# Generating positive impact through eurodenominated bonds

Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund Impact Report 2023

Triodos @ Investment Management

#### This is a marketing communication.

Please refer to the prospectus and the KID of Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund before making any final investment decisions. An overview of the investor's rights can be found in the prospectus and on the website (in <u>Dutch</u> and <u>French</u>). You can obtain these documents free of charge via the website <u>www.triodos.be</u> or by contacting Triodos Bank (Belgian branch of Triodos NV – The Netherlands). The management company may decide to stop distributing these sub-funds in Belgium.

Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund is a sub-fund of Triodos Sicav I domiciled in Luxembourg and is managed by Triodos Investment Management.

## The impact of your investment

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## **Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund**

#### **Objectives:**

The fund aims to increase the value of your investment over the medium term, while seeking to maximise positive impact on society and the environment. The fund has sustainable investment as its objective as set out in article 9 SFDR.

The fund mainly invests in impact and other corporate bonds whose proceeds must finance projects that contribute to at least one of the transition themes defined by Triodos: sustainable food and agriculture, renewable resources, circular economy, sustainable mobility and infrastructure, prosperous and healthy people, innovation for sustainability, or social inclusion and empowerment. Issuers that do not meet the Triodos sustainability standards are excluded from investment. Bonds can be issued by corporate bodies or governments. All bonds must be investment grade and denominated in EUR.

The return of the fund is determined on the one hand by interest income from investments minus the costs of managing the fund, and on the other hand by the price changes of the investments. The return of the fund depends to a large extent on interest rate developments.

The fund is actively managed. It compares its returns with the iBoxx Euro Corporates Overall Total Return (60%) and iBoxx Euro Eurozone Sovereign 1-10 Total Return (40%), which it does not aim to replicate or outperform. The fund may deviate from the benchmark because it only invests in companies that meet strict sustainability criteria.

#### The sustainable investment strategy:

This is described in detail in the document found in the section documents on the website www.triodos.be under Sustainability-related disclosures.

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#### **Risk indicator:**

- Triodos Investment Management classified this product as 2 out of 7, which is a low risk class.
- This rates the potential losses from future performance at a low level.
- The product may be exposed to risks, such as concentration risk and interest rate risk.
- This product does not include any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment.

### Fees & taxes

Costs within the fund per annum	<b>Capitalisation class</b>	<b>Distribution class</b>
Management and other administrative or operating cost	1,05%	1,05%
Transaction costs	0,04%	0,04%
Total	1,09%	1,09%
Retrocession*	0,40%	0,40%
*The retrocession is for the benefit of Triodos Bank for its services as distributor of the fund and is paid from ongoing charges.		
Charges and taxes borne by the investor		
Entry fee requested by Triodos IM	0%	0%
Entry charges requested by Triodos Bank Belgium	1%	1%
Stock market exit tax (with a maximum of EUR 4,000 per transaction)	1,32%	-
Withholding tax on capital gains	30%	30%
Withholding tax on dividends	-	30%



## Making impact matter

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#### About Triodos Investment Management

Triodos Investment Management (Triodos IM) is a globally active impact investor. The belief that impact investing is a driving force in the transition to a more inclusive and sustainable world is at the core of every investment decision.

#### About this impact report

Impact investing means putting money towards the benefit of people and the environment over the long term. This means making conscious investment decisions that aim to ensure 9+ billion people can thrive on a healthy planet.

At Triodos IM, we envision a future full of just and inclusive societies, where people enjoy good health and wellbeing, have access to ample opportunities, and can pursue their aspirations. To secure this vision, we must stay within planetary boundaries so that we can bestow a flourishing Earth upon future generations. And we must remember that time is of the essence.

Our ambitions and visions may be bold, but we don't just talk the talk.

Curious about what we have been up to this past year?

This impact report 2023 provides the numbers and stories that back up these ambitions and visions. It provides a taste of how Triodos Investment Management made impact matter in 2023

#### Implementation of sustainability regulation

#### SFDR

All Triodos Investment Management funds are classified as Article 9 Funds under the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR). Article 9 classification refers to the most sustainable product category and has the strictest requirements on sustainability disclosures.

This includes information on the adherence to the sustainable objectives of the fund, how we mitigate adverse impact on people and planet, how sustainability risks are assessed and managed and how we ensure good business conduct of all investments.

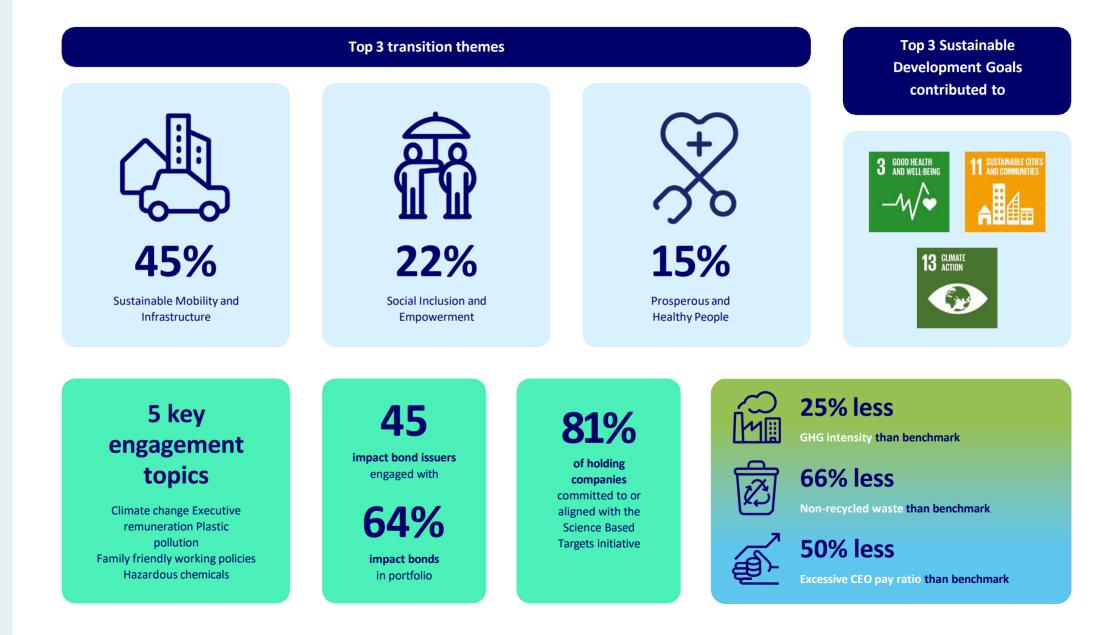
#### **EU Taxonomy**

We also report on the EU Taxonomy framework for funds that have an environmental objective. The EU Taxonomy is a manual that explains which economic activities are green and which are not for each sector.

Find out more: EU SFDR and Taxonomy requirements

## **Impact highlights 2023**

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Source: Triodos Investment Management

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The global economy proved resilient last year, despite growing geopolitical tensions and the highest interest rates in a decade. Although this might be a positive development, it comes at a huge cost. Our current economic system is based on growth and profit maximisation and comes at the detriment of societal wellbeing and our planet.

Inequality has increased further, and climate action is slow, adding to the urgent need for transformation. It is our purpose to contribute to change by financing this transformation. Positive social, environmental and cultural change have always been the drivers of our investment activities.

Last year we enhanced the impact profile of the fund, primarily by expanding investments related to our transition themes Prosperous and Healthy People and Social Inclusion and Empowerment. One example in the Prosperous and Healthy People theme is Novo Nordisk. This healthcare company not only enables people to live with diabetes, but also has sustainability embedded throughout its business processes.

Within Social Inclusion and Empowerment, we have added real estate company Vonovia as a new bond issuer and invested in a newly issued social bond. The proceeds of the bond are used for developing affordable housing for vulnerable population groups like low-income households, disabled people, older adults, students, and refugees.

Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund will continue to strive for positive change by investing in bond issuers and impact bonds that make a clear contribution to a more sustainable economy and a more inclusive society.

#### Jeroen van Herwaarden

Portfolio Manager Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund

Portfolio management team



Jeroen van Herwaarden

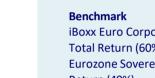


William de Vries









Managed by **Triodos Investment Management** 

Depository **CACEIS Investor Services Bank SA** 



Click on each label to read more about them.

The fact that the fund has obtained these labels does not mean that it meets your own sustainability goals.

#### Fund characteristics

Asset class euro bonds

Domicile Luxembourg

Legal structure sub-fund of Triodos SICAV I

Inception date July 2007

AUM per December 2023 EUR 345,422,897

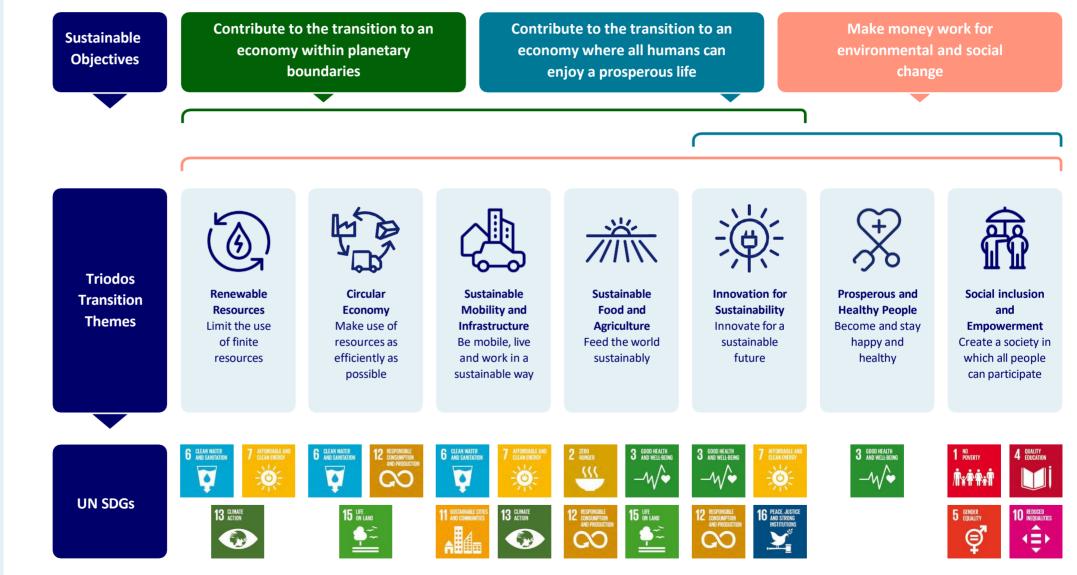
#### iBoxx Euro Corporates Overall Total Return (60%) and iBoxx Euro Eurozone Sovereign 1-10 Total Return (40%)



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The Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund is an SFDR Article 9 fund. The fund invests in listed companies and bond issuers that actively contribute to at least one of the Triodos transition themes, which in turn address at least one of the sustainable investment objectives. Each Triodos transition theme is linked to one or more UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



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## **Positive impact through bonds**

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The fund's bond portfolio consists of impact, corporate and financial bonds, issued by companies, financial and semipublic institutions and EU member state governments. They all generate positive impact and contribute to at least one of our seven transition themes.

Impact bonds	<ul> <li>&gt; Bond proceeds are used to generate positive impact</li> <li>&gt; Assessment of Green or Social Bond Framework</li> <li>&gt; Additionality of the projects financed</li> <li>&gt; Issuer adheres to Triodos minimum standards</li> </ul>	64%
Corporate bonds	<ul> <li>&gt; Issuer's business model contributes to Triodos' sustainable transition themes</li> <li>&gt; Issuer adheres to Triodos minimum standards.</li> </ul>	35%
Financial bonds	<ul> <li>The issuer is connected to the real economy and focuses on triple bottom line finance (GABV methodology – for more information, please visit the website of the Global Alliance for Banking on Values)</li> <li>Issuer adheres to Triodos minimum standards</li> </ul>	1%
(sub) Sovereign bonds	<ul> <li>Sovereign signed and rectified main UN conventions</li> <li>Only used to mitigate liquidity risks, manage interest rate risk and credit quality if needed</li> </ul>	0%

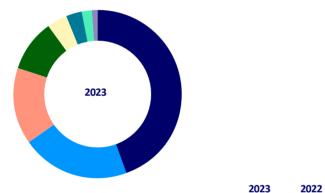
The percentages provided above reflect the weight in the portfolio at the end of December 2023 of each category. The cash position of the fund was 0.2% per end December 2023. Source: Triodos Investment Management

## Impact achieved

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Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund measures impact first and foremost as positive contribution to the Triodos sustainable transition themes. Each company in the portfolio must positively contribute to at least one of these themes through its commercial strategy. In 2023, the fund's portfolio contributed positively to the following themes:

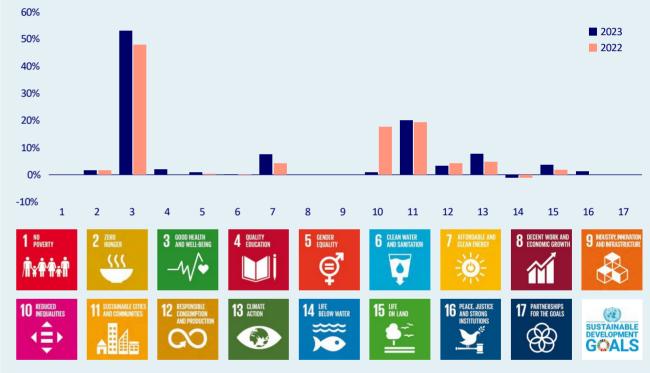




Sustainable Mobility and Infrastructure45%46%Social Inclusion and Empowerment21%23%Prosperous and Healthy People15%13%Renewable Resources10%9%Sustainable Food and Agriculture4%4%Innovation for Sustainability3%2%Circular Economy2%1%Liquidity1%2%			
Prosperous and Healthy People15%13%Renewable Resources10%9%Sustainable Food and Agriculture4%4%Innovation for Sustainability3%2%Circular Economy2%1%	Sustainable Mobility and Infrastructure	45%	46%
Renewable Resources10%9%Sustainable Food and Agriculture4%4%Innovation for Sustainability3%2%Circular Economy2%1%	Social Inclusion and Empowerment	21%	23%
Sustainable Food and Agriculture4%4%Innovation for Sustainability3%2%Circular Economy2%1%	Prosperous and Healthy People	15%	13%
Innovation for Sustainability3%2%Circular Economy2%1%	Renewable Resources	10%	9%
Circular Economy 2% 1%	Sustainable Food and Agriculture	4%	4%
	Innovation for Sustainability	3%	2%
Liquidity 1% 2%	Circular Economy	2%	1%
	Liquidity	1%	2%

#### Sustainable Development Goals

To further measure the impact of the fund, its contribution to the UN SDGs is assessed, based on the underlying revenue streams from the product and services of each company.



Source: ISS ESG as per end of December 2022 and 2023.

The increased contribution to SDG 3 is the result of the addition of Reckitt Benckiser and Novo Nordisk to the portfolio. The increased contribution to SDG 7 is the result of the addition of Statnett and National Grid. The changes in the contribution to SDG 10 are caused by transactions and stricter application of positive scoring for this SDG by ISS ESG.

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## Impact investments

Click here for an overview of all investments of the fund in 2023.



#### Smurfit Kappa

Recycling is at the heart of the business model of Smurfit Kappa. 75% of the raw material used consists of recycled fibres. All paper-based packaging the company produces is recyclable and through its products the company facilitates the shift from plastic to more environmentally friendly paper-based packaging. > Find out more here

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#### **National Grid**

An upgraded and expanded electric grid is the backbone of the energy transition. In the coming decades, grid operators like National Grid must modernise its aging infrastructure and build new connections and repurpose its existing assets to handle burgeoning and more decentralised renewables generation. > Find out more <u>here</u>





#### Novo Nordisk

Novo Nordisk is a world leader in diabetes care, aiming to turn the tide of the diabetes pandemic. The company seeks to raise awareness and prevention education, improve access to and affordability of care, and to proactively address the psychosocial aspects of diabetes. > Find out more here

#### Vonovia

NONOVIA

This social bond is issued to refinance the development of affordable housing units and lowbarrier housing. These projects fulfill housing needs for certain vulnerable population groups such as lowincome households, disabled people, older adults, students, and refugees. > Find out more here

#### Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen

Through impact bonds, the bank finances loans in projects related to renewable energy. Projects include wind energy (both onshore and offshore) and solar energy. These renewable energy projects are to provide affordable and clean energy (SDG7) and tackle climate change (SDG13). > Find out more here

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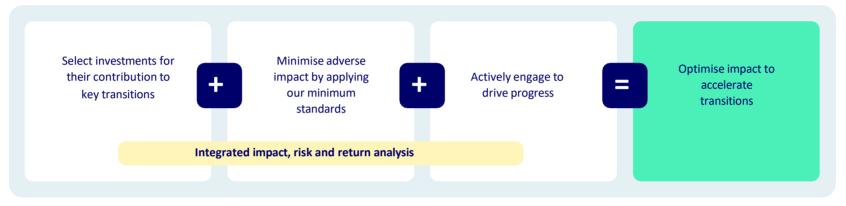
## **Optimising impact to accelerate transitions**

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Money is a driving force towards a society that is humane, ecologically balanced and works for the benefit of all.

Triodos Investment Management has a robust process in place to optimise impact and accelerate key transitions. This process is continuously developed following new insights and latest developments and standards.

#### Triodos IM's robust process to optimise impact



#### Contribution to transitions

We invest to realise our vision of a prosperous life for people on a thriving planet. Each fund has a Theory of Change, which describes how the fund can enable, contribute and accelerate sustainable transitions. This ambition is translated into a set of objectives, indicators and internal targets per fund.

Each potential investment must significantly contribute to at least one of fund's sustainability objectives to qualify for investment (see pages 4 and 5).

#### Minimise adverse impact

We select for positive impact but also determine the level of potential adverse impact. This includes a screening based on the Triodos minimum standards, potential controversies, the EU SFDR Principal Adverse Impacts (PAIs) and relevant sectorspecific standards to ensure our investments do not cause any significant harm.

We also mitigate and manage any material sustainability risk. Read more in <u>Our approach to impact</u>.

#### Engage to drive progress

We aim to accelerate transitions and promote sustainable long-term value creation for all our stakeholders. To this end, we frequently engage on environmental and social topics that are relevant to each investee's business model, as well as on general corporate governance issues.

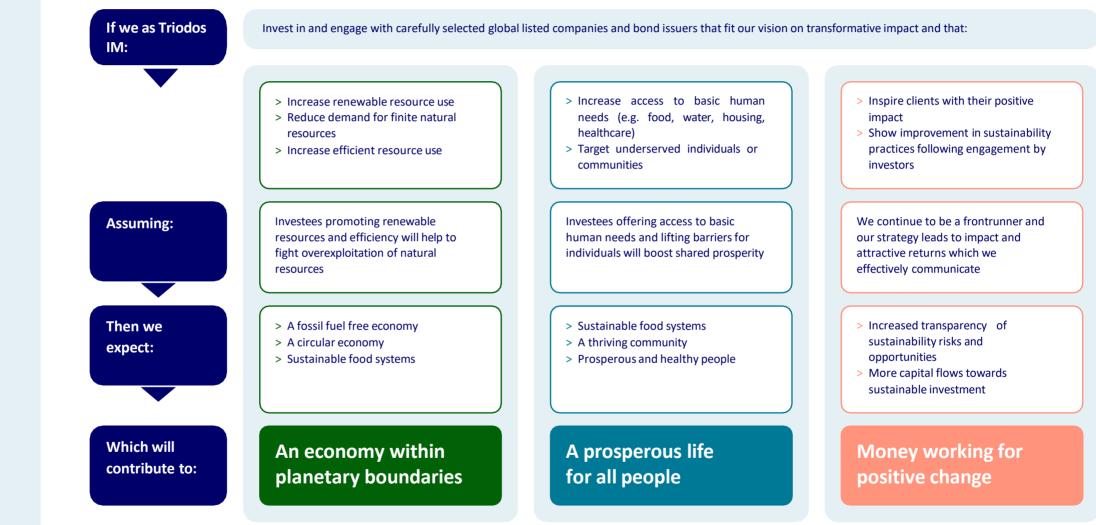
We engage to obtain information both in response to (potential) controversies and proactively on strategic topics. Furthermore, we believe that by active ownership exercising voting rights for listed investments and board seats for private equity investments - we can exert a positive influence on a company's long-term strategy.

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## **Theory of Change**

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This Theory of Change underpins how Triodos IM acts, invests and evaluates the activities for the Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund.



## Do no significant harm

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To make sure that its investments do not cause any
significant harm, the fund continuously monitors alignment
with the strict Triodos minimum standards. In the course of
2023, the fund excluded one company from the portfolio due
to either a breach of Triodos Bank minimum standards, or a
persisting unacceptable risk.

# Company name Reason for exclusion Philips The negative feedback of the FDA on the recall of sleep apnoea devices led to a major controversy. We therefore sold our remaining bond position in the company. Investments are also assessed on their Principal Adverse

Impacts (PAIs) in line with SFDR guidelines for Article 9 funds. The GHG intensity, Non-recycled waste and the Excessive CEO pay ratios illustrate the lower negative impact of the portfolio companies' activities compared to those of the benchmark: iBoxx Euro Corporates Overall Total Return (60%) and iBoxx Euro Eurozone Sovereign 1-10 Total Return (40%).



The impact indicators are calculated using Principal Adverse Indicator data from Morningstar Sustainalytics.

GHG intensity of investee companies: The GHG intensity is a relative measure of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It is the amount of GHG produced per unit of revenue generated by the company, measured in tonnes of  $CO_2$  per EURm generated in revenue. The carbon intensity is then weighted using the portfolio weight to get a weighted average for the portfolio.

Non-recycled waste ratio: For each company the non-recycled waste ratio is the total amount in metric tons of non-recycled waste produced dividend by the amount invested in EURm, shown as a weighted average.

Excessive CEO pay ratio: This metric measures the ratio within investee companies of the annual total compensation for the highest compensated individual to the median annual total compensation for all employees.

## **Engagement agenda**

By Triodos Investment Management

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institutions to drive positive change. Where appropriate, it discusses governance, environmental and social issues relevant to their specific business models. These discussions often take place before a company is added to the investable universe. In 2023, the Impact Equities and Bond funds' formal engagement agenda focused on five topics: **Climate change** Executive



In July 2020, we initiated our climate change engagement project. The goal of this project is to encourage our portfolio companies to set science-based emission targets, in line with the 1.5°C trajectory, as set out by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). In 2023, we stepped up our engagement efforts by setting the target to engage annually with all our holdings on GHG management.

Read the full article.

**Energy transition** 



Over the past three years, we have engaged with companies we identified as having excessive remuneration. In 2023, we engaged with seven companies on this topic. Four of these have improved their remuneration structure and therefore remain in our investment universe.

Read the full article.

Societal transition

#### **Plastic pollution**

Stewardship is integrated in every aspect of the fund's investment management process to promote sustainable value creation for all our stakeholders. Triodos IM engages with companies and



The current rate of plastic production is unsustainable, and cleaning up the aftermath is an overwhelming task. We engaged with 12 portfolio companies in the consumer staples sector, which are among the biggest users of plastic when it comes to packaging, to discuss what to do about the complex plastic legacy.

Read the full article.

**Resources transition** 

Family friendly working policies



Family-friendly work policies play an important role in enhancing and improving the wellbeing of children. We started an engagement project to assess several of our portfolio companies' work policies related to children and their parents. The assessment consists of topics such as parental leave, flexible working hours, breastfeeding support at work, childcare support, living wages and job security.

#### Read the full article.

Wellbeing / Societal transition

Hazardous chemicals



Following the first round of engagement on hazardous chemicals in 2021/22, we focused on synthetic, highly toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in 2023, We maintained our role as lead investors for Shin-Etsu and Evonik, who both notably improved their ChemScore. As there is room for further improvement, we will continue our engagement efforts.

Read the full article.

**Resources transition** 

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## No change without engagement

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Triodos IM integrates stewardship in every aspect of the investment management process, to drive positive change, through engagement, voting and advocacy. To accomplish this, it's essential to interact with the listed companies we invest in, argues Portfolio Manager Rosl Veltmeijer and Head of Research Henk Jonker. "Engagement begins from the moment we consider investing in a company. Dialogue and transparency are so crucial that companies unwilling to engage are not considered for investment."

Understanding a company is key to investing in it, says Veltmeijer. "We achieve this through analysis and engaging with management. In that sense, engagement is integral to our selection process, even before we use it to influence a company's policy." This way, engagement serves a dual purpose: maximising a company's positive impact and comprehending its business model.

When setting the agenda for positive change, engagement and voting are crucial tools. Both have distinct advantages and integrating them enhances the impact and clarity of shareholder intentions. Engagement provides a platform to address a wide range of concerns through informal discussions, formal meetings and collaborative efforts with other investors. Voting allows shareholders to exercise their vote at shareholder meetings and hold management directly accountable. However, Triodos IM prefers to wield its influence using engagement, says Jonker. "Through engagement, we can set the agenda, advocating for issues we deem crucial. At a shareholder meeting, however, the agenda is predetermined."

#### The impact of engagement

Engagement takes time. Steering companies towards a more sustainable trajectory can take years. Sometimes it succeeds, sometimes it doesn't. Lack of progress could result in divestment. Veltmeijer offers a more nuanced view on engagement: "You start engagement by asking relevant questions. Such questions can lead to awareness and thus policy changes.

Ultimately, this is up to the company itself and the people working there. However, good questions set things in motion. If you achieve that, you can consider the engagement a success."

#### The mutual benefits of engagement

Successful engagement starts with the notion that dialogue must always be mutually beneficial. "It is important to ask relevant questions that also matter to the company. What helps is if you can share insights or best practices that the company itself does not have," concludes Jonker.



Read the full article here.

## **Engagement summary**

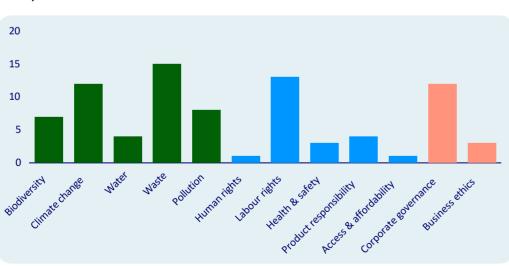
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#### Engagement in 2023

In addition to the engagement agenda, Triodos IM has conversations with companies to discuss topics that are important to impact investors.

#### Company contact purpose 2023 61 Company update 16 Company engagement 10 Collaborative engagement Event driven engagement 7 Engagement project 6 Impact bond engagement 3 MSA\* request for information 2 Total 105

ESG topics discussed



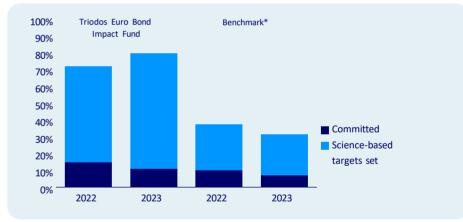
\*MSA = Minimum Standards Analysis

45 impact bond issuers engaged with
64%
impact bonds
in portfolio

#### Alignment with the Science Based Targets initiative

As part of Triodos IM's climate change engagement, two company milestones are measured:

- 1. a company is committed to setting science-based targets,
- 2. a company has set science-based targets, in line with the 1.5°C trajectory.



\* iBoxx Euro Corporates Overall Total Return (60%) and iBoxx Euro Eurozone Sovereign 1-10 Total Return (40%)

Number of times the topic was discussed.

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## Sustainability risks and opportunities

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#### ESG risks and opportunities of the ten largest holdings

Company name	Risks	Opportunities
European Union	The EU issues impact bonds to finance the SURE program. The program does not apply exclusion criteria for sectors that have negative environmental or social impact, so there is a risk that proceeds from the bond will eventually be allocated to sectors with negative impact.	The overall impact of the SURE program will be to protect income and preserve productive capacity and human capital of enterprises and the economy as a whole.
Spain - Community of Madrid	The impact and allocation reporting by the issuer is not very extensive. Not much detail is provided on the projects financed by the impact bond and the methodology of calculating the impact reported by the issuer.	The green bond is issued to finance the decarbonisation of public transport in the Madrid region. The proceeds are mainly used to purchase electric buses and for the development and maintenance of the fully electrified metro system in Madrid.
La Poste	Courier service is a high emission sector. A big share of La Poste's transport is conducted with carbon- intensive road transport, therefore impeding the fight against climate change.	La Poste has ambitous climate goals and sustainability strategy. It has set SBTi targets to reduce GHG emissions. The company has issued green instruments to facilate the electrification of its vehicle fleet.
Essity Aktiebolag	Essity's production activities affect air, water, earth, biodiversity, and climate. Stricter environmental standards, environmental restoration during facility shutdowns, or violations of permits may lead to increased expenses.	Essity could enhance its brand value by promoting sustainable sourcing, increasing the proportion of reusable products and those offering social or environmental benefits, and transitioning to more sustainable packaging solutions.
Instituto de Credito Oficial	The company facilitates the development of Spain's economy and does so by providing financial support to domestic infrastructure projects and import/export financing. There is no indication that ICO embeds sustainability targets into the executive remuneration policy.	ICO's mandate contributes to the achievement of sustainability goals. The bank has issued multiple green and social bonds to support multiple sectors of Spain's economy including small and medium-sized companies, clean energy and social housing.
NRW Bank	The green bond finances renovations to a hydropower plant. In some instances, hydropower plants can be linked to negative impact on local communities and biodiversity. No such impact has been observed so far.	The proceeds of this green bond are used to finance projects that focus on both climate mitigation and climate adaptation. These projects contribute to reduced emissions and improved biodiversity in North Rhine-Westphalia through better energy efficiency in buildings, more renewable energy generation, electric public transport, and river restoration.
Belgium - Region Wallonne	The level of transparency when it comes to eligible projects is not as strong as some other issuers, but the identification and management of potential sustainability risks the Wallonie Green Social Sustainability bond framework is robust.	The Wallonie framework is a best-practice example. The look-back period is only 24 months sovereign and the disbursement period is also rather short. All eligible categories are considered associated with impactful with 90% of the proceeds allocated to investment.
France - Region Ile de France	Région Île-de-France was criticised in 2020 for its decision to use EUR 730,000 initially dedicated to finance transportation of people with disabilities to finance other projects.	The issuer is very transparent in its allocation and impact reporting, therefore it is easy for investors to understand the exact use of the proceeds and the associated impact.
SFIL	There is only limited growth capacity in green loans, as local authorities are small and therefore often issue only one green loan per year, trying to fit as much as they can into the framework. This does not fit with SFIL's financing approach.	When financing healthcare projects, SFIL tries to direct investments to areas where there is a need for additional capacity. Hospitals account for 10% of SFIL's lending.
Danone	Biodiversity loss, climate change and water stress impair agricultural production and are therefore a material risk to Danone's sourcing operations, including milk, sugar and fruit. An additional risk are the packaging materials used by the company, in particular whether they can be recycled and reused.	Danone is well-positioned to support its customers with the provision of plant-based and essential dairy products. We see an opportunity for Danone to increase brand value by being positively associated with sustainable sourcing, deforestation-free programs and shifting towards more sustainable packaging solutions.

## Sustainability risks and opportunities

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#### Risks and opportunities of largest GHG emitters

Company name	Risks	Opportunities
Toyota	For car manufacturers, the main sustainability issues are the reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions of the car fleet across the whole product lifecycle as well as environmental standards in the supply chain.	Toyota is committed to contributing to safe and energy-efficient mobility concepts, including transport infrastructure. These efforts, to some degree, facilitate a reduction of the environmental burden caused by cars.
Atlas Copco	Atlas Copco's ESG risks mainly center around human rights issues (e.g. during the construction of a dam project in Colombia in 2014). The company reports on its GHG emissions and has SBTi-approved targets.	Opportunities for Atlas Copco are EV manufacturing equipment for its Industrial Technique division and emission control abatement systems for its Vacuum Technique division. In addition, Atlas Copco provides products for use in hydrogen and renewable energy.
BMW	Reducing CO <sub>2</sub> emissions of the car fleet are the most pressing sustainability issues for car manufacturers. This includes the whole product lifecycle as well as environmental and social standards in the supply chain. The company has a near-term SBTI target and is committed to setting a SBTI net-zero target in the future.	For car manufacturers like BMW, opportunities for continued success can be found in the development of alternative drives and the creation of mobility concepts for the future. The company is working on mobility, telematics and navigation solutions in order to enhance road traffic efficiency and is part of initiatives regarding multi-modal mobility concepts and traffic in mega-cities.
Continental	Regarding the company's operational management, key risks include greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and action plans, performance of tyre models according to EU regulation and a strategy to optimise the energy efficiency of its products. Environmental risks are, by and large, managed well.	Opportunities for automotive suppliers are found in helping to improve the energy efficiency of vehicles. Further opportunities lie in the development of products for alternative drives and new mobility concepts.
Suez	The company contributes to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in several ways, including via its water treatment plants and waste incineration plants. The company has committed to fighting climate change and has therefore set short-term SBTi targets and committed to setting a net-zero SBTi target.	By recovering energy from waste through processes like incineration (with strict emission controls) or by converting biogas into electricity, Suez reduces reliance on fossil fuels and contributes to clean energy generation. The company also invests in advanced landfill gas capture technology, to turn methane into usable energy like electricity or fuel.

The top 5 highest emitters per fund are identified based on their total GHG emissions scope 1-3 per EY2023 as reported by Morningstar Sustainalytics.



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#### Risks and opportunities of biodiversity laggards

as a program for this: ng infrastructure. e company may ourcing, production
e fuel-efficiency of its intern icy in which it contributes t
t discovery and developmer principles and goals of the et to reduce its environmenta
stainable aviation and is d in developing alternative fleet, with a target to electrif

The biodiversity laggards per fund are identified top down, with the addition of biodiversity data from several sources. The first step in determining the biodiversity laggards per fund, is to identify the high-risk sectors for negatively affecting biodiversity. These include agriculture, construction and infrastructure, extractive industries, fishery and aquaculture, food and beverages, forestry and logging, shipping, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals. From these sectors, we filter companies with a relatively high negative impact on biodiversity using data from the World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA) and from ISS-ESG.

ISS-ESG assesses companies on their contribution to or obstruction of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, based on their products and services, policies, and involvement in controversies. By selecting companies that have been assessed by ISS-ESG to have a negative score on SDGs 14 (Life on land) and 15 (Life below water), additional biodiversity laggards are selected. Finally, PAI data from Morningstar Sustainalytics are used to identify companies that negatively affect biodiversity-sensitive areas. One company was identified to negatively affect biodiversity-sensitive areas and was added to the top 5 biodiversity laggards of the relating funds.

## **Engagement with the ten largest holdings**

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Company name	Engagement topics	
European Union	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
Spain - Community of Madrid	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
La Poste	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
Essity Aktiebolag	Climate change, waste, governance, labour rights	
Instituto de Credito Oficial	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
NRW Bank	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
Belgium - Region Wallonne	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
France - Region Ile de France	Reviewed allocation and impact reporting but no engagement with the issuer	
SFIL	Held 1on1 meeting with SFIL in March 2023	
Danone	Biodiversity, climate change, pollution, waste, governance, health and safety	

## **Impact metrics explained**

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Contribution to the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** is based on the ISS ESG Sustainable Solutions Assessment, which is a comprehensive assessment of company products and services that affect the SDGs. This data enables investors to identify the share of products and services that have a positive or negative impact on 15 different social and environmental objectives. Those objectives, defined by ISS ESG, take into account the SDGs that are relevant to a company's product portfolio. Revenues linked to social and environmental objectives are summed across the different objectives and mapped to each individual SDG as a direct contribution.

The **Science Based Targets initiative** (SBTi) provides a common scientifically recognised methodology to calculate GHG emissions and to set targets.Having companies set an SBTi target helps to minimise the existing problems related to a lack of guidelines to measure the companies' scope 3 GHG as well as helping to compare targets among companies. The SBTi data has been retrieved from the SBTi's public database of committed and aligned companies. Targets adopted by companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are considered science based if they are in line with what the latest climate science says is necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement – to limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C.

#### **Climate-related financial risk disclosures**

This <u>disclosure</u> shows how climate-related risks and opportunities are organised in processes and procedures to consider both physical risks (that arise as physical consequences of climate change) and transition risks (relating to the transition to a climateneutral economy).

For a full understanding of Triodos IM's approach to climate change, this disclosure should be considered together with Triodos Bank's Integrated Annual Report and As One To Zero progress reports.



Investing for impact Do you want to find out more about how Triodos IM invested for impact in 2023? Go to our website.

#### Disclaimer

- > Please refer to the prospectus and the KID of Triodos Euro Bond Impact Fund before making any final investment decisions. An overview of the investor's rights can be found in the prospectus and on the website (in <u>Dutch</u> and <u>French</u>). You can obtain these documents free of charge via the website www.triodos.be or by contacting Triodos Bank (Belgian branch of Triodos NV The Netherlands). The management company may decide to stop distributing these sub-funds in Belgium.
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#### **About Triodos Investment Management**

Triodos Investment Management (Triodos IM) is a globally active impact investor. We see impact investing as a driving force in the transition to a green, inclusive and resilient economy.

We have built up in-depth knowledge throughout our 30+ years of impact investing in sectors such as Energy and Climate, Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Food and Agriculture. Triodos IM also invests in listed companies that support sustainable solutions for the future. Assets under management as per end of December 2022: EUR 5.5 billion.

Triodos IM is a wholly owned subsidiary of Triodos Bank, a leading expert in sustainable banking.

#### Triodos @Investment Management