



NORD/LB Issuer Guide 2022 – Spanish Agencies

Markets Strategy & Floor Research

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Marketing communication (see disclaimer on the last pages)

NORD/LB ISSUER GUIDE 2022 Spanish Agencies

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The Spanish agency market – an overview

Authors: Dr Norman Rudschuck, CIIA // Jan-Phillipp Hensing

Spanish agency market dominated by two large issuers

As at year-end 2022, the four Spanish agencies profiled in this publication have an outstanding bond volume of EUR 20.6bn spread across 54 separate bond deals in total. In a European comparison, the Spanish agency market can therefore be described as relatively small. Despite the little number of agencies, the market is also quite diverse in nature: alongside the promotional bank ICO, there is also a securitisation vehicle, a rail network operator in addition to an institution responsible for administering Spain's strategic oil reserves. In the following, we shall be looking in greater detail at Fondo de Amortización del Déficit Eléctrico (FADE), which was founded in 2010 with the aim of securitising claims, or tariff deficit receivables, on the part of Spanish electricity providers against the government. Owing to the regulatory framework conditions, these electricity providers had generated losses, which were to be offset by the government. The purpose of FADE is to ensure that the deficits incurred by the electricity providers are offset more rapidly. The sale of tariff deficit receivables from the utility companies to FADE has since led to the issuance of bonds, some of which have been in benchmark format, temporarily producing a significant increase in the annual number of EUR benchmark deals on the Spanish agency market in the process. The second biggest agency measured in terms of total assets and volume of bonds outstanding is Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO), the Spanish promotional bank. The importance of ICO increased during the Spanish banking crisis in particular, as many financial institutions reduced their lending activities, in some cases significantly so, on account of recapitalisation and restructuring processes. The importance of the promotional bank also increased because market access became more difficult for the Spanish regions The third agency included in this Issuer Guide is Corporación de Reservas Estratégicas de Productos Petrolíferos (CORES), which is responsible for administering Spain's strategic oil reserves in its role as a stockholding entity. Founded in 2013, ADIF Alta Velocidad (ADIF-AV) is the largest Spanish agency as measured by total assets. ADIF-AV is tasked with operating Spain's high-speed railway network. Since 2015, it has been using the capital market, among other sources, in connection with its refinancing activities. In comparison with other jurisdictions, attention must always be paid to ratings in the case of Spanish agencies, which are often lower than is the case, for example, for other issuers from Germany, France, the Netherlands and even Austria. Since they only have a small volume of outstanding bonds, Instituto Valenciano de Finanzas (IVF) and Instituto Catalán de Finanzas (ICF) are not included in this Issuer Guide. Fondo de Reestructuración Ordenada Bancaria (FROB) is also no longer part of our coverage, as this agency has been responsible for distributing ESM funding since the end of 2012 and is therefore no longer active on the primary market.

Spanish agencies – an overview

Institution	Туре	Owner(s)	Guarantee	Risk weight
Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO)	Promotional bank	100% Spain	Explicit guarantee and EPE status	0%
Fondo de Amortización del Déficit Eléctrico (FADE)	Securitisation vehicle	-	Explicit guarantee for all bonds	0%
ADIF Alta Velocidad (ADIF-AV)	Rail network operator	100% Spain	EPE status	0%*
Corporación de Reservas Estratégicas de Productos Petrolíferos (CORES)	Administrator of strategic oil reserves	-	-	50%

^{*} see below



Explicit guarantees result in risk weighting of 0%

ICO and FADE have explicit guarantees from the Spanish state. As such, a risk weighting of 0% is possible according to the standard approach of CRR/Basel III.

Implicit liability due to EPE status with exception of CORES (RW 50%) and ICO

In Spain, the legal status of Entidad Pública Empresarial (EPE; public law institution) exists as a special form of liability mechanism. ICO and the ADIF-AV operate under this legal status, which implies a strong dependence on the central government. EPEs are exempt from insolvency law and can only be liquidated through legislation. If liquidation occurs, the remaining assets and liabilities are transferred to the state or another institution with a comparable legal status. According to our understanding, there consequently exists an implicit guarantee for ADIF-AV, but this is weaker than, for example, the comparable liability mechanisms of the French établissement public (EP) status or the German Gewährträgerhaftung (guarantor liability). Conversely, in the case of ICO, the statutes stipulate direct liability on the part of the Spanish state in addition to EPE status. However, in view of the absence of a liability mechanism, a 0% risk weighting is not possible in the case of CORES. Under the standard approach of CRR/Basel III, the applicable risk weighting is derived from the rating and amounts to 50% at present.

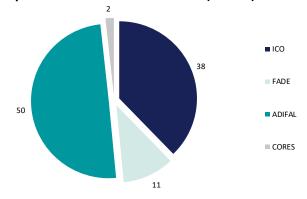
Special case: ADIF-AV

Another special case is that of ADIF-AV. A risk weighting of 0% applies for ADIF-AV, even without a corresponding liability mechanism having been put in place. Based on this circumstance, ADIF-AV bonds also qualify as Level 1 assets under the LCR. In addition, ADIF-AV benefits from an implicit guarantee from the Spanish government due to its status as a government-related issuer.

Balance sheet growth of Spanish agencies

120 100 80 40 20 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

Comparison of balance sheet totals (EURbn)



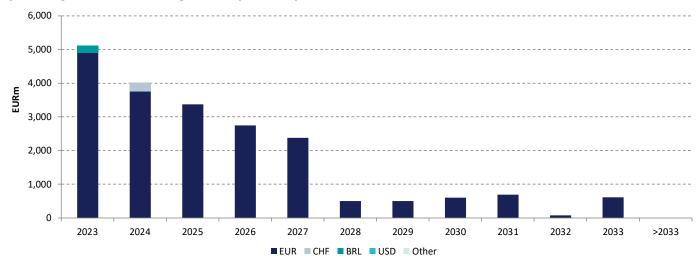
Source: Issuers, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Marginal increase in aggregated balance sheet total following steady decline

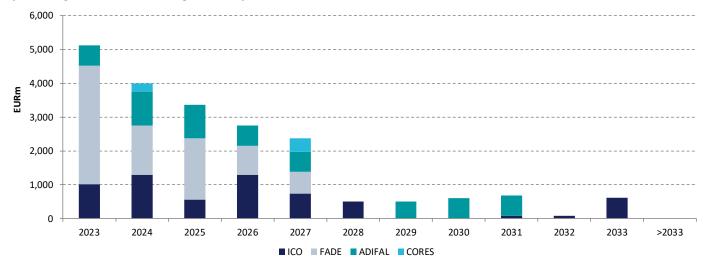
The aggregated total assets of the four Spanish agencies included in this Issuer Guide declined steadily since 2013. The Spanish promotional bank ICO is primarily responsible for this decline. While the balance sheet total of ICO stood at EUR 84.0bn in 2014, this figure steadily declined to stand at a value of EUR 31.8bn in 2019. In 2020 and 2021, ICO reversed this long-standing trend to record balance sheet growth of EUR +2.6bn and EUR +3.4bn respectively. This development had a positive effect on the aggregated balance sheet total of all issuers, which rose by EUR +2.6bn in 2021 to stand at EUR 100.1bn overall. Of the agencies included in this Issuer Guide, balance sheet growth (EUR +1.9bn) was also observed at ADIFAL. In contrast, total assets at FADE declined by EUR -2.5bn year on year.



Spanish agencies: outstanding bonds by currency



Spanish agencies: outstanding bonds by issuer



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. Source: Bloomberg, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Supply mainly denominated in EUR at the short end

The Spanish agency market has a certain supply of EUR bonds, particularly in the maturity range up to 2027, which accounts for a significant number of the bonds placed in benchmark format. Only around 2.3% of the outstanding volume relates to four bonds denominated in two foreign currencies (all ICO). At present, a total of 23 EUR-denominated benchmark bonds are outstanding.



Outstanding bond volumes (EURbn)

Outstanding EUR benchmarks (EURbn)



NB: Benchmarks are defined as bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. Source: Bloomberg, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Spanish agencies — an overview (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

Name	Ticker	Rating (Fitch/Moody's/S&P)	Outstanding Volume	EUR volume	Funding target 2023	Maturities 2023	Net Supply 2023	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume
ICO	ICO	A-/Baa1/A	6.2	5.7	5.0	1.0	4.0	8	4.0
FADE	FADE	-/-/-	8.3	8.3	1.0	3.5	-2.5	0	0.0
ADIF-AV	ADIFAL	A-/Baa2/-	5.5	5.5	0.6	0.6	0.0	6	3.5
CORES	CORES	A-/-/A	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0	0.0
Total		·	20.6	20.1	20.6	20.1	7 1	5 1	2

NB: Fitch, Moody's and S&P rate FADE's bonds on a par with Spain's credit rating; FADE is not assigned an issuer rating. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022.

On account of the issuer's individual funding mix, the values for "funding target" and "net supply" in particular may deviate from reality. Source: Bloomberg, issuers, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Comment

Although fresh supply has been declining for a number of years, the Spanish agency market continues to rank among the active SSA segments within Europe, albeit one that is on the smaller side. We assume that fresh supply will stabilise at lower levels in the coming years, whereby ICO is likely to continue to account for the lion's share of the funding requirement.

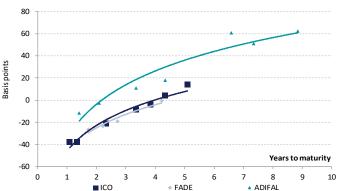


Spain A comparison of spreads

Spanish agencies vs. iBoxx € indices and Bonos

80 60 40 40 20 -20 -40 -40 -50 -50 Spanish agencies -iBoxx € Agencies ex IT -Bonos

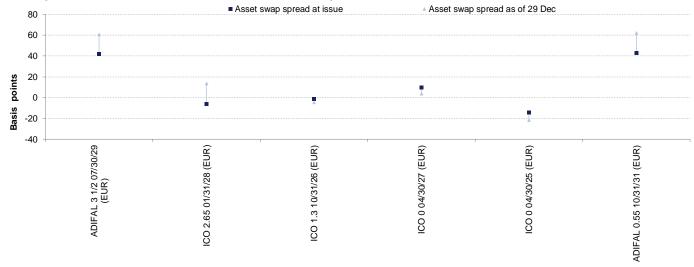
Spanish agencies – a comparison



Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Spain Primary market activities – an overview

Development of benchmark issues 2021/22 (fixed coupon)



NB: Benchmarks are defined as bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Source: Bloomberg, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Reduction in primary market activities brought to a halt

After a brief high in 2011, issuance volumes plummeted until 2018. Issuance volumes have stood at a comparable level for more than four years now (gross supply of roughly EUR 2-3bn per year). FADE will continue to refinance existing bonds via new issuances, meaning that the net supply of bonds will amount to a maximum of 0. In the meantime, ICO also reported declining primary market supply. Nevertheless, its primary market activities have since picked up pace again due to an abundance of maturing bonds and the pandemic. Supply from CORES is relatively marginal when compared with the other issuers, a situation reflected in the fact that this issuer currently has no EUR benchmark bonds outstanding. However, the fact that ADIF-AV has established itself on the primary market looks set to have a stabilising effect moving forwards. The supply of ESG bonds has also seen steady growth over recent years.





General information

<u>Homepage</u>

Investor Relations

Owner(s)

100% Spain

Guarantor(s)

Spain

Liability mechanism

Explicit guarantee and EPE status

Legal form

Entidad Pública Empresarial (EPE)

Bloomberg ticker

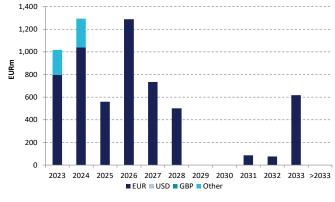
ICO

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook
Fitch	A-	stab
Moody's	Baa1	stab
S&P	Α	stab

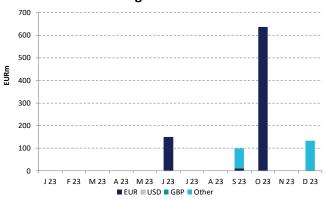
Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO)

Founded in 1971, Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO) was initially the central institute for state-owned banks at that time. In 1991, the remit of ICO was significantly altered with the decision to privatise the state-owned credit sector. Today, ICO functions as a national promotional bank and state finance agency. In addition, the agency is a key instrument in the implementation of Spanish economic and financial policies. Within this framework, ICO pursues four main goals based on the "ICO Group Strategy 2022-2027": first, ICO seeks to promote corporate growth, competitiveness and the resilience of the Spanish economy. In this context, the focus is on financing investments by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and advancing the internationalisation of such firms. Furthermore, ICO is supporting the digital transformation, while ESG topics are additionally afforded high strategic priority. To this end, companies are supported in their transition towards achieving greater social and ecological sustainability. Last but not least, ICO is seeking to strengthen its governance and digital processes. In this context, ICO awards promotional loans, which are ultimately processed and managed by the respective end client's house bank (house bank principle), among other measures. The importance of sustainability issues for the agency is reflected, among other aspects, in the issuance of a range of social bonds since 2015, with green bonds supplementing the funding mix since 2019. As a state promotional bank, ICO played a key role in mitigating the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. The promotional bank also provides equity and mezzanine capital via its subsidiary Axis, Spain's first venture capital fund, which was founded in 1986. The Spanish state is the sole owner of ICO, which operates in the legal form of an Entidad Pública Empresarial (EPE), a type of public law institution. The Royal Decree 706/1999 stipulates that an explicit guarantee will be provided by the Kingdom of Spain for all of ICO's liabilities, which accordingly offers the agency regulatory advantages.

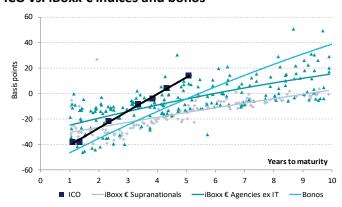
Bonds by currency



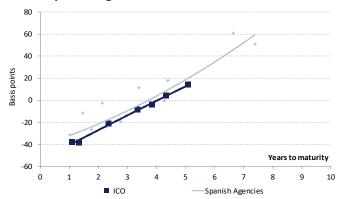
Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



ICO vs. iBoxx € indices and bonos



ICO vs. Spanish agencies



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research



Regulatory details

Risk weighting according to CRR/Basel III (standard approach)	Liquidity category according to Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)	Haircut category according to ECB repo rules	Leverage ratio/BRRD
0%	Level 1	IV	Does not apply

Relative value

Attractiveness vs. Spain (G-spread; bp)*		Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	iBoxx € Agencies
11	16	27	-38	-9	14	0.0%	0.0%

Funding & ESG (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

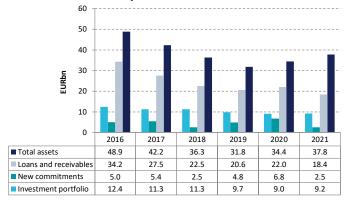
Target 2023	Maturities 2023	Net Supply 2023	Funding instruments	Central bank access	No. of ESG bonds	ESG volume
5.0	1.0	4.0	Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, private placements and commercial paper	ECB	8	4.0

Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

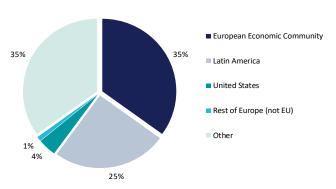
Total	of which in EUR	No. of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	No. of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
6.2	5.7	8	0.0	0	0.5

^{*} Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn.

Balance sheet development



Breakdown of financial assets by location

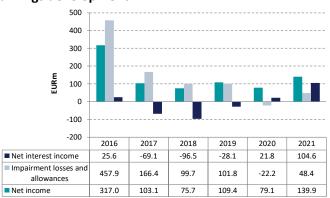


Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

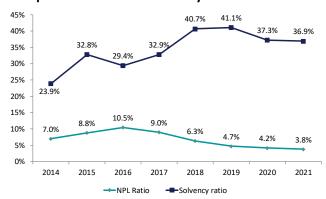
Strengths

- + Explicit guarantee
- + Very high importance for the Spanish state

Earnings development



Development of NPL and Solvency Ratio



Weaknesses

- Low profitability
- Certain degree of strain on the lending portfolio due to NPLs

^{**} Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. On account of the issuer's individual funding mix, the values for "funding target" and "net supply" in particular may deviate from reality. Source: Bloomberg, issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research





General information

Homepage

Owner(s)

_

Guarantor(s)

Spain

Liability mechanism

Explicit guarantee

Legal form

-

Bloomberg ticker

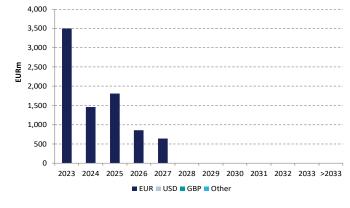
FADE

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook
Fitch	-	-
Moody's	-	-
S&P	-	-

Fondo de Amortización del Déficit Eléctrico (FADE)

The purpose of Fondo de Amortización del Déficit Eléctrico (FADE), which was founded in 2010, is to amortise the deficits incurred by Spanish electricity suppliers between 2000 and 2013. The deficits were incurred because regulations implemented by the Spanish government kept final electricity prices at an artificially low level until 2009. While the electricity suppliers had to pay market prices to procure energy, their end customers were paying a much lower price. To offset the deficits resulting from this situation, the electricity suppliers receive compensation payments from the government, including interest, within a time frame of 8-15 years. It is ultimately the Spanish consumer that ends up footing the bill for these compensation payments in the form of grid charges. In order to facilitate a more rapid deficit equalisation on the part of the electricity providers, they are permitted to sell on compensation claims to FADE, which in turn receives the compensation payments. FADE issues ABS that are secured directly by the compensation claims in order to finance these transfers. The state energy board, Comisión Nacional de Energía (CNE), is responsible for collecting the compensation payments. This makes the tariff deficit loans that FADE acquired up to 2013 its most important financial assets. The energy providers were able to refinance the deficits via FADE within the space of five years. To this end, FADE is authorised to issue bonds to refinance existing bonds until 2031. To solidify FADE's liquidity position, the fund has a credit line with ICO (Instituto de Crédito Oficial; see previous pages) amounting to EUR 2.0bn. Due to the fact that FADE does not have its own legal form, the fund is managed by Titulización de Activos Sociedad Anónima (TdA S.A.), a service provider focused on securitisations. In addition, it should be noted that FADE has no owner. Instead, the Spanish state explicitly guarantees the bonds issued by FADE up to a volume of EUR 26.0bn.

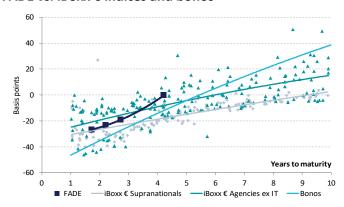
Bonds by currency



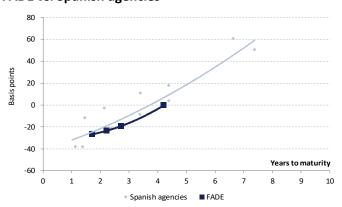
Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



FADE vs. iBoxx € indices and bonos



FADE vs. Spanish agencies



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research



Regulatory details

Risk weighting according to CRR/Basel III (standard approach)

0%

Liquidity category according to Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

Level 1

Haircut category according to ECB reportules

1 Does not apply

Relative value

Attractiveness vs. Spain (G-spread; bp)*		Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	iBoxx € Agencies
8	13	17	-27	-21	0	0.2%	0.6%

Funding & ESG (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

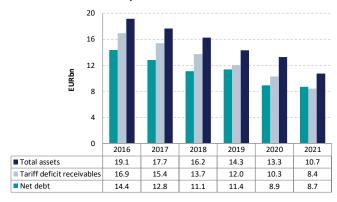
Target 2023	Maturities 2023	Net Supply 2023	Funding instruments	Central bank access	No. of ESG bonds	ESG volume
1.0	3.5	-2.5	Benchmark issues, other public bonds and private placements	-	0	0.0

Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

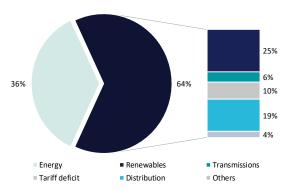
Total	of which in EUR	No. of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	No. of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
8.3	8.3	7	0.0	0	0.0

^{*} Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn.

Balance sheet development



Composition of energy prices for end consumers



Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

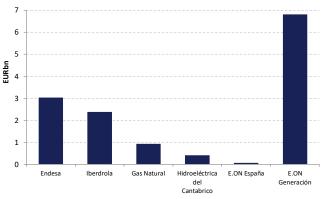
Strengths

- + Explicit guarantee
- + Revenues from charges paid by Spanish consumers

Earnings development



Transferred deficit compensation payments by original holder (as at November 2012)



Weaknesses

- Dependent on economic development
- Potential restriction of investor base through ABS classification

^{**} Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. On account of the issuer's individual funding mix, the values for "funding target" and "net supply" in particular may deviate from reality. Source: Bloomberg, issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research





General information

<u>Homepage</u>

Investor Relations

Owner(s)

100% Spain

Guarantor(s)

-

Liability mechanism

EPE status

Legal form

Entidad Pública Empresarial (EPE)

Bloomberg ticker

ADIFAL

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook		
Fitch	A-	stab		
Moody's	Baa2	stab		
S&P	-	-		

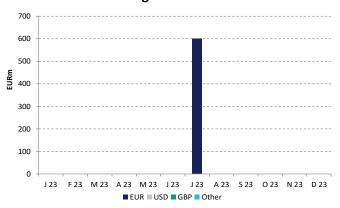
ADIF Alta Velocidad (ADIF-AV)

ADIF Alta Velocidad (ADIF-AV) was created on 31 December 2013 after being hived off from Administrador de Infraestructuras Ferroviarias (ADIF), the state-owned operator of Spain's rail network. Since then, ADIF-AV has been responsible for the construction and operation of the high-speed rail network in Spain, with ADIF in charge of running the rest of the rail network. The aim of the split was to achieve maximum efficiency, guarantee budget stability and promote the sustainable development of the rail network. As part of the spin-off, ADIF-AV assumed 95% of the debts incurred by the predecessor institution (around EUR 11.6bn). Overall, the high-speed rail network operated by ADIF-AV is 2,781 kilometres in length and encompasses a total of 45 stations. ADIF-AV is wholly owned by the Spanish government. Moreover, the agency operates under the legal status of an Entidad Pública Empresarial (EPE; public law institution), which means that ADIF-AV is highly dependent on the central government. As a result, ADIF-AV is exempt from insolvency law and can only be liquidated through legislation. If liquidation occurs, the remaining assets and liabilities are transferred to the state or another institution with a comparable legal status. ADIF-AV is obliged to operate in line with an economically sustainable approach. It derives its financial resources by charging for use of the rail network, through state grants and EU subsidies, in addition to raising external capital. The state budget caps the borrowing authorisation of ADIF-AV on an annual basis. In our view, in spite of the absence of a liability mechanism, a very high probability of support can be assumed in the case of ADIF-AV. Even though the Spanish state has not provided any explicit guarantee, ADIF-AV has a 0% risk weighting according to CRR/Basel III. Sustainability is of major importance to ADIF-AV, which is reflected in that fact that the high-speed rail network operator has issued six green bonds since 2017, with the last such deal being placed in October 2022 in the amount of EUR 500m.

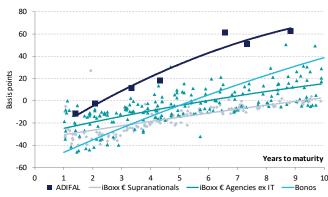
Bonds by currency



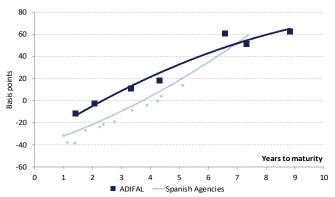
Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



ADIFAL vs. iBoxx € indices and bonos



ADIFAL vs. Spanish agencies



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research



Regulatory details

Risk weighting according to CRR/Basel III (standard approach)

0%

Liquidity Category according to Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

ECB reportules

Does not apply

Relative value

Attractiveness vs. Spain (G-spread; bp)*		Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	iBoxx € Agencies
30	37	56	-12	18	63	0.1%	0.4%

Funding & ESG (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

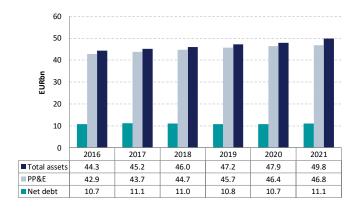
Target 2023	Maturities 2023	Net Supply 2023	Funding instruments	Central bank access	No. of ESG bonds	ESG volume
0.6	0.6	0.0	Benchmarks, ESG bonds	-	6	3.5

Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

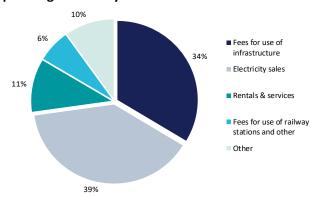
Total	of which in EUR	No. of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	No. of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
5.5	5.5	8	0.0	0	0.0

^{*} Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn.

Balance sheet development



Operating income by source

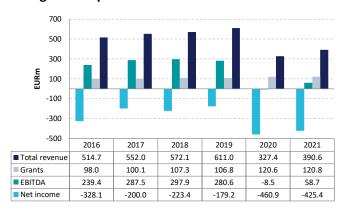


Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

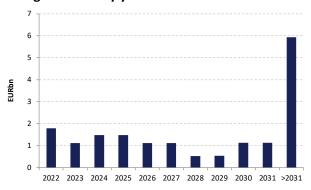
Strengths

+ High strategic significance

Earnings development



Maturing liabilities by year



Weaknesses

No explicit guarantee

^{**} Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. On account of the issuer's individual funding mix, the values for "funding target" and "net supply" in particular may deviate from reality. Source: Bloomberg, issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research





General information

Homepage Investor Relations

Owner(s)

-

Guarantor(s)

-

Liability mechanism

-

Legal form

Corporación de Derecho Público

Bloomberg ticker

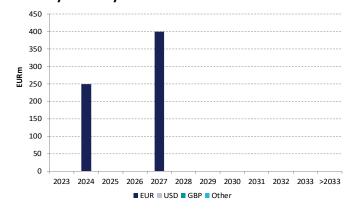
CORES

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook		
Fitch	A-	stab		
Moody's	-	-		
S&P	Α	stab		

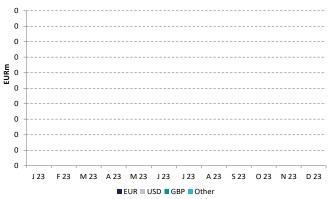
Corporación de Reservas Estratégicas de Productos Petroliferos (CORES)

Since 1927, the Spanish government has been obliged to maintain crude oil stocks, which have in the meantime been steadily expanded, ultimately resulting in Corporación de Reservas Estratégicas de Productos Petrolíferos (CORES) being founded in 1995. The mandate of CORES is to amass and administer Spain's strategic oil reserves, in addition to monitoring compliance with legally defined minimums for reserves of petroleum products, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and natural gas. The obligation to maintain reserves of crude oil and petroleum products to cover a consumption period equivalent to 92 days is split in Spain between CORES (42 days) and the oil industry (50 days). Due to energy shortage associated with the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, however, the minimum security reserves have been temporarily reduced to cover demand for a period of 84.2 days. In addition, CORES monitors the diversification of sources of natural gas in relation to maintaining legal limits. CORES operates as a Corporación de Derecho Público (legal entity under public law) with its own legal entity under private law and is subject to indirect supervision through the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism. Due to its legal status, CORES does not have equity of its own, nor does it have any owner(s). The organisation generates its income through the fees paid by its members and other companies which are obliged to maintain minimum reserves. Wholesale markets for crude oil and LPG products, as well as natural gas suppliers in Spain, are automatically registered as members of CORES. The refineries of companies such as Repsol, CEPSA and BP account for the majority of Spain's storage capacity. In December 2013, CORES was appointed as Spain's central stockholding entity as defined in EU Directive 2009/119/EC. There is no legal guarantee or liability mechanism for CORES. However, in view of its crucial importance as the central body administering strategic oil reserves, high probability of support can be assumed.

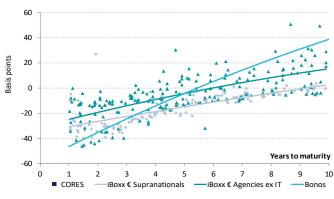
Bonds by currency



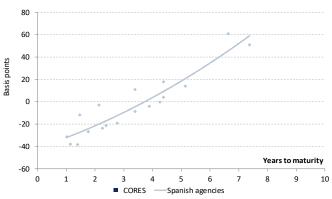
Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



CORES vs. iBoxx € indices and Bonos



CORES vs. Spanish agencies



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 26 October 2022; Residual term to maturity > 1 year and < 10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research



Regulatory details

Risk weighting according to CRR/Basel III (standard approach)

50%

Liquidity category according to Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

ECB reportles

Does not apply

Relative value

Attractiveness vs. Spain (G-spread; bp)*		Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	iBoxx € Agencies
-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%

Funding & ESG (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

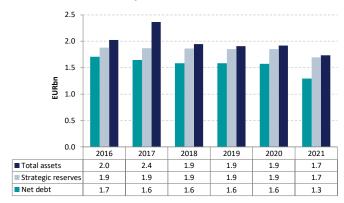
Target 2023	Maturities 2023	Net Supply 2023	Funding instruments	Central bank access	No. of ESG bonds	ESG volume
0.5	0.0	0.5	Benchmarks, other public bonds	-	0	0.0

Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

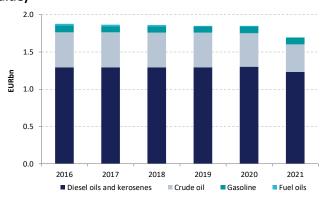
Total	of which in EUR	No. of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	No. of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
0.7	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0

^{*} Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn.

Balance sheet development



Development of strategic reserves by product (book value)

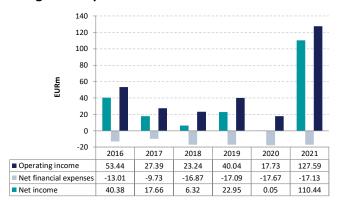


Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research

Strengths

- + High strategic significance
- + Rules on covering costs significantly reduce liquidity risks

Earnings development



Book values vs. market values of strategic reserves



Weaknesses

- No explicit guarantee
- Comparatively high risk weighting according to standard approach of CRR/Basel III

^{**} Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies converted into EUR at rates as at 29 December 2022. On account of the issuer's individual funding mix, the values for "funding target" and "net supply" in particular may deviate from reality. Source: Bloomberg, issuer, NORD/LB Markets Strategy & Floor Research



Appendix Publication overview

Issuer Guides:

German Agencies 2022

Dutch Agencies 2022

Austrian Agencies 2022

French Agencies 2022 (tba)

Supranationals 2022 (tba)

Issuer Guide – German Laender 2022

Issuer Guide Covered Bonds 2022

SSA/Public Issuers:

Beyond Bundeslaender: Greater Paris (IDF/VDP)

Spotlight on Belgian regions

Spotlight on Spanish regions

Fixed Income Specials:

ESG-Update 2022

ECB: The Wishing-Table, the Gold-Ass, and the Cudgel in the Sack

ECB interest rate decision: delivered as expected?

ECB acts as the 'House of Hikes' – or: Winter is coming!

ECB frontloads rate hike by +50bp and breaches pre-commitment

ECB ready for lift-off: Every journey starts with a first step



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