

Press Release

Groupe BPCE launches “*Ambition Durable*”, a green bond for retail customers of the Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne networks

Paris, September 14, 2020

Furthering their engagement with the sustainable economy, Groupe BPCE is launching an innovative responsible savings solution for retail clients of the Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne networks. The funds collected through this “*Ambition Durable*” green bond will be used to finance the construction and renovation of low environmental-footprint buildings. For the return on investment, Groupe BPCE has chosen a “Water and Ocean” equity index as the performance driver. This initiative is consistent with the strategy of the Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne banks to become pivotal players for energy transition in the regions in which they operate.

This new savings product illustrates Groupe BPCE’s commitment to promote energy transition and more generally, to develop sustainable financing within its regions. In this respect, fostering responsible saving represents a primordial issue for the Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne networks, which now rank amongst the first banks in France who offer a green bond to their retail customers. The product is also open to customers with legal-person status.

Groupe BPCE holds a prominent position in energy and ecological transition. It is one of the main players in financing renewable energies with €11bn of projects financed and €86bn of responsible savings entrusted to the Group by businesses, institutions and the retail customers.

For Christine Fabresse, Head of Retail Banking and Insurance, Member of the Management Board of Groupe BPCE:

“As cooperative banks with strong roots in their regions, it is only natural for the Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne networks to guide their customers toward a sustainable economy. Our new “Ambition Durable” green bond allows our retail customers and cooperative shareholders to give meaning to their savings, by financing the construction and renovation of low environmental-footprint buildings. This product is the first in a long list of solutions for financing energy and ecological transition, a major societal issue to which we are attached.”

About Groupe BPCE

Groupe BPCE, with its business model as a universal cooperative bank represented by 9 million cooperative shareholders, is currently the 2nd-largest banking group in France. With its 105,000 employees, it serves a total of 36 million customers – individuals, professionals, corporates, investors, and local government bodies – around the world. It operates in the retail banking and insurance sectors in France via its two major Banque Populaire and Caisse d’Epargne banking networks, along with Banque Palatine. With Natixis, it also runs global business lines specializing in Asset & Wealth management, Corporate & Investment Banking, Insurance and Payments. Through this structure, it is able to offer its customers a comprehensive, diversified range of products and services: solutions in savings, investment, cash management, financing, and insurance. The Group’s financial strength is recognized by four financial rating agencies: Moody’s (A1, outlook stable), Standard & Poor’s (A+, outlook negative), Fitch (A+, RWN) and R&I (A+, outlook stable).

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