

A Green Future – Supporting climatefriendly investments by Swedish municipalities

Björn Söderlundh, Head of Lending, Swedish Local Government Debt Office | Energy Efficiency Directive Concerted Action Plenary Meeting, 20 October 2015, Luxemburg



Swedish Local Government Debt Office



 Founded 1986 by ten local govts.
 Currently 280 owners/members (total=310), of which 272 municipalities and 8 county councils/regions.



AAA/Aaa, stable outlook.



 Balance sheet: EUR ~35 bn, lending portfolio: EUR ~25 bn.



 Funding on international and domestic capital markets. Lending in Sweden.



 Mission: provide members with access to cost-efficient and stable funding.



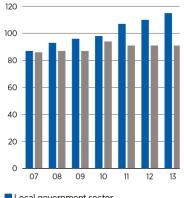


Role of municipalities



- Municipalities drive Swedish green efforts, through regulatory supervision, procurement and responsibility for city planning and local infrastructure.
- >90 % of municipalities have green targets or have adopted national or regional goals.
- Local government sector accounts for >50
 % of all public sector investment.
- Transparency & reporting stimulates development.





Local government sectorSwedish central government

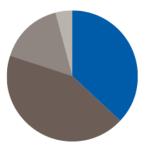




Local government investments



Distribution of local government sector investment in 2013,%



- Municipalities 37 %
- Municipal companies 43 %
- County councils/regions 16 %
- Companies owned by county councils/regions 4 %

Source: Kommuninvest

3.1 % of GDP in 2013

The municipal groups' investments in 2013, broken down by investment category



- Infrastructure, 21 %
- Housing 27 %
- Properties 25 %
- Energy 14 %
 - Water and sewerage 7 %
- Other 7 %

Source: Kommuninvest. Rounding up/down means that sub-items add up to >100%.



Kommuninvest Green Loans



1) Climate-friendly investment projects are eligible

Projects must promote the transition to low carbon and climate resilient growth, and be:

- part of applicant's systematic environmental work;
- be related to the national or regional environmental goals;
- target mitigation or adaption to climate change or env. mgmt.

2) Green Loans approval by external advisory committee

- Loan application signed by applicant's Finance and Environmental departments
- Screening and preliminary approval by Kommuninvest
- Final approval by the Kommuninvest Green Bonds Environmental Committee.

3) Green Bonds issued to SRI/ESG investors

- To fund Green Loans lending, Green Bonds will be issued, targeting investors with Socially Responsible Investment or Environment, Social, Governance focus.
- Green Bonds can be issued against max 75 % of Green Loan portf.



1) Climate-friendly projects







2) External advisory committee





- Audit and final approval of Green Loan applications
- Advisory board to Kommuninvest and Kommuninvest borrowers
 - Review and decide on Green Loan reporting by borrowers
- Review and approve Green Loans impact reporting in annual investor report
 - Participate in development of Kommuninvest Green Bonds framework

Members (left to right): Susanne Arneborg, Energy Coordinator, Municipality of Borås; Petra Mangnäs, Client Advisor, Kommuninvest; Marta Fallgren, EnvirFonmental Mgr, Uppsala County Council; Andreas Hagnell, Senior Advisor Environment and Energy, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions; Sara Pettersson, Urban Development Officer, City of Gothenburg; Björn Söderlundh, Head of Lending, Kommuninvest; Hanna Arneson, Sustainability Mgr, Municipality of Örebro



Green Loan portfolio - examples



Järfälla | SEK 300 mn | **Herresta school** | First school in Sweden built entirely from cross laminated timber



Inaugural Green Loan: Municipality of Eskilstuna, SEK 165 mn for wind farm construction.



Karlstad | SEK 900 mn | **New biofuelled Combined Heat and Power plant**



Skellefteå | SEK 650 mn | **Phase 2&3 of Blaiken wind farm** | One of Europe's largest onshore wind farms





For additional information, please consult Kommuninvest's Investor Presentation and Investor Factbook:

www.kommuninvest.org







Green Bonds Framework



Multi-level project selection & approvals process

- 1. Environmental functions & treasury departments in Kommuninvest's member municipalities/county councils.
- 2. Kommuninvest lending department.
- 3. Kommuninvest Green Bonds Environmental Committee.

Earmarked account for proceeds

Net Green Bond proceeds credited to a special account | On quarterly basis, NGB proceeds are used to fund Eligible Loans made during the quarter | Balance to be held in cash, green bonds, Swedish covered bonds, municipality and/or government risk | Minimum average credit rating: A- (S&P).

Focus on lending to new investment projects

Transparency & reporting

Annual investor letter: Eligible Loans exceeding SEK 25 mn; Project examples with impact reporting; Summary of Kommuninvest's Green Bond development.

Sustainability reporting according to GRI Guidelines.

All reports to be published at <u>www.kommuninvest.org</u>

Second opinion from Cicero

"Overall. Kommuninvest's Green Bond framework and environmental policies provide a progressive, clear and sound framework for climate-friendly investments. The green bond framework lists eligible projects that are supportive of the objective of promoting a transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient growth and is supported by a strong governance structure in Kommuninvest."

Center for International Climate and Environmental Research, 28 May 2015





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