



PRESS RELEASE

A significant focus in improving the ESG reporting in the newly approved 2024 Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT)

Brussels, 12 September 2023 – For immediate release

The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** is delighted to announce the formal adoption of the new and enhanced 2024 version of the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT).

The 2024 HTT will be mandatory for all Covered Bond Label issuers as of the end of Q1 2024 and is already available for download [here](#). The revised 2024 HTT is the result of the Label's annual review process undertaken in collaboration with market participants across three continents (Europe, Asia and North America). It was approved during the Covered Bond Label Committee Meeting held on 12 September in Munich.

The annual review of the HTT plays a pivotal role in the Label's efforts to keep pace with current - and prepare for upcoming - regulatory requirements, allowing for cross-border data comparison in a centralised manner and a harmonised format. The latest changes to the HTT template will affect over EUR 2.2 trillion of covered bonds outstanding as registered on the Cover Bond Label platform.

The main improvement to the 2024 HTT is a series of improvement in the ESG reporting both at general cover pool level as well as the inclusion of a dedicated worksheet for sustainable public sector asset, thus improving the reporting data quantity and quality.

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

“The annual update of the HTT is an extremely important exercise aimed at maintaining the quality of cover pool asset disclosures at the highest possible level and in line with market best practices and the new legal framework. In light of the improved ESG reporting options in the HTT, the Covered Bond Label continues to play a fundamental role in enabling issuers to provide essential tool for investors in their daily activities in the covered bond space.”

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. 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 over EUR 8.9 tn. at the end of 2022. As of September 2023, the EMF has 14 members across 12 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
2. 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 September 2023, the ECBC has 121 members from across the 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 3 tn. at the end of 2022.
3. The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** was established in 2012 by the EMF-ECBC. It is a quality Label which responds to a market-wide request for improved standards and increased transparency in the covered bond market. The website features the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT) and 14 National Transparency Templates, published by 130 issuers disclosing information on 173 labelled cover pools across 24 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on over 5,600 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of around 2.2 tn. EUR, out of which around 3,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).



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