



# Verbund

By our own power.

## European Green Bond Factsheet

April 2025

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## 1. General information

Date of publication:

Legal name of issuer:

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) of issuer:

Website address with information on how to contact the issuer:

Name of the bond(s) assigned by the issuer:

International Securities Identification Numbers (ISIN) of the bond(s):

Planned issuance date or period: [Datum einfügen]

Identity and contact details of the external reviewer:

Competent authority that approved the bond prospectus(es): Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier ("CSSF")

## 2. Important information

**(1) This bond uses the designation 'European Green Bond' or 'EuGB' in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2023/2631 of the European Parliament and of the Council.<sup>1</sup>**

## 3. Environmental strategy and rationale

**(1) VERBUND confirms that it intends to obtain an external review of the information submitted under this section via a review of the impact report.**

### **(2) Overview:**

EuGBs issued in accordance with this Factsheet are expected to contribute to the environmental strategy of the issuer as described below.

At the beginning of 2023, VERBUND launched its Mission V strategy to participate as a driving force in the energy transition and its challenges. Mission V is a long-term comprehensive transformation programme based on VERBUND's 2030 strategy with its three strategic focus areas: strengthening VERBUND's integrated positioning in its home market (comprising expansion of domestic hydropower and the Austrian high-voltage grid and supplying domestic customers with environmentally friendly electricity), expanding renewables (onshore wind and photovoltaic) in Europe to strengthen the supply independence of fossil imports and to contribute to a climate-neutral Europe and positioning VERBUND as a European hydrogen player.

Bonds issued as EuGBs will be used to finance and/or re-finance investments and expenditures relating to the implementation of the VERBUND Mission V strategy.

**(3) Relevant environmental objectives supported by the issuance of EuGBs in accordance with this Factsheet (as referred to in Article 9 and in Recital 24 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852) include:**

- Climate change mitigation: activities that contribute to the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere by avoiding or reducing emissions or enhancing greenhouse gas removals.

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2023/2631 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 on European Green Bonds and optional disclosures for bonds marketed as environmentally sustainable and for sustainability-linked bonds (OJ L, 2023/2631, 30 November 2023, ELI: [data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2631/oj](https://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2631/oj))



#### **(4) Link with the assets, revenue, CapEx and OpEx key performance indicators**

All EuGBs issued in accordance with this Factsheet are anticipated to contribute positively to development of VERBUND's key performance indicators for Taxonomy-aligned assets, turnover, capital expenditure and operating expenditure. The quantum of any such contribution will be reflected in VERBUND's relevant annual reporting<sup>2</sup> in this area.

#### **(5) Link to VERBUND's Climate Transition Plan:**

VERBUND has published a Climate Transition Plan which is available on the VERBUND website.<sup>3</sup>

The Climate Transition Plan sets a clear path with measurable targets and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

VERBUND plans to achieve a 74% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, with a further reduction of at least 90% by 2040 compared with the base year 2020. Ultimately, the goal is to reach net zero by 2050. Greenhouse gas emissions attributable to investing in the decarbonisation of the energy system are the sole exception to this commitment.

In order to achieve these ambitious targets, VERBUND has introduced targeted measures along the entire value chain in accordance with Mission V. They include the expansion of green energy generation and flexibility in Europe, switching to green hydrogen and using former gas pipelines to transport it, reducing indirect emissions, research and development as well as electromobility.

Through the future issuance of sustainable financing instruments to finance and/or re-finance Green Projects, VERBUND will also contribute to the targets of its Climate Transition Plan.

## **4. Intended allocation of bond proceeds**

**(1) Intended allocation to Taxonomy-aligned economic activities.**

**(2) The gross proceeds from European Green Bonds issued in accordance with this Factsheet will be managed on the basis of a gradual approach, as referred to in Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2023/2631.**

**(3) The bonds are not securitization bonds.**

**(4) An amount equal to the gross bond proceeds will be used for activities that are environmentally sustainable under Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.**

**(5) The issuer anticipates that for bonds that are going to (re)finance activities relating to electricity generation from hydropower and electricity storage, an approximate range of [35–45%] will be used for financing (in the year of issuance) and an approximate range of [55–65%] will be used for refinancing. In case of bonds aimed at (re)financing activities relating to electric power transmission, an approximate range of [5–15%] will be used for financing (in the year of issuance) and an approximate range of [85–95%] will be used for refinancing. Should these percentages deviate significantly from the given range, the issuer commits to disclose the updated plan on the refinancing/financing split at the time of issuance.**

**(6) Targeted environmental objectives (as referred to in Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852) relevant to the implementation of VERBUND's strategy as outlined above include:**

- Climate change mitigation: Activities that contribute to the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere by avoiding or reducing emissions or enhancing greenhouse gas removals.

<sup>2</sup> VERBUND Integrated Annual Report (Report on Non-Financial Information): [verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financial-reports](https://verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financial-reports)

<sup>3</sup> [verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/responsibility/environment/climate-protection](https://verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/responsibility/environment/climate-protection)

**(7) Relevant information on economic activities to which proceeds are intended to be allocated<sup>4</sup>:**

EU objective	Section	Division	Group	Class	EU Taxonomy activity	Project name	Allocation %	Type <sup>5</sup>	Financing % <sup>6</sup>	Refinancing %
Climate change mitigation	D – electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	35	35.1 Electric power generation, transmission and distribution							
				35.11 Production of electricity						
					4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower	Schwabeck run-of-river hydro plant repowering	[•]	CapEx	[•]	[•]
					4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower	Lavamünd run-of-river hydro plant repowering	[•]	CapEx	[•]	[•]
					4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower	Wallsee-Mitterkirchen run-of-river hydro plant repowering	[•]	CapEx	[•]	[•]
					4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower	Braunau-Simbach run-of-river hydro plant repowering	[•]	CapEx	[•]	[•]

**(8) Intended allocation to specific Taxonomy-aligned economic activities ('enabling' activities):**

VERBUND intends to allocate EuGB proceeds to certain enabling economic activities as follows:

EU objective	Section	Division	Group	Class	EU Taxonomy activity	Project name	Allocation %	Type <sup>5</sup>	Financing % <sup>6</sup>	Refinancing %
Climate change mitigation	D – electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	35	35.1 Electric power generation, transmission and distribution							
				35.12 Transmission of electricity						
					4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity	380-kV Salzburg line St. Peter – Tauern grid hub	[•]	CapEx	[•]	[•]
					4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity	Central Upper Austria project				
					4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity	380-kV Germany line				
					4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity	New Leoben transformer station & 220-kV Hessenberg – Leoben line				
					4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity	Ernstthofen transformer station: replacement of transformers and general rehabilitation of the 220-kV plant				
			N/A	Storage of electricity	4.10 Storage of electricity	Limberg III pumped storage power plant	[•]	[•]	[•]	[•]

<sup>4</sup> In accordance with the statistical classification of economic activities established by Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006

<sup>5</sup> Note: the value of the eligible projects is primarily based on CapEx; however, certain OpEx may also be capitalised and included in the valuation of the relevant fixed assets, in accordance with relevant accounting rules and company accounting policies.

<sup>6</sup> Please refer to point (5) for the envisaged financing/refinancing split across the various project categories.

**(9) Intended allocation to economic activities not aligned with the technical screening criteria:**

Not applicable. VERBUND does not intend to allocate any EuGB proceeds to economic activities not aligned with the technical screening criteria.

**(10) Process and timeline for allocation**

VERBUND will make allocations where the investment has taken place within a maximum of the two full years prior to the year of any relevant EuGB issuance, counted from 1 January. On a best-efforts basis, VERBUND intends to allocate an amount equal to the proceeds raised by any EuGB issued in accordance with this Factsheet within three years from the year of issuance.

An amount equal to the gross proceeds from the issuance of Green Bonds will be used to finance or refinance eligible Green Projects which demonstrate alignment with the relevant EU Taxonomy criteria as set out in the table below.

Allocations of issued and outstanding Green Bonds under this Framework will be made on the basis of a gradual approach.

The proceeds will only be allocated to fixed assets and no financial assets will be included.

The issuer commits to disclose the allocation of proceeds transparently and to report in an appropriate frequency, using the template provided in Annex II of the EU Green Bond Standard.

Eligible projects will be identified by the relevant functional areas within the VERBUND Group operating companies and assessed by a Green Bond Committee ("GBC"), which will ensure that allocations to eligible projects of an amount equal to the gross proceeds of any Green Bond are made in line with the relevant eligibility criteria.

The GBC will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the proposed eligible Green Projects are aligned with the relevant eligibility criteria, and approving any proposed changes in the event that projects no longer meet the eligibility criteria (e.g. following divestment, liquidation, technology switch, concerns regarding alignment of underlying activity with eligibility criteria, etc.).

In relation to the EU Taxonomy alignment, the GBC will ensure alignment of each eligible Green Project with the EU Taxonomy in the following areas: (1) substantial contribution to at least one of the six environmental objectives; (2) do no significant harm to other environmental objectives; (3) minimum safeguards; and (4) meeting the technical screening criteria ("TSC").

The GBC will be comprised of representatives from the following functions:

- Group Finance
- Investor Relations
- Corporate Responsibility
- VERBUND Hydro Power GmbH
- VERBUND Green Power GmbH
- Austrian Power Grid AG

The GBC will meet at least two times per year, to review proposed allocations and ensure these are made in line with the criteria specified above.

**(11) Issuance costs**

Cumulative issuance costs deducted from the proceeds, as permitted under Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2023/2631, are estimated as per below:

expected size EuGB: [•]

expected issue price: [•]

expected cumulative issuance costs: [•]

expected gross proceeds:[•]

## 5. Environmental impact of bond proceeds

The anticipated environmental impacts of the proceeds of the bonds will be reported on a best-effort basis, annually in accordance with the indicative form below.

Eligible Green Project	EU Tax Activity and Number	Output Indicator	Impact Indicator – Estimated CO <sub>2</sub> emissions avoided, when operating at normal load
Renewable Energy Projects	4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower	Renewable energy capacity added (MW)	tCO <sub>2</sub> e avoided
	4.9 Transmission of electricity	Additional transformer capacity (MVA), if applicable	tCO <sub>2</sub> e avoided, if available
Energy Efficiency Projects	4.10 Storage of electricity, including pumped-storage hydropower	Storage capacity (MWh) MW (power capacity), if applicable	tCO <sub>2</sub> e avoided, if available

Pre-issuance, estimates of anticipated environmental impacts cannot be provided, since it is difficult to provide a good indication as allocation to eligible categories can vary. Also, the relative avoided emissions vary as the base emissions will vary and conversion factors of energy to CO<sub>2</sub> are published at country level and depend on many factors. Therefore, the relevant information related to the environmental impact of bond proceeds will be provided as part of the annual reporting, if applicable (see next section).

## 6. Information on reporting

Reporting will be made available on the VERBUND website at

link to issuer's website:	<a href="http://verbund.com">verbund.com</a>
link to the issuer's relevant reports:	<a href="http://verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financing/bonds">verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financing/bonds</a>
Date on which the first reporting period starts, if different from the issuance date	the first report will be published in the calendar year after issuance

Every calendar year after issuance until the date of full allocation of the proceeds of its European Green Bond, VERBUND will prepare a European Green Bond allocation report using the template set out in Annex II of the EU Green Bond Standard, demonstrating that the proceeds of the European Green Bond, from its issuance date until the end of the period referred to in the report, have been allocated in accordance with Articles 4 to 8. VERBUND will report on the allocation of proceeds at category level instead of project level for commercial confidentiality reasons.

In addition, VERBUND will publish at least one impact report summarizing the environmental impacts of the bonds' gross proceeds (to the extent they are available), after full allocation.

The end date of the first reporting period will be the last day of the calendar year or of the financial year of issuance (currently they coincide).

## 7. CapEx plan

No CapEx plan (as per Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2631) is provided here as VERBUND intends to allocate the proceeds to activities that are fully aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

VERBUND publishes a CapEx plan according to the EU Taxonomy on a yearly basis, part of the Integrated Annual Report (Report on Non-Financial Information)<sup>7</sup>. This plan is drawn up accordingly in line with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2178 and is part of a plan to expand Taxonomy-aligned economic activities or to allow Taxonomy-eligible economic activities to become Taxonomy-aligned.

<sup>7</sup> VERBUND Integrated Annual Report (Report on Non-Financial Information): [verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financial-reports](http://verbund.com/en-at/about-verbund/investor-relations/financial-reports)

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Published and distributed by: VERBUND AG, Am Hof 6a, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Photos: VERBUND

Concept and text: VERBUND

Design: Kathi Reidelshöfer

April 2025