

UNEP Finance Initiative East Africa Roundtable  
Monday 1 October 2007, Nairobi, Kenya

“UNEP FI activities in Africa at a glance”

Elsa Kruger Cloete – Development Bank of South Africa  
UNEP FI African Task Force (ATF)  
member and representative



UNEP **Finance Initiative**  
Innovative financing for sustainability

## A partnership between the United Nations and the finance sector

- 160 institutions work with UNEP
- Initiative established to understand the impacts of environmental and social issues on financial performance
- Driven by signatories seeking to collaborate in areas of joint interest
- Business, issue and region specific activities



## Robust platform in Africa

- UNEP FI African Task Force (ATF) established in Midrand South Africa in 2002
- Members united by objective of defining approaches to sustainability for the finance sector in Africa
- Commercial banks, development banks and asset managers
- Citi, Nedbank, Standard Chartered, Standard Bank, DBSA, FMO, Societe General and others



## UNEP FI ATF deliverables 2007

1. “Banking On Value” report launched June 2007 at World Economic Forum in Cape Town
2. Online credit risk course to go live Q4 2007
3. “The State of responsible investment in South Africa” to be launched 2 Oct 2007 at the JSE
4. Ongoing SME and commercial microfinance research



## “Banking On Value: a new approach to credit risk in Africa”

- Conceptualized by UNEP FI ATF members
- Designed to assist African financial institutions to integrate environment, social and governance issues in their lending and credit risk management policies
- Best practice and guidance based on the approaches of 10 leading South African and 12 leading Nigerian banks



## Online environmental and social credit risk course starting Q4 2007

- Based on findings of “Banking on value” report
- Available to financial institutions throughout Africa from Nov-Dec 2007
- Lasts roughly 10 days and involves tutors that assist and guide participants through materials and case studies
- Subscriptions open now



## “The State of responsible investment in South Africa”

- How the South African investment community perceives environment, social and governance issues and integrates them in investment decision making
- Expected to provide the investment community clarity on action needed for long term investment
- 32 pension funds, 19 asset managers and 11 investment service providers surveyed



## SME and Microfinance research

- Survey currently going forward to understand barriers to commercial microfinance in Africa. To be completed and launched in 2008
- Workshop took place Sept 26 Geneva Switzerland to discuss innovative approaches to SME finance in Africa, outcomes to be launched in 2008



## UNEP FI ATF: the preeminent platform for sustainable finance in Africa

- Current bias towards South Africa, more need for East, West and North African participation
- Opportunities for networking and defining best practice solutions to local issues in a collaborative atmosphere

