



# Green Bond Framework

DECEMBER 2025



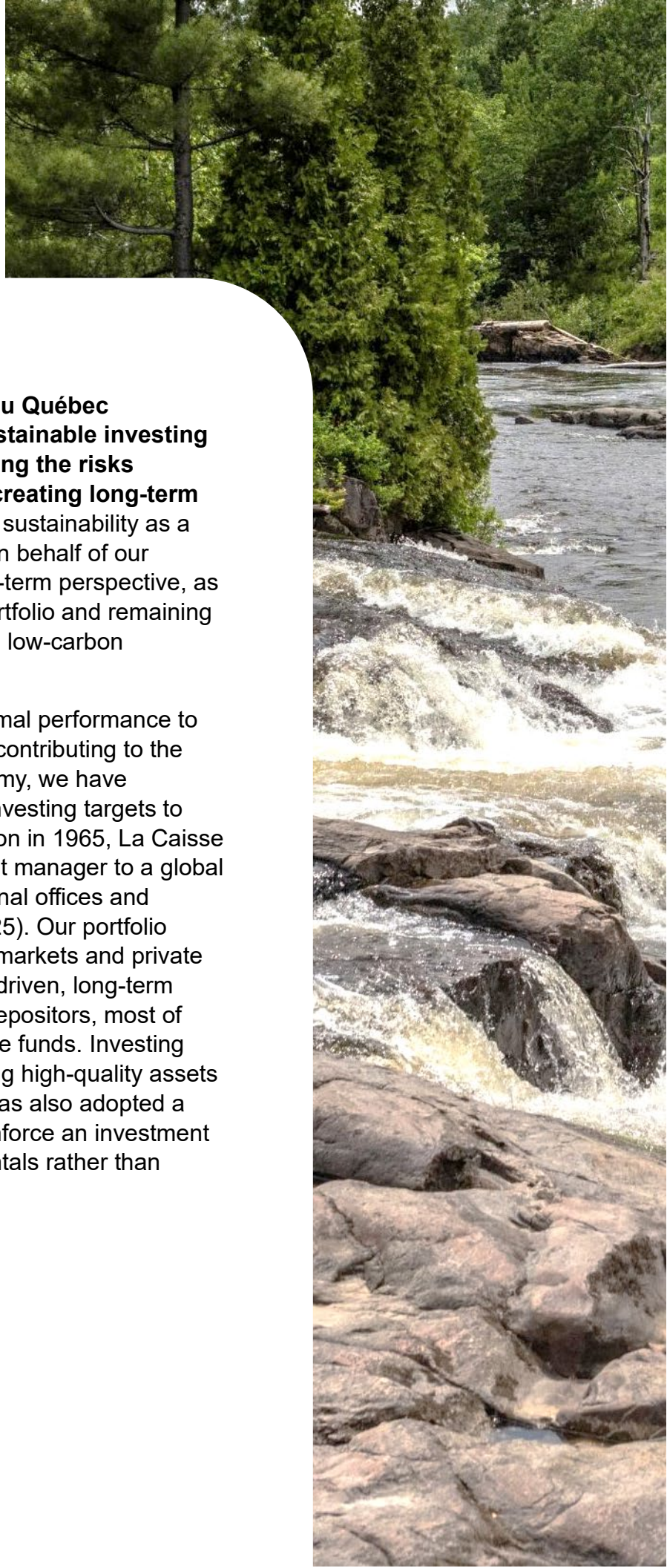
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# 1. Introduction

**At La Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (La Caisse), we firmly believe that sustainable investing remains the best approach to managing the risks associated with climate change and creating long-term value for our depositors.** We consider sustainability as a lever for protecting and creating value on behalf of our depositors, which is in line with our long-term perspective, as well as ensuring the resilience of our portfolio and remaining well positioned in the transition toward a low-carbon economy.

True to our dual mandate to deliver optimal performance to meet the needs of our depositors while contributing to the development of a strong Québec economy, we have consistently set ambitious sustainable investing targets to create long-term value. Since our creation in 1965, La Caisse has grown from a Québec-focused asset manager to a global investor with 13 domestic and international offices and C\$496 billion in net assets (30 June 2025). Our portfolio spans real estate, infrastructure, public markets and private equity, underpinned by a fundamentals-driven, long-term philosophy. We manage assets for 48 depositors, most of them being public pension and insurance funds. Investing our clients' funds worldwide and targeting high-quality assets rooted in the real economy, La Caisse has also adopted a strategy focused on sustainability to reinforce an investment approach based on long-term fundamentals rather than short-term volatility.





## Our climate journey

La Caisse's sustainability journey started in 1994 with the adoption of our first proxy voting policy with the goal of building our influence and promoting best practices within publicly listed companies. In 2004, we published our first responsible investment strategy and two years later became a founding member of the United Nation's Principles for Responsible Investment.

Over the years we have broadened and deepened our sustainable investing approach to include most topics that underpin the financial performance of companies over the long-term.

In 2017, La Caisse launched its first climate strategy, which put the organization's leadership at the forefront of sustainable investing worldwide. We were one of the very first large asset owners to adopt an ambitious climate strategy with defined targets covering its entire portfolio. In 2019, La Caisse was a founding member of the UN-convened Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance, a coalition of investors committed to achieving carbon-neutral economy.

In 2021, we enhanced the ambition of our climate strategy, based on clear and measurable objectives. At the end of 2024, we exceeded our climate targets that we raised in 2021.

At the end of 2024, we have reduced the carbon intensity of our portfolio by 69% and more than tripled our low-carbon assets, which now amount to \$58 billion, compared to 2017, as well as closely supported portfolio companies as they transitioned to more sustainable business models and completed our exit from oil production (at the end of 2023). In doing so, we have taken decisive action to decarbonize our portfolio, which today has 79% of assets that are low-carbon or low-intensity.

These are major initiatives that were well executed. And above all, we should never lose sight of the fact that this strategy has enabled us to generate excellent performance for our depositors.

Our figures bear that out: over five years ending at end December 2024, the annualized return of our approach to the energy transition has reached nearly 12%, compared to the MSCI ACWI Energy index's position of roughly 8%. Our return was stimulated by renewable assets, which generated performance that was twice as strong as that of the oil segment of the MSCI ACWI for the period.

### 2025-2030 Climate Strategy

Our portfolio has decarbonized much faster than the real economy: we reported a 50% reduction of our carbon footprint, while over the same period, global emissions increased by 6%. In 2025, we are entering a new phase in our climate strategy with the ambition to accelerate the decarbonization of companies and the economy. To keep advancing toward its goal of having a carbon-neutral portfolio in 2050, La Caisse is now aiming for C\$400 billion in climate action investments by 2030.

The development of a framework and the subsequent issuances of bonds (the "Green Bonds") in accordance with this framework (the "Framework") is thus fully complementary with La Caisse's commitment and strategy to address climate change and provide a positive contribution to our global financing strategy. As such, this constitutes a milestone in the development of La Caisse's sustainable strategy.



## 2. La Caisse's Green Bond Framework

La Caisse adopted its first Green Bond Framework in 2021 to support its sustainability efforts. Since then, our climate strategy has evolved, prompting the development of this new Framework to better align with our current approach. This new Framework does not apply retroactively.





La Caisse has developed this Framework in alignment with the following four core components of the Green Bond Principles, 2025 ([GBP](#)), as well as the Green Enabling Projects Guidance, 2024 ([including June 2025 Annex on FAQ](#)), overseen by the International Capital Markets Association (ICMA):

1. Use of Proceeds
2. Process for project evaluation and selection
3. Management of proceeds
4. Reporting

This Framework serves as the reference document under which CDP Financial Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of La Caisse, may issue Green Bonds, which will follow the principles set out herein, and be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the respective documentation governing such financing instruments.

## 2.1. Use of Proceeds

An amount equal to the net proceeds of any Green Bond under this Framework will be allocated to finance or refinance, in whole or in part a selection of investments (the “Eligible Investments”), aligned with La Caisse’s **four climate solution categories** outlined in La Caisse’s 2025-2030 Climate Strategy<sup>1</sup>:

Category	Description	Green Bond Principles Category
 <b>Low-carbon asset</b>	Assets or investments with very low carbon emissions that contribute by their nature to climate change mitigation or adaptation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green buildings</li> <li>• Renewable and low-carbon energy</li> <li>• Clean transportation</li> <li>• Energy efficiency</li> <li>• Pollution prevention and control</li> <li>• Eco-efficient and circular-economy products</li> </ul>
 <b>Nature-based solutions</b>	Initiatives and practices that use natural ecosystems to benefit climate change, biodiversity or communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmentally sustainable management of living resources and land use</li> <li>• Preservation of nature and biodiversity</li> </ul>
 <b>Adaptation and resilience</b>	<p>Assets or investments that help limit the impact of future weather on communities and economic activity. Includes the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Reinforcement of real assets</li> <li>(ii) Use of nature to mitigate climatic events</li> <li>(iii) Adaptation to chronic effects of global warming (heat).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change adaptation</li> <li>• Sustainable water and wastewater management</li> </ul>
 <b>Enabling assets</b>	Products or services, including intangible property (software or intellectual property), integrated or related to goods/activities described in the taxonomies (low-carbon assets, nature-based solutions, adaptation and resilience) or targeting process or facility decarbonization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green enabling activities</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> [La Caisse 2025-2030 Climate Strategy, June 2025](#)

The financing of Eligible Investments is expected to create environmental benefits by, for instance, enabling reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption.


Where specified, Eligible Investments shall meet thresholds established within the green finance market, namely the associated [Climate Bonds Standard Sector Criteria](#) and [Climate Bond Taxonomy](#) as of December 19, 2025<sup>2</sup> and the [EU Taxonomy Delegated Acts](#). La Caisse's eligibility thresholds will maintain compliance with future Climate Bonds Standard Sector Criteria and Taxonomy, and any adjustments made after December 19, 2025 will supersede the thresholds identified below. The table below presents examples of activities for each eligible investment category.

Eligible Investments include expenditures, by La Caisse or wholly owned subsidiaries, related to the acquisition, financing, development, upgrade, operation and/or maintenance of assets, facilities, or infrastructure aligned with the activities and thresholds below. Investments may also include loans to and direct investments in companies that derive at least 90% of their revenues from the activities in line with the Eligibility Criteria.



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<sup>2</sup> Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), [Climate Bonds | Sector Criteria](#) / [Climate Bonds | Climate Bonds Taxonomy](#)

Green Eligible Investment Category	Eligibility Criteria	EU Taxonomy Economic Activities
 <b>Low-carbon assets</b>		
<b>Green buildings</b>	<p><b><u>New Construction:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project's carbon intensity is designed to be below a 2040 1.5°C CRREM) decarbonisation target, or project is designed to be electric without on-site fossil fuels (excluding back-up power)).</li> </ul> <p>And</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project is certified to LEED Gold Design and Construction or equivalent<sup>2</sup>, or to a Net Zero Carbon certification<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Existing buildings, including Renovations:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset's carbon intensity is below a 1.5°C CRREM decarbonisation target today and in 2030, or asset is electric without on-site fossil fuels (excluding back-up power)).</li> </ul> <p>And</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset is certified to LEED Gold Operations or equivalent<sup>3</sup>, or to a Net Zero Carbon certification<sup>4</sup>.</li> </ul>	<p>7.1 Construction of new buildings</p> <p>7.2 Renovation of existing buildings</p> <p>7.7 Acquisition &amp; ownership of buildings</p>
<b>Renewable and low-carbon energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utility scale or distributed wind, solar, marine renewable energy (tidal, wave, ocean thermal)<sup>4</sup>, geothermal<sup>5</sup> and hydropower<sup>6</sup>.</li> <li>Green hydrogen produced by electrolysis powered exclusively by renewable energy, green hydrogen-derived fuels, along with its associated infrastructure<sup>7</sup>.</li> <li>Energy storage manufacturing and systems (including batteries and pumped storage hydro<sup>8</sup>) that facilitate higher renewable penetration or grid balancing.</li> <li>Transmission and distribution networks supporting the greater penetration of renewable energy<sup>9</sup>.</li> <li>Existing or new nuclear power generation assets (including life extension) that meets EU Taxonomy guidance.<sup>10</sup></li> </ul>	<p>3.10 Manufacture of hydrogen</p> <p>4.1 Electricity generation using solar photovoltaic technology</p> <p>4.2 Electricity generation using concentrated solar power</p> <p>4.3 Electricity generation from wind power</p> <p>4.4 Electricity generation from ocean energy technologies</p> <p>4.5 Electricity generation from hydropower</p> <p>4.6 Electricity generation from geothermal energy</p> <p>4.9 Transmission &amp; distribution of electricity</p> <p>4.10 Storage of electricity</p> <p>4.12 Storage of hydrogen</p> <p>4.14 Transmission &amp; distribution networks for renewable &amp; low-carbon gases</p> <p>4.26 Pre-commercial advanced nuclear / 4.27 Construction &amp; operation of new nuclear / 4.28 Electricity generation from nuclear energy in existing installations</p>
<b>Clean transportation</b>	<p>Road and rail transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero-direct emission passenger cars and light-commercial vehicles.</li> <li>Zero-emission freight vehicles and low-carbon freight rail.<sup>11</sup>, including rolling stock.</li> <li>Zero-emission urban and inter-urban road and rail public transport systems (buses, trams, Light Rail Transit, metro, rail) and rolling-stock .</li> <li>Infrastructure for zero-emission rail transport (track, stations, catenary, signaling, and associated works ).</li> <li>Public EV-charging hubs, depot fast-chargers, hydrogen refueling stations, and associated electrical grid upgrades.</li> </ul> <p>Low-carbon shipping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero-emission new vessels propelled by batteries or zero-carbon fuels (green H<sub>2</sub>, green NH<sub>3</sub>, e-methanol).<sup>12</sup>.</li> <li>Low-carbon port infrastructure (such as, port shore-to-ship power supply, e-tugs, electric cargo-handling equipment, etc.).</li> </ul>	<p>6.1 Passenger interurban rail transport</p> <p>6.2 Freight rail transport</p> <p>6.3 Urban &amp; suburban transport, road passenger transport</p> <p>6.5 Transport by motorbikes, passenger cars &amp; light commercial vehicles</p> <p>6.6 Freight transport services by road</p> <p>6.7 Inland passenger water transport</p> <p>6.10 Sea &amp; coastal freight &amp; passenger water transport</p> <p>6.14 Infrastructure for rail transport</p> <p>6.15 Infrastructure enabling low-carbon road transport &amp; public transport</p> <p>6.16 Infrastructure enabling low-carbon water transport</p>



Green Eligible Investment Category	Eligibility Criteria	EU Taxonomy Economic Activities
<b>Energy efficiency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High-efficiency building services (electric heat-pumps, certified HVAC, heat-recovery ventilation, lighting, etc.).<sup>13</sup>.</li> <li>Transmission and distribution network upgrades that improve system flexibility and reduce technical losses.</li> <li>Smart grid and digital-efficiency solutions (advanced metering, demand-response, grid-optimization software, etc.).</li> <li>District heating and cooling projects, excluding fossil fuel sources.<sup>14</sup>.</li> </ul>	<p>3.5 Manufacture of energy-efficiency equipment for buildings</p> <p>4.15 District heating/ cooling distribution</p> <p>4.16 Installation &amp; operation of electric heat pumps</p> <p>4.20 Cogeneration of heat/ cool &amp; power from bioenergy</p> <p>4.24 Production of heat/ cool from bioenergy</p> <p><a href="#">7.3 Installation, maintenance &amp; repair of energy efficiency equipment</a></p>
<b>Pollution prevention and control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste management assets for prevention, reduction, reuse and recycling (including dedicated recycling collection centers and Material Recovery Facilities, and monitoring systems).</li> <li>Composting facilities treating segregated biowaste and producing compost for soil amendment.</li> <li>Anaerobic-digestion plants, biogas upgrading, and utilization infrastructure.</li> <li>High-efficiency waste-to-energy plants treating only residual, non-hazardous waste.<sup>15</sup>.</li> <li>Equipment or technologies aimed at reducing particulate and non-GHG pollutants beyond regulatory requirements.</li> <li>Carbon capture and storage (CCS/DAC) dedicated to hard-to-abate industrial emitters.<sup>16</sup>.</li> <li>Landfill and wastewater gas capture producing renewable electricity or heat.<sup>17</sup></li> </ul>	<p>5.7 Anaerobic digestion of bio-waste</p> <p>5.8 Composting of bio-waste</p> <p>5.9 Material recovery from non-hazardous waste</p> <p>5.10 Landfill gas capture &amp; utilization</p> <p>5.11 Transport of CO<sub>2</sub></p> <p>5.12 Underground permanent geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub></p>
<b>Eco-efficient and circular-economy products</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manufacture of low-carbon materials (cement, steel, aluminum, chemicals, etc.) that meet sector-intensity thresholds from CBI.<sup>18</sup> or EU Taxonomy.</li> <li>Battery value-chain production, recycling, refurbishment, and closed-loop recovery of Cu, Li, Ni, Co.</li> </ul>	<p>3.4 Production of batteries</p> <p>3.8 Manufacture of aluminium</p> <p>3.9 Manufacture of iron &amp; steel</p> <p>3.10 Manufacture of hydrogen</p>

<sup>2</sup> Equivalent certifications include: BREEAM Excellent+, HQE Excellent+. Australia Green Star 5+, Label China Green Building 3+, Green Mark Gold+, BOMA BEST Gold+, DGNB Gold+.

<sup>3</sup> Net Zero Carbon certifications include: CaGBC Zero Carbon Building Standard, US Department of Energy (DOE) National Definition of Zero Emissions Building, UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard, Low Carbon Buildings Initiative (LCBI). For any building that aligns with the CaGBC Zero Carbon Building Standard (Performance), a high level of energy efficiency will be demonstrated by an Energy Star score of 85, aligning with the CRREM 2030 EUI.

<sup>4</sup> Marine renewable projects must be 100% renewable: fossil back-up limited to monitoring or restart capability (CBI Marine Criteria).

<sup>5</sup> Direct emissions <100 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh (EU Taxonomy, CBI Geothermal Criteria).

<sup>6</sup> Pre-2020 plants: power density of ≥5 W/ m<sup>2</sup> or lifecycle emissions <100 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh. Post 2020 COD: power density of ≥10 W/ m<sup>2</sup> or lifecycle emissions ≥50 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/ kWh. Must meet additional assessments based on recognized best practice guidelines, of environmental and social risks and incorporate measures to address risks (CBI Hydropower Criteria).

<sup>7</sup> Electrolyser or H<sub>2</sub> infrastructure dedicated to green hydrogen.

<sup>8</sup> Facility is purposefully built in conjunction with intermittent renewables and/ or contributing to a grid with at least a 20% share from intermittent renewables OR will increase to this level within the next 10 years AND/ OR not charged with an off-peak grid intensity that is higher than the intensity of the electricity that it will displace when it is discharged (CBI Hydropower Criteria).

<sup>9</sup> Meeting either of the following criteria: i) The average System grid emissions factor in which the infrastructure is located below the threshold value of 100 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh measured on a PCF basis, over a rolling five-year average period or ii) more than 67% of newly connected generation capacity in the System in which the infrastructure is located is below the generation threshold value of 100 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh measured on a PCF basis, over a rolling five-year period

<sup>10</sup> Lifecycle emissions <100 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/ kWh and full DNSH compliance (EU Reg 2022/ 1214).

<sup>11</sup> Direct emissions <25 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/ t-km (EU Taxonomy) and carry <25% fossil-fuel cargo per year.

<sup>12</sup> Tank-to-wake CO<sub>2</sub> = 0 g or IMO CII "A" rating; hybrids allowed ≤ 2025 if ≥25% energy from zero-CO<sub>2</sub> fuels and EEDI ≥10% below 2022 baseline (EU Taxonomy).

<sup>13</sup> Have an EU Energy-Label rating of A or ecolabel such as ENERGY STAR or equivalent (EU Reg 2017/ 1369; ENERGY STAR).



<sup>14</sup> ≥80% biofuel share (by heat input) vs. fossil baseline and lifecycle <180 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/ kWh; biomass certified FSC/ PEFC or equivalent (EU Taxonomy; CBI Bioenergy).

<sup>15</sup> Net plant efficiency ≥65% electricity-only or ≥75% CHP and lifecycle <100 g CO<sub>2</sub>e/ kWh (EU WI BAT).

<sup>16</sup> Capture efficiency ≥90% and CO<sub>2</sub> permanently stored or utilised in products with ≥90% net abatement (CBI CCS Criteria).

<sup>17</sup> Landfill or cell opened post July 2020; be permanently closed to new waste; route all capture gas to power or heat, biomethane grid injection, or vehicle or chemical feedstock; and keep methane emissions controlled and monitored (EU Taxonomy).

<sup>18</sup> Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), Cement Criteria (2023), Steel Criteria (2024); Chemicals Criteria (2023).

Green Eligible Investment Category	Eligibility Criteria	EU Taxonomy Economic Activities
 <b>Nature-Based Solutions</b>		
<b>Environmentally sustainable management of living resources and land use</b>	<p>Projects with measurable climate or biodiversity benefits La Caisse, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afforestation and reforestation with native or climate-resilient species on degraded or non-forested land<sup>19</sup>.</li> <li>Regenerative and precision agriculture, agro-forestry, silvo-pasture, perennial poly-culture systems that increase soil-organic carbon or lower N<sub>2</sub>O emissions<sup>20</sup>.</li> <li>Specialized machinery (not general-purpose vehicles) and IT systems that enable the above land-management practices.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">1.3. Forest management</a> <a href="#">1.4. Conservation forestry</a>
<b>Preservation of nature and biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restoration of wetlands, peatlands, other high-carbon ecosystems.</li> <li>Rehabilitation of forests following extreme events.</li> <li>Purchase or easement of private land for permanent protection.</li> </ul> <p>Creation of ecological corridors, pollinator habitats and other projects that measurably increase local species richness.</p>	<p>1.2 Rehabilitation &amp; restoration of forests, including reforestation &amp; natural forest regeneration after an extreme event</p> <p>2.1 Restoration of wetlands</p>
 <b>Adaptation and resilience</b>		
<b>Climate change adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate-resilient upgrades to buildings and infrastructure (flood defense, storm water systems, wild-fire and wind-resilience upgrades, early warning and monitoring systems, etc.).</li> </ul>	<p>7.1 Construction of new buildings</p> <p>7.2 Renovation of existing buildings</p>
<b>Sustainable water and wastewater management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water-network rehabilitation and smart-leakage control delivering ≥20% reduction in non-revenue water.</li> <li>Efficient water-supply, distribution &amp; storage that cut energy use ≥20% (gravity pipelines, low-head pumps, covered reservoirs, etc.).</li> <li>Flood-protection and ecological-restoration works.</li> <li>Rainwater harvesting and re-use schemes (potable or non-potable) in water-stressed regions.</li> <li>Drought-early-warning systems and quality-monitoring sensors.</li> </ul>	<p>5.1 Construction, extension &amp; operation of water collection, treatment &amp; supply systems</p> <p><a href="#">5.2 Renewal of water collection, treatment &amp; supply systems</a></p> <p>5.3 Construction, extension &amp; operation of wastewater collection &amp; treatment</p>

<sup>19</sup> Afforestation and re-afforestation must use native or climate-resilient species; no GMO planting; no monoculture plantations; no primary-forest logging; forests are maintained through good management practices and the projects do not lead to natural landscape conversion (CBI Forestry Criteria).

<sup>20</sup> Expenditures directly related to livestock production are excluded.



## Enabling assets

### Green enabling activities

Eligible activities aligned with the Green Enabling Projects Guidance (ICMA) criteria, including:

- Key components of electric vehicles, (batteries, e-axes, etc.).
- Extraction and processing of critical materials demonstrably designed for low-carbon technologies.
- Manufacture of grid power cables
- Equipment enabling energy storage, (new battery energy storage capacity and battery manufacturing and recycling, etc.).

3.3 Manufacture of low-carbon technologies for transport

3.6 Manufacture of other low-carbon technologies

4.9 Transmission and distribution of electricity

4.10 Storage of electricity

### Exclusionary Criteria

Certain activities will be automatically excluded under this Framework, such as (but not limited to):

- Weapons and munitions;
- Intensive feed-lot livestock and large-scale monoculture;
- Conversion or logging of primary or high-carbon natural ecosystems;
- Extraction, transport, refining, and combustion of fossil fuels; and
- Tobacco.

## 2.2. Process for Project Selection and Evaluation

To ensure a robust process for project selection and evaluation, a Green Bond working group has been created and meets regularly. The group is composed of key members from various teams, including sustainability, risk, treasury, asset management, legal affairs and communications, and is chaired by a member of the treasury team. The composition of the group may change over time and other members may be added when necessary.

The role of the working group is to evaluate and select Eligible Investments. The list of Eligible Investments is formally approved by the Head of Sustainability.

Eligible Investments include investments that comply with the eligibility criteria as defined by this Framework and that have been funded by La Caisse or any of its wholly owned subsidiaries within 24 months preceding the date of the Green Bond Issuance.

The Green Bond working group will monitor the Eligible Investments during the life of the transaction. If any Eligible Investment exits La Caisse's portfolio or ceases to fulfil the eligibility criteria, the working group will substitute the asset with replacement Eligible Investments that comply with the eligibility criteria on a best effort basis.

To manage and mitigate environmental risk, La Caisse relies on its [Sustainable Investing Policy](#) to ensure that sustainability factors are taken into account in the management of its portfolios, both pre- and post-investment.

The Green Bond working group will also approve allocations of net proceeds and manage any future updates to the Framework. If updates are made to any of the Framework's core components, La Caisse will secure an updated Second Party Opinion.

For any projects that are identified as "Green Enabling", the Green Bond working group will conduct an assessment based on the criteria laid out in the Green Enabling Projects Guidance, 2024, as published by ICMA: such projects must be necessary for an enabled Green Project's value chain, not lead to carbon lock-in, provide a clear, quantifiable, and attributable environmental benefit, and manage identified adverse social or environmental impacts.





## 2.3 Management of Proceeds

An amount equivalent to the Green Bond net proceeds will be allocated for disbursements to Eligible Investments.

The Green Bond net proceeds will finance Eligible Investments and any future commitments for those investments or refinance a maturing green bond issued in compliance with this Framework.

The treasury department will maintain a Green Bond Register, that will be reviewed annually by the Green Bond working group. It will contain all the relevant information concerning the use of proceeds of each Green Bond issuance, including among other things, Eligible Investments names, categories as well as the allocation amounts.

Pending full allocation, unallocated proceeds may temporarily be invested in high quality liquid assets in the form of government bonds, money market securities and/or cash.

La Caisse intends to allocate its Green Bond net proceeds within one year following the Green Bond issuance.





## 2.4 Reporting

La Caisse will publish an annual Green Bond report until full allocation of the proceeds. In case of material developments, La Caisse will publish an updated Green Bond report on a timely basis. The reporting document will be made available on La Caisse's website.

La Caisse's Green Bond report will provide at a minimum the following information:

1. List of Eligible Investments, including amount of proceeds allocated, both in aggregate and per Eligible Investment category;
2. Share of financing versus refinancing;
3. Amount of unallocated proceeds (if any);
4. Aggregated, relevant quantitative impact measures;
5. Relevant quantitative and qualitative performance descriptions, on a selection of Eligible Investments, subject to confidentiality considerations. These metrics may include:



La Caisse Pillar	Green UOP	Expected Impact Metrics
 <b>Low-carbon asset</b>	<b>Green buildings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of buildings in portfolio with a certification</li> <li>• Operational carbon emissions for existing buildings (kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>• Operational energy-use intensity after retrofit (kWh/ m<sup>2</sup>/ yr, % reduction vs baseline)</li> <li>• Embodied-carbon reduction for major refurbishments (kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/ m<sup>2</sup>)</li> </ul>
	<b>Renewable and low-carbon energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual renewable energy generation (MWh/ yr)</li> <li>• Installed renewable generation capacity (MW)</li> <li>• Low-carbon hydrogen produced (tH<sub>2</sub>/ yr)</li> <li>• Annual GHG emissions avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/ yr)</li> <li>• New renewable capacity connected to the grid (MW)</li> <li>• T&amp;D capacity linking renewables (MW, gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh)</li> <li>• Storage hours paired with variable Renewable Energy Sources (MWh/ MW)</li> </ul>
	<b>Clean transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passenger-km served by zero-emission modes (million pkm/ yr)</li> <li>• Tonne-km served by zero-emission freight (million tkm/ yr)</li> <li>• Public EV-charging or H<sub>2</sub>-refueling stations installed (#)</li> <li>• Annual energy savings (MWh/ yr)</li> <li>• Annual GHG emissions avoided (t CO<sub>2</sub>e/ yr)</li> </ul>
	<b>Energy efficiency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy-efficiency projects completed (#)</li> <li>• Annual energy saved (MWh/ yr)</li> <li>• Grid-loss reduction (%)</li> <li>• Annual GHG emissions avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/ yr)</li> </ul>
	<b>Pollution prevention and control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste diverted or recycled (t/ yr, % of total)</li> <li>• Biowaste treated (in composting/ AD) (t/ yr)</li> <li>• Methane captured and utilised (Nm<sup>3</sup> CH<sub>4</sub>/ yr)</li> <li>• Annual GHG or air-pollutant emissions avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e or t pollutant/ yr)</li> </ul>
	<b>Eco-efficient and circular-economy products</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual output of low-carbon material (t p.a.)</li> <li>• Virgin raw material avoided via recycling or clinker-substitutes (t p.a.)</li> <li>• Annual GHG emissions avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)</li> <li>• Critical minerals recovered (t Cu, Li, Ni, Co p.a.)</li> <li>• Batteries refurbished/ recycled (MWh capacity)</li> </ul>
 <b>Nature-based solutions</b>	<b>Sustainable management of living resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land under certified sustainable management (ha)</li> <li>• Annual carbon sequestered or GHG avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/ yr)</li> </ul>
	<b>Protection of nature and biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total areas reforested, restored or rehabilitated (ha)</li> <li>• Initiatives launched to provide enhanced biodiversity (#)</li> <li>• Additional lands included in protected areas (ha)</li> <li>• Biodiversity Net Gain (%) or species richness index</li> <li>• Carbon stock change (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)</li> </ul>
 <b>Adaptation and resilience</b>	<b>Climate change adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assets upgraded for climate resilience (#)</li> <li>• Estimated damage-avoidance value (USD/ yr)</li> </ul>
	<b>Sustainable water and wastewater management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water saved or reused (m<sup>3</sup>/ yr)</li> <li>• Non-revenue-water reduction (%)</li> <li>• Catchment or wetland area under improved management (ha)</li> </ul>
 <b>Enabling assets</b>	<b>Green enabling activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green enabling lithium produced (tons/ year)</li> <li>• Green enabling copper produced (tons/ year)</li> <li>• Cumulative capacity of battery storage enabled (GWh)</li> <li>• Battery-storage capacity enabled (GWh)</li> <li>• Batteries produced or recycled (MWh capacity or #)</li> <li>• Critical minerals processed (t/ yr, % responsibly sourced)</li> </ul>

## 3. External Review

### 3.1. Second Party Opinion

La Caisse has obtained an independent Second Party Opinion from Sustainalytics on this Framework, to confirm its alignment to the ICMA's Green Bond Principles. The Second Party Opinion document is available on Sustainalytics' website and on La Caisse's website commencing at the same time this Framework is published<sup>21</sup>.

### 3.2. Post-issuance external verification

An external verification of the allocation of the Green Bonds proceeds will be carried out by La Caisse's external auditor on an annual basis, until the complete allocation of proceeds. The auditor will verify that the net proceeds of the Green Bonds are either allocated to Eligible Investments or invested in approved financial instruments.

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<sup>21</sup> [Investor relations | La Caisse](#)



# Appendix

## Acronyms

### **BREEAM**

*Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method*: Internationally recognized sustainability certification system for buildings, assessing environmental performance across categories like energy, water, materials, and wellbeing.

### **BOMA**

*Building Owners and Managers Association*: A professional association that provides internationally recognized certification focused on sustainable and smart management of existing buildings.

### **CBI**

*Climate Bonds Initiative*: An organization that sets science-based standards for green bonds.

### **CCS / DAC**

*Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) / Direct Air Capture (DAC)*: Technologies for capturing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from industrial installations (CCS) or directly from the atmosphere (DAC), for long-term storage or utilization.

### **CRREM**

*Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor*: An EU-funded initiative and tool that provides decarbonization pathways and “stranding risk” analysis for real estate assets, helping owners align with Paris Agreement targets.

### **GBP**

*Green Bond Principles*: Voluntary process guidelines developed by ICMA for issuing green bonds, ensuring transparency, disclosure, and reporting on the use of proceeds for environmentally beneficial projects.

### **GHG emissions**

*Greenhouse gas emissions*: All the gases present in the Earth's atmosphere that accelerate the greenhouse effect, causing global warming by trapping heat in the atmosphere.

### **ICMA**

*International Capital Market Association*: An organization that develops standards and guidelines for the international capital markets, including the Green Bond Principles.

### **LEED**

*Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design*: A globally recognized green building certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), assessing environmental performance and sustainable design of buildings, including data centers.



## Glossary

<b>Biodiversity</b>	All of earth's species and ecosystems, as well as the ecological processes they form a part of.
<b>Carbon footprint</b>	The sum of all greenhouse gas emissions, measured in CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent, emitted by an activity or an organization.
<b>Carbon intensity</b>	For a company, GHG emissions expressed as tons of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent divided by a production indicator (e.g. per kWh of electricity, per ton of steel for a steel mill or per square foot for real estate). La Caisse measures the carbon intensity of its portfolio using an NZAOA-approved methodology expressed in tCO <sub>2</sub> e/M\$. This includes the vast majority of its Scope 3, Category 15 emissions, as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. To calculate its carbon intensity in this category, La Caisse uses its portfolio companies' Scopes 1 and 2 emissions.
<b>Carbon lock-in</b>	New high-emitting and long-lived assets or activities that ensure high GHG production over the medium or long term.
<b>Carbon neutrality</b>	Balance between carbon emissions and the absorption of carbon from the atmosphere by carbon sinks. For a financial portfolio, carbon neutrality is the balance between the emissions of the companies in the portfolio and the emissions captured by investments whose mission is carbon capture and sequestration.
<b>Climate Bonds Standard Sector Criteria</b>	Technical criteria developed by the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) for certifying bonds as "climate bonds" in specific sectors (e.g., buildings, energy, transport), ensuring alignment with climate goals.
<b>Climate Bonds Taxonomy</b>	A classification system by the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) that defines which assets and projects are eligible for climate bond certification, aligned with Paris Agreement objectives.
<b>Climate resilience</b>	An organization's capacity to guard against and adapt to physical climate risks.
<b>Decarbonization</b>	All the measures and techniques that enable a company or a local entity to reduce GHG emissions.
<b>Decarbonization and/or transition plan</b>	An action plan that explains how an institution intends to implement a commitment to carbon neutrality. It sets out specific objectives and actions to reduce GHG emissions and provides credibility and transparency on this commitment. A transition plan can also cover how the organization adapts to the impacts of climate change.
<b>Energy transition</b>	Process of transforming energy production and consumption systems toward more sustainable models intended to reduce GHG emissions, limiting dependence on fossil fuels and promoting decarbonized energy.

<b>EU Taxonomy</b>	The European Union's classification system for environmentally sustainable economic activities, setting criteria for investments to be considered "green" under EU law. It covers activities contributing to six environmental objectives: climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, the transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention and control, sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, and protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.
<b>Low-carbon assets</b>	Assets or investments that are low in carbon and that, by their nature, help mitigate or adapt to climate change as defined by the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI).
<b>Low-carbon economy</b>	An economy in which trade is compatible with development that minimizes greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and is resilient to climate change.
<b>Low-intensity assets</b>	Investments in companies operating in all economic sectors except industrials, energy, materials and non-renewable electricity. This category also excludes low-carbon assets.
<b>Net zero</b>	Achieving a state in which the activities in an organization's value chain result in no net accumulation of carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) and other GHG emissions in the atmosphere. For a financial institution, alignment of its portfolio so that its financing does not contribute to the accumulation of GHG emissions in the atmosphere.
<b>Sustainability</b>	The quality of an object, action or activity intended to satisfy the principles of long-term respect for the physical, social and economic environment.

## CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING THE DISCLOSURES IN THIS DOCUMENT

La Caisse recognizes the importance of reporting its sustainable investment commitments and activities, and this Framework has been prepared on that basis.

This Framework is part of La Caisse's approach to transparency on various environmental, social and governance issues, including with respect to climate risks and opportunities.

This Framework is provided for informational purposes only and is subject to change without notice. Unless otherwise indicated, the information, opinions and perspectives contained in this Framework, or upon which it was prepared, are provided as at the date of this Framework. None of La Caisse or any of its subsidiaries and/or affiliates assume any responsibility or obligation to update or revise this Framework, regardless of whether this Framework is affected by the results of new information, future events or otherwise. No liability whatsoever is or will be accepted by La Caisse or any of its subsidiaries and/or affiliates and their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or agents for any loss or damage howsoever arising out of or in connection with the use of, or reliance upon, the information, opinions and perspectives contained in this Framework.

Unless otherwise specified, the information contained in this Framework has not been independently audited or verified. La Caisse has obtained an independent Second Party Opinion from Sustainalytics on this Framework, to confirm its alignment with the ICMA's Green Bond Principles.

This Framework does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or a recommendation to engage into any investment activity, in any jurisdiction or to any person or entity. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is or will be made in relation to the fairness, accuracy, reliability, reasonableness or completeness of the information contained herein. This Framework should not be relied on in connection with, or act as any inducement in relation to, an investment decision. If any offer or invitation to apply for securities is made, it will be done so only in accordance with all applicable laws and pursuant to separate and distinct documentation in the form of an offering memorandum or other equivalent document and a related pricing term sheet (the "Offering Documents"). Any decision to purchase or subscribe for any such securities pursuant to such offer or invitation should be made independently and solely on the basis of such Offering Documents and not these materials. Professional advice should be sought prior to any decision to invest in securities.

This Framework may contain statements about future events, expectations and commitments that are "forward looking statements" within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Forward-looking statements are generally identified through the inclusion of words such as "will," "expect," "may," "intend," "aim," "anticipate," "believe," "drive," "estimate," "commit" or similar statements or variations of such terms and other similar expressions. The forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict inherently and that could cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted in such statements due to a number of factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, market, political and economic conditions, legislative and regulatory changes, changes in the recommendations, practices, methodologies, standards, taxonomies or criteria on which this Framework is based, the lack of available Eligible Investments being initiated, failure to complete or implement projects and other challenges, [and those set forth in the "Risk Factors" section of La Caisse's most recent Offering Documents.]

No representation is made as to the suitability of any securities, proposed use of proceeds or any other transaction described in these materials to fulfil environmental and sustainability criteria required by prospective investors. Each potential investor should be aware that Eligible Investments may not deliver the environmental or sustainability benefits anticipated and may result in adverse impacts. La Caisse has set out its intended policy and actions in this Framework in respect of use of proceeds, project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds and reporting, in connection with La Caisse's Green Bonds. However, it will not be an event of default or breach of contractual obligations under the terms and conditions of any such securities if La Caisse fails to adhere to this Framework, whether by failing to fund or complete Eligible Investments or by failing to ensure that proceeds do not contribute directly or indirectly to the financing of the excluded activities as specified in this Framework, or by failing (due to a lack of reliable information and/or data or otherwise) to provide investors with reports on uses of proceeds and environmental impacts as anticipated by this Framework, or otherwise.

**La Caisse**

