

Animal Testing and Fur Guidelines

Why does ABN AMRO have Animal Testing and Fur Guidelines?

ABN AMRO provides financial services to some industry sectors that, directly or indirectly, may conduct research involving animals. Ideally, we would prefer such research to be conducted without the use of, or without causing distress to, laboratory animals. We recognise, however, that certain research applications still require the use of animal models due to the lack of accepted alternatives. In this context, we strive to ensure that our clients manage animal welfare issues within their operations prudently and responsibly. We also realise that our clients' reputation, and indirectly that of ABN AMRO, can suffer if these issues are not adequately managed. It is therefore crucial that the bank takes these guidelines into account when considering such business engagements.

What is the purpose and scope of these guidelines?

ABN AMRO has developed these guidelines to ensure that its engagements with clients involved, directly or indirectly, in animal testing can be deemed responsible and in line with the bank's Business Principles and Corporate Values. It applies to ABN AMRO as a whole, its subsidiaries worldwide and any outsourcing and joint venture that the bank enters into.

What standards does ABN AMRO apply?

Animal testing

ABN AMRO strives only to conduct business with companies engaged in animal testing that:

- Maintain adequate internal procedures and governance to ensure that the welfare of animals can be safeguarded.
- Are in compliance with applicable local animal welfare laws and regulations and can demonstrate an acceptable track record.
- Operate under acceptable regulatory frameworks. Companies have to be located in areas with acceptable standards related to animal welfare. If not, companies should, at a minimum, show compliance with EU, US or equivalent legislation. Increased due diligence will be required in areas governed by systems of self-regulation (e.g. Japan, Canada). In addition, companies should not outsource practices to avoid local legislation compliance.
- Do not perform research on endangered animals¹ or great apes².

¹ Appendix 1 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

² Gorillas, orangutans, bonobos, chimpanzees.

Fur

ABN AMRO has a guideline in place that clearly states the bank does not finance new prospects in the fur sector or, in principle, any expansion activities in this sector.

How does ABN AMRO put its standards into practice?

In accordance with its [Sustainability Risk Policy for Lending](#) and [Sustainability Risk Policy for Investment](#), ABN AMRO puts its sustainability standards into practice through the following four steps:

- Screening and risk determination, using the bank's Global Sustainability Risk Index.
- Assessment of the client's sustainability performance by means of due diligence procedures. Companies are evaluated based on specifically designed evaluation criteria for animal testing, which derive from ABN AMRO's standards as described above.
- Approval of the transaction. Only if the due diligence process leads to the conclusion that the client's performance meets all the bank's standards, approval of the transaction will be given.
- Monitoring the client's compliance. The bank monitors the client's compliance with its conditions and mutually agreed measures, for as long as the bank maintains a financial interest in the transaction.