

**vba** investment professionals

The best way of keeping up  
is to stay ahead of the rest!



**vba** association of  
investment professionals  
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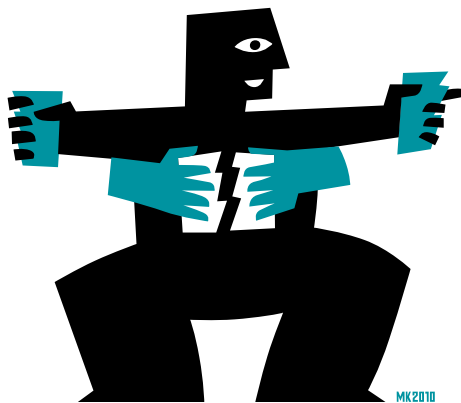
# vba investment professionals MISSION

Large numbers of investment professionals work in the Netherlands. More than thousand of these have already joined the VBA. This makes good sense, because the best way of keeping up is to stay ahead of the rest.

The VBA – the Dutch association of investment professionals – offers its members the opportunity of coming into contact with other investment professionals as well as keeping up to date with developments in the sector. However, the association is not only focused on its members; it also plays an active role in the investment industry in the Netherlands.

## **VBA Mission**

As a professional association, the VBA promotes the quality and integrity of investment professionals in the Netherlands. It provides a platform for knowledge sharing and also plays an active role regarding developments in the investment industry in the Netherlands.



## WHAT DOES THE VBA OFFER?

### Knowledge sharing

Financial expertise and integrity are the basis for an economically sound society. Investment professionals bear a great responsibility in this respect. Good training and development opportunities are vital if they are to do their work well. The VBA offers its members:

- **Training** (basic training and permanent education in collaboration with the VU University Amsterdam)
- **Lectures and seminars** (interactive meetings with discussions on topical subjects, around 25 each year)
- **Articles and studies in the VBA Journal** (practically oriented research, issued quarterly)
- **Active committees** in the various working fields of the financial professional, such as:
  - Accounting
  - ALM
  - Alternative investments
  - Sustainable investment
  - Investment performance measurement
  - Private banking
  - Risk management
  - Tactical asset allocation
  - Technical analysis
  - Property
  - Fixed income



Sjoerd van Keulen – Chairman, Holland Financial Centre

*The Holland Financial Centre was founded with the aim of developing initiatives that contribute to maintaining a strong and internationally competitive financial sector in the Netherlands. The fact that the Netherlands has such a flourishing association as the VBA, with its training programmes, publications, and over 1000 investment professionals as active members, really enhances its appeal as a place for companies to establish themselves.*

### **An active role in the investment industry**

A good professional association not only unites its members, it also facilitates communications between the financial and non-financial environment. After all, financial professionals are not only responsible for the health of their company, but also for the social context in which their company operates.

The association's active role can be seen in the following:

- Its publication of advisory reports on issues which are relevant to both the industry and society as a whole
- Its advisory role for external parties such as AFM and DNB
- Its active role within the EFFAS (European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies)
- Its representation on the Board of DSI and the Dutch Accounting Standards Board



**Klaas Knot** – Director and Deputy Treasurer General,  
Ministry of Finance

*It is very important that financial markets operate efficiently. The VBA contributes to this by expanding the expertise of investment professionals. This also makes the VBA a valuable discussion partner which is regularly consulted by us, the AFM and other organizations.*

### Network function

Membership of a professional association such as the VBA puts you in touch with fellow investment professionals, both formally and informally, for example during our many contact opportunities (lectures, seminars, etc).

### Quality mark

The VBA offers investment professionals the opportunity to stand out from the crowd. In the Netherlands the VBA is *the* standard for expert investment professionals. The VBA is involved with the following quality marks:

- **Register of Investment Analysts (RBA):** offers the opportunity to be included in the register upon successful completion of the VU-VBA Investment Management study programme
- **DSI registration:** inclusion in the senior registers is possible by taking the training courses offered by the VBA



# vba investment professionals POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The VU-VBA study programme Investment Management is offered by the VU University Amsterdam under the auspices of the VBA. The study programme offers professionals the opportunity to widen and deepen their knowledge of all aspects of investment.

## Who is it for?

This study programme is relevant for financial analysts, investment analysts, investment managers and portfolio managers, as well as regulators, risk managers, accountants and financial consultants.

## National and international recognition

Successful completion of the programme gives the right to:

- The official title Master of Science
- Inclusion in the RBA register (always in combination with VBA membership)
- Inclusion in the senior registers of DSI (senior investment advisor, senior investment analyst, senior securities trader and senior asset manager)

Moreover, the study programme is internationally recognised by the EFFAS (European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies).



### Some features of the study programme

- Part-time programme (three hours of lectures each week for two years, immediately followed by a six-month thesis phase).
- The programme covers every aspect of investment, such as Fundamental Analysis and Company Valuation, Asset Allocation, Management of Fixed Income and Equity Portfolios, Alternative Investments, Macroeconomics and Current Legislation.
- VU University Amsterdam safeguards the quality of the programme
- High pass rate: 80% of all students successfully complete the programme
- Practical approach, includes actual cases and inspiring lecturers from the field
- Evenly spread assessments with opportunities for re-sits within three months

### Further information

Please see [www.im-vu.nl](http://www.im-vu.nl)



#### Jean Frijs

*In my capacity as professor I was closely involved in the VU-VBA training programme for a number of years. The joint expertise of the VBA and the VU University Amsterdam has given the programme its sound reputation in the financial world. The programme's objective is to train investment professionals who have a thorough theoretical grounding, but who can also translate this to professional practice.*



# vba investment professionals PERMANENT EDUCATION

VBA members are among the top investment professionals in the Netherlands. Their training and experience ensures they have the right knowledge and skills to perform their tasks professionally.

However, stagnation means decline!

For this reason the VBA supports its members with permanent education (PE). It offers short modules and the opportunity to take individual components of the regular VU-VBA Investment Management study programme. Other aspects of permanent education include attending lectures, seminars, etc and reading the VBA Journal.

## Recommended number of PE points

The VBA has not set a compulsory standard for permanent education, but recommends that 20 hours (= 20 PE points) be spent on permanent education each year.

The website of the VBA contains a regularly updated overview of the modules available.



# vba investment professionals EVENTS

The VBA offers a varied annual programme of events on interesting topics. Recent examples include managing longevity risk by pension funds, the fragility of fixed income markets and the future of the euro. The national press reports more than once a year on VBA events.

Around 25 lectures, seminars, etc are arranged each year which provide an excellent opportunity to update your knowledge and to discuss the latest developments in the field. And of course there is always time to speak to colleagues and meet up with former fellow students.

The website of the VBA: [www.nvba.nl](http://www.nvba.nl) always contains an up-to-date overview of events.



**Angelien Kemna** – Chief Investment Officer, APG

*My experience of the VBA is that of a very active association, which not only offers a very good basic training programme, but which, beyond that, also continually works at keeping its member's knowledge up to date. One of the ways in which it does so is by organising interesting conferences on a wide range of subjects and various facets of the investment industry.*

# vba investment professionals JOURNAL

The VBA Journal is the association's periodical. It is a semi-academic publication with a practical approach. With its consistently sharp eye for current developments in the financial markets, the VBA Journal provides a platform for topical discussions within the field of investment. It is read by VBA members as well as other interested parties. The editorial staff is made up of enthusiastic VBA members.

The VBA Journal appears quarterly in a circulation of around 1200. Articles from previous years are available on the website to read and download.



# vba investment professionals MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all professionals who can adequately demonstrate that they are qualified as investment expert.

## **Membership includes the following:**

- Free access to almost all VBA events
- Opportunity for Permanent Education at reduced rates
- Subscription to the quarterly VBA Journal
- Opportunity to participate in one of the committees

Costs: € 295.00 per year (2010/2011 rates)

## **Conditions of membership**

All the conditions are described in full on the website.

Members are assessed on the basis of their education and work experience.

Students participating in the VU-VBA Investment Management study programme automatically become candidate members. This membership is included in the study programme. These students enjoy all the benefits of membership.

## **Applications**

You can apply for membership via the website [www.nvba.nl](http://www.nvba.nl) or contact the secretariat of the VBA, by calling +31 (0)20 618 28 12.

# vba investment professionals ORGANISATION

The association is run by the Association Office and the Board.

## Association Office



Irma Willemsen

For all your questions and comments concerning the VBA

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## Board



Hans de Ruiter

*Chairman*

The Board contains six members, including the chairman.



