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# The Group's social agenda: community

Non-Financial Statement  
2023



We participate in the social life of the territory in a relationship of continuous dialogue with people and institutions, pursuing projects that can contribute to the development of more inclusive and collaborative communities, in which diversity is a value and culture a tool for sustainable growth, according to the direction indicated by the Group's social agenda.

## 2.1 Our commitment to the community

[GRI 2-23]  
[GRI 3-3]

### Policies and other reference documentation

- Group Code of Ethics
- Art Acquisition Policy (Banca Ifis)
- ESG Policy

The Group plays an active role in developing and promoting the communities in which it operates, paying particularly close attention to **strengthening the relationship with the territories and stakeholders** on a regional and national level. It is a commitment that is pursued through initiatives with a positive impact on the communities and environment, which create value for the territory. The Group collaborates with local institutions to **optimise sustainable development** and, through reports, studies and projects dedicated to the business culture, **strengthen support to entrepreneurs and communities**. An active role of development and promotion, which is also defined with the participation in projects supporting national and local non-profit entities and organisations and social solidarity initiatives.

The Communication, Marketing, Public Affairs & Sustainability function plans and organises the Group's events, initiatives and charitable donations in these areas, ensuring **complete compliance with the principles and rules of conducts set out in the Code of Ethics** as far as transparency, compliance with the law, the selection of recipients, and the accounting for the payments made are concerned.

In 2023, the Group's commitment took concrete form in **partnerships, agreements and donations** involving non-profit associations, social cooperative companies and charities, with a particular focus on those in difficulty, in whose regard the Bank chose to intervene actively with various projects.

### The social agenda of Banca Ifis and the Kaleidos Social Impact Lab

In 2022, driven by the Chairman of Banca Ifis, Ernesto Fürstenberg Fassio, Banca Ifis launched **Kaleidos, the Social Impact Lab created to promote projects with high social impact**. In 2023, the Group continued to generate a high social impact on people, communities and the territory thanks to the **more than 30 initiatives** carried out within Kaleidos since its inception, with the goal, included in the business plan, of **investing 6 million Euro in the three-year period 2022-2024**.

Kaleidos was created with the aim of bringing together all present and future initiatives, **identified in three priority areas**:

- **Inclusive communities;**
- **Culture and territory;**
- **Personal well-being.**

The project is made up of several initiatives that work synergistically towards a **common goal**: to provide people working in the Group and companies with the tools **to help build a more inclusive and sustainable future**.

This includes initiatives supporting the **social reinclusion of people in difficulty**, such as, for example, study programmes designed for young people in Bollate Prison and work grants for young people at the CAF reception centre in Milan, as well as our support for the Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation, which helps people and families in difficulty through the distribution of recovered food and free meals. Also in the Kaleidos universe are **initiatives supporting young people** and promoting inclusiveness, such as the donation of scholarships to young CONI athletes or support for the boys and girls of the Summer STEM Academy. **To promote personal well-being** and **projects in the medical-scientific field**, the Group supported the Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital in its cancer research project involving the use of CAR T cells and the Veneto Institute of Molecular Medicine (VIMM), for research in cellular and molecular biology.

In order to support the innovative action of Kaleidos, **two separate tools** have been developed to guide the action of the social impact lab in an increasingly structured manner:

- **Impact assessment model**: capable of identifying, measuring and monitoring the impact generated by Banca Ifis Group's strategic initiatives in the area of social responsibility. The project was launched in 2022 and presented in 2023, in partnership with Triadi, a Polytechnic University of Milan start-up specialising in social impact assessment technologies and methodologies. The tool (intentional, additional, measurable, replicable and scalable) can be used to map the change process and subsequently identify the effects and impacts of these activities for the Group's various internal and external stakeholders.
- **Impact Watch**: an observatory that provides clear and timely snapshots of the economic-financial dimension, the qualitative aspects of supply chains and industries and the culture of sustainability. In particular, as part of Kaleidos, the Group, through the Strategic Marketing & Research Function, launched the observatory - "Impact Watch" - dedicated to issues and trends that enable sustainable transition, with a special focus on SMEs, with the aim of increasing sustainability culture and awareness internally and externally. The "Economy of Beauty" Market Watch also tells how the Beauty sector manages to generate wealth through the deep link between our country's traditions and the way of doing business.

## Inclusive communities

Kaleidos supports collective and collaborative growth through **diversity enhancement and social re-inclusion** projects.

The **Inclusive Communities** impact area, in fact, includes all initiatives and projects that aim to promote an inclusive culture, to fight all kinds of discrimination and to foster, through concrete actions, gender equality and diversity in all its forms. With this aim, several initiatives were promoted during the year, both internally, towards Ifis People, and externally, towards the communities in which the Bank operates. In particular, **engagement and training activities on D&I topics**, also in cooperation with external bodies, were developed to spread the culture of inclusiveness. Relevant examples are the participation in the marathon of events dedicated to D&I issues in the **4W4I programme** and the training pills focused on diversity and inclusion issues (Gender Harassment and Unconscious bias) delivered to employees in partnership with **ValoreD**. To confirm the Bank's commitment to promoting gender equality, **UNI PdR 125:2022 certification** was obtained in addition to the **Winning Women Institute certification** obtained in 2022 - the first Bank in Italy to do so. In order to bring women closer to STEM subjects, a partnership was promoted with **Summer STEM Academy**, the summer campus on STEM and D&I disciplines organised by the Alumni Association of the Scuola Galileiana of Padua and dedicated to 4th grade

students, as well as membership of **Women4Cyber Italia**, the programme that encourages training, skills enhancement and interest of women in cyber topics.

Also included within the Inclusive Communities area are all the initiatives supported by the Bank aimed at **promoting the social inclusion of the most fragile individuals and youth empowerment**. Right at the end of 2023, the Bank signed an important partnership with the **non-profit Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation**, which supports people in socio-economic difficulties by distributing meals to them. Other relevant examples of collaborations fostering social reinclusion are the partnership with the **CAF Association**, which, through the "Teen House" project, welcomes and supports disadvantaged young adults to facilitate their gradual interaction with society, and the collaboration with the **Cooperativa Sociale Articolo 3**, which operates within the Bollate Prison to facilitate dialogue between or inmates and the outside society. Also of note is the collaboration with the **Don Gino Rigoldi Foundation**, which supports families and young people who find themselves on the margins of society, the partnership with the **SOS Bambini Association** which, through the "Adopt a Family" project, supports single-parent and single-income families, and the "**I Fuoriclasse della Scuola**" project promoted by DEduF, MdR, ABI and Confindustria in cooperation with the Ministry of Education to provide scholarships to high school students who excel in various fields. Lastly, the partnership with the **Associazione Sportiva Dilettantistica (ASD) Wheelchair Sport Florence - Volpi Rosse**, which is committed to promoting social integration through Paralympic sport, the education of citizens, and the dissemination of the importance of personal well-being, is also emphasised.

#### Collaboration with the Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation

Banca Ifis has started collaborating with the **Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation** in order to help the weaker sections of society, in response to the difficulties encountered especially in the last year and accentuated by the inflationary environment.

In December 2023, the Bank donated one million Euro to the Foundation. The sum donated by the Bank will allow the distribution of the equivalent of 10 million Euro meals to the needy received by the organisations that are territorial partners of the Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation (an equivalent meal corresponds to a mix of 500 grams of food according to LARN - Reference Intake Levels of Nutrients and Energy for the Italian population).

In addition to the action with a strong social value, the recovery of food prevents it from becoming waste, saving energy resources and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This is why Banca Ifis's donation contributes directly and indirectly to the realisation of four of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations 2030 Agenda: eradicating poverty (SDGs No. 1); eradicating hunger (SDGs No. 2); reducing food waste (SDG No. 12); combating climate change (SDG No. 13); and creating partnerships for sustainable development (SDG No. 17).

The Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation was founded in 1989 with the aim of reducing food waste and helping people in need. The Foundation's activity consists of recovering food through various supply channels and donating it to local partner organisations, which in turn distribute it free of charge to people and families in need, helping to alleviate the problem of hunger, marginalisation and poverty, as well as promoting the fight against food waste.

## Culture and territory

The Group believes that **the cultural ecosystem is a driver of sustainable development and an accelerator of inclusion**. Through the Kaleidos action, Banca Ifis Group aims at a model of social innovation that leverages **beauty as an opportunity for the development of territories**, with a focus on young talents and enterprises. The dissemination of culture in all its forms is one of the fundamental aspects that the Group promotes within the **Culture and Territory** impact area. The Group, in fact, encompasses within this area various **artistic and cultural projects** such as, for example, "**Parola ai giovani - Manifesto del Cambiamento**", the initiative promoted by

singer-songwriter Giovanni Caccamo that involves students and excellences under 35 in the arts, science, music and sport, with the aim of giving young people a voice and stimulating a generation to confront each other. From the project, the docufilm “Parola ai Giovani” and the volume “Il Manifesto del Cambiamento” were subsequently developed and published, encapsulating the different experiences and points of view collected.

Also with a view to promoting a vertical culture focused on specific areas of interest, Banca Ifis Group draws up and publishes several **Observatories**<sup>17</sup> dedicated to specific production chains or particular sectors of the Italian economy. Relevant examples include the Ecosistema della Bicicletta (Bicycle Ecosystem), Economia della Bellezza (Economy of Beauty) observatories, the Italian Sport System Observatory and Kaleidos Impact Watch, focusing on investments in social and environmental sustainability by Italian SMEs. Finally, starting 2023, the Bank, thanks to the **inauguration of the International Sculpture Park** in the Villa Fürstenberg in Mestre and the **sponsorship of nationally renowned art-cultural events**, embarked on a path to promote artistic culture through the “**Art Project**”.

At the same time, within the Culture and Territory impact area, initiatives have been developed to enhance the territory in which the Bank operates, through specific **urban regeneration projects** or initiatives aimed at **preserving cultural and natural beauty**. In particular, relevant examples include the partnerships with **FAI - Fondo Ambiente Italiano**, whereby the Group contributed to the realisation of a project focusing on the intertwining of history and nature, and the partnership with the **Venetian Heritage Foundation**, which supports and promotes the heritage of Veneto art in Italy. In addition, a collaboration with **BAM and 21 Gallery** was signed in 2023, aimed at the redevelopment of Treviso's Sant'Andrea Gardens, currently considered an area of decay, which will be launched in 2024.

<sup>17</sup> For more details see chapter 5.1 Committed to enterprises - “Initiatives to foster a corporate culture inspired by social values”.

## The Art project

Over the past few years, Banca Ifis has shown a tangible commitment to supporting the artistic and cultural environment on a local and national level, becoming an important promoter of prestigious events and artistic culture. In 2023, in particular, Banca Ifis has committed itself to numerous artistic and cultural projects with the aim of establishing a relationship of reciprocity and development between the company, its employees, the community and the relevant institutions. To better coordinate these activities, an Art Committee, chaired by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, was also set up at the Parent Company level.

One concrete example is the **International Sculpture Park** in the charming Villa Fürstenberg in Mestre, the premises used by the Bank's General Management. This place was in fact conceived to take contemporary sculpture out of traditional art containers and place it in a natural context such as a park, making it more accessible, engaging and inclusive. The project, which will be open to the public starting from Spring 2024, wants to address a wide range of stakeholders in order to create a positive and lasting impact: **employees, local communities and institutions** are the three categories of most involved.

To share the history, artistic value and biodiversity present in the Park, the volume "**La Natura della Scultura contemporanea – Il Parco Internazionale di Scultura di Banca Ifis: storie, idee, visioni**" [The Nature of Contemporary Sculpture - The Banca Ifis International Sculpture Park: Stories, Ideas, Visions], was also produced. This work, also distributed to employees, tells the story of the Park, the artists and works included to date, the tree species it hosts, in a valuable combination of "Made in Italy" and art.

In addition to the inauguration of the Park, **Banca Ifis pursued numerous other initiatives during 2023**, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to the promotion of art and culture. These initiatives include:

- sponsorship of the Italian Pavilion at the 18th International **Biennial Architecture Exhibition** - Venice Biennale. For the third consecutive year, the Bank supports this artistic-cultural project that also contributes to strengthening synergies with the territory in which it operates;
- participation in "**Arte in Nuvola 2023**", the international modern and contemporary art fair in Rome in November 2023. The Group has created a full digital exhibition that offers an immersive, virtual tour of the works in the International Sculpture Park;
- the purchase and restoration of works of art of inestimable artistic and cultural value, including twelve previously unpublished busts by Canova now featured in the "**Antonio Canova e il Neoclassicismo**" (Antonio Canova and Neoclassicism) exhibition in Lucca, which opened in December 2023 and is open to the public, in which there is a dialogue between sculptures by Antonio Canova and paintings by painters from Lucca;
- a commitment to restore, secure and enhance the mural in Venice "**The Migrant Child**" by **Banksy**, one of the leading exponents of street art, which is deteriorating due to humidity, high water and saltiness. The mural represents a work of high artistic value due to its uniqueness: in fact, there are only two works by the English artist in Italy.

The development of such projects reinforces the Bank's commitment to generating **sustainable economic growth, enhancing employee welfare and promoting an artistic and cultural culture throughout the community**.



## Market Watch - 2023 Economy of beauty

For the third year running now, Banca Ifis has developed the **"Economy of Beauty" Market Watch**, to continue to tell how **the Beauty sector manages to generate wealth through the deep link between our country's traditions and the way of doing business**. As in the previous two years, the Observatory analysed the trends and scenarios of the sector as a whole: it emerged that there is more and more Beauty in the Italian GDP, a sector that at the end of 2022 contributed 26,1% of the Gross Domestic Product, accounting for half of the growth compared to 2021 and about a third compared to the last pre-pandemic year (2019). Exceptional confirmation that Beauty is an important part of our country's recovery after the two-year pandemic and is a real driving force for our production system. In the 2023 edition, the Bank has chosen to focus in particular on the extent to which the excellence of Made in Italy manufacturing originates from *"savoir faire"*, the work of the Masters of Art, a system that is rapidly evolving demographically, economically and socially, and that increasingly requires the valuing of and training in artisan trades, which have determined the uniqueness of Italian production (fashion, design, home system, etc.) in the world.

In 2023, the study was enriched with the voices of 11 important stakeholders, with contributions edited by journalist, writer and costume historian Fabiana Giacomotti. They are creators of innovative, revolutionary and long-term projects to which these entrepreneurs have dedicated every moment of their lives, or true second professional existences, devoted to the education of new generations and the preservation of beauty, in addition to the energy spent on the well-being of their companies.

**Contribution of the economy of beauty, enriched by purpose, to Italy's GDP in 2022**

**26,1%**

**Share of turnover of manufacturing enterprises attributable to artisan "know-how"**

**54%**

**Companies that consider artisan "know-how" key to market positioning**

**80%**

Economy of beauty, **promotional activities:**

- **Event at the Fortuny Museum in Venice:** Banca Ifis presented the new edition of the study, collected in a valuable volume, on Thursday, 28 September 2023 in the historic setting of the Fortuny Museum in Venice, during a public event that enriched the programme of activities for the Bank's 40th anniversary celebrations.
- **Presentation at the Parliamentary Intergroup on Italian Fashion, Senate of the Republic:** presentation of the study in the prestigious institutional setting of the Senate of the Republic, in the presence of Senators of the Intergroup on Italian Fashion and important representatives of the Made in Italy business world.

## Personal well-being

The Group is committed to **supporting personal well-being and care**, raising community awareness of the importance of health and scientific research in the areas where it operates. The importance and centrality of people for the Group is also reflected in the attention paid to protecting people's health and well-being. Through the **Personal well-being** impact area, in fact, the Bank promotes various initiatives aimed at prevention, psycho-physical well-being and scientific research. Again, the promotion of these issues takes place both internally, towards employees, and externally, towards communities.

In particular, the **Welfood - People Care** project was developed in 2023, offering all Ifis People the possibility of free medical counselling in various areas, with specialised professionals (e.g. psychologists, nutritionists and anti-smoking therapies to protect mental and physical health). In addition, a partnership with **WelfareCare** was launched in 2022 to support the importance of breast cancer prevention. In the Group's five largest locations, between 2022 and 2023, Banca Ifis organised appointments where employees and their families had the opportunity to have free mammograms and breast scans.

The importance of scientific research is supported externally through the Bank's support for the Foundation for Advanced Biomedical Research and **the Veneto Institute of Molecular Medicine - VIMM**, which represents national and international excellence in cellular and molecular biology research. In addition, since 2022, the Bank has continued its partnership with and support for **the Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital** in order to promote research against malignant tumours of the central nervous system.

Protecting the health of all people is a fundamental value for Banca Ifis, which is why it has been promoting a partnership with the **Heal Foundation** for several years. Thanks to the Taxi Solidale project, it supports and helps numerous families and children suffering from cancer in their treatment, facilitating access to treatment in the various hospitals and treatment centres in the Lazio region.

#### Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and Foundation

Since 2022, Banca Ifis has partnered up with the Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital to support research against malignant tumours of the central nervous system.

The Bank has agreed to donate three million Euro for research into innovative new therapies for malignant tumours of the central nervous system affecting children and young adults. In particular, the donation made by Banca Ifis will support a trial at the Children's Hospital of the Holy See, aiming to assess the safety and efficacy of gene therapy with CAR T cells on patients with relapses or not responding to other currently available treatments.

**54 patients** aged between 6 months and 30 years are expected to be enrolled in the study.

#### Commitment to the world of sport

In 2023, just like in 2022, the Bank's commitment to the world of sport was enriched with the creation and publication of the **Observatory on the Italian Sport System**, an insight tool available to operators in the sports and production sectors, as well as policy makers. The Observatory analyses the state of health, trends and scenarios of Italian sport, acting as a measurement and evaluation tool for all decision-makers. It was developed by applying the broadest definition established by international statistical standards (referred to as the "Vilnius 2.0 definition"), thus providing Italy with a platform for monitoring the sports supply chain, as requested by the European Commission since 2006.

In addition, the Group has selected, in line with its mission and values, a series of events and projects linked to the world of amateur and professional sport for the development of new relations on the territory, which **directly involve customers and employees**.

The **main sports activities** in which the Group took part include:

- **partnership with the Ravano Foundation** for the organisation of the tournament of the same name in the city of Genoa and reserved for young primary school students in the Ligurian region;
- **sponsorship of the first edition of the solidarity padel tournament** organised by the CAF Association in collaboration with LORENTEGGIO 1947, in favour of minors victims of abuse and maltreatment;
- **main sponsor of the men's and women's team of U.C. Sampdoria**, promoted to Serie A in 2022;
- **sponsorship of the Florence Volpi Rosse Paralympic wheelchair basketball team**;
- **organisation and support of institutional sports events** in cooperation with the Italian Olympic Committee. These included the presentation of the first Observatory on the Italian Sport System and the presentation of Scholarships awarded to some of the Italian Olympic Committee's young athletes.

Moreover, the Group acknowledges the values of sport not only as a good educational practice, but also as a vehicle to convey well-being and growth for the company and organisations.

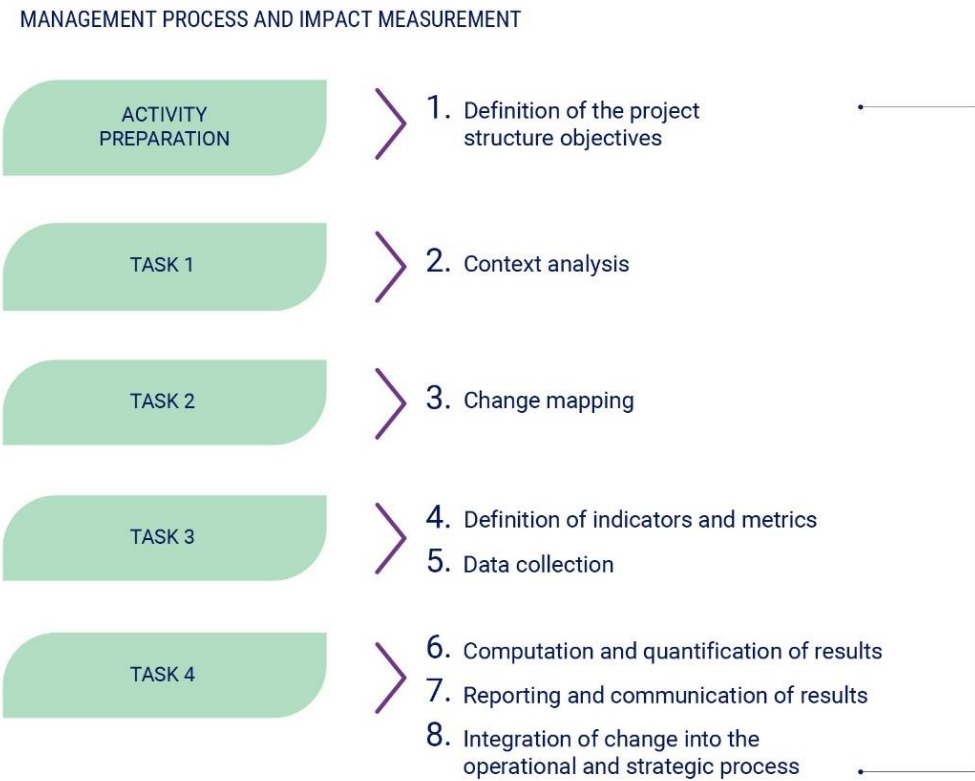


## Impact measurement

In 2023, the tools at the disposal of the Kaleidos Social Impact Lab were enriched with a **model that allows the “S” dimension of social to be translated into a monetary value** that is a function of the projects' effectiveness in producing positive changes on the recipients of the various initiatives financed.

The model, as announced in 2022, was developed by the Strategic Marketing & Research Function of Banca Ifis in partnership with Triadi, a spin-off of the Polytechnic University of Milan, in order to meet the **requirements of scalability and replicability**, so that it can be applied to all social initiatives implemented by the Bank and overcoming the limits potentially imposed by the variety of project structures and the size of the investment in them. To meet these requirements, the model was built on the basis of the principles provided by the **Theory of Change**<sup>18</sup>.

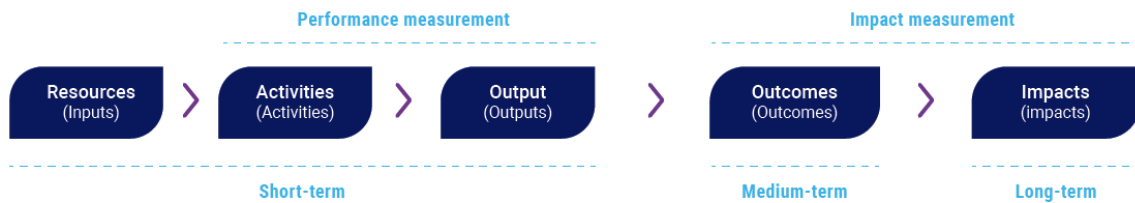
The model makes it possible, thanks to a high degree of customisation, to capture the specificities of the context within which individual projects are placed. Below is a representation of the sequence of activities in Banca Ifis Group's **impact management and measurement process**.



<sup>18</sup> The Theory of Change has the advantage of clearly identifying the results of a project or initiative, highlighting the importance of achieving intermediate outcomes and providing the basic elements and structure for identifying quantities that can be measured. Funnell, S. C., & Rogers, P. J. (2011); "Purposeful program theory: Effective use of theories of change and logic models"; John Wiley & Sons. Rawhouser, H., Cummings, M., & Newbert, S. L. (2019) "Social impact measurement: Current approaches and future directions for social entrepreneurship research. Entrepreneurship theory and practice, 43(1)", 82-115.

The economic measurement model of social impact based on the Theory of Change adopts the **value chain tool** to specifically and articulately describe the sequence of activities planned to bring about social change.

#### VALUE CHAIN



The project description carried out by the Value Chain makes it possible to **identify the value dimensions generated by the selected projects**, i.e. to define those elements that contribute to the creation of results and impacts, in the short and long term, on the project beneficiaries and the community of reference, articulating them on **5 dimensions**:

- **Resources (Input):** human and financial resources needed to implement the organisation's activities;
- **Activities:** actions carried out in order to transform inputs into outputs;
- **Product (output):** products and services offered by the organisation;
- **Results (outcome):** results and changes that the organisation generates in the short term on the beneficiaries;
- **Impacts:** effects and changes generated on the community in the long term, calculated taking into account what would have happened anyway in the absence of the intervention.

The infrastructure built through the Value Chain is not an end in itself but useful to **identify indicators (KPIs)** capable of representing each dimension considered. KPIs are, as a next step, **measured** on the target groups of the social project through a **dedicated survey**. The survey responses allow us to determine, for each question or KPI, the **percentage of improvement**, namely the percentage of people who reported a value above the improvement threshold out of the total number of respondents. Consistent with a prudential approach, responses are evaluated on the basis of a restrictive **"threshold value"** in order to eliminate responses provided for mere "social desirability".

For the dimensions of impact quantitatively assessed through the survey, monetary proxies are established to **attribute a "monetary dimension" to the change generated on society**. The monetary reference values are usually retrieved from national public and private databases and sources (e.g. INPS, JobPricing observatory reports, etc.).

The procedure described here leads to a final result that fully represents the **"monetisation" of the social impact generated**, an unequivocal expression of the project's effectiveness, on a par with the profit generated by a company in the course of its typical activity, insofar as it meets the following characteristics:

- **intentionality:** the project is implemented to meet precise objectives;
- **measurability:** all defined objectives are measured through objective and quantitative parameters;
- **additionality:** objectives are defined in such a way as to bring about a change on the project recipients that would not otherwise occur and, therefore, trying to act in areas where market mechanisms fail or only partially work.

The monetary measure of social impact is **weighted** with: the project's contribution to the improvement generated (attribution); Banca Ifis's contribution to the total investment in each project; and any additional adjusting factors that the nature of the initiatives might make necessary.

The implementation of the economic social impact measurement model represents for the Kaleidos Social Impact Lab the possibility of:

- **translating the "S" (social) dimension into a very concrete set of values;**
- **making their actions measurable**, overcoming socialwashing and greenwashing;
- **selecting projects** where impact can be maximised when acting in a purpose-driven manner.

In 2023, the year in which the development of the model was completed, the measurement was carried out on **six Kaleidos projects**, whose scope of action responds to 6 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in addition to the **redevelopment project of the Milan headquarters**, via Borghetto Overall, the social value generated was around 1,2 million Euro, corresponding to a multiplier (i.e. the ratio between the value generated and Banca Ifis's financing) averaging 3,9: this means that **1 Euro invested was transformed on average into almost 4 Euro of economic value for the community**.

Kaleidos area of intervention	Finalised projects	SDGs	Social value produced
 Inclusive communities	 CONI scholarships Summer Stem Academy Equilibri Projects (Bollate Prison) Winning Women Institute		672K €
 Culture & Territory	 Bank restructuring Ifis - Borghetto Milan office		55K €
 Personal well-being	 "Adotta un ricercatore" (Adopt a researcher) (VIMM) Welfood		505K €
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>1.233K €</b>
<b>Impact Multiplier</b>			<b>3,9X</b>

## Relationships with schools, universities, and the public

In 2023, continuing on from previous years, **the Bank donated study grants to deserving young students** for the completion of their professional training paths with a masters in Risk management, Internal Audit & Fraud (RIAF) promoted by the Ca' Foscari Challenge School starting from the 2022/2023 academic year. In addition, the Bank, in cooperation with the UN agency, the Ministry of Labour, Confindustria and the Global Compact Network Italy, **continued to promote a project for the placement of high-potential political refugee students** already in Italy and undergraduates at top Italian universities, in line with open positions.

## Donations and Sponsorships

[GRI 413-1]

For 2023, **78%** (72% in 2022) of the total **donations and events organised**, in which the Group played an active part or which it sponsored, **involved the local communities of the reference territories**. These activities were purely for charitable, social, informative or educational purposes. In particular, during the reporting period, there was a significant increase in activities related to donations and gifts, as well as institutional events that generated positive impacts on the community and territories.

Specifically, it should be noted that **total donations and gifts disbursed in 2023** showed a significant increase compared to last year, amounting to **approximately 33%**. This increase is due to the maintenance of previously established partnerships and the creation of new co-projects with other third sector entities, which have enabled the Group to strengthen its commitment to the people, territories and communities in which it operates. In addition, it is worth mentioning the donation made to the non-profit Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation, amounting to 1 million Euro.

### Main initiatives supported during 2023

<b>Inclusion projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to organisations that deal with supporting families and young people in difficult situations such as the Don Gino Rigoldi Foundation in Milan and with SOS Bambini through the "Adopt a Family" project. In collaboration with the association CAF, support for the expansion of the Teen House, a facility dedicated to young adults from 18 to 21 years of age, to facilitate gradual interaction with the world of work and inclusion in the social context in an autonomous manner.</li> <li>• Support for the association Articolo 3, which works in Bollate Prison, to facilitate the social and work re-inclusion of prisoners within the community.</li> <li>• Support for the Heal Foundation, a solidarity taxi service to help children with oncological diseases and their families with transport to hospital. Finally, the support of the Gaeliana School Alumni, with the Summer STEM Academy project to promote the value of excellence and training courses focused on STEM disciplines, is also worth mentioning.</li> <li>• <b>Start of the collaboration with the Banco Alimentare Onlus Foundation in order to help the weaker sections of society, in response to the difficulties encountered especially in the last year and accentuated by the inflationary environment.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Support for medical-scientific research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for research and health protection, with particular attention to chronic diseases through the donation of medical equipment and instrumentation or direct support to charities and institutions <b>such as the adherence to the "Adopt a Researcher" initiative of the Advanced Biomedical Research socially-useful non-profit foundation of Padua.</b></li> <li>• <b>Support for the "Organoids" project of the Veneto Institute of Molecular Medicine (VIMM), for research in cellular and molecular biology.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Conservation of the artistic heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for local and national initiatives taken to protect and conserve the artistic heritage and landscape. In particular, 2023 saw the inauguration of the Banca Ifis International Sculpture Park, the permanent exhibition of monumental sculptures created by the Chairman to promote art and artistic culture.</li> <li>• Main partner of the collective project "Paola ai Giovani" by Giovanni Caccamo.</li> <li>• <b>Support for the Fondo Ambiente Italiano (FAI).</b></li> </ul>
<b>Support for youth sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with C.O.N.I., we support the athletes of the World Youth Championships of the Olympic disciplines of 2023 through the donation of scholarships to strengthen the young Italian sports movement. Support to the Foundation Torneo Ravano - Coppa Paolo Mantovani for the promotion of the values of sport with particular reference to youth.</li> <li>• <b>Support for the Volpi Rosse amateur sports association, which promotes the Paralympic sport of wheelchair basketball and social inclusion.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bancor Prize</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Banca Ifis Group sponsored the second Italian edition of the Bancor Prize, established by the Guido Carli Association for Economic and Political Culture. The award honours a personality of global significance each year who has stood out by demonstrating that he or she addresses economic issues with wisdom and integrity. The event was attended by important political and institutional figures including Bank of Italy Governor Ignazio Visco, Consob Chairman Paolo Savona and ECB board member Pietro Cipollone. The award was conferred on Larry Summers, US Treasury Secretary during the Clinton administration, Director of the National Economic Committee under Obama, and Rector of Harvard.</li> </ul>
<b>Cycling Tourism Oscars</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2023, Banca Ifis Group was a sponsor of the eighth edition of the Cycling Tourism Oscars, an award created in 2015 to promote all forms of sustainable tourism and Italy's cycling and pedestrian routes and elects the best cycling routes on the Peninsula every year. In 2023, the winning region was Tuscany.</li> </ul>