UNEP FI –
A Global Approach
towards Sustainable Finance

Sustainability - Risks and Opportunities
for Financial Institutions in South East Europe
Zagreb, Croatia

http://www.unepfi.org
14/06/2005
AGENDA

- UNEP FI – Background and History
- Public Private Partnership at UNEP FI
- The UNEP FI Statement
- UNEP FI – Achievements and Targets
- UNEP FI in Central and Eastern Europe
- Value Added – Benefits for Member Institutions
What is UNEP?

**United Nations Environment Programme**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), established in 1972, works to encourage sustainable development through sound environmental practices.

What is UNEP FI?

**United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative**

UNEP FI is a unique global partnership (Public-Private Partnership) between UNEP and the Financial Institutions worldwide.
Mission
To realize best environmental and sustainability practice at all levels of financial institution operations.

Expansion
Launched at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, UNEP FI has grown from 6 to more than 180 financial institutions worldwide today.

Commitment
By signing one of the two UNEP FI Statements, a company commits to the goals of Sustainable Development.
184 UNEP FI Signatories
(Financial Institutions & Insurances)

Date: 16/03/05
# UNEP Finance Initiative – Historical Background

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<td>1992-2001</td>
<td>only smaller projects – no working groups / task forces</td>
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Introduction of obligatory Annual Financial Contributions

**2002**

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<td>2002-2005</td>
<td>Asset Management</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>Africa</td>
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<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>Emerging Markets</td>
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<td>General Insurance Working Group</td>
<td>Finance &amp; Conflict</td>
<td>Central &amp; Eastern Europe</td>
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<td>Sustainable Management, Reporting and Indicators</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Latin America</td>
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<td>North America</td>
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UNEP FI – Principles of Membership

1. Signing by the Management/Implementation of the Principles of the UNEP FI Statement
2. Financial Contribution or Payment in kind
3. Engagement in Projects / Working Groups / Task Forces
Major Achievements

- CEO Briefings
- Materiality Report
- More than 20 publications since 2001
- Responsible Investment Initiative (RII)
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Financial Services Sector Supplement (Environment)
- Over 3,000 actively involved participants in various outreach meetings, workshops and Global Roundtables
Outreach

- 0.618... : yearly (thematic)
- e-bulletin: monthly (8,000 subscribers)
- unepfi.org: over 200,000 visitors a year
UNEP FI Strategy & Proposed 2005-06 Activities

- Financial Institutions and Multilateral Environmental Agreements
- UN Responsible Investment Initiative (RII)
- Sustainability Training for the Financial Services Sector
- Emerging Assets: Sustainable Investment in Emerging Markets
- Financial Services and Conflict
- Financial Services and Water

Individual Work Programs of Task Forces / Working Groups
UNEP FI Global Roundtable 2005 in New York

25-26 October 2005
New York

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Contact: trevor.bowden@unepfi.org
UNEP FI in Central and Eastern Europe

Current focus:

- Awareness-raising
- Environmental credit risk management
- Training and capacity-building

Task Force members:
Value added – Benefits of the Initiative

- Staying Ahead of Best Practices and Changing Regulatory Landscape through Issue driven Working Groups
- Networking with Member Partners
- Comprehensive Understanding of the Materiality of Economic, Environmental, Social and Reputational Risks
- Positive Rating Points in Several Environmental and Social screened Ranking Models
- Product Differentiation / Competitive Standing
- Reputation Enhancement / International Recognition
- Focus on Regional Needs through Task Forces
« More and more financial institutions – investors, bankers and insurers – are realising that their future depends on backing the right kind of economic development »

Dr. Klaus Töpfer,
Executive Director of UNEP