

# Sustainable Banking Network (SBN)

## Background *(September 2018)*

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The Sustainable Banking Network (SBN) ([www.ifc.org/sbn](http://www.ifc.org/sbn)) is a knowledge and capacity-building platform of financial regulators, banking associations, and environmental regulators from emerging markets committed to developing sustainable finance frameworks based on national context and priorities, as well as international good practices.

SBN's main objectives are to: (a) provide technical assistance to support members in creating an enabling environment through developing and implementing national sustainable finance frameworks; (b) convene a global platform for practitioners to benefit from best practices and deepen collective learning; and (c) provide capacity building and knowledge sharing, with a focus on peer to peer exchanges among members.

As the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, IFC provides technical assistance to SBN members based on its practical experience gained from Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) sustainability standards setting and application, as well as from investing and advising the private sector in emerging markets on green/climate finance innovation. IFC also acts as Secretariat and knowledge partner for the Network and connects SBN with its global network of development partners.

SBN membership now consists of 35 member countries including Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam. These countries represent \$42.6 trillion in banking assets, accounting for over 85% of the total \$50 trillion banking assets in emerging markets<sup>1</sup>. SBN member countries have taken different approaches toward sustainable finance. So far 17 countries have developed national frameworks on sustainable finance with IFC/SBN support.

SBN has two thematic working groups:

- **Member-led Measurement Working Group**: Established in December 2016, it includes 14 members from 11 countries, The Measurement Work Group developed a Measurement Framework and tools for benchmarking country progress and strategies in sustainable finance. The Global Progress Report and country reports were launched in February 2018. The reports could be found at [www.ifc.org/sbnreport](http://www.ifc.org/sbnreport)
- **Member-led Green Bond Working Group**: Established in December 2017, it aims to support members to develop green bond markets and facilitate increased flow of international and domestic investment to achieve national sustainable development goals. The Working Group includes 30 members and observers from 21 countries. The Working Group launched its first research report "Creating Green Bond Markets – Insights, Innovations, and Tools from the Emerging Markets" in September 2018. The reports could be found at [www.ifc.org/sbngreenbond](http://www.ifc.org/sbngreenbond)

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<sup>1</sup> Data Source: International Monetary Fund, Financial Soundness Indicators, <http://data.imf.org/?sk=51B096FA-2CD2-40C2-8D09-0699CC1764DA>