



PRESS RELEASE

Berlin Hyp joins Energy Efficient Mortgage Label as first German Bank

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The European Mortgage Federation-European Covered Bond Council ([EMF-ECBC](#)) is delighted to welcome [Berlin Hyp](#) as the first German lending institution to join the [Energy Efficient Mortgage Label](#) (EEM Label).

The EEM Label provides a clear and transparent quality label for consumers, lenders and investors, aimed at identifying energy efficient mortgages (EEM) and other loan products in lending institutions' portfolios, which finance the purchase/construction and/or renovation of both residential and commercial buildings, with a focus on building energy performance.

Against a background where buildings account for 40% of the EU's energy consumption, the EEM Label is intended to scale-up private market in support of the [EU Renovation Wave Strategy](#) and the [EU Green Deal](#), by stimulating private finance to accelerate the climate transition, acting as a catalyst for consumer demand and driving the qualitative upgrade of the energy profile of lending institutions' portfolios and of enhanced asset quality. With this in mind, the EEM Label will also help to ensure that the Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is 'green' and will therefore contribute to the [NextGenerationEU vision](#).

Finally, the EEM Label is aligned with legal and market best practices and therefore establishes itself as a global reference from the perspective of lending institutions and institutional investors, drawing on the example of the [Covered Bond Label](#).

Commenting on this, EEM Label Administrator, **Luca Bertalot** said:

"We are delighted to welcome Berlin Hyp to the Energy Efficient Mortgage Label. As the issuer of the first ever green covered bond Berlin Hyp is a pioneer in the green bond market and in green real estate lending. Furthermore, Berlin Hyp's participation increases the initiative's scope towards green commercial real estate."

Bodo Winkler-Viti , Head of Funding & Investor Relation at Berlin Hyp AG, said

“Sustainability is an important aspect of Berlin Hyp’s corporate strategy. Financing green buildings represents a part of Berlin Hyp’s sustainability measures that is closest to its core business: commercial real estate lending. To create transparency and provide information for market participants with the aim of identifying loans for energy efficient buildings is thus very important for us. We are happy to be part of the EEM Label.”

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Notes to the Editor:

- The [Energy Efficient Mortgage \(EEM\) Label](#) was established in 2020 by the European Mortgage Federation – European Covered Bond Council (EMF-ECBC) as a clear and transparent quality label for consumers, lenders and investors, aimed at identifying energy efficient mortgages (EEM) in lending institutions’ portfolios, which are intended to finance the purchase/construction and/or renovation of both residential (single family & multi-family) and commercial buildings, with a focus on building energy performance. The first labels were issued in 2021 and as of May 2021, **25 lending institutions** from **12 countries** hold the Label covering **32 financial products**.
- The development of the EEM Label was triggered by the EMF-ECBC’s work, in its role as Coordinator, on the [Energy Efficient Mortgage Initiative \(EEMI\)](#). As such, the EEM Label is an **Industry-led initiative** designed to support the market with a **three-fold target**:
 - To achieve a **gradual implementation of the EU Taxonomy** in the mortgage sector (1/3 of bank portfolios), facilitate a fundamental shift of bank strategies, triggering a green wave in the mortgage market which counts for around 45% of EU GDP, and allow the market to contribute to the **EU Green Deal and Renovation Wave Strategy**
 - To provide investors and consumers with a **robust European benchmark and set of best practices** which will boost market confidence and secure social inclusion.
 - As endorsed by the European Banking Authority, to **stimulate the collection of mortgage-specific data** via the EEML Harmonised Disclosure Template (HDT) focusing on key energy efficiency and ESG parameters of the underlying asset, providing a quantitative database which demonstrates the “greenness” of labelled products.
- 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 around 7.6 trillion EUR at the end of 2019. As of May 2021, the EMF has 14 members across 12 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.

- 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 May 2021, the ECBC has 125 members across 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 2.7 tn at the end of 2019.