

# Second-Party Opinion FMO Sustainability Bond Framework 2018

# **Evaluation Summary**

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework 2018 is credible and impactful and aligns with the Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018. This assessment is based on the following:



**USE OF PROCEEDS** The eligible categories for the use of proceeds – (i) Climate Change Mitigation, (ii) Climate Change Adaptation, (iii) Other Footprint, (iv) Investments in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and (v) Investments in Inclusive Business – are aligned with those recognized by the Green Bond Principles 2018, Social Bond Principles 2018 and Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018. Sustainalytics recognizes that the eligible projects can contribute to decreasing GHG emissions and provide positive social impact in emerging markets. In addition, they will contribute to advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



**PROJECT EVALUTION / SELECTION** FMO implemented a two-step process for the selection of eligible projects, namely an initial classification by its deal team as 'green' or 'reduced inequality' (depending on the nature of the project) and a validation process by the FMO "Development Impact Sustainability team." FMO includes environmental and social risk assessments in the first step of its project selection process. Sustainalytics views this process as in line with market best practice.



**MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS** FMO's management of proceeds process is aligned with market practice as the bank will hold the net proceeds of any issuance in a separate sub-portfolio linked to FMO's green finance and inclusive finance lending operations. Pending allocation, the net proceeds will be held in FMO's liquidity portfolio. The bank intends to fully allocate the bond proceeds no later than 24 months post issuance date.



**REPORTING** FMO commits to providing investors with an annual allocation and impact newsletter.<sup>1</sup> (i) The allocation reporting will cover progress on the allocation of proceeds on a portfolio basis, along with case studies, while the (ii) impact reporting will cover portfolio-wide estimation on the annual GHG emissions reduction for is direct investments and an estimate number of direct and indirect jobs supported per each target group for all investments. Sustainalytics considers the reporting to be aligned with market practice but encourages FMO to also report on the impact of indirect investments through intermediaries or private equity funds.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FMO website: https://www.fmo.nl/sustainability-bonds



# Introduction

FMO is the Dutch development bank founded in 1970 by the Dutch Government. With operations in over 80 countries, FMO provides financing for businesses, projects and financial institutions in developing and emerging markets, with the aim of supporting sustainable, private sector development. In general, FMO's activities focus on having a large, long-term impact in the following areas: financial institutions; energy; and agribusiness, food and water.

FMO has developed the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework (the "Framework"), which is an update to the 2017 FMO Sustainability Bond Framework, under which it is planning to issue green, social and sustainability bonds and use the proceeds to finance, in whole or in part, existing and future projects that have a positive environmental impact and social projects aimed at reducing inequality. The Framework defines eligibility criteria in five areas:

- 1. Climate Change Mitigation
- 2. Climate Change Adaptation
- 3. Other Footprint (such as water and waste management, biodiversity)
- 4. Investments in the Least Developed countries (LDCs))
  - a. Agriculture
  - b. Energy
  - c. Financial institutions
- 5. Investments in inclusive business
  - a. Microfinance
  - b. Women Owned SMEs (WSME)
  - c. Gender
  - d. Agricultural SMEs
  - e. Smallholder finance
  - f. Agribusiness with smallholders
  - g. Off-grid power
  - h. Innovative solutions for the base of the pyramid (BOP)
  - i. Youth finance

FMO engaged Sustainalytics to review the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework and provide a second-party opinion on the alignment of the green \ social \ sustainability bond proceeds with the Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018 (the "SBG"),<sup>2</sup> as administered by the International Capital Market Association (the "ICMA"),<sup>3</sup> and the Framework's environmental and social credentials. This Framework has been published in a separate document.<sup>4</sup>

As part of this engagement, Sustainalytics held conversations with various members of FMO's Development Impact and Sustainability department and Treasury to understand the sustainability impact of their business processes and planned use of proceeds, as well as management of proceeds and reporting aspects of FMO's green \ social \ sustainability bonds. Sustainalytics also reviewed relevant public documents and non-public information.

This document contains Sustainalytics' opinion of the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework and should be read in conjunction with that Framework.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sustainability Bonds are aligned with the four core components of both the Green Bond Principles and Social Bond Principles, with the former being especially relevant to underlying Green Projects and the latter to underlying Social Projects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ICMA's Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018 https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/sustainability-bond-guidelines-sbg/ <sup>4</sup> FMO website: https://www.fmo.nl/sustainability-bonds

# Sustainalytics' Opinion

# Section 1: Sustainalytics' Opinion on the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework

# Summary

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework is credible and impactful and aligns with the four core components of the Green Bond Principles 2018, Social Bond Principles 2018 and Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018. Sustainalytics highlights the following elements of FMO's Sustainability Bonds Framework:

Use of Proceeds:

- The activities eligible under the use of proceeds categories (i) climate change mitigation, (ii) climate change adaptation, (iii) other footprint, (iv) investments in the poorest countries and (v) investments in inclusive business are aligned with those categories recognized as impactful by the Green Bond Principles, the Social Bond Principles and the Sustainability Bond Guidelines. A full list of eligible activities is disclosed in Appendix 1.
- Sustainalytics welcomes that FMO has clearly defined target populations for the social use of proceeds categories, using the IFC's definition and proxies for micro, small and medium sized enterprises.<sup>5</sup> Investments in the reduced inequality category focus on projects in least developed countries or targeting access to essential goods and services for people at the Base of the Pyramid (BOP),<sup>6</sup> which Sustainalytics views as impactful. More information on the impact of the eligible projects are provided in section 3.
- In its green categories, FMO uses amongst others a selection of third-party verified sustainable certification systems. While some of the certification schemes have received criticism related to the implementation and control of standards, Sustainalytics considers the schemes to be credible and impactful. A full analysis is available in Appendix 2.
- FMO intends to use the proceeds to (i) refinance existing projects or to repay a bond note issued under the Framework and (ii) to finance future projects or projects committed to but not disbursed before issuance of the respective thematic bond. While FMO does not disclose a lookback period for refinancing, the bank commits to reporting on the share of proceeds dedicated to new and existing projects.

Project Evaluation and Selection:

• FMO has implemented a two-step process for the selection of eligible projects, namely an initial classification by its deal team as 'green' or 'reduced inequality' (depending on the nature of the project) and a validation process by the FMO "Development Impact Sustainability team." FMO includes environmental and social risk assessments in the first step of its project selection process. Sustainalytics views this process to be aligned with market best practice.

Management of Proceeds:

• FMO's management of proceeds process is aligned with market practices as the bank will hold the net proceeds of any issuance in a separate sub-portfolio linked to FMO's green finance and inclusive finance lending operations. Pending allocation, the net proceeds will be held in FMO's liquidity portfolio. The bank intends to fully allocate the bond proceeds no later than 24 months post issuance date. Sustainalytics views this process as in line with market practice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> IFC, verifying accuracy of IFC'S SME Measurement, 2013:

https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/635f64804efbe2b18ef5cf3eac88a2f8/IFC\_Factsheet\_SME\_Loan+Size+Proxy\_Brief.pdf?MOD=AJPERES <sup>6</sup> FMO defines BOP as the portion of the global population that lives on less than USD 8 per day in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms or lacks access to basic goods, services, and income. FMO uses proxies for defining the BOP namely the un(der)banked, the unconnected / poorly connected, smallholder farmers and rural populations, youth, women.



## Reporting:

- Aligned with market practice, FMO commits to report on an annual basis on the allocation of proceeds to new and existing projects and allocation of proceeds to green and social categories in a newsletter on its website.
- Regarding impact reporting, FMO commits to report the estimated annual GHG emission reduction of the financed direct investments and the estimated number of direct and indirect jobs financed for its investments. Sustainalytics suggest to also include reporting on the target population of social projects financed and to report on impact of its indirect investments.

## Alignment with Social Bond Principles, Green Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018

Sustainalytics has determined that FMO's sustainability bond proceeds/transactions align with the four core components of the Green Bond Principles 2018, Social Bond Principles 2018 and Sustainability Guidelines. For detailed information please refer to Appendix 3: Sustainability Bond/ Sustainability Bond Programme External Review Form.

# Section 2: Sustainability Performance of FMO

# Contribution of Framework to FMO's sustainability mandate

FMO was founded by the Dutch government as a development bank focussed on providing financing for businesses, projects and financial institutions in developing and emerging markets, with the aim of supporting sustainable, private sector development. Given its mandate, Sustainalytics is of the opinion that FMO is well positioned to issue sustainability bonds and that the issuance will align with FMO's mandate.

# Well positioned to address common environmental and social risks associated with the projects

Sustainalytics recognizes that due to its mandate for private sector development and subsequent focus on developing and emerging economies, FMO is particularly exposed to social and environmental risks associated with the projects. While FMO's use of proceed categories are aligned with those recognized by the Green and Social Bond Principles, Sustainalytics acknowledges that the underlying projects may be exposed to environmental risks related to environmental impacts of agriculture, land change, large scale renewable energy facilities and infrastructure. Social risks surround exposure to human rights violations in emerging economies or least developed countries.

However, Sustainalytics considers FMO's policies and due diligence efforts to be in line with international best practices, strengthening the bank's ability to address and mitigate social and environmental risks in its portfolio. Sustainalytics highlights the following risk mitigation measures by FMO:

- (i) FMO has an extensive exclusion list to avoid financing businesses involved in destruction of high conservation value, unsustainable fishing methods, tobacco, weapons, munition, gambling, forced labour or child labour, ozone depleting substances, PCB's, wildlife or products regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species or Wild Fauna and Flora, pornography and/or prostitution, racist and/or anti-democratic media, nuclear energy, fossil fuels, biofuel from sources that deplete carbon pools and compete with food sources, and transport dedicated to fossil fuel.
- (ii) FMO performs for all its investments thorough social and environmental assessments prior to providing (direct or indirect) financing (E&S risks management procedures: (i.e. site visits, consultants, E&S action plans, contractual agreements, monitoring). All projects are required to comply with strong social and environmental criteria, in alignment with the strict IFC Environmental and Social Performance Standards.<sup>7</sup> These standards are recognized as best practice internationally, and Sustainalytics considers this due diligence level of particular importance given FMO's involvement in developing and emerging markets, where the environmental and social risks associated with the projects are potentially greater.
- (iii) FMO limits green \ sustainability bond financing to run of river hydro without storage, limiting risk related to community relations and land change related to large reservoir hydro plants.
- (iv) FMO excludes the financing of energy efficiency in fossil fuel-based technology and to Sustainalytics' knowledge does not include projects that pose a risk of fossil fuel lock-in.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> FMO Sustainability Policy, Approved by FMO's Management Board on 23 December 2016 for implementation: https://www.fmo.nl/policies-and-position-statements

# Section 3: Impact of Use of Proceeds

All five use of proceeds categories are recognized as impactful by the GBP. Sustainalytics has focused on the two social categories below, which were newly added to the FMO Sustainability Framework 2018.

# Contribution of inclusive business investments for socio economic-empowerment and reducing social inequalities

FMO intends to use part of the bonds' proceeds to finance inclusive business activities, which FMO defines as expanding the access to goods or services which improve the living conditions of people at the base-ofthe-pyramid ('BOP). Sustainalytics highlights the strong alignment of FMO's BOP definition covering the underbanked, unconnected or poorly connected, smallholder farmers and rural populations, youth and women living with less than USD 8 per day in purchasing power parity ('PPP') with both IFC's PPP threshold<sup>8</sup> and ICMA's Social Bond Principles target populations.<sup>9</sup> Studies by the World Bank and the IFC indicate that more than four billion low-income individuals are expected to increase their PPP to an estimated USD 5 trillion market<sup>10</sup> mainly due to the socio-economic benefits created by inclusive-market based approaches. As such, inclusive oriented business models are considered catalysts for the inclusion of BOP into the formal global economy via the transformation of low-income individuals into participants of local, regional and global markets as customers and suppliers.<sup>11</sup>

Sustainalytics considers that FMO's investments into the expansion of inclusive business activities will contribute toward a meaningful reduction of the unmet needs of the people comprising the BOP in terms of socio-economic empowerment, affordable food and nutrition, energy, water, housing, access to finance, ICT services, education, health, clothing and personal care, as well as transport.

## Contribution of investments in LDCs to improve access to basic services

FMO intends to invest part of the bonds' proceeds toward financing segments of the private energy sector (wind, solar, run-of-river hydro, off grid solutions and energy efficiency improvements), financial institutions (SME banks, microfinance, leasing companies, insurance and fintech) and agribusinesses (inputs, primary production, processing, trade and distribution) in least developed countries as defined by the United Nations (UN).<sup>12</sup> The definition of least developed countries (LDC) takes into consideration the following indicators, which reflect long-term structural difficulties:

- GDP per capita
- The health of the population measured as under-five mortality rate, percentage of population undernourished and maternal mortality ratio
- Education of the population measured by gross secondary school enrolment ratio and adult literacy rate
- Economic vulnerability measured by an exposure index (population, remoteness, merchandise export concentration, share of agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing in GDP and share of population living in low elevated coastal zones) and shock index (instability of exports of goods and services, victims of natural disasters and instability of agricultural production)

Given that access to modern energy is one of the main challenges of LDC, with average electrification varying from 30% in African LDCs to 73.6% in the Asia Pacific LDCs (2016 data),<sup>13</sup> Sustainalytics considers FMO's investments in the energy sector to contribute to sustainable electrification in LDCs to be meaningful in the local context. Moreover, access to financial services such as savings accounts, debit cards or credit are still

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Inclusive Business at IFC, document and definition available at: <u>https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/53e7f5f0-2ee4-40ca-a331-2aed7d182991/iBiz+2-pager\_FY17.pdf?MOD=AJPERES</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> ICMA's Social Bond Principles and target populations available at: <u>https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/social-bond-principles-sbp/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Next 4 Billion, Market Size and Business Strategy at the Base of the Pyramid, document available at:

https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/3c2787004cc75e6094d7b59ec86113d5/Pub\_009\_The%2BNext%2B4%2BBillion.pdf?MOD=AJPERES <sup>11</sup> Inclusive Business and IFC, document available at: <u>https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/53e7f5f0-2ee4-40ca-a331-2aed7d182991/iBiz+2-pager\_FY17.pdf?MOD=AJPERES</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> United Nations, Least developed Countries, accessed December 2018: https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/least-developed-country-category.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> United Nations, Energy access and main challenges in the LDCs, April 2018: https://www.un.org/ldcportal/energy-access-and-main-challenges-in-theldcs/



unavailable for many people in developing countries, with two billion people worldwide lacking access to regulated financial services (2015 data),<sup>14</sup> indicating the importance of financial institutions in LDCs.

In addition, agriculture is the main sector of the LDC economies and underpins food security, export earnings and rural development.<sup>15</sup> FAO studies name low productivity, rigid production and trade structures, a limited skills base, poor infrastructure, and inadequate institutional and policy frameworks amongst others as reasons hampering LDCs' ability to compete in world markets and in their home markets, leading to rising food import bills.<sup>16</sup> Agriculture accounts for 40–80% of employment in LDCs, with an average of 60%, as well as 25% of value added in their economies.<sup>17</sup> Given the importance of agriculture in food security and economic development of LDCs, Sustainalytics is of the opinion that FMO's financing in the agricultural sector can contribute to food security, employment and international competitiveness.

Overall given the credible sources used for its definition of LDCs and the named focus sectors, Sustainalytics believes that FMO's investments in LDCs are well-positioned to contribute to a positive social impact.

## Alignment with/contribution to SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were set in September 2015 and form an agenda for achieving sustainable development by the year 2030. The green \ social \ sustainability bonds advance the following SDG goals and targets:

Use of Proceeds Category	SDG	SDG target
Climate Change Mitigation	7. Affordable and Clean Energy	7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
	9. Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
	11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
	13. Climate Action	13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
Climate Change Adaptation	13. Climate Action	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate- related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
Other Footprint	6. Clean Water and Sanitation	6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
	12. Responsible consumption and Production	12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
Investments in the poorest countries &	1. No Poverty	1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/five-challenges-prevent-financial-access-people-developing-countries

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Commodities and Trade Division Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, The Role of Agriculture In The Development of Least-Developed Countries and Their Integration Into the World Economy, 2002: http://www.fao.org/3/a-y3997e.pdf <sup>16</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> United Nations Conference on Trade A nd Development, The Least Developed Countries Report 2015: https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/ldc2015\_en.pdf



	and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
2. Zero Hunger	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round
5. Gender Equality	5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
10. Reduced Inequalities	10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average
17. Partnerships for the Goals	17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection
	<ul> <li>5. Gender Equality</li> <li>8. Decent Work and Economic Growth</li> <li>10. Reduced Inequalities</li> <li>17. Partnerships for</li> </ul>

# Conclusion

FMO developed the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework, an update to the 2017 FMO Sustainability Bond Framework, under which it is planning to issue green, social and sustainability bonds and use the proceeds to finance projects that have a positive environmental impact and social projects aimed at reducing inequality. The proceeds will be used to refinance existing projects, repay a bond note issued under the Framework or to finance future projects or projects committed to but not disbursed before issuance of the respective thematic bond.

The eligible categories for the use of proceeds (i) Climate Change Mitigation, (ii) Climate Change Adaptation, (iii) Other Footprint, (iv) Investments in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), (v) Investments in Inclusive Business are aligned with those recognized by the Green Bond Principles 2018, Social Bond Principles 2018 and Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018. Sustainalytics considers that the eligible projects can contribute to decreasing GHG emissions and provide positive social impact in emerging markets. FMO uses recognized definitions of target populations, including base-of-the-pyramid populations, LDCs, SMEs and Micro enterprises for its social investments.

In addition, Sustainalytics considers FMO's processes for project selection and evaluation to be aligned with market best practice and considers FMO's management of proceeds and allocation reporting to be aligned with market practice. While FMO reports impact on its direct investments, Sustainalytics encourages FMO to report also on the impact of indirect investments through intermediaries and private equity funds. Based on the above, Sustainalytics considers the FMO Sustainability Bonds Framework to be credible and transparent.

# Appendices

# Appendix 1: List of eligible criteria

Renewable	
nergy	Mender survey
	Wind power
	Realization of geothermal power generation - no net positive impact     established yet
	<ul> <li>Realization of geothermal power generation (&lt;100g CO2/kWh) - net positive impact needs to be established</li> </ul>
	Solar power (concentrated solar power, photovoltaic power)
	<ul> <li>Biomass or biogas power that does not decrease biomass and soil carbon pools (only if net emission reductions can be demonstrated)</li> </ul>
1.1 Electricity Generation	<ul> <li>Realization of 2nd generation waste biomass or biogas power generation (ie. From agri waste or landfills) because it does not decrease biomass and soil carbon pools (preferably with demonstrated expected annual GHG avoidance)</li> </ul>
	Ocean power (wave, tidal, ocean currents, salt gradient, etc.)
	<ul> <li>Realization hydropower generation with Power Density (installed capacity / inundated area) &gt; 4 W/m2 and power plants producing &lt; 20MW</li> <li>Run-off river hydro power generation without storage</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Solar water heating and other thermal applications of solar power in all sectors</li> </ul>
1.2 Heat Production or	<ul> <li>Thermal applications of geothermal power in all sectors (&lt;100g C02/kWh)</li> </ul>
other	Wind-driven pumping systems or similar
renewable energy application	<ul> <li>Thermal applications of sustainably produced bioenergy in all sectors, incl. efficient, improved biomass stoves (excluding bioenergy derived from sources that deplete terrestrial carbon pools or compete with food sources)</li> </ul>
1.3 Transmission	<ul> <li>New transmission systems (lines, substations) or new systems (e.g., new information and communication technology, storage facility, etc.) and mini grid to facilitate the integration of renewable energy sources into the grid</li> </ul>
systems,	Renewable energy power plant retrofits
greenfield	<ul> <li>Improving existing systems to facilitate the integration of renewable energy sources into grid</li> </ul>
Lower-carbon nd efficient nergy generation	
2.1 Transmission and distribution systems	• Retrofit of transmission lines or substations and/or distribution systems to reduce energy use and/or technical losses, excluding capacity expansion
2.2 Power	Waste heat recovery improvements.
Plants	Energy-efficiency improvement in existing bioenergy plants
. Energy fficiency	
3.1 Brownfield energy	<ul> <li>Industrial energy-efficiency improvements through the installation of more efficient equipment, changes in processes, reduction of heat losses and/or</li> </ul>



efficiency in industry	increased waste heat recovery (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)
	<ul> <li>Installation of co-generation plants that generate electricity in addition to providing heating/cooling (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>
	More efficient facility replacement of an older facility (old facility retired)     (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)
3.2 Brownfield	<ul> <li>Energy-efficiency improvement in lighting, appliances and equipment</li> </ul>
energy efficiency in commercial, public and	<ul> <li>Substitution of existing heating/cooling systems for buildings by co/generation plants that generate electricity in addition to providing heating/cooling (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>
residential sectors (buildings)	• Retrofit of existing buildings: Architectural or building changes that enable reduction of energy consumption
3.3 Brownfield	<ul> <li>Energy-efficiency improvement in utilities and public services through the installation of more efficient lighting or equipment (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>
energy efficiency in	Rehabilitation of district heating systems
public services	Utility heat loss reduction and/or increased waste heat recovery
	<ul> <li>Improvement in utility scale energy efficiency through efficient energy use, and loss reduction (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>
3.4 Vehicle energy efficiency fleet retrofit	• Existing vehicles, rail or boat fleet retrofit or replacement (including the use of electric or hydrogen technologies, etc.)
3.5 Greenfield energy efficiency in commercial	<ul> <li>Use of highly efficient architectural designs, energy efficiency appliances and equipment, and building techniques that reduce building energy consumption, exceeding available standards and complying with high energy efficiency certification or rating schemes</li> </ul>
and residential sectors (buildings)	<ul> <li>Use of highly efficient architectural designs, energy efficiency appliances and equipment, and building techniques that reduce building energy consumption, exceeding available standards and complying with high energy efficiency certification or rating schemes</li> </ul>
3.6 Green	<ul> <li>Green Buildings certified by LEED (only LEED Gold or Platinum certification qualifies) or IFCs EDGE Tool<sup>18</sup></li> </ul>
Buildings	Green Buildings, not yet certified or certified under other schemes
3.7 Energy Audits	<ul> <li>Energy audits to energy end-users, including industries, buildings, and transport systems</li> </ul>
4. Agriculture, forestry and land use	
	<ul> <li>Reduction in energy use in traction (e.g. efficient tillage), irrigation, and other agriculture processes</li> </ul>
4.1 Agriculture	<ul> <li>Agriculture projects that do not deplete and/or improve existing carbon pools (Reduction in fertilizer use, rangeland management, collection and use of bagasse, rice husks, or other agricultural waste, low tillage techniques that increase carbon contents of soil, rehabilitation of degraded lands, etc.)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Projects or companies that lead to expanded sustainable/green output in line with one of the following certification schemes (company or project needs to be or become certified): UTZ Certified, Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB), The Intercultural Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), Proterra, Soil Association or Bonsucro.</li> </ul>
4.2 Afforestation and	<ul> <li>Sustainable forest management activities that increase carbon stocks or reduce the impact of forestry activities</li> </ul>

<sup>18</sup> IFC EDGE Tool: https://www.edgebuildings.com/

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reforestation, and biosphere conservation	<ul> <li>Biosphere conservation projects (including payments for ecosystem services) targeting reducing emissions from the deforestation or degradation of ecosystems</li> </ul>	
	FSC and/or PEFC Certification	
	Rainforest Alliance Certification	
4.3 Livestock	Livestock projects that reduce methane or other GHG emissions (manure management with biodigestors, etc.)	
4.4 Biofuels	• Production of biofuels (including biodiesel and bioethanol) (excluding from sources that deplete carbon pools or that compete with food sources)	
5. Non-energy GHG reductions		
5.3 Air conditioning and refrigeration	• Retrofit of existing industrial, commercial and residential infrastructure to switch to cooling agent with lower global warming potential	
5.4 Industrial	<ul> <li>Reduction in GHG emissions resulting from industrial process improvements and cleaner production (e.g. cement, chemical), excluding carbon capture and storage (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>	
processes	<ul> <li>Reduction in GHG emissions resulting from industrial process improvements and cleaner production (e.g. cement, chemical) demonstrated by &gt;20% GHG efficiency or resource efficiency improvemen (excluding investments in fossil fuel technology)</li> </ul>	
6. Waste and wastewater		
6.1 Wastewater	Treatment of wastewater if not a compliance requirement as part of an industrial process (only if net emission reductions can be demonstrated).	
	<ul> <li>Waste management and waste-to-energy projects that reduce methane emissions and generate energy (e.g. incineration of waste, landfill gas capture, and landfill gas combustion)</li> </ul>	
6.2 Waste	<ul> <li>Waste-recycling projects that recover or reuse materials and waste as inputs into new products or as a resource (only if net emission reductions can be demonstrated).</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Sanitation projects with proper waste treatment if it replaces open defecation.</li> </ul>	
7. Transport		
7.1 Urban	Urban mass transit	
transport modal change	Non-motorized transport (bicycles and pedestrian mobility)	
7.2 Transport oriented urban development	<ul> <li>Integration of transport and urban development planning (dense development, multiple land-use, walking communities, transit connectivity, etc.), leading to a reduction in the use of passenger cars</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Railway transport ensuring a modal shift of freight and/or passenger transport from road to rail (improvement of existing lines or construction on new lines) - no GHG avoidance estimate available (excluding transport dedicated to fossil fuels)</li> </ul>	
7.3 Inter-urban transport	• Waterways transport ensuring a modal shift of freight and/or passenger transport from road to waterways (improvement of existing infrastructure or construction of new infrastructure) - no GHG avoidance estimate available	
	<ul> <li>Railway or Waterways transport ensuring a modal shift of freight and/or passenger transport from road to rail or water (improvement of existing lines or construction of new lines) if 3rd party verified GHG avoidance</li> </ul>	



estimated aligning with the IFI harmonized GHG accounting approach for Transport Modal Shift<sup>19</sup>

8. Low-carbon technologies		
8.1 Products or equipment	<ul> <li>Projects producing and/or distributing components, equipment or infrastructure dedicated for the renewable and energy efficiency sectors</li> </ul>	
8.2 R&D	Research and development of renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies	
9. Cross-cutting		
issues	<ul> <li>Mitigation national, sectorial or territorial policies/planning/action plan policy/planning/institutions</li> </ul>	
9.1 Support to national, regional or	<ul> <li>Energy sector policies and regulations (energy efficiency standards or certification schemes; energy efficiency procurement schemes; renewable energy policies)</li> </ul>	
local policy, fully or partially	Systems for monitoring the emissions of greenhouse gases	
dedicated to climate change policy or action	<ul> <li>Education, training, capacity building and awareness raising on climate change mitigation/sustainable energy/sustainable transport; mitigation research</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Other policy and regulatory activities, including those in non-energy sectors, leading to climate change mitigation or mainstreaming of climate action</li> </ul>	
9.2 Other activities with net greenhouse gas reduction	• Any other activity not included in this list for which the results of an ex-ante greenhouse gas accounting (undertaken according to commonly agreed methodologies) show emission reductions	
	<ul> <li>Carbon Markets and finance (purchase, sale, trading, financing and other technical assistance. Includes all activities related to compliance-grade carbon assets and mechanisms, such as CDM, JI, <sup>20</sup> AAUs,<sup>21</sup> as well as well-established voluntary carbon standards like the VCS or the Gold Standard.</li> </ul>	
9.3 Financing	<ul> <li>Greenline financing for purely renewable energy and/or water/material/pollution/energy efficiency &gt;20% improvement (re)- financed through a financial intermediary (earmarked with use-of-funds clause)</li> </ul>	
instruments	<ul> <li>Greenline financing for non-renewable energy and non-energy efficiency financing through new financial intermediaries or similar (e.g. earmarked lines of credit; lines for microfinance institutions, cooperatives, etc.) (earmarked with use-of-funds clause)</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Greenline (co)-financing for renewable energy and energy efficiency (re-) financing through financial intermediaries that are existing Green Partners (Green for Growth Fund (GfGF)<sup>22</sup> and Climate Global Partnership Fund (CGPF)<sup>23</sup> (earmarked with use-of-funds clause)</li> </ul>	
Eligible activities unde	er climate change adaptation	
10. Climate Change Adaptation		
10.1 Activities Adressing Climate Vulnerability	• Activity or technology that addresses the local climate vulnerability by strengthening the resilience or communities, goods, or ecosystems to	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The IFI harmonized GHG accounting approach for Transport Modal Shift 2015: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/file\_attach/Joint-IFI-RE-GHG-Accounting-Approach.pdf

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> https://unfccc.int/process/the-kyoto-protocol/mechanisms
 <sup>21</sup> https://carbonmarketwatch.org/2012/05/30/ji-and-aau-surplus/

<sup>22</sup> https://www.ggf.lu/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> https://www.gcpf.lu/investing-in-renewable-energy-and-energy-efficiency.html



climate change (see the 'Adaptation Examples' tab or the MDB Climate Finance Report  $^{\rm 24}$  for examples)

11.1 Piodivorsity	<ul> <li>Financed activity is either contributing to conserving/increasing biodiversity, or the core business/aim of the project is to conserve or increase biodiversity</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<ul> <li>The transition to, or maintenance of, silvo-pastoral systems, if no conversion of natural land is involved.</li> </ul>
11.0 Dollution	<ul> <li>Financed activity is either contributing to pollution mitigation (beyond regulatory compliance) or the core business/aim of the project is to mitigate pollution (beyond regulatory compliance)</li> </ul>
11.2 Pollution mitigation	<ul> <li>Waste water treatment as the core business of the project (not part of specific industrial process)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Company's core business is cleaning up hazardous waste sites (ie. soil remediation and mine rehabilitation)</li> </ul>
11.3	<ul> <li>Financed activity is contributing to or the core aim of the project is to conserve natural resources (ie land, water, forests, materials)</li> </ul>
Conservation of natural	<ul> <li>Recycling /solid waste collection and treatment as the core business of the project</li> </ul>
resources	<ul> <li>Company's core business is the remanufacture of products (or extend thei lifecycle in other ways), servitisation or complete circular economy business models</li> </ul>

Table 2: Activities financed in least developed countries

Category	Eligibility	Definition
Agribusiness, food & water	<ul> <li>Inputs: Seeds, Animal feed, Fertilized</li> <li>Primary production: Crops, Livestock, Production, Fishing</li> <li>Processing: Crushing, Storage, Handling, Packaging</li> <li>Trade: Trading, Exporting</li> <li>Distribution: Logistics, to Retail</li> <li>Excluding activities that do not align with good agricultural practices or which contribute to deforestation.</li> </ul>	Investing across the agribusiness value chain – enhancing food security, supporting sustainability, efficient water usage, and promoting inclusive development
Energy	<ul> <li>Wind</li> <li>Solar</li> <li>Hydro (Run-of-river)</li> <li>Off-grid solutions</li> <li>Resource efficiency &amp;refurbishment</li> <li>Excluding investments in fossil fuel-based technologies</li> </ul>	Investing in long-term projects in the areas of generation and distribution – promoting the transition to a low-carbon system and safeguarding energy security.

<sup>24</sup> http://www.ebrd.com/2017-joint-report-on-mdbs-climate-finance



Financial Institutions	<ul> <li>SME Banks</li> <li>Microfinance</li> <li>Leasing companies (excluding leasing for fossil fuel technologies)</li> <li>Insurance companies</li> <li>FinTech</li> </ul>	Investing in long-term financing solutions, increasing access to finance and supporting financial inclusion
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# Table 3: Inclusive business definition and categories

Category	Eligibility	Definition
Microfinance	FMO's financing is earmarked for on lending to micro-enterprises	Micro-enterprise loans are defined as loans to businesses with an original loan amount < EUR 10,000
Agricultural SME lending	FMO's financing is earmarked for on-lending to agricultural SMEs.	Agricultural SMEs are defined as SMEs active in primary production or the agricultural value chain. Proxy for SME: loan size between EUR 10,000 and EUR 1,000,000.
Smallholder Finance	FMO's financing is earmarked for on-lending to smallholders.	Smallholder farmers are defined as marginal and sub-marginal farm households that own and/or cultivate relatively small plots of land, have low access to technology, limited resources in terms of capital, skills, and risk management, and depend on family labor for most activities. (FAO)
Agribusinesses working with smallholders	The agribusiness client: i. sources at least 30% of its inputs from smallholders AND ii. provides technical and/or financial support to its smallholder suppliers. Financing is earmarked to investments for inputs from smallholder farmers or technical and/or financial support to smallholder suppliers	Smallholder farmers are defined as marginal and sub-marginal farm households that own and/or cultivate relatively small plots of land, have low access to technology, limited resources in terms of capital, skills, and risk management, and depend on family labor for most activities. (FAO)
Youth Finance	FMO's financing is earmarked for young entrepreneurs or for youth- specific financial products/services (e.g. education loans).Youth is defined as people under 35.	Youth finance is defined as people under 35
Off-grid power	FMO's financing is earmarked for off- grid power	Off grid in energy means stand- alone power systems or mini-grids that provide energy to e.g. households, communities, businesses and agriculture in remote and/or peri-urban areas. It includes businesses active in a range of products and solutions, such as pico and solar home systems, as well as (improved) cook stoves, agricultural appliances and mini-grids
Innovative solutions for the BOP	Investments in businesses that use innovative models (including Fintech) to bring essential goods, services and livelihood opportunities to the BOP. At least 30% of the revenue of the business	The general FMO definition of inclusive business applies.



	comes (or is expected to come) from the BOP activity. Financing is earmarked to BOP activity.	
Gender: Women- owned SME	FMO's financing is earmarked for women-owned MSME lending.	A women-owned business is an enterprise which is: (a) at least for 51% owned by a woman or by women, or (b) (i) at least for 20% owned by a woman or by women, (ii). with a woman as CEO, COO, President or Vice President and (iii). if such enterprise has a board of directors, with at least 30% of such board of directors comprised of women. (IFC)
Gender: Other	The investment qualifies otherwise as an inclusive business investment AND at least 2/3 of the end-beneficiaries are women	As an example, an investment in a microfinance institution would qualify for the gender label if at least 2/3 of the clients of the MFI are women.
Inclusive business funds (equity or debt)	Investments in funds with at least 50% of their investments expected to be in inclusive businesses. Financing is earmarked to inclusive businesses.	Inclusive businesses are any of the categories of businesses defined above.

# Appendix 2: Assessment of Certifications

Sustainalytics has conducted an analysis of the certification schemes that are considered eligible under the FMO Sustainability Bond Framework 2018 regarding their minimum standards, social and environmental risk considerations related to the activities certified, verification of standards and risk mitigation, whether they include third -party expertise and a multi-stakeholder process and qualitative considerations.

able 4: Certification schemes eligible under the green categories				
	The Roundtable on	The Intercultural	UTZ Certified	
	Sustainable Biomaterials	Federation of Organic		
		Agriculture Movements		
Background	The Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) is an international initiative that promotes and supports the sustainability of biomaterials production and processing, bringing together companies, farmers, NGOs, and inter- governmental agencies. While the RSB was set up in 2007 as a means of ensuring the sustainability of liquid biofuels for transport, in 2013, it expanded its scope to include biomaterials.	The Intercultural Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) is an NGO that represents more than 160- member organizations, including farmers, producers, traders, research and lobby organizations, environmental and consumer NGOs and companies. Its main purpose is to promote knowledge, principles and practices about organic agriculture. The Family of Standards contains all standards endorsed as organic by the Organic	The UTZ Label is a global certification system for coffee, cocoa, tea and hazelnuts. The UTZ certification incorporates environmental, social, farm management and farming practices considerations. UTZ merged with Rainforest Alliance in January 2018.	
Clear positive impact	Promoting sustainable biomaterials.	Movement. Promoting sustainable practices for organic agriculture.	Promoting sustainable practices in Coffee, Cocoa Tea and Hazelnut farming and trading.	



Minimum standards	The RSB sets minimum requirements in the areas of legality, planning, monitoring and continuous improvement, GHG emissions, human and labour rights, rural and social development, local food security, conservation, soil, water and air management, use of technology, inputs and management of waste, land rights and chain of custody.	Each standard, which is a part of IFOAM, has its own set of minimum requirements.	UTZ establishes a minimum threshold for impact through mandatory points and additional points, and requires farmers to go beyond by demonstrating compliance with an increasingly large proportion of both mandatory and additional points.
Directly addressing social and environmental risk	The RBS certification addresses key risks such as human and labour rights, supply chain, resource management, and land and biodiversity use through its criteria.	The IFOAM standards addresses different risk, including such as soil, pesticide, synthetic fertilizers and land use, through its criteria.	UTZ addresses key risks such as human rights, child labor, pesticide use and biodiversity use through its criteria.
Verification of standards and risk mitigation	Certified entities undergo a self-assessment process and, afterward, receives a visit from a third-party auditor. Annual audits will also take place after the validation.	Certified entities undergo third-party verification according to the specific IFOAM standard.	Certified entities undergo third-party verification to ensure compliance with criteria and continuous improvement.
Third -party expertise and multi- stakeholder process	RSB is a full member of the ISEAL Alliance and respects its Codes of Good Practice for multi- stakeholder sustainability standards. RSB's benchmarks are available with Rainforest Alliance, the Sustainable Agriculture Network, the Forest Stewardship Council, Bonsucro and the IFC Performance standards.	IFOAM maintains an Organic Guarantee System, which is a non- profit independent evaluation program that provides customers with trusted organic labels. The Standards Requirements Committee is responsible for developing the IFOAM Standards Requirements (COROS), which serve as the basis for the approval of standards under the IFOAM Family of Standards. COROS was developed jointly by IFOAM, FAO and UNCTAD.	Standard setting is aligned with the ISEAL Standard Setting Code.
Performance Display	<b>RSB</b>	<b>IFOM</b> ORGANICS INTERNATIONAL	Better farming Better future
Accreditation	<ul> <li>ASI</li> <li>SGS Global Services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Argencert SA</li> <li>AsureQuality Limited</li> <li>Australian Certified Organic</li> <li>Bioagricert</li> </ul>	60 UTZ approved certification bodies split by country and by relevant commodity (coffee, cocoa, tea,



Qualitative considerations       The RSB certification is considered strong by organizations such as WWF, IUCN and NRDC. In 2017, RSB certified 50 industrial facilities and 56 784 hectares of farmland.	<ul> <li>Biocert International PVT Limited</li> <li>BIOGRO New Zealand LTD</li> <li>CCPB SRL</li> <li>Doalnara Certified Organic Korea, LLC</li> <li>Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre Certification Limited</li> <li>IBD Certifications Ltd.</li> <li>iCOOP Certification Center</li> <li>Japan Organic &amp; Natural Foods Association</li> <li>LETIS S.A.</li> <li>NASAA Certified Organic Pty. Ltd.</li> <li>Organic Agriculture Certification Thailand</li> <li>Organic Food Development &amp; Certification Center of China</li> <li>Organizacion Internacional Agropecuaria S.A</li> <li>Social Certification Services Pvt. Ltd</li> <li>In 2016, IFOAM was formed out of 40 governmental bodies, 297 companies and 245 civil society organizations. In total, IFOAM has around 800 affiliates in 117 countries.</li> </ul>	UTZ has been critized for lack of setting minimum wages crietria and for potentially allowing fro genetically modified coffee, even though these plants are not yet available. Global recognition across 131 countries around the world. There are 987,000 UTZ Certified farmers in the UTZ programme with more than 368,000 workers on the UTZ certified farms in 41 producing countries and more than 3.4 million hectares of UTZ certified crops. The UTZ name or label is present on more
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	Proterra	Soil Association	Bonsucro
Background	The Proterra Certification	The Soil Association is a UK	Bonsucro was developed
	is owned and	charity that has developed	out of the Better



	independently run under the Proterra Foundation umbrella.	the world's first organic certification system, now including standards for food and drink products, farming, beauty and wellbeing products, fashion and textiles products, forestry and food service.	Sugarcane Initiative, an international multi- stakeholder NGO whose purpose is to lower the environmental and social impacts of sugarcane production. The Bonsucro Production Standard aims to ensure that the sugarcane production and sugarcane derived products are sustainably produced.
Clear positive impact	Promoting sustainable soy production.	Promoting sustainable practices in farming and growing, abattoirs and slaughtering, livestock markets, fisheries, hides, leathers & skins, aquaculture, seaweed, food and drink, catering, forestry, health and beauty and textile products.	Promoting sustainable sugarcane production.
Minimum standards	<ul> <li>Proterra sets minimum standards in 5 areas as it follows:</li> <li>Protection of the Amazon and other High Conservation Value Areas</li> <li>Good labour practices including workplace safety, equal opportunities, protection of children and absence of forced or analogous forms of labour.</li> <li>Protection of the rights of communities, indigenous people, and small holders</li> <li>Good Agricultural Practices regarding soil fertility, water management and reduced input of fertilisers and pesticides</li> <li>Rigorous Non-GMO requirements (&lt;0.1% to adventitious 0.9% GMO maximum)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Soil Association sets minimum standards per each category on agricultural principles, environmental principles, food processing principles and social principles such as:</li> <li>limiting the types and quantities of pesticides and fertilizers used</li> <li>building soil fertility and soil stability, and</li> <li>maintaining and increasing ecological diversity within and around cropped land</li> <li>the respect of good traditional and pastoral grazing systems</li> <li>the respect and crop integration within the local climate and topography</li> </ul>	The Bonsucro Production Standard sets minimum requirements in the areas of legal compliance, biodiversity and ecosystem impacts, human rights, production and processing and continuous improvement.
Directly addressing social and environmental risk	Proterra directly addresses key risks such as environment protection, child labour, forced labour, indigenous peoples' rights, soil fertility, inclusion of GMOs.	The Soil Association directly addresses key risks such as environmental protection, chemicals use and the compliance with the UN Convention for Human Rights and the core standards of the International Labour	Bonsucro addresses key risks such as human and labour rights, ecosystem management, biodiversity and land use through its criteria.

		Organization (freedom to associate, the right to organize and the right to bargain collectively).	
Verification of standards and risk mitigation	Certified entities undergo third-party verification to ensure compliance with criteria and continuous improvement.	Certified entities undergo third-party verification to ensure compliance with criteria and continuous improvement. The Soil Association licenses every stage from production on the farm, through processing, to distribution to the consumer.	Certified entities undergo third-party audits to ensure compliance with criteria.
Third party expertise and multi- stakeholder process	Standard setting is aligned with the ISEAL Standard Setting Code.	Standard setting is aligned with the ISEAL Standard Setting Code.	Bonsucro is a full member of the ISEAL Alliance and respects the ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Setting Social and Environmental Standards and the Impacts Code.
Performance Display		NOS OF ANIC	BON
Accreditation	Food Chain ID	Soil Association Certification Ltd. (SACL)	<ul> <li>Cert-ID</li> <li>SGS</li> <li>Control Union</li> <li>SCS Global</li> <li>LRQA</li> </ul>
Qualitative considerations	Methodology and criteria not disclosed. No indication on the scope of applicability of the standard worldwide. Proterra poses restrictions on deforestation similar to those of the RTRS.	Soil Association Certification Ltd. (SACL) is one of the nine approved organic certification bodies in the UK, approved by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The Soil Association Certification is UK's leading organic certifier covering over 70% of organic	Bonsucro has certified around 3.37% of global sugarcane production and covers 3.70% of global area of sugarcane, having 207 member organizations ir over 20 countries. The standard is considred to establish minimum requirements rather than leasing practices.





# Appendix 3: Sustainability Bond / Sustainability Bond Programme - External Review Form

# Section 1. Basic Information

Issuer name:	FMO
Sustainability Bond ISIN or Issuer Sustainability Bond Framework Name, if applicable: [specify as appropriate]	FMO Sustainability Bond Framework
Review provider's name:	Sustainalytics
Completion date of this form:	December 2018
Publication date of review publication: <i>[where appropriate, specify if it is an update and add reference to earlier relevant review]</i>	FMO Sustainability Bond May 2017

# Section 2. Review overview

# SCOPE OF REVIEW

The following may be used or adapted, where appropriate, to summarise the scope of the review.

The review assessed the following elements and confirmed their alignment with the GBPs and SBPs:

$\boxtimes$	Use of Proceeds	$\boxtimes$	Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
X	Management of Proceeds	$\boxtimes$	Reporting

# ROLE(S) OF REVIEW PROVIDER

- $\boxtimes$  Consultancy (incl. 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion)  $\square$  Certification
- □ Verification □ Rating
- □ Other *(please specify)*:

Note: In case of multiple reviews / different providers, please provide separate forms for each review.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REVIEW and/or LINK TO FULL REVIEW (if applicable)

Please refer to Evaluation Summary above.



# Section 3. Detailed review

Reviewers are encouraged to provide the information below to the extent possible and use the comment section to explain the scope of their review.

# **1. USE OF PROCEEDS**

Overall comment on section (if applicable):

The activities eligible under the use of proceeds categories (i) climate change mitigation, (ii) climate change adaptation, (iii) other footprint, (iv) investments in the poorest countries and (v) investments in inclusive business are aligned with those categories recognized as impactful by the Green Bond Principles, the Social Bond Principles and the Sustainability Bond Guidelines.

FMO use the proceeds to (i) refinance existing projects or to repay a bond note issued under the Framework and (ii) to finance future projects or projects committed to but not disbursed before issuance of the respective thematic bond.

FMO in its green categories uses amongst others third party verified sustainable certification systems. While some of the certification schemes have received criticism related to the implementation and control of standards, Sustainalytics considers the schemes to be credible and impactful.

## Use of proceeds categories as per GBP:

X	Renewable energy	$\boxtimes$	Energy efficiency
$\boxtimes$	Pollution prevention and control	$\boxtimes$	Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use
$\boxtimes$	Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation	$\boxtimes$	Clean transportation
$\boxtimes$	Sustainable water and wastewater management	$\boxtimes$	Climate change adaptation
	Eco-efficient and/or circular economy adapted products, production technologies and processes	$\boxtimes$	Green buildings
	Unknown at issuance but currently expected to conform with GBP categories, or other eligible areas not yet stated in GBPs		Other <i>(please specify)</i> :

If applicable please specify the environmental taxonomy, if other than GBPs:

#### Use of proceeds categories as per SBP:

Affordable basic infrastructure	$\boxtimes$	Access to essential services
Affordable housing	$\boxtimes$	Employment generation (through SME financing and microfinance)



- □ Food security ⊠ Socioeconomic advancement and empowerment
- Unknown at issuance but currently expected
   Other (please specify): to conform with SBP categories, or other eligible areas not yet stated in SBPs

If applicable please specify the social taxonomy, if other than SBPs:

# 2. PROCESS FOR PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Overall comment on section (if applicable):

FMO implemented a two-step process for the selection of eligible projects, namely a 'green' or 'reduced inequality' labeling process (depending on the nature of the project) in which eligibility is assessed against a wide set of internal sustainability criteria, and a validation process in which bond proceeds are allocated to approved projects. FMO includes environmental and social risk assessments in the first step of its project selection process. Sustainalytics views this process as in line with market best practice.

# **Evaluation and selection**

$\boxtimes$	Credentials on the issuer's social and green objectives	$\boxtimes$	Documented process to determine that projects fit within defined categories
$\boxtimes$	Defined and transparent criteria for projects eligible for Sustainability Bond proceeds		Documented process to identify and manage potential ESG risks associated with the project
	Summary criteria for project evaluation and selection publicly available		Other <i>(please specify):</i>

# Information on Responsibilities and Accountability

- $\boxtimes$  Evaluation / Selection criteria subject to  $\boxtimes$  In-house assessment external advice or verification
- □ Other (please specify):

# **3. MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS**

Overall comment on section (if applicable):

Aligned with market practice, FMO will hold the net proceeds of sustainability bond issuances within FMO's Treasury in a sub-portfolio. Unallocated proceeds will be held according to FMO's liquidity portfolio.

## Tracking of proceeds:

Sustainability Bond proceeds segregated or tracked by the issuer in an appropriate manner



- Disclosure of intended types of temporary investment instruments for unallocated proceeds
- □ Other *(please specify)*:

## Additional disclosure:

Allocations to future investments only
 Allocations to both existing and future investments
 Allocation to individual disbursements
 Allocation to a portfolio of disbursements
 Disclosure of portfolio balance of unallocated proceeds
 Other (please specify):

## 4. REPORTING

Overall comment on section (if applicable):

Aligned with market practice, FMO commits to report on an annual basis on the allocation of proceeds, including allocation to new and existing projects and to green and social categories in a newsletter on its website.

Regarding impact reporting, FMO commits to report the estimated annual GHG emission reduction of the financed investments and the estimated number of direct and indirect jobs financed for its direct investments. Sustainalytics suggest to also include reporting on the target population of social projects financed and to report on impact of its indirect investments.

# Use of proceeds reporting:

 □
 Project-by-project
 ⊠
 On a project portfolio basis

 □
 Linkage to individual bond(s)
 □
 Other (please specify):

#### Information reported:

Allocated amounts
 Sustainability Bond financed share of total investment

Semi-annual

 $\Box$  Other *(please specify):* 

## Frequency:

- 🖂 Annual
- □ Other (please specify):

## Impact reporting:

- □ Project-by-project ⊠ On a project portfolio basis
- $\hfill\square$  Linkage to individual bond(s)  $\hfill\square$  Other (please specify):



## Frequency:

 $\boxtimes$ Annual

 $\square$ 

Other (please specify): 

#### Information reported (expected or ex-post):

**GHG Emissions / Savings** 

**Energy Savings** 

Semi-annual

Number of beneficiaries Decrease in water use 

Other ESG indicators (please Target populations  $\boxtimes$ specify): number of direct

# Means of Disclosure

documents

 $\boxtimes$ 

- Information published in financial report
- Information published in sustainability report

and indirect jobs financed

- Information published in ad hoc Other (please specify): website  $\boxtimes$
- Reporting reviewed (if yes, please specify which parts of the reporting are subject to external review):

Where appropriate, please specify name and date of publication in the useful links section.

USEFUL LINKS (e.g. to review provider methodology or credentials, to issuer's documentation, etc.)

FMO website: https://www.fmo.nl/sustainability-bonds

# SPECIFY OTHER EXTERNAL REVIEWS AVAILABLE, IF APPROPRIATE

## Type(s) of Review provided:

- Certification □ Consultancy (incl. 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion)
- Verification / Audit Rating
- Other (please specify): П

#### Review provider(s): Date of publication:

#### ABOUT ROLE(S) OF REVIEW PROVIDERS AS DEFINED BY THE GBP AND THE SBP

i. Consultant Review: An issuer can seek advice from consultants and/or institutions with recognized expertise in environmental and social sustainability or other aspects of the issuance of a Sustainability Bond, such as the establishment/review of an issuer's Sustainability Bond framework. "Second Party Opinions" may fall into this category.



- ii. Verification: An issuer can have its Sustainability Bond, associated Sustainability Bond framework, or underlying assets independently verified by qualified parties, such as auditors. In contrast to certification, verification may focus on alignment with internal standards or claims made by the issuer. Evaluation of the environmentally and socially sustainable features of underlying assets may be termed verification and may reference external criteria.
- iii. Certification: An issuer can have its Sustainability Bond or associated Sustainability Bond framework or Use of Proceeds certified against an external green and social assessment standard. An assessment standard defines criteria, and alignment with such criteria is tested by qualified third parties / certifiers.
- iv. Rating: An issuer can have its Sustainability Bond or associated Sustainability Bond framework rated by qualified third parties, such as specialised research providers or rating agencies. Sustainability Bond ratings are separate from an issuer's ESG rating as they typically apply to individual securities or Sustainability Bond frameworks / programmes.



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# Sustainalytics

Sustainalytics is a leading independent ESG and corporate governance research, ratings and analytics firm that support investors around the world with the development and implementation of responsible investment strategies. With 13 offices globally, the firm partners with institutional investors who integrate ESG information and assessments into their investment processes. Spanning 30 countries, the world's leading issuers, from multinational corporations to financial institutions to governments, turn to Sustainalytics for second-party opinions on green and sustainable bond frameworks. Sustainalytics has been certified by the Climate Bonds Standard Board as a verifier organization, and supports various stakeholders in the development and verification of their frameworks. Global Capital named Sustainalytics the "Most Impressive Second Party Opinion Provider in 2017. In 2018, the firm was recognized as the "Largest External Reviewer" by the Climate Bonds Initiative as well as Environmental Finance. In addition, Sustainalytics received a Special Mention Sustainable Finance Award in 2018 from The Research Institute for Environmental Finance Japan for its contribution to the growth of the Japanese Green Bond Market.

For more information, visit <u>www.sustainalytics.com</u>

Or contact us info@sustainalytics.com

