

**NEW**

## **SBN Co-Hosts GFLP**

# **Seminar on Policy Frameworks for Sustainable Finance**

**Beijing, November 6-7, 2018**, the Global Green Finance Leadership Program (GFLP) held its second event, the Seminar on Policy Frameworks for Sustainable Finance, in Beijing. The Sustainable Banking Network (SBN), which is supported by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Center for Finance and Development of Tsinghua University, and the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment & Development (CCICED) co-hosted the event.



The seminar convened more than 100 representatives from 38 countries and regions across the world, including policymakers, financial regulators, banking associations, and practitioners from the financial industry.

Nena Stoiljkovic, Vice President for Asia and Pacific at the IFC, opened the seminar and reflected on the journey of SBN with IFC support. SBN members now represent 35 countries and over US\$43 trillion (80 percent) of banking assets in emerging markets. Seventeen SBN member countries have introduced sustainable finance frameworks and 11 have introduced frameworks for green bond issuance. They are united by a shared objective to transition their national financial systems toward a sustainable future. And, although eclectic in size and state, these countries are demonstrably advancing the field.



Pioneers and innovators from central banks, governments, international organizations, financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations shared their experiences and insights. The topics included green taxonomy, ESG disclosure, and capacity building, and the discussions centered on roadmaps for developing green finance policy frameworks.

The first convening of leading sustainable finance networks of financial regulators, represented by the SBN and the European Union/Network for Greening the Financial System, has the potential to shape the global sustainable finance policy landscape to address sustainable development and climate change.

Consensus was reached to develop an integrated approach for a sustainable finance policy framework, including: (i) alignment with international standards and best practices; (ii) a process of multi-stakeholder

engagement; and (iii) common technical components, such as ESG integration, ESG disclosure and capacity building, green and climate finance, and taxonomy.

In developing a consistent taxonomy to define and measure green and climate finance, financial regulators play an important role. All participants acknowledged national sustainable finance policy frameworks should start with a consistent taxonomy that aligns with international standards and considers the local context. As noted in the seminar, good international and national taxonomies are emerging.

The IFC/SBN, Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB), and European Investment Bank (EIB) shared how they define green bonds/sustainable and green assets. The SBN has captured a green loan taxonomy as developed by three member countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, and China. The discussion centered around: (i) global consensus and alignment; (ii) unique national context; (iii) expansion to the social realm for sustainability taxonomy; (iv) avoiding green washing and allowing national context for transitional issues; and (v) application of good international ESG practices as a fundamental requirement prior to defining the impacts to be targeted.

The GLFP has convened a Green Taxonomy Working Group to develop a common reference point for use equally by SBN members and the wider GLFP network.

The Global Green Finance Leadership Program provides a global platform for sharing knowledge on sustainable finance. Its objective is to promote the integration of environmental, social, and governance considerations in financial sector decision-making, to scale up green and climate finance, and to facilitate the sustainable transformation of the global economy.

[Program Agenda](#) | [Download the Presentation Slides from the Seminar](#)

Contact: SNB Secretariat [SBN\\_Secretariat@ifc.org](mailto:SBN_Secretariat@ifc.org)

---

Related Links:

[SBN Website](#)

[SBN First Global Progress Report](#)

[SBN Creating Green Bond Markets Report](#)

[Green Finance Leadership Program](#)