

Press Release

Brussels, 12 April 2016

KBC gives its interpretation on results from BankWijzer/Scan des banques

Belgium's Fair Finance Guide ('BankWijzer/Scan des banques') has published a survey of sustainability policy in the Belgian banking sector, a study to which KBC gave constructive input.

KBC is aware of its role in our society, and it takes up its responsibilities in that regard. In so doing, KBC is open to questions and to debate, in the context of this survey and elsewhere.

In the methodology applied by Fair Finance, KBC would point out that the scores are based virtually exclusively on:

- policy principles that have been published and
- that mainly deal with the ethical and ecological aspects of sustainability.

However, KBC's sustainability principles go much further than those two topics. For KBC, sustainability means, first and foremost, continuing to meet all our commitments towards our stakeholders, and doing so without outside help.

Today, KBC already applies stringent guiding principles, even though it has not at present published every one of them.

The principles are currently being brought up to date. Only once KBC has fully completed this exercise, within the next few months, will these policy guidelines be published in all transparency, and KBC will thus clearly demonstrate that it sets great store by doing business in a socially responsible manner.

Besides ensuring that our guiding principles limit any negative impact on society, sustainability for KBC also means that we want to enhance our positive impact on society. This we seek to do through our offering of products and services, which is why, at the start of this year, we set out four areas on which to focus: financial literacy, stimulating entrepreneurship, environmental responsibility and population ageing.

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