





Press Release

SACE launches the first Green Push and supports Italian exports to Brazil alongside Raízen, with a loan granted by a group of international banks led by BNP Paribas

The loan is aimed at supporting the Brazilian company Raízen that has a strong investment plan in green and renewable energy projects

São Paulo, November 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Raízen, an integrated Brazilian energy company with a broad portfolio of renewables, has secured a €300 million Green Loan, backed by SACE's guarantee. The loan was granted by a group of international banks led by BNP Paribas. The loan is aimed at facilitating the supply chain of Italian exporters involved in the sustainable investment plan of the Brazilian company, who is committed to the sustainability agenda with clear objectives, such as achieving 20 plants of second-generation ethanol ("E2G") by 2030. "To be the first company in Latin America to receive approval for this loan means that we are on the right path to position Brazil as a leading country in the energy transition", highlights Raízen's Sustainability & Strategy VP, Paula Kovarsky.

This is the first-ever Euro-denominated loan of its kind facilitated by SACE in Brazil, whose involvement comes through the Green Push, a fresh addition to the Push Strategy program. This initiative is designed to strengthen the positioning of Italian SMEs within global supply chains, with the goal of promoting 'Made in Italy' exports in support of the international green transition. Thanks to the Push Strategy, SACE has guaranteed €7 billion in financing and organized over 150 business matching meetings, involving over 5,500 Italian companies, the majority of which are SMEs, both in Italy and abroad.

Pauline Sebok, Head of Americas Region at SACE commented: "We are happy to be working in synergy with the group of banks to support Raízen's green development initiatives. Through our Green Push initiative, we are able to facilitate the connection between major energy players and the supply chain of Italian small and medium-sized enterprises, while promoting their expertise and the high-quality of 'Made in Italy' products. Hence, SACE plays a pivotal role in spearheading Italian exports into strategic markets such as Brazil".

Since 2008, SACE has been present in Brazil with an office in São Paulo that serves as a strategic hub for Italian businesses aiming to expand in the South American market, as well as a focal point for local major buyers seeking connections with 'Made in Italy' supply chains.

With its strong roots in Brazil and operating as domestic market in Italy, BNP Paribas acted as Coordinating Bank, Bookrunner, Documentation Bank, Green Loan Coordinator, Facility Agent and Mandated Lead Arranger. The bank was ideally placed to structure a deal which will foster cross-border trade flows between the two countries and support the growth of an industry leader in sustainable fuels, in turn an irreplaceable element in the path to de-carbonization of the transportation sector.

"Innovative structures such as this green loan allow for the development of sustainable import and export supply chains that can contribute to the clean energy transition", says **Rodrigo Jabur, Head of Corporate Coverage at BNP Paribas Brazil.** 

## **About SACE**

SACE is Italy's Export Credit Agency and insurance & finance group controlled directly by the Ministry of the Economy and Finance, specialized in supporting businesses and the national economic system through a wide range of tools and solutions to support competitiveness in Italy and worldwide. For over 45 years, the SACE Group has been the reference partner for Italian companies that export and grow on foreign markets. It also supports the banking system, through its financial guarantees, to facilitate companies' access to credit, support liquidity and investments for competitiveness and sustainability as part of the Italian Green New Deal, starting from the domestic market. The Group is present worldwide with 13 offices in target countries for Made in Italy which have the role of building relationships with primary local counterparts and, through dedicated financial instruments, facilitating business with Italian companies. With a portfolio of insured operations and guaranteed investments of Euro 164 billion, SACE, together with all its subsidiaries - SACE FCT, which operates in the factoring sector, SACE BT, specialized in credit, surety bonds and insuring against damage to property, and SACE SRV, specialized in data collection and information asset management - serves over 40 thousand companies, especially SMEs, supporting their growth in Italy and in around 200 foreign markets.

Media contacts

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## **About Raízen**

Reshaping the future of energy, Raízen has a broad portfolio of renewable solutions and unique business model to lead its markets and drive the global energy transition. Causing positive impacts for all stakeholders, Raízen is committed to generating today the energy of tomorrow through sustainable and profitable growth guided by viable and solid goals aligned with its purpose.

With advanced proprietary technologies, Raízen has expanded its renewables portfolio with products such as second-generation ethanol (E2G), biogas, biomethane and bioelectricity generated from 100% clean energy sources. Since its inception, Raízen already has avoided 30 million tons of C02 emissions, and its goal is to expand the decarbonization potential of its products by avoiding over 10 million tons of C02 emissions per year. Raízen's key goals include becoming companies' best decarbonization partner, which is why it undertook 15 relevant public commitments aligned with some of the UN'S biggest challenges, connected to material topics such as climate change and energy transition, agricultural management, biodiversity, sustainable procurement, and others.

Raízen is one of Brazil's largest companies. The company creates new jobs, generates income, drives economic growth and causes positive social impacts through various initiatives, notably the Raízen Foundation, a not-for-profit institution dedicated for over 20 years to educating children and young adults in socially vulnerable situations.

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## **About BNP Paribas**

BNP Paribas is the European Union's leading bank and key player in international banking. It operates in 65 countries and has nearly 185,000 employees, including more than 145,000 in Europe. The Group has key positions in its three main fields of activity: Commercial, Personal Banking & Services for the Group's commercial & personal banking and several specialised businesses including BNP Paribas Personal Finance and Arval; Investment & Protection Services for savings, investment and protection solutions; and Corporate & Institutional Banking, focused on corporate and institutional clients. Based on its strong diversified and integrated model, the Group helps all its clients (individuals, community associations, entrepreneurs, SMEs, corporates and institutional clients) to realise their projects through solutions spanning financing, investment, savings and protection insurance. In Europe, BNP Paribas has four domestic markets: Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg. The Group is rolling out its integrated commercial & personal banking model across several Mediterranean countries, Turkey, and Eastern Europe. As a key player in international banking, the Group has leading platforms and business lines in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas as well as a solid and fast-growing business in Asia-Pacific. BNP Paribas has implemented a Corporate Social Responsibility approach in all its activities, enabling it to contribute to the construction of a sustainable future, while ensuring the Group's performance and stability.

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