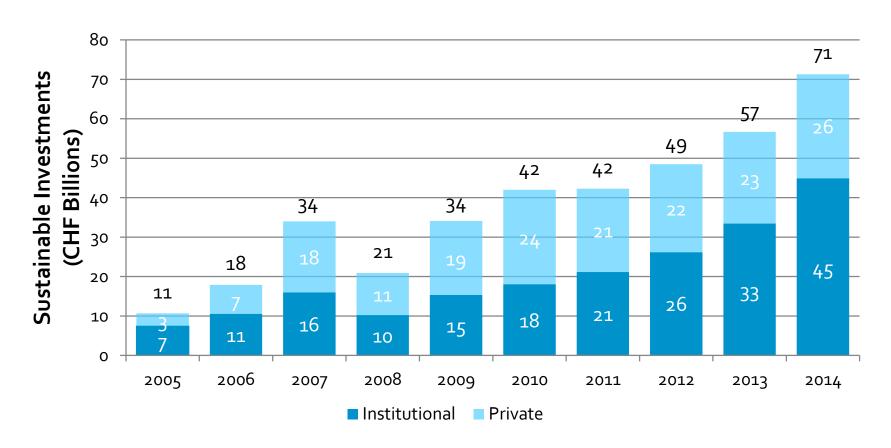
### Sustainable Investments with longterm double-digit growth



Source: FNG 2015



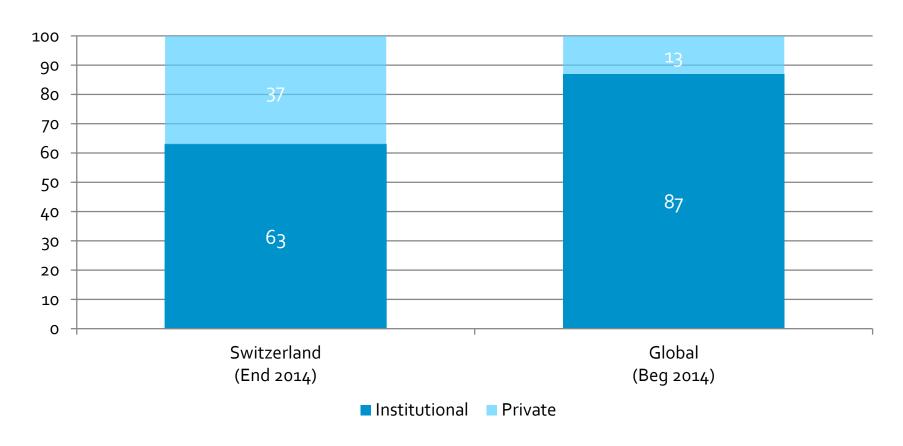
### Share of institutional investors is rising...



Source: FNG and OnValues



### ...yet low compared to international share of institutionals



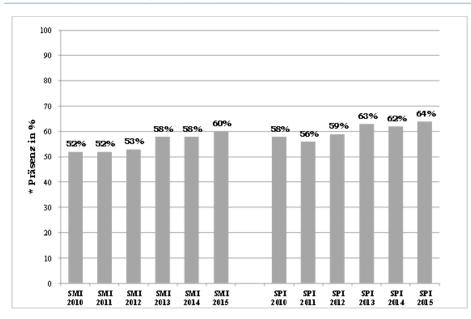
Source: FNG and GSIA



# How has Minder influenced the Swiss market? Summarizing the General Assembly season 2015

Exercise of voting rights increased to 64%

#### Weitere Verbesserung: Steigende GV-Präsenz



Source: Z rating

#### Most Important

- All but 2 SMI firms have incorporated the demands of the Minder initiative in their articles of incorporation
- The most important point of contention remains the prior vote on variable Remuneration components
- The draft of the company law reform is in some respects more stringent than current requirements designed

Source: FuW



### Romandie: SFG initiated formats that are here to stay

- Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG): Focus on local network and innovation
  - Network: 250 individual members, 22 institutional sponsors
  - Education: 4 "Midis de la Finance", HEG DAS module in Sustainable Finance
  - Publication: 10 Finance Innovations
  - Project: Social Stock Exchange
- Events: facing growing interest
  - 5th Geneva Forum for Sustainable Investment (300 Attendees)
    - Dedicated to promotion of investment solutions (Organisers: Voxia, Conser)
  - 2nd Geneva Summit on Sustainable Finance (350 Attendees)
    - Dedicated to SF academic research (Organisers: GFRI, UNI-GE, SFG)
    - Next edition: 22 March 2016



### Asset owners: some progress in Romandie

- Public pension funds: The legislation push
  - Loi sur la Caisse de Pension Etat de Genève, 2013, Art 4 But:
    - <sup>3</sup> Son activité s'inscrit dans la perspective du développement durable et des investissements responsables.
  - Loi sur la Caisse de Pension Etat de Vaud, 2014, Art 17 Compétences CA:
    - <sup>2</sup> Il définit dans un document sa stratégie en matière de développement durable et d'investissements responsables.
- Foundations: Recent move towards Mission Related Investment (MRI)
  - 2015 study\* on foundations (focus on Romandie)
    - 11% apply MRI approach to asset management
    - 40% consider initiating or expanding MRI

<sup>\* «</sup> A l'ère de la transparence, quelles conséquences sur la gestion du patrimoine des fondations », 2015, Wise & Conser, sponsor: Julius Baer

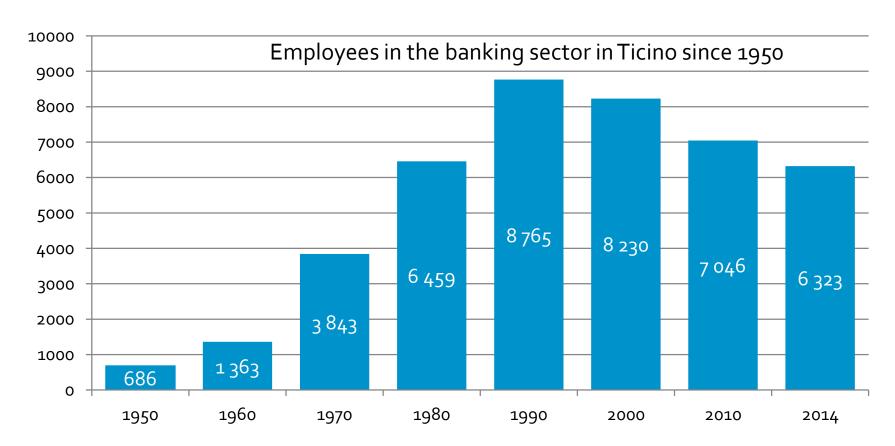


### Ticino: sustainable finance is getting started – SSF as catalyser

- 3 members: BSI SA, Centro di Studi Bancari, Valeur Investments
- Ticino workgroup: Marco Campana (Patrimony1873), Alida Carcano (Valeur), Helen T. Moggi (CSB), Stefano Montobbio and Marco Fassora (BSI), Stefano Sergi (BancaStato), Alberto Stival (SSF)
- First event planned for September
  - Confirmed speakers: Laura Vigano University of Bergamo, Andrea Pedretti/Gianluca Ambrosetti - Airlight Energy
  - Moderator: Ferruccio De Bortoli
- Contacts with local media: newspapers, radio, tv



### Sustainable finance as a new opportunity?



Source: ABT e Ufficio cantonale del lavoro



### **Emerging Swiss laws, regulations standards**

Development of National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

War Materials Act: Financing of Banned Weapons

Proposed Ban on Speculation in Agro-Commodities



Interpellation: Risk of the "Carbon Bubble" for the Swiss Financial Sector

Discussion on Gender Balance on Boards

Corporate
Responsibility in
the Swiss
Commodities
Market

Source: Ecofact AG, Zurich, www.ecofact.com



### **UNEP Inquiry: Swiss recommendations for action**

# Public actions and framework conditions

- Stable political environments with long-term regulatory certainty encourage investors to commit to long-term investments
- Provide effective tax incentive schemes for sustainable investments
- Create frameworks for pension funds to invest allowing for long-term investments in green infrastructure

# Private action, self-regulation and incentives

- Systematic integration of ESG factors in all financial decisions (as a reaction to the increasing client demand)
- Client-focused product offerings and active advisory on sustainable finance require the training of relationship managers
- Reorientation of financial players' incentive structures by aligning them with a longer time-horizon

### Valuing true costs

- Comparable and reliable data as a basis for ESG integration through promotion and improvement of existing frameworks
- Integration of sustainable finance in education and training on all levels and promotion of academic research in this field



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### Three thesis on Swiss sustainable finance

- 1. Sustainability brings new ways to enhance private wealth management
  - Innovation and longterm view complement existing Swiss strengths (quality and stability) for the benefit of clients
- 2. No Swiss centre for global asset management without broad ESG integration
  - Large asset owners take it for granted
  - Regulators are getting active
- 3. Multi-specialist offerings as export products
  - Sustainable investment services/research
  - Innovative satellites (thematic funds, impact investing)
  - Philanthropy/foundation services



## Thank you for your attention!

