



# Banca Popolare di Sondrio

## PRESS RELEASE

**BANCA POPOLARE DI SONDRIO PUBLISHES ITS ANNUAL GREEN BOND REPORT  
REFERRING TO THE FIRST € 500 MILLION SENIOR PREFERRED GREEN BOND ISSUED IN  
JULY 2021**

**OVER 2,300 LOANS GRANTED TO CORPORATE, SMEs AND INDIVIDUALS**

Banca Popolare di Sondrio has published today the second annual Report on the Senior Preferred Green Bond, placed on the primary market in July 2021, for an amount of 500 million euros.

The purpose of the document is to provide an account of the allocation of the proceeds collected and the positive climate-environmental impacts deriving from the activities financed, according to the Green Bond Principles - Voluntary Process Guidelines for Issuing Green Bonds, by the International Capital Market Association.

The loans underlying the Green Bond are more than 2,300 and were granted to Corporate, SMEs and Retail customers; they have been provided in support of investments distributed throughout Italy and, to a lesser extent, in Switzerland, as evidence of the granularity and heterogeneity of the portfolio.

Despite the complexity of the portfolio, the Bank was able to collect, for all the analyzed counterparties, information on the climate and environmental impact of the financed activities and for 90% of these, it managed to calculate the avoided greenhouse gas emissions, amounting to about 63,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e<sup>1</sup>, almost doubling in a year the positive impact in terms of carbon footprint.

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<sup>1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>eq) is a measure that expresses the global warming impact of a certain amount of greenhouse gas compared to the same amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

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Slightly more than half of the bond proceeds, around €310 million, were used to finance the purchase of energy-efficient buildings and the renovation of less efficient ones. About €130 million were granted to counterparties operating in the renewable energy sector. The remaining proceeds went to companies operating in the field of water management, waste, organic farming, clean transportation and energy efficiency.

In line with what was represented in 2022, this year has again been given prominence to some virtuous realities that in their operations pay special attention to environmental protection and adopt policies and strategies that contribute to the creation of positive impacts on the relevant environmental and climate context.

The Green Bond Report 2023 highlights some virtuous realities paying particular attention to the protection of the environment and adopting policies and strategies aimed at producing positive impacts.

The Report received an external verification by the auditing firm EY S.p.A. which guarantees the correct allocation of revenues coming from the Green Bond issuance as well as the positive environmental impacts deriving from the assets financed.

You can consult the Bank's Green Bond Report in the section of the institutional website dedicated to financial operations, [EMTN programme section](#), as well as on the [Sustainability page](#), where you can also find further information and documents related to the Bank's ESG strategy, including the Consolidated Non-Financial Statement 2022 and the first TCFD Report.

Sondrio, 27th July 2023

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*The English translation is provided only for the benefit of the reader and in the case of discrepancies the Italian version shall prevail.*