

# THE LIECHTENSTEIN AIF -UNIQUE ADVANTAGES

# **EU- compatible funds**

Due to the membership in the European Economic Area (EEA), EU regulations are fully integrated into national law and Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) and their Managers (AIFM) benefit from the access to the European market.

## Short time-to-market

As of 1 February 2020, the need for AIF to be authorised has been replaced by a simple notification to the Financial Market Authority (FMA). They are nevertheless regulated and directly supervised. If the AIF are to be marketed, a sales notification is required, which the FMA usually confirms within 4 to 5 days (by law, maximum 20 working days). Fast processes are also realized by the providers of private label funds who are renowned for their efficiency.

#### **Cost-efficiency**

Setup costs, ongoing administration and supervisory fees are very competitive in international comparison. The mostly offered All-in Fees allow fund promoters a high planning security.

#### Attractive tax system for investment funds

Revenues from investment funds are tax-exempt in Liechtenstein and are not subject to any withholding tax. Further, they are not subject to VAT and stamp duty. Except of one special legal form, funds are free of governmental charges for emissions or incorporations. Even a fix annual tax, like the "Taxe d'abonnement", is not applicable at this location.

#### Broad spectrum of investment vehicles

Within the framework of European requirements, the Liechtenstein fund centre grants enormous liberties in setting up investment vehicles and enables a significant degree of flexibility in respect to investment strategies. These range from real estate to private equity, precious metals and diamonds to Cryptocurrency. Even a One-Investment AIF, which elsewhere can only be realised with great effort, is easy to implement.

#### Short communication channels

It is possible to enter into prompt conversations with decision makers. Here the Principality can also benefit from the size of the country. Fast and effective communication facilitate the work of fund initiators significantly, especially with complex fund projects, which may be the case with AIF.

## **Umbrella Funds**

Funds can be set up as so-called umbrella funds comprising one or several compartments, which can also be added subsequently. On this basis, funds can be launched at significantly lower set-up costs.

#### Secure Banks

The banks of the Principality belong to the world's best-capitalized banks and did not need state support during the financial crisis.

## **Transparent financial centre**

Due to the implementation of extensive tax agreements and the participation in the automatic exchange of information as an early adopter, the importance of Liechtenstein in Europe's financial world is rising.

## High level of political continuity and stability

Besides the historic continuity, the Principality has enjoyed the highest level of political, social, and economic stability combined with a forward-looking, pro-business approach.

## Solid fiscal policy and Liberal economic policy

Liechtenstein has no government debt and is one of only 11 countries worldwide with an AAA rating from Standard & Poor's. The liberal attitude of Liechtenstein's Government and its population is the reason for limited state intervention in the economy.

## Customs and currency union with Switzerland

As a result of the customs and currency union, in Switzerland Liechtenstein funds are treated for stamp duty purposes in the same way as Swiss funds. This is often a clear advantage compared to funds from other EU/EEA countries.

This marketing communication is intended exclusively for information purposes and cannot replace individual and detailed consulting.

LAFV Liechtensteinischer Anlagefondsverband = Meierhofstrasse. 2 = FL-9490 Vaduz T +423 230 07 70 = <u>info@lafv.li</u> = <u>www.lafv.li</u> = <u>LinkedIn</u>