

Crédit Mutuel Arkéa and the EIB continue to support SMEs and SMIs through dedicated financing

Brest - February 2024 - The European Investment Bank (EIB) and Crédit Mutuel Arkéa have announced a new €400m partnership to support SMEs and midcaps with fewer than 3,000 employees. The two entities are thus confirming their commitment to the development of French businesses and, in particular, their environmental transition.

European Investment Bank financing in support of loans to small and medium-sized enterprises.

The EIB has granted the group a new €200 million credit line. This facility will enable Crédit Mutuel Arkéa to step up its support for small businesses and SMEs via its Crédit Mutuel de Bretagne and Crédit Mutuel du Sud-Ouest federations, as well as the customers of its subsidiaries Arkéa Banque Entreprises et Institutionnels and Arkéa Crédit Bail, which operate throughout France.

Funding must meet the scheme's eligibility criteria.

- SME and ETI financing
- Minimum duration of 2 years
- Projects up to €25 million
- Low-cost loans thanks to European financing from the EIB.

The EIB is the European Union's long-term financing institution. Its mission is to contribute towards the integration, balanced development and economic and social cohesion of the EU Member States. Drawing on its experience and know-how, it finances sound, sustainable projects targeting innovation and skills, SMEs, climate action and strategic infrastructure throughout the EU. Thanks to its AAA rating, the best that can be obtained on the capital markets, it can borrow funds on favourable terms, which it then passes on to SMEs and SMIs via Crédit Mutuel Arkéa, which informs each SME and SMI of the EIB's involvement and the financial advantage for their financing. Detailed information on the EIB Group's support for SMEs and midcaps can be found on the EIB website at www.bei.org.

A European collaboration to support the development of SMEs and their environmental initiatives.

To support European SMEs and VSEs in their commitment to the climate, 30% of the total allocation will be specifically earmarked for financing climate action projects. These projects will include initiatives such as renewable energy production, improving energy efficiency and energy renovation.

About Crédit Mutuel Arkéa

The Crédit Mutuel Arkéa cooperative group comprises the Crédit Mutuel de Bretagne and Sud-Ouest federations and their member local mutual banks, as well as around forty specialised subsidiaries (Fortuneo, Monext, Arkéa Banque Entreprises et Institutionnels, Arkéa Investment Services, Suravenir, etc.). It has more than 11,000 employees, 2,600 directors, over 5.1 million bancassurance members and customers, and total assets of €191.6 billion.

The first banking group to adopt a Mission Statement in 2019, Crédit Mutuel Arkéa became a company with a mission in 2022 and, through its "Transitions 2024" strategic plan, is committed to providing finance that serves local and regional authorities and their stakeholders, in order to position itself as an agile and innovative financial partner for the transitions of the future.

With a nationwide presence, Crédit Mutuel Arkéa has chosen to keep its decision-making centres in the regions. It is a major player in job creation in its regions, and relies on an ongoing recruitment drive. The Group is convinced that local development can only be achieved by combining financial and non-financial considerations. This is why Crédit Mutuel Arkéa is the first French bank to have developed a unique method for calculating overall performance. This enables it to take into account all the financial, social, societal and environmental impacts of its activities and those of its stakeholders.

More information on arkea.com

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For more information, visit www.eib.org