



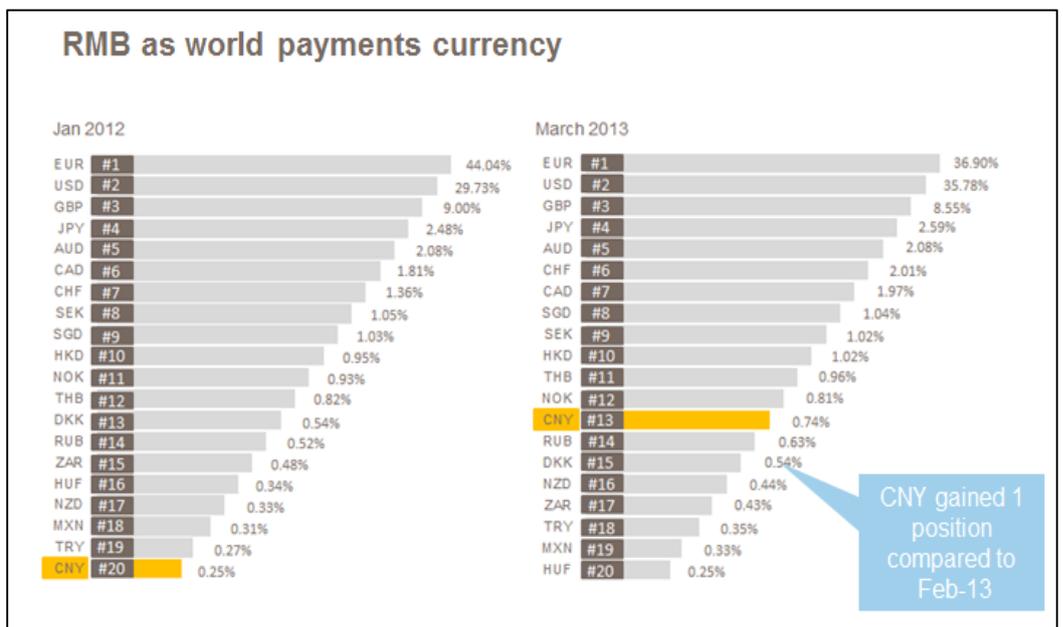
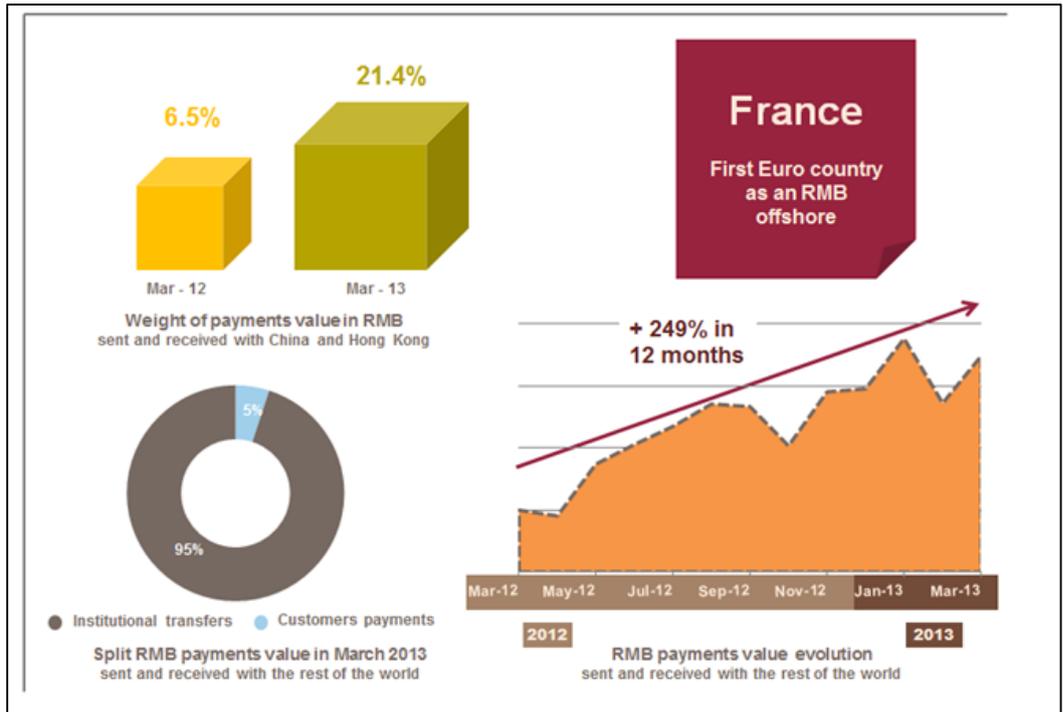
France Leads Euro Countries in Chinese RMB Payments with a 249% Increase

SWIFT RMB Tracker shows a 32.7% growth in value of Chinese RMB payments globally in the last month

Brussels, 25 April 2013 – France holds the leading position of Euro countries exchanging RMB payments, following a 249% growth in payments value since March 2012. According to SWIFT, France is now ranked #4 in the world for RMB payments value (excluding Hong Kong and China), trailing behind the United Kingdom, Singapore and Taiwan. 21.4% of the payments made between France and China/Hong Kong were denominated in CNY in March 2013 versus only 6.5% one year ago. SWIFT notes that the majority of RMB payments made were institutional transfers (95%), whilst only 5% were customer payments.

Lisa O'Connor, RMB Director at SWIFT says, "This is an interesting development as it signifies France's drive to become a leading RMB trading centre for Europe. French acceleration in RMB payments reflects increased competition with the UK since the Bank of England announced that it had signed a three-year currency swap agreement with China in March. It will be interesting to see how France's work towards setting up a currency swap agreement with China progresses, and the impact that this activity within Europe may have on the RMB."

The RMB continues to ascend the ranks as a major international payments currency regaining its position as #13, with an all-time high market share of 0.74%. Overall, RMB payments grew in value by 32.7%, in comparison to the average increase of just 5.1% across all currencies.



About SWIFT

SWIFT is a member-owned cooperative that provides the communications platform, products and services to connect more than 10,000 banking organisations, securities institutions and corporate customers in 212 countries and territories. SWIFT enables its users to exchange automated, standardised financial information securely and reliably, thereby lowering costs, reducing operational risk and eliminating operational inefficiencies. SWIFT also brings the financial community together to work collaboratively to shape market practice, define standards and debate issues of mutual interest.

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About SWIFT RMB Tracker & RMB Internationalisation

Launched in September 2011, the SWIFT RMB Tracker provides monthly reporting on key statistics to understand the progress made by RMB towards becoming an international currency. To register for the RMB Tracker in English, Traditional or Simplified Chinese, visit swift.com (select 'Banks on SWIFT') or e-mail swiftforbanks@swift.com.

For more information about RMB Internationalisation, please visit <http://www.swift.com/products/renminbi/overview> or join our new '[Business Intelligence Transaction Banking](#)' LinkedIn group!

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Yuri Imaizumi at Weber Shandwick

+81 3 5427 7412

yimaizumi@webershandwick.com

Toko Kagami at Weber Shandwick

+81 3 5427 7383

tkagami@webershandwick.com