SUPPORTING THE UNEP FINANCE INITIATIVES: THE NORTH AMERICAN BUSINESS CASE

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Paul E. Hagen, Esq.
Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.
1350 I Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 789-6022
phagen@bdlaw.com

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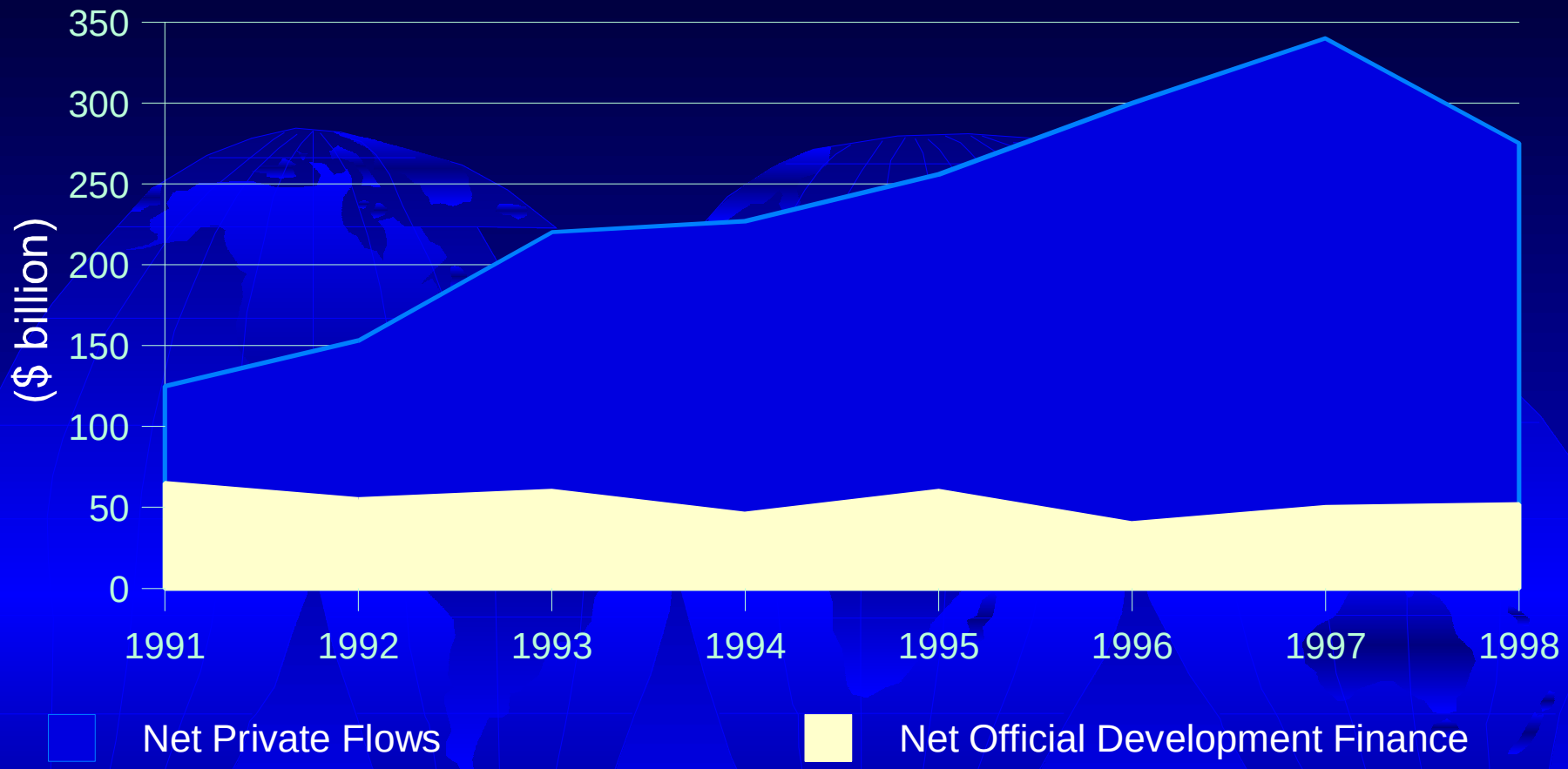
Net Resource Flows to Developing Countries, 1991-1998



Source: **Word Bank, 1999b.**

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The World Bank Group

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) (1945)

International Finance Corporation (IFC) (1956)

International Development Association (IDA) (1960)

International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) (1966)

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) (1988)

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World Bank Environmental and Social Policies

# **OP/BP/GP 4.01**	Environmental Assessment
# **OP/BP/GP 4.04**	Natural Habitats
# **OP 4.09**	Pest Management
# **OP 4.11**	Cultural Property
# **OD 4.20**	Indigenous Peoples
# **OD 4.30**	Involuntary Resettlement
# **OP/GP 4.36**	Forestry
# **OP/BP 4.37**	Safety of Dams
# **BP 17.50**	Disclosure of Information

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The Inspection Panel

A non-judicial body for people to bring their complaints to the Bank's highest level

A mechanism to ensure accountability in Bank operations with respect to its operational policies and procedures

Between August 1999 - December 2000

- 21 Formal Requests
- 5 Investigations Approved
- Significant Project Impacts

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IFC's Environmental and Social Policies

Environmental Safeguard Policies

Social Safeguard Policies

Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines

Policy on Disclosure of Information

Office of the Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman

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Pollution Prevention and Abatement Handbook

1998 Pollution Prevention and Abatement Handbook

Expands and replaces 1988 Guidelines

Emphasis on:

- Pollution prevention
- Waste minimization
- More Stringent “end of pipe” standards
- Fuller integration with EA process

World Bank Group and Beyond

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Regional and Bilateral Institutions

Regional Development Banks

Inter-American Development Bank
Asian Development Bank
African Development Bank

U.S. Bilateral Institutions

OPIC
Export-Import Bank

G-8 and OECD Initiatives on Environmental Guidelines for ECAs

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UNEP Statement by Financial Institutions on the Environment and Sustainable Development

How does the UNEP finance initiative compare?

What are the public expectations for the financial services industry?

Are the expectations different for banks involved with overseas project finance?

Are the expectations different for banks operating in highly developed legal regimes?

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Are There Benefits to Subscribing?

Are there sound business reasons for subscribing to the UNEP statement?

Greater public and shareholder credibility?

Response to future public pressures?

Reduced project risks?

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Are There Risks to Subscribing?

Increased Public Expectations and Scrutiny?

- Aggrieved citizens
- Activists
- Shareholders

Increased Tort Liability? (Unlikely)

- A new standard of care?
- Opportunity to demonstrate due care?
- Foreign Torts Claim Act?

ISO 14001 Certification Issues?

Other Considerations

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DISCUSSION

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