

ERRATUM

Friday, 15 September

Green Bond Principles publishes translations of its international guidelines

- *This move highlights market internationalisation and strength of the GBP community*
- *The Green Bond market is growing rapidly, supported by internationally accepted voluntary guidelines produced by the Green Bond Principles (GBP)*
- *In response to demand and to facilitate global use of the standards key documentation is being published in 20 languages*

Issuance in the green bond market now stands at over \$72billion for the year to date, and on target to significantly exceed the previous record of \$81billion for the whole of 2016 (Source: Climate Bonds Initiative). The diversity of issuers is expanding rapidly globally and across issuer types, encompassing financial institutions, supranational and corporate issuers, as well as recent landmark inaugural sovereign issues from France and Poland. The geographic spread of issuers has also increased in both developed and emerging markets, in all continents. The common thread remains the reliance on the GBP.

The [Green Bond Principles](#) make recommendations for transparency, disclosure and reporting during the issuing process and are backed by a community of more than 150 member institutions who have issued, placed or invested in a green bond. At the GBP AGM in June 2017 new [Social Bond Principles](#) (SBP) were released in support of bonds raising funds for projects with positive social outcomes, including affordable housing, employment generation, food security and socio-economic advancement and empowerment. New [Sustainability Bond Guidelines](#) (SBG) were published at the same time to provide guidance for bonds combining green and social projects.

Translation was arranged in a matter of weeks thanks to generous voluntary input from [GBP and SBP members and observers](#), illustrating their diversity and commitment to the green bond market. All three sets of documentation (GBP/SBP/SBG) and a list of topical [Questions and Answers](#) on Green, Social and Sustainability Bonds are now being made available in twenty languages, complementing existing English versions, to ease local adoption, as the global market expands. Access to those translations already rolled out is freely available from [the ICMA website](#).

Commenting on the new translations, Martin Scheck, Chief Executive of ICMA, which provides the Secretariat for the GBP and the SBP, said: “Green, Social and Sustainability bonds are designed to fund solutions to some of the most difficult problems our world is facing. Increasing demand for these products is encouraging, but if the market is to grow to the point where it can make a really significant impact then we need maximum involvement from issuers and investors globally. Making these internationally accepted principles more accessible through translation is one further step along the way.”

The coordinator of the translation exercise, Marilyn Ceci, Managing Director, Head of Green Bonds, J.P. Morgan and Deputy Chair of the Green Bond Principles and Social Bond Principles Executive Committee said: “We’d like to thank the many Green Bond Principles members and observers who responded to the request for help in translating the Principles into 19 languages. This support is a true testament to the growth of demand for green bonds around the globe.”

The documents will be available in the following languages:

Bulgarian, Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Hausa, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish.

ICMA and the GBP ExCom wish to extend special thanks to the following institutions which provided or reviewed translations:

Agence France Trésor, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Bank of China, BBVA, Blue Camel, Caisse des Depots, Caja Rural de Navarra, China Chengxin International Credit Rating Ltd. Co., Citi, Clifford Chance, CM CIC, CMS Bureau Francis Lefebvre, Deutsche Bank, DZ Bank AG, Emprendimiento Sostenible, Escarus, European Investment Bank (EIB), European Stability Mechanism (ESM), GCA Capital Partners, Imperial College Business School, ING Bank, Japan Quality Assurance Organization, Japan Research Institute, J.P. Morgan, KBC, Kommunalbanken (KBN), Kommunekredit, Kommuninvest, Municipality Finance (MuniFin), Nordea, NordLB, NRW Bank, Ricardo Energy & Environment, Rusal, S&P, SEB, Shanghai Stock Exchange, SMBC Nikko, Smith School, SNCF Réseau, Social Stock Exchange Ltd, Société Générale, Stichting Obligatiehoudersbelangen, Sustainalytics, SUST4IN, the Polish Ministry of Finance, the Research Institute for Environmental Finance (RIEF), Trucost, UniCredit Bank AG, UNPRI, YES BANK.

Notes for editors

The Green Bond market and the GBP

The green bond market aims to enable and develop the key role debt markets can play in funding projects that contribute to environmental sustainability. The Green Bond Principles (GBP) promote integrity in the green bond market through guidelines that recommend transparency, disclosure and reporting. The 2017 update is still framed by the same four core components (Use of Proceeds, Process for Project Evaluation and Selection, Management of Proceeds and Reporting). It also continues to underline the importance of External Reviews. It promotes the use of the recommended disclosure templates for issuers and external reviewers. Reports using such templates are available at the [Resource Centre](#).

GBP governance

The [Green Bond Principles and Social Bond Principles community](#) consists of more than 150 member institutions which have issued, underwritten / placed, or invested in a Green, Social or Sustainability Bond. Members elect the Executive Committee, decide on changes to GBP and SBP governance, and provide input to updates to the Principles. In addition, Observer status is designed to welcome organisations that are not yet in the market and/or are active in the field of green finance such as but not limited to the official sector, service and infrastructure providers, NGOs and universities. Observers are informed of GBP and SBP developments and are involved in consultations regarding their updates. The International Capital Market Association (ICMA) provides support to the GBP and SBP including management and advice on governance and other issues.

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