

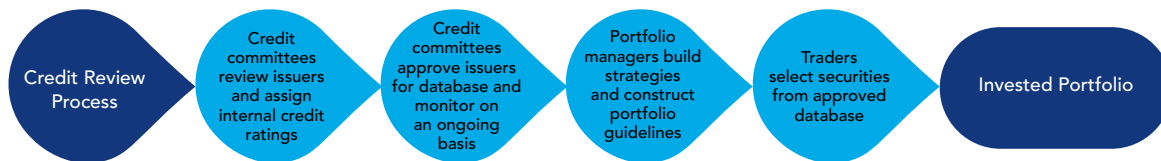
## Understanding Federated Hermes' liquidity management

For 50 years, cash management has been a core business at Federated Hermes. Our commitment to liquidity products enables team members to hone their skills and establish long careers, which has created an enduring investment culture of communication, integrity and trust. The liquidity investment team has over 30 investment professionals creating a deep bench of experience and knowledge. The team averages 24 years of investment experience. With \$560 billion<sup>1</sup> in liquidity assets globally, we bring key advantages in pricing and market access to our clients.

### Process built on an intensive credit analysis

At Federated Hermes, we have built a thorough credit review process and reputation for sound portfolio management. Our three-pronged investment approach empowers portfolio managers, analysts and traders to present their best ideas ensuring the integrity and quality of the research process.

As illustrated below, every issuer considered for the liquidity team's approved issuer database is subject to stringent credit review, including the assignment of an internal credit rating. Our intensive security selection process involves careful evaluation of interest-rate trends, portfolio constraints, determination of maturity structures, relative value analysis and assessment of relevant ESG factors.



Credit ratings pertain only to the securities in the portfolio and do not protect fund shares against market risk.

### The people behind the process

The dedicated research teams supporting Federated Hermes money market portfolios are comprised of some of the most experienced and knowledgeable people in the business. We have cultivated a time-tested credit review process with an approved issuer database that is then used when determining what securities to purchase/sell.

Our comprehensive, proprietary credit analysis features a dedicated research team that utilises a wide range of data, tools and ideas across asset classes that can provide an informational advantage. This structure gives every analyst an in-depth understanding of the companies in a given sector, the impact of monetary and fiscal policy on an industry, and the behavior of each sector within a credit cycle. It also enables team members to develop relationships within the industry that facilitate an understanding of company management.

Each Federated Hermes analyst is assigned to a sector or product area:

- Banks
- Consumer products
- Government agencies
- Asset-Backed Credit Programs
- Manufacturing
- Variable Rate Demand Notes
- Municipal Commercial Paper and other types of municipal securities

The combination of the analysts' focus on a sector with the overarching work of the credit committee creates an environment in which analysts have the freedom to do their own research but are compelled to present only their best ideas to their peers and to senior management. This ensures the integrity and quality of the research process. Rounding out the taxable and tax-free teams are dedicated, experienced traders. Working closely together, Federated Hermes' team of managers, analysts and traders supports and implements the intensive credit research process with an objective to successfully manage cash across all market cycles.

## Technology delivers added support

Our credit research team provides the foundation of our portfolio selection and management process. The team's work is thoroughly integrated and supported through FedPorts, Federated Hermes' proprietary trading and portfolio management system. FedPorts is a vital tool and provides a powerful compliance screen and audit trail. Any portfolio constraints are programmed into FedPorts by product and portfolio. The system flags all questionable trades relative to investment policy and prevents trades that would render the portfolio out of compliance. This approach focuses not only on generating competitive returns but also on managing risk and providing transparency to the entire investment process.

## Our dedication to liquidity

At Federated Hermes, our experience, innovation, and client focus have helped provide sound liquidity management through all types of market environments. Our strong presence within the industry enables us to provide one of the largest product menus among money market managers and targeted solutions that are among the most innovative in the industry.

**For professional investors only. The value of investments and income from them may go down as well as up, and you may not get back the original amount invested.**

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Diversification does not ensure a profit nor protect against a loss.

Terminology such as "ESG integrated", "sustainable" or "impact", among other terms, is not uniformly defined across the industry. Investment managers may understand and apply ESG factors in different ways, and that the role those factors play in investment decisions also varies. Therefore, we recommend investors understand the role of ESG factors in a strategy to ensure that approach is consistent with their investment objectives. Like any aspect of investment analysis, there is no guarantee that an investment strategy that considers ESG factors will result in performance better than or equal to products that do not consider such factors. Investing and making buy and sell decisions that emphasise ESG factors carries the risk that, under certain market conditions, the fund or strategy may underperform those that do not incorporate such factors explicitly into the decision-making process. The application of ESG criteria may affect exposure to certain sectors or securities and may impact relative investment performance depending on whether such sectors or securities are generally in or out of favor in the market.

<sup>1</sup> As of 31/12/2023.

**Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.**