

Trust must be earned



Investors in European ETFs have the benefit of highly regulated investments, under the strict UCITS framework<sup>1</sup>, the purpose of which is to protect investors' interests.

### What is UCITS?

across the European

Union (EU).

UCITS is a European regulatory framework which has two core objectives:



sold across the region under a

European passport.

UCITS offers robust regulation for all funds under this umbrella in Europe.

## Key requirements of UCITS ETFs

For UCITS ETFs there are a number of well-defined requirements set out within EU directives. This framework is designed first and foremost for the protection of investors.

- Clear investment guidelines: UCITS ETFs are subject to the rules governing the type of assets in which they can invest<sup>2</sup>. Generally, they must invest in securities and liquid financial assets or instruments<sup>3</sup> that can be easily bought and sold, such as stocks, bonds and money market instruments. Direct investment in physical precious metals, other commodities or other non-financial assets is not allowed.
- **Diversification ratios:** in order to reduce investor risk and avoid putting 'all one's eggs in one basket', UCITS provides strict rules to encourage diversification<sup>4</sup>.
- Strong risk management and investment limits:

  UCITS funds must comply with rules limiting the funds' exposure to risk, for example counterparty risk is generally limited to 10% of the fund's net asset value<sup>5</sup>.
- Information disclosure: to help investors be well informed and enable easy fund comparison, the UCITS directive requires an appropriate and standardised level of disclosure through the funds' legal documentation. This ensures a high level of transparency for investors. Various documents must be presented to investors before they invest. Documents are updated on a regular basis, and they are available on fund managers' websites. These include:
  - Key Information Document<sup>6</sup> (KID) outlines the fund's objectives, characteristics, a risk indicator, performance scenarios, costs over time and composition of costs<sup>7</sup> etc.
  - Prospectus outlines detailed information about the fund's investment strategy, risks, fees etc.
  - Annual report shows the fund's financial statements and asset information
- The use of an independent depository: to safeguard investors' assets, this measure is designed to protect investors' assets, by allowing these assets not to be held directly by the management company, but by an external entity: the depositary. The use of an independent depositary ensures that the fund's assets cannot be seized upon to pay the asset manager's creditors, in the event of financial difficulty.

The UCITS framework is designed to protect investors.

- 2 For more information regarding the investment objectives of the fund, please refer to the Key Information Documents (KID) and the prospectus.
- 3 They are allowed to invest in financial derivative instruments, such as futures or swaps. Investment involves risks. For more information, please refer to the Risk section below.
- 4 The best-known rule is called the "5/10/40" rule. Under this rule, a maximum of 5% of net fund assets may be invested in securities of a single issuer, but this limit can be increased to 10% per single body so long as the total value of all holdings exceeding 5% does not exceed 40% of the total Net Asset Value of the fund. Diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against a loss.
- 5 The limit is 10% of the fund's assets when the counterparty is a credit institution, or 5% of its assets, in other cases.
- 6 The PRIIPs KID (Key Information Document) replaced the UCITS KIID (Key Investor Information Document) on the 01/01/2023. PRIIPs: "Packaged Retail Investment and Insurance-based Products" regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 and the relevant implementing regulations.
- 7 Transaction cost and commissions may occur when trading ETF.

#### **Regulatory requirements on UCITS ETFs indices**

To protect investors further, UCITS imposes rules regarding the indices that ETFs aim to replicate:

#### **Diversification**

# 20/35

While a UCITS ETF has diversification rules, so does the index it tracks. The index must either comply with the diversification ratio applicable to its asset class or comply with the "20/35" ratio, where each constituent must have a weight below 20% of the total weights, but, under exceptional circumstances, one single constituent weight can go up to 35%8.

#### Representativeness



The index must have a clear and systematic methodology to explain its single objective<sup>9</sup>, as well as the segment of the market it aims to represent (e.g. eurozone smaller companies).

#### Independence



The index can have no links to any ETF that is tracking it, nor can an index be created or calculated exclusively for an ETF provider or a limited number of ETF providers. More specifically: the owner of the index methodology must be independent from the index calculator.

#### **Transparency**



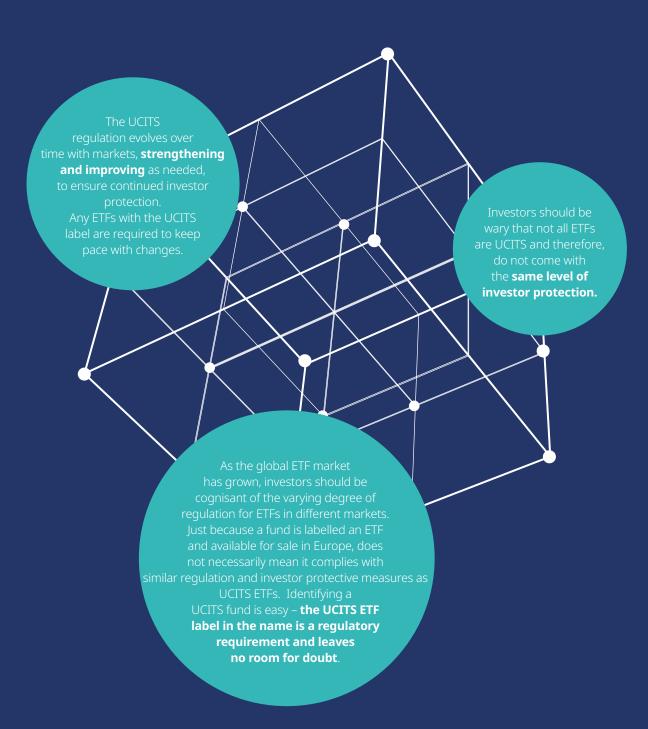
Information about an index's components, weights and methodology must be **available online** to the wider public.

Tracked indices must be sufficiently diversified UCITS ETFs are identified by the "UCITS ETF" label in the fund name. This enables investors to quickly identify funds that are subject to the UCITS regulatory framework.

<sup>8</sup> The 20/35 diversification rule as explained above applies on all equity and corporate indices. For OECD Govies indices, the 35% weight limit is on issuers. The limit can be put at 100% on one single issuer if the bonds are guaranteed bonds (i.e. Govies) and there at least 6 different issues. Diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against a loss.

<sup>9</sup> For more information regarding the index methodology, please refer to index provider website.

## A unique investment framework



## **Amundi ETF**

Amundi, the largest European ETF provider, offers over 300 UCITS ETFs covering a wide range of asset allocation needs and a broad spectrum of ESG and Climate investing goals.

For more information on how to invest in Amundi ETF, please visit **www.amundietf.com**.

#### MARKETING COMMUNICATION

#### Key risks

- · Risk of the loss of invested capital. Investors may not get back the original amount invested and may lose all of their investment.
- Risk associated with the markets to which the ETF is exposed. The price and value of investments are linked to the liquidity risk of the components. Investments can go up as well as down.
- Risk associated with the volatility of the securities/currencies composing the underlying index.
- The fund investment objective may only be partially reached.

#### Important information

This is a marketing communication. Please consult the Prospectus and the Key Investor Document ("KID") before making a final investment decision.

This information is not for distribution and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of any offer to buy any securities or services in the United States or in any of its territories or possessions subject to its jurisdiction to or for the benefit of any U.S. Person (as defined in the prospectus of the Funds or in the legal mentions section on amundic com and amundietf.com). The Funds have not been registered in the United States under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and units/shares of the Funds are not registered in the United States under the Securities Act of 1933.

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The Funds are Amundi UCITS ETFs and Amundi ETF designates the ETF business of Amundi.

Amundi UCITS ETFs are passively-managed index-tracking funds. The Funds are French, Luxembourg or Irish open-ended mutual investment funds respectively approved by the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers, the Luxembourg Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier or the Central Bank of Ireland, and authorised for marketing of their units or shares in various European countries (the "Marketing Countries") pursuant to the article 93 of the 2009/65/EC Directive.

Before any subscriptions, the potential investor must read the offering documents (KID for non-UK investors or KIID for UK investors, and prospectus) of the Funds. Investment in a fund carries a substantial degree of risk (i.e. risks are detailed in the KID and prospectus).

Past Performance does not predict future returns. Investment return and the principal value of an investment in funds or other investment product may go up or down and may result in the loss of the amount originally invested. All investors should seek professional advice prior to any investment decision, in order to determine the risks associated with the investment and its suitability. It is the investor's responsibility to make sure his/her investment is in compliance with the applicable laws she/he depends on, and to check if this investment is matching his/her investment objective with his/her patrimonial situation (including tax aspects).

Some of the Funds mentioned in this document may not be authorized for distribution in your country

The Funds are neither sponsored, approved nor sold by the index providers. The index providers do not make any declaration as to the suitability of any investment. A full description of the indices is available from the providers.

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#### Amundi Asset Management (Amundi AM)

French "Société par Actions Simplifiée" - SAS with a share capital of €1 143 615 555. Portfolio management company approved by the French Financial Markets Authority (Autorité des Marchés Financiers) under no.GP 04000036.

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