



Press Release

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Aareal Bank Group's sustainability management rated positively again

Wiesbaden, 05 February 2016 – Aareal Bank Group has been rated positively by two leading sustainability rating agencies again. Aareal Bank succeeded in improving its good results for the previous year as assessed by the Sustainalytics rating agency, scoring 68 out of 100 possible points for the 2015 financial year (2014: 61 out of 100 points). Moreover, Sustainalytics rated Aareal Bank as "outperformer" for the first time, thus placing it among the top 16 per cent of the industry. The Bank's peer group scored 55.3 points on average.

The rating agency imug/Vigeo Eiris rated Aareal Bank Group as an issuer within the framework of their "imug sustainability rating of bank bonds 2015". For its rating, the agency considered all types of bonds issued by Aareal Bank. As at January 2016, Aareal Bank was rated "positive BB" in the imug category "Uncovered bonds" (Senior Unsecured Bonds), thus ranking among the top 3 of 102 banks rated in total.

"Sustainable business practices are in the focus of Aareal Bank Group's corporate culture. A responsible approach is a decisive requirement for continuing to operate successfully in the future," explained Julia Taeschner, Head of Sustainability Management at Aareal Bank Group. "We therefore consistently align our entrepreneurial activities to the interests of our stakeholders. In this way, we aim to play our part in a forward-looking economic and social development. The encouraging rating results document the extension and development of our group-wide sustainability performance."

Aareal Bank Group

Aareal Bank Group, headquartered in Wiesbaden, Germany, is one of the leading international property specialists. It is active across three continents – in Europe, North America and Asia. Aareal Bank AG, whose shares are included in Deutsche Börse's MDAX index, is the Group's parent entity. It manages the various entities organised in the Group's two business segments: Structured Property Financing and Consulting /Services. The Structured Property Financing segment encompasses all of Aareal Bank Group's property financing and funding activities. In this segment, the Bank facilitates property investment projects for its domestic and international clients, within the framework of a three-continent strategy covering Europe, North America and Asia. In the Consulting/Services segment, Aareal Bank Group offers clients – particularly from the housing industry and the commercial property sector – services and products for managing residential property portfolios and processing payment flows.

Sustainalytics

Sustainalytics is an independent ESG and corporate governance research, ratings, and analysis firm supporting investors around the world with the development and implementation of responsible investment strategies. Headquartered in Amsterdam and with 13 offices globally, Sustainalytics partners with institutional investors who integrate environmental, social, and governance information and assessments into their investment processes. Today, the firm has 230 staff members, including more than 120 analysts with varied multidisciplinary expertise across more than 40 sectors. For the past three years (2012, 2013, 2014), Sustainalytics has been named the best independent

responsible investment research firm in Extel's IRRRI survey of institutional investors. For more information, visit www.sustainalytics.com

imug/Vigeo Eiris

imug is the German research & sales partner of Vigeo Eiris for the DACH region. In addition to sustainability ratings of listed companies and countries conducted within the framework of its cooperation with Vigeo Eiris, imug offers an independent product to rate the sustainability of secured and unsecured bank bonds, in particular Pfandbriefe. This comprises the rating of around 130 national and international issuers of bank bonds per year according to a set of criteria that apply the guiding principles of materiality and impact, ensuring that the rating is suitable for financial institutions. With a team of 180 employees, Vigeo Eiris maintains branches in Paris, London, Boston, Brussels, Casablanca, Milan, Montreal and Santiago. Furthermore, the agency is globally represented via its Vigeo Eiris Global Network, comprising independent partners in Canberra, Hanover (imug), Istanbul, Jerusalem, Madrid, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, Seoul, Tokyo and Zaragoza. Further information under www.imug.de