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BNP Paribas S.A.

Independent practitioner's reasonable assurance report on the verification of a selection of information disclosed in the 2024 Social Bond Allocation and Impact Reporting

BNP Paribas S.A. 16 Boulevard des Italiens, 75009 Paris

KPMG S.A., a French audit and accounting limited liability company registered with the Paris Association of Chartered Accountants under n°14.30080101 and a member of the Regional Association of statutory auditors of Versailles and Centre. A French company, member firm of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with

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To the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,

In our capacity as independent practitioner, we have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the following information from October 1st 2023 to September 30th, 2024, (the "**Information**"), in relation with the Social Bonds issued by BNP Paribas (the "**Entity**") presented in the Social Bond Allocation and Impact Reporting (the "**Report**"), available on the Entity's website¹ figuring on pages 10 to 15 of the attached document and consisting in:

- the allocation, of funds raised by the Entity through the Social Bonds issued (the "**Issuances**") contained in the Report attached as Appendix I to this insurance report,
- the assets identified as eligible by the Entity (the "Eligible Social Assets"), as detailed in the methodological notes in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report,
- the impact indicators of the Eligible Social Assets, as detailed in the methodological notes in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report.

The Information has been prepared in accordance with the basis of preparation determined by the Entity in the context of the *Social Bond Framework* (the "**Framework**") and the methodological notes set out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report.

Conclusion

In our conclusion, the Information is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation set out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report.

Preparation of the Information

The absence of a commonly used and generally accepted reporting framework or of a significant body of established practices on which to draw to assess and measure the Information allows for different, but acceptable, measurement techniques that can affect comparability between entities and over time.

Consequently, the Information needs to be read and understood together with the basis of preparation set out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report and the Framework.

Responsibility of the Entity

Management of the Entity is responsible for:

• Selecting or establishing suitable criteria for preparing the Information,

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¹ <u>https://invest.bnpparibas/dette-et-notations</u>

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- Selecting the Eligible Social Assets regarding the eligibility criteria as defined in the Framework,
- Preparing the Information in accordance with the basis of preparation set out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report, and
- Designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control over information relevant to the preparation of the Information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Responsibility of the independent practitioner

Based on our work, our responsibility is to provide a report expressing a reasonable assurance conclusion on the fact that the Information is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation set out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report.

As we are engaged to form an independent conclusion on the Information as prepared by management, we are not permitted to be involved in the preparation of the Information as doing so may compromise our independence.

It is not our responsibility to:

- Challenge the eligibility criteria as defined in the Framework, and, in particular, we give no interpretation on the final terms of this Framework,
- Form an opinion on the compliance of the Eligible Social Assets with the eligibility criteria defined in the Framework, as concluded in the report issued by the second party opinion ISS ESG,
- Form an opinion on the effective use of the funds allocated to the Eligible Social Assets after such funds were allocated.

Applicable professional guidance

We performed our reasonnable assurance engagement in accordance with the professional guidance issued by the French Institute of statutory auditors (Compagnie nationale des commissaires aux comptes "CNCC") applicable to such engagement, the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised).

Our independence and quality control

Our independence is defined by the provisions of Article L. 821-13 of the French Commercial Code and the French Code of Ethics for Statutory Auditors (*Code de déontologie*) of our profession. In addition, we have implemented a system of quality control including documented policies and procedures aimed at ensuring compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, ethical requirements and the professional guidance issued by the French Institute of Statutory Auditors (*Compagnie Nationale des Commissaires aux Comptes*) relating to this engagement.

Means and resources

Our work was carried out by an independent and multidisciplinary team including specialists in sustainable development and corporate social responsibility.



Nature and scope of procedures

We are required to plan and perform our work to address the areas where we have identified that a material misstatement of the Information is likely to arise.

To assess this risk, we took into account the Entity's internal controls on the preparation of the Information in order to design appropriate assurance procedures, and not with the purpose of expressing a conclusion as to the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control system.

The procedures we performed were based on our professional judgment. In carrying out our reasonable assurance engagement on the Information:

- We identified and conducted several interviews with the persons responsible for the collect of the Information, with the Directions in charge of overseeing the collect of the Information and, where appropriate, with those responsible for internal control and risk management procedures,
- We assessed the suitability of the procedures used by the Entity to report the Information with respect to their relevance, completeness, reliability, neutrality and understandability, taking into account, where appropriate, best practices within the sector,
- We verified the existence of internal control and risk management procedures implemented by the Entity,
- We inspected the external controls in place such as the statutory auditor diligences and report on the Entity's financial statements, as well as the Second Party Opinion Sustainalytics on the Eligible Social Assets compliance with the Framework,
- We inspected the processes used for data collection, aggregation, processing, monitoring and control, in particular the procedures relating to the allocation of funds as of September 30th, 2024,
- We verified that the amount of funds allocated to assets is less than or equal to the amount of these assets as of September 30th, 2024,
- We verified that the methods for measuring the impact indicators related to the selected Eligible Social Assets, as summarized out in Appendix II as attached to this assurance report, have been properly applied, without calling them into question.

We believe that our work is sufficient to provide a basis for our reasonable assurance opinion on the Information.

This report has been prepared within the context described above and may not be used, distributed or referred to for any other purpose.

Paris la Défense, May 19, 2025,

KPMG S.A.

Marie-Christine Jolys Partner

Brice Javaux ESG Expert



Appendix I: Extract from the 2024 Social Bond Reporting – Allocation

BNP Paribas' Social Bond: Allocation and impact figures

The Social Assets allocated to the BNP Paribas' Social Bond program amount to 4.47 Bn EUR (total drawn amount), backing up to 1.29 Bn EUR Social Bond issuances, as of 30th September 2024.

	Category	Sub-Category	Location	Total Volume (Bn €)	Impact Indicators
	Access to Employment	SMEs	France	2.27	410 219 nb of employees 34 487 SMEs financed
Ъ₿	Socioeconomic Advancement and Empowerment	Impact Entrepreneurs	France	0.56	170 168 <u>nb</u> of employees 1 181 <u>nb</u> of loans
1731		Microfinance	Global	0.20	276 255 ¹ nb of microfinance beneficiaries
Â	Access to Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Loans	France	0.43	6 019 nb of beneficiaries
Ŕ	Access to Education	Student Loans	France	0.53	25 745 nb of students
(h)	Access to Human and Social Care	SMEs in Healthcare	France	0.47	52 057 nb of employees 4 319 loans
\sim		Public Hospitals	France	-	-
Number of bene	ficiaries based on outstanding	amount		4.47 Total € Bn invested	



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Appendix II: Extract from the 2024 Social Bond Reporting – Impact Figures and Methodological Notes

Access to Employment



Socioeconomic Development and Empowerment: Act For Impact

Loans dedicated to the financing of impact entrepreneurs, including non-for-profit organisations, foundations or philanthropic structures in France as part of the Act for Impact program of BNP Paribas



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Socioeconomic Development and Empowerment: Microfinance

Loans to microfinance institutions (MFIs) in France and other countries: MFIs provide financial services and non-financial services designed to reach excluded customers, poorer population segments, often socially marginalised, or geographically more isolated, who lack access to mainstream sources of finance from the traditional financial system, and to help them become economically self-sufficient.



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Access to Education, Affordable Housing and Human & Social Care



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Methodological Note

Definition of socio-economically disadvantaged areas and eligible sectors

- The socio-economically disadvantaged areas in France are defined as the regions where the unemployment OR the poverty is in the worst third. In these areas, SMEs in the Financial Sectors with no or limited number of employees are excluded.
- For SMEs in the healthcare sector, the list of eligible activities is in the table below.
- For all categories, the following sectors are excluded from b) the Social Bond Framework: defense and security, palm oil, wood pulp, nuclear power generation, coal-fired power generation, unconventional oil & gas, mining and tobacco.

NACE Code Description¹ 8621 General medical practice activities 8622

- Specialist medical practice activities
- 8623 Dental practice activities

1. Eligible activities for SMEs in healthcare



BNP Paribas' aims to serve everyone and support local development. Our focus on financing SMEs in disadvantaged areas helps to reduce inequalities. The methodology used to identify these socio-economically disadvantaged areas was developed using public data provided by INSEE (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques). The list of eligible areas will be updated each year based on INSEE data to continuously reflect the French labor market.

Methodology to estimate the number of

employees in SMEs

market.

Using the SIREN identification number from INSEE, a tranche of employees can be assigned to each beneficiary. A specific mapping allowed us to go from the SIREN tranche to the range of employees in a company. We have furtherly mapped the range to obtain the median values. When data was not publicly available on INSEE, we obtained the number of employees per beneficiary based on the average employee for the same NACE code.

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