

Sustainability – Risks and Opportunities for Polish Financial Institutions

Zrównoważony rozwój – ryzyko i korzyści dla polskiego sektora finansowo-bankowego

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UNEP **Finance Initiative**
Innovative financing for sustainability

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UNEP FI Central and Eastern European Task Force (CEETF) - Mission and Objectives

- Raise awareness amongst the financial sector of environmental risks and opportunities
- Provide support to FIs wishing to address such issues (capacity building, risk management tools etc)
- Provide a forum for debate and discussion amongst FIs and civil society
- Encourage a level playing field



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CEE Task Force - Membership

- Financial sector institutions based in the region.
- NGOs and other interested stakeholders.
- Task Force activities are member driven.
- Assist banks in CEE to improve local environmental conditions for the broader community.



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Survey on Sustainable Finance in CEE

- Survey of 26 financial institutions in CEE (EU accession and non-EU countries)
- Aim:
 - gain understanding of the current status of sustainable finance in CEE financial sector;
 - what are the main drivers and barriers



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Survey on Sustainable Finance in CEE - Findings

- Majority consider sustainability is an important issue.
- Financial and non-financial issues – top three most relevant sustainability issues.
- 90% respondents engage in community development activities.
- 60% publish an environmental report.
- Micro credit is frequently offered sustainable finance product (42.2%).



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Survey on Sustainable Finance in CEE – Findings (2)

- Drivers: enhanced reputation (73.1%); social responsibility (61.5%).
- Barriers: difficulty to measure benefits(53.8%); lack of clear business case (46.2%).
- 95% respondents that implement sustainable finance practices experienced clear benefits.
- 38.5% provide at least one environmental financial product.
- 76.9% believe that in 5 years more emphasis will be on sustainability.



Agenda

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|-------------|---|
| 12.30 | Registration |
| 13.00 | Introduction: Mark King, Environment Department, EBRD |
| 13.10 | Key Note Speech: Why do Financial Institutions pay attention to environmental issues? Krzysztof Bielecki, CEO, Pekao SA |
| 13.40 | Summary of Environmental Legal Issues Facing Financial Institutions. Waleria Szczuka-Skarzynska, Clifford Chance |
| 14:00 | Case study – Polish Privatization and Environmental Issues. Piotr Syrczynski, Atkins Polska |
| 14.20 | EBRD 's experience in CEE – Environmental Risks and Opportunities. Dariusz Prasek and Robert Adamczyk, Environmental Department, EBRD |
| 15.00 | Coffee Break |
| 15.20 | UNEP Finance Initiative in CEE - What We Do. Paul Clements-Hunt, UNEP Finance Initiative |
| 15.50 | Best Practice in Sustainable Finance: The Experience of Bank Austria Creditanstalt. Martin J. Frank, Bank Austria Creditanstalt |
| 16.20 | How Can Environmental Issues Affect Company Ratings and Future Environmental Reporting Requirements. <i>Thomas Kolaja, CII Group</i> |
| 16.40 | Panel Discussion and Questions Chair: Mark King, EBRD |
| 17.00-20.00 | Cocktails |