



Leadership transition at Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic: Knut Ekjord takes over as CEO of Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic

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Knut Ekjord will take over as CEO of Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic on 1 January 2026. He succeeds Christian Ness, who will retire and hand over the leadership as CEO.

Knut Ekjord has 23 years of experience in real estate investment management. Before joining Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic upon acquisition of the real estate business of NRP in 2021, he had been working for NRP since 2002, serving as Head of Transactions from 2010. Prior to this, he held several senior positions. In his new role, Knut will bring his expertise in transactions and long-standing real estate knowledge to the leadership team.

Erlend Torsen, with 22 years of industry experience, joined Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic upon acquisition of the real estate business of NRP in 2021 and has worked with NRP since 2005, the last 14 years as a Senior Transaction Manager and with responsibility of executing more than 100 real estate transactions. Erlend will take over Knut's position as Head of Transactions for Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic. In his new function, he will be responsible for all real estate transactions across the Nordic countries.

As the new CEO, Knut Ekjord will lead Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic into its next chapter, driving growth and delivering long-term value for clients.

“We thank Christian Ness sincerely for his outstanding contribution to the integration of the former NRP real estate organisation into Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic and onto the European platform of Swiss Life Asset Managers. Under his leadership and through the investment activities led by Knut and Erlend, we were able to expand our local presence in all the Nordic markets. We

are very happy that Christian will join the board of directors of Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic to further support our local growth.

Additionally, I wish Knut Ekjord as the new local CEO all the best in expanding existing relationships and establishing new strategic partnerships,” says Jan Plückhahn, Head of Real Estate at Swiss Life Asset Managers.

About Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic

Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic is a leading real estate specialist within the European Real Estate platform of Swiss Life Asset Managers. As at October 2025, the offices in the Nordic countries have about 60 employees and manage assets of CHF 3.4 billion, which include fund and separate account mandates.



Picture: Knut Ekjord, CEO of Swiss Life Asset Managers Nordic

Information

Media Relations

Phone +41 43 284 77 77

media.relations@swisslife.ch

www.swisslife-am.com



Swiss Life Asset Managers

Swiss Life Asset Managers has more than 165 years of experience in managing the assets of the Swiss Life Group. This insurance background has exerted a key influence on the investment philosophy of Swiss Life Asset Managers, which is governed by such principles as value preservation, the generation of consistent and sustainable performance and a responsible approach to risks. Swiss Life Asset Managers offers this proven approach to third-party clients in Switzerland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the UK, Italy and the Nordic countries.

As at 30 June 2025, assets under management for third-party clients amount to CHF 137.6 billion. Together with insurance mandates for the Swiss Life Group, total assets under management at Swiss Life Asset Managers stood at CHF 281.8 billion. Swiss Life Asset Managers is a leading institutional real estate investor in Europe¹. Of the assets totalling CHF 281.8 billion, CHF 88.7 billion are invested in real estate. In addition, Swiss Life Asset Managers, in cooperation with Livit, manages real estate totalling CHF 24.2 billion in value. Total real estate assets under management and administration at the end of June 2025 thus came to CHF 112.9 billion.

Swiss Life Asset Managers employs more than 2300 people in Europe.

A financially self-determined life

Swiss Life enables people to lead a financially self-determined life and look to the future with confidence. Swiss Life Asset Managers pursues the same goal: We think long-term and act responsibly. We use our knowledge and experience to develop future-oriented investment solutions. This is how we support our customers in achieving their long-term investment objectives, which in turn also take account of their client's needs so they can plan their future in a financially self-determined manner.

¹ #2 IPE Top 150 Real Estate Investment Managers 2024 Ranking Europe, #2 INREV Fund Manager Survey 2025