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Environmental Management Policy

Garanti BBVA International

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Environmental Management Policy

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1. Introduction

Climate change has important economic and ecological consequences; therefore, it is one of the dynamics that all stakeholders in the society (governments, regulatory agencies, corporations, consumers, and all other stakeholders of the society) have to struggle with.

The transition to a low-carbon economy for combating climate change will have significant effects on the value chains of many sectors. Significant investments are required in most industries because of this transition. The investments that focus on energy efficiency, renewable energy, micro-mobility and circular economy, and technological developments offer new opportunities for everyone.

In line with these developments, one of the strategic priorities determined by Garanti BBVA International, from now on referred to as GBI, is “Sustainability”.

Within the scope of its sustainability strategy, GBI’s main objectives are;

- Positively influencing customers, other stakeholders of the sector and decision makers; To increase awareness by continuing to use our social role effectively in this regard,
- Identifying risks and combating negative effects related to climate change and integrating these risks into business processes.

This Environmental Policy has been established in the context of defining the roles and responsibilities to determine the environmental impacts in all activities carried out by GBI and to take measures against possible negative effects. In the creation of this policy, the Sustainability Policy dated June 2023, the relevant legal regulations and national / international standards (ISO 14001 Environmental Management System principles.) were taken as reference.

2. Purpose and scope of application

2.1 Purpose

The aim of this policy is;

- To determine and define the general principles and scope of application to be followed in the environmental management processes at the Head Office and Germany Branch,
- Ensuring that the necessary actions are taken for the implementation of environmental management legislation, national / international standards and systems (ISO 14001 Environmental Management System principles, etc.) and compliance with the Bank's sustainability strategies.

2.2 Scope

The Environmental Policy of GBI applies to all employees and operations within GBI, encompassing all activities, products, and services offered by the Bank. This policy guides our commitment to sustainable practices, environmental responsibility, and continual improvement across our entire organization, for the benefit of our customers, shareholders, employees, society and the environment.

3. General principles

GBI considers the following principles regarding the environmental management system and commit to comply with these principles together with all of its employees:

- To follow all environmental legal regulations, sustainability programs developed in national / international platforms, to integrate applicable areas, especially ISO 14001 Environmental Management System, into our processes; to fulfill our obligations in legal regulations and programs to which we are a member,
- To be respectful to the environment; to adopt and spread environmental awareness,
- To keep the direct environmental impacts arising from our activities under control, to ensure the effective use of natural resources together with continuous improvements in minimizing the negative effects on the environment,

- To contribute to the development of our employees by conducting training and internal communication activities to increase their awareness,
- To understand the needs of all stakeholders by encouraging multi-faceted communication and to contribute to their awareness and development,
- To plan our activities with an understanding based on the prevention of environmental pollution,
- To provide the necessary resources by the Managing Board in order to carry out the activities within the scope of the Environmental Policy,
- To ensure that the compliance of all activities with this policy is regularly reviewed by the Environmental Management Team, from now on referred to as EMT.

4. Policy provisions/guidelines

4.1 Scope

Sustainability Policy and the general principles set out in Article-3.

4.2 Instructions

Within the scope of this policy, the following instructions are taken into account when necessary:

- Documents supporting the Environmental Policy within the scope of ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (Environmental Manual and Procedures)

4.3 Exceptions

There are no exceptions to the application of this policy.

5. Governance and monitoring model

This policy was approved by the Managing Board and put into effect as of 15/08/2023.

This Policy has been prepared by EMT, within their respective areas of responsibility.

5.1 Governance Model

- The control model within the communication and processes established with internal and external stakeholders is called the "governance model". The governance model is structured to be traceable at every stage.
- Bi-annually internal audits regarding the implementation of the sub-processes within the scope of this policy are carried out by the EMT, and in case of non-compliances, action is taken to eliminate the non-conformities and/or necessary action is taken by the relevant parties.
- For the continuity of national / international certificates, reporting requested by independent audit firms and relevant institutions in line with legal obligations is provided by the EMT.
- Internal audit and reporting activities aim to support the environmental management processes structurally, to be reliable, to comply with all regulatory requirements and to document them adequately.
- Communication within GBI is carried out by the EMT within the framework of environmental policy and related processes.
- At least once a year or when necessary, in line with emerging developments, review activities are carried out by the EMT in the procedures related to this Policy and necessary or desired changes are made. Required or desired changes are made by submitting to the EMT and then to the approval of the Managing Board.
- Violation of this policy may result in revocation / suspension of ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Certification.

Glossary

ISO 14001 Environmental Management System: The ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Standard, published by the International Standards Organization, describes the establishment of a system that ensures the determination of environmental effects at every stage of corporate activities and minimizing the damage to the environment by controlling these determined effects with necessary measures.

Sustainability Policy: The Policy aims to set forth the vision and general principles of GBI's sustainability approach at the Bank. It defines and determines the general principles and basic management and control objectives and principles to be followed by the Bank in sustainable development, and serves as a frame of reference while establishing and developing local or sectoral corporate governance policies and systems that will be consistent and harmonious within the bank.

Change Log

Date	Description of the change	Author
15/08/2023	First version	EMT