

Deloitte becomes first Approved Verifier in Italy Certification services expansion to support best practice as market grows

LONDON 13/09/19 XX: 00 BST: The Climate Bonds Initiative welcomes <u>Deloitte Italy</u> (Deloitte) to the ranks of <u>Approved Verifiers</u>. Deloitte is the first and sole verifier in Italy that can provide third-party verification to assess whether an issuer and designated green bond or other green debt product meet the requirements for Certification against the Climate Bonds Standard.

Deloitte will be providing verification services throughout Italy for the Solar, Wind, Geothermal, Low Carbon Buildings, Low Carbon Transport, Water Infrastructure, Forestry, Marine Renewables sector Criteria under the Standard and following forthcoming launches the Waste Management, Bioenergy and Hydropower Criteria.

Sean Kidney, CEO, Climate Bonds Initiative:

"There is a constant demand in the European market for quality green product and increasingly issuers are responding. Deloitte Italy becoming an Approved Verifier is a pointer to the increasing investor interest in certified green investment that meets best practice for environmental outcomes. We congratulate Deloitte Italy on gaining receiving Approved Verifier status."

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Notes for Journalists:

About Deloitte Italy: Deloitte, one of the largest professional services networks in Italy, first started its activity in this country in 1923 and boasts century old roots, combining a tradition of quality with avant garde methods and technological expertise.

Deloitte's professional services, which include Audit & Assurance, Consulting, Financial Advisory, Risk Advisory, Tax and Legal, are rendered by various separate and independent firms, specialised in the single professional areas, which are all part of the Deloitte network.

Today, the Italian network employs more than 6,000 professionals who help their clients excel thanks to the confidence in the high level of service, in our multidisciplinary offering and our widespread geographical coverage.

With a globally connected network of member firms in more than 150 countries and territories, Deloitte brings world-class capabilities and high-quality service to clients, delivering the insights they need to address their most complex business challenges. Deloitte's 286,200 professionals are committed to becoming the standard of excellence.

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

About the Climate Bonds Standard: The Standard is an overarching science-based multisector 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 the <u>Climate Bonds Standards Board</u> approved independent organisation to assure the issuance of a climate bond, the nature of the associated low carbon projects or activities and the associated financial accounting systems are in conformance with the <u>Climate Bonds Standard</u> and can gain <u>Certification</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. A decision to invest in anything is solely yours.

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