

## BBVA and eco-management are to train technicians and senior executives in environmental risk assessment and management

**This is the first course to be held in Spain within the framework of the new Environmental Responsibility Regime**

BBVA and the firm eco-management ([www.eco-management.es](http://www.eco-management.es)), a specialist in environmental training at the highest level, have subscribed a partnership agreement for training technicians and senior executives within the framework provided by the Environmental Responsibility Regime, which according to the experts is possibly the most significant legislation passed over the last twenty years in terms of environmental law. "At BBVA, we have once again decided to take a step forward and advance in the training of those people who, from the different economic players involved, need to take decisions based on the environmental risk assessment of a specific industrial activity", indicated Antoni Ballabriga, head of Corporate Responsibility and Reputation at BBVA.

On 23 April this year, a Regulation came into force that partially develops Spain's Act 26/2007 on Environmental Responsibility. The enactment of this legislation means that the most important part of the new responsibility regime is now fully enforceable.

The environmental responsibility regime is the outcome of the transposition into the Spanish legal system of Directive 2004/35/EC, which lays down the regulatory framework for the prevention and repair of the environmental damages caused by industrial operations. The new regime is possibly the most significant legislation passed over the last twenty years in terms of environmental law.

The regime governs an extremely large number of economic activities that henceforth, and prior to their installation, will be required to conduct an economic analysis and assessment of their environmental risks, as well as subscribe a financial guarantee to cover any possible damages that may be caused to natural resources. Environmental risk therefore becomes a tangible reality, assessed in economic terms, which will become an essential part of the risk profile of those economic activities subject to the new responsibility regime.

### **Specialisation Programme in Risk Assessment and Management**

The Specialisation Programme in Environmental Risk Assessment and Management, the first of its kind to be held in Spain, will begin on 20 May next and over the course of four days it will provide comprehensive information on the regime's legal issues, the drafting and interpretation of environmental risk reports, their economic valuation, the criteria for their

management and the most appropriate decision-making in each case, as well as the assessment of these risks in capital markets.

The training course, which is completed with the preparation of several studies following the case-study method, will be provided by renowned experts in each one of these fields from institutions such as the University of Alcalá, the firm of lawyers Uría & Menéndez, Willis España, the Spanish Pool of Environmental Risks (Pool Español de Riesgos Ambientales), Ferrovial, Aenor and AIS (Analistas Internacionales de Sostenibilidad).