

Highlights - International Sustainable Finance, Lima, Peru, 16-17 September

The 3rd International Meeting of the Sustainable Banking Network gathered over 150 delegates from more than 25 countries, including banking regulators, banking associations, and development agencies committed to sustainable finance as a driver of green and inclusive growth in emerging markets.

The event was co-hosted by IFC and Peru's Superintendency of Banking, Insurance and Private Pension Fund Administrators (SBS).

The event is a flagship initiative of the IFC-supported Sustainable Banking Network (SBN), which now consists of 19 countries and 26 member institutions. IFC hosts the Secretariat.

The event was also part of the "Road to Lima" initiative, which included a series of high-profile events organized by the Government of Peru, the World Bank Group, and the International Monetary Fund leading up to the 2015 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund which took place in Peru in October 2015.

The following are general highlights of the discussions:

I) Deepening Technical Content

- The core interest of members continues to be in practical technical content that can assist them in their efforts to develop national frameworks for sustainable finance. Topics at this year's event included
 - **RESPONDING TO GREEN GROWTH NEEDS**
 - **REGULATORY GUIDANCE, VOLUNTARY INITIATIVES AND THE EXPERIENCE TO DATE**
 - **MANAGING SOCIAL RISKS**
 - **INNOVATIONS IN INSURANCE, PENSION FUNDS AND STOCK EXCHANGES**
 - **BASEL FRAMEWORK AND E&S RISK MANAGEMENT**
 - **STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS**
- There was an emphasis on implementation, including training and technical guidance for banks and regulators, coupled with the right market incentives.
- There was also a call for more opportunities for knowledge sharing and communication between members in addition to the annual meetings.

II) Growth and Governance of the Network

- Since launching in 2012, the Network has almost doubled in size, to 19 members, and continues to grow.

- 10 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru and Vietnam) have so far launched national policies, guidelines, principles, or roadmaps on sustainable finance.
- Discussions focused in particular on governance of the network with a view to growing the international profile of the initiative and ensuring strong ownership by members. A working group was established to take the governance discussions forward.

III) Expanding the Network Beyond Banking

- There is interest to expand the scope of the Network to cover other parts of the financial sector ecosystem, including capital markets, insurance, and pension funds.
- There is also growing interest in other aspects of sustainable finance beyond environmental and social risk management (ESRM) policies, such as green finance, green capital allocation, carbon footprint, carbon pricing, and managing climate risks.