UNICAJA BANCO

GREEN BOND FRAMEWORK

Content of the Green Bond Framework

1.	. Background	
2.	. Unicaja Banco's approach to Sustainability	4
	2.1 Sustainability	2
	2.2 Rationale for Issuance	6
3.	Unicaja Banco Green Bond Framework	7
	3.1 Use of Proceeds	7
	3.2 Process for Project Evaluation and Selection	9
	3.3 Management of Proceeds	11
	3.4 Reporting	12
4.	External Review	13
5.	. Amendments to this Framework	13
6.	. Legal Disclaimer	13

1. Background

Unicaja Banco takes on the historic mantle from a wide range of savings banks from different geographic areas of Spain, some centuries old, and all with a long trajectory as lending institutions with a marked social character. The savings bank Unicaja was established in March 1991, as a result of the merger of the following savings banks: Ronda, Cádiz, Almería, Málaga and Antequera, and Caja de Jaén joined in August 2010. All these savings banks were founded with the aim of stimulating the economies of their regions, with a special focus on the agricultural, fishing and tourist sectors as well as retail mortgages. Additionally, they were committed to pursuing social welfare projects aimed at developing their regions.

In December 2011, Unicaja segregated and transferred all its banking activities to a newly created public limited company named Unicaja Banco. In October 2014, Unicaja was transformed into a banking foundation (Fundación Bancaria Unicaja, the "Unicaja Banking Foundation"). Since then, the Unicaja Banking Foundation has been and continues to be the Unicaja Banco main shareholder, with a 30% shareholding as of the date of approval of this Framework. The main activity of the Unicaja Banking Foundation is the development of its welfare projects and the proper management of its shareholding in Unicaja Banco. The essential purpose of the Foundation is the promotion and development of social, charitable, welfare, educational and/or cultural works.

In June 2017, Unicaja Banco became a listed company, with its shares being admitted to official listing on the Stock Markets of Madrid, Barcelona, Bilbao and Valencia.

Furthermore, the merger of EspañaDuero into Unicaja Banco was completed in September 2018 as a result of a merger by absorption process. EspañaDuero, which managed the financial business of the former Caja España and Caja Duero, was established in November 2011, giving continuity to the work developed for more than one century by Caja España de Inversiones, Salamanca y Soria, Caja de Ahorros y Monte de Piedad, which was in turn the result of the merger of more than a dozen entities.

In July 2021, the merger by absorption of Liberbank into Unicaja Banco was formalized. Liberbank, the eighth largest listed bank in Spain until the integration date, was established in 2011 by Grupo Cajastur, Caja de Extremadura and Caja Cantabria, as a retail banking specializing in families, SMEs and the self-employed, and a flagship institution in the markets of Asturias, Cantabria, Castilla-La Mancha and Extremadura.

Unicaja Banco, following the mentioned history of mergers and acquisitions among different regional entities, it's currently the fifth largest bank in the Spanish financial system in terms of assets and the sixth largest by market capitalization. It has its headquarters in Málaga and is clearly positioned as a flagship financial institution in six Autonomous Communities, its regions of origin (Andalusia, Asturias, Cantabria, Castilla-La Mancha, Castilla y León and Extremadura), with a proximity banking approach. The Group only performs its activity in Spain, with a large and diversified presence throughout 80% of the country. Unicaja Banco has a nationwide banking network comprised of around 1,400 branches, a workforce of over 7,700 employees and a solid customer base of over 4.3 million customers

It stands out for the high degree of confidence and closeness, being deeply rooted in the areas where it operates and with a strong knowledge of its customers and its territory, as well as for its commitment to their prosperity and its links to and identification with their population, given its interest in detecting and meeting their inhabitants' financial and social needs in an inclusive and sustainable way. It is also known for the physical proximity provided by its branch network. Unicaja Banco is characterized by its universal banking and sustainable business model, focused on the retail business under the prudent management of its business strategy and socially responsible risk profile, which prioritises quality, innovation and digital transformation, and incorporates technology to improve customer service and the institution's efficiency.

The objectives of Unicaja Banco's include the generation of confidence and the creation of long-term value for its shareholders and other stakeholders, improving the efficiency, and the support to all the economic sectors of the areas where it operates, placing customers in the center of its commercial

strategy, with a broad and diversified range of quality products and services that is competitive and provides value to customers.

Achievement of the Group's objectives is based on its mission, its vision and the set of values that mark the daily performance of its activity, as well as its medium- and long-term strategy. It is our mission to contribute to the economic and social development in the area where we operate, with full respect for the environment and sustainability, considering the needs and expectations of our shareholders and the different stakeholders. Unicaja Banco bases its strategy as a leading financial institution on the attention to a set of values, which include prudence, solvency and stability in managing resources, as well as transparency, ethical commitment and corporate social responsibility, all of the above under the Action Plan on Sustainable Finance, based on ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) criteria.

Unicaja Banco's approach to Sustainability

2.1 Sustainability

Unicaja Banco integrates the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) within the core of its corporate strategy, in its financial management instruments, in commercialisation of financial products and services, and in development of its plans of action, as shown in its Mission, Vision, Values and Basic Principles, that mark the daily development of the activity by the Company and the companies in its Group, as well as that of its medium and long term strategy.

Unicaja Banco's "Corporate Social Responsibility Policy", aims to set the basic principles for action in CSR matters that contribute to sustainable value creation for the stakeholders with which it performs its activity through effective management and a transparent and responsible banking culture.

Together with the "Sustainability Policy" and the "Environmental, Energy and Climate Change Policy", this Policy sets forth the general framework for managing environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects, aligning the Group's strategy and reducing negative impacts by continuously increasing positive aspects, while at the same time addressing its commitment to the Global Compact's Principles, the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Transparency, caution, solvency and corporate efficiency are some of the values that define us as a Bank. However, we also have a commitment to social and economic development through projects that support job creation, financial education, the environment and other activities of social interest.

Traditional commitment to sustainability / Sustainability Policy

Unicaja Banco has maintained a traditional commitment to creating value in a sustainable way for the stakeholders with whom it carries out its activity, through effective management and a culture of responsible and transparent banking.

More recently, the challenges associated with the fight against climate change, the transition to a low-carbon economy and the environmental degradation of the planet, with their social consequences, particularly in terms of the cohesion of our societies, have led public authorities, regulators and financial

supervisors, each within their respective mandates, to position themselves to redirect capital flows towards sustainable investments in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth.

Accordingly, the "Sustainability Policy", approved by the Board of Directors in January 2021, specifies Unicaja Banco's positioning with respect to sustainable finance, particularly from the perspective of strategy and general objectives, corporate and business management, and the design and marketing of financial products and services in accordance with ESG criteria, which meet the needs of customers and investors, among other groups.

Sustainable Finance Action Plan

In 2021 the Group has reviewed its "<u>Sustainable Finance Action Plan</u>", that was initially approved by the Board of Directors in June 2020, to adapt it to the 13 supervisory expectations of the ECB's Guide on climate-relate and environmental risks.

This Action Plan aims to organise the transition to an entity model that integrates sustainability-related aspects, specifically in four areas: business models and strategies, governance, risk management (especially climate and environmental), and transparency.

Sustainability and CSR Committee

The Sustainability and CSR Committee, chaired by the Bank's Executive Chairman and vice-chaired by the CEO, has become the meeting point for promoting the management of ESG factors and relations with stakeholders.

This Committee was created by the Board of Directors in December 2019. In March 2022, the responsabilities and members of the Committe were adapted, in the context of the recent merger by absorption of Liberbank. The Committee's cross-cutting composition is responsible for promoting sustainable finance and is designed to provide an appropriate response to all the challenges posed by the transition to an ESG-inspired model for the Bank.

United Nations Global Compact

Unicaja Banco has been a signatory of the <u>United Nations Global Compact</u> since 2013, and since 2017 a member of the Spanish Network of the United Nations Global Compact, whereby it undertakes to report annually on its performance in relation to the ten principles of conduct and effective action in the areas of human rights, labour standards, the environment and anti-corruption. It also expresses its support for the actions promoted by the United Nations to achieve its goals and objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The aforementioned report can be found in the Statement of Non-Financial Information, which forms part of the management report and is submitted by the Board to the Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting for approval.

National Financial Education Plan

Unicaja Banco, in collaboration with the Unicaja Banking Foundation and other public and private entities, has been developing <u>financial education programmes</u> since 2005, with the aim of increasing the population's economic and financial skills and knowledge, and promoting financial culture, through courses and conferences, publications and various Internet websites.

The <u>Edufinet Project</u> has signed collaboration agreements with various universities, including the International University of Andalusia, the University of Málaga, the University of Jaen, the Pablo de Olavide University of Seville, the University of Almería, the University of Cordoba, the National University of Distance Education, the University of Salamanca, the University of León, the University of Huelva,

the University of Algarve (Portugal), the University of Granada, the University of Burgos, the University of Cádiz, the University of Valladolid, the Pontifical University of Salamanca, and the University of Seville.

Since 2010, first through Unicaja and, after its creation, through Unicaja Banco, the Entity has adhered to the National Financial Education Plan currently promoted by the Bank of Spain, the National Securities Market Commission and the Directorate General of Insurance and Pension Funds, whose objective is to improve the financial culture of the population.

Social Housing Fund

Unicaja Banco is a member of the <u>Social Housing Fund</u> (Fondo Social de Viviendas, FSV) agreement, aimed at renting for families in a situation of special vulnerability. The current agreement, renewed on 14 September 2015, has been extended for the seventh year running, through to January 2023. This initiative is in addition to the efforts that, especially since the beginning of the previous crisis, have been deployed in favour of the most disadvantaged groups affected by it, such as refinancing, grace periods, voluntary dations in payment or the acquisition of housing for subsequent social renting to the debtor.

The contribution of homes to the FSV was increased from 375 to 471 homes in July 2021 following the completion of the merger by absorption of Liberbank; these homes can be rented for between 150 and 400 euros per month, depending on the income of the tenants, by families who have lost their home due to non-payment of their mortgage loan and are in a situation of special vulnerability.

Unicaja Banco sustainable products:

Unicaja Banco has specific sustainable products and services that are offered to its clients, among these products are the following ones:

- Green Mortgages with EPC label bonifications.
- Ecomobility loans, which are credit and loans for financing sustainable and low-emission mobility, like electric, hybrid or low-emission fuel vehicles.
- Loans associated with the improvement of energy efficiency of homeowners' associations.
- Loans for the promotion and development of clean energies.
- Loans focused to develop the sustainability in the agriculture sector.
- Mutual funds and pension funds socially responsible funds managed with ESG investment criteria (Unifond ISR, Liberbank Solidario, Uni Plan Futuro Sostenible).
- Sustainable insurance, including autoinsurance with bonifications for electric vehicles.
- Other alliances, like the ones for the development of sustainable projects in solar energy and financing of self-consumption photovoltaic installations, electric charges loans, etc.

Sustainability is one of the five axes of the <u>Strategic Plan 2022-2024</u> that was published in December 2021. It is worth noting that as part of the Strategic Plan, we stated our ambition to increase above 75% the balances in ESG Mutual Funds (article 8 SFDR) by 2024.

2.2 Rationale for Issuance

With the implementation of a green bond program, in Unicaja Banco we aim to align our financing strategy and funding program with our sustainability strategy and objectives, promoting and supporting the migration of assets towards a more sustainable balance sheet, with greater resilience to physical and transition risks. Unicaja Banco recognizes the key role played by financial institutions and so we want to contribute to the development of the sustainable finance market.

3. Unicaja Banco Green Bond Framework

As part of our commitment to sustainability as described above, Unicaja Banco has created the following Green Bond Framework (the "Framework" or GBF), under which we intend to issue Green Bonds. The bank may issue green bonds to exclusively finance and/or re-finance, in part or in full, new and/or existing green eligible projects (as defined in section "Use of proceeds") and which are aligned with the four core components of this Framework. The Framwork establishes the basic principles considered by the Entity for the issuance of green bonds, as well as the procedures established for the selection of projects to be financed with the funds obtained and the reporting systems related to the issuances made.

Unicaja Banco's Green Bond Framework is aligned to the ICMA 2021 Green Bond Principles ("GBP"). It is represented through the GBP's four core components as well as its recommendations for External Review:

- 1. Use of Proceeds
- 2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
- 3. Management of Proceeds
- 4. Reporting
- 5. External Review

This Framework may be updated and amended from time to time in the manner described in this framework below (section "Amendments to this Framework"). Any such updated and amended Framework will be published on the issuer's website and will replace this Framework. Accordingly, any Green Bond then outstanding will be subject to any such updated and amended Framework as may be published from time to time.

This Framework has been approved by Unicaja Banco's Sustainability and CSR Committee on 23 May 2022. Unicaja Banco intends to regularly follow the evolving new standards of the European Commission in Sustainable Finance in order to reflect market best practices and related regulations with the European Union Green Bond Standard and EU Taxonomy Directive. The framework has been aligned, to the extent feasible, with main European sustainability objetives and also in relation to the eligibility criteria for the use of proceeds (for example, the eligible green projects have integrated the EU taxonomy technical screening criteria).

3.1 Use of Proceeds

An amount equivalent to the net proceeds of any Green Bond issued under this Framework will be exclusively used to finance and/or refinance, in part or in full, new and/or existing loans, investments or projects that meet the eligibility criteria as outlined below ("green eligible projects").

The date of first drawdown of such green eligible project will be no more than 3 years before the settlement date of the Green Bond issue.

Green bond category for eligible projects	Eligibility criteria	EU Environmental Objective	SDG
Renewable Energy	Eligible projects are loans to finance assets that support the electricity generation from the following technologies: solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, hydrogen and bioenergy, including the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance or repowering of facilities.	Climate change mitigation	Objective 7 Objective 13
	Technical screening criteria:		
	In the case of geothermal power production, facilities operating with life cycle emissions below 100gCO2e/kWh are eligible.		
	 Hydroelectric power shall include installations with a power density greater than 5 W/m2 or life cycle emissions below 100gCO2e/kWh or the electricity generation facility is a run-of-river plant and does not have an artificial reservoir. 		
	Bioenergy can include high-efficiency biomass cogeneration, for which feedstocks are limited to sources that do not deplete existing terrestrial carbon stocks or compete with food production.		
	Eligible projects are loans to finance the development, construction, equipment, operation and maintenance of new or additional energy transmission and distribution networks from renewable sources.		
	The transmission and distribution infrastructure or equipment is in an electricity system that complies with at least one of the following criteria: (a) the system is the interconnected European system; (b) more than 67% of newly enabled generation capacity in the system is below the generation threshold value of 100 gCO2e/kWh measured on a life cycle basis in accordance with electricity generation criteria, over a rolling five-year period; (c) the average system grid emissions factor, calculated as the total annual emissions from power generation connected to the system, divided by the total annual net electricity production in that system, is below the threshold value of 100 gCO2e/kWh measured on a life cycle basis in accordance with electricity generation criteria, over a rolling five-year period;		
Green Building	Eligible projects are loans that promote the acquisition, development and construction of buildings and renovation projects on existing buildings aiming at improving their energy efficiency in line with best available techniques, such as district heating, smart grids and efficient renovation measures.	Climate change mitigation Adaptation to climate change	Objective 7 Objective 11 Objective 13
	Residential: loans or mortgages to finance the acquisition of homes built before 31 December 2020 with an EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) equal to label A and/or belonging to the top 15% most efficient buildings in a determined area.		
	Loans or mortgages to finance the acquisition, developments and/or construction of homes built after 31 December 2020 with the Primary Energy Demand (PED) at least 10 % lower than the threshold set for the nearly zero-energy building (NZEB) requirements in national measures implementing Directive 2010/31/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council. The energy performance is certified using an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC).		
	Loans or investments for refurbished (residential) buildings with an energy efficiency improvement of at least 30%.		

Exclusionary Criteria:

Projects that support or promote the following activities will not be eligible under this Framework as green eligible projects:

- Exploration, research and exploitation of fossil fuels.
- Alcohol, weapons, tobacco, gambling, or mining industries.

3.2 Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

The regulation of green bond issuance processes requires that the proceeds obtained through this type of issuance are used in an unequivocal and demonstrable manner to finance projects associated with sustainability. Thus, the GBF in the section Use of Proceeds, establishes the specific sectors and types of assets and purposes to which these financings must be directed, in line with the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

For an adequate control of the eligible assets/loans as a destination of the proceeds obtained through the bond issues under the GBF, the ESG Business Management Directorate (Dirección de Negocios ESG) will maintain an inventory of all types of assets/loans, sectors and products associated with the financings included in the GBF, in which a correspondence between these categories and those established in the Taxonomy Regulation will be maintained. This correspondence will take into consideration how such products make sustainable investments that contribute to environmental objectives. This involves:

- The identification of the environmental objectives in Article 9 of the Taxonomy Regulation that contribute to the activities financed by the product.
- Substantial information on how and to what extent the underlying investments of the product are made in environmentally sustainable economic activities (i.e. their alignment with the European Taxonomy).

This product inventory will be presented in regular basis to the Sustainability and CSR Committee for its approval and so that it is permanently informed about any updates.

The Entity has developed a specific and individualized process for the evaluation and selection of the specific eligible projects financed, in order to ensure their positive sustainability impact on the sustainability objectives promoted by the Entity.

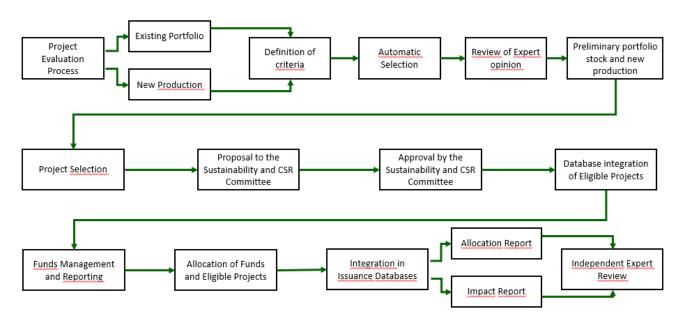
The Process for Project Evaluation and Selection has been defined in two phases:



A. **Evaluation**: The evaluation of projects aims to identify those projects developed by the clients eligible under this GBF, and that, therefore, are considered sustainable in accordance with the Taxonomy Regulation and the sustainability strategy of Unicaja Banco. This evaluation in turn can be divided into two processes, which will be developed in an individual and coordinated manner to the extent that the availability of information makes it possible:

- i. Existing portfolio: For the identification of sustainable financing in the existing portfolio at a given date, the following process will be developed:
 - Definition of technical criteria for the identification of sectors likely to develop sustainable activities following international taxonomies for Sustainable Finance. This task will be carried out by the ESG Risk Management Directorate on a quarterly basis.
 - 2. On the portfolio identified in the previous phase, an additional expert analysis will be developed with the dual purpose of purging the possible inconsistencies of the information, as well as incorporating specific information in order to ensure compliance with the technical criteria established in the international taxonomies. This expert analysis will be carried out by the ESG Risk Management Directorate also on a quarterly basis.
- ii. New production: For the identification of sustainable financing operations in the regular financing processes, the following proceedings will be developed:
 - 1. The information analysis processes will include, in the medium term, information on the sustainability characteristics of the financial operations. This information will have an expert and parameterizable character, so that it can be incorporated into the evaluation processes. In this way, on a monthly basis, the ESG Risk Management Directorate will extract the new production operations that may meet the criteria for contributing to sustainability.
 - On the financials operations identified in the previous point, the ESG Risk Management Directorate will develop a process of debagging the portfolio, in order to ensure the correct consideration of the operations included in the selected portfolio.
 - 3. Determination of a final perimeter of operations that, in a preliminary manner, meet the technical criteria established.
- B. Selection: Based on the evaluation explained above, the following process will be carried out, to select the most appropriate financial assets that will be part of the Green Eligible portfolio (existing and new production):
 - i. Based on the above evaluation process, a final perimeter of operations will be identified, that, in a preliminary manner, will meet the criteria established for its inclusion as green eligible assets. This function will also be carried out by the ESG Risk Management Directorate and will be reflected in a report for submission to the corresponding decision centers. This proposal will be updated, at least, in quarterly basis.
 - ii. After the proposal has been shared, it will be submitted to the Sustainability and CSR Committee, which, based on the report prepared by the ESG Business Directorate, decide on the Green Eligible portfolio.
- iii. Once the selection of the portfolio has been approved, it will be integrated into the corresponding database and integrated into the management and reporting processes.

PROCESS FOR PROJECT EVALUATION



3.3 Management of Proceeds

The proceeds allocated under Unicaja Banco's Green Bond Framework, once the projects are evaluated and selected, will be subject to a detailed control through their inclusion in a specific data base (green bond register) for monitoring their evolution. The green bond register will be dynamic since eligible projects will mature or might become ineligible and new eligible projects will be included in the register. This monitoring process will be carried out in accordance with the following principles:

- The green bond register will be constructed and maintained by the ESG Business Manager
 Directorate and will be subject to periodic reviews and discussion by the areas involved in the
 management of the GBF, as well as by the Sustainability and CSR Committee.
- The green bond register will include relevant information such as details of the bonds issued (ISIN code, size, date of issue and maturity date, among other information) as well as details of the Eligible Green Projects, including the amount of the portfolio by green category and any other information needed to assess the eligiblity criteria of any project set by category in this Framework and to calculate the environmental impact associated with any of these projects.
- Unicaja Banco will maintain an excess of eligible projects above the balance issued in the form of green bonds to ensure compliance with the requirements of the use of proceeds and to allow the issuer to fully allocate the proceeds of each green bond to eligible projects as soon as practicable reasonable. However, any balance of unallocted proceeds to eligible projects will be held in accordance with Unicaja Banco's normal liquidity management, including treasury liquidity portfolio, cash, time deposit with Banks that do not include GHG intensive activities. In any case, Unicaja Banco commits to fully allocate the proceeds of any green bonds issued under this Framework within the next 36 months after issuance date
- Any project attached to a green bond issued that no longer meets the requirements for classification within any of the categories of green projects, will be replaced for another project that meets the eligibility criteria within a maximum replacement period of 12 months.
- Methodologies of general acceptance in the market will be used for the calculation of the environmental impacts associated with Unicaja Banco's green bonds.

3.4 Reporting

During the life of any Green Bond isued under this Framework, Unicaja Banco will provide to investors information on the allocation of proceeds and the environmental impacts. In this sense, Unicaja Banco will report annually until the maturity of the Green Bonds issued on the allocation of the proceeds of the bonds issued under this Framework and the environmental impact of the projects at category level.

The Sustainability and CSR Committee will review and approve the above information which will be included in the following reports:

- o Allocation report.
- o Report of impacts related to the issue (Impact Reporting).

The allocation report will be updated in the event of any material changes affecting Eligible Green Projects. The allocation report shall include relevant information that will be adequately incorporated into ESG Risk Management dashboards, including at least:

- o Amount of the net proceeds of the Green Bond.
- o Percentage of proceeds allocated for financing and refinancing.
- o The balance of unallocated proceeds at the end of the reporting period (if applicable).

The Impact Reporting will be issued annually and will incorporate the following information:

- Information on expected environmental impacts by project category (category level).
- Other positive impacts of eligible projects.
- A description of some eligible projects.
- The methodologies and assumptions used for the calculation of the impact

Green Eligible Categories	Example of impact metrics
Green Building	Estimated annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent) Environmental Certifications/EPC labels obtained
Renewable Energy	Estimated annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent) Installed capacity (MW) Estimated renewable energy production (MWh, future projects) or Renewable energy produced (MWh, past and future projects, where feasible)

4. External Review

Green Bond Framework second party opinion

Unicaja Banco has commissioned DNV.GL to conduct an external review of this Framework and has issued a Second Party Opinion. The Second Party Opinion will be made available on the issuer's website.

Verification of annual reports

Unicaja Banco may request on an annual basis, until all the proceeds of the bonds have been allocated and if necessary, afterwards in the event of new developments, an assurance report confirming that an amount equal to the net proceeds of the green bonds has been allocated in compliance with all material respects of the criteria set forth in the Framework.

5. Amendments to this Framework

The Sustainability and CSR Committee will review this Framework on a regular basis and such review may result in this Framework being updated and amended. The updated Framework, if any, will be published on Unicaja Banco's website and will replace this one.

6. Legal Disclaimer

This document (the Green Bond Framework) is intended to provide non-exhaustive, general information.

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This Green Bond Framework is not intended to be and should not be construed as providing legal, financial or technical advice. It should be noted that all of the expected benefits of the Eligible Green

Projects referred to in this Green Bond Framework may not be achieved. Factors including (but not limited to) market, political and economic conditions, changes in government policy (whether with a continuity of the government or on a change in the composition of the government), changes in laws, rules or regulations, the lack of available Eligible Green Projects being initiated, failure to complete or implement projects and other challenges, could limit the ability to achieve some or all of the expected benefits of these initiatives, including the funding and completion of Eligible Green Projects. It does not constitute an offer or invitation to sell or any solicitation of any offer to subscribe for or purchase or a recommendation regarding any "green bond" or other securities of Unicaja Banco or provide financing to Unicaja Banco, and nothing contained herein shall form the basis of any contract or commitment whatsoever and it has not been approved by any security regulatory authority. This material is not intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity in any jurisdiction or country where such distribution or use would be contrary to law or regulation. Persons who might come into possession of it must inquire as to the existence of such restrictions and comply with them.