



## THE FRENCH AGENCY SUPPORTING LOCAL INVESTMENT AND EXPORT



## CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY SEPTEMBER 2018



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## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

As leading finance provider for the French local public sector SFIL plays a *key role in financing investments in schools, nurseries, local public transport and in public healthcare facilities.*

*Strong focus on financing social infrastructure*

Since 2015, SFIL acts as refinancing platform for *export loans guaranteed by the French Republic* within a strict framework.

SFIL is committed to expanding its environmental policy and to reducing its CO2 emissions and overall ecological impact – the *Sustainable Development Committee*, established in 2015 plays a key role in these efforts with a number of measures taken over recent years. The *'Prime' corporate responsibility rating by Oekom* for covered bonds issuance by CAFFIL reflects the corporate responsibility of SFIL Group. In addition, IMUG has provided a *'Positive BBB' rating* to covered bonds issued by CAFFIL.

*'Prime' corporate responsibility rating by Oekom, 'positive BBB' rating by IMUG*



## FINANCING LOCAL PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENTS

SFIL was set up in 2013 by the French Republic to provide long term financing for French local public sector investments including:

- Investments in *local public transport*
- Construction and maintenance of *schools and nurseries*
- Investments by *public healthcare facilities*
- Investments in other *local public infrastructure*

SFIL works closely with La Banque Postale as commercial partner for the origination of local government and public hospital loans. With a *market share between 20% and 25%* in local public sector, the setup is the *leading finance provider in France for local public sector investments.*

*Partnership with La Banque Postale*

French local government spending has a strong focus on education, affordable housing and the protection of the environment:

### *French local government spending 2015 (EUR billion)*

Environment protection	19.2
Housing and community amenities	18.0
Health	1.8
Recreation and culture	23.3

Education	36.7
Social protection	47.2
<i>Total local government spending</i>	<i>249.2</i>

(source: Eurostat)

## REFINANCING OF FRENCH EXPORT CONTRACTS

The export financing activity is limited to the refinancing of loans compliant with *OECD environmental and social guidelines*. Export loans refinanced by SFIL are subject to a *social and environmental due diligence by BPI France Assurances Export* - for sensitive projects, a social and environmental impact analysis is publicly available. Energy projects based on coal energy are excluded from the French public export guarantee mechanism.

*Strict framework for the export financing business*

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

SFIL is committed to expanding its environmental policy and to reducing its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and overall ecological impact through a growing number of actions. The *Sustainable Development Committee*, established in 2015 and dedicated to this goal, has put together a number of measures with an objective to extend them over the coming years.



In 2015, the company headquarters moved to a *High Environmental Quality* certified building. A 100% renewable energy contract was put in

*Energy performance*

place to cover electricity consumption on both work sites of the company (Paris region and Lyon), with additional movement detectors and LED lighting installed in Paris.

In the beginning of 2016, SFIL has implemented a recycling program in its offices, for plastic bottles, aluminum cans, coffee capsules, and paper and plastic cups, with significant results. Additionally, toner cartridges and used batteries continue to be fully recycled.

*Waste reduction*

Paper recycling and overall reduction at source is another important goal for SFIL, with a variety of measures in place including reduction-oriented printer settings, use of 100% recycled paper ecolabel ISO 14001 and paper recycling containers made available throughout the office buildings. Additionally, a paperless policy has been put into place for a growing number of committees, whereby digital tablets are made available to prevent excessive printing.

SFIL is committed to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emission linked to transportation. SFIL reimburses *70% of the cost of public transport* passes to employees. More than *two thirds of the employees* of SFIL take advantage of this option. In addition, electric bicycles are available free of charge

*Transportation*

for employees and charging stations for electric cars are available at the company car park. Employees have the option to partly work from home if a number of conditions are met.

## COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

SFIL's code of ethics prohibits any form of discrimination based on gender, age, ethnic origin or political opinion. In 2016, SFIL joined the '*Al-lodiscrim*' mechanism to prevent discrimination, inequality and harassment with the help of an external organization of attorneys offering free and anonymous advice to employees.

*Non-discrimination and community involvement*

 In addition, SFIL is member of '*Club Etre*' (<https://clubetre.com/>) and '*HANDECO PAS-à-PAS*' with the aim of developing the employment of disabled and mentally retarded people. A partnership agreement with *CABAT - the center for assistance to injured army members* - aims to help injured soldiers to reintegrate into civilian professional life.

 SFIL has signed a partnership agreement with '*TÉLÉMAQUE institute*' with the aim of mentoring middle and high school students and reducing social inequalities in education area.

 SFIL also supports the projects '*l'Envol*' of La Banque Postale that supports the education of hundreds of talented young people coming from a modest social background. In addition, SFIL has signed a sponsoring agreement with '*Collège de France*' with the aim the provide support to high school students from less-favored regions of France.

29% of positions with management responsibilities are held by female employees (as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017). Human resources has fixed clear objectives with respect to *gender equality* over the next five years.

*Gender equality*

## HR MANAGEMENT

SFIL is committed to promoting employees career management and training. *The agreement on management of jobs, skills and career paths ('Accord relatif à la gestion des emplois, des compétences et des parcours professionnels - GEPP')* was signed in 2016. The agreement allows employees to adapt their skills to their career thanks to regular and lifelong training measures. SFIL encourages mobility by employees and gives priority to internal recruitments. An internal framework for career management including regular career counseling interviews with the HR partner has been put in place to provide orientation for employees.

*Career management*

Agreements have been signed with *CDC, MAIF and La Banque Postale* to facilitate the mobility of employees between SFIL and these entities. In addition, all employees of SFIL have access to the French *paid training leave mechanism ('Congé Individual de Formation')* and to an *individual skills assessment ('Bilan Professionnel')* that gives employees the opportunity to re-orient their careers.

*Expenditures for training measures have increased by more than a third* between 2014 and 2016 from EUR 367,000 to EUR 493,000. In 2016, all employees have participated in training measures. Training hours per employee have increased over the same period from 16.3 in 2014 to 23.2 in 2016

An *intergenerational agreement ('Accord Génération')* has been signed in 2015 with the aim to facilitate the integration of young people and seniors into the company and to promote life-long learning and training tailored to senior employees.

All employees of SFIL are covered by a complementary health insurance scheme. Details of the scheme are part of the *agreement on health care expenses ('Accord Frais de Santé')* signed in 2016. The Committee for *Health, Safety and Working Conditions (CHSCT)* is in charge of the implementation of the company policy on health and safety at work. Not a single work related accident occurred in 2016.

*Health and stress related issues*



Various measures are in place to reduce stress at work and to prevent psychosocial risks for employees including awareness raising measures and training measures to manage stress related issues. A *psychological hotline* is available free of charge and on a totally confidential basis to all employees 24 hours a day provided by a specialized service provider.



Within the HR department a specialist dedicated to *stress related issues* (Réfèrent Risques Humains & Médiation) is at the disposal of employees. His role is to receive employees in need of support, to provide advice and to direct them if necessary to outside professionals that can provide assistance. He is a member of the *National Association of Mediators (Association Nationale des Médiateurs)* and subject strict rules on independence, neutrality and confidentiality.

A detailed anonymous survey conducted in 2017 and open to all employees included a detailed analysis of stress related issues and work life balance. An *agreement on teleworking ('Accord teletravail')* has been signed in 2016 to offer the possibility to employees to work from home.

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### Tickers

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### Webpage

<https://sfil.fr/><https://caissefrancaisedefinancementlocal.fr/>

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