

Press Release

Paris, 28 March, 2007

Creation of AccèsBanque Madagascar : a bank specialised in microfinance

BFV-Société Générale, the Group's subsidiary in Madagascar, is a founding shareholder with a 17% stake in **AccèsBanque Madagascar SA**, the first bank on the island specialised in microfinance.

AccèsBanque Madagascar's mission is to develop financial products and services tailored to micro, small and medium-sized companies and, more broadly, to people who do not have access to the traditional banking system. It offers credit solutions with simple, transparent procedures, whose conditions are tailored to the profile of very small entrepreneurs. The bank's aim is to serve some 30,000 customers by 2011.

The purchase of this stake underlines Société Générale's involvement in the development of microfinance. Through its international retail banking network, the Group is an important actor in micro-credit. It currently finances around thirty institutions in fourteen countries and two French overseas territories, with an overall allocation of credit facilities of more than €100 million.

As well, BFV-Société Générale is involved in a number of corporate citizenship initiatives: reforestation campaigns, the fight against AIDS and financing educational programmes for children who do not have access to schools. The bank has partnered with an association which supports small and medium-sized companies ("*Entreprendre à Madagascar*") and was selected by the government of Madagascar and the International Finance Corporation to implement a programme facilitating access to credit for small and medium-sized companies.

Société Générale

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 120,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves more than 22,5 million individual customers worldwide.
- Global Investment Management & Services: Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (EUR 2 262 billion, December 2006) and under management (EUR 422 billion, December 2006).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: Société Générale ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in the five major socially-responsible investment indexes.

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