



## Press release

Brussels, 20 January 2023



### **Belfius Bank wins 2 awards from Euronext Brussels: 'Bond Finance House of the Year' and 'ESG Bond Finance House of the Year'**

Yesterday, 19 January 2023, Belfius was crowned 'Bond Finance House of the Year' by Euronext Brussels for the 7th time in 10 years. In addition to winning this prestigious and much-coveted award, Belfius also received the accolade of 'ESG Bond Finance House of the Year' for the first time. This is yet another double confirmation of the strategic role played by Belfius in advising and offering alternative financing to Belgian issuers via the bond market and also in attracting investors on the international capital markets. Belfius is the undisputed Number 1 in Debt Capital Markets transactions for Belgian issuers and these new awards also confirm the bank's leading position in the issue of Green Bonds and Social Bonds for Belgian companies and (semi-)public entities.

In 2022, Belfius realised no fewer than 46 long-term transactions for Belgian issuers, including 9 Benchmark transactions (+€500 million), 3 Green Retail Bonds, 32 Private Placements and 2 Schuldschein transactions. This again made Belfius the market leader, both in terms of volume and number of transactions conducted for Belgian companies and (semi-)public entities.

2022 was another fine vintage year in the **corporate** sector. During the year, Belfius DCM paved the way for VGP with its Green Benchmark Bonds (€1 billion) and GBL (Benchmark Bond for €500 million). Three successful Green Retail Bond transactions were launched for Immobel (€125 million), Atenor (€55 million) and Eaglestone (€26 million). A number of private placements were also carried out, including for Colruyt (€25 million), Codralux (€ 35 million) and Intervest Offices & Warehouses (Green Private Placement, €45 million). In addition, Belfius DCM acted as Joint Bookrunner in the issue of Mortgage Covered Bonds on behalf of financial institutions, totalling €2 billion.

Issuers in the **public sector** were also very active in 2022. Belfius was involved in Benchmark transactions for Fluvius (€500 million), the Walloon Region (€1 billion) and the French Community (€600 million in Social Bonds). Private placements were also conducted for the Flemish Community (€180 million) and the German-speaking Community (€110 million).

# Belfius



## Clear recognition of our expertise in Social and Green Bonds

In total last year, Belfius provided guidance for no fewer than 9 Green Bonds and 1 Social Bond. In doing so, Belfius clearly demonstrated the leading role it plays in this growing market for Belgian issuers. In addition to these bond issues, Belfius is also heavily committed to structuring green and sustainable financing frameworks, which can be applied to financing via both the bond and traditional banking markets. Issuers can fully rely on Belfius for detailed advice on obtaining external credit and ESG ratings, both now and for the years to come.

Dirk Gyselinck, member of the Management Board: *"Belfius is delighted to have won these two Euronext awards for 'Bond Finance House of the Year' and 'ESG Bond Finance House of the Year'. I sincerely thank our clients for their continued trust in Belfius. We are proud of the fact that our Belgian issuers make a conscious choice for Belfius to help guide and direct them on the capital markets. Belfius is well known on the capital markets for its expertise in the area of Belgian debt securities, which holds great appeal to national and international investors and which also helps support successful issues. The award for 'ESG Bond Finance House of the Year' from Euronext Brussels specifically confirms the ESG expertise that Belfius has built up in recent years – and which we are happy to apply when guiding our customers on their own ESG journey".*

The 'Bond Finance House of the Year' and 'ESG Bond Finance House of the Year' were awarded by Euronext to Belfius on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 during the Euronext New Year's event. The awards are based on the number of bond transactions during calendar year 2022, listed on Euronext Brussels, weighted for the amount, advisory role and type of transaction involved.

### Want more information about this?

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