

BNP PARIBAS INVESTMENT PARTNERS RECEIVES 2016 INNOVATION AWARD FOR LOW CARBON ETF

THEAM, BNP Paribas Investment Partners' (BNPP IP's) manager of index-based investment solutions), has won the 2016 Innovation Award at Agefi's *Grands Prix des ETF* for its **BNP Paribas Easy Low Carbon 100 Europe® UCITS ETF**. It received the award, which recognises leading ETF (exchange-traded fund) innovation in the equity category, on 11 February, at the second edition of the *Grands Prix des ETF*. The event was organised by French business and financial periodical Agefi in tandem with TrackInsight, the ETF analysis platform.

This award recognises the **pioneering role played by BNPP IP**, which in 2008 became the first investment management company to launch a Low Carbon ETF. Benchmarked to the Low Carbon 100 Europe® index, **BNP Paribas Easy Low Carbon 100 Europe® UCITS ETF** replicates the performance of 100 major European companies with the lowest CO₂ emissions in their respective sectors.

This award demonstrates the **innovative capability of BNPP IP**, which helped modify the methodology of the Low Carbon 100 Europe® index, alongside Euronext and Carbone4, in November 2015. It is now possible to identify companies that make a positive contribution to the energy transition, whether through their operating performance or through the products sold to clients. This Low Carbon index fund combines responsible investment and a diversified exposure to European equities. **Investing in this Low Carbon ETF means investing in a portfolio with half the CO₂ emissions of the companies in a traditional Europe index.**

BNP Paribas Easy Low Carbon 100 Europe® UCITS ETF has enjoyed strong performance: over the past five years: the Low Carbon 100 Europe index that the fund tracks outperformed the broader STOXX Europe 600 by **11.58%**¹.

This award underscores **BNPP's long-standing commitment to a low-carbon economy**. After signing the Montreal Carbon Pledge in May 2015, implementing a carbon-linked investment policy, signing up to the Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition and publishing the carbon footprint of equity funds in its Parvest line in November 2015, BNPP IP has again demonstrated its ability to innovate and play a pioneering role in low-carbon investments.

Frédéric Janbon, Chief Executive Officer of BNPP IP, comments:

"We are very happy to have received this award, which illustrates our commitment to responsible investment. Our many initiatives in recent years allow us to offer our clients, both institutional and retail, a broad selection of investment solutions based on our research and innovation."



Denis Panel, Chief Executive Officer of THEAM, adds:

“The Low Carbon ETF helps fund energy transition by directing investments to companies that are the most active in reducing CO₂ emissions and that make the biggest contribution to limiting global warming to less than two degrees.”

Anthony Attia, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Euronext Paris, comments:

“We congratulate BNP Paribas Investment Partners on this award, which illustrates that the new version of the Low Carbon 100 Europe® index and its related tracker were very well received. Innovation lies at the heart of offering investors index products that measure companies’ environmental performance.”

¹Source: Bloomberg. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Performance before fees as of 29 January 2016: Low Carbon 100 Europe (NR): 52.79%.STOXX Europe 600 (NR): 41.21%. Net performance of the fund over the past five years: 2011: -1.76%; 2012: 15.98%; 2013: 23.51%; 2014: 7.18%; 2015: 10.10%.

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French mutual fund (FCP), compliant with European directive 2009/65/EC, eligible for the personal equity plan (PEA). The value of investments and of the income that they generate may increase or decrease and investors may not recover the full amount of their investment

About BNP Paribas Investment Partners

BNP Paribas Investment Partners is the BNP Paribas Group’s asset management specialist and an entity of International Financial Services of BNP Paribas. BNP Paribas Investment Partners offers the full range of asset management services to both institutional and private investors around the world. The company adopts a client-focused approach and is structured around three business lines: Institutional, Distributors and Asia-Pacific & Emerging Markets. BNP Paribas Investment Partners counts more than 3000 employees¹ in 35 countries¹, with a total of more than 600 investment professionals¹; each specialised in a particular asset class or product type, and has assets under management totalling EUR 530 billion¹.

¹Source: BNP Paribas Investment Partners, as of 31 December 2015, assets under management and advisory

ABOUT THEAM

As part of BNP Paribas Investment Partners and benefiting from a close partnership with BNP Paribas Corporate Investment Banking (CIB), THEAM specialises in protected, indexed and model-driven asset management. It offers investment solutions across a broad spectrum of assets, adapted to the needs of distribution networks and institutional investors. At the end of December 2015, THEAM employed about 100 professionals and had assets under management of more than EUR 38 billion³. For more information: www.theam.bnpparibas

³Source: THEAM, as of 31 December 2015

METHODOLOGY OF THE 2016 GRAND PRIZE FOR INNOVATION

At the Forum ETF held by Agefi on 11 February 2016, two prizes were awarded, one in the equities category and one in fixed income. These prizes were awarded by a nine-member jury after examining 11 nominees. ETF promoters were asked to fill out a nomination form. They were allowed to present only one fund in each category. The ETF had to have been marketed in 2015, but ETFs launched in previous years were also eligible. The jury shortlisted five finalists, three in equities and two in fixed income, and interviewed them. After deliberating, jury members voted on the most innovative ETF in each category.



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