



PRESS RELEASE

Icelandic Arion Bank's membership brings the Covered Bond Label up to 23 jurisdictions

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The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** is pleased to announce that [Arion Bank](#) has joined the Covered Bond Label, which now counts a total of **118** issuers and **148** cover pools in **23** jurisdictions.

Commenting on this development, **Luca Bertalot**, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

“We are delighted to announce the adhesion to the Covered Bond Label of Arion Bank, Iceland, which also marks the addition of a new jurisdiction to the Label community. Counting 23 jurisdictions as of today, the Covered Bond Label continues to provide an important response to the market’s need for transparency and harmonised data disclosure. The HTT furthermore underlines the important role that the Covered Bond Label plays as the industry benchmark for quality and as a valued data source, facilitating regulatory and investor due diligence.”

Commenting on this, **Benedikt Gislason**, CEO at Arion Bank, stated:

“We are very proud to be part of the Covered Bond Label initiative. Arion Bank issued its first international covered bond in 2021, and we seek to be a regular issuer in the covered bond market. In our view, joining the Covered Bond Label raises awareness among investors about Arion Bank as an issuer and strengthens the Bank’s relationships with international covered bond investors.”

The Covered Bond Label is a quality label, the purpose of which is to highlight the security and quality of covered bonds to investors and to further enhance recognition of and trust in the covered bond asset class.

The Covered Bond Label is open to all covered bond programmes that are compliant with [the Covered Bond Label Convention](#) and disclose their data by publishing the [Harmonised Transparency Template \(HTT\)](#). More information on all labelled issuers and the Label itself can be found on the Covered Bond Label website at www.coveredbondlabel.com.

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Notes to the Editor:

1. The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** was established in 2012 by the European Mortgage Federation - European Covered Bond Council (**EMF-ECBC**). The Covered Bond Label [website](#) became fully operational on the 1st of January 2013, with the first Labels being effective since then. The website features the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT) and 14 National Transparency Templates, published by 118 issuers disclosing information on 148 labelled cover pools across 23 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on 5,300 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of around 2.0 trillion EUR, out of which over 3,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
2. Established in 1967, the **European Mortgage Federation (EMF)** is the voice of the European mortgage industry, representing the interests of mortgage lenders and covered bond issuers at European level. The EMF provides data and information on European mortgage markets, which were worth around EUR 8.1 trillion at the end of 2020. As of February 2022, the EMF has 14 members across 12 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
3. In 2004 the EMF founded the **European Covered Bond Council (ECBC)**, a platform bringing together covered bond issuers, analysts, investment bankers, rating agencies and a wide range of interested stakeholders. As of February 2022, the ECBC has 126 members across more than 30 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth over EUR 2.9 trillion at the end of 2020.
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) or visit the EMF-ECBC [website](#).