DIGITAL



**PRESS RELEASE** 

## Standard Ethics upgrades BFF Bank's sustainability rating to "EE-" assigning a "Stable" Outlook

Milan, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – BFF Bank S.p.A. (**"BFF"** or the **"Bank"**) is pleased to announce that Standard Ethics Ltd. ("Standard Ethics"), an independent sustainability rating agency, at the end of the analysis conducted for the second time in solicited form, **upgraded the Bank's Corporate Standard Ethics Rating (SER)** to **"EE-"** from the previous "E+" **assigning a "Stable" Outlook**.

Standard Ethics highlighted the path initiated by the Bank in the field of sustainability, particularly referring to the adoption of policies over the last two years covering the most important ESG themes in line with the recommendations set by the UN, the OECD and the European Union, as well as to the implementation of the governance of sustainability model and to the improvement in the ESG Risk Management system. In fact, the rating agency reports how the Bank's Board of Directors, appointed in 2024, satisfies the conditions of independence, internationality and gender equality according to international standards, and that the remuneration of the administrative bodies and top management is defined according to the criteria adopted in 2023 also considering ESG objectives. Furthermore, employee's financial participation is incentivized and ESG reporting is in line with industry best practices. The Bank's commitment is also tangible in the environmental sphere, where carbon footprint reduction path has been started.

The recognition highlights the strategic importance of Sustainability and excellent governance practices for the Bank and its stakeholders.

The <u>official press release</u> is available on the Standard Ethics website.

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Standard Ethics is a Self-Regulated Sustainability Rating Agency that issues Non-Financial Sustainability Ratings. Standard Ethics aims to promote sustainability and governance standard principles emanating from the European Union, the OECD and the United Nations. As a brand, Standard Ethics has been known in the world of Sustainable Finance and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) studies since 2004. For further details on the sustainability rating methodology adopted by Standard Ethics, see <a href="https://www.standardethics.eu">www.standardethics.eu</a>.

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This press release is available on-line on BFF Group's website  $\underline{www.bff.com}$  within the  $\underline{Investors} > PR \& Presentations$  section.

## **BFF Banking Group**

BFF Banking Group is the largest independent specialty finance in Italy and a leading player in Europe, specialized in the management and non-recourse factoring of trade receivables due from the Public Administrations, securities services, banking and corporate payments. The Group operates in Italy, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain. BFF is listed on the Italian Stock Exchange. In 2023 it reported a consolidated Adjusted Net Profit of €183.2 million, with a 12.3% Group CET1 ratio at the end of September 2024.

www.bff.com

## Contacts

Investor Relations
Caterina Della Mora
Marie Thérèse Mazzocca
+39 02 49905 631 | +39 335 1295 008 | +39 335 6709492
investor.relations@bff.com

Media Relations
Alessia Barrera
Sofia Crosta
+39 02 49905 623 |+39 340 3434 065
newsroom@bff.com