

5.5.7. The environment

BBVA's **commitment** to the environment is reflected in its global [environmental policy](#). BBVA has adhered to the major international agreements related to this matter, such as the United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), the Equator Principles, the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), the United Nations Global Compact, the Green Bond Principles and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). BBVA is also a member of the Spanish Green Growth Group and has subscribed to various initiatives in support of a strong, ambitious response to climate change, such as the statements by the [European Financial Services Round Table \(EFR\)](#), the [Alliance of Energy Efficiency Financing Institutions](#), and the Energy Efficient Mortgage initiative of the European Mortgage Federation.

BBVA seeks to address the management of environmental risks and the **opportunities** arising from such risks, especially those related to climate change, by implementing an integral approach. To that end, in 2016 it began working on a framework that encompasses both aspects, and which is expected to be released in 2017. The environmental risk management tools at our disposal are described in this Report, specifically in the chapter on Social, Environmental and Reputational Risk; the opportunities are set out in the section on People-Centric Solutions, within the chapter on Customers.

Eco-efficiency

In 2015 we concluded our second **Global Eco-efficiency Plan (GEP)**, far exceeding all the targets that were set. In 2016 we worked on defining a new GEP, focused on positioning BBVA among the world's leading eco-efficiency organizations. The GEP has established the following core strategic areas and global targets for 2016-2020:

1. Environmental management and sustainable construction:
 - 42% of occupants in environmentally certified buildings
2. Energy and climate change:
 - 5% reduction in electricity consumption per person
 - 48% of energy comes from renewable sources
 - 8% reduction in CO2 emissions per person
3. Water:
 - 5% reduction in water consumption per person

- 9% of people in properties with alternative water supply sources
4. Paper and waste:
 - 5% reduction in paper consumption per person
 - 30% of people in properties with sorted waste collection
 5. Extending the commitment:
 - Awareness campaigns for employees and suppliers

Main GEP indicators (BBVA Group)

	2016	2015	2014
People working in certified buildings (%) ^{(1) (2)}	40	33	18
Electricity usage per person (MWh)	5.8	6.4	6.4
Energy coming from renewable sources (%) ⁽³⁾	25	30	n/av
CO2 emissions per person (T)	2.5	2.7	2.7
Water consumption per person (m ³)	21.1	22.3	24
People working in buildings with alternative sources of water supply (%)	10	14	n/av
Paper consumption per person (T)	0.1	0.1	0.1
People working in certified buildings (%)	32	33	18

n/av = not available.

⁽¹⁾ Including ISO 14001 and LEED certifications.

⁽²⁾ Including Torre Reforma and BBVA Bancomer Operational Center buildings in Mexico, which are currently in the process of certification.

⁽³⁾ It corresponds to the electrical energy consumption of Spain with respect to the total.

Note: indicators calculated based on employees and external staff.

To achieve these targets, in 2016 BBVA continued its efforts to minimize its **environmental footprint** through initiatives in all the countries where the Group is present, most notably:

- 100% of the energy supply in Spain to be procured from renewable sources. In Mexico, a fifteen-year agreement has been signed to provide renewable energy to the branch network and corporate head offices starting in 2017. In Uruguay, 52 photovoltaic panels have been installed in one of the main branches in the country, as part of a pilot project aimed at implementing renewable energy in the branch network.
- Implementation of the new IFM (Integrated Facility Management) model for properties in Spain, which has saved 3.2 million kWh in its first year, equivalent to the consumption of 110 retail network branches and the emission of 1,300 tons of CO2. This model is in its initial implementation phase in Mexico and has already reported an average saving of 15% on consumption at 251 branches.

- Automation of air conditioning and lighting systems in the branches of countries such as Mexico, Colombia and Peru, with average energy savings of 19% per year.
- Renewal of Environmental Management System certifications under ISO 14001 in Argentina, Colombia, Spain, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Turkey. In total, 1,047 branches and 77 of the Group's buildings around the world possess this certification. Likewise, Environmental Management System certifications under Standard ISO 50001 have been renewed for buildings on the La Moraleja Campus and Ciudad BBVA in Madrid.
- The new BBVA City corporate headquarters and the La Isla service building in Madrid were granted the Gold LEED certification for sustainable construction and design, while the training buildings in Mexico, Tereo and Murano received the Silver LEED certification. Tower A in the Parque Titanium complex, Santiago, BBVA's new headquarters in Chile, was awarded a Gold LEED Core & Shell certification. These certifications are in addition to the 16 BBVA buildings that have already received this prestigious environmental certification.
- Participation in the Earth Hour campaign, during which 123 buildings and 342 branches in 154 cities throughout Spain, Portugal, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile, the United States and Turkey turned off their lights.

[Annex 21 - Public water consumption](#)

[Annex 22 - Paper consumption.](#)

[Annex 23 - Consumption of energy.](#)

[Annex 24 - CO₂ emissions](#)

[Annex 25 - Waste management](#)