

## Tracking efforts towards achieving Article 2.1(c)

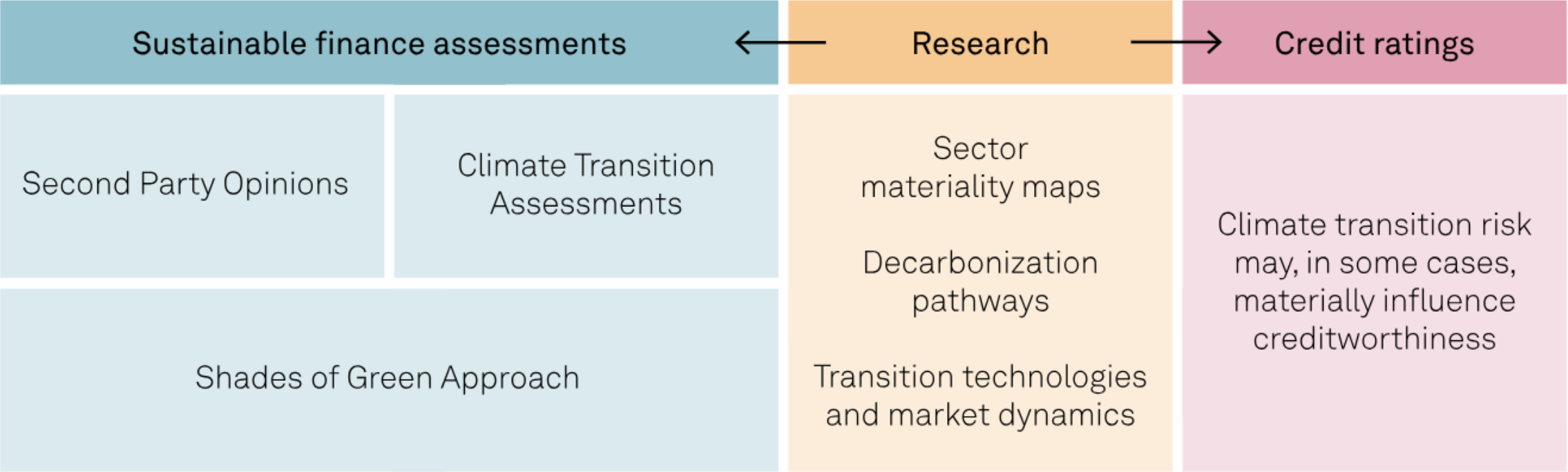
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# S&P Ratings' Approach to Supporting Transparency on Transition and Sustainable Financing







Our mission is to provide high-quality, objective and independent analytical information to the marketplace



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# Differentiation in the green labelling market helps increase transparency of alignment to Article 2.1c

- Our **Shades of Green Approach** was co-developed by a former climate finance negotiator and an IPCC AR6 WGIII Chapter 15 Lead Author, and we apply this to labelled investments (debt & equity). This enables greater transparency on how aligned an investment is with Article 2.1c.
- In our scale we apply a scale from activities consistent with a low carbon and climate resilient (LCCR) future to those inconsistent.
- We factor local **Taxonomies** into the analysis of how green an investment can be. These policies are helpful guides as to what is considered green, or sustainable, locally.
- 44% of our Green Second Party Opinions achieved a Dark Green Shade in Q2 2024, with 20% achieving Medium Green & 36% Light Green.

Assessments					
Dark green	Medium green	Light green	Yellow	Orange	Red
Description					
Activities that correspond to the long-term vision of an LCCR future.	Activities that represent significant steps toward an LCCR future but will require further improvements to be long-term LCCR solutions.	Activities representing transition steps in the near-term that avoid emissions lock-in but do not represent long-term LCCR solutions.	Activities that do not have a material impact on the transition to an LCCR future, or, Activities that have some potential inconsistency with the transition to an LCCR future, albeit tempered by existing transition measures.	Activities that are not currently consistent with the transition to an LCCR future. These include activities with moderate potential for emissions lock-in and risk of stranded assets.	Activities that are inconsistent with, and likely to impede, the transition required to achieve the long-term LCCR future. These activities have the highest emissions intensity, with the most potential for emissions lock-in and risk of stranded assets.
Example projects					
 Solar power plants	 Energy efficient buildings	 Hybrid road vehicles	 Health care services	 Conventional steel production	 New oil exploration

LCCR = Low carbon climate resilient future  
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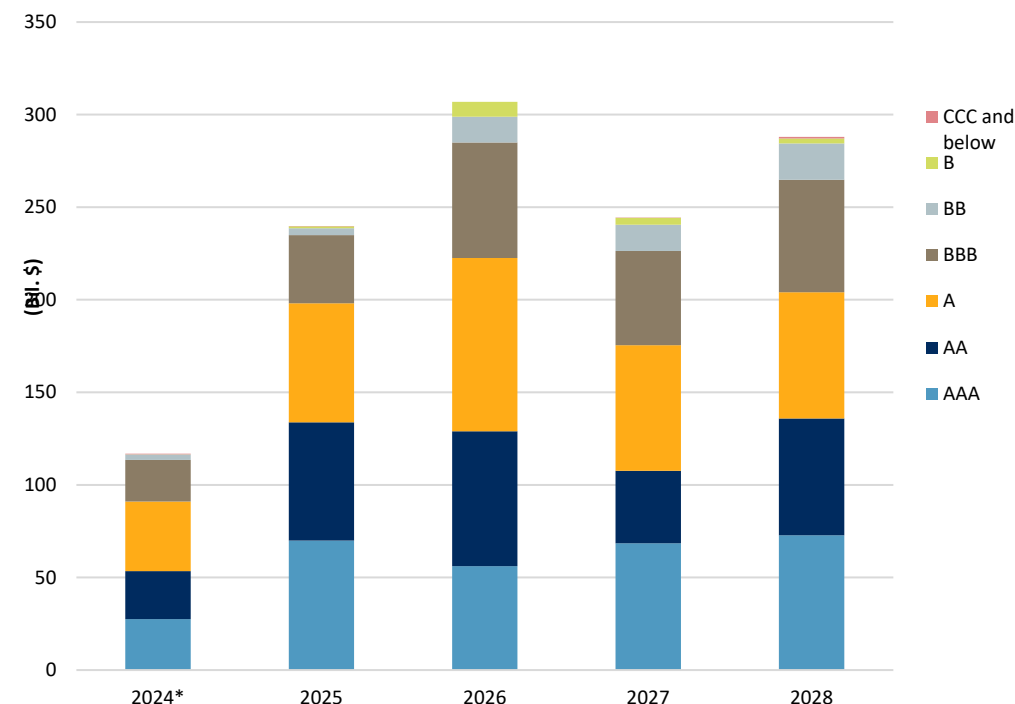
Renewable Energy	Dark green
Sustainable Transport	Dark green
Energy Efficiency	Medium green
Water Efficiency	Medium green
Sustainable Construction	Medium to Light green
Circular Economy	Light green

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# Most Rated Sustainability-Labelled Debt Nearing Maturity is Investment Grade

- Sustainability-labelling is still emerging in the public\*\* capital markets (\$2.6 trillion in outstanding labelled bonds vs ~\$120 trillion in bonds; and ~\$130 trillion in equity markets; Private\*\* markets make up ~\$14 trillion)
- Early positive developments: 14% of new debt is labeled, with Middle East & Latin America the fastest growing. In 2023, 33% of issuance was in currencies other than euro & US – up from 24% in 2019.
- Most of the maturing (older) market that we rate is investment-grade – sub-investment-grade instruments are most concentrated in the non-financial corporates.
- Bonds are typically an area that investors tap for stable returns, which can affect the utility of bonds as an instrument for new and unproven business ventures.
- Still, energy, transportation and buildings makeup the largest sectors in green bonds.

## 94% Of Rated GSSSB Debt Maturing Through 2028 Is Investment-Grade



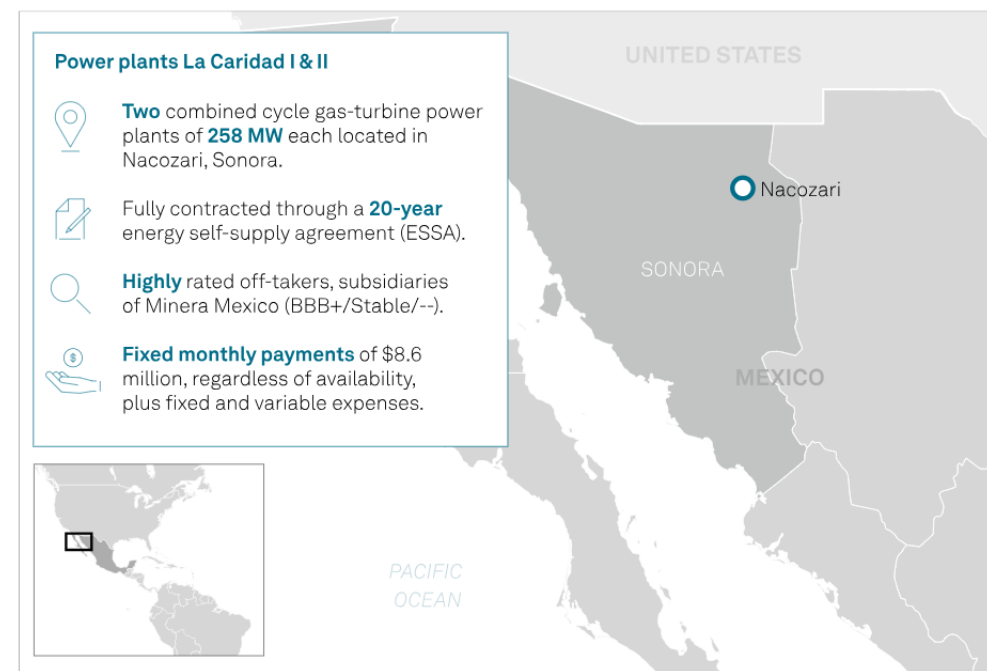
\* from 01/04/2024 to 31/12/2024. Data as of April 1, 2024. Sources: Environmental Finance, S&P Global Market Intelligence, S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.



# Climate Transition Policy Could Impact Locally Financed Projects

- We highlight how ESG does and could impact credit in our ratings looking out on what is **visible** and **material**
- Oil & gas industry's risk was elevated in 2021 – reflecting energy transition risks – and has remained elevated despite record earnings
- On the other hand, for these MGE gas-fired power plants in Mexico for the copper mining sector: climate transition policy could impact their asset life, but don't yet (see **red box**)
- This project's foreign currency debt (BBB+/Stable) is not capped by the sovereign rating owing its strong and predictable cash flow and high ratings of the off-takers

## México Generadora de Energía S. de R.L.



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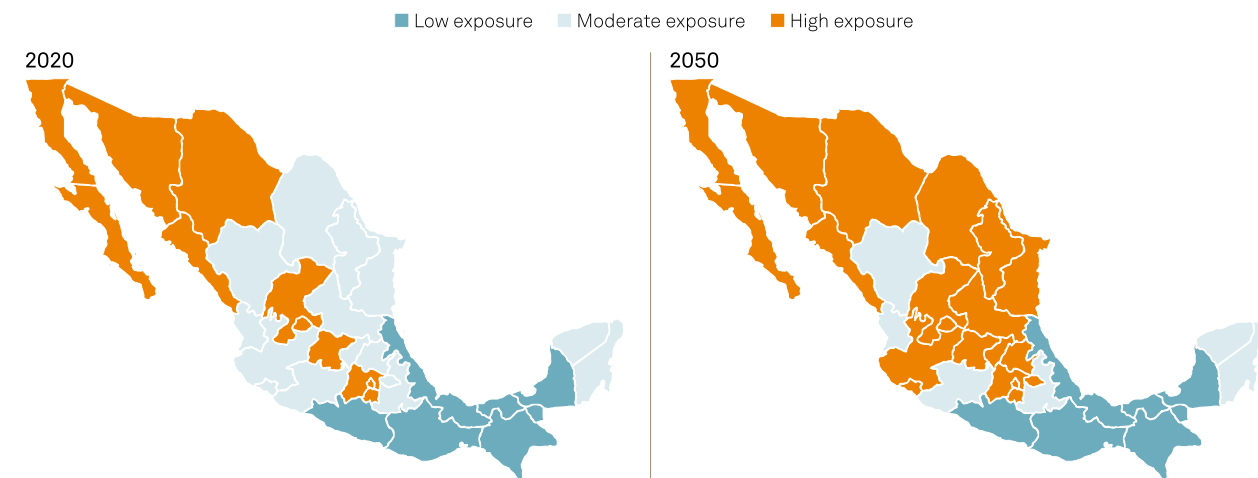
### Environmental, Social, And Governance

Environmental factors are a negative consideration in our credit rating analysis of MGE, given its fossil-fuel fired generation assets. However, because Mexico's energy policies currently hamper the expansion of renewables generation and considering the low increase in renewable capacity compared to the expected energy demand, we don't expect substitution risk to emerge in the next several years.

# Exploring the future using scenario analysis – why exploratory research is necessary

- When things are not clearly visible nor material, we use scenario analysis in exploratory research
- See, for example, work assessing the impact of water stress under climate scenarios on the ratings of local governments in Mexico
- Some companies in water-sensitive industries are beginning to move operations away from Mexico's industrialized and highly drought-prone northern region. We expect economic and fiscal risks stemming from exposure to high water stress in Mexico will continue to rise and could ultimately weigh on Local and Regional Governments' (LRG) credit quality over the medium to long term.
- The impact of water stress on our LRG ratings will depend in large part on the cooperation between various levels of government in planning and investing to ease water stress.

## Water Stress Represents A High Physical Risk for Mexican States



Estimate based on analysis under a moderate stress scenario (SSP2-4.5). Source: S&P Global Ratings. Copyright © 2024 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. All rights reserved.



Key drivers are a physical shortage of water sources or inadequate infrastructure



**2/3**

of Mexico's territory is in arid or semi arid areas.



**76%**

of water supply in Mexico is used in agriculture.

Water stress has a potential negative impact on ratings through



**Economic assessment**

Constrained economic development



**Public finances**

Stressed budgetary performance  
Larger funding needs

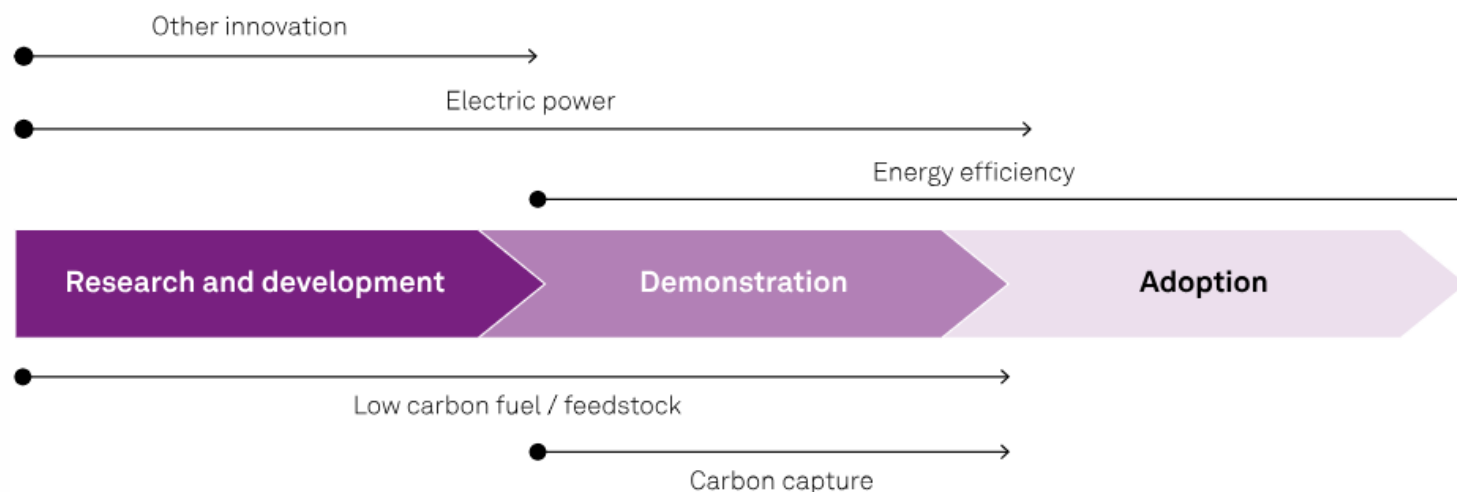


**Financial management**

Ability to address infrastructure needs  
Handling of debt and liquidity

# Post 2030, Decarbonization Is Heavily Reliant On The Scalability Of Technology, Which Limits Credit Rating Visibility

## Technological maturity of decarbonization options



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- Leveraging our credit teams' knowledge of technological maturity, we have published in-depth research on decarbonization in several hard-to-abate sectors, including chemicals, cement, and metals (steel and aluminium).
- Within the hard-to-abate sectors, **under current policies**: Most policy and private sector decarbonization targets, out to 2030, **appear manageable from a credit and operational perspective**, and rely largely on electrification, use of greener energies, and efficiency measures.

# Thank you



## *Further Reading*

[Analytical Approach: Shades Of Green Assessments | S&P Global Ratings \(spglobal.com\)](#)

[Second Party Opinions | S&P Global Ratings \(spglobal.com\)](#)

[Sustainability Insights | S&P Global Ratings \(spglobal.com\)](#)

[Climate Finance in Lower-Income Countries | S&P Global Ratings \(spglobal.com\)](#)