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Luxembourg reserved alternative investment fund (RAIF)

INVESTMENT FUNDS



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CONTENT TABLE

01 INTRODUCTION	PAGE 5
02 KEY FEATURES	PAGE 5
03 WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RAIF REGIME?	PAGE 6
04 WHAT CHANGES DOES THE RAIF LEGISLATION BRING TO FUND STRUCTURING OPTIONS?	PAGE 7
05 HOW IS A RAIF CREATED?	PAGE 8
06 WHO MAY MANAGE A RAIF?	PAGE 9
07 WHAT DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS MUST A RAIF COMPLY WITH?	PAGE 10
08 WHAT REGULATORY OVERSIGHT IS A RAIF SUBJECT TO?	PAGE 11
09 WHAT INVESTMENTS MAY A RAIF UNDERTAKE?	PAGE 12
10 WHAT LEGAL FORMS MAY A RAIF ADOPT?	PAGE 13
11 CAN RAIFS HAVE MULTIPLE COMPARTMENTS AND SHARE CLASSES?	PAGE 13
12 WHAT CORPORATE RULES APPLY TO A RAIF?	PAGE 14
13 WHAT ARE A RAIF'S SERVICING REQUIREMENTS?	PAGE 15
14 WHO MAY INVEST IN A RAIF?	PAGE 15
15 WHAT TAXATION IS A RAIF SUBJECT TO?	PAGE 16
16 WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL USE OF A RAIF?	PAGE 17
17 COMPARISON TABLE OF LUXEMBOURG ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS (AIF)	PAGE 18
18 GLOSSARY OF TERMS	PAGE 22
19 HOW CAN WE ASSIST YOU?	PAGE 23



INTRODUCTION

On 23 July 2016, Luxembourg adopted legislation creating a new type of fund vehicle, the reserved alternative investment fund (fonds d'investissement alternatif réservé, RAIF/FIAR for short), designed for well-informed investors and offering much greater speed to market than the existing specialised investment fund the "[RAIF Law](#)").

According to the Luxembourg trade register, there are approximately 2,529 RAIFs as of 1 February 2024.

KEY FEATURES

- No direct regulation of fund by CSSF
- Must have AIFMD-authorised manager
- Minimum investment of €100,000 for non-professional investors and non-institutional investors
- May take any legal form and follow any strategy
- Benefits from pan-European marketing passport for professional investors.

The reserved alternative investment fund, RAIF (or FIAR in French) for short, is distinguished by the fact that unlike SIFs or risk capital investment companies (SICARs), it is not subject to direct regulation by the Luxembourg regulator, the Financial Sector Supervisory Authority (CSSF). However, the RAIF must have an authorised and regulated manager.

The RAIF is designed to benefit from the structuring flexibility of non-UCITS collective investment vehicles, which include SIFs and SICARs. However, it allows sophisticated, institutional and professional investors that do not require dual supervision of managers and funds to dispense with a layer of regulation that adds costs, delays and restrictions on the management and asset allocation of the funds. There is no minimum initial investment in a RAIF for institutional and professional investors, but a minimum of €100,000 for well-informed but which are neither professional nor institutional investors.

The RAIF is based on the alternative investment fund regime established by the European Union's Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive and its application in Luxembourg through the national legislation of July 12, 2013 on alternative investment fund managers. However, the absence of a requirement for authorisation or ongoing supervision by the CSSF means that future changes to the fund's constitutional, information or other documents will not require regulatory approval either.

The manager of a RAIF must be authorised under the AIFMD as an alternative investment fund manager and domiciled in a European Economic Area member state in order to benefit from a pan-European marketing passport. The Luxembourg law of 21 July 2021, which transposes [Directive EU 2019/1160 on cross-border distribution of Collective investment schemes](#) and the directly applicable cross border funds regulation

([CBRD](#)), aim to enhance the cross-border distribution of alternative investment funds by harmonising rules governing the launch and discontinuation of marketing, retail marketing and the content and supervisory review of marketing communications. It notably creates a new harmonised regulatory regime defining and implementing a notification process for the pre-marketing of AIFs throughout the EU. Pre-marketing was not defined in the original AIFMD and was left to rules and guidance applicable in individual member states, leading to inconsistencies and uncertainty.

According to the legislation, the manager of the RAIF may follow any kind of investment strategy, with no restrictions regarding eligible assets, and funds whose investment policy is restricted to risk capital investments will not be required to adhere to risk-spreading rules.

A RAIF can take a contractual legal form (*fonds commun de placement* or FCP) or if an open-ended or closed-ended corporate fund (SICAV or SICAF) any corporate form including a public limited company (*société anonyme*), partnership limited by shares (*société en commandite par actions*), or common or special limited partnership (*société en commandite simple* (SCS) or *société en commandite spéciale* (SCSp)). It can be created as an umbrella structure with multiple sub-funds, as well as multiple share classes, making segregated compartment structures available to Luxembourg non-regulated funds for the first time.

Most RAIFs will enjoy the same tax treatment as SIFs, paying an annual subscription tax amounting to 0.01% of its net assets but enjoying complete exemption from corporate income tax or withholding tax on the distribution of returns, whether in the form of dividends or interest income. RAIFs limited to risk capital investments will be subject to the tax regime applicable to SICARs.

WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RAIF REGIME?

Luxembourg's implementation of EU regulatory requirements regarding alternative investment funds has involved a dual system of approval and ongoing supervision of both managers of AIFs and funds, whether Part II funds, SIFs or SICARs, by the regulator. Prior to the RAIF law, alternative fund managers seeking to manage and market funds from Luxembourg have been obliged to obtain separate authorisation from the CSSF in its capacity as an AIFM and for any funds it managed, as well as being subject to ongoing oversight of both manager and fund. This arises from the grand duchy's system of product-based regulation, stemming from the original UCITS Directive and that now encompasses a broad range of investment fund regimes under the supervision of the CSSF. These include not only UCITS but non-retail funds including Part II funds, so-called after Part II of successive iterations of Luxembourg's

fund legislation, the most recent dating from 2016, specialised investment funds (SIFs) introduced in 2007, and risk capital investment companies (SICARs) established in 2004.

However, the adoption of the [AIFMD](#) into Luxembourg law in July 2013 introduced a different type of regulation for alternative investment based on regulation and ongoing supervision of alternative investment fund managers rather than the fund vehicles themselves. The AIFMD also introduced a change with the application of cross-border distribution through a passport to all funds managed by an authorised AIFM, irrespective of whether the funds themselves were subject to regulation or not.

In Luxembourg, the regulation of managers introduced by the AIFMD represented an additional layer of supervision on top of the existing product oversight regime applicable to established vehicles for institutional and sophisticated investors. In certain circumstances, the double application of supervision could seem excessive and over-protective, in particular for funds targeting sophisticated investors, entailing extra costs and notably delays before a fund could be approved and marketed. Hence the concept of the RAIF as a vehicle for investors who do not need the additional layer of protection.

WHAT CHANGES DOES THE RAIF LEGISLATION BRING TO FUND STRUCTURING OPTIONS?

To maintain the competitiveness of Luxembourg as a fund domicile and servicing and distribution centre, the [legislation of July 12, 2013](#) that transposed the AIFMD into national law also incorporated measures to modernise the country's limited partnership regime, changing the rules applicable to common limited partnerships and creating a new type of vehicle without legal personality, the special limited partnership.

Both types of limited partnership can be used for structuring regulated fund vehicles, as SIFs and SICARs, but also unregulated investment vehicles. Although common or special limited partnerships are not subject to direct product regulation, they are subject to indirect supervision if they are alternative investment funds that must have an authorised AIFM.

While unregulated limited partnerships are popular with fund promoters and investors, particularly for closed-ended vehicles investing in illiquid assets such as real estate and private equity, they may not be suitable for all circumstances, particularly for investment in securities and other liquid assets. While SCSs and SCSps are tax-transparent, in some



circumstances a tax-opaque vehicle may be preferred because of its ability to benefit from double taxation avoidance treaties. Another restriction is that unregulated limited partnerships cannot adopt umbrella structures and thus may not create segregated portfolios within legally separate sub-funds.

The introduction of the RAIF was therefore intended to ensure the broadest possible range of options for promoters, managers and investors, under a regime broadly similar to that applicable to SIFs except that RAIFs are not subject to supervision by the CSSF, offering Luxembourg alternative investment funds the option to escape the double layer of supervisory requirements. AIFs that are subject to management supervision through their authorised AIFM now have the choice between establishment as regulated products (Part II funds, SIFs or SICARs) or as unregulated products (unregulated SCSs and SCSPs or RAIFs).

HOW IS A RAIF CREATED?

Following the entry into force of the law of 21 July 2023, the formation formalities for RAIFs have been streamlined. Therefore where the RAIF is set up by virtue of articles of association there is no requirement anymore for the notary to acknowledge that the RAIF has been established and an AIFM appointed. The requirement for a notary to acknowledge that the RAIF has been established and an AIFM appointed within five days from its establishment is only maintained for RAIFs formed under private deed (i.e. FCP, SCS and SCSp forms). RAIFs are registered on the official list maintained by the Luxembourg register of commerce and companies and available on its website.

The constitutional documents of the RAIF depend on its corporate or contractual structure. They consist of articles of incorporation if the RAIF is incorporated as a public limited company (SA), a partnership limited by shares (SCA) or a private limited liability company (Sàrl); management regulations if the RAIF is established as an FCP; or a limited partnership agreement if it is established as an SCS or SCSp. Articles of incorporation must be established by notarial deed, but management regulations and LPAs may be established under private deed.

Promoters of existing Luxembourg entities may wish to convert them into RAIFs. In the case of regulated entities, this may be to facilitate the speedy launching of new sub-funds, while



unregulated limited partnerships may be converted in order to enjoy the benefits of an umbrella structure.

An existing Specialised Investment Fund (SIF), Part II fund or Risk Capital Investment Company (SICAR) may be converted into a RAIF in accordance with applicable legislation and provisions governing its constitutional documents, subject to prior approval from the CSSF of amendments to those documents, and amendment of the fund's prospectus or issue document, unless the fund is a SIF or SICAR that is not open to new investors. The conversion of an existing unregulated limited partnership requires an amendment of the LPA, subject to the applicable requirements of that agreement.

The conversion of a non-Luxembourg entity into a RAIF is also possible as long as re-domiciliation of the entity is authorised under the law of its country of origin, otherwise the transfer may be carried out through a contribution in kind, merger or another mechanism. The entity in question must be brought into compliance with the AIFMD through the appointment of a fully authorised external AIFM by the time of the conversion.

The legislation also makes it possible for a fund established as a RAIF to be converted subsequently into a regulated vehicle as a Part II fund, SIF or SICAR.

WHO MAY MANAGE A RAIF?

The RAIF is an undertaking for collective investment that automatically qualifies as an alternative investment fund, and cannot be structured as a non-AIF. This is in contrast to SIFs or SICARs that are not covered by the definition of an AIF in Luxembourg's legislation of July 12, 2013 on alternative investment fund managers, if they do not raise any capital from investors, have only one investor, or if access is restricted to a predefined group of investors.

With very limited exceptions, RAIFs must appoint as manager an external AIFM that is fully authorised under the AIFMD, in Luxembourg or another EU member state, and does not seek exemption from full regulation under the directive's sub-threshold registration regime, applicable to managers of fund assets of less than €100m or of €500m in the case of non-leveraged funds with a lock-up period of at least five years. This means that internally-managed AIFs and funds that benefit from an exemption from the AIFMD requirement, for instance under de minimis exemption, are not eligible to become RAIFs.

In line with AIFMD article 2.3(c) and (d), the legislation does provide for exemption from the obligation for RAIFs to appoint an external AIFM for funds that act in the public interest and are managed by a supranational or international institution such as the European Central Bank, EIB or EIF, European development finance institutions, bilateral development



banks, World Bank and IMF, and funds which are managed by a national central bank.

While the RAIF is not itself directly authorised by the CSSF, it is indirectly regulated under the directive, since the fund's AIFM must ensure that as an AIF, it complies with the requirements of the AIFMD. An AIFM must notify its home regulator (whether in Luxembourg or another EU country) as soon as it is appointed as manager of a RAIF. A non-EU AIFM may be permitted to manage a RAIF in the future if it is fully authorised in a home jurisdiction to which the third-country passporting regime has been extended.

If the external AIFM ceases to manage the RAIF, whether at its own initiative or that of the fund, another authorised external AIFM must be appointed as a replacement within a maximum period of two months. If no replacement external AIFM is appointed within this period, the directors, managers or management company of the RAIF must introduce a request within one month of the deadline's expiry to the appropriate District Court (Tribunal d'arrondissement) in Luxembourg to place the RAIF into liquidation.

WHAT DOCUMENTATIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS MUST A RAIF COMPLY WITH?

A RAIF must draw up an issue document, a prospectus or placement memorandum, containing all information necessary for investors to be able to make an informed judgement about the proposed investment and its inherent risks. A RAIF's issue document should typically include all AIFMD-mandated disclosure requirements, which are designed to provide the information required for an informed judgement, but the legislative documents accompanying the legislation expressly allow these disclosure requirements to be met by other means. The issue document must be up to date in all material aspects if additional securities are being issued to new investors.

Issue documents must state prominently on their cover page that the RAIF is not subject to supervision by any Luxembourg regulatory authority. Otherwise the law offers broad flexibility in terms of the content of RAIFs' constitutional and issue documents. To avoid having to amend constitutional documents every time a RAIF issues new sub funds, these are likely to be drafted in a generic manner, with the particular features of each sub-fund described in a specific issue document. In this case, each sub-fund's issue document must

state that the RAIF is structured as an umbrella fund, as is the case for Luxembourg-domiciled SIFs and SICARs.

RAIFs must issue annual reports, no later than six months following the end of the accounting year and reviewed by a certified Luxembourg auditor, containing at least the minimum information required by Appendix 1 of the RAIF legislation and Article 22 of the AIFMD. Umbrella RAIFs may produce separate annual accounts for each sub-fund, provided that in addition to specific financial information for each compartment, it incorporates consolidated financial information regarding the structure's other sub-funds, again a practice accepted by the CSSF for umbrella SIFs and SICARs.

WHAT REGULATORY OVERSIGHT IS A RAIF SUBJECT TO?

RAIFs are not be subject to any kind of supervision or oversight by the CSSF and can be launched without obtaining regulatory approval beforehand or afterwards, but they are indirectly subject to AIFMD requirements applicable to authorised AIFMs. Notably, the appointed AIFM must enjoy authorisation for the investment strategy to be followed by the fund – in Luxembourg some AIFMD authorisations are valid for certain strategies only. The Luxembourg registration duties, estate and VAT authority (the AED) is the relevant authority for RAIFs in relation to AML/CFT matters.

If established outside the grand duchy, the AIFM must have obtained authorisation to provide management services in Luxembourg under the terms of article 33 of the AIFMD regarding passporting of management services, in which case the RAIF's constitutional and issue documents must be filed with the CSSF. Where a RAIF has a Luxembourg-based AIFM, there is no systematic review of the fund documents by the regulator. However the CSSF may refuse management services passporting for an AIF if the documents submitted by the foreign AIFM regarding its authorisation as an AIFM do not cover management of the type of AIF in question. Once a RAIF has been established, no regulatory approval is required for subsequent actions in the course of the fund's existence,



such as amendments to documentation, the launch of new sub-funds, changes of service provider or liquidation.

WHAT INVESTMENTS MAY A RAIF UNDERTAKE?

A RAIF can invest in any type of asset and follow any type of investment strategy, subject to the requirement that its portfolio must be managed according to the principle of risk spreading, except where the RAIF makes exclusively risk capital investments and opts for the associated special tax regime. The concept of risk capital in the legislation comes from the SICAR law, under which investment in risk capital means the direct or indirect contribution of assets to entities in the expectation of their launch, development or listing on a stock exchange.

Furthermore, in November 2021, the CSSF clarified in its FAQ on Virtual Assets (UCIs) that an AIF with an authorised AIFM may invest in virtual assets directly or indirectly as long as the fund's shares or units are marketed only to professional investors, and the AIFM obtains an extension of authorisation from the CSSF for the new investment strategy. In January and March of the year 2022, the CSSF published in the same FAQ practical clarifications:

- A Luxembourg depositary may act as a depositary for funds investing directly in virtual assets subject to certain conditions, in particular, appropriate operational model and adequate organisational arrangements, CSSF notification, and potential registration as VASP;
- The investment manager shall compute

an ML/FT risk scoring of the virtual assets and perform an AML/CFT due diligence in line with such a scoring.

The governing body of the RAIF is responsible for determining the level of risk spreading appropriate for its portfolio, or alternatively assessing whether the investments qualify as risk capital. There are currently no guidelines on the minimum level of diversification required for a RAIF portfolio, but government commentaries on the bill preceding its enactment have indicated that the CSSF guidelines on risk spreading for SIFs in circular 07/309 should be followed. As a general rule, this would mean that a RAIF or an individual sub-fund should not invest more than 30% of its gross assets or aggregate investor commitments in any single asset, subject to certain exemptions.

The 30% restriction does not apply to securities issued or guaranteed by an OECD member state or its local authorities, or EU or other regional or global bodies, nor to collective investment schemes that are subject to risk diversification requirements equivalent to those applicable to RAIFs.

RAIFs or their sub-funds investing in infrastructure assets will be deemed sufficiently diversified if they have at least two investments and no single investment represents more than 75% of their gross assets or commitments. Funds also benefit from an initial ramp-up period to move into compliance with the minimum risk diversification requirements.

WHAT LEGAL FORMS MAY A RAIF ADOPT?

The RAIF can be structured as a common contractual fund (*fonds commun de placement* or FCP), which is without legal personality, an open-ended investment company (*société d'investissement à capital variable* or SICAV), or a closed-ended investment company (*société d'investissement à capital fixe* or SICAF).

A RAIF that takes the form of an FCP must have a Luxembourg management company, which may be its AIFM if it is authorised as such by the CSSF, otherwise, the FCP must appoint a separate AIFM that is authorised in the grand duchy or another EU member state.

A RAIF in the form of a SICAV or SICAF can be established as a public limited company (*société anonyme* or SA), private limited liability company (*société à responsabilité limitée* or Sàrl), corporate partnership limited by shares (*société en commandite par actions* or SCA), common or special limited partnership (SCS or SCSp), or co-operative public limited company (*société cooperative sous forme de société anonyme* or SCoSA).

CAN RAIFS HAVE MULTIPLE COMPARTMENTS AND SHARE CLASSES?

A RAIF can be structured as an umbrella fund with one or more compartments or sub-funds, with the assets and liabilities of each sub-fund legally ring-fenced from those of other sub-funds, unless otherwise provided for in the constitutional documents of the RAIF. Cross-investment between sub-funds is permitted, subject to the same conditions applicable to SIFs. The liquidation of a sub-fund does not entail the liquidation of other sub-funds or of the RAIF as a whole, as long as there are other active sub-funds.

If stipulated in the RAIF's issue document, each sub-fund can have its own distinct investment policy, as well as rules on the issue and redemption of securities or ownership interests can be tailored to each specific sub-fund. A single umbrella structure may combine sub-funds that are open-ended and closed-ended; fully funded sub-funds and compartments with a drawdown capital structure; and in the case of limited partnerships, sub-funds issuing partnership interests in the form of securities as well as those using partnership accounts. Each sub-fund may have its own investment manager or investment adviser, investment committee or advisory board, but the RAIF must have a single managing body – for instance, the board of directors for a fund established as an SA, the general partner for a limited

partnership, or the management company for an FCP – as well as a single depositary, administrator, auditor and AIFM.

In addition, a RAIF or sub-fund may have multiple classes of securities subject to different fee structures, distribution or carried interest structures, or currency hedging policies, and that may be denominated in different currencies. Sub-funds may be reserved for one or more investors or categories of investor.

WHAT CORPORATE RULES APPLY TO A RAIF?

SICAV-RAIFs established as an SA, SCA or Sàrl benefit from corporate rules that are more flexible than those applicable to trading companies or other kinds of corporate structure established under Luxembourg's legislation of August 10, 1915 on commercial companies. There are no constraints on rules regarding the issue and redemption of shares, including rules applicable to the issue price, which should be set out in the articles of association, except that at least 5% of each share must be paid up on issue.

Corporate RAIFs are subject to a minimum capital requirement of €1.25m, which must be reached within 24 months of their incorporation, but which can include subscribed capital and share premium; they do not have to create a statutory reserve. The payment of interim or annual dividends is subject only to minimum capital requirements.

RAIFs that are FCPs are not subject to legal constraints on the issue and redemption of units, including rules applicable to the issue price, which should be set out in the management regulations. As with corporate vehicles, the payment of dividends is subject only to minimum capital requirements.

SICAV-RAIFs that are limited partnerships benefit from additional structuring flexibility. They may issue partnership interests in the form of securities or partners' accounts (*comptes d'associés*), and they have the freedom to stipulate in the limited partnership agreement voting rights, the entitlements of partners to profits and losses and to distributions, and to set out rules governing the transfers of partnership interests.

WHAT ARE A RAIF'S SERVICING REQUIREMENTS?

A RAIF must entrust the safekeeping of its assets to a Luxembourg depositary, either a Luxembourg-established bank or the Luxembourg branch of a bank established elsewhere in the EU. If the RAIF invests mainly in non-financial instruments and has a lock-up period of at least five years following initial investment, a licensed professional depositary that is not a bank may also be appointed.

As a collective investment scheme, the administration of the RAIF must be conducted in Luxembourg. Administration and transfer agency must be carried out by an administrator and registrar authorised by the CSSF. RAIFs must appoint an authorised AIFM, a depositary subject to the AIFMD liability regime, and an external auditor, which must have appropriate qualifications and experience and be approved by the CSSF as auditor of a Luxembourg UCITS, Part II fund, SIF or SICAR.

While administration can in theory be carried out by the RAIF itself or its AIFM, if established in Luxembourg, as a rule a specialised Luxembourg fund administrator will be appointed, either by the AIFM, subject to AIFMD delegation rules, or directly by the RAIF's management body.

The AIFM may appoint one or more investment managers or advisers to manage the assets of

the RAIF or of its sub-funds, subject to article 20 of the AIFMD and article 78 of the [European Commission's Level 2 regulation of December 2012](#). A non-regulated entity may only be appointed as an investment manager or as sub-investment manager of a RAIF subject to prior approval of the AIFM's regulator.

WHO MAY INVEST IN A RAIF?

A RAIF may accept investments only from qualified or 'well-informed' investors, as defined by the SIF and SICAR legislation. These consist of institutional investors (as defined by the CSSF according to established practice), professional investors and other investors that do not qualify as either an institutional nor professional investor, but that invests or commits at least €100,000 in the RAIF and confirm in writing their status as a well-informed investor.

Investments of less than €100,000 may be accepted by such investors subject to certification by a bank, investment firm, an authorized AIFM, or management company as to their expertise, experience and capacity to understand and assess an investment in the RAIF. In addition, directors and officers and all other persons involved in its management are authorised to invest in a RAIF even if they do not fit any of the other categories.

By complying with the AIFMD notification process for passporting, a RAIF may be

marketed to professional investors in other EU jurisdictions since it is an EU-domiciled fund with an authorised AIFM. A RAIF's offering document must contain all information necessary for investors to assess their participation in the RAIF. As mentioned above, the cover page of the RAIF's offering document must clearly indicate that it is not subject to the supervision of the CSSF, unlike SIFs or SICARs. The offering document must be updated before new investors are accepted. Sub-funds may have their own offering documents, so long as they make clear that the RAIF contains other sub-funds.

WHAT TAXATION IS A RAIF SUBJECT TO?

In principle, RAIFs, including limited partnerships, are subject to the same tax regime as SIFs. They are exempt from corporate income or other taxes in Luxembourg, apart from an annual subscription tax (*taxe d'abonnement*) of 0.01% of net assets - unless they invest exclusively in risk capital. No subscription tax is due on investments in other Luxembourg funds that are themselves liable to subscription tax, as well as RAIFs whose purpose is to invest in money market instruments and bank deposits or microfinance, or whose investors are pension funds or similar institutions.

Corporate RAIFs – FCPs are not eligible – whose constitutional documents restrict them to risk capital investments may opt for the same tax regime as SICARs. The concept

of risk capital is not defined in the RAIF law, but appended commentary to the law says reference should be made to the guidelines in CSSF Circular 06/241 of April 5, 2006 on the concept of risk capital as applicable to SICARs.

Risk capital RAIFs are fully taxable, which enables them to enjoy double taxation treaty benefits. However, all income or capital gains generated from securities are exempt from the fund's taxable base, and there is no subscription tax liability. Income from risk capital investments is exempted, and RAIFs opting for the special tax regime will also be exempt from net worth tax, apart from the minimum net worth tax applicable to all fully taxable Luxembourg companies, amounting to €4,815 per year for RAIFs largely holding fixed financial assets, securities and cash). RAIFs established as limited partnerships and opting for the special tax regime will be fully tax-transparent and therefore not subject to any Luxembourg direct taxes.

To benefit from the regime, the RAIF's constitutional documents must demonstrate that its exclusive purpose consists of investment risk capital investment. The special tax regime must apply to the RAIF as a whole; a RAIF sub-fund may not opt to be subject to the subscription tax when another is subject to the SICAR regime. The auditors of a RAIF opting for the special tax regime must certify to the Luxembourg direct tax administration that the fund has indeed invested in risk capital at the end of each financial year.



WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL USE OF A RAIF?

As result of its flexibility, the RAIF offers the possibility to be used to structure a hedge fund, private equity fund, venture capital fund, real estate fund, crypto fund, infrastructure fund, distressed debt fund, Islamic finance fund, socially responsible investment fund, tangible assets fund, and any other type of alternative fund.



COMPARISON TABLE OF LUXEMBOURG ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS (AIF)

	Regulated Investment Vehicles			Unregulated Investment Vehicles	
	Part II UCI	SIF	SICAR	RAIF	Unregulated SCS / SCSp
Applicable legislation	Law of 17 December 2010 - Part II ("UCI Law")	Law of 13 February 2007 ("SIF Law")	Law of 15 June 2004 ("SICAR Law")	Law of 23 July 2016 ("RAIF Law")	Law of 10 August 1915 ("Company Law")
Authorisation and supervision by the CSSF	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.
Qualification as an AIF	Always an AIF.	Yes, unless exempt. It is exempt if it does not raise capital from a number of investors, with a view to investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of those investors.	Yes, unless exempt. It is exempt if it does not raise capital from a number of investors, with a view to investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of those investors.	Always an AIF.	Non-AIF, unless activities fall within the scope of article 1 (39) of the AIFM Law.
Exemption from AIFMD full regime under lighter regime (AIFMD registration regime)	Possible.	Possible.	Possible.	No.	Possible.
External authorised AIFM requirement	Required in case the entity is an AIF that is not self-managed and above the AIFMD threshold.	Required in case the entity is an AIF that is not self-managed and above the AIFMD threshold.	Required in case the entity is an AIF that is not self-managed and above the AIFMD threshold.	Always required.	Required in case the entity is an AIF that is not self-managed and above the AIFMD threshold.
Eligible investors	Unrestricted.	Well-informed investors.	Well-informed investors.	Well-informed investors.	Unrestricted.
Eligible assets	Unrestricted. The investment objective and strategy of the fund is subject to the prior approval of the CSSF.	Unrestricted.	Restricted to investments in securities representing risk capital. According to the CSSF Circular 06/241, investment in risk capital is to be understood as the direct or indirect contribution of assets to entities in view of their launch, their development or their listing on a stock exchange. The SICAR is not allowed to invest directly in real estate (except for its own use or through its participations).	Unrestricted, unless it invests in a portfolio of risk capital (such as a Sicar).	Unrestricted.

	Regulated Investment Vehicles			Unregulated Investment Vehicles	
	Part II UCI	SIF	SICAR	RAIF	Unregulated SCS / SCSp
Risk diversification requirements	Risk diversification requirements are defined by IML Circular 91/75 (as amended by CSSF Circular n° 05/177). Such requirements are less stringent than the ones applicable to UCITS. In particular, a UCI is not allowed to invest more than 20% of its net assets in securities issued by any one issuer. Specific restrictions concerning funds adopting an alternative investment strategy are contained in CSSF Circular n° 02/80.	Risk diversification requirements are defined by CSSF Circular n° 07/309. Such requirements are less stringent than the ones applicable to UCITS and UCI. In particular, a SIF is not allowed to invest more than 30% of its net assets in securities of the same type issued by the same issuer.	No risk diversification requirements.	Risk diversification requirements are aligned with those applicable to SIFs, unless the RAIF chooses to invest in risk capital only and such choice is mentioned in its constitutive documents.	No risk diversification requirements.
Legal Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP SICAV (SA) SICAF (SA, Sàrl, SCA, SCS, SCSp) <p>The entities may be open-ended or closed-ended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP SICAV (SA, Sàrl, SCA, SCoSA, SCS, SCSp) SICAF (SA, Sàrl, SCA, SCoSA, SCS, SCSp) <p>The entities may be open-ended or closed-ended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Sàrl SCA SCS SCSp SCoSA <p>The entities may be open-ended or closed-ended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP SICAV (SA, Sàrl, SCA, SCoSA, SCS, SCSp) SICAF (SA, Sàrl, SCA, SCoSA, SCS, SCSp) <p>The entities may be open-ended or closed-ended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCS SCSp
Umbrella structure	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
Capital requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP: EUR 1,250,000 to be reached no later than 12 months following the authorisation by the CSSF. Self managed SICAV / SICAF: EUR 300,000 at the date of authorisation and EUR 1,250,000 within 12 months following its authorisation. 	EUR 1,250,000 to be reached no later than 24 months following the authorisation by the CSSF.	EUR 1,000,000 to be reached no later than 24 months following the authorisation by the CSSF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP: EUR 1,250,000 to be reached within 24 months from the entry into force of the management regulations. SICAV: EUR 1,250,000 to be reached within 24 months from the incorporation of the SICAV. 	No minimum capital requirement.

	Regulated Investment Vehicles			Unregulated Investment Vehicles	
	Part II UCI	SIF	SICAR	RAIF	Unregulated SCS / SCSp
Required service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management company in case of an FCP. Depository institution. Administrative agent. Registrar and Transfer Agent. Approved statutory auditor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management company in case of an FCP. Depository bank or professional of the financial sector providing depository services, subject to conditions. Administrative agent. Registrar and Transfer Agent. Approved statutory auditor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depository bank or professional of the financial sector providing depository services, subject to conditions. Administrative agent. Registrar and Transfer Agent. Approved statutory auditor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management company in case of an FCP. Depository bank or professional of the financial sector providing depository services, subject to conditions. Administrative agent. Registrar and Transfer Agent. Approved statutory auditor. 	<p>For SCS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative Investment Fund Manager (if the SCS qualifies as an AIF). No requirement to appoint a depository (except if the SCS qualifies as an AIF and is managed by a duly authorised AIFM). <p>For SCSp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative Investment Fund Manager (if the SCSp qualifies as an AIF). No requirement to appoint a depository (except if the SCSp qualifies as an AIF and is managed by a duly authorised AIFM).
Possibility of listing	Yes.	Yes.	Yes, but difficult in practice.	Yes.	In principle, no. The SCS/ SCSp may however issue debt securities that are eligible to be listed on the stock exchange.
European passport	No, unless it falls under the scope of the full AIFMD regime.	No, unless it falls under the scope of the full AIFMD regime.	No, unless it falls under the scope of the full AIFMD regime.	Yes.	No, unless it falls under the scope of the full AIFMD regime.
Net asset value (NAV) calculation and redemption frequency	The UCIs must make public the issue, sale and repurchase price of their units each time they issue, sell and repurchase their units, and at least once a month.	At least once a year for reporting purposes.	Not required.	At least once a year for reporting purposes.	Not required.
Overall income tax (corporate income tax and municipal business tax)	No income tax.	No income tax.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General aggregate rate: 24.94%. <p>In certain cases, reduced corporate income tax rates may apply. Income derived from transferable securities (e.g. dividends received and capital gains realised on the sale of shares) is exempt. Income on cash held for the purpose of a future investment is also exempt (for one year).</p>	No income tax, unless investing only in risk capital, then SICAR tax regime applicable.	<p>No corporate income tax applicable.</p> <p>Municipal business tax of 6.75% applicable in very limited circumstances, namely in case the SCS/SCSp (i) carries out a commercial activity or (ii) is deemed to carry out a commercial activity. A SCS/ SCSp is deemed to carry out a commercial activity if its general partner is a Luxembourg public or private limited liability company holding at least 5% of the partnership interests.</p> <p>With a proper structuring of the GPs partnership interest it should be possible to avoid the deemed commercial characterisation of the SCS/SCSp.</p>

	Regulated Investment Vehicles			Unregulated Investment Vehicles	
	Part II UCI	SIF	SICAR	RAIF	Unregulated SCS / SCSp
Subscription tax (NAV: net asset value)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate: 0.05% of the NAV annually. Reduction: 0.01% of the NAV annually in certain specific cases. Tax exemptions: special institutional money market cash funds, special pension funds (including pension pooling vehicles) and funds investing in other funds which are already subject to subscription tax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate: 0.01% of the NAV annually. Tax exemptions: certain money market and pension funds or SIFs investing in other funds which are already subject to subscription tax. 	No subscription tax.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate: 0.01% of the NAV annually. Exemptions apply. 	No subscription tax.
Wealth tax	No wealth tax.	No wealth tax.	No wealth tax.	No wealth tax.	No wealth tax.
Withholding tax on dividends	Not subject to withholding tax.	Not subject to withholding tax.	Not subject to withholding tax.	Not subject to withholding tax.	Not subject to withholding tax.
Benefit from Double Tax Treaty network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SICAV/SICAF: Limited to certain double tax treaties (see circular L.G. -A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017). FCP: see circular L.G.-A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SICAV/SICAF: Limited to certain double tax treaties (see circular L.G. -A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017). FCP: see circular L.G.-A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017. 	Yes in case the SICAR is set-up as a corporate entity (except if set-up under the form of a SCS/SCSp).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RAIFs investing in a portfolio of risk capital (such as a SICAR). Access if set-up as a corporate entity (except if set-up under the form of a SCS/SCSp). RAIFs not investing in a portfolio of risk capital (such as a SICAR), but set-up as: SICAV / SICAF: Limited to certain double tax treaties (see circular L.G. -A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017). FCP: see circular L.G.-A n°61 of the tax administration of 8 December 2017. 	No.
Benefit from the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive	No.	No.	In principle yes, but certain jurisdictions where the target companies are located may challenge the application of the directive.	No, unless RAIF that invests in a portfolio of risk capital (such as a SICAR).	No.
Thin capitalization rules (debt-to-equity ratio)	Borrowings of up to 25% of net assets without any restrictions are allowed.	No debt-to-equity ratio.	No debt-to-equity ratio.	No debt-to-equity ratio.	No debt-to-equity ratio.
Practical use	Investment funds which could be used for investment strategies that do not meet the criteria set by the UCITS directives.	Hedge funds, private equity funds, venture capital funds, real estate funds, infrastructure funds, distressed debt funds, Islamic finance funds, microfinance funds, socially responsible investment funds, tangible assets funds and any other type of alternative funds.	Private equity and venture capital transactions.	Hedge funds, private equity funds, venture capital funds, real estate funds, infrastructure funds, distressed debt funds, Islamic finance funds, microfinance funds, socially responsible investment funds, tangible assets funds and any other type of alternative funds.	Private equity, venture capital and real estate investments and any other alternative investments.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AED: Administration de l'enregistrement des domaines et de la TVA.

AIF: Alternative Investment Fund as defined by article 1 (39) of the AIFM Law, namely collective investment undertakings, including investment compartments thereof, which (a) raise capital from a number of investors, with a view to investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of those investors; and (b) do not require authorization pursuant to article 5 of Directive 2009/65/EC (i.e. UCITS).

AIFMD: Directive 2011/61/EU on alternative investment fund managers.

AIFMD registration regime: An AIFM that wishes to make use of the registration regime must have assets under management of less than EUR 100 million, or EUR 500 million if it manages only funds closed for at least 5 years not using leverage.

AIFM: A legal person whose regular business is managing one or more AIFs.

AIFM Law: Luxembourg law of 12 July 2013 on alternative investment fund managers (transposing the AIFM directive into Luxembourg law).

AIFM Law threshold: the thresholds provided for in article 3 (2) of the AIFM Law.

CSSF: The Luxembourg Supervisory Authority of the Financial Sector (*Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier*).

Company Law: The Luxembourg law of 10th August 1915 on commercial companies, as amended from time to time.

FCP: Common fund (*fonds commun de placement*).

Part II UCI: Undertaking for collective investment established under Part II of the Luxembourg law of 17 December 2010.

RAIF: Reserved alternative investment fund (*fonds d'investissement alternatif réservé*).

S.A.: Public limited liability company (*société anonyme*).

S.à r.l.: Private limited liability company (*société à responsabilité limitée*).

SAS: Simplified stock company (*société par actions simplifiée*).

S.C.A.: Corporate partnership limited by shares (*société en commandite par actions*).

SCoSA: Cooperative company organised as a public limited company (*société cooperative organisée comme une société anonyme*).

SCS: Common limited partnership (*société en commandite simple*).

SCSp : Special limited partnership (*société en commandite spéciale*).

SICAF: Investment company with fixed capital (*société d'investissement à capital fixe*).

SICAR: Investment company in risk capital (*société d'investissement en capital à risqué*).

SICAV: Investment company with variable capital (*société d'investissement à capital variable*).

SIF: Specialised investment fund (*fonds d'investissement spécialisé*).

Well-informed investors: A well-informed investor is an institutional investor, a professional investor or any other investor who has stated in writing that s/he adheres to the status of well-informed investor and invests a minimum of 100,000 Euro in the SIF/SICAR/RAIF, as applicable, or has been subject of an assessment made by a credit institution, by an investment firm or by a management company certifying his/her expertise, his/her experience and his/her knowledge to adequately appraise an investment in the SIF/SICAR/RAIF, as applicable.

HOW CAN WE ASSIST YOU?

Our investment management team:

- Supports you in finding the suitable investment vehicle to meet your requirements and your goals from a marketing, regulatory, legal and tax perspective.
- Introduces you to the suitable service providers to meet your requirements (i.e., custodian bank, AIFM, administrative agent, registrar and transfer agent and auditor).
- Provides assistance with the establishment of the fund (i.e., drafting of the PPM, assistance with the incorporation of the fund and its general partner).
- Provides assistance with respect to the migration of offshore funds into RAIFs.
- Provides corporate support services throughout the lifetime of your fund (i.e., amendment of fund documents, restructuring, launching or closing sub-funds, etc.).
- Provides assistance with changing of service providers including custodian bank, fund administrator, auditor or registrar and transfer agent).
- Provides assistance with the listing of the units of the fund on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated or EURO MTF markets.
- Provides support in the registration of the fund in other jurisdictions (in cooperation with local service providers).
- Provides advice on AIFMD-related issues;
- Provides advice to fund promoters on local

private placement rules for marketing their funds in Luxembourg.

- Keeps you up to date on new legal and regulatory developments.



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LUXEMBOURG LAW FIRM

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Our aim is to offer a one-stop-shop service to our clients and to provide tailored solutions to meet their needs, responsively and cost-effectively. Our practice areas are structured to ensure a comprehensive understanding of our clients' business and markets. We work with recognised service providers to provide you with the assistance and services you require through every aspect of your transactions and business.

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