

# Sustainable Bond Issuers with different profiles

... are contributing to EU's goal to become the first climate neutral continent



### **Governments, Municipalities, and Local Development Institutions**

EU Resources are scarce compared to investments needed to reach EU climate goals



#### **Banks and financial institutions**

Banks can facilitate transition towards a resilient, low-carbon economy



### **State-owned enteprises**

SOEs are estimated to be responsible for over one-fifth in direct carbon dioxide emissions annually on a global scale<sup>1</sup>



#### **Corporates**

Chance to gain sustainability edge and attract impact investors





# Benefits of establishing Sustainable Finance Framework

Enhanced reputation and credibility

- Establishing a Framework showcases company's dedication to sustainability
- Promotion of UN Sustainable Development Goals
- The level of transparency provided in the Framework builds trust among stakeholders

Improved ESG risk management

- The Framework forces companies to establish a clear ESG governance structure and ESG risk management policies
- ICMA, LMA guidelines, and EUGBS provide companies with a set of guidance/rules for ESG risk disclosure and reporting

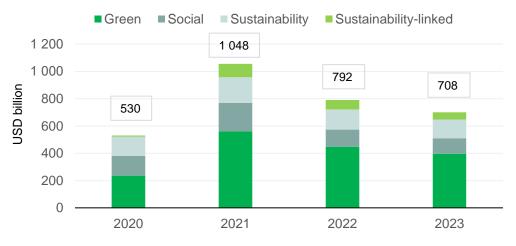
Increased access to capital

- Capital providers are facing broader societal and regulatory push but face problems collecting sustainability data from their (potential) investments
- Increasing demand to finance sustainable investments
- Green loans/bonds often provide tighter spreads

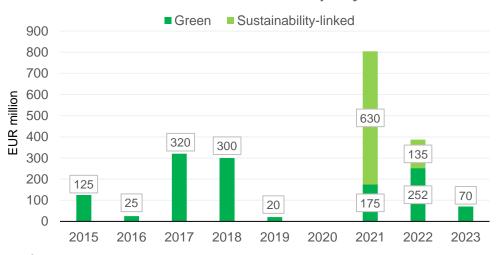


# Investors await sustainable bond issuers to enter the market

#### Total sustainable bond issuance per category

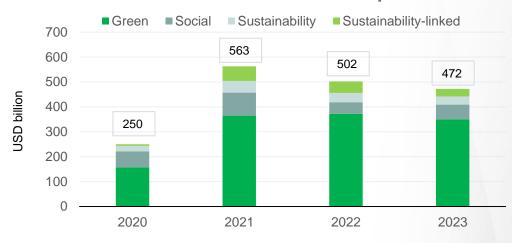


#### Baltic sustainable bond issuance per year

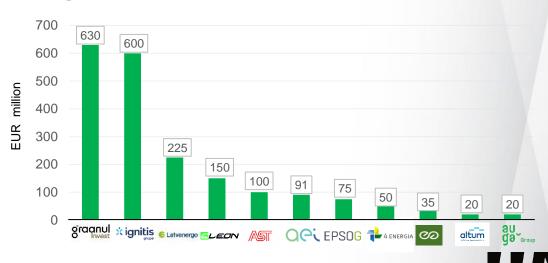


### Source: ICMA, Nasdaq Baltic SE, FactSet Note: 1) As of 31.12.2023

#### Total sustainable bond issuance in Europe



#### Largest Baltic sustainable bond issuers



# Framework preparation and SPO process

Average 8 weeks project cycle

Kick-off with a bank

Framework

Finalising the Framework

#### Week 1

- Understanding issuer's bond & sustainability objectives
- Discuss eligibility criteria and eligible projects (scope)
- Commence drafting the Framework

#### Week 3

- Circulation of the 1st draft and iterations with the . working group
- Introductory meetings with SPO providers

#### Week 4

- Completion of the Framework
- Appoint SPO provider
- Circulate Framework to the SPO provider
- Clarifying questions sent to the working group by the SPO

#### Week 5

- Kick-off call with the SPO provider
- Qlarifying questions discussed during the KO call

#### Week 6

- Evaluate issuer's sustainability strategy and reporting targets
- Evaluate Framework's alignment with recognized ICMA principles
- Final questions asked

#### Week 7

- Receive final comments from the working group
- Finalize evaluation and opinion

## Week 8

Receive issuer's

sign-off

 Publish the SPO to SPO's and Issuer's website available to investors

### Issuer's involvement in the process





















### L Use of Proceeds



## Select <u>GBP Green Project categories</u> contributing to environmental objectives

- Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency
- Clean Transportation
- Green Buildings
- · Waste Management and Circular Economy
- Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources



## Define Green Projects falling into Green Project categories

- Solar PV, Solar CSP, Wind Parks
- Renovation, energy efficiency equipment
- Vehicles, Infrastructure
- · Construction, acquisition
- · Waste collection, composting of bio-waste
- Afforestation, forest management, restoration of wetlands, restoration of forests





## Create eligibility Criteria and exclusion List

- Should be created for each Green Project category
- Each project within the category should fulfil the conditions under the criteria
- Official and market-based taxonomies should be used as classification systems



#### Eligible expenditures may include

- Fixed assets
- · Re-financing projects
- Capital expenditures
- Operating expenditures of new, ongoing, or completed Green Projects
- · Certain financial assets
- R&D





### II. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

Have a process in place how the issuer is screening and identifying potential Green projects that correspond to issuer's overarching sustainbility strategy



There should be a team in place who is responsible that identified projects are in compliance with eligibility criteria of the Framework and applicable laws and regulation



Approve evaluated and selected projects and mark them as Green Projects in a dedicated "Green Register"





## III. Management of Proceeds

Tracking of Green Bond net proceeds	<ul> <li>Issuers should use a dedicated earmarked account to track the allocation of net proceeds from Green Bonds to Green Projects</li> <li>Dedicated department should be responsible for the allocation of the net proceeds from the issuance of Green Bonds to eligible projects</li> </ul>
Allocation	<ul> <li>Look-forward period should be defined</li> <li>Look-back period should be maximum of 3 years from the date of issuance</li> </ul>
Temoprary holdings	<ul> <li>Process in place to track unallocated Green Bond net proceeds</li> <li>Any unallocated proceeds temporary held can be placed in liquidity reserves or invested in money market deposits or invested in pre-defined green indicies</li> </ul>
Exclusions	<ul> <li>Process and exclusion criteria in place to track that proceeds including temporary holdings, are not allocated to projects for which the purpose is fossil energy production, nuclear energy generation, weapons and defence, potentially environmentally harmful resource extraction (such as rare-earth elements or fossil fuels), gambling or Tobacco etc.</li> </ul>





### **IV.** Reporting

Allocation Reporting	Impact Reporting
<ul> <li>Selected information included in the allocation reporting:</li> <li>The total amount of green bonds issued</li> <li>Breakdown of amounts allocated to each of the Green Project Category</li> <li>Share of proceeds used for financing vs refinancing</li> <li>Description of selected Green Projects financed</li> <li>Unallocated proceeds at the end of the reporting period</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Selected information included in the impact reporting:</li> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tonnes of CO2e emissions)</li> <li>Estimated reduction in car use and car kilometres the project will replace</li> <li>Number of km of new walking, bicycle lanes etc.</li> <li>Annual gross amount of waste that is seperated and/or collected, and treated (tonnes and in % of total waste)</li> <li>Installed renewable energy capacity (kW)</li> <li>Annual renewable energy generation (kWh)</li> </ul>

- ✓ Issuer should report annually the allocation and impact reporting
- ✓ First report should be relased no later than a year from the issuance of a green bond, and thereafter annually until the full allocation
- ✓ The reports should be available for investors





### V. External Verification

#### **Pre-issuance review**











































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