

Press Release

## **SACE adheres to the Poseidon Principles to promote sustainability in the shipping sector**

Adherence to the Poseidon Principles follows the adoption of a Climate Change Policy, highlighting SACE's growing attention to sustainability thanks to specific measures which improve Italian and foreign businesses' contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

SACE's commitment to sustainability is also confirmed by its leading role in supporting Italy's Green New Deal, through the green guarantees program: more than €1.4 billion guarantees have already been issued to support the country's green transition.

*Rome, October 28* – By adhering to the **Poseidon Principles**, SACE, the Italian Export Credit Agency (ECA) led by Pierfrancesco Latini, commits to monitoring the greenhouse gas emissions of its shipping portfolio – which is particularly important for the company's export credit business - in order to ensure compliance with the decarbonization targets set by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

The Poseidon Principles are the first global framework for financial institutions related to the climate alignment of ship finance portfolios. Adherence to the Poseidon Principles is part of SACE's sustainability process and follows the adoption of a Climate Change Policy and other initiatives described in the Sustainability Report.

The Poseidon Principles promote the signatories' assessment and disclosure of the alignment of their ship finance portfolios with the IMO's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions of at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008 levels for ships over 5,000 tons. In practice, every year, SACE will measure the carbon intensity of the ships in its portfolio and, together with the other signatories, will disclose climate alignment figures in order to promote transparency and accountability in the sector.

As set forth in the Simplification Decree of July 2020, SACE's commitment to sustainability also includes effective support to Italy's Green New Deal. Green guarantees covering up to 80% of loans for domestic projects will facilitate the transition to a greener economy, integrating production cycles with low-emission technologies and promoting smart mobility initiatives.

SACE is the Italian Export Credit Agency specialized in supporting businesses and the national economic fabric through a wide range of tools and solutions to support competitiveness in Italy and worldwide. For over forty years, SACE has been the reference partner for Italian companies that export and grow on foreign markets. It also supports the banking system to facilitate companies' access to credit with its financial guarantees, with a role enhanced by the extraordinary measures laid out in the Liquidity and Simplification Decrees. Recent measures have, in fact, broadened SACE's mission beyond the traditional support for export and internationalization, adding important elements, including supporting businesses' investments in the domestic market and guarantees for green projects as part of the implementation of the Italy's Green New Deal. Accordingly, SACE is also committed to promoting the development of Italy's economy. With a portfolio of insured operations and guaranteed investments of €156 billion, SACE serves over 26 thousand companies, especially SMEs, supporting their growth in Italy and in around 200 foreign markets.

As part of this new line of business, SACE has already issued guarantees worth approximately €1.4 billion for projects intended to promote the country's green transition. This figure is expected to grow over the next few months, thanks to various transactions, including in cutting-edge technological sectors, which the company is currently considering. The projects under evaluation will reconvert industrial processes to reduce waste and polluting emissions, support circular economy and smart mobility, and producing energy from renewable sources, such as solar and wind.

In addition, SACE has adopted a Climate Change Policy to reduce support to greenhouse gas emissions. Specifically, the policy introduces a ban on coal-fired power plants and on extraction, production and transportation of thermal coal, as well as transactions in the oil&gas industry that involve the use of routine flaring and fracking.

*“Sustainability - commented **SACE’s Chief Executive Officer Pierfrancesco Latini** - is more and more at the core of SACE’s strategy. The adherence to the Poseidon Principles which apply to a strategic sector for the Italian economy, such as the shipbuilding industry, shows that business and sustainability must go hand in hand. We pursue our mission to support the country’s green transition with great commitment and determination, acknowledging the importance of our role as part of Italy’s Green New Deal and in the framework of Italy’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan. In this respect, SACE’s support to investments and projects will be a potential driver for both public and private sector resources”.*

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