



How do the SDGs align with our strategic themes?

Sustainable Development Goals report 2017

ABN AMRO is committed to creating shared value for all its stakeholders. In 2017, we took important steps to identify those SDGs most closely related to our four sustainability themes: circular economy, human rights, climate and social entrepreneurship & inclusion. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as guidance in connecting our company's efforts to a worldwide plan for a better world in 2030, agreed on by 193 countries.

What are the SDGs and why are they important to us?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 high-level, interconnected and indivisible goals. Each goal has underlying targets, which help to measure progress towards a better world in 2030. The SDGs are often referred to as the global agenda for sustainable development. The amount of investment required for this global agenda poses a challenge but is also an opportunity for both governments and private companies such as ABN AMRO to align with the global strategy for sustainable development. In 2017 we started our stakeholder journey by making a first scan of those SDGs best aligned with our 20 material topics.

Relevant SDGs

► ABN AMRO impacts these SDGs the most:



Creating spillover effects to these interconnected SDGs:



Timeline of SDG journey at ABN AMRO

December 2016

Building Highways to SDG Investing ABN AMRO. Together with other Dutch banks, we investigated how to promote SDG investing¹.

April 2017

Internal stakeholder consultation. Our staff were asked to voluntarily share the SDGs they felt to be most relevant for ABN AMRO. The most mentioned SDGs were SDGs 8, 12 and 13.

May 2017

External stakeholder consultation. We asked the same question of NGOs and clients who subscribe to our quarterly Sustainable Banking newsletter. From 100 respondents, the most mentioned SDGs were again SDGs 8, 12 and 13.

June 2017

SDG training at ABN AMRO for the Strategy and Sustainability department and our business to learn about the relevance of the SDG targets for banking and business.

June 2017

We announced our ambition to promote the circular economy. This links to SDGs 9, 12 and 13.

August 2017

ABN AMRO Mission 2030 for sustainable development of real estate announced on the release of the Q2 results. This links to SDGs 11, 12 and 13.

September 2017

We participated in De Nederlandsche Bank's Sustainable Finance Platform on SDG Impact indicators.

September 2017

We took part in the Dutch National Banking Association's SDG consultation with an open call for views from all interested parties.

September 2017

We entered into a partnership agreement with the World Economic Forum (WEF), committing us to participate in projects contributing to achieving the SDGs.

November 2017

ABN AMRO announced ambition for sustainable investment on the release of the Q3 results. This links with SDGs 8, 12 and 13.

November 2017

ABN AMRO is a founding member of the UNEP FI Positive Impact Principles launched by the De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB).

December 2017

We published our 2017 Human Rights Update and organised our fourth human rights conference. This links to SDG 8.

¹ Please refer to: abnamro.com/en/images/Documents/040_Sustainable_banking/Publications/Deep_dive_Report_Impact_Investment.pdf.

The SDG road ahead for ABN AMRO

ABN AMRO strives to contribute to the realisation of SDGs 8, 12 and 13. We believe that positive impact on selected targets will create favourable conditions for the protection and nurturing of these interconnected SDGs.



1. Impact on decent jobs and economic development

Through our banking activities we promote decent jobs, entrepreneurship and encourage growth of SMEs and social enterprises. We promote respect for human rights and report on land rights, labour rights, privacy and discrimination. We also have a social impact fund, stimulating the growth of social entrepreneurs and social impact bonds. Job creation and economic development (SDG 8) creates positive spill-over effects helping to reduce poverty and to increase resilience, equal opportunities and access to education, leading to a healthy and prosperous life (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10).



2. Impact on responsible consumption and production

We support the business model shift to a resource-based circular economy.

We will work together with our clients to achieve three goals by 2020: to finance EUR 1 billion in circular assets, to finance 100 circular loans and to cut carbon emissions by 1 million tonnes. These deals with clients should help the transition to a circular and more closed-loop economy by 2030. We provide finance for upgrades of infrastructure and to retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean technologies and closed-loop processes. To get a better grasp of the needs and performance of our clients, we have introduced a life cycle analysis (LCA, also known as eco-balance and cradle-to-grave analysis) with ten selected ABN AMRO clients in industry and agriculture. The goal is to identify business triggers in the value chain that facilitate companies to switch to cleaner, more resource-efficient and, eventually, circular processes. Our ambitions for a circular economy (SDG 12) cannot be successfully achieved without renewable energy (SDG 7), guarantees for access to clean water (SDG 6) and a balance with maritime and land based biodiversity (SDGs 14 and 1).



3. Impact on climate.

In 2017, ABN AMRO launched its bank-wide 'Mission 2030' ambition to ensure that all of the homes and offices the bank

helps finance and the properties the bank uses have an average energy label A by 2030. This represents a reduction of two megatonnes of carbon emissions in the Netherlands. Mission 2030 will also help the bank inform, facilitate and activate Dutch clients as they make their real estate more sustainable to realise this substantial carbon reduction. Our ambitions to contribute to the mitigation of global warming (SDG 13) are linked to the shift to renewable energy (SDG 7), innovation of industry and infrastructure (SDG 9), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) and the achievement of a circular economy (SDG 12).

Next steps

ABN AMRO's Executive Board has opted to focus on SDGs 8, 12 and 13, allowing us to make a positive impact and to know where we need to mitigate any negative impacts. Our next steps are to:

- ▶ Integrate and align our SDG choices with our activities for the World Economic Forum.
- ▶ Develop metrics related to each chosen SDG.
- ▶ Further assess the detailed business implications of our selection of SDGs 8, 12 and 13 and related SDGs.
- ▶ Define a roadmap and concrete business plans to reach our goals.