

## EIRIS to provide ESG research to the EIB

(19 June 2014) London

**EIRIS has been selected by the European Investment Bank (EIB) to provide research on the environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance of a number of European companies as part of the Bank's due diligence and monitoring processes.**

EIRIS provides the EIB with its assessment of the corporate sustainability performance of large European enterprises, and the potential environmental, climate and social impacts, risks and opportunities related to their operations and management. For operations in all regions, the EIB project team assesses and tracks over time the capacity and capability of the promoters (clients e.g. large European companies) it finances, to identify and manage their activities' environmental, climate and social impacts and risks. With this contract EIRIS will complement the project team's assessment, by providing an independent source of information.

Research provided by EIRIS includes EIRIS Global Sustainability Ratings, EIRIS Convention Watch and EIRIS News Risk Monitor research. The Sustainability Ratings provide the bank with analyst assessment of the policies, management processes and reporting systems that the companies have in place to manage their material ESG issues, with sustainability scores available at sector and regional levels. EIRIS News research provides the bank with analyst insight that grades and explains the level of potential risks identified from searches for reports of controversial activities. EIRIS Convention Watch identifies and assesses corporate response to allegations of breach of norms and principles enshrined in international conventions and the UN Global Compact. The research is available via EIRIS' online platform, the [EIRIS Global Platform](#).

Peter Webster, CEO at EIRIS said, "The European Investment Bank seeks to embed responsible financing and borrowing in its operations. We are delighted that the European Investment Bank has chosen EIRIS research to support this work."

### Press contact:

London: Stephen Hine | EIRIS | [stephen.hine@eiris.org](mailto:stephen.hine@eiris.org) | Tel: +44 (0)20 7840 5716

### Notes to editors

1. The [European Investment Bank](#) (EIB) is the European Union's bank. We are the only bank owned by and representing the interests of the European Union Member States. We work closely with other EU institutions to implement EU policy.
2. The EIB [Environmental and Social Handbook](#) (effective as of January 1st 2014) provides an operational translation of the policies and principles contained in the 2009 EIB [Statement of Environmental and Social Principles and Standards](#).
3. EIRIS [www.eiris.org](http://www.eiris.org) is a leading global provider of independent research into the environmental, social, governance (ESG) and ethical performance of companies. Wholly owned by the EIRIS Foundation, EIRIS is a social enterprise, working to help our clients develop the market in ways that benefit investors, asset managers and the wider world. Our mission is to empower responsible investors with independent assessments of companies and advice on integrating them with investment decisions. EIRIS provides responsible investment services to over 200 clients including asset owners, asset managers, banks, stock brokers, charities and governments around the world - as well as major index providers. We have 30 years' experience of promoting responsible investment and helping consumers, charities and advisers invest responsibly. EIRIS has offices in London, Paris, Boston and Washington, D.C.. In addition to overseas offices, EIRIS has a global network of partners in Australia, Germany,

Israel, Mexico, South Korea and Spain to further extend our research coverage and keep us abreast of responsible investment issues at the local level.

4. The [EIRIS Global Platform](#) (EGP) is EIRIS' new, innovative and intuitive research platform for sustainability data. EGP gives investors access to EIRIS' analysis of the ESG strengths and weaknesses of over 3,000 companies, including emerging markets coverage. It offers a simple way into EIRIS' rating and screening tools, research reports, UN Global Compact compliance and PRI toolkits and, uniquely, allows clients to customise it to suit their specific investment approach by offering the ability to drill down to underlying indicators and metrics. Features include a material risk indicator, an interactive change history function that tracks ratings changes, and news alerts of potentially investment-critical developments.
5. [EIRIS Convention Watch](#) monitors a wide range of media, NGO and other sources from around the world for allegations of company breaches of international conventions. Our analysts assess which of the allegations are the most serious and then apply our methodology to produce Convention Watch reports for those cases. Each report includes a detailed description of the issue and an analysis of what the company must do in order to address the allegation. A key element of the service is engagement with the company about their response to the allegation.
6. The [EIRIS News Risk Monitor](#) alerts clients to reports of legal violations, breaches of international norms and other sustainability issues relating to thousands of the world's largest companies, in both developed and emerging markets.

ENDS