

# Corporate ESG Rating Certificate for BRED Banque Populaire

BRED Banque Populaire SA has solicited us to conduct an independent ESG and sustainability rating.

As of August 2022, BRED Banque Populaire SA receives an A1 Sustainability Rating, based on an overall score of 65/100. The company displays Advanced willingness and capacity to integrate ESG factors into its strategy and operations and appears to be working on integrating these factors into its risk management, with an Advanced capacity to safeguard and strengthen its human capital cohesion and legal security, protect its reputation and address operational risks.

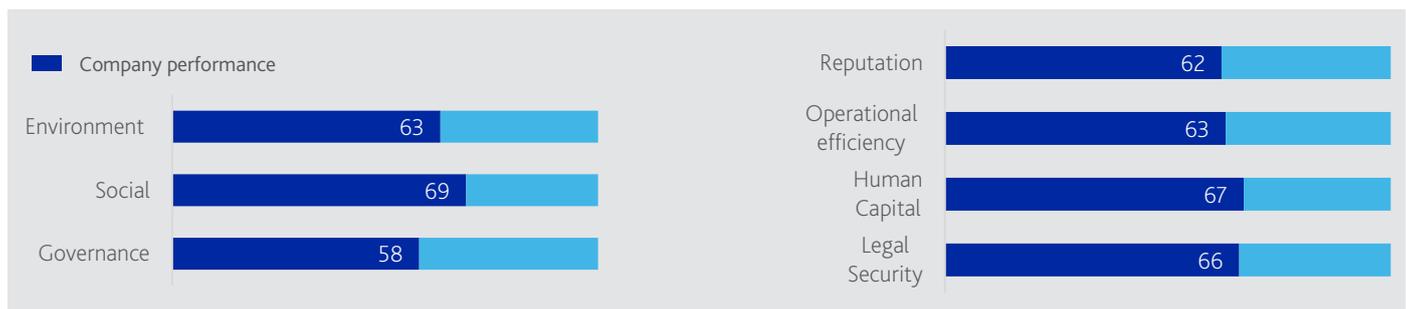


Preliminary note:

We assessed BRED Banque Populaire SA at its request in line with our standard rating methodology. Since the company is not part of our listed issuers universe, this assessment, which benefits from an active dialogue with the company, is not presented in a ranking against these other listed companies, as they may not have benefited from such dialogue. Therefore, the relative A1 Rating serves an indicative purpose only.

In addition, at the company's request, this assessment covers the perimeter of BRED Social, i.e. French operations (metropolitan France and overseas territories) without including the French subsidiaries. Asset management and wealth management activities are therefore not included in this assessment.

## ESG AND RISKS MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE (./100)



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

**Impacts:** The company's main environmental indicators (greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions linked to energy and transport mix) and social indicators (share of women in management positions, training, turnover, absenteeism) show mixed results. We consider that the share of BRED's activities contributing to sustainable development objectives is Limited (according to our nomenclature).

**Risks:** BRED's risk management and internal control systems cover the majority of its ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) responsibilities. The company displays an Advanced capacity to address human capital, operational, reputational and legal risks.

**Management:** The company implements measures to address most CSR issues. However, it has only established quantified objectives with clear deadlines for environmental issues. Areas for improvement lie with regard to the integration of CSR within governance. BRED is facing a controversy of High severity on which it is being Proactive.

This issuer-solicited corporate ESG rating was produced using written information provided by the company, press research concerning the opinion of external stakeholders on the company as well as interviews with 10 directors and managers of the company and one employee representative, conducted between June 29<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Our 19 pages Sustainability Rating report was delivered on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, covering 6 domains and 19 sustainability drivers. It is structured around 3 key pillars:

1. The social and environmental impacts of BRED Banque Populaire's products and services, and its ability to invest in and create sustainable value;
2. BRED Banque Populaire's capacity to identify and mitigate its ESG risks and to preserve and increase the value of its strategic assets (including reputation, human capital, operational efficiency and legal security);
3. The strategic and operational integration of environmental and social responsibility topics in BRED Banque Populaire's governance, operations and reporting, including the balance and dynamics of stakeholder relationships.

Our analysis aims to inform investors, asset managers and other relevant stakeholders of the nature, weighting and level of integration of ESG factors by BRED Banque Populaire, as well as its ability to identify and mitigate related risks.

BRED Banque Populaire SA ("BRED") is a cooperative bank and one of the 14 affiliated Banques Populaires within Groupe BPCE. It offers banking, insurance, asset management and project financing services to individuals and professionals (large companies, medium-sized companies and SMEs, retailers, institutional investors, liberal professions and craftsmen).

Brussels, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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