

PRESS RELEASE

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Societe Generale is sponsoring Inria's project to create a unique and universal source code archive

Inria, the French National Institute for computer science and applied mathematics, launched the Software Heritage project in June 2016 to collect, organise, preserve and share all software that is publicly available in source code form around the world. Societe Generale is sponsoring this project which reflects the Group's ambitious open source strategy - a powerful driver of innovation and agility to enhance customer service.

[Software Heritage](#) is an initiative organised by [Inria](#)* to build a global library of all software - a unique database of source code. With this universal, permanent archive, Software Heritage aims to build a global resource for computer science research, an essential infrastructure serving society, science and industry.

Societe Generale is the only bank involved in the project, and this initiative is part of its strategic priority of succeeding the digital transformation in order to become THE relationship-focused bank, a reference on its markets.

Open Source First

Digital and its new uses are transforming the Bank so it can offer its customers personalised, transparent, seamless and integrated services. Societe Generale's focus is on services and the use of APIs and it is promoting Open Source development throughout the Group. Open Source software allows flexibility, inter-operability, innovation and agility. The added value generated through Open Source software is evaluated for each new project.

Open Source was initiated by some of Societe Generale's developers, who wanted to share practices, standards and technology building blocks to help them innovate faster. It is now a major issue for the Group.

For the developers at Societe Generale, using Open Source goes hand in hand with contributing to it. Over 30 community projects in which they may get involved have already been identified.

Open Source also opens doors to new digital practices, which underlie operations at Les Dunes, Societe Generale's technology hub in eastern Paris. The 5,000 staff members who work at Les Dunes use community-based working methods (hackathons, meet-ups), establish partnerships with competitiveness clusters and startups and set up labs and experiments on a daily basis.

" We are aware of the importance of code in our digital transformation. Code has become a major issue and we are convinced of the need to preserve it over the long term. By using Open Source, which is by nature a collaborative and community-based technological innovation, we work together to develop collective intelligence and a new customer-centric banking model," said Xavier Lofficial, Group Head of Transformation, Processes and Information Systems at Societe Generale.

* Inria, the French National Institute for computer science and applied mathematics, promotes “scientific excellence for technology transfer and society”. Graduates from the world’s top universities, Inria's 2,700 employees rise to the challenges of digital sciences. With its open, agile model, Inria is able to explore original approaches with its partners in industry and academia and provide an efficient response to the multidisciplinary and application challenges of the digital transformation. <https://www.inria.fr/en/institute/inria-in-brief/inria-in-a-few-words>

To know more about the [Software Heritage](#) project

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Societe Generale

Societe Generale is one of the largest European financial services groups. Based on a diversified universal banking model, the Group combines financial solidity with a strategy of sustainable growth, and aims to be the reference for relationship banking, recognised on its markets, close to clients, chosen for the quality and commitment of its teams.

Societe Generale has been playing a vital role in the economy for 150 years. With more than 145,000 employees, based in 66 countries, we serve on a daily basis 31 million clients throughout the world. Societe Generale’s teams offer advice and services to individual, corporate and institutional customers in three core businesses:

- **Retail banking in France** with the Societe Generale branch network, Credit du Nord and Boursorama, offering a comprehensive range of multi-channel financial services at the leading edge of digital innovation;
- **International retail banking, insurance and financial services to corporates** with a presence in developing economies and leading specialised businesses;
- **Corporate and investment banking, private banking, asset management and securities services**, with recognised expertise, top international rankings and integrated solutions.

Societe Generale is currently included in the main sustainability indices: DJSI (World and Europe), FSTE4Good (World and Europe), Euronext Vigeo (World, Europe and Eurozone), Ethibel Sustainability Index (ESI) Excellence Europe, 4 of the STOXX ESG Leaders Indices, MSCI Low Carbon Leaders Index.

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