

Providing for the Future

NRW's Sustainability Bond #13



Tom Uhlenberg Stocksy/ stock.adobe.com

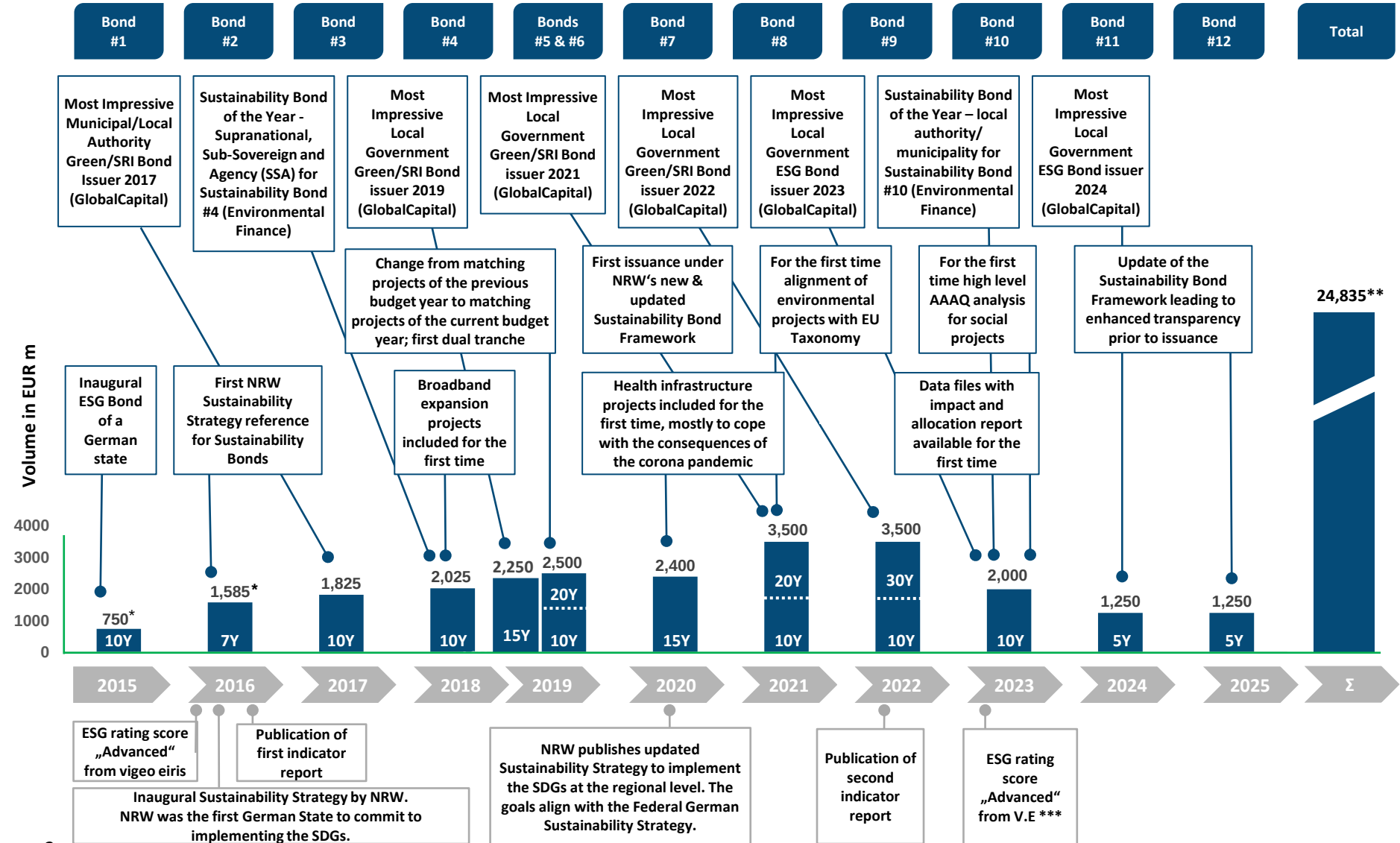


- Sustainable development is a guiding principle for the State of NRW. It actively joins the global efforts under the umbrella of the Agenda 2030 adopted by the UN in 2015 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The State Government adopted the NRW Sustainability Strategy in 2016 and an updated version in 2020. The Strategy is designed to implement the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the regional level. It also serves as the political reference for NRW's Sustainability Bond.
- The core of the [Sustainability Strategy](#) is a set of 67 specific goals and indicators covering 16 of the 17 SDGs (without SDG 14). These goals and indicators are closely aligned with the goals at the federal level. Ecological, economic and social interactions are equally taken into account.
- A separate [indicator report](#) covers the development of the indicators. A dedicated [website](#) enables ongoing progress reporting on the indicators.
- Currently, the Sustainability Strategy is being updated.



Time Flies

A History of NRW Sustainability Bonds



A History of Successful Issuances

NRW Sustainability Bonds



Transaction	ISIN	Settlement	Maturity	Coupon	Size (EUR m)	Reoffer Spread	Budget Year
<i>Sustainability Bond #1*</i>	<i>DE000NRW0GP1</i>	<i>11.03.2015</i>	<i>11.03.2025</i>	<i>0.500%</i>	<i>750</i>	<i>-11</i>	<i>2014</i>
<i>Sustainability Bond #2*</i>	<i>DE000NRW0JF6</i>	<i>16.03.2016</i>	<i>16.03.2023</i>	<i>0.125%</i>	<i>1,585</i>	<i>-2</i>	<i>2015</i>
Sustainability Bond #3	DE000NRW0KB3	07.03.2017	16.02.2027	0.500%	1,825	-14	2016
Sustainability Bond #4	DE000NRW0K03	13.03.2018	13.03.2028	0.950%	2,025	-14	2017
Sustainability Bond #5	DE000NRW0LM8	13.03.2019	13.03.2034	1.100%	2,250	10	2018
Sustainability Bond #6/1	DE000NRW0LZ0	26.11.2019	26.11.2029	0.000%	1,000	-3	2019
Sustainability Bond #6/2	DE000NRW0L02	26.11.2019	25.11.2039	0.500%	1,500	9	2019
Sustainability Bond #7	DE000NRW0ML8	12.10.2020	12.10.2035	0.000%	2,400	7	2020
Sustainability Bond #8/1	DE000NRW0MY1	04.06.2021	04.06.2031	0.125%	2,000	0	2021
Sustainability Bond #8/2	DE000NRW0MZ8	04.06.2021	04.06.2041	0.600%	1,500	9	2021
Sustainability Bond #9/1	DE000NRW0NF8	15.06.2022	15.06.2032	2.000%	2,000	-6	2022
Sustainability Bond #9/2	DE000NRW0NG6	15.06.2022	14.06.2052	2.250%	1,500	35	2022
Sustainability Bond #10	DE000NRW0N67	07.06.2023	07.06.2033	2.900%	2,000	3	2023
Sustainability Bond #11	DE000NRW0PR	21.10.2024	15.10.2029	2.500%	1,250	15	2024
Sustainability Bond #12	DE000NRW0P57	10.07.2025	10.07.2030	2.350%	1,250	21	2024
Total Volume Issued					24,835		
Weighted Average Coupon / Total Size Outstanding				1.18%	22,500		

Awards

Recognized Achievements



- GlobalCapital „Most Impressive Municipal/Local Authority Green/SRI Bond Issuer” 2017
- Environmental Finance “Sustainability bond of the Year - supranational, sub-sovereign and agency (SSA)” 2019
- GlobalCapital “Most Impressive Local Government Green/SRI Bond Issuer” 2019
- GlobalCapital “Most Impressive Local Government Green/SRI Bond Issuer” 2021
- GlobalCapital “Most Impressive Local Government Green/SRI Bond Issuer” 2022
- GlobalCapital “Most Impressive Local Government ESG Bond Issuer” 2023
- Environmental Finance “Sustainability bond of the Year – local authority/municipality” 2024
- GlobalCapital “Most Impressive Local Government ESG Bond Issuer” 2024



Sustainability Bond Framework

Update in 2025



- Updated NRW Sustainability Bond Framework aligned with the ICMA Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines.
- Projects classified in 13 ICMA Use of Proceeds categories: 6 SBP and 7 GBP categories.
- Aligned with NRW Sustainability Strategy (2020).
- SPO for Sustainability Bond Framework from ISS-Corporate.
- New:
 - Referring to projects of the previous fiscal year (instead of current fiscal year).
 - Description of eligible assets, allocation report and impact report published before issuance ➡ enhanced transparency
 - Verification of alignment of green activities with the EU Taxonomy on a best-efforts basis

Use of Proceeds of NRW Sustainability Bonds

13 SBP and GBP Categories with Projects Related to SDGs



- A. Affordable basic infrastructure
- B. Access to essential services
- C. Affordable housing
- D. Employment generation
- E. Food security and sustainable food systems
- F. Socio economic advancement and empowerment

- G. Renewable energy
- H. Energy efficiency
- I. Pollution prevention and control
- J. Natural resources and land use
- K. Clean transportation
- L. Sustainable water and wastewater management
- M. Climate change adaptation





The Sustainability Bond complies with the four core components of ICMA's Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines:

1. Use of Proceeds
2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
3. Management of Proceeds
4. Reporting



Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

Comprehensive Pre-Issuance Disclosure



- Projects are selected in accordance with the categories and criteria set out in the "Sustainability Bond Framework" (2025).
- Only the State's own discretionary spending (net of EU grants, federal grants or other revenues earmarked for specific purposes) is taken into account. Thus, double counting of expenditures in other SRI Bonds is ruled out.
- Projects prescribed by federal law are excluded. Thus, eligible projects are voluntarily provided by the State.
- The State's personnel costs are excluded.
- Allocation of net proceeds is disclosed pre-issuance. A detailed description of all projects including an allocation report ("Eligible Assets") will be available at the website of [Sustainability Bond #13](#).



- The proceeds from the issue of the Sustainability Bonds contribute to the financing of the State budget of NRW as a whole. In accordance with the “debt brake” regulations, the State uses the proceeds from the issue of the Sustainability Bonds as part of its general debt management, primarily for the follow-up financing of the State's existing loan liabilities.
- The proceeds from the issue are notionally allocated to eligible social and green projects for which amounts equal to at least the net proceeds from the issue of the Sustainability Bond have been spent in the budget year 2025.
- All projects are part of the State's discretionary spending of the fiscal year 2025 and can be traced to the [NRW 2025 Budget Plan](#) (Haushaltsplan 2025).
- Some projects run for more than one year, but for the issuance at hand, only the expenditures of the fiscal year 2025 are taken into account.
- The final allocation of proceeds (allocation report) is published before issuance.

Sustainability Quality of the Bond



Verification and Evaluation

- SPO for NRW's Sustainability Bond Framework published in 2025 provided by ISS-Corporate.
- SPO confirms that concept of NRW Sustainability Bonds is in line with Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines administered by ICMA.
- Some green projects have been assessed against the requirements of the EU Taxonomy (Climate Delegated Act of June 2023 and Environmental Delegate Act of June 2023), on a best-efforts basis.
- Sustainability Bonds consistent with the State's Sustainability Strategy.
- Positive contribution of eligible projects to 12 SDGs.



- Impact reporting with regard to projects referred to by the Sustainability Bonds is published on a regular basis and covers social and environmental impacts.
- Reports are provided by Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie gGmbH prior to issuance.
- The evaluation carried out by Wuppertal Institut comprises an analysis of projects related to the current issuance as well as a consolidated analysis of the GHG savings over the lifetime of projects related to all Sustainability Bonds NRW issued so far (portfolio approach).
- Data on (accumulative) impacts available at the website of [Sustainability Bond #13](#).

Environmental and Social Impacts of Sustainability Bond #13

NRW Sustainability Bond #13 Fact Sheet

State expenditures 2025 for projects 2,689.7m
46 eligible projects | impact assessment by Wuppertal Institut

SDG Contributions by selected projects*
in NRW Sustainability Bond #13

<https://nachhaltigkeit.nrw.de/en/sustainability-bonds-nrw>



NRW Sustainability Bond #13

Contributing to Sustainable Development



- In total, Sustainability Bond #13 relates to 46 specific projects mapped to 14 SDGs.
- Eligible assets amount to approx. EUR 2.69bn (budget result).
- Projects include areas such as education, research, health, local public transport, climate protection and digitalization.
- Documents (framework, SPO, project description (eligible assets), impact reporting), data (accumulated impact report and accumulated allocation report) and further information for investors available at the website of [Sustainability Bond #13](#).

NRW Sustainability Bond #13

Allocation of Proceeds

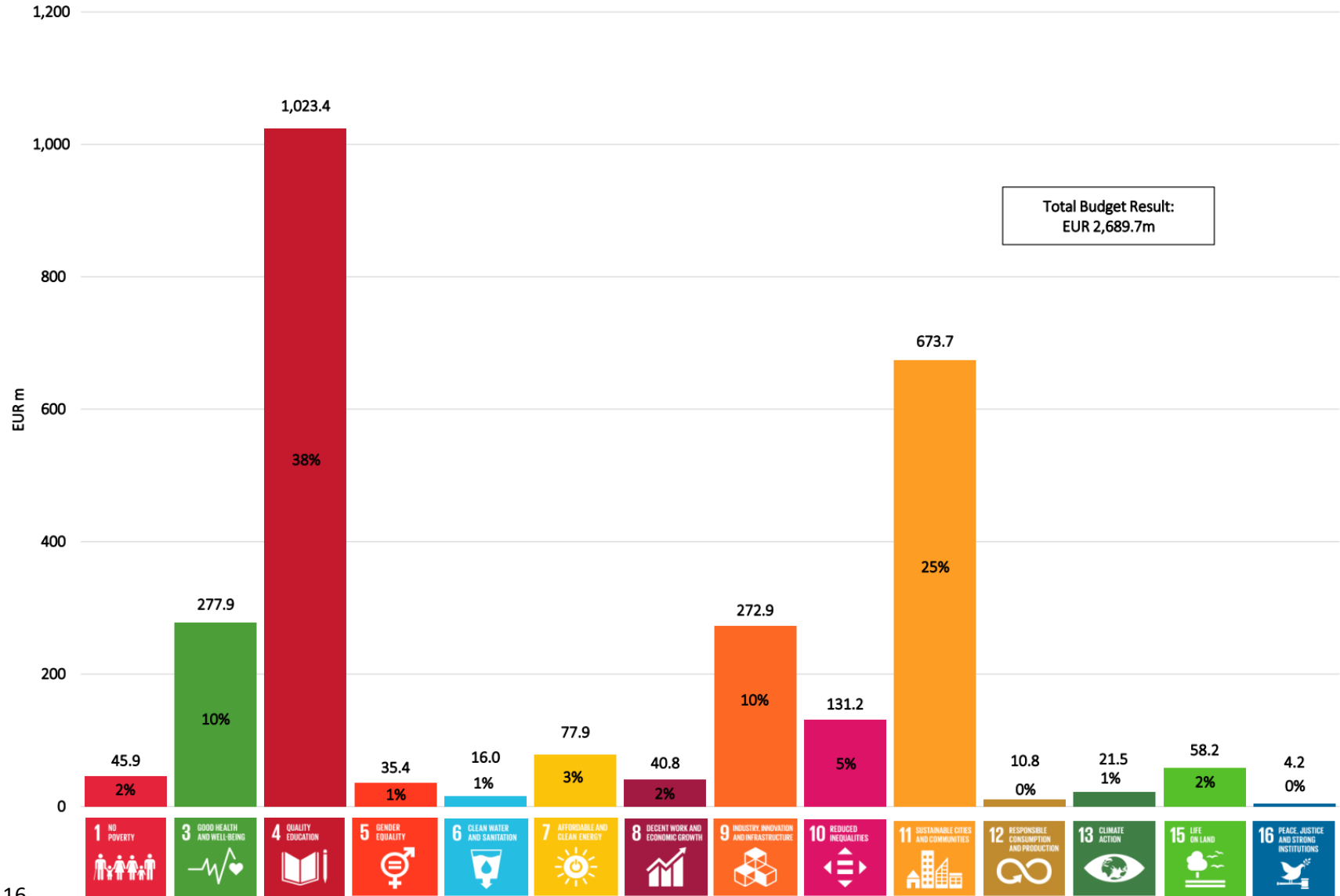


SBP Project Category	Eligible Assets [EUR m]	Share of Assets	GBP Project Category	Eligible Assets [EUR m]	Share of Assets
A. Affordable basic infrastructure	156.2	5.8%	G. Renewable energy	5.0	0.2%
B. Access to essential services	1,599.1	59.5%	H. Energy efficiency	48.6	1.8%
C. Affordable housing	104.5	3.9%	I. Pollution prevention and control	112.1	4.2%
D. Employment generation	3.6	0.1%	J. Natural resources and land use	48.3	1.8%
E. Food security and sustainable food systems	4.0	0.1%	K. Clean transportation	447.3	16.6%
F. Socioeconomic advancement and empowerment	114.9	4.3%	L. Sustainable water and wastewater management	40.1	1.5%
			M. Climate change adaptation	6.0	0.2%
Social Projects	1,982.3	74%	Green Projects	707.4	26%
Total Volume Eligible Assets	2,689.7				

NRW Sustainability Bond #13



Eligible Assets per SDG



Alignment with EU Taxonomy



Verification by third party

- The State of NRW commissioned ISS-Corporate to assess the alignment of the green eligible projects of the Sustainability Bond that are part of the NRW budget plan for 2024 with the applicable EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act and the Environmental Delegated Act .
- For this issuance, NRW references the alignment view established in the Framework Second Party Opinion (ISS Corporate, 18 June 2025) and presents it as at that date.
- Out of 17 green activities in framework, 12 have been mapped to 13 specific EU economic activities.
- 10 of these 12 activities are considered **fully aligned** with the EU Taxonomy by ISS-Corporate.
- Thus, six projects with a volume of EUR 213.0m are fully aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

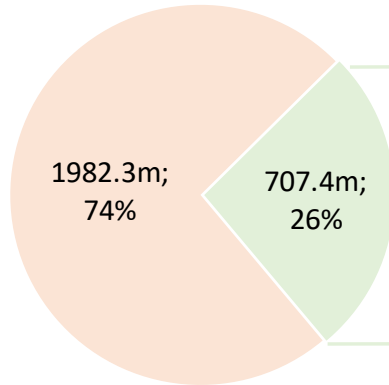
Alignment with EU Taxonomy



Share of Aligned Eligible Projects

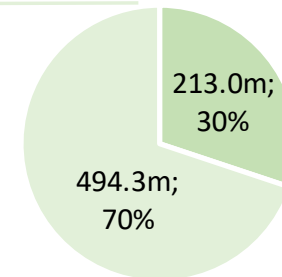
- Alignment out of all social and green eligible expenditures: 7.9%
- Alignment out of all green eligible expenditures: 30.1%

Overview of Social and Environmental Eligible Projects



Eligible Social Expenditures Eligible Green Expenditures

EU Taxonomy Alignment out of All Green Expenditures



Green Projects Fully EU Taxonomy Aligned
Other Green Projects

A. SBP: Affordable Basic Infrastructure

EUR 156.2m



- Broadband expansion
- Public transportation

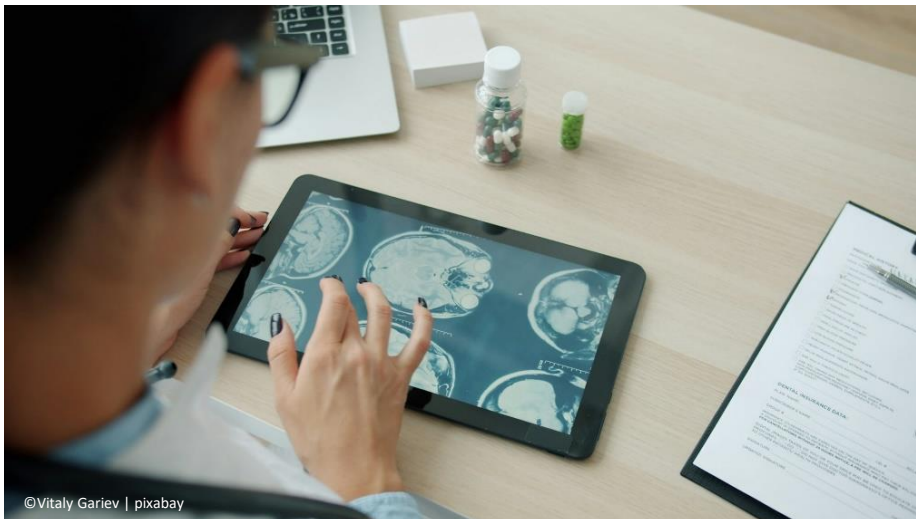


B. SBP: Access to Essential Services

EUR 1,599.1m



- Education at universities, schools and day care centres
- Research
- Improvement of health infrastructure



C. SBP: Affordable Housing

EUR 104.5m



- Urban renewal
- Village renewal



D. SBP: Employment Generation

EUR 3.6m



- Integration of people with disabilities into the labour market
- Sustainable economy



E. SBP: Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems



EUR 4.0m

- EU school programme for healthy food



F. SBP: Socio Econ. Advancement & Empowerment



EUR 114.9m

- Fight against poverty
- Integration of migrants
- Integration into the labour market
- Inclusion of disabled people
- Female empowerment
- Protection against violence



kinderstark
NRW schafft Chancen



G. GBP: Renewable Energy

EUR 5.0m



- Energy storage



H. GBP: Energy Efficiency

EUR 48.6m



- Energy efficiency
- E-mobility
- Resource efficiency



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I. GBP: Pollution Prevention and Control

EUR 112.1m

- Hydrogen-energy
- Research
- Climate protection

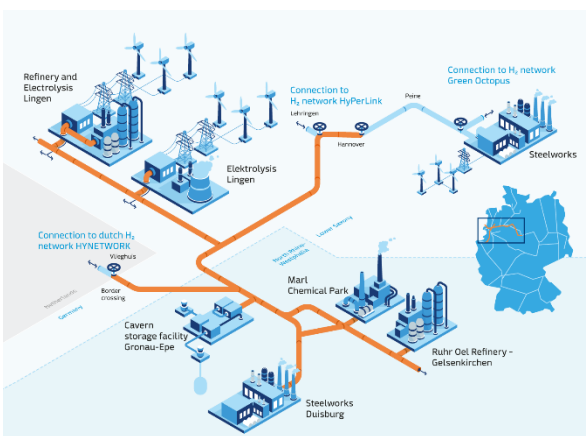


Case Study

Hydrogen Energy: GET H2 IPCEI Project



© RWE Gas Storage West GmbH



Source: <https://www.get-h2.de/en/>

- Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI, Part of the Hy2Infra Wave)
- **Project goal:** first publicly accessible hydrogen infrastructure in North-West Europe. GET H2 connects production sites for renewable hydrogen with industrial consumers in Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia, integrating a salt cavern storage. The network from Lingen to Gelsenkirchen and Gronau-Epe is set to become the first hydrogen network in the regulated sector with non-discriminatory access and transparent prices. By 2028, the pipeline infrastructure will be extended to connect an import point from the Netherlands and the Thyssenkrupp Steel Mill in Duisburg, as well as the chemical park in Marl, and additional potential production and consumption sites.
- Co-founded project with the Federal Government of Germany (NRW covers 30 % of total public funding)
- **NRW funding (2024-2028): EUR 58.86m**
- **Project duration: 2024–2028**

J. GBP: Natural Resources and Land Use



EUR 48.3m

- Biodiversity



K. GBP: Clean Transportation

EUR 447.3m



- Infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians
- Public transportation (“Deutschlandticket”)



Case Study



Infrastructure for cyclists: Cycling Street Schillerstraße in Münster

- Sustainable and city-friendly mobility
- Improves two-way traffic flow
- Reduces the risk of dooring accidents
- Installation of bicycle parking facilities
- **Total funding amount:** EUR 194,200
comprising **EUR 183,400 State funding** and EUR 10,800 federal financial aid from the “Stadt und Land” special programme
- **Implementation period: 2024–2025**

before



source: Stadt Münster



source: Stadt Münster

after



source: Stadt Münster

L. GBP: Sustain. Water & Wastewater Management



EUR 40.1m

- Flood prevention
- Water protection



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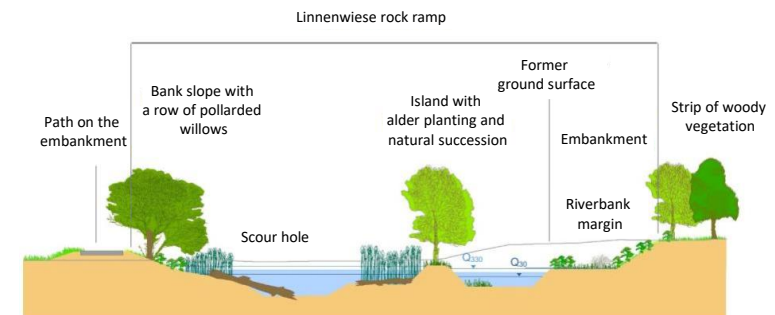
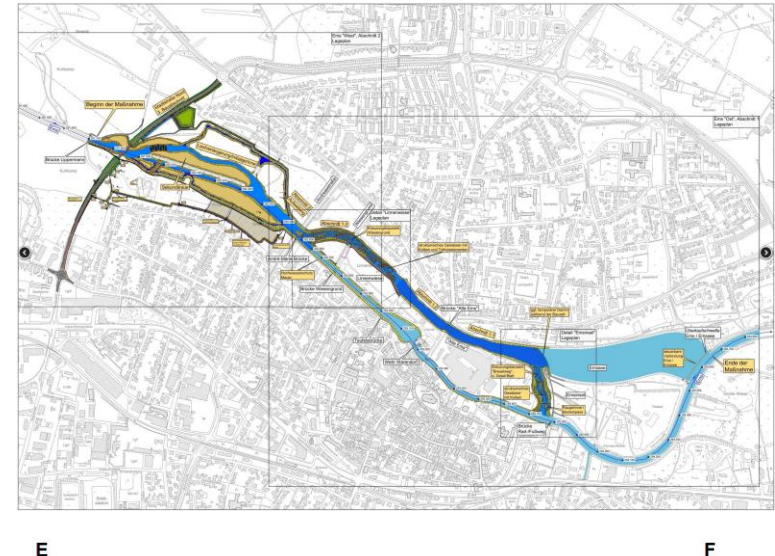
Case Study

Nature-Based Flood Protection: Neue Ems in Warendorf



Ecological redesign of a 1,500 m section of the River Ems in Warendorf, alongside simultaneous flood protection improvements

- Combination of riverbed widening, course extensions, creation of secondary floodplains, construction of a fish pass (rough-channel pool pass), flood walls and dykes
- **1st Project Goal:** Development of typical natural and river dynamic processes in the river and floodplain
- **2nd Project Goal:** Improvement of flood protection through accompanying technical measures (protection up to HQ_{250})
- The measure exemplifies a successful combination of ecological and technical flood protection.
- **Total costs:** EUR 18.3m including **EUR 16.9m State funding**
- **Implementation period: 2015–2020**



M. GBP: Climate Change Adaptation

EUR 6.0m



- Climate change adaption
- Climate protection
- Reforestation



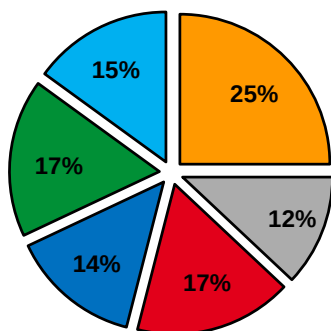
Recent Sustainability Bond Issue

Sustainability Bond # 12

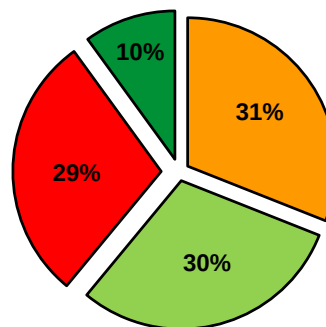


Issuer	State of North Rhine-Westphalia
Issue Rating	Aa1 by Moody's (stable), AA by S&P (negative), AAA by Fitch (stable), AAA by Scope (stable)
Issue Size	EUR 1.25bn
Status and Format	Collective Debt Register Claim, RegS, Senior Unsecured
Maturity Date	July 10th, 2030
Settlement Date	July 10th, 2025
Coupon	2.35% annually act/act ICMA
Reoffer Spread	MS +21bps
ISIN	DE000NRW0P57
Lead Managers	Credit Agricole, Commerzbank, Helaba, Nordea, Rabobank

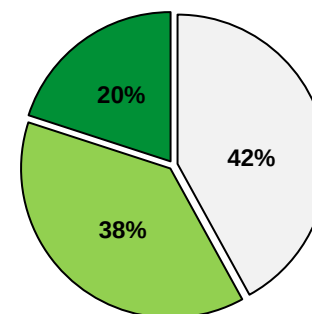
Geography



Investor Type



ESG Shading



■ DACH
 ■ BeNeLux
 ■ Asia
 ■ France
 ■ Scandinavia
 ■ Other

■ Banks
 ■ CB/OI
 ■ Asset Managers
 ■ Other

■ Conventional
 ■ Light
 ■ Dark

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