



**Manual: how to transfer to a sustainable  
bank?**

## Transferring to a sustainable bank

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### Why to transfer?

Switching to a sustainable bank is better for people and the environment. By placing your money with a sustainable bank, you know it will be used to invest in nature-friendly options, unlike regular banks, which still too often invest in the oil and weapons industry. Sustainable banks are generally much more transparent in what happens to your money and come out higher in various rankings, such as the [Fair Bank Guide](#) and the [Consumers' Association](#). This means you contribute to a better world!

To us, a sustainable bank is a bank that invests in animal welfare, human rights and climate change. For example, they invest in renewable energy, refuse companies that conduct animal testing, and do not cooperate with companies that engage in tax evasion. We base this on the rankings of the Fair Bank Guide. This keeps them green and honest.

Besides, switching is not very difficult! Over 75% of the consumer panel [found switching \(very\) easy](#). Especially with this guide, switching is easy! We have listed all the information for you: from which banks are suitable, to what you need for the switch, to what possible risks are involved.

### Which banks are suitable?

- Triodos: Triodos is very suitable. So this guide will mainly focus on Triodos.
- ASN: ASN is unfortunately not available because they do not have current accounts for associations.
- Other banks are often not as sustainable, so we will not include these banks.

### Good to know when starting the transfer

- Switching service: Triodos has a 'switching service' (overstapservice) that can help you switch.
  - They help you for 13 months so that all payments come through once.
  - They notify collecting organisations of your new account number.

- Transfer deadline: switching sometimes takes a long time. So make sure you don't cancel the old bank account right away the moment you apply for the other one. At Triodos, it can take up to three months because they only want to work with 'honest' organisations. This means that they first have to do a review.

### What do you have to do yourself?

- Apply for a new business account with Triodos (see more later)
- Enter your acceptgiros via Internet Banking with the number of your new Internet Business Account.
- Check whether there are still periodic transfers that do not appear on your old bank's statement. You have to stop these yourself.
  - You can stop them in the environment of your old bank.
  - Then set them up again at Triodos: settings > payments > standing order.
- Use the Switching Cards (Overstapkaarten) to inform your companies and organisations from which you receive your money. You'll get the switching cards when you use the switching service (instellingen > betalingen > periodieke opdracht).
- Cancel your old bank account yourself. To do this, you need to contact your old bank. This can often be done immediately after you start using the switching service. Before cancelling your bank account, don't forget to download your archive of payments, request a statement of your credits and debits, and empty the account.

### The application:

1. What do you need: the Chamber of Commerce (KvK, Kamer van Koophandel) number, your articles of association, the dates of birth and email addresses of all those involved in the application.
2. Enter your email address and log in to the digital application environment.
3. Fill in the organisation details and determine the account settings.
4. Specify the signatories and ultimate stakeholders, and upload the requested documents. Most likely, these are all your directors, or about two of them (first and second treasurer, for example).
5. All persons you sign up will receive a username and password to their application environment themselves: in this, they can upload their own ID and make an identification deposit. This involves making a deposit of 1 cent from an account to a Triodos account.

### Risks:

- Smaller bank: Triodos and ASN are smaller banks than ING, for example. As a result, waiting times may be longer at customer service. On the other hand, you have more personal contact, and it is easier to find a contact person.
- You can't visit as easily. Larger banks may have more branches. However, most things at Triodos are simply easy to arrange online or by post.
- Ongoing collections and projects: the Triodos helpdesk can help you with this! They will make sure that all your ongoing business is transferred properly.

- Loss of data: it is possible to download your bank details from your previous bank. The transfer service can help with this too. Credits and debits on your old bank account will be automatically taken over by your new account for up to 13 months.
- Bank account number change: creditors, debtors and members do not automatically know your bank account number anymore, but for this you have the switch card (overstapkaart) and often banks can help by sending a message to all your direct debits and regular customers. Your old bank can also send a list of all the agencies you transfer money to. Then this is also clear in your own records.
- Costs: Triodos' costs are comparable to other banks. Triodos seems to be slightly more expensive, but these are euros per year. See below for a full overview of all Triodos fees.

### **What if you don't have a business account yet?**

If you don't already have a business account, it's worth considering whether you want to open one. It has many advantages: you keep your money separate from your private money, makes transfers easier, and is safer. This does require you to be registered with the Chamber of Commerce (KvK, Kamer van Koophandel).

### **Questions?**

Do you have any other questions? Send an email to [duurzaamheid@asva.nl](mailto:duurzaamheid@asva.nl).

## Appendix

### Cost overview

Date: March 2023

#### General costs

Triodos Internet Zaken rekening	€12,50 per month
Internet banking	Free
Transfer service	Free
Triodos Payment card	€20 per year
Identifier	Free
Digital account statements (pdf)	Free
Fiscal annual oversight	Free

#### Outgoing payments & cash withdrawals

Withdrawing money in Euro-countries*	€0,30
Paying in euro-countries*	€0,07
Payments via iDeal	€0,10
Withdrawing money abroad in currencies other than euro	€0,07+ 1% exchange rate surcharge on the amount withdrawn **
Transfer	€0,10
Acceptgiro (digital)	€0,10
Periodic transfer	€0,10
Debt collection (incasso)	€0,12
Direct debit reversal/ moratorium	€0,40
Batch transfer	€2,25
Written transfer	€3
Transfer by phone***	€20

Transfer in foreign currency or outside the SEPA area	<a href="http://www.triodos.nl/betalingen">www.triodos.nl/betalingen</a>
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\* Euro-countries: Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain.

\*\* The bank abroad may charge additional fees (on top of the surcharge mentioned above). All additional charges are calculated on the amount withdrawn and are charged at the same time as the transaction. For withdrawals, this is mentioned on the transaction screen and you must explicitly agree to this. Please visit [www.triodos.nl](http://www.triodos.nl) for more information.

\*\*\* Only possible in specific (urgent) cases. For example: a transfer to a notary that you cannot perform yourself or an amount of more than € 2,5 million.

#### Incoming payments

Transfer	€0,15
Periodical transfer	€0,15
Acceptgiro (digital)	€0,15
Acceptgiro (paper)	€0,40
Acceptgiro per batch	€3,50
Collection per transactie	€0,12
Collection per batch	€2,25
Collection chargeback/storno	€0,50
Other credits	€0,14

Besides payments via Internet Banking, the Mobile Banking app and written payments, electronic payments via the Worldline are also possible. Rates for this can be requested.

#### Other facilities

Enquiry and mediation	€35 per request
Charges for enquiry or follow-up payment details foreign payment	€35
Direct debit collection (Internet Banking)	Free
(Selective) debit collection blockage	Free

Administrative costs with confiscation	€100
Sending terms and conditions	Free
Interest on unauthorised overdrafts	14%
Account statement (on paper)	€2,20
Account statements MT940 structured via SWIFT	€18 per month + €0,50 per message
Bankstatement annual oversight	€100 (excl. 21% btw)
Corporate payment service	Connection costs (one-off): € 250 Subscription costs (per quarter): € 75 Costs per batch: € 4.50 Cost per transfer: € 0.10 Costs per (SEPA) Direct Debit: € 0.12
Bank warranty	Bank warranty request: € 175 + 1% per jaar Bank warranty change: € 175
Digital debit collection authoritisation	€ 0,75 per given authoritisation
Payment machines	Abonnement: € 5 per month Connection costs (one-off): € 150 per contract Change in existing contract: € 27,50 per change Transaction costs: € 0,07 per transaction Retour Pintransactie: € 0,07 per transaction