

Deloitte France and Deloitte Luxembourg confirmed as Approved Verifiers to Climate Bonds Standard and Certification Scheme

LONDON: 16/03/17 14:30 GMT: The Climate Bonds Standard Board has confirmed Deloitte France and Deloitte Luxembourg as Approved Verifiers under the Climate Bonds Standard & Certification Scheme.

Both organisations will now be able to provide verification services on a worldwide basis for all Sector Criteria under the Climate Bonds Standard. Approved Verifiers play a vital role in the Climate Bonds Certification process; issuers contract approved verifiers to assess whether their bond meets the requirement of the Climate Bonds Standard.

As leading actors in the field of sustainability services, Deloitte France and Deloitte Luxembourg are independent, skilled and credible third party verifiers, with longstanding expertise in sustainable development and a range of advisory and risk areas.

Deloitte France has also supported numerous Responsible Investment and ESG initiatives, including projects in Africa and France. It focuses on sustainable finance assurance and advisory services, including sustainable bonds and socially responsible funds assurance, advisory to financial institutions and has published several studies on climate change mitigation investment.

A member of various initiatives for RI and ESG, Deloitte Luxembourg has credentials in ISAE 3000 and responsible finance assurance, including key environmental performance indicators and external reviews of responsible investment policy procedures, with experience in various European markets and the U.S.

Sean Kidney, CEO Climate Bonds Initiative:

"Both these organisations add welcome depth and breadth to our growing pool of Approved Verifiers. They can support emerging green bond issuers across both the Eurozone and emerging markets, build confidence in the integrity the market and make a significant contribution to the rapid scaling of green finance."

Julien Rivals, Partner and Global Leader Sustainability Assurance Deloitte France

"Deloitte is thrilled to join the Climate Bond Initiative as an approved verifier. We believe that standardization and third party verification are two fundamentals components to build the trust that this market will need in the future. Climate adaptation and transition financing needs are gigantic and both corporates and states will play their role, bonds being a key financing instruments."

Tom Pfeiffer, Partner and Sustainability Co-Leader, Deloitte Luxembourg

"Being an approved verifier of the Climate Bonds Initiative alongside Deloitte France will supplement our existing expertise related to climate bonds and more generally sustainability. This engagement towards a greener economy follows the trend initiated by a number of stock exchanges in the world including the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and shows Deloitte's commitment to be an active responsible market player." Climate Bonds Contact: Andrew Whiley Communications Manager +44 (0)7506 270 943 andrew.whiley@climatebonds.net

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Notes to Journalists:

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

It undertakes advocacy and outreach to inform and stimulate the market, provides policy models and government advice, market data and analysis and administers the Standards & Certification Scheme and the <u>Green Infrastructure Investment Coalition (GIIC)</u>. For more information, please visit <u>www.climatebonds.net</u>.

Climate Bonds Standards: Climate Bonds Standard 2.1 is an overarching science based multi-sector standard that allows investors and intermediaries to easily assess the climate credentials and environmental integrity of bonds claiming to be green and funding the low carbon future.

About Verification: Verification is an analysis-based process carried out by a <u>Climate Bond Standards Advisory</u> <u>Board</u> 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.

More information on the requirements to qualify as a Verifier is available here.

Background to Climate Bonds Sector Criteria: The Climate Bonds <u>Sector Criteria</u> are developed by <u>Technical Working Groups</u> of academics and experts relevant to the sector. Sector specific criteria for solar, wind, low carbon buildings and low carbon transport geothermal and water are fully functioning.

Criteria for bioenergy, land use and marine, hydropower and waste management are currently under development.

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