

# Joint Press Release - 17 April 2015

# NIB (Nordic Investment Bank)

# SEK 1 billion 5-year NIB Environmental Bond (NEB)

## **Terms of the Transaction**

Size: SEK 1 billion Coupon: 0.155% p.a.

Format: Fixed rate senior note

Issue Date: 23 April 2015 Maturity Date: 23 April 2020

Tenor: 5-year
Re-Offer Yield: 0.155%
Re-Offer Spread: MS -13bps
Denominations: SEK 10k

ISIN: ISIN XS1222727536

Joint Bookrunners: Credit Agricole CIB, SEB

For more information about NIB Environmental Bonds, please visit the NIB webpage at: www.nib.int/capital markets/environmental bonds

## **Transaction Highlights**

On Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015, the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) - the international financial institution owned by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden, rated AAA/Aaa by rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's - successfully priced a new 5-year SEK 1 billion NIB Environmental Bond (NEB). This was NIB's third and largest Swedish Krona denominated Environmental Bond to date and highlights the Supranational's increasing commitment towards environmental funding and its leading role in the development of the Green Bond market.

The bond proceeds are to be used for financing selected loans to projects considered to enhance the environment in NIB's member or EU countries. NIB has established a framework that allows for funds raised through issuances of NIB Environmental Bonds to be directed to its environmental lending projects, which qualify as eligible under the framework if they satisfy strict internal environmental sustainability criteria and are aimed at (but not limited to) reducing emissions to air by promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy, public transport solutions and recycling; as well as reducing discharges to water by improving wastewater treatment. Payment of principal of and interest on the Notes is made solely on the credit standing of NIB as a single institution, and is not directly linked to the performance of environmental lending projects.

Given the strategic nature of this transaction and rarity of Swedish Krona Sustainable Bond issuances, NIB announced the mandate on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April with the intention to gather investor feedback on the preferred transaction tenor. On Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, IPTs were released at 1 pm London time for a 5-year benchmark transaction at Mid-Swaps-13bps area. The order book opened the following morning at 8 am London time with investor interest just shy of SEK 500 million.

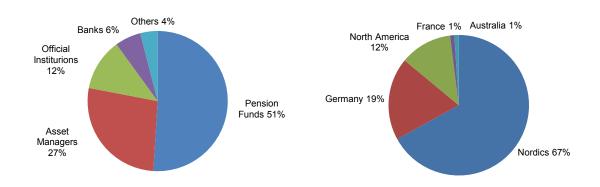




With no competing supply and stable market conditions, the order book grew steadily to SEK 850 million by 11 am, at which point the spread was set to Mid-Swap-13bps, in line with the initial price thoughts. The Environmental Bond subsequently priced at 2.30pm, offering investors a fixed annual coupon of 0.155% equivalent to 36.5 bps over the Swedish Government Bond SGB 4.25% 03/19.

### Distribution

The transaction was driven by those investors integrating ESG considerations within their investment process. The participation rate of ESG investors was particularly high at 95%. In terms of geographical breakdown, the Nordic investors dominated with 67% of the orders, followed by Germany with 19%, North America with 12% and France and Australia with 1% each.



Credit Agricole CIB and SEB acted as joint-bookrunners on this NIB Environmental Bond (NEB) transaction.

# Comment from PKA

"We are pleased to participate in NIB's new SEK denominated Environmental Bond. The transaction is in line with the interest of our members and we are particularly committed to the promotion of investments that support the transition to a low carbon economy." Commented by PKA's Responsible Investment Analyst, Pelle Pedersen.

### **Comment from Storeband**

"We are delighted to participate in this transaction and see this as a positive development for the green bond market and in particular sustainable bonds denominated in Swedish Krona. This is a market we are very dedicated to and welcome more issuers to participate in. Storebrand/SPP has recently launched SPP Grön Obligationsfond to make the green bond market easier to access for a broader range of investors, and to make it easy to switch investments from traditional bond funds to a green bond fund, gaining more transparency without giving up yield. We also see the Nordic Investment Bank as an excellent facility to bridge investments in environmentally friendly projects, and making it possible to finance them through bonds. We would not have been able to invest in many of the projects directly since they are too small and not structured in a "bondable" way. NIB serves as an excellent hub in that respect." Commented by Storebrand's Portfolio Manager, Helena Lindahl.





### **Comment from NIB**

"We have looked at the SEK green bond market for some time, so now we're very happy to have concluded a very successful transaction. For NIB the SEK market has always been a very important source of green funding, and this is our third Environmental Bond in this currency. Nordic investors play an important role for the development of the green bond market, so we are happy that a broad variety participated in our bond. A good part of placement was to SRI investors outside the Nordic area this underlines the importance of the SEK market and the appeal NIB's environmental bonds have. In total 95% of investors involved can be seen as SRI focused, which is proof of the strength of NIB's mission to improve the environment." Commented by Jens Hellerup, Head of Funding and Investor Relations, Nordic Investment Bank

## **About NIB**

Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) finances projects that improve competitiveness and the environment of the Nordic and Baltic countries. The Bank offers long-term loans and guarantees on competitive market terms to its clients in the private and public sectors. NIB is an international financial owned by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden. The Bank has lending operations both in and outside its member countries. NIB acquires the funds for its lending by borrowing on the international capital markets. NIB's bonds enjoy the highest possible credit rating.

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