

# Finnish central government borrowing

January 2024

# AAA+

### **Credit ratings**

The government has solicited credit ratings from two credit rating agencies: Fitch Ratings and S&P Global Ratings.

For long-term debt, they are

AA+ and AA+

(stable, stable)



# Finnish economy



# Economy will contract this year – growth returns next year

- The rise in prices and interest expenses has reduced consumption and private investments in 2023
- Exports grow next year, supported by good cost competitiveness
- Slowing inflation, a fall in interest rates and income growth support household purchasing power in 2024
- The general government deficit will widen to 3.5% due to slow tax revenue growth and rapid expenditure growth

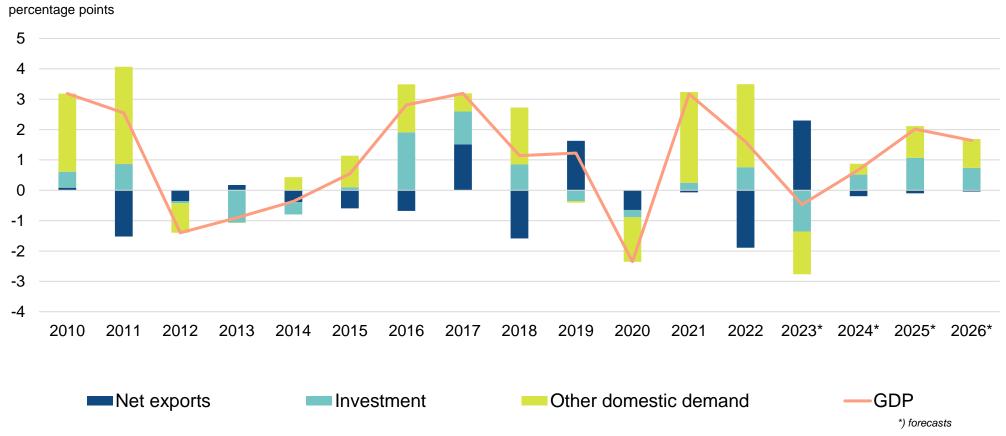
|                              | 2023* | 2024* | 2025* | 2026* |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| GDP change, %                | -0.5  | 0.7   | 2.0   | 1.6   |
| Inflation, %                 | 6.3   | 2.0   | 1.4   | 1.7   |
| Current account, % of GDP    | -0.8  | -0.8  | -0.9  | -0.9  |
| Private investment change, % | -5.4  | 0.9   | 2.9   | 4.2   |
| Exports change, %            | -1.3  | 2.0   | 3.8   | 3.0   |
| Unemployment rate, %         | 7.2   | 7.5   | 7.1   | 6.6   |
| Public deficit, % of GDP     | -2.5  | -3.5  | -3.4  | -3.0  |
| Public debt, % of GDP*       | 75.5  | 79.1  | 81.4  | 83.3  |

<sup>\*</sup>The general government debt ratio increased by about 6 percentage points (approximately EUR 15 billion) from 66% to roughly 72% at the level of 2021 **due to Statistics Finland implementing a change in methodology**. The change was related to the interest subsidy loan system for rental and right-of-occupancy dwellings.

Source: Ministry of Finance, Winter 2023 \*)forecasts

# Positive net exports contribute to GDP in 2023, domestic demand and investments next year

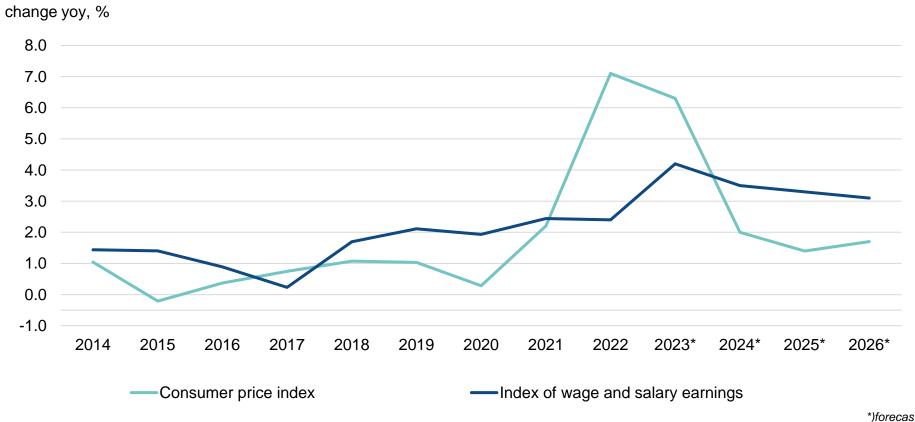
#### **Contribution to GDP growth in Finland**





# Inflation slowing rapidly

#### Consumer price indes and index of wage and salary earnings

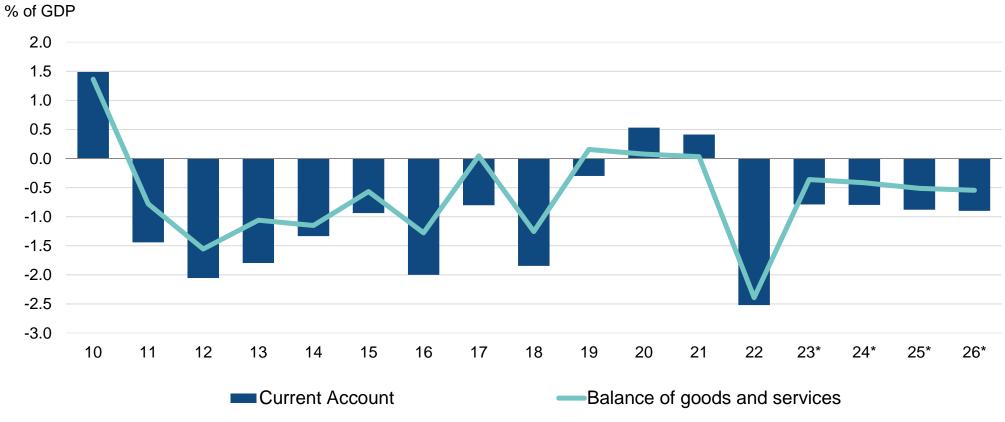


\*)forecasts



### Current account deficit is stabilising

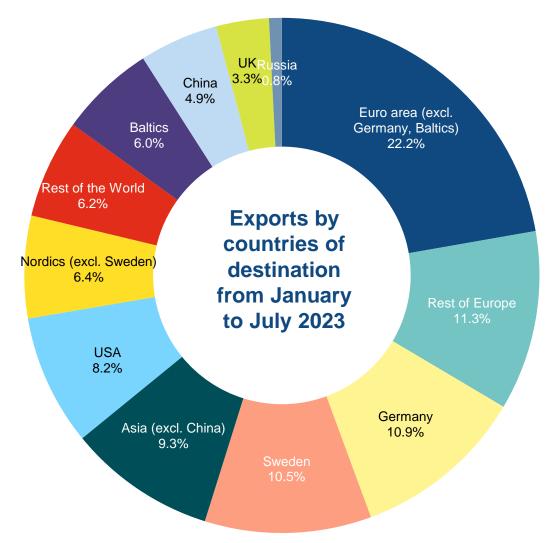
#### **Current account**

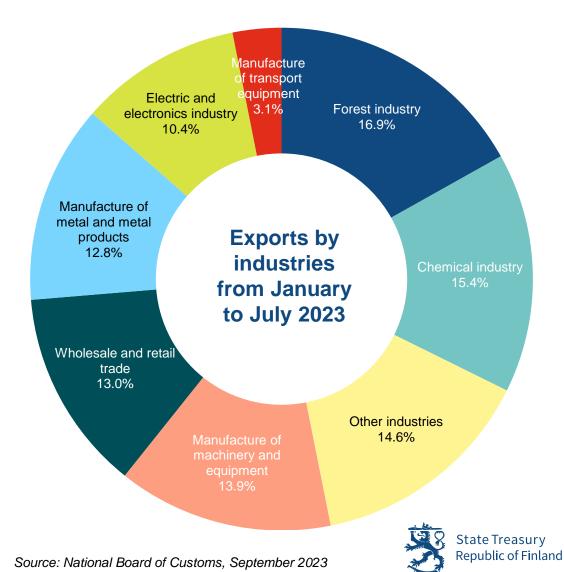


\*)forecasts



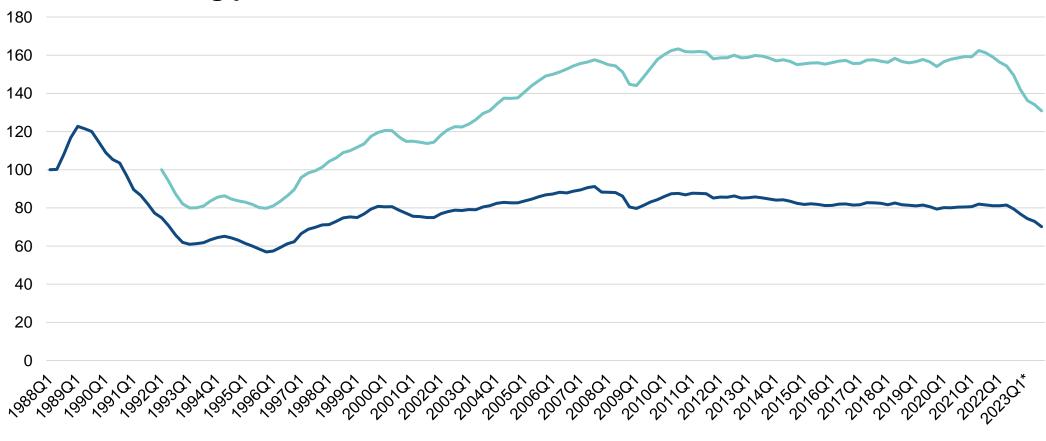
## **Exports of goods**





## Relative housing prices in Finland

#### Relative housing prices in Finland



—Housing prices relative to wage and salary earnings (1988=100) —Housing prices relative to CPI (1992=100)



# EMU general government financial balance

#### **EMU** general government financial balance

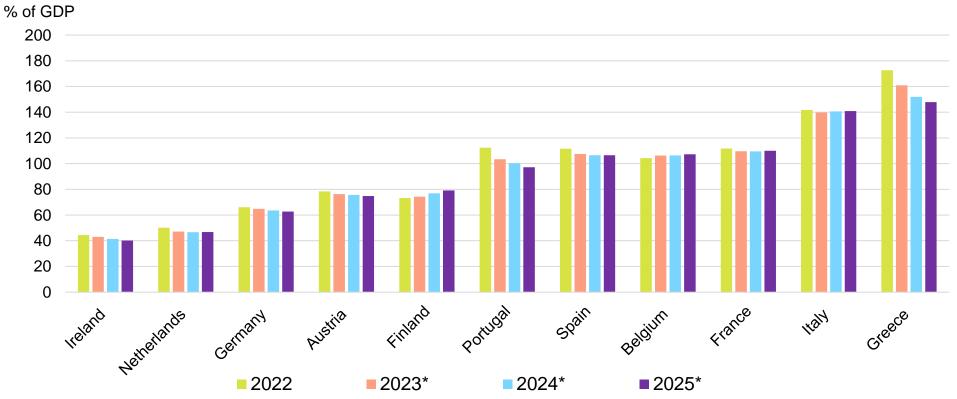
in ratio to GDP, % -6 -8 -10 2022 2024\* **2025**\*

\*)forecasts



# The public debt-to-GDP ratio in Finland is below the EU average

#### **EMU General Government Gross Debt**

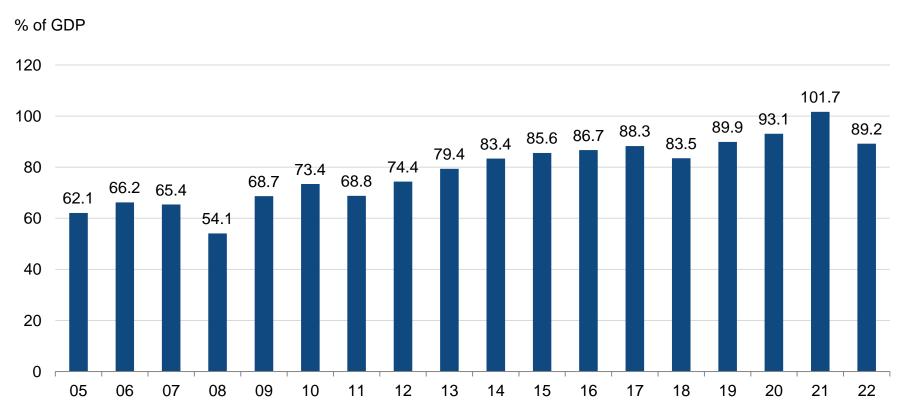


\*)forecasts



# **Earnings-related pension assets** as % of GDP

#### **Earnings-related pension assets**



Source: Finnish Pension Alliance, Earnings related pension assets, including public sector pension assets

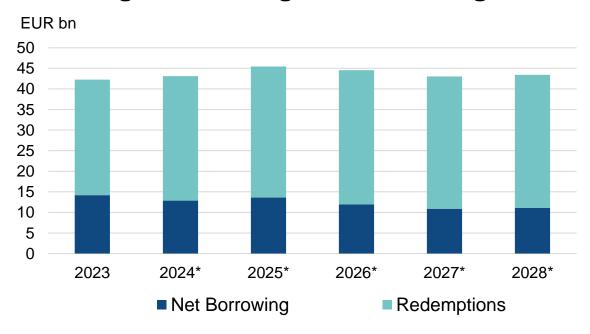


# 2 Funding

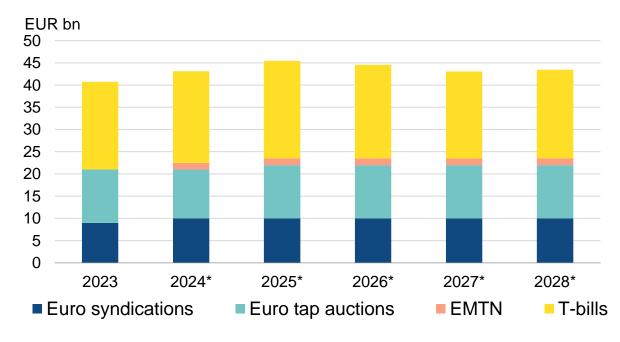


# Central government gross borrowing estimate and projected funding instrument allocation

#### **Central government gross borrowing**



#### Projected funding instrument allocation



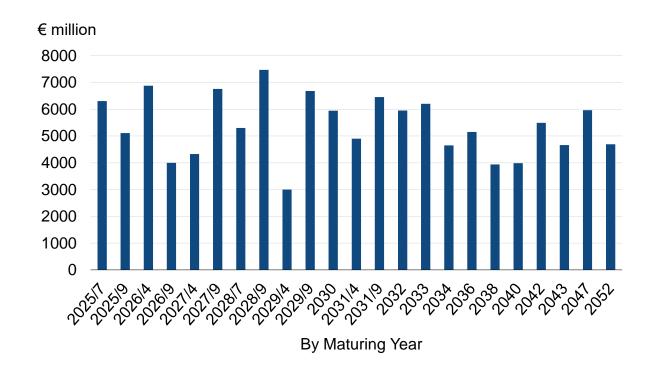


# **Funding strategy**

"Maintaining a globally diversified investor base by geography and investor type"

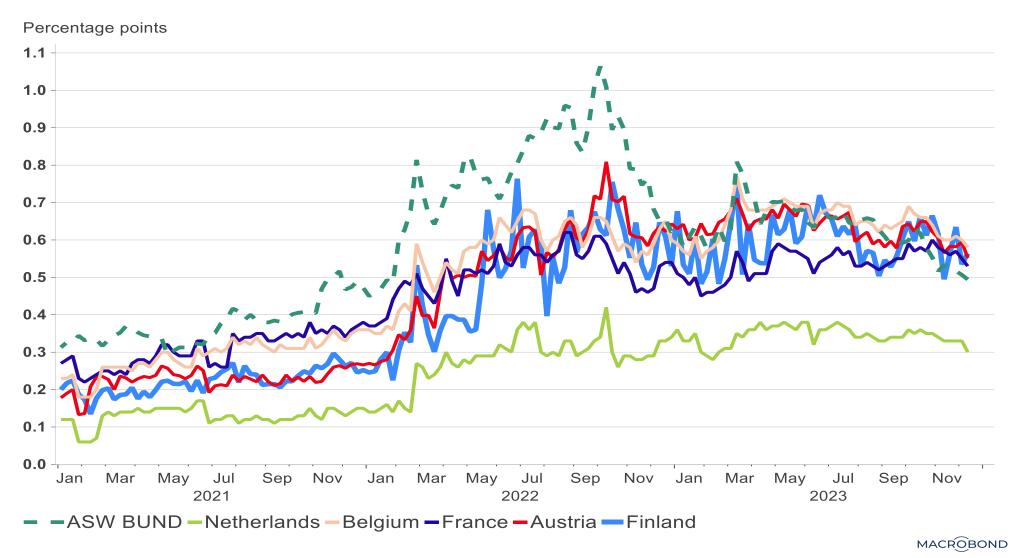
- Euro benchmark bond curve to 30 years
- Three syndicated euro benchmark bonds per year complemented by tap auctions
- Liquidity in focus Primary Dealers and both customer and inter-dealer platforms
- EMTN issuance complements euro benchmark bonds

#### Benchmark bonds outstanding





### 10-year government bond yield spreads to Germany & ASW BUND







# **Primary Dealers 2024**

**BofA Securities** 

Barclays

**BNP** Paribas

Citi

Crédit Agricole

Danske Bank

**Deutsche Bank** 

Goldman Sachs

**HSBC** 

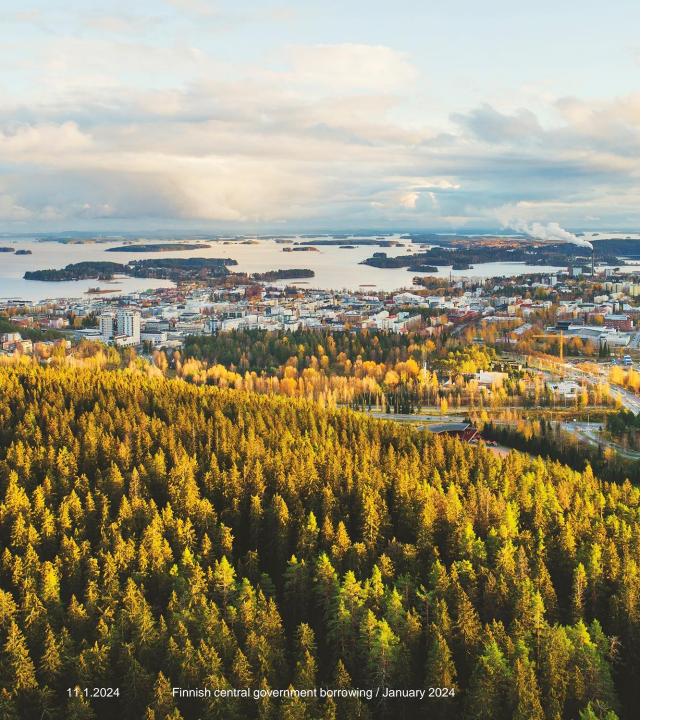
J.P. Morgan

Nomura

Nordea

Société Générale





# Sustainability in Finland: current themes

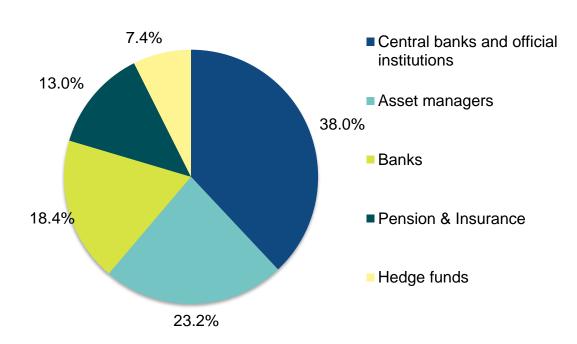
- Finland is by many metrics a global forerunner in sustainability
- Finland ranks #1 again in the UN Sustainable Development Report 2022
- Finland's climate neutrality goal is 2035
  - New Climate Change Act in 2022
  - Update of the Energy and Climate Strategy in 2022 (all sectors)
  - New Medium-term Climate Change Policy Plan 2022 (effort-sharing sector)
  - Climate Plan for the Land Use Sector
- The Health and Social services reform 2023

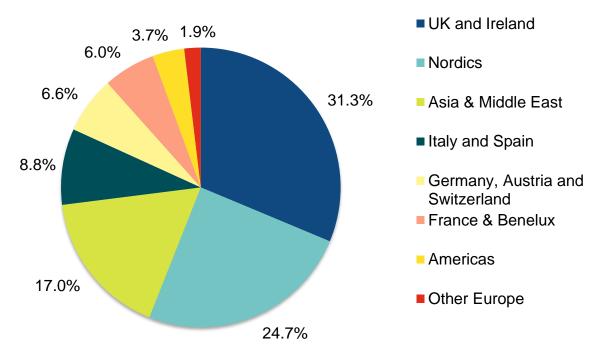


### Investor base for RFGB 2.875% EUR 3bn due April 2029

- Launched in August 2023
- Allocated to circa 80 investors

#### Distribution of the bond by investor type



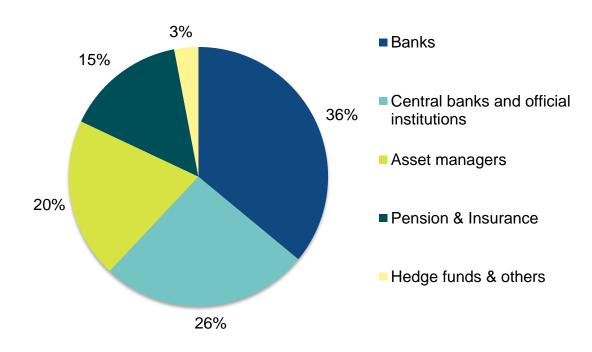


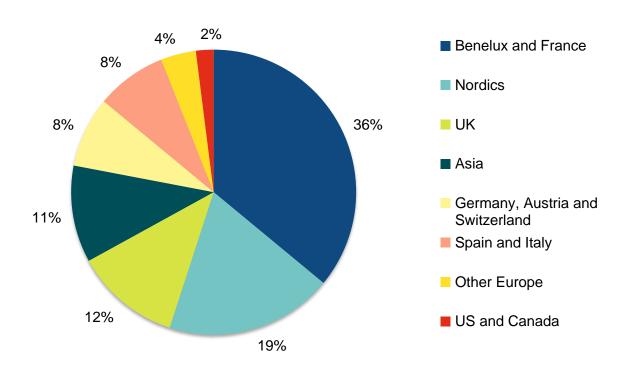


### Investor base for RFGB 3% EUR 3bn due September 2033

- Launched in April 2023
- Allocated to circa 90 investors

#### Distribution by investor type



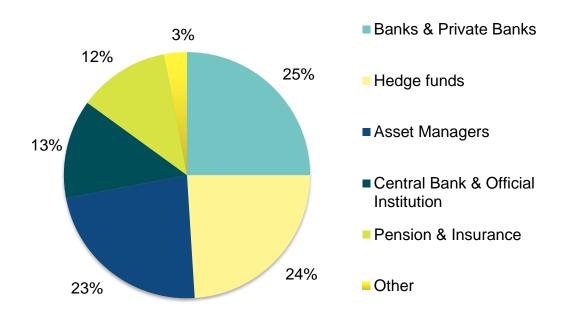


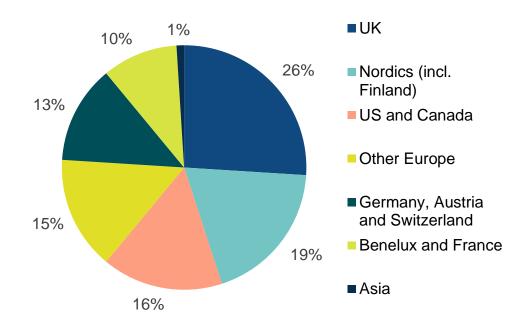


### Investor base for RFGB 2.750% EUR 3bn due 15 April 2038

- Launched in January 2023
- Allocated to over 90 investors

#### Distribution by investor type



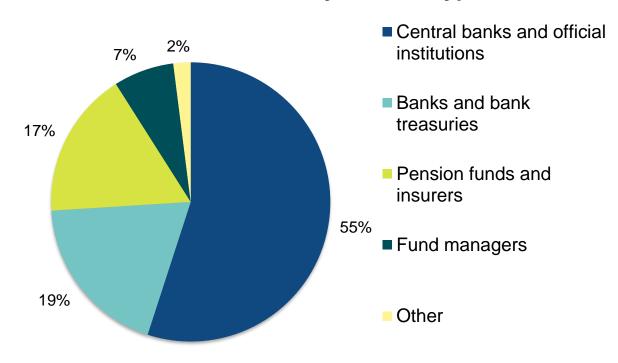


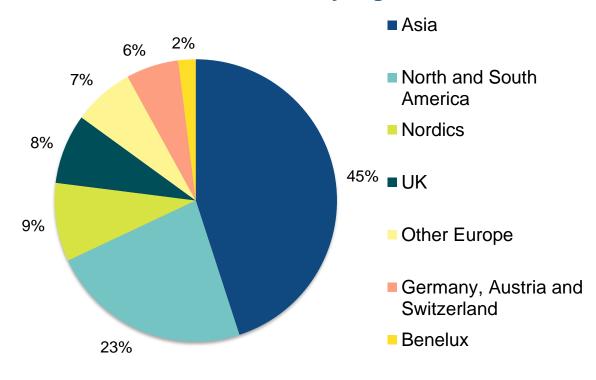


### Investor base for FINL 0.875% USD 1.5 bn due 2030

- Launched in May 2020
- Allocated to 87 investors

#### Distribution of the bond by investor type







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**Bloomberg: STF** 

Contact information:

Visiting address: Sörnäisten rantatie 13, Helsinki

Mailing address: P.O. BOX 14, FI-00054 STATE TREASURY, FINLAND

Tel. +358 295 50 2000 (switchboard)

e-mail: firstname.lastname@statetreasury.fi