



press release

Bologna, 19 June 2024

Hera Group ranks first in the 2024 ESG Identity Corporate Index (formerly IGI)

For the fourth consecutive year, the Group is on the podium of the overall index ranking, which rewards Italian companies that stand out for integrating ESG factors into their governance. This comes as further recognition of the Group's commitment to creating long-term value for its shareholders and all its stakeholders

The Hera Group, one of Italy's largest multi-utilities operating in the waste management, energy and water sectors, has confirmed its position as the Italian company that has most fully and consciously integrated sustainability policies into its business strategies. This is proven by the ESG Identity Corporate Index (formerly the Integrated Governance Index) managed by ETicaNews. As announced today at the 2024 ESG Business Conference in Milan, Hera is among the top 3 positions for the fourth year in a row, the only Italian company to achieve this result, thus remaining in the Top 10 in all the 9 editions of this index, launched in 2016.

Sustainability and local roots at the heart of Hera's strategies

Integrating ESG goals into its business strategies and cultivating local roots are among the essential features of the Group, which is committed to providing essential services to over 4 million citizens on a daily basis. The Group has always been aware of its institutional and social role in the local ecosystem and considers creating value to be a cornerstone of its relationship with all stakeholders. In fact, sustainability and creating shared value are key paradigms of its corporate purpose, which is expressed through three strategic drivers: pursuing carbon neutrality, regenerating resources with an eye to the circular economy, and enabling resilience and innovating. By expressing this purpose in its Articles of Association as of 2021, Hera has confirmed its commitment to developing a business model aimed at generating long-term value for its shareholders, by creating value shared with all stakeholders. This new approach to sustainability is now integrated into the company's reason for being, thus providing a model that inspires strategy and guides innovation.

Fully consistent with this purpose, all the Group's initiatives confirm its will to tackle the new challenges posed by climate change and energy security, in order to make local areas increasingly competitive and resilient.

The ESG Identity Corporate Index

The ESG ICI is Italy's only quantitative index that measures the ESG identity of Italian companies, assessing and recognising their commitment to integrating the principles of sustainability, social and environmental responsibility and good governance into their business strategies. The 2024 survey included the top 100 listed companies, the companies that publish a non-financial statement (pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 254 of 30 December 2016) and the top 50 non-listed and industrial companies in the Mediobanca ranking.

The Hera Group's main recognitions

Publicly listed since 2003 and on the FTSE MIB since 2019, Hera was also included in the MIB ESG Index in 2021, the first Italian blue-chip index dedicated to ESG best practices, launched by Euronext - Borsa Italiana. Since several years the Group has been top-ranked by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index World and Europe, the Refinitiv's Diversity & Inclusion Index, and is included in the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index, confirming its commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion and people development.