



UNEP

**Finance Initiative**

**UNEP FI –  
A Global Approach  
towards Sustainable Finance**

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

# 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

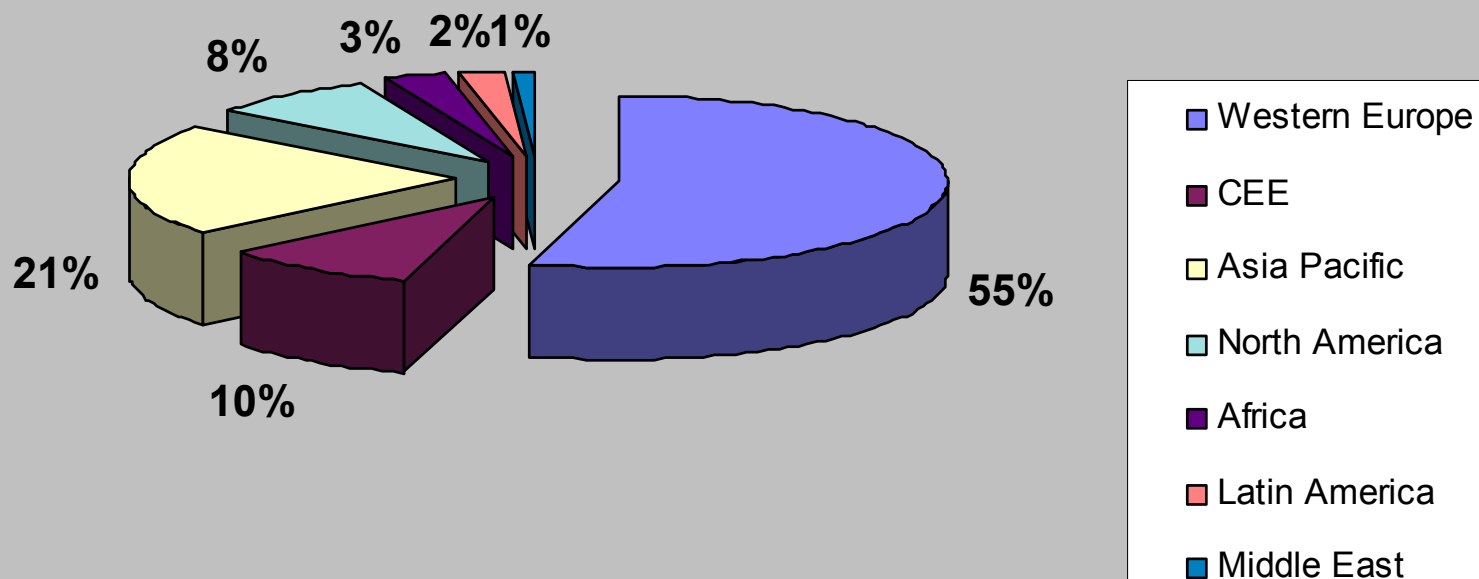
Launched at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, UNEP FI has grown from 6 to more than 180 financial institutions worldwide today.

# Commitment

By signing one of the two UNEP FI Statements, a company commits to the goals of Sustainable Development.

# UNEP FI worldwide

184 UNEP FI Signatories  
(Financial Institutions & Insurances)



Date: 16/03/05



# UNEP Finance Initiative – Historical Background

Period	Working Groups	Projects	Task Forces	Pers.
1992-2001	only smaller projects – no working groups / task forces			1-3

Introduction of obligatory Annual Financial Contributions

2002

2002-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Asset Management</li> <li>✚ Climate Change</li> <li>✚ General Insurance Working Group</li> <li>✚ Sustainable Management, Reporting and Indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Biodiversity</li> <li>✚ Emerging Markets</li> <li>✚ Finance &amp; Conflict</li> <li>✚ Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Africa</li> <li>✚ Asia-Pacific</li> <li>✚ Central &amp; Eastern Europe</li> <li>✚ Latin America</li> <li>✚ North America</li> </ul>	10-20
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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



UN Website | UN Website Locator Site Map Contact



**UNEP Finance Initiative**  
Innovative financing for sustainability

Home

About UNEP FI

Work Programme

Our Signatories


Benefits of Joining

Regional Activities

Publications

Events

## What we do



UNEP FI is a global partnership between UNEP and the financial sector. Over 200 institutions including banks, insurers and fund managers, work with UNEP to understand the impacts of environmental and social considerations on financial performance.

↳ Why get involved
↳ How to join

**e-Bulletin sign up**

**Sign up to receive news and updates from UNEP FI.**

↳ [More](#)

**UNEP FI launches new website**

27 October, 2004


UNEP FI is pleased to release a completely redeveloped, redesigned, and restructured website to showcase the work of UNEP FI and its [signatories](#).

Send comments, feedback, and suggestions to [web@unepfi.org](mailto:web@unepfi.org).

**Feature Publication**

**For Finance and Sustainability in Central and Eastern Europe**

(423 KB | 8 pages)



# 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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# UNEP FI in Central and Eastern Europe

Current focus:

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

Task Force members:



**European Bank**  
for Reconstruction and Development

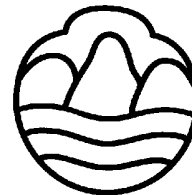
**Bank Austria**  
Creditanstalt



**HVB Group**

**Emporiki Bank**

**RZB**  
Group



**Regional Environmental Center for  
Central and Eastern Europe**



# 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

# UNEP FI – A Global Approach towards Sustainable Finance

**« 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

