



MEANINGFUL AND INSPIRING FOR BELGIAN SOCIETY. TOGETHER

Vanessa Grasso
CPO

Brussels, 20 December 2022

Dear Commercial Partner,

The financial sector has a crucial role to play in the transition to a more sustainable society. By supporting projects that make society better: being less dependent on fossil fuels, more inclusive, more focused on a sustainable future for all.

Belfius is precisely about providing relevant solutions to society's challenges, equipping and inspiring Belgium, its people, businesses and institutions to move forward together towards a sustainable model. We detail this model in our [Sustainability Code of Conduct](#). Over recent years, we have gradually both defined and refined our commitments:

- **Environment and climate:** fully convinced of the importance the Paris Climate Agreement, we have joined the Science Based Targets initiative and the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials.
- **Society:** we take full account of the impact that our actions have on society and stand by the most vulnerable people in our community with a unique range of social products. We are also proud of our role as a responsible employer, promoting diversity and viewing difference as an enrichment for our company and our staff.



- **Governance:** we are aiming to achieve maximum transparency in our business operations in relation to our stakeholders and have formalised our approach to sustainability as part of an ESG framework. This framework covers Belfius's ambitions, strategy, commitments and governance in the area of sustainable development (ESG) in terms of responsible management, core business conduct, internal management operations and interactions with its counterparties.

Your ESG performance is of the greatest importance for us

We're relying on you – as we are on all our partners – to help us bring these aims and ambitions to fruition. How? By encouraging you, if you're not already doing so, to conduct an assessment of your ESG performance and make active enhancements in those areas where you still have room for improvement. To make this happen, the ESG performance of our suppliers and the way they evolve will now be taken into consideration in our selection process.

To help you assess your ESG performance, Belfius recommends you to collaborate with EcoVadis, an ESG ratings company with a worldwide reputation.

When its assessment is complete, EcoVadis will not only provide you with a sustainability score, but also a detailed overview of your ESG strengths and any areas that require improvement, along with tips on how to make your ESG position better. As part of our selection process, EcoVadis assessment is renewable every two years – or every year if the points requiring improvement are critical ones.



In practice:

- Please view the correspondence sent out to you at the beginning of December 2022
- Visit the EcoVadis website to find out more about the [assessment process](#), [how much it costs](#) and [EcoVadis's general terms and conditions](#).

We are all very much aware of the importance and urgency of the transition that is currently taking place and we are confident that we can count on your investment in this process.

By doing so, we can progress towards a more sustainable future, together.

With kind regards,

Vanessa Grasso
Belfius Chief Procurement Officer

Johan Vankelecom
Belfius Chief Financial Officer
Member of the Management Board