



# About this report

# About this report

This Sustainability Report attempts to offer the reader a true and balanced overview of ACCIONA's performance in relation to the sustainable development challenges facing the Company in 2012.

The content of this report supplements other reports drafted by the Company: the Annual Report, the Annual Corporate Governance Report and the Annual Accounts, as well as the content of its website.

This Sustainability Report emphasizes the advances made in 2012, based on

information about the policies, actions and performance provided in the sustainability reports published in previous years. Likewise, it describes the annual progress made by the Company in implementing the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in terms of human and labor rights, the environment and the fight against corruption.

To draft this annual report, the Company followed the Sustainability Reporting Guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI – G3.1 and the supplement on the construction sector). Following such guidelines ensures that the information contained in this report is reliable, complete and balanced. In the same way, with the aim of aligning the information included in the report with stakeholders' expectations and concerns, ACCIONA has followed the guidelines established in the AA1000 APS standard.

In line with the commitments established by the GRI, ACCIONA believes that applying

the criteria established by the GRI – G3.1 guidelines enables its report to qualify for an A+. This Sustainability Report has been submitted for the GRI Application Level Check, with the conclusion that the report meets the requirements for an A+.

To check the reliability of the information, the correct application of the AA1000 APS standard's principles and the GRI Application Level Check Statement, the Company has hired an independent external firm, KPMG Asesores S.L., to verify this. This year, ACCIONA has requested the verification company to review a number of relevant indicators, with a greater level of assurance. As a result of the verification process, an Independent Review Report will be drafted that will include the objectives and scope of the process as well as the verification procedures used and conclusions.

**By following the GRI - G3.1 guidelines, the information contained in this Report is guaranteed to be accurate, complete and balanced**



### THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF INCLUSIVENESS

At ACCIONA, the implementation of specific identification and communication activities with stakeholders focuses on defining the priority issues on which to structure the Company's sustainability strategy. There is a double approach to the dialogue process: as part of the review process of the Sustainability Master Plan, and consultations in business projects. The specific chapter on Stakeholder Engagement describes in more detail the methods of engagement and the main initiatives in 2012 with the stakeholders, although some examples are included in other chapters of the Sustainability Report.

In 2012, the Company worked on identifying consultations and actions with stakeholders undertaken by the various business lines. This activity enables the Company to identify the opinion leaders and stakeholders regarding the essential matters with which to develop formalized engagement procedures. Likewise, with the

launch of pilot projects to implement social impact assessment method of projects, the Company is working on procedures for consulting local communities.

### THE PRINCIPLE OF MATERIALITY

Early in 2012, within the framework of the Sustainability Master Plan, a new materiality study was performed with the aim of delving into sustainability aspects relevant to ACCIONA'S business. In this way, the main units involved can diagnose their performance on relevant sustainability issues.

The steps taken to carry out this process were as follows:

- Identification of elements that define material matters by analyzing different information sources, including reference indexes, investors, shareholders and international organizations, among others.
- Quantitative valuation of issues analyzed and benchmarking of best practices among sector companies.

- Definition of the materiality of priority sustainability issues based on their relevance and maturity.

Moreover, as every year, to define the report's contents, the Company carried out an internal analysis process and identified the material issues. A number of subjects were envisaged especially relevant for the Company, including those regarding selective sustainability indexes based on the assessment's results, the sustainability issues analyzed by the analysis agencies specializing in this area, and the main conclusions from the surveys made to stakeholders. The objective is to obtain relevant information in order to focus on drafting the report by delving into the issues that best represent the Company's performance in sustainability.

### THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIVENESS

This report is based on the structure of the Company's 2015 Sustainability Master Plan (SMP 2015), which shows ACCIONA'S response to the main sustainability issues raised by its stakeholders. SMP 2015 is based on clear principles and purposes that are stated in specific commitments and objectives that can be measured and assessed. The Plan establishes the policies, objectives and work lines to be carried out until 2015 in nine work areas: Innovation, Environment, Society, People, Value Circle, Good Governance, Stakeholders, Dissemination and Leadership, and Accountability.

### SCOPE

The information shown in ACCIONA'S sustainability reports since 2005 is detailed mainly by division but, as far as possible, it has also been broken down by geographical

area. The scope has been identified for each indicator. To provide a better understanding of the Company's performance, previous years' data have also been provided.

The environmental information published in the report comes from the "Métrica" tool. Since its implementation in 2007, "Métrica" has been a benchmark corporate tool for the centralized monitoring and control of the environmental performance of all the activities performed by ACCIONA. Once the energy consumption data have been compiled, the emissions generated are calculated based on its internal policy agreed with the criteria defined in the GHG Protocol and using the conversion factors defined by the IPCC in the document: "The 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories". To calculate the emissions associated with commutes and business trips, an average

emissions factor is used for short, medium and long haul journeys.

Sustainable Solutions International, in collaboration with CO<sub>2</sub> Solutions, has verified the methodology for calculating and reporting ACCIONA'S 2012 greenhouse gas emissions, including those generated and those avoided, at all the Group's domestic and international centers. The scope of the verification includes the direct and indirect emissions, defined as Scope 1 and 2, and the categories reported as Scope 3 by the GHG Protocol. In accordance with this verification, Sustainable Solutions International, in collaboration with CO<sub>2</sub> Solutions, states that the information provided in this report regarding the emissions generated and avoided by ACCIONA is correct.

