

# 2023

# **Transparency Act Report**

### FERD'S 2023 REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRANSPARENCY ACT

In accordance with the Norwegian Transparency Act, Ferd annually conducts due diligence assessments and prepares this report as a summary of the assessments. The purpose of the Transparency Act is to promote companies' respect for fundamental human rights and decent working conditions. This report includes the due diligence assessments we have conducted in Ferd in 2023.

The report applies to Ferd AS and Ferd's other companies ("Ferd") as listed in the appendix on page five. Ferd's Norwegian portfolio companies conduct their own due diligence assessments for their respective businesses in accordance with the Transparency Act and will report on the results of this work. Ferd's is based in Norway with headquarter at Dronning Mauds gate 10 in Oslo. Several of Ferd's holding companies are below the reporting requirements in the Transparency Act but are included in the due diligence assessments to ensure a comprehensive assessment. Ferd AS is the only company with an operating business with employees. The remaining companies covered by this report are mainly holding companies with limited activity and few suppliers.

A separate report has been prepared for Ferd Eiendom AS with subsidiaries and will be available at <u>www.Ferdeiendom.no</u>.

Any inquiries about this report should be directed to: Erik Rosness, Chief Financial Officer in Ferd AS, <u>ero@ferd.no</u>.

### Ferd's business activities

Ferd is a family-owned investment company that is owned by the fifth and sixth generations of the Andresen family. Ferd's business activities can be divided into the areas Active owner, Active Investor and New solutions.

As an *active owner*, Ferd uses its influence to contribute to the development and growth of individual companies, always with the aim of achieving robust and sustainable value creation over time.

As an *active investor*, Ferd invests in international funds and maintains close contact with the investment managers throughout the period of its investment.

*New solutions:* Innovation and adventurous initiatives are a key part of Ferd's history and an important part of our vision. Ferd Impact Investing invests in early-phase companies with the potential both to have a positive impact in terms of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and to generate a robust risk-adjusted return. Ferd Social Entrepreneurs seeks to deliver measurable social benefits by investing in social entrepreneurs and strengthening their market access.

Ferd's income comes from dividends and realizations of investments. We use suppliers and business partners who contribute to the follow-up of our investments, as well as assessments of new investment opportunities. In addition, we use suppliers for the daily operations of our business.

### Internal guidelines

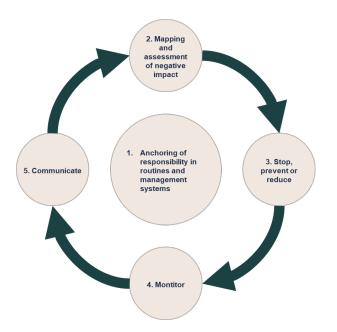
Ferd has its own routines for how we anchor our work with fundamental human rights and decent working conditions. The routine includes the company's work to fulfill the requirements in the Transparency Act.

The routine is established and approved by the company's board and is available in Ferd's personnel handbook.

The routine describes how we conduct the due diligence assessment, implement possible actions, and contains information about the company's whistleblowing channel.

### Our due diligence assessment

We conduct periodic assessments of the risk of adverse impact on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions linked to the company's activities.



A digital platform developed by Ignite Procurement is used in the risk mapping and assessment of our suppliers. The platform simplifies the implementation of the due diligence assessment in line with the requirements of the Transparency Act.

The steps in the assessment are as follows:

1. Based on supplier data obtained from our ERP system, a complete overview of Ferd's suppliers is created.

2. Supplier information is enriched in the platform through third-party collaboration with ENIN and Infobel. Through Ignite Procurement, information and financial information is obtained about Ferd's suppliers such as industry codes (NACE) and company structure.

3. An initial risk classification is made of the suppliers based on a classification system. The following classification rules have been assessed as relevant for Ferd's supply chain: geography and industry. The suppliers are classified according to high, medium, and low risk of negative impact. 4. For those suppliers who are classified as high and medium risk, a more detailed risk assessment is carried out where we look at the findings in step 3 against the documentation and the knowledge Ferd has of the relevant suppliers. Normally, the supplier's risk will be assessed, and the supplier will be given a new status with a lower risk. For those suppliers where the risk has not been assessed at an earlier stage, we will obtain the necessary information and documentation to be able to map the risk.

5. Based on the findings, an assessment is made of which actions should be taken to investigate possible adverse impacts on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions.

6. Ferd will involve stakeholders, suppliers, and business partners if any actions are taken.

### Ferd's supply chain

Ferd has approx. 400 first-tier suppliers in the reporting year. The majority of Ferd's suppliers are in the Nordic region, as well as a small number in the rest of Europe and the USA.

The term "supplier chain" includes any actor in the chain of suppliers and subcontractors who supply services and goods. Ferd has limited the mapping to our first-tier suppliers.

Our business partners provide advisory services, legal assistance, and information and audit services. In addition, other operational services such as IT operations, canteen services and cleaning of our offices, are considered part of our primary supply chain and included in the due diligence assessments.

No adverse impacts of fundamental human rights or decent working conditions has been discovered in Ferd's supply chain in the reporting year.



### Actions to stop, prevent and reduce adverse impact

As described above, no adverse impact of fundamental human rights or decent working conditions were discovered in the reporting year, and therefore no actions were implemented with individual suppliers. We have created an external whistleblowing channel that is publicly available at <u>www.ferd.no</u>, as well as internal routines for receiving and handling any requests. We aim to have a solid collaboration with our existing suppliers of services and goods, as well as responsible purchasing practices when we are assessing possible new suppliers.

Oslo, 16 April 2024 The Board of Directors of Ferd AS

Johan H. Andresen Chair of the Board

an Enh Mylad

Tom Erik Myrland Director

Morten Borge Director / CEO EM Agness

Erik Rosness Director



## Attachment

This report applies to the following companies:

| Ferd AS                        | Ferd Forte Holding AS         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ferd Holding AS                | Ferd GO Holding AS            |
| Ferd JHA AS                    | Ferd Lab Invest AS            |
| 1912 Top Holding AS            | Ferd MG Holding AS            |
| AS Norse Crown Company Ltd     | Ferd Mnemonic Holding AS      |
| Debattene om Norges fremtid AS | Ferd Norkart Holding AS       |
| Eventyrlyst AS                 | Ferd Seagust AS               |
| FC Well Invest AS              | Ferd Simployer Holding AS     |
| Ferd Aibel Holding AS          | Ferd Sosiale Entreprenører AS |
| Ferd Aidian Holding AS         | Ferd Vekstpartner AS          |
| Ferd Brav Holding AS           | SECO Invest AS                |