

## The AXA Group further improves its environmental, social, and governance performance

- AXA features amongst the insurance sector leaders within the Dow Jones Sustainability Index
  - The Group strongly improves its environmental footprint performance
  - This progress confirms the relevance of AXA's Corporate Responsibility strategy
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- **Dow Jones Indexes** and **SAM** (Sustainable Asset Management), an environmental, social and governance rating agency, have recently unveiled the results of their 2011 assessment.

The AXA Group's performance is up 4 points compared to 2010, with an aggregate score of 74/100, significantly above the sector average (48/100). This score notably reflects improvements in environmental and social dimensions.

Moreover, AXA Group's inclusion in the "DJSI World<sup>1</sup>" and "DJSI Europe<sup>2</sup>" indices (Dow Jones Sustainability Index<sup>3</sup>), which are key benchmarks for SRI<sup>4</sup> fund managers, is confirmed. Both indices select the most advanced companies in terms of Corporate Responsibility / "sustainability".

AXA Group's main strengths highlighted by SAM include: the management of emerging risks, the development of products addressing new societal issues, the Group's environmental footprint reduction, the inclusion of social and environmental criteria in suppliers' selection and more generally the quality of the social and environmental reporting.

- The **Carbon Disclosure Project<sup>5</sup>** (CDP) has recently updated its 2011 assessment of corporate responses to climate change.

With a "carbon performance" score of 92/100 - the insurance sector's highest score - the AXA Group features in the Carbon Performance Leadership Index, which highlights companies within the Global 500 index (the 500 biggest companies in the world) demonstrating a strong commitment to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

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<sup>1</sup> DJSI World features 342 sustainability leaders in 2011 out of a reference investment universe of 2,500 companies worldwide (Dow Jones Global Index).

<sup>2</sup> DJSI Europe features 172 companies out of the 600 companies included in the Dow Jones Europe reference index.

<sup>3</sup> For more information: [www.sustainability-index.com](http://www.sustainability-index.com).

<sup>4</sup> SRI: Socially Responsible Investment.

<sup>5</sup> Independent coalition which coordinates actions of 551 institutional investors calling for climate change risk mitigation.

See: [www.cdproject.net](http://www.cdproject.net).

The improvement of the quality and the transparency of the AXA Group's environmental reporting is also recognized by the CDP. With a "carbon disclosure" score of 92/100, AXA has the highest score of the insurance sector and is featured in the Carbon Disclosure Leadership Index. This index highlights the companies which have displayed the most rigorous approach to disclose information regarding CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

*"Our strong efforts to improve our societal, environmental and governance performance are rewarded by the improvement of our external ratings. These scores must encourage ourselves to further implement our corporate responsibility strategy, which is now present at every level of the AXA Group's organization and activities.*

*The quality of our performance is a major stake for our management and many people at AXA, who consider that this is embedded in our long term business of accompanying and protecting people. We will continue to work particularly for risk prevention through research and education throughout the world"* said **Alice Steenland, Corporate Responsibility Director of the AXA Group.**

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For more information about:

- AXA Group's Corporate Responsibility strategy:

<http://www.axa.com/en/responsibility/>

- AXA Group's SRI ratings:

<http://www.axa.com/en/responsibility/sri/>

### **About the AXA Group**

The AXA Group is a worldwide leader in insurance and asset management, with 214,000 employees serving 95 million clients. In 2010, IFRS revenues amounted to Euro 91 billion and IFRS underlying earnings to Euro 3.9 billion. AXA had Euro 1,104 billion in assets under management as of December 31, 2010.

The AXA ordinary share is listed on compartment A of Euronext Paris under the ticker symbol CS (ISN FR 0000120628 – Bloomberg: CS FP – Reuters: AXAF.PA). AXA's American Depositary Shares are also quoted on the OTC QX platform under the ticker symbol AXAHY.

The AXA Group is included in the main international SRI indexes, such as Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) and FTSE4GOOD.

This press release is available on the AXA Group website

[www.axa.com](http://www.axa.com)

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