



## Press release

Brussels, 19 January 2022



### **Belfius Bank receives 'Best Bond Finance House of the Year 2021' award from Euronext Brussels**

Yesterday, 18 January 2022, Belfius was presented with the award of 'Best Bond Finance House of the Year 2021' by Euronext Brussels. This prestigious and coveted award underlines the strategic role played by the bank in advising and offering its customers alternative financing arrangements on capital markets across their whole capital structure. **This is the 6th time that Belfius Bank has received this award since 2013, making it the undisputed leader for Debt Capital Markets transactions for Belgian issuers.**

During 2021, Belfius Bank was involved in 12 of the 16 benchmark mandates (issues of a minimum of EUR 500 million) for Belgian issuers in the sector for corporates and public issuers. Belfius also acted a Joint Bookrunner for 5 benchmark transactions on behalf of issuers in the financial sector. Belfius Bank also helped guide 3 retail bond transactions. In total, Belfius carried out 60 DCM transactions for 25 different issuers.

2021 was a truly vintage year in the **corporate** sector. Belfius handled the first green bond issue for VGP (EUR 600 million), Eurofins (EUR 750 million), Fluvius (two tranches totalling EUR 1.1 billion), Aedifica with its first sustainable bond (EUR 500 million), Sofina with its first benchmark bond (EUR 700 million) and Proximus with its first green bond (EUR 750 million). Successful retail bond transactions were also conducted for Atenor (green bond for EUR 100 million), MG Real Estate (EUR 45 million) and ImmoBel (green bond for EUR 125 million).

New issue programmes were also put in place for Xior (EUR 200 million green CP/MTN), the Watergroep (EUR 50 million CP/MTN) and Matexi (EUR 50 million green CP/MTN). A number of private placements were implemented for Atenor, Codralux, Ascencio, Aedifica, Befimmo, GIMV, Louis Delhaize, MG Real Estate, Intervest, Codic and Besix. Belfius DCM acted as Joint Bookrunner for 3 benchmark transactions for Belfius Bank (including the first green bond for Belfius Bank) and 2 benchmark transactions for Argenta Spaarbank.

**Public sector** issuers were also very active in 2021. Belfius was involved in benchmark transactions for the Flemish Community (two tranches totalling EUR 2.75 billion), the Walloon Region (EUR 1 billion) and the French Community (EUR 500 million social bond). A new issue programme was launched for ZNA (EUR 50 million CP) and private placements were implemented for Cliniques Saint-Luc, Communauté Française, the Walloon Region, City of Namur, the Brussels Capital Region, APIBW, Deutschsprachige Gemeinschaft and FRBRTC.

# Belfius



In addition to these bond issues, Belfius Bank is also investing heavily in the **structuring of green and sustainable financing frameworks** that can be applied to both bond financing and the traditional banking market. Issuers are also able to turn to Belfius for detailed advice on obtaining an external rating, now or in the years ahead.

Dirk Gyselinck, member of the Belfius Bank management board: *“Belfius is delighted to receive for the 6th time the Euronext Bond House of the year award, through which Belfius’ expertise in facilitating the access to the capital markets is again recognized. After being named Best Equity House in 2020, this award clearly demonstrates Belfius’ added value in advising its client issuers across the capital structure.”*

### Contact

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