

A woman with long brown hair, wearing an orange jacket and a green life vest, is seen from behind, holding hands with another person whose hand is visible in the foreground. They are standing in a river with a rocky, forested background. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE BANKING

SHAPING OUR FUTURE



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# Driving Change, Realizing Impact: Launch of the Principles for Responsible Banking



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Bank CEOs from all five continents, together with the UN Secretary-General and the UN Environment Finance Initiative, are launching the highly anticipated Principles for Responsible Banking on 22 September 2019 during the annual UN General Assembly.

It is not by chance that the Principles will be launched during this important UN global event when all Heads of States come together to address humanity's greatest challenges.

As the most significant mechanism ever jointly created by the UN and the global finance industry, the Principles will empower 100+ initial Founding Signatory banks—jointly representing over US\$ 35 trillion or 20% of the global banking sector—to set corporate-level business targets that are aligned with achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

With the launch of the Principles for Responsible Banking, the banking industry will now have a seat at the table on issues of global development – enabling banks to drive change and realize impact.

# Official Global Launch of the Principles for Responsible Banking

**22 September 2019**



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# 22 September 2019

## Part I: Official high-level signing by bank CEOs of the Principles for Responsible Banking



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**When:** Sunday, 22 September 2019, 11.00am to 12.30pm  
(Participants must arrive before 9.30am for UN security clearance).

**Where:** United Nations Headquarters, 405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017, USA  
(Room tbc).

**Who:** The event is expected to include the high-level participation of:

- United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres
- President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron
- United Nations Environment Executive Director Inger Andersen
- 30+ banking industry CEOs and board members
- Top-tier international media

**What:** High-level event during which CEOs will sign their bank's commitment to the Principles for Responsible Banking. CEOs signing on this day will earn the designation of "Founding Signatories". Pre-confirmed CEOs will be promoted with high-profile media opportunities both in the run-up to and during the event. CEOs attending the event will also have the rare opportunity to access valuable networking opportunities during the UN General Assembly. **More than 100 banks from around the globe are expected to be signing on to the Principles on this day.**

# 22 September 2019

## Part II: CEOs Networking Lunch on Sustainable Development hosted by UN Environment Executive Director



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**When:** Immediately following the official launch – Sunday, 22 September 2019, 12.30pm to 2.00pm

**Where:** Prominent venue near UN Headquarters (more information to follow)

**Who:** The event will include the participation of:

- Host: newly appointed United Nations Environment Executive Director Inger Andersen
- UN Environment Finance Initiative Head Eric Usher
- Distinguished global thought leaders on sustainable development
- 30+ banking industry CEOs and board members

**What:** This high-level networking luncheon—for CEOs and board-level bank executives only—will offer a valuable opportunity to connect with other bank executives and UN Environment experts, including newly appointed Executive Director Inger Andersen – in an informal setting, where ideas can incubate and relationships can be forged.

# Banking Industry Public Event

23 September 2019



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# 23 September 2019

## “Driving Change, Realizing Impact:

## Implementing the Principles for Responsible Banking”



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**When:** Monday, 23 September 2019, 10.00am to 1.00pm

**Where:** BNP Paribas, The Equitable Tower, 787 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, New York, NY 10019, USA

**Who:** The event is expected to include the high-level participation of:

- United Nations Environment Executive Director Inger Andersen
- BNP Paribas Chief Executive Officer Jean-Laurent Bonnafé
- 350+ banking industry CEOs, board members, directors, investors; and distinguished global thought leaders from business, academia, government and civil society.
- UN Environment Finance Initiative Head Eric Usher
- Top-tier international media

**What:** This event will bring together banking sector and global thought leaders with environmental and development experts to explore the implementation and impact potential of the newly launched Principles for Responsible Banking. It will include two international CEO panels:

- “Banking on Sustainability – Competitiveness and success in today’s financial system”
- “Realizing Impacts – implementing the Principles for Responsible Banking”

# Further opportunities to position your bank's global leadership role during the UN General Assembly



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The **UN General Assembly** runs 17–30 September 2019. There will be 100+ events taking place, which your bank may wish to engage with as part of its business alignment with the SDGs.

While UNEP FI does not coordinate participation in these events, we are pleased to share this information:

- **23 September, afternoon: [UN Global Compact Leaders Summit](#)** – a call to companies to align strategies and operations with universal principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and take actions that advance societal goals.
- **23 September: [Climate Action Summit 2019](#)** – governments will present plans to enhance their contributions to addressing climate change by 2020, in line with reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent over the next decade, and to net zero emissions by 2050.
- **23–29 September: [Climate Week](#)** – businesses, governments and civil society are invited to host events in the areas of energy transition, industry, finance, cities and regional action, natural solutions and resilience/adaptation.

# Further opportunities to position your bank's global leadership role during the UN General Assembly



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- **23–24 September: [Sustainable Development Impact Summit](#)** – dedicated to accelerating progress towards the SDGs and Paris Climate Agreement through public-private cooperation and application of the transformative technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- **24 September: High-level [General Debate](#)** – the annual meeting of Heads of State and Government at the beginning of the General Assembly session.
- **24–25 September: [High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#)**, also known as the SDG Summit, with the theme “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.
- **25 September: [Sustainable Investment Forum](#)** – annual event held in partnership with the UNEP Finance Initiative – will welcome 350+ attendees; including asset owners and managers, banks, development institutions, policymakers, think tanks and NGOs looking to drive the sustainability agenda.
- **26 September: [High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development](#)** – governments, civil society and businesses examine past challenges and propose future actions to align and mobilize resources for the SDGs.

**In the run-up to the United Nations General Assembly, a Delegates Handbook will be produced by the UN, which [will be available here](#).**