International Workshop on the Reform of Public Pension Systems

Peter Gortzak, Head of Policy, Corporate Strategy and Policy, APG 2 February 2015





1. Opening and welcome

- **2.** Introduction APG
- **3.** Dutch pension system
- 4. Recent policy reforms and challenges



Introduction APG



APG'S MISSION ...





MAIN CHARACTERISTICS APG

- All Pensions Group N.V., established on March 1, 2008
- Merger with Cordares as per 1 September 2008
- One of the largest independent pension providers in the Netherlands and one of the largest specialized managers of pension funds worldwide (AUM > €350bn)
- Represents the interests of over 4 million participants, active in the education, government, construction, (public) housing, energy and utility sectors
- Offices in Amsterdam, Heerlen, Brussels, New York and Hong Kong



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- Pension administration
 - Collection, administration and payment
- Communication
 - Internet (pension planner), social media
- Asset management
 - Portfolio construction based on liability structure
- Board support and advise
 - Actuarial, legal, technical, organizational
- Supplementary products
 - Loyalis (insurance)



APG'S RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY

- **1.** Responsible investment is an integral part of the investment process at APG.
- 2. APG enters into dialogue with companies in order to achieve sustainability and good corporate governance.
- 3. APG expects companies to act with respect for the principles of the UN Global Compact, and we will sell the shares we hold if the dialogue does not lead to improvement. Moreover, APG does not invest in products which are banned under Dutch law or international regulations.
- 4. APG does not invest in sovereign bonds issued by countries that are subject to an arms embargo by the UN Security Council.
- **5.** APG actively exercises our rights as shareholder.
- 6. APG strongly advocates robust Dutch and international laws and regulations aimed at promoting sustainability and good corporate governance.
- **7.** APG actively looks for attractive investments that promote sustainability.
- 8. APG actively propagates our responsible investment policy in order to promote sustainability and corporate governance.



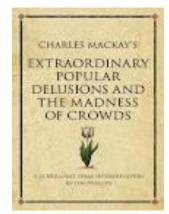
DUTCH PENSION SYSTEM

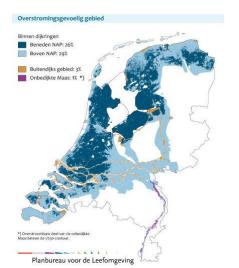


HISTORY OF MANAGING RISK IN HOLLAND

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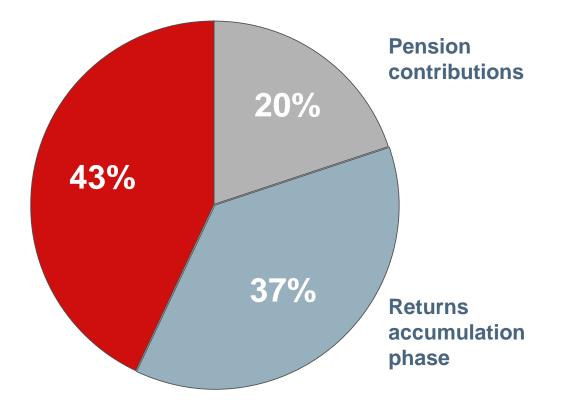


BALANCE BETWEEN PAY-AS-YOU-GO AND FUNDED PENSIONS

Third pillar: individual (10%)	 voluntary pension products 				
Second pillar:	mandatory via employer				
occupational pensions	 funded: > EUR 900 billion 				
(40%)	 earnings-related pension schemes 				
	 not-for-profit pension funds governed by social partners 				
First pillar: state pensions	mandatory				
(50%)	 pay-as-you-go financing 				
	 flat rate pensions: EUR 1,107 (single) or 				
	EUR 1,523 (couple) per month				

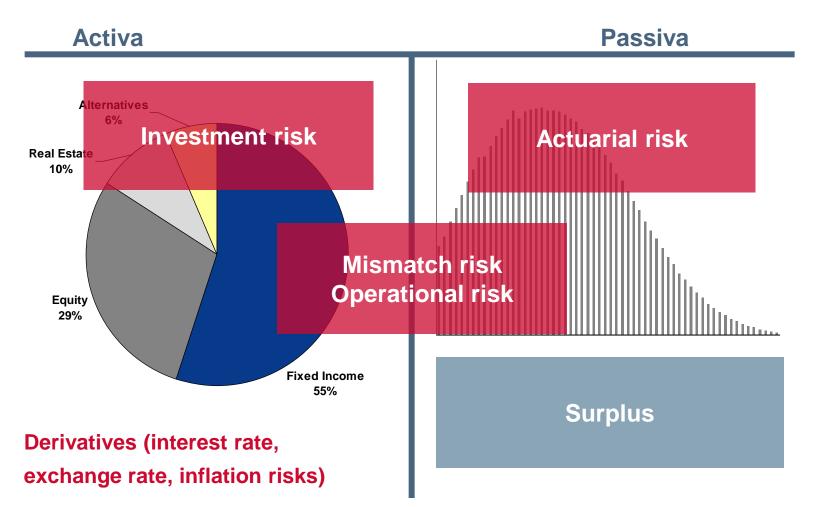


HOW TO DELIVER ADEQUATE PENSIONS?



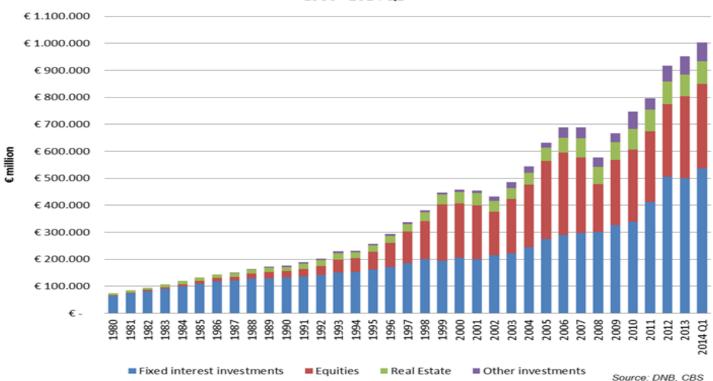


PENSION FUND BALANCE SHEET MNGT





INVESTMENT RETURNS → **BETTER PENSIONS**



Asset allocation pension funds

1980 - 2014 Q1



BETTER PENSION DESIGN

• Define and implement adequate risk budget

- Accumulation phase
- Decumulation phase
- Diversification
- Target income approach

Set up low cost pension delivery

- Use benefits of scale and scope
- Avoid distribution costs
- Communication to participant



RECENT POLICY REFORMS AND CHALLENGES



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THE BIG PICTURE

June 8, 2014 4:23 am

Dutch defend Queen's UK pension plan

By Madison Marriage



The move to introduce Dutch-style collective pension plans was announced by Queen Elizabeth in her annual speech to the UK parliament

An angry debate has erupted in the UK investment market after plans to adopt a Dutch pooled pension model were unveiled by the British government last week.

The move to introduce Dutch-style collective pension plans, which proponents hope will provide enhanced investment performance and economies of scale, was announced by Queen Elizabeth in her annual speech to parliament.

Many in the UK pension industry have been quick to point out flaws in the Dutch system, much to the bemusement of their peers in the Netherlands.

Alwin Oerlemans, managing director of institutional business development at APG, the largest Dutch pension fund, which has €340bn of assets, savs he is "surprised" to see so much hostility from the UK market towards his country's model.



TRENDS: WHO WANTS WHAT?

• Society at large

- Less solidarity and less collectivity
- More freedom of choice

Dutch government

- Adequate level of pensions
- Stable macro-economics and efficient labour market (mobility)

Supervisors

- Central bank: capital adequacy (high funding ratios)
- Conduct supervisor: transparency

European Commission

- Harmonization
- Shift towards pensions as financial product



RECENT CHANGES

• Strengthened governance framework

- More room for professional managers
- More influence for stakeholders (pensioners)

• Stricter financial supervision framework

- Higher financial buffers (130%)
- Smoothening of premiums and pension reductions
- (very) strong requirements for indexation

Lower tax benefits

- 1,875% and €100K
- Reason is government budget



FUTURE CHANGES

• Fundamental discussion on pension system

- How much solidarity do we want? (young/old, average premium)
- Individual or collective? (pension duty not really in discussion)
- How to increase freedom of choice?
 - Choose your own pension fund or insurer
 - Choose your own level of premium (beyond certain minimum)
 - More flexibility in payout phase, e.g., get more early and less later, or use part of your pension for housing or care
 - More influence on specific topics, e.g., level of risk taking, or ESG
 - Etc.
- Ongoing discussions on investing in the Netherlands
 - Pension funds acknowledge their social responsibility, BUT:
 - risk-return tradeoff is key
 - ABP already invests more than 10% in the Netherlands
 - Scalability is an issue



SOME CHALLENGES AND TRADEOFFS

- Freedom of choice is good and should be supported where possible, BUT:
 - Less collectivity means less economies of scale, less risk sharing and higher administrative burden
 - Participants often lack time, will or knowledge to make proper choices
- Certainty has a price
 - and todays financial markets show that full certainty does not exist
- LT investing and short term politics do not always match
 - Budgetary responsibility of government sometime interferes with its role as regulator

