

## Media Release

For immediate release



### First euro zone Certified Climate Bond issued by ABN AMRO

*EUR 500m, 5 yr A- Largest Certified Climate Bond to date*

**London, 3 June 2015** – Netherlands State-owned bank, ABN AMRO, today issued its first green bond, with proceeds going to green property. The EUR500m (\$556m) deal is the first euro zone green bond to be certified under the [Climate Bonds Standard](#) - a Fair Trade-like labelling scheme for bonds designed to allow investors to easily prioritise 'climate-smart' low carbon investments.

The bond is also the largest Certified Climate Bond to date. It was upsized from EUR 350m due to huge investor demand with orders close to the EUR 1bn mark.

The news came on the day of [the official launch of the Climate Bonds Standard for Low Carbon Buildings](#) at the RI 2015 in London.

Proceeds of the green bond will finance and refinance mortgage loans for new residential buildings, and provide green loans for financing solar panels installed on residential buildings as well as commercial real estate loans for the construction and financing of energy efficient buildings.

Oekom research AG carried out the verification of the green credentials against the [Climate Bonds Standard for Low Carbon Buildings](#).

Investors included 60% dedicated green investors and another 10% who prefer SRI investments but do not have yet special funds, analysts or requirements.

This is the second Certified Climate Bond issued in a week, following [ANZ's green property and renewables bond](#) that was a hit among investors.

Sean Kidney, CEO of the Climate Bonds Initiative that coordinates the Standards program said: 'Having a bond certified under the Standard means that a Climate Bonds approved verifier – in this case Oekom Research AG - certifies that the use of proceeds of the bond complies with a set list of criteria for low carbon buildings, developed by scientists and industry experts.'

He added: 'It is great to see the Dutch jumping on the certification bandwagon and setting a great example for the EU region. With the low carbon property standard available we expect to see more certified deals.'

Joop Hessels, Executive Director Sustainable Bond Finance said: 'Investors and NGO's have made clear that an independent standard on what is considered green is supporting the trust and transparency in the green bond market. The efforts made by the Climate Bond Initiative to define standards for an increasing number of assets are instrumental to the growth of the market.'

He added: 'ABN AMRO was very keen to adhere to the new Climate Bonds Standard for Low Carbon Buildings for both residential and commercial buildings. We are proud to have issued a Certified Climate Bond and this feature was welcomed by many investors.'

Daniëlle Boerendans of ABN AMRO Funding & Capital Issuance said 'During our talks with investors we noted that they were very interested in our first green bond. This was reflected in the order book, which was well oversubscribed.

She added: 'These sustainable investors further diversify our existing investor base. Given the success of the first bond, we are definitely keen to return to the green bond market on a regular basis.'

Demand for investments that address climate change has soared in the past year and fuelled the rapid growth of the green bond market, which [trebled in size in 2014](#) to reach USD36.8bn.

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**For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:**

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**About Climate Bonds Initiative:** The Climate Bonds Initiative is an investor-focused not-for-profit. It is the only organization in the world working to mobilise the USD 100 trillion bond market for climate change solutions. [www.climatebonds.net](http://www.climatebonds.net) [@ClimateBonds](https://twitter.com/ClimateBonds)

**Climate Bonds Standards and Certification Scheme** – Climate Bonds Standard is a screening tool for investors and governments, which allows them to easily prioritize climate and green bonds with confidence that the funds are being used to deliver climate change solutions. It is co-ordinated through the work of dedicated working groups, overseen by a Climate Bond Standards Board representing \$34 trillion of assets under management. [www.climatebonds.net/standards](http://www.climatebonds.net/standards)