

PRESS RELEASE

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Vigeo Eiris becomes Climate Bonds Verifier

The Climate Bonds Standards Board has confirmed that Vigeo Eiris*, a leading international CSR & ESG assessment firm, has become an approved Climate Bonds Standards Verifier.

Vigeo Eiris's primary role as a verifier will be to undertake independent assessment of eligible assets and projects framework to determine their compliance with the Climate Bonds Standard. The verifiers' role is integral to the Climate Bonds Standards and Certification process.

Michael Notat, Head of Vigeo Eiris Global Markets declared : *"Climate Bonds Initiative's work and reputation are references for the development of sustainable and responsible bonds. As an active actor in this field who has assisted the issuers of green bonds since 2012, it was important for Vigeo Eiris to be part of this initiative. We are delighted to work with Climate Bonds Standards to engage investors and issuers in this new market."*

Sean Kidney, CEO Climate Bonds added: *"Vigeo Eiris has been an important pioneer in developing the green bonds market. Their joining as an approved verifier is a significant moment for the Standards program. Their global research and experience will add rigour and credibility to the verification process, giving issuers and investors additional confidence in the assurance programme around Climate Bonds Standards"*.

*Vigeo Eiris operates from the EU, Europe, North Africa, Japan and South America, Australia, Israel and Korea.

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About Climate Bonds Initiative: The [Climate Bonds Initiative](#) is an investor-focused not-for-profit, promoting large-scale investment in the low-carbon economy.

About Verification: Verification is an analysis-based process carried out by a Standards Board approved independent organisation to assure that a climate bond issuance, the nature of the associated low carbon projects or activities and the associated financial accounting systems are in conformance with the Climate Bond Standard and can gain Certification.

Climate Bonds Standards: Climate Bonds Standard 2.0 is an overarching multi-sector standard that allows investors and intermediaries to easily assess the environmental integrity of bonds claiming to be green and funding the low carbon future. It is for public released in the next week.

About Vigeo Eiris

On December 22nd, 2015, Vigeo's Assembly of Shareholders endorsed the merger of these two established environmental, social and governance (ESG) research agencies from France and the United Kingdom.

Vigeo, was founded in 2002 by Nicole Notat, and EIRIS was created by the EIRIS Foundation 32 years ago. Vigeo proceeded to raise 6.3 million euros of new capital to fund the EIRIS acquisition and to ensure that the new entity has the funds necessary for Vigeo Eiris' future. Vigeo Eiris will continue to offer two types of services through two business units:

- **Vigeo Eiris rating**, utilizing its teams' expertise and its unique and well-regarded methodologies, offers a large range of products and services designed for investors and asset managers engaged in sustainable and responsible investment practices. This research covers more than 4 000 issuers, including companies, regions and states and is used by more than 300 clients, partners, investors, asset managers, NGOs and international institutions.
- **Vigeo Eiris enterprise** works with organizations of all sizes, from all sectors, public and private, to support them in the integration of ESG criteria into their business functions and strategic operations.



Vigeo and EIRIS services and methodologies adheres to the strictest quality standards and has been certified to the independent ARISTA® standard, the leading quality standard for research in responsible investment.

Vigeo Eiris is present in Paris, London, Boston, Brussels, Casablanca, Milan, Montreal and Santiago and has a team of 180. The agency works also with partners in Canberra, Hannover, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Madrid, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, Seoul, Tokyo and Zaragoza.

For more information: www.vigeo.com and www.eiris.org