

CHG-MERIDIAN successfully places two further ESG-linked financing transactions

- **CHG-MERIDIAN issues its first ESG-linked bonded loan, arranged by Landesbank Baden-Württemberg, with a volume of €100 million**
- **CHG-MERIDIAN and Helaba agree an additional ESG-linked syndicated loan worth €100 million**
- **CHG-MERIDIAN reiterates its goal of generating half of its growth-related funding from sustainability-oriented models**

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CHG-MERIDIAN continues to pursue its strategy of using sustainability-oriented funding instruments for corporate finance purposes. The technology management and financing company, which managed a technology portfolio worth €7.8 billion in 2021, raised €200 million in funding through ESG-linked funding instruments in the second and third quarters of 2022.

The new funding volume was raised in equal parts from the first placement of a bonded loan with an ESG component (€100 million, arranged by Landesbank Baden-Württemberg) and from an additional syndicated loan (€100 million) from a group of savings banks led by Helaba Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen. The maturity periods of these funding instruments range from four to six years. The interest rate is pegged to CHG-MERIDIAN's EcoVadis rating, which means that the more sustainably the business is operated, the lower the financing costs will be.

Not long ago, in December 2021, CHG-MERIDIAN agreed its first ESG-linked syndicated loan with Helaba Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen. Thanks to CHG-MERIDIAN's excellent credit rating, global presence, and highly popular business model inspired by the principles of the circular economy, the most recent transaction also attracted a lot of demand and was brought to market very swiftly. All in all, 27 savings banks are involved in this financing arrangement.

Ulrich Bergmann, the CHG-MERIDIAN Board of Management member with responsibility for finance, is not surprised: "Global demand for sustainable finance remains very strong. But a recent study¹ showed that placements of these types of financial product have declined by around 7.5 percent year on year. Banks and lenders want companies to be transparent about how, and to what extent, they are addressing ESG topics. The EcoVadis rating serves as evidence of our ESG credentials and enables us to obtain sustainable funding for our future growth at attractive conditions." The Group currently holds a [silver](#) rating, which means that it ranks among the top 25 percent of all companies assessed by EcoVadis.

Diversification of funding instruments

In addition to the aforementioned syndicated loan, CHG-MERIDIAN raised a further €100 million by way of a recent bonded loan placement. It is the first time that the Company has structured this type of loan with an ESG component. The loan was arranged by Landesbank Baden-Württemberg.

¹ Source: <https://www.boersen-zeitung.de/kapitalmaerkte/leichter-daempfer-fuer-green-finance-f15d099a-fde9-11ec-af15-e66d979da123?read=true>

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“Both financing transactions constitute progress on our journey toward the goal of raising half of our growth-related funding by means of sustainability-oriented financing solutions,” says Bergmann. This benefits everyone: “Sustainability is a central pillar of our corporate strategy. We therefore have our ESG activities independently assessed. This enables us to harness our success in this field to issue funding instruments in the capital markets that are linked to our ESG performance. We monitor the market and potential financing concepts on an ongoing basis in order to ensure a healthy volume of funding and a good level of diversification. The provision of these new financing solutions, and their volume, are proof that the capital markets have great confidence in CHG-MERIDIAN’s creditworthiness and sustainability credentials.”

The CHG-MERIDIAN Group

The CHG-MERIDIAN Group is the leading international technology management and financing company for IT, industrial technology, and healthcare technology. Nearly 1,200 employees across 28 countries manage a technology portfolio worth €7.8 billion (2021). CHG-MERIDIAN finances and manages international technology projects in a holistic, digital, and sustainable manner. Acting independently of banks and manufacturers, it supplies the necessary assets to its customers, which include large corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises, hospitals, and the public sector. The Company has been managing its customers’ technology investments for more than 40 years, covering the entire lifecycle from procurement and use to data erasure, refurbishing, and remarketing. The entire business model has been based on the principles of the circular economy since 1979. CHG-MERIDIAN has been carbon-neutral since 2021. To achieve this, it avoids, reduces, or offsets all CO₂ emissions generated by its business activities. The Company’s headquarters are in Weingarten, Germany.

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