

Press release

Stockholm 15 October 2021

Vasakronan recognised as one of the world's most sustainable property companies

Vasakronan was once again ranked as one of the absolute world-class property companies when evaluating existing properties and project development in this year's Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB).

On 15 October, the results of the 2021 Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB) were presented. The index is used by investors to assess opportunities, risks and improvements that need to be made to meet the transition requirements of the built environment sector.

More than 1,500 property companies and funds with a total of 117,000 properties across 66 countries took part in this year's survey. The total property value of which corresponds to a staggering USD 5.7 trillion. All of the companies were assessed in several areas such as governance, sustainability reporting, risk analysis and their share of environmentally certified properties, areas in which Vasakronan has worked in a conscientious and structured manner for a long time.

Vasakronan was assessed in two categories – existing properties and project development – and the company increased its ranking in both. In the existing properties category, Vasakronan was awarded a score of 96 out of a possible 100. In the project development category, the company achieved a score of 99 out of 100. The high percentage of environmentally certified properties together with systemic energy saving efforts are two of the areas where Vasakronan scored very highly. As a result, Vasakronan has been placed in the absolute top of the ranking in both surveys.

"We have been recognised as a global sector leader in a large segment with heavy competition – office/retail. This is an excellent score and a direct result of the systematic work that we have carried out for a long time and on a broad front within the framework of sustainability topics. Digitalisation has, in particular and in an easy way, made it possible to follow up on and report quality-assured sustainability data on the property level for the entire portfolio," says Johanna Skogestig, CEO of Vasakronan.

Johanna Skogestig also highlights the importance of not being complacent.

"Interest in sustainability topics has increased pronouncedly in the past few years. This has been particularly evident with our tenants and lenders, but also for other important stakeholders such as local authorities. Competition is increasing and we continuously need to fine-tune operations, particularly in terms of the climate that for many is the single greatest issue. In terms of the climate, we have set an extremely ambitious goal – to become climate neutral across the entire value chain by 2030."

Anna Denell is Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) at Vasakronan and she notes a rising interest in social issues such as safety, security and the working environment as well as conditions in the supplier chain.

Vasakronan is Sweden's largest property company with a portfolio valued at around SEK 170 billion. The portfolio is focused on centrally located office and retail properties in the growth regions of Stockholm, Uppsala, Gothenburg and Malmö. In terms of city retail, Vasakronan is the largest in all regions. The property portfolio comprises 170 properties with a total area of about 2.3 million square metres. The company is owned in equal shares by the First, Second, Third and Fourth Swedish national pension funds. Read more at www.vasakronan.se

“It is easy to lose track of the social dimension of sustainability, but these are extremely important issues for everyone that is active in the built environment sector. There is substantial work to be done for this, so it is gratifying to see that these issues are also being pushed. I see this as a reason for why it is now evident to everyone that it is profitable to properly integrate sustainability topics into business models.”

About GRESB

The investor-driven global ESG benchmark and reporting framework for listed property companies, private property funds, developers and investors that invest directly in real estate.

The Assessment offers real estate managers highly relevant and validated ESG data and powerful analytical tools to benchmark ESG performance, identify areas for improvement and engage with investors.

In 2021, more than 1,500 property companies, REITs, funds and developers participated in the Real Estate Assessment, representing \$5.7 trillion in assets under management. The Assessment covers nearly 117,000 assets across 66 countries.

The GRESB Real Estate Assessments capture information regarding ESG performance and sustainability best practices for real estate funds and companies worldwide.

GRESB is a mission-driven and industry-led organization providing standardized and validated Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) data to financial markets. Established in 2009, GRESB has become the leading ESG benchmark for real estate and infrastructure investments across the world, used by 140 institutional and financial investors to inform decision-making. For more information, visit [GRESB.com](https://www.gresb.com)

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