

## Press Release

Paris, 24 march 2009

### **Société Générale confirms its commitment against global warming**

As part of its environmental policy, Société Générale has decided to achieve carbon neutrality by 2012. In this respect, Société Générale established at first an objective of reduction by occupant of 11 % between 2008 and 2012 of its greenhouse gas emissions per occupant for the Group's energy, paper consumption and travel expenditure.

In 2008, the Group reduced its emissions per occupant by 3.5% compared to the baseline 2007. In addition to these measures, the Group has undertaken a voluntary approach to offset its residual emissions by purchasing carbon credits to finance clean development projects in developing countries. These CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) projects are regulated by the United Nations as part of the Kyoto Protocol.

In 2008, Société Générale Bank & Trust (SGBT) and Euro-VL in Luxembourg were the first subsidiaries of the Group to offset their residual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. They chose to finance a CDM project to recycle agricultural waste in Southern India.

In 2009, the Group decided to extend this policy to its buildings in the Paris area. 28,840 tons of residual emissions are now offset in the Group in France and in Luxembourg. This year, Société Générale chose a CDM project of methane collection in a landfill in Argentina, via its subsidiary orbeo. This project will help prevent the emission of gas more harmful than CO<sub>2</sub> in terms of global warming. It will also prevent groundwater pollution due to infiltration and provide a healthier environment.

The voluntary carbon offset scope will gradually be extended to other Société Générale entities over the next years. Above and beyond the carbon neutrality target, Société Générale's ambition is clearly to focus on climate change as a major drive of its environmental policy.

#### **Société Générale**

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 163,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves more than 30 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 2 560 billion, December 2008) and under management (EUR 336 billion, December 2008).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: Société Générale ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in 3 socially-responsible investment indexes: FTSE, ASPI and Ethibel.

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