

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **SuRe® - the first voluntary third-party verified standard to drive sustainable and resilient infrastructure development, upgrading and financing**

*SuRe® - the Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure was launched on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Climate Generations Area in Paris during COP21. Dr Bruno Oberle, Swiss State Secretary for the Environment, opened the launch event. This new global voluntary standard integrates sustainability and resilience aspects into infrastructure development, modernisation and financing. SuRe® drives shared understanding on such issues between project developers, financing institutions and the public sector. At a time of rising demand for infrastructure services globally, the implementation of SuRe® will support the better preparation of bankable sustainable and resilient infrastructure projects and bridge the gap to the financing sector. This in turn should enhance the financing of climate-friendly technologies and projects worldwide. SuRe® was developed by Global Infrastructure Basel (GIB) Foundation and Natixis through a multi-stakeholder process with the support of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN).*

**SuRe® is the first standard to integrate sustainability and resilience while ensuring global and inter-sectorial applicability.** SuRe® consists of 14 themes comprising 76 criteria covering environmental, social and governance (ESG) and resilience aspects. SuRe® applies to infrastructure projects across all sectors including mobility, telecommunications, energy, water, waste, sewage, health and education, and extractive sites at different stages of the project life cycle (design, construction and operation). SuRe® can be implemented globally but is thought to be particularly relevant in developing and emerging countries where most infrastructure development is expected to take place over the next decades.

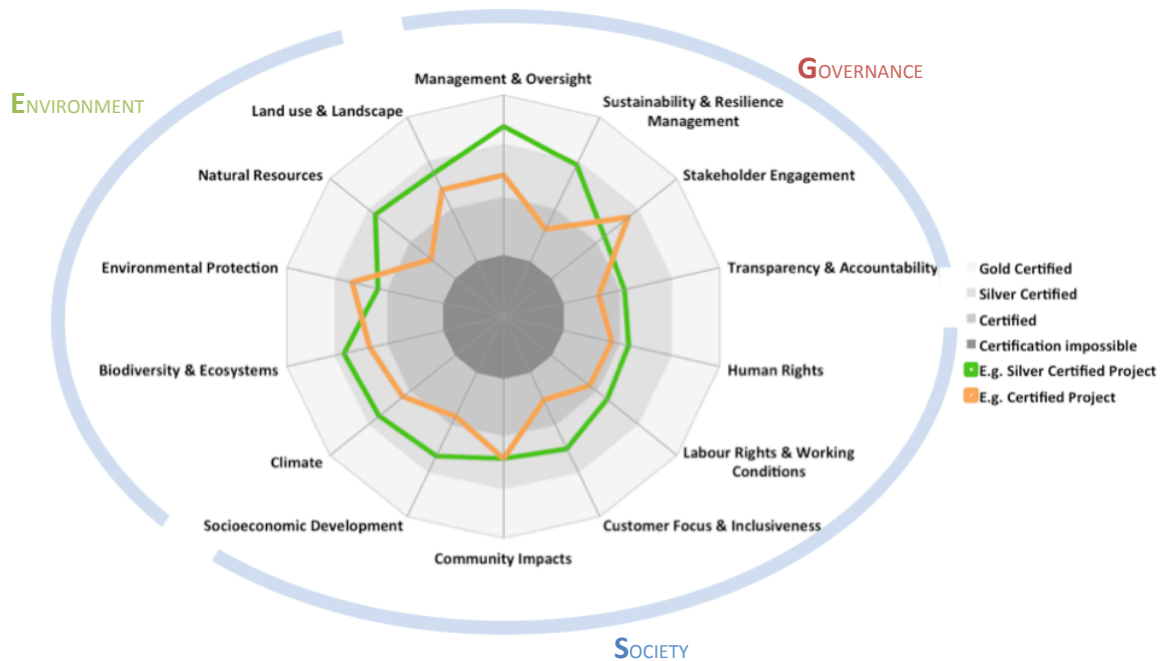
SuRe® provides **project developers** with a decision-making and management tool to design, build and operate more sustainable and resilient infrastructure projects. It helps **public sector entities** to define and evaluate sustainability and resilience criteria in public procurement processes and to support infrastructure project comparability for a more efficient use of public resources in infrastructure. SuRe® certification enables **investors** to identify sustainable infrastructure investment opportunities, thus helping to boost sustainable socio-economic development on the global level.

At the launch event, Maryke van Staden from ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability explored how SuRe® could be applied in the city context and in relation to the Transformative Action Plan (TAP) facilitated by ICLEI. The presentations were followed by a panel discussion on SuRe®'s added value for project developers, public sector institutions and financiers with Patricia Macedo, the Secretary of International Relations of the City of Fortaleza; Gino van Begin, Secretary General of ICLEI and a representative of Natixis.

Hans-Peter Egler, CEO of GIB Foundation, said: *"SuRe® fills a gap by aligning sustainability and resilience with infrastructure development plans and financial flows in a way that supports sustainable development while meeting the rising demand for infrastructure services globally."*

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Figure 1 - Sample performance assessment of two projects meeting SuRe® requirements



**About GIB**

Global Infrastructure Basel (GIB) Foundation is a Swiss foundation based in Basel, Switzerland, working to promote the development and financing of sustainable and resilient infrastructure globally. Active since 2008, GIB works with multiple stakeholders ranging from city representatives to project developers and infrastructure financiers. In line with its vision, GIB provides tools such as SuRe – the Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure and is developing a Sustainability and Resilience Credit Rating tool as well as advancing the concept of a sustainable Best in Class approach for Infrastructure as an asset class. GIB also provides services including capacity building and implementation services. GIB is an independent, not-for-profit foundation under Swiss law supported by the Swiss Government, the City of Basel and many other partners.

**Find out more about:**

- SuRe® - the Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure - <http://www.gib-foundation.org/sure-standard/>
- The launch event during COP 21 - [event information](#)
- GIB Foundation - [www.gib-foundation.org](http://www.gib-foundation.org)
- ICLEI - <http://www.iclei.org>