

RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT WORTH OVER €550 BILLION IN FRANCE

Paris, June 2015: Novethic is presenting the results of its annual study on the figures for the responsible investment (RI) market in France, carried out for the first time this year with the Forum for Responsible Investment (FIR).

The development of RI is based on two main pillars, both of which are growing fast. SRI management, whereby each issuer is selected on the basis of ESG criteria, is expanding strongly, having reached €223 billion in assets under management (AuM). The broader integration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria is also growing in impressive fashion, with AuM currently standing at €356 billion.

Strong growth and growing reach for responsible investment

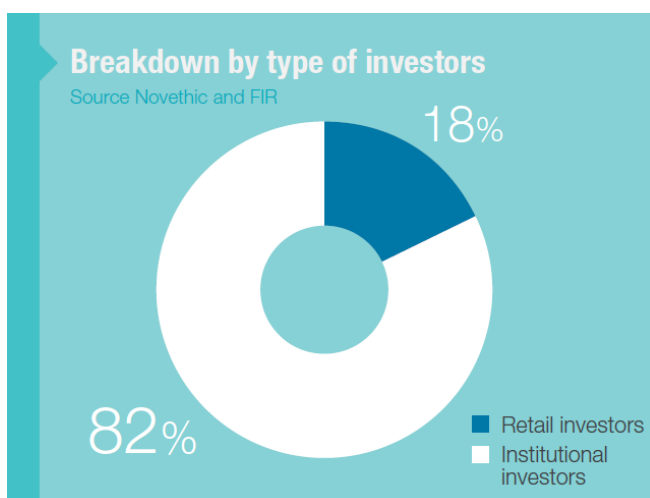
The two main trends in the French RI market are on the rise.

SRI management reached nearly €223 billion at end-2014. Growth more than doubled, from 14% in 2013 to 31% in 2014. A full 90% of AuM subject to the strategy respect a best-in-class approach that consists in favouring companies with the best ESG ratings in their business sector.

The integration of ESG criteria is now applied to assets worth €356 billion, up 20% in 2014. Integration is based on two main practices:

- The financial valuation of ESG issues, which shows that some ESG issues now have a measurable impact on the financial value of companies.
- The introduction of binding processes for fund managers that may concern the minimum ESG quality of a portfolio or an ESG performance target.

Asset owners dominate the market



Market growth is being driven by asset owners, a process that is diluting the share of SRI assets owned by private investors, which fell to below 20% in 2014.

The main RI growth-drivers in France are insurers, which own two thirds of AuM. To turnkey SRI funds, whose growth is stagnating, insurers prefer mandates or segregated funds adapted to their specific requirements.

Norm-based exclusion nearing €2,000 billion

Inexistent ten years ago, norm-based exclusion, which consists in refusing to invest in companies that seriously and repeatedly infringe international conventions, is becoming increasingly widespread. It is now applied to €1,952 billion AuM, up 34% on end-2013.

Green financing worth €3.8 billion in RI

For the first time, the annual study of the RI market has quantified the green financing invested in by French players.

In all, 14 of these last have invested a total €3.8 billion in environmental-theme funds, Green Bonds or environmental infrastructure. A quarter of the €1.4 billion invested in Green Bonds was subscribed through SRI funds.

[Download the report](#)

ABOUT NOVETHIC



Novethic is a leading research centre on responsible investment. Founded in 2001, it produces thematic studies and awards an SRI Label. Novethic is a part of Caisse des Dépôts. www.novethic.com

NOVETHIC NAMED BEST ESG RESEARCH CENTRE IN 2015



Novethic received the “**ESG Research House of the Year**” prize at the Business and Finance Awards in May 2015.

The European selected the **Novethic research centre for the quality of its theme-based studies.**

The publications cited included [Responsible investors acting on climate change](#) and [Green financing: Are European banks and insurers contributing?](#)