



EQA Spain becomes the first Spanish Approved Verifier under the Climate Bonds Standard

New Approved Verifier to support the fast-growing Spanish market

London/Madrid: 22/01/2020 14:00 GMT: Climate Bonds Initiative welcomes <u>EQA Spain</u> as an Approved Verifier, which becomes the first Spanish organisation to become an <u>Approved Verifier</u>.

EQA Spain is a leading organisation in certification, inspection and verification of R&D projects, ESG, compliance and quality standards. Its core corporate values are technical expertise and independence.

With over 10 years of vast experience in working with climate related schemes, EQA Spain now expands its services to green bond verification, becoming the first Spanish Approved Verifier under the Climate Bonds Standard & Certification Scheme. This important milestone allows <u>EQA Spain</u> to support the growing demand of green investments, both in developed and developing markets, providing a verification service that evaluates whether a bond, or other debt security instrument that meets the <u>Certification</u> requirements under the Climate Bonds Standard. The verification service provided by EQA Spain aims at gaining the trust and transparency needed to scale up the green market.

Currently, EQA Spain is operating globally and offering evaluation services for sustainable finance. It will provide verification services in various industries, including Solar, Wind, Water Infrastructure, Low Carbon Constructions, Low Carbon Transport and Marine Renewable Energy, as well as in different stages of the issuance process.

Gustavo Horn Aminne, Partner, EQA:

"In EQA, we are proud to contribute towards the development of green finance and its fight against climate change, using our technical expertise and independence."

Sean Kidney, CEO Climate Bonds Initiative:

"We are thrilled to have the participation of the first Spanish Verifier. The opportunity for green bonds growth in Spain is huge given the work done in renewables, transport, and energy efficiency- and the expected catalyst effect of the forthcoming Spanish Sovereign Green Bond."

"EQA Spain are specialists in certifications; their expertise will provide both regional and international support in building green bond markets in LATAM & the Spanish world." <Ends>

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Notes for journalists:

About EQA Spain: EQA Spain started its operations in the Spanish market in 1997. Currently, it is a leading body in the certification, inspection and verification of R&D projects, ESG, compliance and quality standards, concentrating its expansion strategy on excellence, innovation, technical expertise and professional independence.

Third party ESG evaluations encompass sustainability reports, greenhouse gas verification and audits related to the governance of anti-bribery, anti-money laundering, fiscal warranty systems and other schemes related to general compliance.

In the field of evaluation services for sustainable finances, EQA Spain is the first Spanish certified verifier approved by the Climate Bonds Initiative for the verification of Green Bonds. EQA Spain will provide verification services in various industries, including Solar, Wind, Water Infrastructure, Low Carbon Constructions, Low Carbon Transport and Marine Renewable Energy.

About the Climate Bonds Initiative: Climate Bonds Initiative is an investor-focused not-for-profit, promoting large-scale investment in the low carbon economy. Climate Bonds undertakes advocacy and outreach to inform and stimulate the market, provides policy models and government advice, market data and analysis, and administers an international Standard & Certification Scheme for best practice in green bonds issuance. For more information, please visit www.climatebonds.net.

About Climate Bonds Standard: It is an overarching science-based, multi-sector standard overseen by the <u>Climate Bonds Standards Board</u> that allows investors and intermediaries to easily assess the climate credentials and environmental integrity of bonds and other green debt products.

About Approved Verifiers: Under the <u>Climate Bonds Standard and Certification Scheme</u>, an <u>Approved Verifier</u> will check a bond Issuer's upcoming bond against the <u>Standard</u> and sector based <u>technical criteria</u> for compliance. If the bond complies with the Standard and Criteria, the Verifier will write a report to verify that the bond can be marketed to investors as a <u>Certified Climate Bond</u>.

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Certification under the Climate Bond Standard only reflects the climate attributes of the use of proceeds of a designated debt instrument. It does not reflect the credit worthiness of the designated debt instrument, nor its compliance with national or international laws.

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