The last few months have been marked by a historic shift towards global environmental policy with the new US President pledging to support the transition to a low-carbon future. Furthermore, the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December is resonating across the world. This historic opportunity has triggered numerous policy initiatives across governments, finance and business communities, and civil society.

The world is changing, and the financiers and investors from around the world are gauging investment opportunities in low-carbon and clean energy technologies. UNEP FI is convening the 2009 Global Roundtable on 22-23 October built around the overarching theme of “Financing change, Changing finance” to address these issues and frame the new sustainable finance and responsible investment from the frontline perspective of international and African banking, insurance and investment sectors, and critically, it will set the agenda for action on environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues.

The Global Roundtable will feature a combination of insightful presentations, penetrating panel discussions, and genuine ideas on sustainable finance that will evolve around:

- Challenges and opportunities for finance sector in the transition to low-carbon and resource efficient economy
- Challenges and opportunities in financing the global new deal on climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Integration and legal aspects of ESG issues in mainstream investment decision-making
- Bridging the gap between finance and environmentally and socially responsible investment across industries
- Economic and social opportunities that business, finance and capital markets can bring to local communities in Africa through green economic agenda.

Importantly, the Global Roundtable will be held six weeks before the landmark UN Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen and for the first time ever in Africa will convene at Cape Town International Conference Centre (CTICC) in synchrony with a series of conferences, meetings, training sessions, launches of major reports and new initiatives that together with other local partners will make Cape Town the Greenest Business City on Earth.

To register, visit www.unepfi.org/capetown
### Day 1  
**Thursday 22 October**

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| 09.10 - 10.10 | **Opening Plenary**  
*The new sustainable finance - Getting serious*  
With governments and private sector shoring up the financial system the need to reflect on traditional financing models is being widely recognised by financial community. The financial crisis in 2008-9 holds many lessons and has underscored the vital role that environmentally and socially responsible investing plays in sustainable finance in emerging markets. What next? What direction for sustainable finance?  
Greening financial risks and rewards will recalibrate finance through less dependency on carbon and enhanced management of climate change risk, and will converge to the international over-arching global agreement on climate change at UN summit in December 2009. |
| 10.15 - 11.15 | **Second Plenary**  
*Finance, Investment and Business: Making it happen*  
Much of the gap between finance and business sectors over the past years was characterized by a dysfunctional finance-investment pattern. The global financial crisis proved that an unsustainable finance sector and a business sector beset by short-termism are too much to afford.  
Despite the recent global economic downturn environmentally and socially responsible investments have been reported to perform well proving that a closed finance gap to responsible investment is key to sustainable economic growth. Therefore, enhancing finance and business community engagement in sustainability issues is essential to drive long-term stability.  
In this plenary the interactions between finance, investment and business sectors will be explored from a sustainability angle. As well, sustainability goals will be discussed from sectoral and regional perspectives. |
| 11.15 - 11.40 | **Break** |
| 11.40 - 13.00 | **Workshops**  
**Workshop 1**  
Copenhagen and beyond - the role of finance in climate change  
**Workshop 2**  
Insuring sustainable markets of the future  
**Workshop 3**  
Resource rich markets – balancing natural assets  
**Workshop 4**  
Eco-legislation – Catalysing green markets in South Africa |
| 13.00 - 14.20 | **Lunch** |
| 14.20 - 15.35 | **Open debate workshops series I**  
**Workshop 5**  
The regulation reflex – sustainable finance in an era of “Big Government”  
**Workshop 6**  
“A handful of water” – the mercurial asset  
**Workshop 7**  
Financing environmental infrastructure |
| 15.35 - 16.00 | **Break** |
| 16.00 - 17.20 | **Workshops**  
**Workshop 8**  
From GRI reporting to indices – the next generation for financial markets  
**Workshop 9**  
Micro solutions, macro opportunities  
**Workshop 10**  
The FI challenge – sustainability in the supply chain  
**Workshop 11**  
Africa agro-industry in an era of environmental change |
Many have argued that the current financial crisis may not have been so deep or so protracted if institutional investors had been collectively willing to challenge the financial institutions that were at the heart of creating the systemic risks within the financial system. Internalisation of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues in investment decisions and ownership practices not only takes in a longer-term perspective but also accentuates better risk management of portfolios which in turn allows better evaluation of the opportunities to offer sustainable profits and foster sustainable economic growth.

In this Plenary, integration of ESG issues and the related legal and fiduciary implications for institutional investors, professional investment advisors and service providers will be discussed in depth. Does institutional investors’ responsible ownership need to be strengthened? What was the approach of responsible investors in weathering the crisis? Is responsible investment gaining ground? What impacts for long-term investors? What are the biggest challenges to long-term financial sustainability?

The triple impact and the continuing reverberations of the food, fuel, and financial crises have demonstrated the strong interdependency between the economy, environment, and human well-being.

The Cost of Policy Inaction report undertaken in 2008 to support the TEEB study shows that the global monetary cost of policy inaction in 2050 from the cumulative loss of land-based biodiversity/ecosystems will amount to USD 14 trillion annually. Yet the environment continues to receive marginal attention in economic policy-making. The “green component” of the global fiscal stimulus packages put together by various governments for 2009/10 amounts to a mere USD 2.8 trillion. The Green Economy Initiative (GEI), launched by UNEP, aims to mobilise and re-focus the global economy towards investments in clean technologies and ‘natural’ infrastructure such as forests and soils as the best bet for real growth, combating climate change and triggering an employment boom in the 21st century. This session on the GEI will aim to provide an overview, analysis and synthesis of how public policy and businesses can collaboratively help markets accelerate the transition towards a green economy.
Alongside the main event UNEP FI has planned a number of social functions available to all delegates that will allow you to socialise and network in a relaxed and informal setting.

**Welcome Drinks**  
Wednesday, 21 October  
In association with Africa Investor

**Reception**  
Wednesday, 21 October

**Conference Dinner**  
Thursday, 22 October  
The Global Roundtable Conference Dinner will be followed by the Africa investor Investment & Business Leaders Awards 2009

**Venue**  
The venue for all the workshops and social events will be the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC).

**How to register**  
To register for the Global Roundtable please visit the website: [www.unepfi.org/capetown](http://www.unepfi.org/capetown)

For more detailed information regarding accommodation, the event programme, keynote speakers and any other information please visit the website or email: roundtable@unepfi.org
This is your chance to join UNEP Finance Initiative and hundreds of global thought leaders to help define the future agenda.

Over 500 delegates from around the globe will attend the Roundtable which offers interactive panel sessions, expert training and in-depth debates for senior decision makers and experts from:

- Banks and insurance companies
- Institutional investors
- Emission traders
- Governments and financial regulatory bodies
- Business communities
- Civil society groups
- Environmental consultants firms
- Academia
- Law firms

The UNEP FI global Roundtable provides a unique opportunity for participants to:

- Hear the latest thinking in the financial field and learn about the recent developments
- Access the latest research on linkages between sustainability and financial performance
- Shape the sustainable finance debate
- Address fundamental challenges facing the financial industry
- Tap into UNEP FI’s vibrant global network
- Help frame the finance sector message for the UNFCCC climate change negotiations in Copenhagen