

# ESG Investing Awards 2022

## Best ESG Investment Fund: Fixed Income

### Nordea 1 - Emerging Stars Bond Fund



The **Nordea 1 – Emerging Stars Bond Fund** is a true ESG solution within the STARS product range, with complete **ESG integration** in the investment process, strong emphasis on **improving ESG profiles** and exploiting **sustainability trends**.

The fund has the following objectives:

- **Outperform the benchmark:** alpha generation is a core part of the fund's value proposition. We aim to deliver long-term sustainable returns and responsibility with true ESG integration
- **Invest in countries and companies living up to our ESG standards:** we conduct in-depth ESG analysis and ensure that the fund invests only in countries and companies that meet our ESG criteria
- **Create impact:** we influence and foster change by proactively engaging in dialogues around specific ESG topics and encouraging countries and companies to improve their overall ESG performance

The fund is managed by Nordea's Emerging Markets Debt (EMD) team, which has been investing in EMD in multi-sector portfolios for more than a decade and has launched their first dedicated fund in 2012. It was purposefully set-up to manage **ESG-integrated** and **UN SDG-aligned** investment solutions, giving specialists in portfolio management, economics, ESG and credit research analysts the ability to holistically assess all our holdings to form **strong views on the EMD universe, always focusing on ESG & sustainability**. The investment team closely co-operates with our **Responsible Investments team**, one of the **largest and most accomplished** in the world.

Engagement is a key part of our ESG STARS concept. We see engagement as a way to preserve and enhance long-term shareholder value and **create a positive impact for the broader society**. One example of our sovereign engagements is our engagement with the **Brazilian government** on deforestation and indigenous people's rights. After signing a letter expressing our concerns, Nordea and eight other investors were invited to discuss deforestation with the Brazilian government.