



## Press release

Brussels, 17 January 2024



### **Belfius Bank crowned 'Bond Finance House of the Year' by Euronext Brussels**

Yesterday, 16 January 2024, Belfius was crowned 'Bond Finance House of the Year' by Euronext Brussels for the 3rd time in a row and 7th time in 10 years. This award is yet another 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.

In 2023, Belfius realised no fewer than 45 long-term transactions for Belgian issuers, including 17 Benchmark transactions (+€500 million), 3 Retail Bonds and 25 Private Placements. This again made Belfius the market leader in terms of number of transactions concluded for Belgian companies and (semi-)public entities, with a total transaction volume amounting to more than €12.8 billion.

2023 was another vintage year in the **corporate** sector. During the year, Belfius paved the way for the Benchmark Bonds of Argenta, Elia (green), GBL, Proximus (green), as well as for own issuances. Two successful Retail Bond transactions were launched for Colruyt (green) and UCB. A number of private placements were also carried out for Codralux, Lantis and Xior (green).

Issuers in the **public sector** were also very active in 2023. Belfius was involved in Benchmark transactions for Fluvius and the French Community (Social Bond). Fluvius successfully issued a Green Retail Bond. Private Placements were also concluded for Aquafin (green), the Brussels Region, the German-speaking Community, Farys, the city of Dendermonde and the Flemish Community.

#### **A genuine 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 fast developing market for Belgian issuers. In addition to these bond issuances, 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 in years to come.

# Belfius



Dirk Gyselinck, member of the Management Board: *"It is an honour to receive the Euronext "Bond Finance House of the Year" award for the 7th time in 10 years. Every moment of recognition is not only a reward for the past, but also an inspiration to continually evolve, grow and raise the bar even higher. This award is proof that dedication, cooperation and our inexhaustible love for our customers are invincible. Sincere thanks to all our Belgian customers who choose Belfius year after year. Let us continue to strive for excellence together."*

The 'Bond Finance House of the Year' was awarded by Euronext to Belfius on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 during the Euronext New Year's event. The award is based on the number of bond transactions during calendar year 2023, listed on Euronext Brussels, weighted for amount, advisory role and type of transaction involved.

**Want more information about this?**

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