UNEP FI 2000 – 2010: Major achievements creating challenges ahead


2000-2010: rapid evolution of regional, sectoral and thematic initiatives in SFRI space.

1992-2012: SFRI moved from exotic at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to be central & fundamental for Rio+20’s

What role did UNEP FI play?
UNEP FI in numbers 2000-2010:

- 140 major publications: e.g. 280,000 downloads of Freshfields report since October 2005;
- 7 global roundtables and 500+ regional, technical and training events;
- 2000 finance executives, policy-makers and NGOs trained since 2006;
- 8 major side events presented at UNFCCC from Marrakech to Copenhagen and every year in between = A decade of representing finance at UNFCCC.
- Team grew from 1 to 15 and income from USD 200K to USD 2 million
UNEP FI Illustrative Impacts:


- After materiality & Freshfields: incubated and launched PRI now backed by 850 institutions representing USD 22 trillion in assets.

- Ground-breaking work to define the interface between finance & investment with: biodiversity & ecosystems services; human rights; finance and conflict; property & real estate; water etc etc
UNEP FI 2010 -2020: Major challenges

- SFRI crowded and moving from "understanding and definition" to "action and implementation".
- UNEP FI has to redefine its UVP & UVA rapidly to stay ahead of curve.
- Look back at strong foundation but ahead lies competition from multiple well resourced initiatives.
- Also, transaction costs rising for financial institutions to serve multiplying SFRI groups
- THE COMMISSIONS – What roles?
Banking Commission

▪ A UNEP FI decade of technical rather than "Poster Child/Totemic" initiatives e.g. UNEP FI’s GRI compared with sector’s own Equator principles.

▪ Sectoral must is to rebuild reputation, credibility and, crucially, trust post crisis. What role banking for society?

▪ What is the game changer for the banking sector and how can UNEP FI’s Commission both create and drive such an initiative?
Insurance Commission

- Challenge of redefining itself in UNEP FI after the UNEP III and UNEP FII merger in 2004/5.

- Strong track record of technical climate work and now prospect of Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI) building on strong definitional work around sustainable insurance since 2007.

- PSI development, launch (Rio +20, May 2012) and rollout can have same impact as PRI. The Commission has defined its "game changing" project for 2010-2020
Investment Commission

- Breath-taking decade of achievement and Commission can build on materiality, Freshfields and catalytic roles of these in PRI.

- Strong definitional and technical track records of Asset Management working group and Property working group.

- What is the game changer for the investment sector and how can UNEP FI’s Commission both create and drive such an initiative?

- Critically, how does the Investment Commission interface with PRI, SIFs, IIGCC, INCR to reduce "transaction costs" related to SFRI for the sector.
Lenses and clocks

Financial stability and systemic risk

Draft Zero
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