PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE BANKING
Shaping our future

Why now?

Ten years after the start of the financial crisis the banking industry is still trying to rebuild trust and increase engagement with clients, customers and employees.

The banking industry needs to define and affirm its role and responsibilities in shaping and financing a sustainable future.

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Change is happening. Our economies are becoming greener while the millennial generation is changing consumption patterns and business culture.

A responsible banking industry that is an integral part of the society of the 21st century because it serves and contributes to an inclusive society that uses its natural resources sustainably.

We will take a leadership role and use our products, services and relationships to support and accelerate the fundamental changes in our economies and lifestyles necessary to achieve shared prosperity for both current and future generations.

What are the Principles?

01 ALIGNMENT
We will align our business strategy to be consistent with and contribute to individuals' needs and society's goals, as expressed in the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Climate Agreement and relevant national and regional frameworks.

02 IMPACT & TARGET SETTING
We will continuously increase our positive impacts while reducing the negative impacts on, and managing the risks to, people and the environment resulting from our activities, products and services. To this end, we will set and publish targets where we can have the most significant impacts.

03 CLIENTS & CUSTOMERS
We will work responsibly with our clients and customers to encourage sustainable practices and enable economic activities that create shared prosperity for current and future generations.

04 STAKEHOLDERS
We will proactively and responsibly consult, engage and partner with relevant stakeholders to achieve society's goals.

05 GOVERNANCE & CULTURE
We will implement our commitment to these Principles through effective governance and a culture of responsible banking.

06 TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY
We will periodically review our individual and collective implementation of these Principles and be transparent about and accountable for our positive and negative impacts and our contribution to society's goals.

Key features of the Principles

- Comprehensive framework addressing the strategic, portfolio and transaction level across all of the bank's business areas
- Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement
- Target-setting in the areas of most significant positive and negative impact
- Transparency and accountability through effective governance and a culture of responsible banking
- Guidance, expert advice and peer learning to support implementation

Who has created these Principles?

The international community has defined our shared direction in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement.

To continue to play a central role in the 21st century, the banking industry has to show how it is meeting society's changing needs and demands.

To find out more, visit: www.unepfi.org/responsiblebanking

Get involved and become a Signatory Bank of the Principles