

# Global Opportunities Fund

Information is correct as at the 31st December 2011

Volatility/Risk



## How the Fund Works

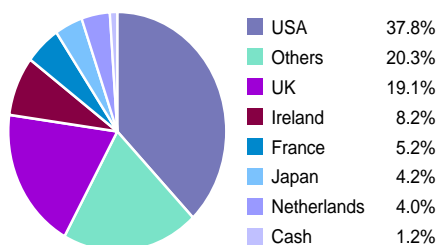
The Global Opportunities fund is an actively managed equity fund that aims to deliver performance in line with market equity returns through active asset allocation and stock selection. The fund is suited to those who will accept the volatility of pure equity investments in order to achieve strong long term fund performance.

## Investment Objective

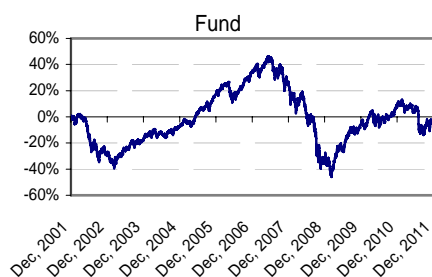
The fund aims to produce a return above the peer group (Mercer General Equity) survey median over rolling 3 year period.

**The return of this fund since launch (31st December 1996) is 3.85%p.a.**

## Country Distribution



## Performance



Year	Global Opportunities Fund
1 Year	-7.1%
3 Year %p.a.	14.3%
5 Year %p.a.	-5.8%
10 Year %p.a.	-0.1%

The figures quoted are before tax and after management charges. Source: Irish Life.

## Market Commentary

Overall global equity markets held their own in December, trading broadly unchanged into year end despite the volatility around the Eurozone debt crisis. Eurozone bond markets rallied strongly on the belief that policy makers in Europe will take the necessary steps to solve the Eurozone sovereign crisis. Corporate bonds also made gains, although at a slower pace than government bonds as risk aversion eased. Other perceived riskier asset classes such as commodities failed to benefit from the easing of risk aversion that was evident in European government bond markets, while the Euro also continued to fall against the dollar and sterling finishing 2011 below the levels seen at the start of the year.

The ECB cut interest rates by 0.25% to 1% in line with expectations and announced a slew of unconventional measures aimed at supporting the banking sector at the December 9<sup>th</sup> summit. However the central bank disappointed expectations by ruling out the possibility of a bond purchasing programme for now. The ECB lent €489bn to the banking system for three years, the largest amount that has been lent to the banking system. This has boosted the bond markets as it is thought that many banks have used some of this liquidity to purchase government bonds. Elsewhere in the EU leaders' summit, politicians took a significant step forward in moving towards a closer fiscal union by announcing plans to enshrine fiscal rules into a countries constitution.

**Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up. This fund may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates. Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.**



**Irish Life**  
Investment Managers