



# Issuer Guide 2025 – Scandinavian Agencies (Nordics)

NORD/LB Floor Research

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# NORD/LB ISSUER GUIDE 2025 Scandinavian Agencies (Nordics)

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# The Nordic agency market – an overview

Authors: Dr Norman Rudschuck, CIIA // Lukas-Finn Frese // Tobias Cordes, CIIA

#### Banks for regional authorities dominate the Nordic agency market

With outstanding bonds totalling the equivalent of around EUR 214bn, distributed over a total of 1,174 bonds issued by the six agencies covered in this Issuer Guide, the Scandinavian (or Nordic) agency market is medium sized in a European comparison. The players within this market are very similar in many respects. Institutes whose mission is to finance local authorities play a particularly important role. Kommunalbanken (KBN) from Norway, Kommuninvest i Sverige from Sweden, Denmark's KommuneKredit and the Finnish organisation Municipality Finance (MuniFin) account for a large portion of the bonds issued by Nordic agencies that are currently in circulation. Given that they lend to municipalities, municipal associations, regions and public-sector companies, there is a constant funding requirement that is largely covered through capital market activities. As measured in terms of total assets at year-end 2024, the largest Nordic agency is Sweden's Kommuninvest i Sverige, while MuniFin from Finland is the second-largest institution. In addition to municipal financiers, other institutions tasked with handling export financing in their respective states are also active. For example, the mandate of Svensk Exportkredit (SEK) is based on managing the state export financing scheme in Sweden. In this case, specialised lending leads to a funding requirement that is heavily influenced by the demand for export credit and, consequently, by growth in the Swedish export industry. The Finnish agency Finnvera, which is involved in financing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in addition to export development activities, has a similar mandate.

#### Varying risk weights in accordance with <u>CRR</u>/Basel III

Four Nordic agencies exhibit forms of an explicit guarantee, enabling a risk weight of 0% based on the standard approach of CRR/Basel III. As KBN has an implicit maintenance obligation in place through a Letter of Support from the Norwegian government, it is only possible to assign a risk weight of 20%. Since SEK does not have any kind of guarantee or liability mechanism, a risk weight of 20% is again only possible based on the standard approach.

Institution	Туре	Owner(s)	Guarantee	Risk weight	
Kommunalbanken (KBN; Norway)	Municipal bank	100% Norway	Maintenance obligation	20%	
Svensk Exportkredit (SEK; Sweden)	Export financier	100% Sweden	-	20%	
Kommuninvest i Sverige (Kommuninvest; Sweden)	Municipal bank	100% Kommuninvest Cooperative Society	Joint and several guarantee	0%	
Finnvera (Finland)	Export financier	100% Finland	Explicit guarantee	0%	
Municipality Finance (MuniFin; Finland)	Municipal bank	53% municipalities, municipal associations and companies in municipality ownership; 31% municipal pension institutions; 16% Finland	Joint and several guarantee	0%	
KommuneKredit (Denmark)	Municipal bank	100% all Danish municipalities and regions	Joint and several guarantee	0%	

#### Nordic agencies – an overview

Source: Issuers, NORD/LB Floor Research

#### Joint and several liability

Local authorities bear joint and several liability for three of the four municipal financiers (Kommuninvest, MuniFin, KommuneKredit). This means that each individual local authority must assume responsibility for all of the liabilities of the respective municipal bank. If a liability event occurs, the creditors may demand performance or satisfaction of the claim from the entirety of the guarantors. The guarantors are obliged to service the overall claim even if one of the guarantors is unable to make the necessary payments. The respective liability quotas of the local authorities result from regulations in the internal relationship, although in the external relationship there is always an entitlement to full satisfaction of the claims.

#### Maintenance obligation

A maintenance obligation exists for Norway's KBN, which requires the Norwegian state to provide KBN with the funding necessary for its functioning through a Letter of Support. The state therefore has a duty to ensure that KBN's finances are managed in such a way that proper business operations are maintained and KBN's liabilities are serviced. The maintenance obligation therefore requires the guarantor to ensure solvency. De facto, this arrangement with the Norwegian state corresponds to an implicit (liquidity) guarantee. Notwithstanding the explicit guarantee, it is important to bear in mind here that this does not necessarily lead to a claim against the party obligated under the maintenance obligation.

#### Nordic regional authorities: extremely high levels of creditworthiness

Most credit risks of Nordic agencies are accounted for by regional and local authorities (sub-sovereigns) in the respective home state. The degree of decentralisation in handling public expenditure is very high in Nordic sovereigns. Sub-sovereigns such as municipalities, municipal associations, administrative districts and regions are responsible for planning the majority of public sector expenditure. The need for funding is accordingly high. Nordic sub-sovereigns obtain a significant proportion of their revenues by levying income taxes.

## Strong state links and exclusion from insolvency law

Despite the pronounced decentralisation, the links to the central government are also very close. Municipal banks were established in the four Nordic states to finance general budget expenditure or projects. The mission of these banks is to finance regional and local authorities and the companies with which they are associated. In Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, municipal banks are the biggest financiers of the public sector. With the exception of KBN in Norway, the liabilities of the municipal banks are guaranteed by municipalities, municipal associations, regions or administrative districts. Regional and local authorities are exempted from insolvency laws in all four Nordic states, while at the same time they are also authorised to collect income taxes. As a result, these institutions not only exhibit high levels of revenue, but are simultaneously protected by law from the effects of any solvency difficulties.

## New funding model: KommuneKredit no longer active on the capital market in future

At the end of March 2025, the Danish municipal financier KommuneKredit announced that in the future all funding will be provided by the Danish government and that capital market activity would cease as a result. However, the new agreement will not lead to any changes to the terms and conditions or collateral for bonds that have already been issued. The aim of this measure is to cut the financing costs for Danish municipalities, regions and associated companies (even) further.

### 250 200 150 100 50 0 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Aggregated balance sheet totals of Nordic agencies

Comparison of balance sheet totals (EURbn)



NORD/LB

NB: Foreign currencies converted into EUR based on average exchange rates for the year. Source: Issuers, NORD/LB Floor Research

#### Slight growth in total assets and new commitments

The aggregated total assets of the six Nordic agencies increased by EUR +12.5bn (+5.6% Y/Y) in the past financial year compared to the end of 2023. Kommuninvest recorded the largest increase in both percentage and absolute terms. Cumulative assets converted into EUR increased by +8.2% Y/Y (EUR +4.1bn) and amounted to the equivalent of EUR 53.6bn on the balance sheet date. The Swedish municipal financier was followed by its Finnish counterpart: MuniFin was in second place in terms of total assets with EUR 53.1bn. Compared to the same period last year, the Fins increased their aggregated assets by +6.7% Y/Y (EUR +3.4bn). In relation to the municipal banks, the export financiers increased their assets far less significantly: the Swedish SEK recorded growth of +0.9% Y/Y (EUR +0.3bn), while Finland's Finnvera achieved an increase of +3.2% Y/Y or EUR +0.5bn. Having declined noticeably in the previous year, the aggregated volume of new commitments increased marginally again in financial year 2024 to a total of EUR 18.8bn. This equates to an increase of +0.7% Y/Y or EUR +0.1bn. After SEK virtually halved its new commitments in financial year 2023, they rose by EUR +0.9bn (+13.1% Y/Y) to EUR 7.9bn. However, Norway's KBN reduced its volume of new commitments by EUR -0.7bn (-14.2% Y/Y). A more significant decline was only registered for Finnvera: the Finnish export financier reduced its new commitments compared to the end of 2023 by -42.9% Y/Y (EUR -0.9bn) to EUR 1.2bn. We do not have any data on the development of this key figure from Kommuninvest.





## Comparison of new commitments (EURbn)\*



NB: Foreign currencies converted into EUR based on average exchange rates for the year. Source: Issuers, NORD/LB Floor Research

<sup>\*</sup> Excluding Kommuninvest



# Outstanding equivalent bond volumes (EURbn)



#### Nordic agencies - an overview (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

Name	Ticker	Rating (Fitch/Moody's/S&P)	Outstanding volume	Of which in EUR volume	Funding target 2025	Maturities 2025	Net supply 2025	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume
KBN	KBN	- / Aaa / AAA	46.2	7.9	9.7	8.1	1.6	14	4.0
SEK	SEK	-/Aa1/AA+	30.2	6.7	8.8	7.7	1.1	12	3.0
Kommuninvest	KOMINS	- / Aaa / AAA	48.8	5.3	14.0	10.6	3.4	12	7.7
Finnvera	FINNVE	AA+ / Aa1 / -	11.0	7.5	1.5	0.4	1.1	0	0.0
MuniFin	KUNTA	- / Aa1 / AA+	46.5	22.3	9.0	6.5	2.5	13	6.0
KommuneKredit	KOMMUN	- / Aaa / AAA	31.6	14.5	5.0	3.7	1.3	7	4.0
Total			214.3	64.2	48.0	37.0	11.0	58	24.7

NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025.

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 Floor Research

#### **Refinancing targets and ESG activity**

The Nordic agency market is a significant player when compared with other European markets, especially in the context of foreign currency bonds. The USD in particular plays a key role for banks regarding their refinancing activity. However, the relevance of the EUR should not be overlooked: almost 30% of the outstanding bond volume is currently denominated in the European single currency. The supply of new bonds is also at a high level, although the individual issuers differ significantly from one another in terms of their refinancing requirements in some cases: Sweden's Kommuninvest has set the highest funding target for 2025 with the equivalent of around EUR 14bn. In addition, the agency has the highest volume of maturities at EUR 10.6bn. Among the other municipal financiers, KBN (EUR 9.7bn) and MuniFin (EUR 9bn) intend to raise significantly lower volumes of fresh funds on the international capital markets. Finnvera has the lowest requirement of all the agencies: the Finnish export financier plans to raise capital of EUR 1.5bn this year, while its Swedish counterpart SEK has planned for a refinancing target equivalent to EUR 8.8bn. Overall, we are expecting a positive net supply of EUR 11bn across the Nordic agencies in 2025. Regarding the ESG segment, with the exception of Finnvera, all of the agencies covered in this publication were already active in this market segment, with a distinct focus on the sub-categories of green and social. In order to standardise reporting on green bonds, issuers regularly join forces and publish corresponding recommendations for action in the form of position papers (cf. weekly publication dated 27 March 2024).

## **Outstanding EUR benchmarks (EURbn)**



# NORD/LB



#### Nordic agencies: outstanding bonds by issuer

Nordic agencies: outstanding bonds by currency



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025. Source: Bloomberg, NORD/LB Floor Research

## Very broad supply of FX bonds

The outstanding bonds issued by Nordic agencies are largely denominated in foreign currencies, with a special focus in this regard on the USD. A total of 22 different foreign currencies are used for funding purposes by the six agencies covered in this publication. The EUR plays a minor but not negligible role in this respect: 30% of the outstanding liabilities are denominated in the European single currency. Other key currencies are SEK and GBP. In terms of the maturity structure, large amounts will fall due within the next two years in particular (2026: EUR 43.0bn; 2027: EUR 35.9bn), and so we are expecting Nordic agencies, with the exception of KommuneKredit, to have an increasing need for funding in the coming years. Compared with the USD volumes, EUR liabilities at the short end are currently relatively low, but will increase considerably over time.

# Nordics

# A comparison of spreads





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

# Nordics Primary market activities – an overview

#### Development of fixed-income benchmark issues 2024/25



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

## Spread analysis

Compared with their peers from the iBoxx  $\in$  Agencies, Nordic issuers are trading at slightly narrower spread levels, apart from the short-term maturity segment. Versus the supra segment, represented by the iBoxx  $\in$  Supranationals, Nordic issuers are trading higher across the entire maturity curve, with spread levels tightening between the two groups as the maturity goes up. Within the Nordic agency segment, SEK and KBN bonds have higher spread premiums compared to other agencies – in particular, the curve of the Swedish export financier is significantly higher than that of other issuers. The primary reason for the higher risk premium is the lack of an explicit form of guarantee and the resulting poorer regulatory treatment combined with a riskier business model.



**General information** 

Homepage Investor Relations

Owner(s) 100% Norway

Guarantor(s) Norway (implicit)

Liability mechanism Maintenance obligation

Legal form

Aksjeselskap (AS)

Bloomberg ticker KBN

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

#### Maturity profile by currency

KBN vs. iBoxx € Indices & Bunds



#### Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



10



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research

# Kommunalbanken (KBN)

KBN was formed in 1999 from Norges Kommunalbank, which had been established in 1926. Its mission is to provide low-cost financing to regional and local authorities in Norway. As a result, KBN's business activities are strictly regulated: loans may only be granted to municipalities and administrative districts, while explicit guarantees are required for financing inter-municipal companies. Although its mandate includes raising the level of competition in this market segment, KBN (as at the end of 2024) is already the largest competitor with a share of 50.2%. The quality of KBN's loan portfolio is extremely high: since 1927, the year in which operations commenced at its predecessor institution, each loan has been repaid, so there have been no loan defaults to date. KBN is registered as an Aksjeselskap (AS), which is comparable to the German AG (Aktiengesellschaft) or a UK plc (public limited company). The bank's future goals include further expanding its involvement in the area of sustainability and green finance as well as in municipal sustainability projects, which will advance the expansion of green lending. Funds are raised by issuing green bonds in various currencies. KBN was one of the first European issuers to place a green bond in USD. The proceeds from the green bonds are being invested in renewable energy, climate change adaptation, waste as well as the circular economy and sustainable land use. Although there is no explicit liability for KBN, the Norwegian government formulates its support for the municipal bank through a Letter of Support: the sovereign therefore has a duty to ensure that KBN's finances are managed in such a way that proper business operations are maintained and that servicing of KBN's liabilities can be guaranteed (maintenance obligation).

# KBN vs. Nordic agencies

# NORD/LB

## **Regulatory details**

0	I III (standard approach) Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) ECB reportules   20% Level 2A IV Relevant; in							everage ratio /		
:			level 2A				ur opinion, implicit guaranted ents use of a bail-in			
Relative valu	ie									
A+++	activeness vs. Bi	unds	Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting				
	G-spread; in bp)	*	(A	SW-spread; in b	op)*	index				
	G-spread; in bp) Median	* Maximum	(A Minimum	SW-spread; in b Median	op)* Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	iBoxx € Agencies			

Target	Maturities	Net Supply	Funding instruments	Central bank	Number of	ESG
2025	2025	2025		access	ESG bonds	volume
9.7	8.1	1.6	Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, PP, CP	-	14	4.0

#### Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

Total	of which in EUR	Number of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	Number of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
46.2	7.9	7	24.4	16	13.8

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025. 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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



#### **Earnings development**



## Exposure by country



## Exposure by counterparty



Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

#### Strengths/Chances

- + High likelihood of state support through Letter of Support
- + No credit defaults in more than 95 years

# Weaknesses/Risks

- No explicit guarantee
- No central bank access





General information Homepage Investor Relations

Owner(s) 100% Sweden

Guarantor(s)

Liability mechanism

Legal form Aktiebolag (AB)

Bloomberg ticker

SEK

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook
Fitch	-	-
Moody's	Aa1	stab
S&P	AA+	stab

# Svensk Exportkredit (SEK)

Svensk Exportkredit AB (SEK) was formed in 1962 by the Swedish government and Swedish commercial banks as a response to a sharp rise in demand for banking services, especially related to export finance. In order to boost its export promotion, Sweden implemented a state-backed loans system (SEK System) in 1978, through which SEK has been exclusively authorised to grant state-subsidised loans. In addition to managing the SEK System, the agency also offers export finance for example, with the range of services also including trade and project financing. SEK's lending is heavily based on guarantees from export credit agencies such as Euler Hermes or Coface. Accordingly, the quality of the loan portfolio is very high. SEK is hugely important due to Sweden's elevated export ratio and its monopoly status in the granting of low-interest loans. The significance of the bank for Swedish export policy could also be seen at the end of 2008, when the government implemented a capital increase (approximately SEK 3bn, or EUR 311.5m) to further support export financing in the midst of the global financial crisis. The Swedish state holds 100% of the shares in SEK. Sustainability plays an important role for the agency. The bank has issued ESG bonds in various formats and currencies since 2020. Due to SEK's close links with the state, in particular through its monopoly position in the SEK System, combined with the immense importance of SEK for the export sector, we assume a high probability of support from the Swedish government in the (unlikely) event that the export financier ends up facing a payments crisis. However, there is no explicitly formulated guarantee. SEK operates in the legal form of an Aktiebolag (AB), which is comparable to the German AG (Aktiengesellschaft) or a UK plc (public limited company).

#### Maturity profile by currency



#### Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months





NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research



6.1

#### **Regulatory details**

Regulatory u	etans								
-	nt according to standard approa		quidity category according to Haircut category according to   quidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) ECB repo rules			•	Leverage ratio / BRRD		
	20%		Level 2A		IV	Possible			
Relative valu	e								
	activeness vs. Bo G-spread; in bp)			Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Mediar	n Maximum	iBoxx € S	ub-Sovereig	reigns iBoxx € Agencies	
43	49	51	26	38	57		0.1%	0.6%	
Funding & ES	<b>G</b> (EURbn/EUR	equivalent)							
Target 2025	Maturitie 2025	es Net Su 202		Fundi	ing instruments		tral bank access	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume
8.8	7.7	1.1	-	Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, PP, CP			-	12	3.0
Outstanding		on/EUR equivaler	it)	1					
Total	of v	which in EUR	Number o EUR benchma		of which in USD	Numb USD bencł		of which in ot	her currencies

30.2 6.7 6 17.3 12

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025.

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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



#### **Earnings development**



#### Exposure by state



Exposure by counterparty



Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

#### Strengths/Chances

- + Monopoly position through the SEK system
- + High quality of the loan portfolio, often supported by guarantees

#### Weaknesses/Risks

- No explicit guarantee
- No central bank access

Kommuninvest i Sverige

# NORD/LB



KOMMUNINVEST

General information

Investor Relations

Owner(s)

100% Kommuninvest Cooperative Society (KCS)

Guarantor(s) Members of the KCS

Liability mechanism Joint and several guarantee

Legal form

Aktiebolag (AB)

Bloomberg ticker KOMINS

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

#### Maturity profile by currency



# Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



10



the first bond was placed on the market in social format.

#### KOMINS vs. iBoxx € Indices & Bunds

# KOMINS vs. Nordic agencies

Kommuninvest i Sverige AB was established in 1986 as a subsidiary of the Kommuninvest Cooperative Society (KCS). Its mandate is to provide low-cost financing to KCS members, which are exclusively Swedish regional and local governments. In total, 281 of the 290 municipalities (97%) and 15 of the 20 administrative districts (75%) are now members of KCS. Kommuninvest offers these municipalities and administrative dis-

tricts debt management services, which includes the provision of long-term financing

and short-term liquidity. The quality of the loan portfolio is very high. Swedish regional

and local governments are exempted from insolvency by law. A default on a loan has

never occurred in this sector. From a constitutional point of view, the status of regional

and local governments is comparable with that of the central government, since both

are authorised to levy taxes. Additionally, the subordinate regional authorities are

heavily regulated: by law, they are required to conduct solid financial management,

with a balanced budget also being mandatory. For example, any deficits that are in-

curred must be settled within three years. If the central government transfers addi-

tional duties to regional or local governments, it must provide sufficient financial re-

sources in order to neutralise the cost effect arising from the transfer of duties. There is also a financial equalisation system that seeks to balance out revenues and expendi-

tures on an annual basis. Kommuninvest trades in the legal form of an Aktiebolag (AB), which is comparable to the German AG (Aktiengesellschaft) or a UK plc (public limited

company). All KCS members guarantee the liabilities of Kommuninvest on a joint and

several basis, which equates to an explicit guarantee. Since 2017, Kommuninvest has also been a regular issuer of green bonds. In addition, at the beginning of April 2025,

NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research

33.7

Regulatory d	etails										
-	t according to andard approach)		ategory accordi Coverage Ratio	-	Hai	rcut category acco ECB repo rule	Leverage ratio / BR		RRD		
	0%		Level 1			IV	Relevant; in our opinion, explicit guarar prevents use of a bail-in				
Relative valu	e										
	Attractiveness vs. Bunds (G-spread; in bp)*			Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting				
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Med	lian	Maximum	iBoxx € S	ub-Sovereigr	ns iBoxx	iBoxx € Agencies	
31	33	40	13	1	5	31		0.1%	0.5%		
Funding & ES	<b>G</b> (EURbn/EUR eq	uivalent)									
Target 2025	Maturities 2025	Net Sup 2025	• •	Fu	nding i	nstruments	Ce	ntral bank access	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume	
14.0	10.6	3.4		Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, PP, CP				Sveriges Riksbank	12	7.7	
Outstanding	volume (EURbn/	EUR equivalent	)								
Total	of whi	ch in EUR	Number o EUR benchma	-	** of which in USD Number of of which in ot USD benchmarks**		her currencies				

enchmarks 48.8 7 5.3 9.8

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025.

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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



#### **Earnings development**



### Lending business by sector



## Breakdown of liquidity portfolio by state

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Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

### Strengths/Chances

- + Explicit guarantee through joint and several liability mechanism
- + Loan portfolio of very high quality
- + Central bank access

#### Weaknesses/Risks

- Not recognised as an agency by the ECB
- Low diversification of the liquidity portfolio \_



#### General information

Homepage **Investor Relations** 

Owner(s) 100% Finland

Guarantor(s) Finland

Liability mechanism Explicit guarantee

Legal form Julkinen Osakeyhtiö (Oyj)

**Bloomberg ticker** FINNVE

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook
Fitch	AA+	stab
Moody's	Aa1	stab
S&P	-	-

### Maturity profile by currency



### Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



10

NORD/LB



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research

## Finnvera

Established in 1998, Finnvera's mandate is to promote small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs as well as microenterprises) in Finland. It maintains a specific focus on the export-orientation and internationalisation of companies, as well as on implementing the Finnish government's economic policy. Within this framework, Finnvera, which is the official export credit agency of Finland, grants export loans and guarantees, SME loans and guarantees, as well as venture capital. In the financial year 2024, Finnvera granted loans and guarantees in the amount of EUR 2.9bn. Within the Finnvera Group, exports are financed through Finnish Export Credit, which provides financing through the respective house banks. Losses from export financing are partially offset by the Finnish government. SME financing focuses particularly on start-ups and growth companies. In order to pursue a higher-risk business model than conventional credit institutes, the Finnish government compensates some of the losses resulting from domestic financing activities. In 2024, the agency worked with roughly 21,100 customers (2023: 23,100), of which 84.4% were microenterprises, 15.1% SMEs and 0.5% large corporations. Given that Finnvera's refinancing activities have been handled by the government since 2009, the bank now pursues a model similar to that of the Swedish SEK or German KfW, and therefore seeks to make more intensive use of the capital markets. Finnvera trades in the legal form of a Julkinen Osakeyhtiö (Oyj; comparable to the German AG or UK plc). The Finnish state is the sole owner of Finnvera, offering an explicit guarantee for the export financier's liabilities. The primary source for long-term funding is the EMTN programme with a total volume of EUR 17bn (last increased in December 2024), while short-term liabilities are issued under the ECP programme with a volume of EUR 3bn.

#### EUR USD GBP

#### FINNVE vs. iBoxx € Indices & Bunds

#### **FINNVE vs. Nordic agencies**



### **Regulatory details**

• • • • • •		category according to Haircut category accordi Coverage Ratio (LCR) ECB repo rules		•	ding to Leverage ratio / BRRD		RRD		
	0%		Level 1		IV			Does not apply	y
Relative valu	e								
	activeness vs. Bun G-spread; in bp)*	ds		ctiveness vs. Mi SW-spread; in b	•		Ind	ex weighting	
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € S	ub-Sovereigns	iBoxx	E Agencies
30	38	40	12	26	38		0.3%	1	1.1%
Funding & ES	<b>SG</b> (EURbn/EUR ed	quivalent)							
Target 2025	Maturities 2025	Net Su 202		Funding ir	nstruments		ntral bank access	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume
1.5	0.4	1.1	Ber	chmarks, other	public bonds, PP,	СР	-	0	0.0

Total	Total of which in EUR Number of EUR benchmarks**		of which in USD Number of USD benchmarks**		of which in other currencies
11.0	7.5	8	3.1	3	0.4

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025. 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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



### Credit and guarantee portfolios by sector



Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

#### Strengths/Chances

- + Explicit guarantee from the Finnish state
- + Positive net interest trend

#### Earnings development





## Exposure by sector

#### Weaknesses/Risks

- No central bank access
- Volatile earnings development

# MuniFin

#### General information

Homepage Investor Relations

#### Owner(s)

53% municipalities, municipal associations and companies in municipality ownership; 31% municipal pension institutions; 16% Finland

Guarantor(s)

Members of the MGB

#### Liability mechanism

Joint and several guarantee

Legal form Julkinen Osakeyhtiö (Oyj)

Bloomberg ticker	
KUNTA	

Ratings	Long-term	Outlook
Fitch	-	-
Moody's	Aa1	stab
S&P	AA+	stab

#### Maturity profile by currency



Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



10

NORD/LB



NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research

# Municipality Finance (MuniFin)

Established in 2001 from the merger of the "old" Municipality Finance and Municipality Housing Finance, the mandate of Municipality Finance (MuniFin; Kuntarahoitus Oyj) is to provide public-sector financing in Finland. Specifically, MuniFin exclusively finances local authorities and public sector housing developers, with the portfolio rounded off by long-term municipal financing, loans for public housing projects and leasing services. Loans are granted either directly to municipalities or companies for which, in turn, Finnish municipalities or regions act as guarantors. There has never been a case where a Finnish local or regional government has been unable to repay a loan as required. In addition, Finnish sub-sovereigns are exempt from insolvency law. The Finnish central government accepts explicit liability for loans to public-sector housing construction companies. The quality of MuniFin's loan portfolio is accordingly very high. MuniFin trades in the legal form of a Julkinen Osakeyhtiö (Oyj; comparable to the German AG or UK plc); according to its Articles of Association, only institutions from the public sector are eligible to hold shares in MuniFin. In 2009, the Finnish state invested in MuniFin via a capital increase and holds a stake of 16% to this day, which serves to underline the major importance of the municipal bank for the public sector. The Municipal Guarantee Board (MGB), to which all Finnish municipalities belong aside from the autonomous province of Åland, guarantees MuniFin's liabilities on a joint and several basis. Since 2023, the newly founded Wellbeing Service Counties (WSC) have also been in operation. The most important changes to the Finnish public sector include transferring the responsibilities for overseeing social security, healthcare and emergency services from the municipalities to the Wellbeing Service Counties. MuniFin is active on the capital market as an issuer of green and social bonds, whereby it pursues a strategy of issuing one fresh bond per year in the respective format.

# KUNTA vs. iBoxx € Indices & Bunds

#### **KUNTA vs. Nordic agencies**

#### **Regulatory details**

Risk weight according to CRR/Basel III (standard approach)	Liquidity category according to Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)	Haircut category accord ECB repo rules	ling to Leverage ratio / BRRD				
0%	Level 1	II	Relevant; in our opinion, explicit guarantee prevents use of a bail-in				
Relative value							
Attractiveness vs. Bunds	Attractivene	ss vs. Mid-Swap	In day,				

(G-spread; in bp)*				ASW-spread; in k		Index weighting			
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereign	s iBoxx	€ Agencies	
24	37	44	5	23	45	0.6%		2.3%	
Funding & ES	<b>5G</b> (EURbn/EUR e	equivalent)							
Target 2025	Maturities 2025	s Net Su 202		Funding in	nstruments	Central bank access	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume	
9.0	6.5	2.5	5	Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, PP, CP		ECB	13	6.0	

#### Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

Total	of which EUR	Number of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	Number of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies	
46.5	22.3	16	12.2	9	12.0	

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025.

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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



# Earnings development



# Loan portfolio by sector



# Overview of liquidity portfolio



Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

## Strengths/Chances

- + Explicit guarantee through joint and several liability mechanism
- + High quality of the loan portfolio
- + Central bank access

### Weaknesses/Risks

- High concentration of borrowers
- Average term of the liabilities is less than that of assets

# KOMMUNEKREDIT

#### General information

Homepage Investor Relations

Owner(s) 100% all Danish municipalities and regions

Guarantor(s) All Danish municipalities and regions

Liability mechanism Joint and several guarantee

Legal form

Forening med solidarisk hæftelse

#### **Bloomberg ticker** KOMMUN

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

#### Maturity profile by currency



Established in 1899, KommuneKredit's mandate is to provide low-cost financing to its customers from the Danish public sector. The Articles of Association stipulate that the customer base is restricted to Danish municipalities and regions as well as other institutions that hold an explicit guarantee from a local authority. Loans may not be granted beyond the borders of Denmark. In addition to conventional lending, the product portfolio of KommuneKredit includes leasing and advisory services, as well as public private partnerships, while derivative products are offered as well. KommuneKredit boasts a market share of around 99%, according to its own figures. The creditworthiness of the municipal financier is extremely high. Danish regional authorities are strictly regulated. As a result, they are only authorised to borrow in order to finance capital expenditure, for example. At the same time, they are monitored by the state in an attempt to ensure balanced budgets and are authorised to levy taxes. Furthermore, the insolvency of a regional or local authority in Denmark is precluded by law. Since KommuneKredit was formed, every loan has been repaid as required. The members of KommuneKredit, which was established as a type of membership organisation (Forening med solidarisk hæftelse; association with joint and several liability), are five regions and 98 municipalities, i.e. all the regional governments and local authorities in Denmark. In 2017, KommuneKredit issued its first green bond, with the aim of supporting the sustainable transformation of Danish sub-sovereigns. At the end of March 2025, the agency announced that all funding would be provided by the Danish government in future and that capital market activity would cease as a result. However, the new agreement will not lead to any changes to the terms and conditions or collateral for bonds that have already been issued (cf. weekly publication from 02 April).



5

4

iBoxx € Supranationals

6

7

iBoxx € Agencies



100

80

60

20

0

-20

-40

0

1

KOMMUN

2

3

Basis points 40

#### Bond amounts maturing in the next 12 months



NORD/LB



**KOMMUN vs. Nordic agencies** 

NB: Foreign currencies are converted into EUR as at 20 May 2025; Residual term to maturity >1 year and <10 years; outstanding volume at least EUR 0.5bn. Source: Bloomberg, Markit, NORD/LB Floor Research

10

Bunds

Years to maturity

9

8

#### **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				
Deleting series							

**Relative value** 

Attractiveness vs. Bunds (G-spread; in bp)*			Attractiveness vs. Mid-Swap (ASW-spread; in bp)*			Index weighting		
Minimum	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Median	Maximum	iBoxx € Sub-Sovereigns	і іВохх	€ Agencies
26	33	36	7	19	40	0.3%		0.9%
Funding & E	<b>SG</b> (EURbn/EUR	equivalent)						
Target 2025	Maturitie 2025	s Net Su 202		Funding ir	nstruments	Central bank access	Number of ESG bonds	ESG volume
5.0	3.7	1.3	3	Benchmarks, ESG bonds, other public bonds, PP, CP		-	7	4.0

#### Outstanding volume (EURbn/EUR equivalent)

Total	of which in EUR	Number of EUR benchmarks**	of which in USD	Number of USD benchmarks**	of which in other currencies
31.6	14.5	18	6.8	5	10.4

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

\*\* Bonds with a minimum volume of EUR 0.5bn or USD 1.0bn. Foreign currencies are converted into EUR at rates as at 20 May 2025. 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 Floor Research

#### **Balance sheet development**



## Breakdown of asset terms



#### Source: Issuer, NORD/LB Floor Research

### Strengths/Chances

- + Explicit guarantee through joint and several liability mechanism
- + Loan portfolio of very high quality

#### **Earnings development**





## Weaknesses/Risks

- No central bank access

Breakdown of liability terms

 Discontinuation of capital market activity due to new refinancing model

# Appendix Publication overview

# **Covered Bonds:**

Issuer Guide – Covered Bonds 2024

Risk weights and LCR levels of covered bonds (updated semi-annually)

Transparency requirements §28 PfandBG Q1/2025 (quarterly update)

Transparency requirements §28 PfandBG Q1/2025 Sparkassen (quarterly update)

Covered bonds as eligible collateral for central banks

# SSA/Public Issuers:

Issuer Guide – German Laender 2024

Issuer Guide – Canadian Provinces & Territories 2024

Issuer Guide – Down Under 2024

Issuer Guide – European Supranationals 2024

Issuer Guide – Non-European Supranationals (MDBs) 2025

Issuer Guide – German Agencies 2024

Issuer Guide – French Agencies 2024

Issuer Guide – Nordic Agencies 2024

<u>Issuer Guide – Dutch Agencies 2025</u>

Issuer Guide – Austrian Agencies 2024

**Beyond Bundeslaender: Belgium** 

Beyond Bundeslaender: Greater Paris (IDF/VDP)

**Beyond Bundeslaender: Spanish regions** 

**Fixed Income Specials:** 

ESG-Update 2024

Another ECB rate cut: "You say it's urgent, so urgent"

NORD/LB: Floor Research NORD/LB: Covered Bond Research NORD/LB: SSA/Public Issuers Research Bloomberg: RESP NRDR <GO>

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