

# AIB Group Plc

March 2023 Green Bond Framework

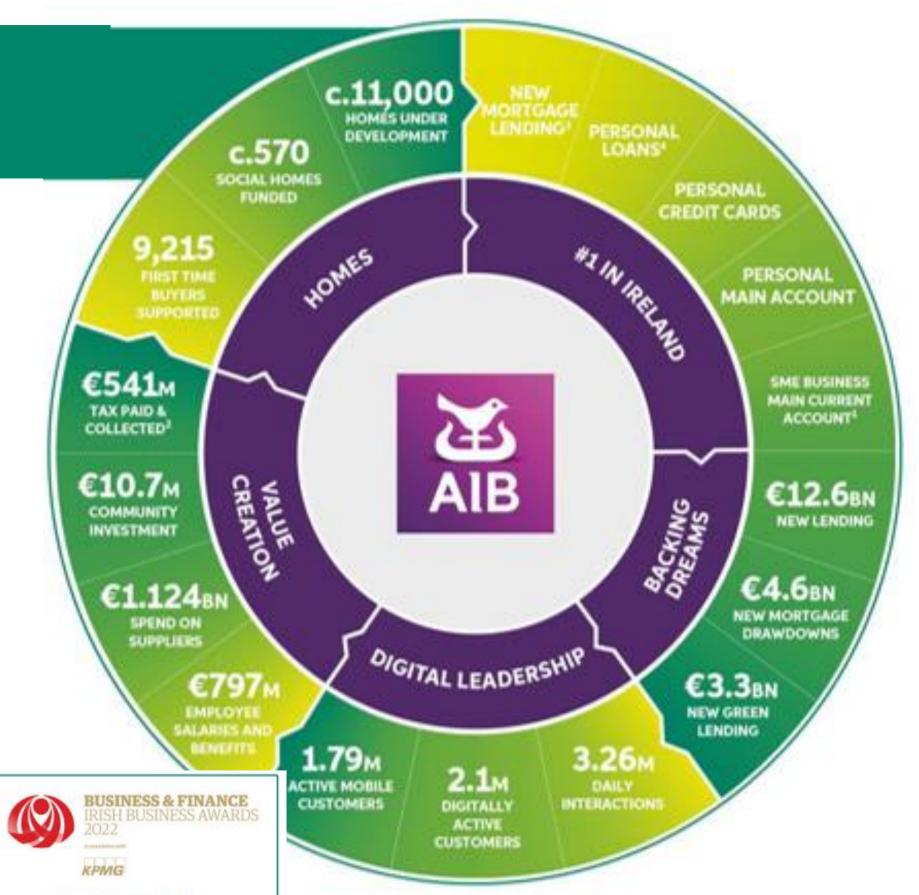
# Sustainability at AIB



# Backing a Sustainable Future – FY2022



Helping to deliver a more sustainable future for all is at the heart of AIB's agenda.



As a recognised leader of sustainability in Ireland and through our Pledge to Do More, we are committed to building long-term resilience and sustainability for our business, economy and society.

- As Ireland's biggest bank, we have significant reach into the heart of society, creating value and making impact through our activities enhancing livelihoods, supporting homemakers, promoting job creation, and enabling communities and society to flourish.
- Our scale and reach confer upon us a responsibility and duty
  of care towards our customers and the communities we serve.
  It challenges us to set the pace of a sustainable low-carbon
  transition, while brining our customers and stakeholders with
  us, supporting social and economic inclusion.
- Sustainable Communities is a key pillar of our Group strategy across our three areas of focus: Climate & Environment; Economic & Social Inclusion; and Future Proof Business.

# Sustainable Communities – Targets, Performance and Progress



### **CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT**

We're actively integrating risks and opportunities relating to climate change into our business to accelerate our understanding. strengthen our strategy and clarify our actions. We're reducing our own carbon footprint and committing to being Net Zero by 2030. We're supporting our customers and communities in their transition to a low-carbon economy with an ambition that green and transition products will account for 70% of all our new lending by 2030.

#### TARGETS

2023 €10bn CLIMATE ACTION FUND

In new green & transition lending (€2bn per year)

2030 NET ZERO IN OUR OPERATIONS

Ambition of 70% of new lending to be green

2040 NET ZERO AMBITION

Customer portfolio lending (Agri. 2050)

#### 2022 PERFORMANCE

€7.9bn Green lending since 2019

emissions<sup>3</sup> in 2022

10% reduction in operational

26% of new lending was

FINANCED **EMISSIONS** TARGETS SET FOR €3.3bn green lending in 40% reduction since 2019 75% OF LOAN BOOK⁴

### PRIORITIES FOR 2023

- · Continue to support all AIB customers in the transition to a low-carbon future through product & proposition development and engagement
- Complete the energisation of our Power Purchase Agreement with NTR plc, with energy generation due to commence in Autumn 2023
- Continue to execute AIB operational emissions reduction programme
- Ongoing focus on embedding Climate Risk management into the business
- 1. Transactional Net Promoter Score (NPS) is an aggregation of 20 customer journeys across Homes, Personal, SME, Digital, Retail, Direct and Day-to-Day Banking.

  2. The Equileap annual Gender Equality Global Report & Ranking equates "gender balanced" with between 40% and 60% women.
- 3. Absolute Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions
- 4 As at 31 12 2021



### **ECONOMIC & SOCIAL INCLUSION**

We recognise the responsibility that comes with the scale and impact of our business. We aspire to contribute and advocate for a fairer society that is socially and economically inclusive. We do this by investing and raising awareness in access, education and innovation for our customers, our colleagues and our communities.

#### TARGETS

housing

2024	2023	ONGOING
€800M	500K	AIB in our
		community
Finance for social	Customers supported	Ongoing strategic focus

financial literacy

#### 2022 PERFORMANCE

€437m Allocated	341k	€10.7m
against target		
since 2020		
€91m in 2022	Secondary schools programme since 2021	Supporting community causes in 2022

#### **PRIORITIES FOR 2023**

- Deliver further progress towards our 2024 target for social housing construction
- Deepen our community support through the AIB Community €1 Million Fund and partnerships including TASC, GOAL & FoodCloud
- Continue progress to embed identified AIB salient human rights impacts into relevant processes
- Enhance focus on the delivery of financial literacy through current customer activities



### **FUTURE PROOF BUSINESS**

Our future sustainability depends on our ongoing investment in our business, people and processes. We want to give our customers the best possible banking experience – we're always learning and improving. In an increasingly digitalised world, we are focused on keeping our systems resilient and our data secure.

#### **TARGETS**

2023	2023	ONGOING
+53	>2.25m	GENDER
		BALANCED <sup>2</sup>
Transactional NPS <sup>1</sup>	Digitally active customers	All Management

#### 2022 PERFORMANCE

+39	2.1m	GENDER BALANCE MAINTAINED
Transactional NPS 2022	Digitally active customers	

#### **PRIORITIES FOR 2023**

- Deliver enhanced banking experiences, focusing on priority customer journeys
- Continue to embed Inclusion & Diversity through enterprise-wide campaigns, and partnerships including Open Doors and AsIAm
- Ongoing focus on compliance for incoming cyber legislation (DORA)
- Continued focus on gender balance throughout the organisation
- Ongoing focus on ESG governance

# ESG Progress

		PLEDGE TO DO MORE 2019	NET ZERO TARGETS & AMBITIONS 2020	ESG LEADERSHIP RATINGS (MSCI, SUSTAINALYTICS & S&P) 2021	DELIVERING ON OUR STRATEGY 2022
	OWN FOOTPRINT	Property migration & retrofit	Reducing energy - Heating, ventilation & air conditioning programme	Group-wide LED lighting retrofit programme	<ul> <li>Agreement for Corporate Power Purchase Agreement to support 80% of AIB energy needs</li> </ul>
	SETTING TARGETS	€5bn Climate Action Fund	<ul> <li>Net Zero commitment by 2030.</li> <li>70% new lending to be green or transition by 2030</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doubling to €10bn Climate Action Fund</li> <li>Internal emission reduction targets</li> </ul>	Set Financed Emissions Targets for 75% of our loan book
E	GREEN PROPOSITIONS	Green Mortgage	Electric Vehicle     Sustainability Linked Loans	Green Consumer Loans     Electric vehicle leasing     Green Mortgage across brands	Expansion of Green Living Hub     Dedicated sustainability sector guides     SBCI Energy Efficient Loan Scheme
	GREEN FINANCE	€1.2bn Green lending     Green Bond Framework	<ul> <li>€1.5bn Green lending</li> <li>1st Irish Bank – Green Bond €1bn</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>€2bn Green lending</li> <li>2nd Green Bond issued - €750m</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Issued 2 Green bonds, with a total of €3.25bn to date, to support green lending</li> <li>€3.3bn in new Green Lending</li> </ul>
	HOUSING	Redesign of Mortgage customer experience journeys	€300m Social Housing Fund	<ul> <li>Social Housing fund committed - addl.</li> <li>€500m launched</li> <li>AIB Social Bond Framework launched</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>€91m invested in social housing projects enabling c.570 new homes</li> <li>Raised €1bn via first Irish Social Bond issuance</li> </ul>
s	FINANCIAL LITERACY FOCUS	Vulnerable Customer Programme	Secondary Schools Programme - focus on financial literacy	Secondary Schools Programme - focus on financial literacy	<ul> <li>Ongoing engagement and reach for AIB Future Sparks education programme to c.341K students</li> <li>Ongoing Vulnerable Customer engagement</li> </ul>
	BACKING ENTREPRENEURS	Women in Enterprise Programme     Brexit Advisors	Covid-19 Payment breaks & supports	Covid-19 Payment breaks & supports	Expansion of the Credit Guarantee Scheme
	COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS	Volunteering Programme	AIB Together Matched Funding     €2.4m Covid-19 research	It's My Business JAI     GOAL Mile partnership launched	<ul> <li>€10.7m Community support, including launch of AIB Community €1 Million Fund to support 70 local charities</li> </ul>
	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEES		Continued Board focus via Board subcommittee	Establishment of Group Sustainability ExCo Committee	<ul> <li>Approval for ESG Framework to detail our overall approach to ESG matters</li> </ul>
	STRATEGY & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP	Sustainable Communities – embedded in strategy	Sustainability 101 Training	Climate Risk Training	6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Sustainability Conference attracting over 6,000 attendees
6	COMMITMENTS	<ul> <li>Supporter of Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)</li> <li>Founding signatory of UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB)</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>UN Global Compact,</li> <li>WEF Stakeholder Capitalism Metrics.</li> <li>Net Zero Banking Alliance</li> <li>Equator Principles</li> </ul>	2nd disclosures against voluntary commitments
G	REPORTING	<ul> <li>3rd Detailed Sustainability Report published</li> </ul>	1st disclosures – TCFD and PRB	1st disclosures - EU Taxonomy,     WEF metrics and UN Global Compact	<ul> <li>Inclusion of enhanced TCFD disclosures within our Annual Financial Report for the 1st time</li> </ul>
	POLICIES & CODES	Project Finance	<ul> <li>Excluded Lending Activities</li> <li>Responsible Supplier Code</li> <li>Code of Conduct refreshed</li> <li>Human Rights Commitment</li> </ul>	Sustainable Lending Framework     ESG Questionnaire     Initial Climate Risk Quantification	<ul> <li>Salient Human Rights topics identified</li> <li>Enhanced ESG Questionnaire</li> </ul>
	INCLUSION & DIVERSITY	Culture Programme	Gender balanced Board and ExCo	LEAD (Leaders Enabling A Difference)     Programme	<ul> <li>Gold 'Investors in Diversity' accreditation from Irish Centre for Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li> <li>Enhanced Inclusion and Diversity Strategy launched</li> </ul>

# ESG Customer Propositions and Commitments



# **Propositions**



**Green Mortgage** for energy efficient homes across AIB, Haven, EBS brands & UK



Widescale lending for projects in Renewables, Housing, Healthcare, Education

# **Commitments**



Task Force on
Climate-Related
Financial Disclosures



UNEP FI – Principles for Responsible Banking



**UN Global Compact** 



**NZBA - Net Zero Banking Alliance** 



WEF Stakeholder Capitalism Metrics



**Equator Principles** 

#### **Green Personal Loans**



**Green Personal Loan** for retrofitting homes and Electric Vehicles



Sustainability Linked
Loans for Corporate customers
who commit to ESG targets



1st CPPA with NTR plc
places AIB as a corporate leader
in Ireland to leverage
decarbonisation capabilities &
expertise



SBCI SME Sustainability focused loans



ESG Advisory & thought leadership



**Green & Social bonds** to

fund domestic and international projects aimed at emission reduction & social improvement



NiftiBusiness & Nifti
Personal Leasing to provide
more sustainable car leasing
options to businesses and
personal customers

# Climate Risk Update

# Significant steps taken to analyse Physical & Transition Risks in 2022:



The management of climate risk is integrated into our overall approach to risk management, as set out in our TCFD disclosures in our Annual Financial Report 2022.

Climate Stress Testing: We commenced development of our Climate Stress Testing capabilities in 2021. In 2022, AIB was one of 41 institutions which completed all three modules of the ECB 2022 Climate Risk Stress Test, out of a total of 104 participating institutions. Early development work also took place on Climate Risk Stress Testing for market and liquidity risks.

**Physical Risk:** We continued to focus on flood risk as the most significant acute and chronic physical risk for our own portfolio and have developed initial metrics to track and better understand this risk for our property-related exposure in ROI and the UK. AIB has Non Financial Corporate (NFC) exposures secured on immovable property of €8.4bn in 2022, in which €0.27bn (3.2%) is sensitive to Physical Flood Risk\*.

**Transition Risk:** We require all new lending over £/€300k in high transition risk sectors to complete our ESG Questionnaire. We have deemed the following sectors/sub-sectors as most prone to transition risk (combined exposure ~8% of new lending in 2022):

- i. Agriculture Dairy and Cattle Farming
- Manufacturing Food Processing
- iii. Transport Road, rail and water
- iv. Non-renewable energy.

**ESG Questionnaire:** The questionnaire was incorporated into credit applications in 2021; In 2022, work commenced to further enhance and refine this tool, broadening the scope of coverage at counterparty and sector level. We will consider implementation of changes in our credit risk management process over 2023.

<sup>\*</sup>The physical flood risk is aligned with our CRR449a Pillar 3 disclosure showing "sensitivity" to physical risk for NFC's secured by immovable property under an adverse climate scenario. Adverse climate scenario is defined as: RCP 8.5 to 2035, and a 1:100 risk of a flood event. The threshold of risk for sensitive is set at a 1% flooding risk (1:100) and the adverse climate change scenario to 2035. This approach aligns to the EBA 2021 ESG Risk Management guidance in so far as there is prescriptive guidance. AIB Group plc Annual Financial Report 2022

# **ESG** Ratings



Rated as AA – on 11 Oct 2022, MSCI confirmed AIB's Leader Rating, up from A (Average) in 2019\*

# S&P Global

2022: 69/100 (2021: 70/100) 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile of banks (2021: 87th percentile)

Listed as member of the S&P Global Sustainability Yearbook 2023 (top 15% of industry)



June 2022 ESG Risk
Rating: 11.0 (Low Risk)
5th percentile of banks (1st
= lowest ESG Risk)

ESG Industry Top Rated and Regional Top Rated company for 2023\*\*



- Global leader in corporate climate action
- Leadership rating in place since 2016
- Only bank in Ireland or the UK to make the Global A list in 2020
- AIB response to the CDP Climate Change questionnaire: Click <u>here</u> to view our 2021 response



- Member of the FTSE4 Good Index Series (since July 2020)
- Identifies companies demonstrating strong
   E, S and G practices measured against globally recognised standards, you can find out more <a href="here">here</a>
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# AIB Green Bond Framework



# Green Bond Framework 2022







### Rationale

- To align our funding strategy within our sustainability strategy funding projects or assets that mitigate climate change by reducing emissions, protecting ecosystems, or having a positive environmental impact.
- Green bond issuances serve as a testament to AIB's leadership and commitment to sustainability and society.

### **Use of Proceeds**



- AIB allocates the net proceeds of the Green Bonds to a loan portfolio of new and existing loans, the "Eligible Green Loan Portfolio"
- ✓ Green Commercial and **Residential Buildings**
- ✓ Renewable Energy
- ✓ Clean Transportation

Project Evaluation & **Selection** 



- Loans financed and/or refinanced are evaluated and selected based on compliance with the Eligibility Criteria, described in Use of Proceeds (UoP) section of the Green Bond Framework.
- A core team will assess project eligibility and allocation of proceeds to Eligible Green Loans

**Management of Proceeds** 



- The net proceeds from the Green Bonds will be managed by AIB on a portfolio basis, with loans selected in accordance with UoP criteria and the evaluation and selection process.
- AIB will track investments in eligible loans.

### Reporting



- Allocation reporting: AIB prepares an annual report with the status of the allocation of AIB's Green Bond proceeds (at least at category level).
- Impact reporting: AIB reports annually on the impact of the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio in terms of estimated avoided CO2 emissions and avoided energy consumption (MWh), in conjunction with Carbon Trust.

### **External Review**



- AIB's Green Bond Framework has been reviewed by Sustainalytics, who has issued a positive Second Party Opinion.
- Sustainalytics have also performed an assessment of the framework in relation to the EU Taxonomy.



Verification: Mazars has produced a limited assurance report for FY 22 Allocations.

# Use of Proceeds 2022



### **Renewable Energy**

### **Use of Proceeds**



Financing and/or refinancing the generation, equipment, development, manufacturing, construction, operation, distribution and maintenance of renewable energy generation



- a) Solar Energy: Photovoltaics (PV), concentrated solar power (CSP) and solar thermal facilities
- **b) Wind Energy:** Onshore and offshore wind energy generation facilities and other emerging technologies
- c) Geothermal Energy: Geothermal power plants with life cycle emissions lower than 100g CO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh
- d) Power Storage Facilities: Compressed air, flywheels, synchronous condensers, and batteries
- e) Energy Transmission Infrastructure:
  Interconnectors between transmission
  systems within the interconnected European
  system

### **Green Commercial Buildings**

#### **Use of Proceeds**





- New or existing commercial buildings:
  - Buildings built pre Jan 2021 belonging to the top 15% low carbon buildings in Ireland, BER Rated B2 or better
  - Buildings built from Jan 2021 with Primary Energy Demand = -10% vs NZEB regulation, BER Rated A1 or A2
  - Refurbished with ≥30% improvement in energy efficiency;
     minimum BER C3

#### Green Commercial Buildings in UK

- New or existing commercial buildings in the UK, belonging to the top 15% low carbon buildings in the local context (i.e. England & Wales EPC "A+, A" and "B" and Scotland EPC "A and B")
- Refurbished with ≥30% improvement in energy efficiency

### Green Commercial Buildings in Ireland and the UK

- Commercial buildings classifications, such as:
- BREEAM 'Excellent' or higher
- LEED 'Gold' or higher
- DGNB 'Gold' or higher

### **Green Residential Buildings**

#### **Use of Proceeds**





- Buildings built pre Jan 2021 belonging to the top 15% low carbon buildings in Ireland (BER label of B2 or better, or built from 2015 and later)
- Buildings built from Jan 2021 with Primary Energy Demand = -10% vs NZEB regulation
- Refurbished with ≥30% improvement in energy efficiency; minimum BER C3

### **Clean Transportation**

#### **Use of Proceeds**

### Clean Transportation



- Fully electric, hydrogen or otherwise zero emissions vehicles for the transportation of passengers
- Infrastructure to support zero emissions vehicles including but not limited to EV charging and hydrogen fuelling stations

# Alignment with international initiatives & involved parties

		Anginnent with international initiatives & involved parties
ICMA GBP category	UN SDG	EU Taxonomy Technical Screening Criteria
Renewable Energy	7 AFFORMATE AND 13 CLIMATE	<ul> <li>Eligible by default (no life cycle emissions threshold applies for solar and wind power)</li> <li>Geothermal eligible where life cycle emissions are lower than 100g CO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh</li> </ul>
Green Buildings	7 AFFORMABLE AND BEARINGARY 9 MONATOR 13 CLIMATE ACTION AC	<ul> <li>Top 15% approach for buildings built up until end 2020</li> <li>AIB has implemented NZEB −10% criteria for buildings built from 2021 in Ireland</li> <li>≥30% improvement in Primary Energy Demand for refurbishments;</li> </ul>
Clean Transportation	9 MAGNIK PROMITEN 13 CLIMATE ACMENTACIDAD  13 CLIMATE	<ul> <li>2025 and 2026 thresholds guaranteed for fully electric vehicles</li> <li>EV charging stations, hydrogen fueling stations and electrified rail (not related to the transport or storage of fossil fuels) in line with TSC</li> </ul>









tants & Third Parties

# GBF Project Evaluation and Selection Process Overview



# **Process for Project Evaluation and Selection**

Compliance with ICMA Green Bond Eligibility Criteria (i.e. Use of Proceeds)

Alignment with AIB's sustainability strategy

Compliance with official and international environmental and social standards and local laws and regulation »

Mitigation of DNSH & MS concerns

**>>** 



**Group Sustainability Committee** 

 Reviews and approves the GBF and eligible loan categories in accordance with AIB Sustainability Strategy and the AIB Sustainable Lending Framework, approves additional GBF specific loan exclusion criteria.

**ESG Working Group** 

- The group comprises of Group Treasury; Legal; Sustainability Team; Risk; and relevant business teams.
- The members of the ESG Bond WG apply the approved GBF (eligible categories, and exclusions) in terms of the population of loan templates, assessment of loan eligibility, and determination of impact for larger loans.

# GBF Management of Proceeds – FY22



- Aggregated portfolio approach used to manage proceeds.
- Additional eligible green projects are added to the eligible green loan portfolio to the extent required.
- Any assets that become ineligible are removed and replenished where necessary
- The allocation of assets that are eligible for both Green and Social project Portfolio's will be considered in terms of their impactfulness and the requirements of each framework
- AIB intends to be fully allocated at issuance for new green bonds, as well as having an over-collateralized green portfolio.

~EUR4.69bn Eligible Loan Portfolio

EUR3.25bn
Outstanding Green
Bonds

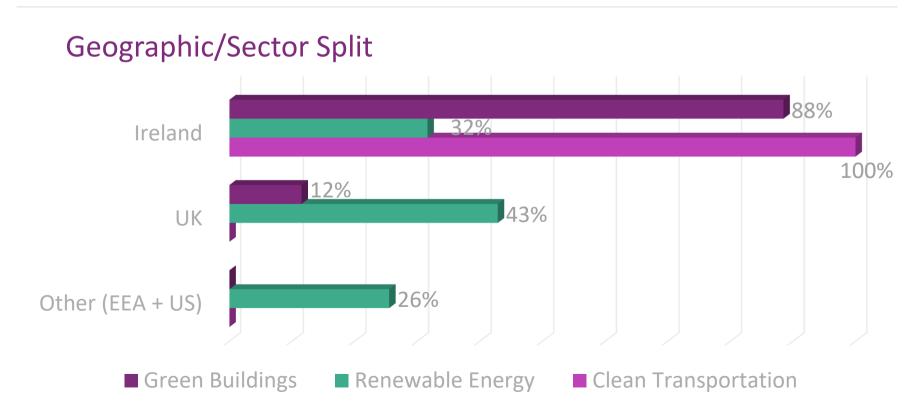
# Green Bond Portfolio & Impact FY22





### **AIB Green Bond Portfolio FY22**

	#	€	%
Renewable Energy	159	1,977m	c. 42%
Green Buildings	4,577	2,677m	c. 57%
Clean Transportation	1,327	33m	c. 1%
Total	6,063	4,687m	100%



### Pre-issuance Allocation & Impact Reports:

# **Impact Reporting FY22**

Total Portfolio Size	€4,687m
Total Est. Avoided Emissions (tCO2e/year)	1,136,405
Total Est. Avoided Energy Consumption (MWh/year)	133,111
Renewable Energy	€1,977m
Est. Avoided Emissions (tCO2e/year)	1,095,536
Avoided Emissions per €m invested in Renewables	554 (tCO2e/year)
Green Buildings	€2,677m
Est. Avoided Emissions (tCO2e/year)	40,375
Est. Avoided Energy Consumption (MWh/year)	133,111
Avoided Energy Consumption per €m invested in Green Buildings	50 (MWh/year)
Clean Transportation	€33m
Est. Avoided Emissions (tCO2e/yr)	493

# Second-Party Opinion



- Sustainalytics has issued a positive SPO on AIB's Green Bond Framework,
- SPO includes an **EU Taxonomy Alignment Assessment**

### Updated – Nov 2022

#### Second-Party Opinion

### **AIB Green Bond Framework**

#### **Evaluation Summary**

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the AIB Green Bond Framework is credible and impactful and aligns with the four core components of the Green Bond Principles 2021. This assessment is based on the following:



USE OF PROCEEDS The eligible categories for the use of proceeds – Green Buildings, Renewable Energy and Clean Transportation – are aligned with those recognized by the Green Bond Principles 2021. Sustainalytics considers that the provision of financing in the eligible categories will lead to positive environmental impacts and advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDGs 7, 9 and 11.



**PROJECT EVALUATION / SELECTION** AIB's Group Sustainability Committee will be responsible for overseeing the process of selecting eligible green loans according to the criteria set in the Framework prepared by the AIB ESG Bond Working Group. AIB has a dedicated environmental and social risk assessment and mitigation process that is applicable to all allocation decisions made under the Framework. Sustainalytics considers the project selection process to be in line with market practice.



MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS AIB intends to manage the net proceeds in a portfolio approach and allocate the proceeds from the green bonds to the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio. Pending allocation, AIB will hold or invest in its treasury liquidity portfolio in cash or other short term and liquid instruments or pay back a portion of its outstanding indebtedness. AIB intends to allocate the proceeds at issuance. Sustainalytics considers this to be in line with market practice.



REPORTING AIB intends to report on the allocation of proceeds to the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio on an annual basis, to be renewed every year until maturity of the instruments or full allocation. In addition, where feasible, AIB intends to report on the impact of the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio at least at category level, including relevant quantitative metrics, calculated by third-party consultants. Sustainalytics views AIB's allocation and impact reporting as aligned with market practice.



Issuer Location Dublin, Ireland		Dublic locked
	Issuer Location	Dublin, Ireland

November 18,

**Evaluation Date** 

Sustainalytics' Opinior

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#### **EU Taxonomy**

Sustainalytics has assessed AIB's Green Bond Framework for alignment with the EU Taxonomy. The Framework's three use of proceeds categories map to 12 EU activities. Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the Framework categories are aligned with the applicable Technical Screening Criteria (TSC) of nine EU activities and partially aligned with three. Regarding the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) Criteria, the Framework categories were assessed as aligned with DNSH criteria for eight EU activities and partially aligned with the DNSH criteria for the remaining four activities. Sustainalytics is also of the opinion that the activities and projects to be financed under the Framework will be carried out in alignment with the EU Taxonomy's Minimum Safeguards.



Use of Proceeds: The eligible categories for the use of proceeds are aligned with those recognized by the Green Bond Principles 2021. Sustainalytics considers that the eligible categories will lead to positive environmental impacts and advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDGs 7, 9 and 11



Project Evaluation and Selection: Sustainalytics considers the project selection process to be in line with market practice



Management of Proceeds: AIB intends to manage the net proceeds in a portfolio approach and allocate the proceeds from the green bonds to the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio. Pending allocation, AIB will hold or invest in its treasury liquidity portfolio in cash or other short term and liquid instruments or pay back a portion of its outstanding indebtedness. AIB intends to allocate the proceeds at issuance. Sustainalytics considers this to be in line with market practice.



**Reporting:** AIB intends to report on the allocation of proceeds to the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio on an annual basis, to be renewed every year until maturity of the instruments. In addition, where feasible, AIB intends to report on the impact of the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio at least at category level, including relevant quantitative metrics, calculated by specialist third-party consultants. **Sustainalytics views AIB's allocation and impact reporting as aligned with market practice** 

# EU Taxonomy Assessment – FY22







Eligible Green Category	Green Buildings (Residential & Commercial)	Renewak (Energy Generation, S	Clean Transportation (Electric Vehicles)	
Geography	Ireland & UK	Ireland & UK Other (EEA & US) 74% of Renewables 26% of Renewables		Ireland
Technical Screening Criteria	Partial Alignment <sup>1</sup>	Partial Alignment <sup>3</sup>		Aligned
Do No Significant Harm	Partial Alignment <sup>2</sup>	Partial Alignment <sup>4</sup>		Aligned
Minimum Social Safeguards	Aligned	Alig	gned	Aligned

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Partial Alignment is considered for buildings selected via certification schemes (e.g. LEED/BREEAM) - these certifications are currently not considered under the EU Taxonomy. We expect the certification schemes to publish information relating to the extent of alignment to the EU Taxonomy in the near future.

The above matrix relates only to the Eligible Green Assets included in the Green Bond Portfolio as of FY22. For Sustainalytics' assessment on EU Taxonomy alignment for all Use of Proceeds categories contained within the Framework, see Sustainalytics' SPO here.

Separately, ≥2021 built buildings have been confirmed to have met the relevant NZEB-10% threshold in the Irish context via BER labels. Sustainalytics note that the criteria for NZEB is currently undefined in the UK context, hence there is no practical method for verifying compliance with the EU Taxonomy for these buildings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For buildings built ≥2021 that are >5000m<sup>2</sup>, the EU Taxonomy describes extra requirements relating to i. ensuring such buildings retain suitable thermal integrity via 'robust and traceable quality control processes', and ii. the calculation of a 'Global Warming Potential' for each life cycle stage of the building (expressed as kgCO2e/m2). AIB's Green Portfolio partially conforms with these requirements. AIB currently lacks the relevant data needed to prove this GWP requirement and is in the process of obtaining it for relevant buildings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3 & 4</sup> Full alignment is achieved for ~95% of the renewable energy assets in the Green Portfolio. Partial alignment for US based Renewable assets.

# External Review: Independent Limited Assurance

AlB

For the year ended 31 December 2022

# **Independent Limited Assurance Report to AIB**

AIB engaged Mazars¹ to provide a limited assurance report² in respect of Reported Information, pertaining to the allocation to eligible assets of an amount equal to bond proceeds of €3.25bn of Green Bond issuance, as provided for in AIB's Green Bond Framework for year ended 31 December 2022.

## **Mazars' Responsibilities**

Mazars are responsible for:

Planning and performing the engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the 'Reported Information' for the year ended 31 December 2022 has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Section 6 (Reporting) of AIB's Green Bond Framework; Forming an independent conclusion, based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained; and Reporting conclusion to AIB.

### **Work Performed**

Mazars were required to plan and perform work in order to consider the risk of material misstatement of Reported Information. In doing so, they:

Conducted interviews with management and examined relevant documentation to obtain an understanding of the key processes, systems and controls in place over the preparation of the Allocation Report.

Performed selected substantive testing of project files against eligibility criteria.

Performed selected substantive testing of accounting and other relevant records.

Reviewed the extraction of Allocation Report information from the Green asset portfolio.

Reviewed the Allocation Report for consistency with relevant bond issuance documentation.

Reviewed listing of assets used in the Impact models for consistency with the Green asset portfolios.

### Conclusion

performed and evidence obtained, nothing has come to the attention of Mazars that causes them to believe that the 'Reported Information' for year ended 31 December 2022 has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Section 6 (Reporting) of AIB's Green Bond Framework. This conclusion is to be read in the context of what is stated in the remainder of our report.



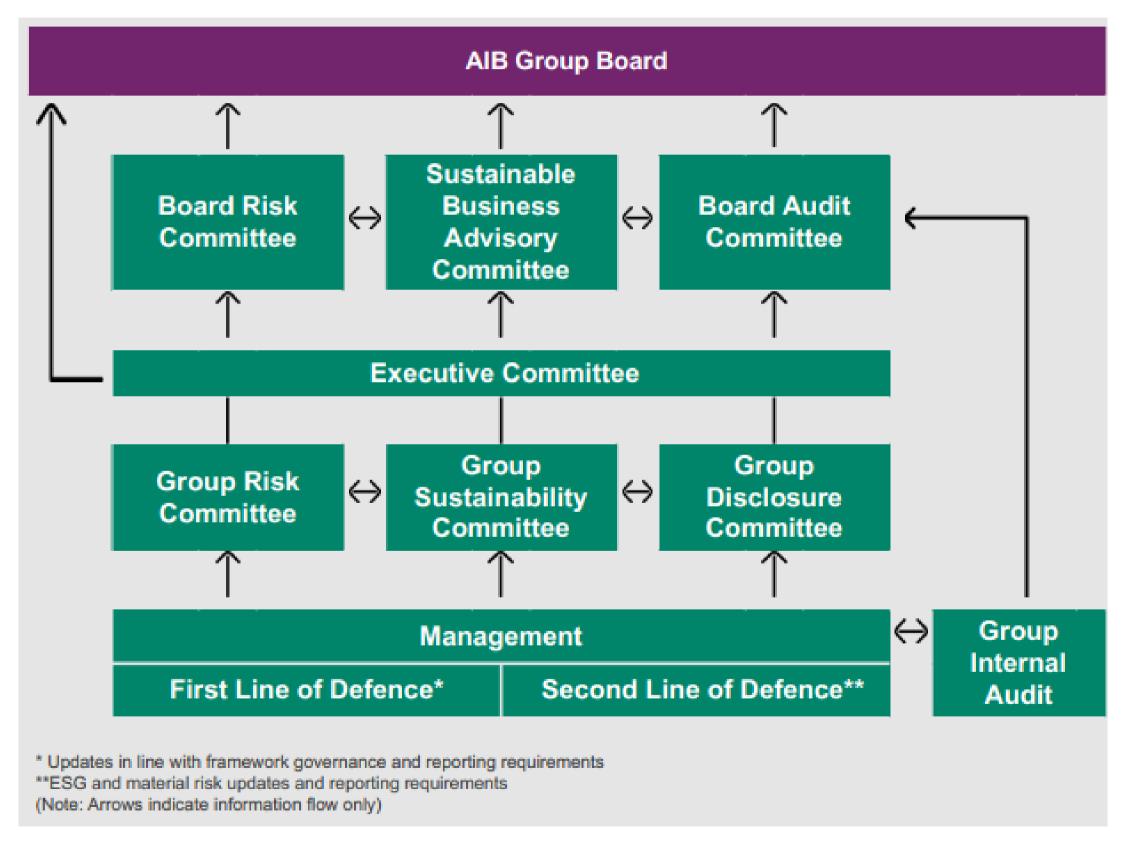
# Appendix



# **ESG Governance at AIB**



The responsibilities for the management and oversight of ESG activities are organized according to the Bank's governance and function structures.



**Board and Board Committees** The Board is responsible for promoting the long-term sustainable performance of the Group, setting the Group's strategic aims and risk appetite to support the strategy. The Board is responsible for approving the Group's strategic plans, capital investments and financial plans which includes the considerations of ESG and climate factors. The board ensures that an appropriate system of internal controls is maintained and appointed the Sustainable Business Advisory Committee (SBAC) to assist it in fulfilling its independent oversight responsibilities in relation to ESG matters.

### **Sustainable Business Advisory Committee (SBAC)**

The SBAC oversees the Group's performance as a sustainable business and delivery of AIB's sustainability strategy and is the overarching Board Advisory Committee responsible for the guidance of our sustainability agenda. It is chaired by an independent non-executive Director of AIB Group and meets at least four times in evert year and also convenes at regular intervals for ESG training.

### **Group Sustainability Committee (GSC)**

The GSC is a sub-committee and comprises of members of the Executive Committee in addition to senior stakeholders from across the business. It is tasked with the approval and oversight of aspects of the Group's Sustainable business strategy, including ESG activities, and how the Group responds to our ESG commitments. A key role of the committee is to review and assess current and emerging ESG risks and trends that may materially affect the business, operations, performance or reputation of the Group, and make recommendations to the SBAC on any matters requiring escalation. The GSC is chaired by the Chief Sustainability & Corporate Affairs Officer who is the bank's executive sponsor for Sustainability.

# COMMITMENTS, MEMBERSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

The below outlines a table of the key voluntary commitments made by AIB as relevant to our sustainability strategy and reporting.

AIB also partners with various community organisations on an ongoing basis





























	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT	STAKEHOLDERS	COUNTRIE S APPLIED	WEBSITE
World Economic Forum (WEF) Stakeholder Capitalism Metrics	2021	All	Group-wide	www.weforum.org
Equator Principles	2021	All	Group-wide	
Net Zero Banking Alliance	2021	All	Group-wide	
UN Global Compact	2021	All	Group-wide	www.unglobalcompact.org
Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)	2019	All	Group-wide	
The Valuable 500	2019	All	Group-wide	
United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) Principles for Responsible Banking	2019	All	Group-wide	
Low Carbon Pledge	2018	All	Ireland	www.bitc.ie/the-leaders-group-on-sustainablity/low-carbon-pledge/
Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)	2017	All	Group-wide	
Carbon Disclosures Project (CDP)	2014	All	Group-wide	
ISO 50001 (energy) and ISO 14001 (environmental) management	2014	All	Group-wide	www.iso.org
National Energy E ciency Action Plan	2010	All	Group-wide	www.gov.ie/neeap
Business in the Community Ireland	2002	All	Ireland	www.bitc.ie

# AIB also holds membership of the following, with roles and strategic relevance highlighted in the table

ASSOCIATION	GOVERNANC E POSITION	ACTIVE PARTICIPATIO N	FUNDING BEYOND MEMBERSHIP	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
Banking & Payments Federation of Ireland (BPFI)	Υ	Υ	N	Υ
European Banking Federation (through BPFI)	N	Υ	N	Υ
Irish Business and Employment Confederation (IBEC)	N	Υ	N	Υ
Irish Paper Clearing Company (IPCC)	Υ	Υ	N	Υ
Irish Payments Council (IPC)	Υ	Υ	N	Υ

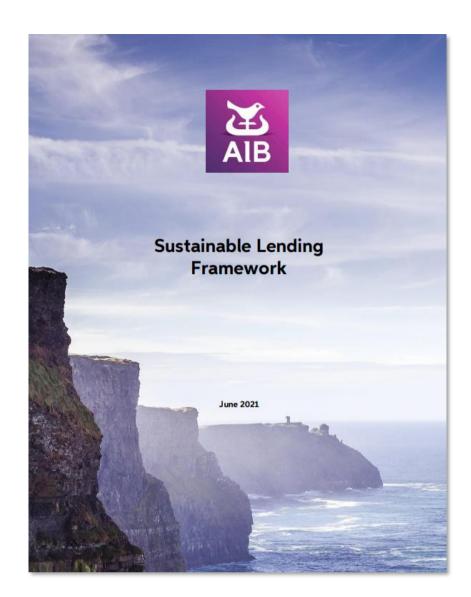
ASSOCIATION	GOVERNANC E POSITION	ACTIVE PARTICIPATIO N	FUNDING BEYOND MEMBERSHIP	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
UK Finance	N	Υ	N	Υ
UNEP Finance Initiative	N	Υ	N	Υ
30% Club	N	Υ	N	Υ
Open Doors	N	Υ	N	Υ
Institute of Bankers (IOB)		Υ	N	Υ

# Sustainable Lending Framework (SLF)

• Our SLF enables the classification of customer loans as green, social or transition. The SLF was developed to provide transparency on the criteria that AIB employs in reporting on green and transition lending helping us achieve our lending ambitions — green and transition products will account for 70% of new lending by 2030. It is based on industry best practice, and is aligned, where applicable, to the EU Taxonomy regulation and will evolve as the EUT develops.

### • Benefits:

- Enables governance structure around green product offerings & tagging green assets proactively as soon as they
  enter the balance sheet
- Manage climate risks in a more targeted way, improving non-financial risk profile
- Boost generation of green assets, as well as to institutionalise sustainable information gathering.



Green and Transition Lending – contributing to 70% new lending target

Use of proceeds lending (linking to a dedicated economic activity or project)

#### "Green"

Loan is used to finance specific activity which is defined in the list of projects / activities listed as "green" in the framework and meet eligibility criteria

#### E.

- A loan for manufacturing products, components or machinery essential for renewable energy (e.g. solar power, wind energy)
- A loan for manufacturing low carbon transport vehicles

#### "Transition"

Loan is used to finance specific activity which is defined in the list of projects / activities listed as "transition" in the framework and meet eligibility criteria

#### E.g.

- · A loan for retrofitting a building
- A loan for upgrading the energy efficiency of vehicle fleets

### General Purpose lending (linking to the borrowing company's profile)

#### "Green"

Loan is used to finance a company whose revenues can be 90% attributable to activities listed as "green" in the framework and meet eligibility criteria

#### E.g.

A solar energy company whose revenues are derived solely from the production and distribution of solar energy

#### "Transition"

Loan used to finance a company which is able to demonstrate a credible and measurable plan to transition to low carbon / carbon neutral

#### E.g.

- A dairy farm that has plans to introduce carbon reducing technologies
- A energy company that has a plan to transition from fossil to renewable energy sources and has an appropriate carbon reduction target

# New green and transition lending 70% by 2030



Green lending as % of all new lending

lending, with significant progress in both Green Mortgages and in finance for Green Buildings & Renewable Energy.

2022 represented a strong year for new green

In 2022, new green lending represented 26% of all new lending in the Group (2021: 19%).

### New green lending



Note: Green lending figures are subject to rounding.

New green lending in AIB was €3.3bn in 2022 (2021: €2.0bn). It is primarily comprised of finance for new Green Buildings & Renewable Energy and new Green Mortgages.

In 2022 new Green Mortgages accounted for €1.3bn (2021: €0.7bn) and new Green Buildings & Renewable Energy for €1.9bn (2021: €1.3bn). New Green Mortgages represented 28% of all new Mortgage Lending across the Group. The increase in new Green Mortgages has been driven by our product offerings for EBS and Haven. For Renewables & Green Buildings we continue to see strong business momentum as demand for green finance grows.

Transition plan assessment required on a case by case basis

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