

Paris, december 30, 2010

Natixis adopts the Equator Principles

Natixis announced that it had adopted the Equator Principles, a financial industry standard for managing social and environmental risk in project financing.

These principles will be applied worldwide to all new Project Finance lending and advisory, for projects with capital costs of US \$10 million or above, in all industry sectors supported by Natixis : infrastructure, power – renewable energy, natural resources, oil & gas, mining and telecommunications

Because Natixis is aware of its social and environmental responsibility in terms finance, it has implemented an environmental appendix for its project finance operations since 2005.

The adoption of the Equator Principles is yet a new step toward in-depth management of environmental and social risk in Project Finance, and further confirms Natixis's commitment to sustainable development and social responsibility.

Natixis is the corporate, investment and financial services arm of Groupe BPCE, the 2nd-largest banking player in France with 22% of total bank deposits and 37 million clients spread over two networks, Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Épargne.

With around 22,000 employees, Natixis has a number of areas of expertise which are organized in three main business lines: Corporate and Investment Banking, Investment Solutions (asset management, private banking, insurance) and Specialized Financial Services.

A global player, Natixis has its own client base of companies, financial institutions and institutional investors as well as the client base of individuals, professionals and small and medium-size businesses of BPCE's two retail banking networks.

Listed on the Paris stock exchange, it has a solid financial base with total Tier 1 capital of €12.4 billion, a Tier 1 ratio of 10.9 % and quality long-term ratings (Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings: A+; Moody's: Aa3). *(Figures as at 09/30/2010)*

Press contact:
Victoria Eideliman
+ 33 1 +58 19 47 05