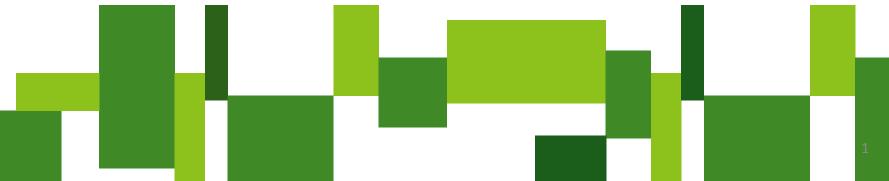
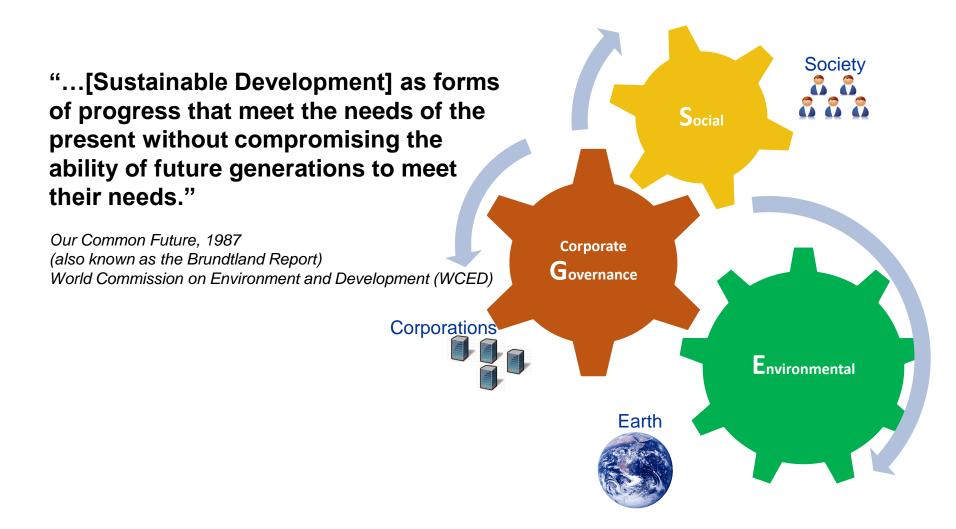


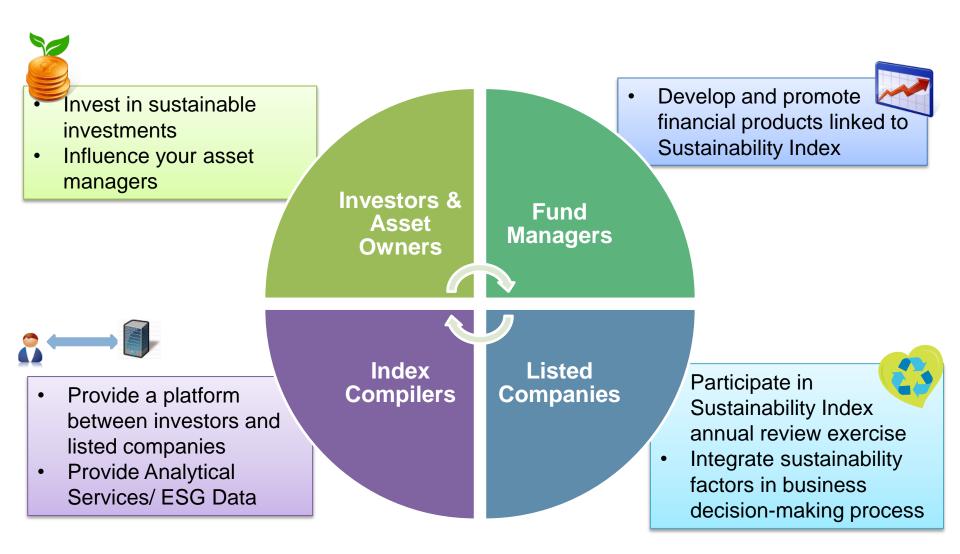
# Promoting Sustainable Investment: Links between Sustainability Performance and Investment

Mr. Vincent Kwan Director and General Manager Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited 28 November 2014











- (SRI) is the integration of social and environmental criteria into investment decisions with the goal of aligning financial activities with social and environmental objectives, values, or beliefs. This is often achieved through negative or positive screening, as well as shareholder activism. Source: Business for Social Responsibility's (BSR) report on "ESG in the Mainstream - The Role of Companies and Investors in Environmental, Social and Governance Integration
- An investment discipline that considers environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) criteria to generate long-term competitive financial returns and positive societal impact.

Source: The Forum of Sustainable and Responsible Investing (USSIF)







## **SRI Screening**

#### **Positive Screening**

Positive screening means that when investors that are interested in corporate social responsibility issues select their funds, they focus on funds that invest in companies that make positive contributions to society. Such contributions may include:

- Respect for labour relations
- Environmental care
- Emphasis on quality control & safety
- Attention to human rights' issues



### **Negative Screening**

Negative screening means that socially responsible investors avoid funds that invest in companies that are involved activities that may have a negative impact on society, for example:

- Tobacco / Alcohol production
- Lack of respect for labour relations
- Lack of environmental consideration
- Gambling industry
- Weapons manufacturing

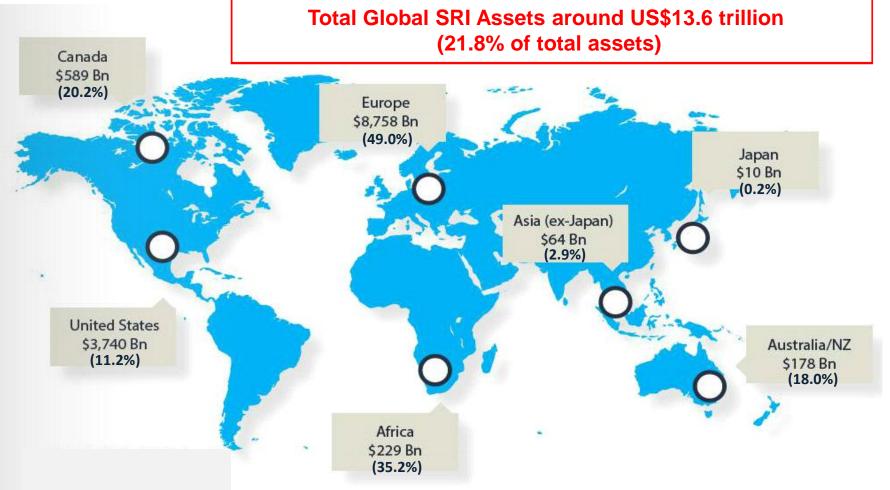






## An Overview of Global SRI



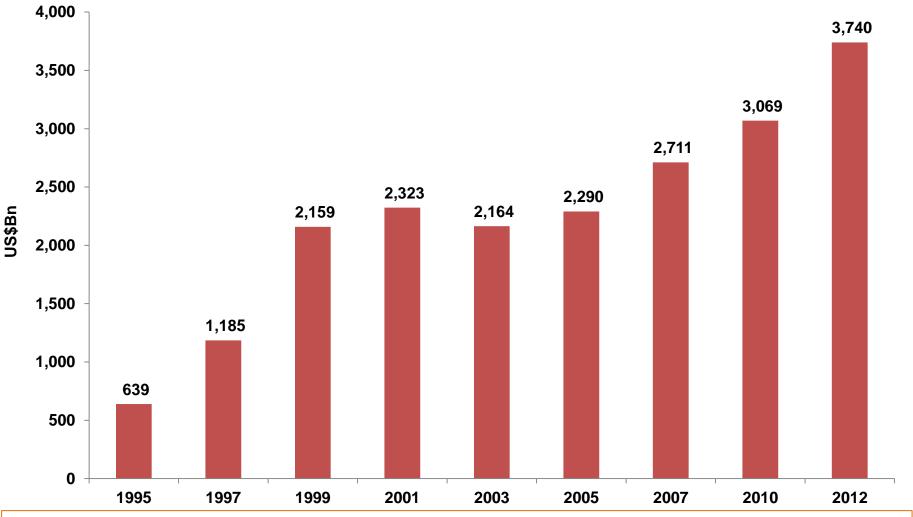


() Relative proportion of ESG assets in total assets under management by region

Source: GSIA Global Sustainable Investment Review 2012



### **Recent SRI Trends in the US**



# According to The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment, SRI in the US rose from US\$639Bn in 1995 to US\$3.7Tn in 2012 – a 486% increase.

Source: The Forum of Sustainable and Responsible Investing (USSIF)







Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index Series Member 2014-2015

48 Companies use our index mark

#### The Group included in new Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index 集團入選「恒生可持續發展企業指數系列」成份股



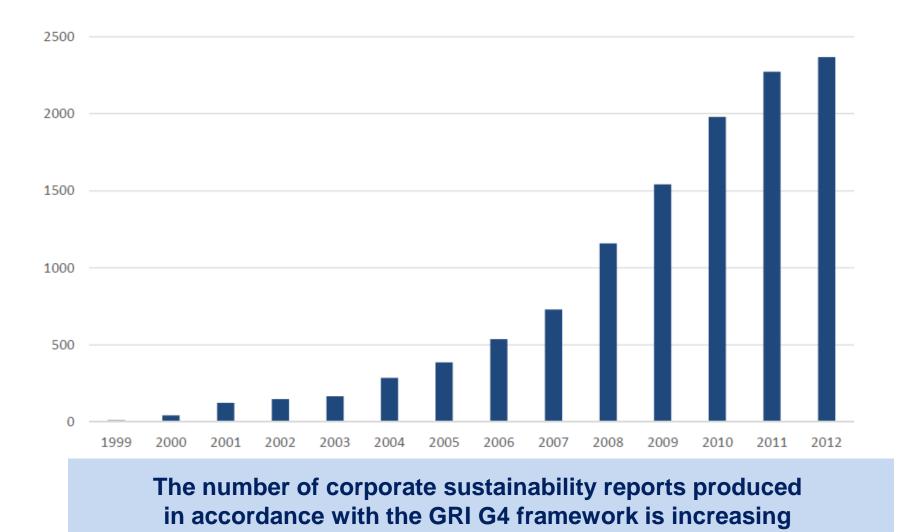
#### Community

 Constituent member of Dow Jones Sustainability Index, FTSE4Good Index and Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index, three of the best known indices to track responsible business practices in the world



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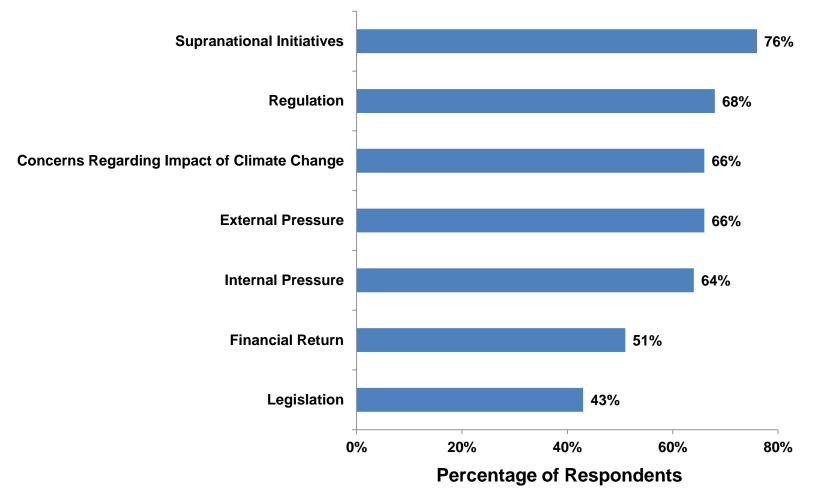


Source: 2012 Global Conference on Sustainability and Reporting : NGO Round Table – GRI Reporting Statistics





### Perception of ESG Drivers in the next 3 to 5 years

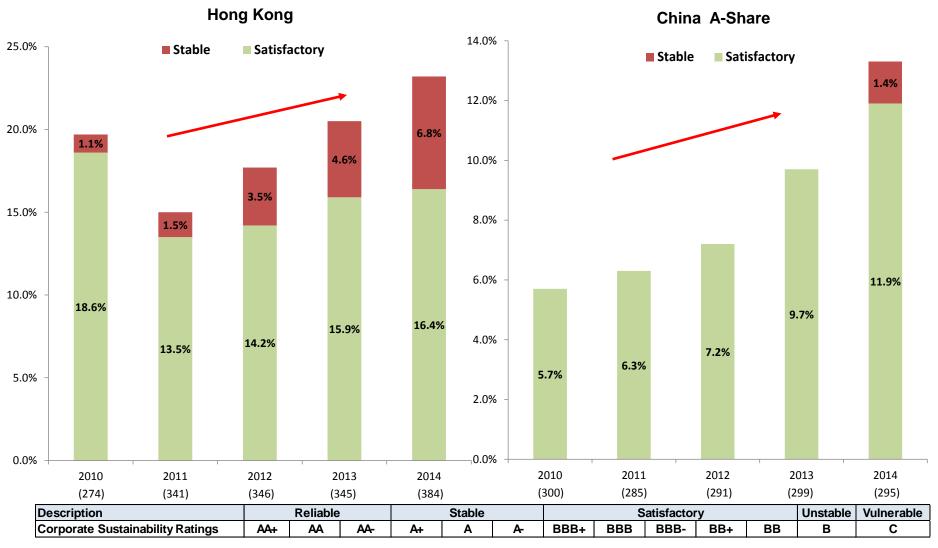


Source: Business for Social Responsibility's (BSR) report on "ESG in the Mainstream- The Role of Companies and Investors in Environmental, Social and governance Integration



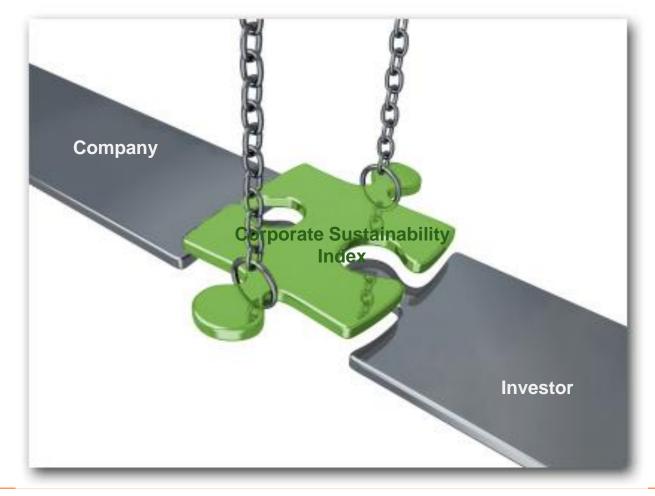
# Improving Corporate Sustainability Performance

#### Percentage of Companies Rated as Satisfactory/Stable over Total Number of Companies Assessed



Source: Results of 2010 – 2013 Reputex's Assessment and 2014 HKQAA's Assessments





Sustainability Index acts as a simple tool for investors to select the best companies in terms of corporate sustainability



# Relationships between Corporate Sustainability and Financial Performance

|    |                                |      | Studied by:                | Findings:  |  |                   |   |
|----|--------------------------------|------|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| Su | orporat<br>stainabi<br>rformar | lity | Harvard Business<br>School | <ul> <li>Sustainability leaders tend to have better<br/>stock performance, lower volatility, and<br/>greater returns on assets (ROA) and equity<br/>(ROE).</li> <li>Suggests this outperformance is based on<br/>superior governance structures and better<br/>constructive engagement with stakeholders.</li> </ul> |  | inancia<br>forman | - |
|    |                                |      | Mercer                     | <ul> <li>Examines the link between ESG issues and financial performance through existing academic and broker research.</li> <li>Of 36 studies Mercer reviewed through 2009, 86% show either a neutral or positive impact of ESG factors on risk and return.</li> </ul>   |  |                   |   |

Source:

- Eccles, Robert G.; Ioannou, Ioannis; Serafeim, George "The Impact of a Corporate Culture of Sustainability on Corporate Behavior and Performance". Harvard Business School Working Paper 12-035, November 04, 2011.

- Mercer, "Responsible Investment's second decade: Summary report of the state of ESG integration, policy and reporting", August 2011.



### **Milestones since launch and future development**







 Formulated by HKQAA with reference to several international standards – such as the GRI G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, and ISO 26000 Social Responsibility Guidelines





#### HK

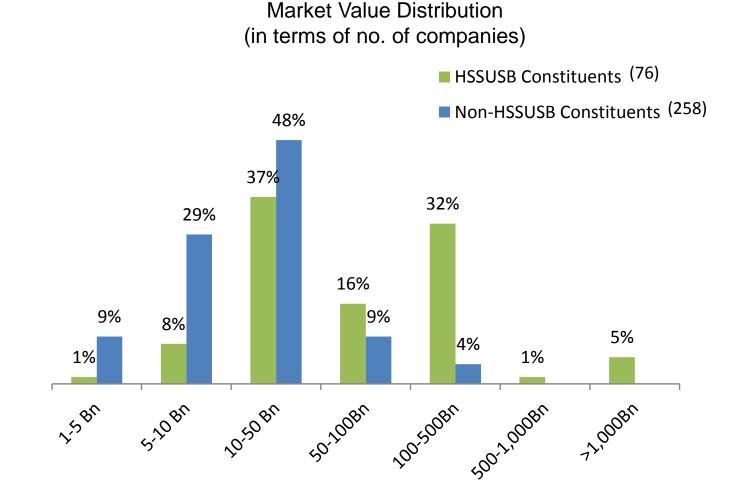


#### **Benchmark Series** Hang Seng (China A) Corporate Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability **Benchmark Index** Sustainability Benchmark Index (Top 10% Corporate Sustainability (Top 20% Corporate Sustainability **Rating of HSCI)** Rating of A300) **Total Number: 76 Total Number: 29 MV** within Top 150 MV within Top 150 **Tradability Screening** VR\* > 0.1% **Tradable Series** Hang Seng (China A) Corporate Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index **Sustainability Index** (Top 15 Corporate Sustainability Rating) (Top 30 Corporate Sustainability Rating) Hang Seng (Mainland and HK) Corporate Sustainability Index

(41\* Companies)

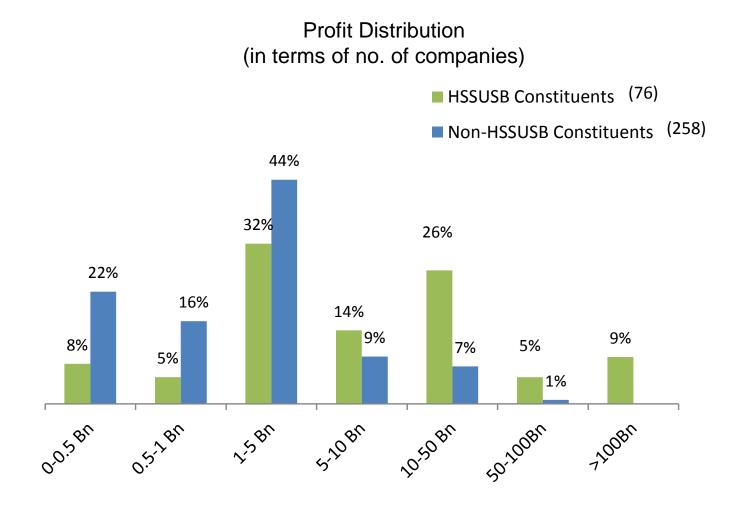
\*11 of them are AH companies





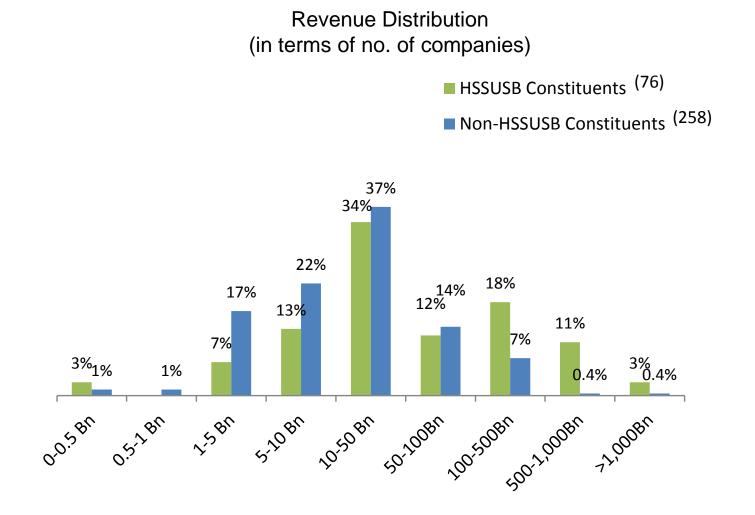
Data as of the latest fiscal year





#### Data as of the latest fiscal year





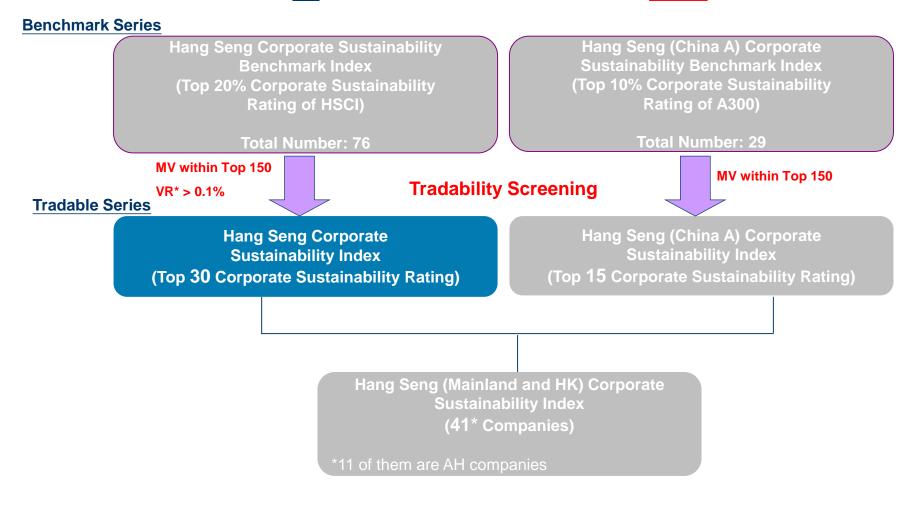
Data as of the latest fiscal year



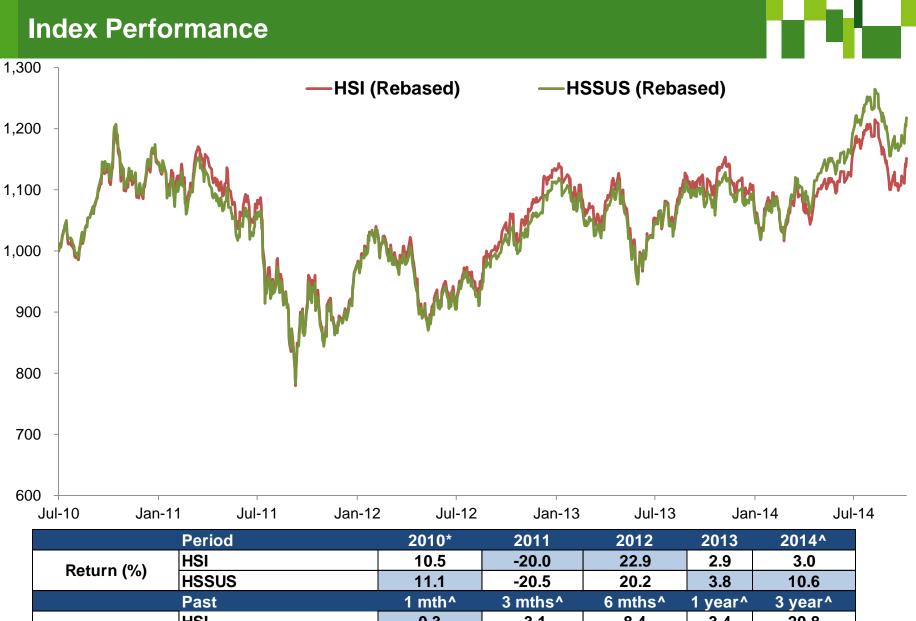


#### ΗK

#### **CHINA**



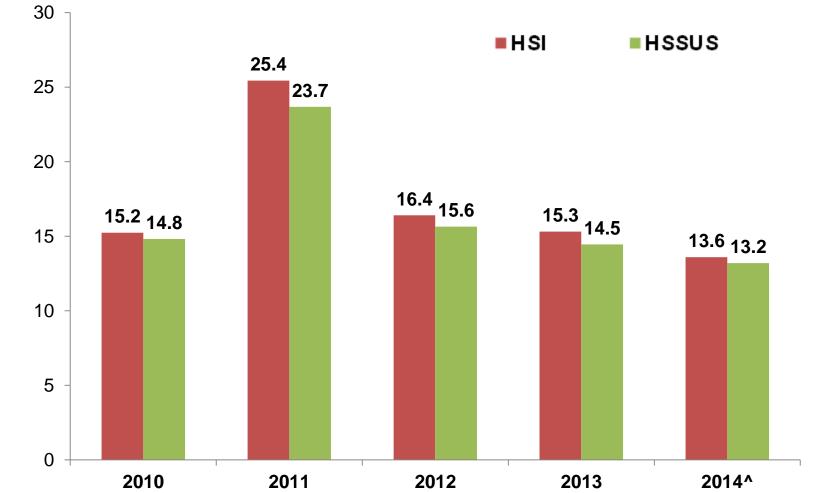




|            |       |        | -20.5   | 20.2    | 5.0     | 10.0   |
|------------|-------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
|            | Past  | 1 mth^ | 3 mths^ | 6 mths^ | 1 year^ | 3 year |
| Return (%) | HSI   | 0.3    | -3.1    | 8.4     | 3.4     | 20.8   |
| Return (%) | HSSUS | -0.6   | -0.3    | 12.2    | 11.5    | 29.4   |
|            |       |        |         |         |         |        |



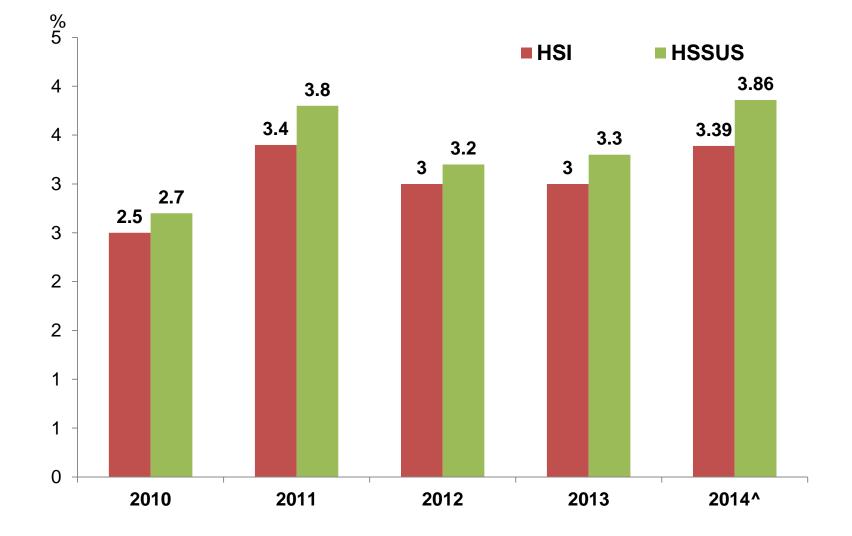
## Lower Risk



Annualized Vol (%)



# **Higher Dividend Yield**



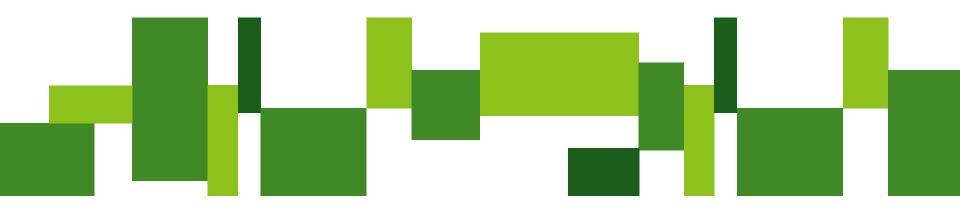








# Thank you!



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