

UN 
environment
programme

finance
initiative

Member handbook



Welcome to UNEP FI

A warm welcome from UNEP FI's global steering committee and secretariat. We are pleased that your organisation has decided to join the world's leading UN collaboration with the global financial community dedicated to developing the sustainable finance and responsible investment agendas. Together with our global network of financial institutions, we catalyse action to align economies with the Sustainable Development Goals and accelerate the financial sector's integration of environmental, social and governance considerations into financial practice.

In this induction pack you will find all the information you need to get the most out of your UNEP FI membership. Whether accessing our resources and the collective expertise, taking part in developing and piloting new tools, methodologies and frameworks, or hearing from technical experts and industry leaders at our events and webinars, you will have access to everything you need to embed sustainability across your organisation and into day-to-day operations. We look forward to working with you to help shape the finance sector's contribution towards sustainable economies and a healthy planet.



Patty Karuaihe-Martin

UNEP FI Global Steering Committee Co-Chairs



Antoni Ballabriga



Eric Usher

UNEP FI Head

About UNEP FI

You are welcome to use the text here to tell your stakeholders about your membership.

UNEP Finance Initiative brings together a large network of banks, insurers and investors that collectively catalyses action across the financial system to deliver more sustainable global economies. For more than 30 years the initiative has been connecting the UN with financial institutions from around the world to shape the sustainable finance agenda. UNEP FI has established the world's foremost sustainability frameworks that help the finance industry address global environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges.

Convened by a Geneva, Switzerland-based secretariat, more than 480 banks and insurers with assets exceeding US\$100 trillion work together to facilitate the implementation of UNEP FI's Principles for Responsible Banking and Principles for Sustainable Insurance, as well as three UN-convened net-zero alliances. Financial institutions work with UNEP FI on a voluntary basis and UNEP FI helps them to apply the industry frameworks and develop practical guidance and tools to position their businesses for the transition to a sustainable and inclusive economy.

Founded in 1992, UNEP FI was the first organisation to engage the finance sector on sustainability and incubated the Principles for Responsible Investment, now the world's leading proponent of responsible investment. Today, UNEP FI cultivates leadership and advances sustainable market practice while supporting the implementation of global programmes at a regional level across Africa & the Middle East, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America & the Caribbean and North America.

Find all the latest news, projects, events and webinars at unepfi.org.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment..

UNEP FI is a unit within the Economy Division. Find more information here. unenvironment.org/about-un-environment

Benefits of membership

As a member of UNEP FI, your organisation can now benefit from being part of the world's largest network of financial institutions working to put sustainability at the heart of their business strategies. You and your colleagues can benefit in the following ways:

- Access a powerful platform that will enable you to share knowledge with peers in your region and fellow practitioners around the globe, as well as learn about the latest trends and how to apply best practices in sustainable finance.
- Take part in a rich and innovative work-programme and join working groups in developing new tools and methodologies to help your organisation integrate sustainability considerations into systems of practice.
- Contribute to the quickly evolving global sustainable finance agenda and benefit from UN expertise and participation in UN fora.

There are many ways to access these benefits:

- Take part in one of the projects in our extensive work programme
- Attend our biennial global and regional roundtables
- Access the expertise of our secretariat and other members by participating in our regular webinars
- Stand for governance roles in one of the committees that provide oversight of our work
- Join a training course or workshop or many, many more opportunities to get involved.



Most of your contact with UNEP FI will be via your national or regional coordinator and your relevant industry coordinator. Their contact details are below:

Africa and Middle East



Nuran Atef
nuran.atef@un.org

Europe



Daniel Bouzas Luis
daniel.bouzasluis@un.org

Asia Pacific



Nirnita Talukdar
Nirnita.talukdar@un.org



Dae-Woong Lim (Korea)
dae-woong.lim@un.org



Kaori Nomura (Japan)
kaori.nomura@un.org



Peiyuan Guo (China)
peiyuan.guo@unepfi.org

Latin America & Caribbean



Maria Sosa Taborda
maria.sosataborda@un.org



Carolina Lopez (Chile)
carolina.lopez@un.org



Johan Lopez
johan.lopez@un.org

North America



Johan Lopez
johan.lopez@un.org

Banking coordinator



Oualid Rokneddine
oualid.rokneddine@un.org

Insurance coordinator



Diana Diaz
diana.diazcastro@un.org

Contact your co-ordinator if you or your colleagues—including subsidiaries—would like to propose or get more involved in specific global or regional activities

UNEP FI's work programme

Guided by the UNEP FI secretariat you can get involved in a broad range of technical projects and leadership initiatives. You can take part in work that is designed specifically for your industry or join cross-cutting initiatives that go deeper into specific sustainability themes that are relevant across the banking, insurance and investment sectors or high-profile initiatives such as the Net-Zero Asset Owner and Banking Alliances. Please find more information on the industry-specific and thematic work below.

Banking

The Principles for Responsible Banking provide the banking industry with a single framework that embeds sustainability at the strategic, portfolio and transactional levels and across all business areas. UNEP FI is supporting signatories in implementing the Principles to align their banks with society's goals as expressed in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement. [Read more here.](#)

Insurance

UNEP FI is working with members to implement the Principles for Sustainable Insurance, a global framework for the insurance industry to address environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities—as risk managers, insurers and investors. [Read more here.](#)

Investment

UNEP FI works with pioneering investors to help them embed sustainability into decision-making. Through the Investment Leadership Programme—a joint initiative from UNEP FI and the Principles for Responsible Investment—ambitious investors can work in small groups to to accelerate action on sustainability. [Read more here.](#)



Please follow the [link](#) to access our current work programme.

Climate Change

UNEP FI helps its members understand and respond to the risks and opportunities of the transition to a low-carbon economy and physical impacts of climate change. They can test and pioneer new methodologies and tools, such as approaches to implementing the FSB's Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures recommendations, and contribute to policy engagement on the role of financial institutions in addressing climate change. UNEP FI is providing technical support for members to align their portfolios with the Paris Climate Agreement and is the host organisation for the Net-Zero Asset Owner (NZAOA), Banking (NZBA) and Insurance (NZIA) Alliances. [Read more here.](#)

Nature: ecosystems, water, oceans and land use

UNEP FI is working with members to provide resources to integrate environmental issues such as natural capital, including biodiversity, into their analysis and strategies. Members join communities of practice to enhance knowledge and expertise in areas such as financing a sustainable blue economy. UNEP FI has a long history of producing cutting edge research and innovation in this area and continues to push the boundaries of incorporating natural capital dependencies and impacts into financial sector decision-making by developing tools and building capacity. [Read more here.](#)

SDGs and Impact

The Positive Impact Initiative is UNEP FI's response to the UN Sustainable Development Goals financing challenge and helps financial institutions ensure their activities contribute to the SDGs. Members are learning how to define positive impact, and access tools and guidance to enable them to analyse, manage and deliver impact across business lines. [Read more here.](#)

Social & Human Rights

Members are engaging on human rights standards and wider social issues, both in managing their risks and impacts, and as an indicator of good corporate responsibility. UNEP FI helps clarify how human rights and wider social issues relate to the activities of finance institutions. [Read more here.](#)

Pollution and Circular Economy

UNEP FI's engages with its members to shift production and consumption models towards a circular economy and address the triple planetary crisis on climate, nature and pollution. Through working or interest groups, research and guidance, UNEP FI raises awareness and builds capacity within its membership while facilitating peer exchange and collective action for a circular economy at global and regional level. [Read more here.](#)

Keeping in touch with the secretariat

Your first points of contact will be your regional or national coordinator and industry lead. They will keep you up-to-date on activities and projects and will be able to advise you on relevant initiatives and put you in touch with members of the secretariat or other UNEP FI members in your region or worldwide.

Employees of member organisations who would like to get more involved can apply to join the secretariat through “virtual secondments”. These can be full- or part-time and contribute to regional co-ordination or industry or thematic work streams. Secondments of individuals are agreed with member organisations and are usually undertaken remotely but can also be based out of the global secretariat in Geneva.

Contact your national or regional coordinator, industry coordinator or UNEP FI's membership and regional coordination manager [Liesel van Ast](#) for more information.

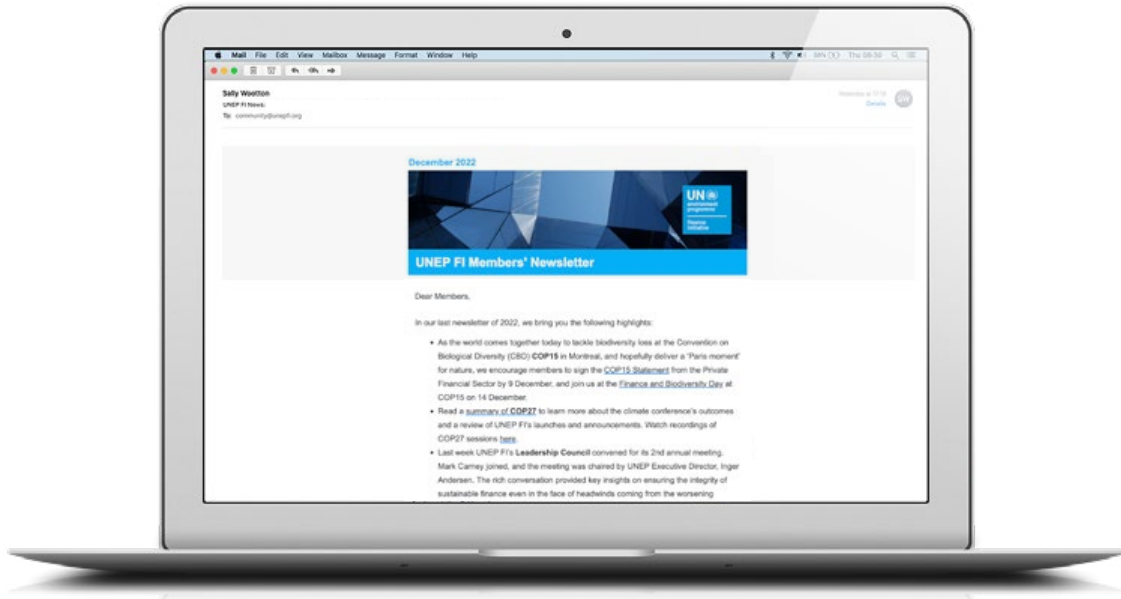
Regular webinars

You can listen to webinars and pose questions to the UNEP FI secretariat, industry experts, and special guests such as climate scientists, as well as gaining insight into the experiences of other members. Many of our webinars are for members only and offer a first look at UNEP FI-convened project outputs such as guidance, frameworks and tools, and members can access draft guidance ahead of public releases. The webinars are advertised on the UNEP FI website [here](#), the members' extranet and in the members' newsletter. We also hold webinars regularly on the BrightTALK webinar platform. **Sign up to the UNEP FI channel on [BrightTALK](#) to be notified of upcoming webinars.**

Regular emails and monthly newsletters

We communicate with members on a regular basis via emails and a monthly newsletter which summarises the latest developments, events and other ways to get involved with UNEP FI's work such as pilot projects, as well as useful information such as webinar recordings and other sustainable finance news. We also showcase members' news. **Ask your regional coordinator to add you to the distribution list or [subscribe here](#).**

Send us your sustainability news including product launches or new commitments and we will share with other members in our newsletter and to the wider finance industry and beyond via our social media channels. Please email communications@unepfi.org with your organisation's news.



On a daily basis, you can follow UNEP FI on our social media channels:
[Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

Members' extranet

Members can access information on governance, Annual General Meetings and copies of past editions of the member newsletter via the members' extranet. **Access the extranet [here](#)**. The password is "unepfi".

Banking members can access a section providing resources and tools especially for banks [here](#). The password is "unepfi".

Meet with peers and explore UNEP FI's work in depth

You and your colleagues are all invited to join UNEP FI's community of practice. If you would like to get in touch with your peers, contact your national or regional co-ordinator to be connected with another member in your region or globally and take part in our Roundtables and other events.

UNEP FI Global Roundtable

Over the years, UNEP FI's Global Roundtable has become the key global, agenda-setting event on sustainable finance. Held biennially, it gathers the sustainable finance community to discuss the latest trends and innovations, bringing together leaders from all parts of the financial system as well as from civil society, academia, government and the United Nations. Highlights from the 2022 Global Roundtable can be found [here](#). Members' input into the agenda is welcomed and sponsorship opportunities are available. The Annual General Meeting is also held at the global roundtable and every member institution is required to send a representative at least once every two years to attend the AGM. [Find more information here](#).

4000+
Registrants 

3000+
Live attendees 

70+
Countries 

30+
Sessions 

UNEP FI Regional Roundtables

We established Regional Roundtables in 2017, the year of our 25th anniversary, in response to members' requests for opportunities to discuss local sustainability issues and get together with peers a little closer to home. With a combination of plenary sessions and workshops, the events provide a platform for best practice, and a forum for members to share experiences, explore UNEP FI initiatives in depth and interact with other members, regional policy makers and UNEP FI's secretariat. Find the highlights of 2021 events [here](#). The regional roundtables are held every second year. Find out when the next gathering will take place in your region [here](#).

Capacity building and accessing UNEP FI's expertise

Training

UNEP FI offers a range of training opportunities to help members adopt best environmental and sustainability practice at all levels of their operations. New in 2022 is the [Principles for Responsible Banking Academy \(PRB Academy\)](#). This game-changing learning programme is designed to rapidly upskill large numbers of employees across banks, giving them a practical understanding of how to apply the Principles for Responsible Banking and address critical sustainability challenges. The online resource includes the following modules:

- Foundations of responsible banking
- Climate-related issues and how these topics influence the banking sector
- A unit for bankers working with clients and customers that want to evolve as responsible businesses entities
- A special module for Board members and senior executives.

Financial institutions and relevant stakeholders can also take part in UNEP FI's deep-dive, online courses and can tailor in-person workshops according to their organisation's needs. All our training courses help to raise awareness in sustainable finance and build capacity for the adoption of best environmental and sustainability practice at all levels of financial institution operations, especially in developing countries and emerging markets.

Training courses are available both online and in workshop format, covering several themes:

- Environmental & Social Risk Analysis (ESRA)—Training Programme
- Climate Change: Risks and Opportunities for the Finance Sector—Online Course
- Corporate Ecoefficiency in Financial Institutions (CEFI)—Online Course

To find out more about these and other courses visit the training webpage [here](#). For all questions on training, contact your regional coordinator or the UNEP FI Training Coordinator [Carolina Lopez](#).

Access all UNEP FI's guidance on ESG integration

UNEP FI publishes reports and guidance that help financial institutions embed sustainability at the heart of their business strategy.

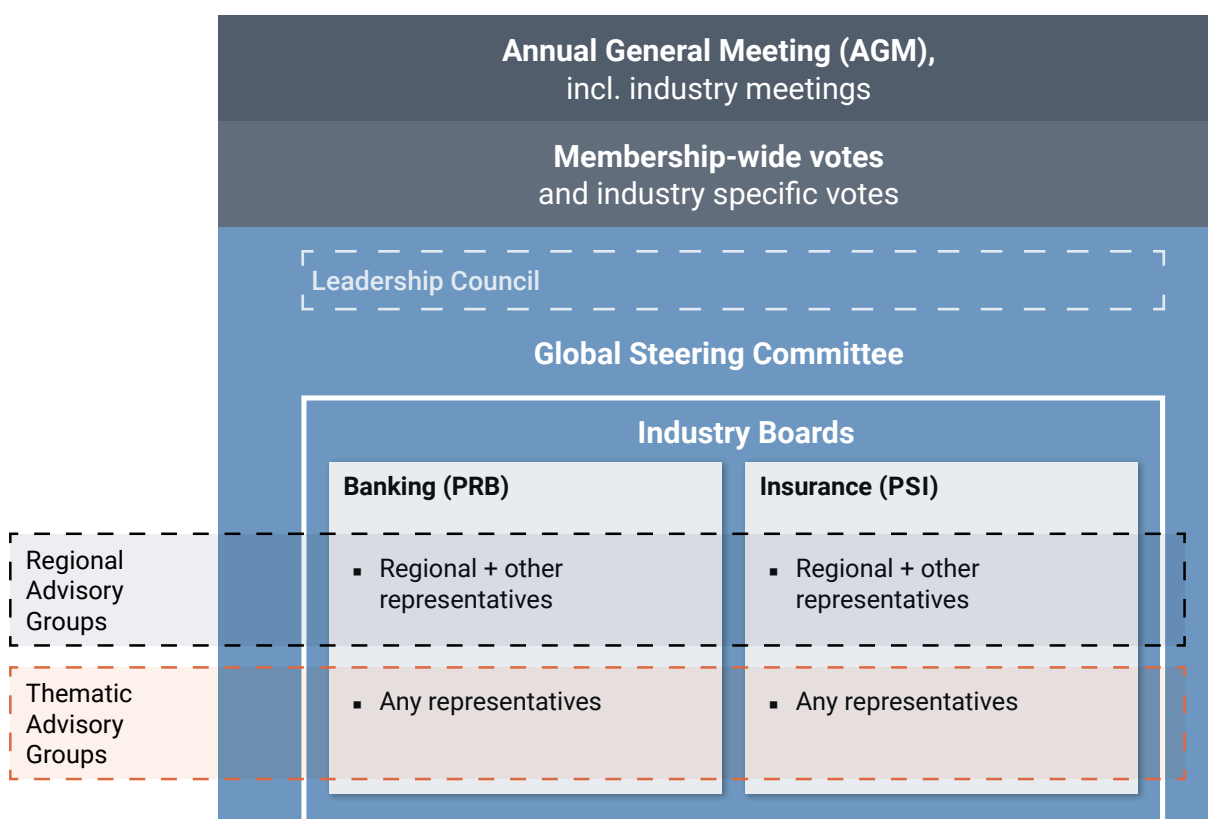
Publications are sorted by industry, thematic, or region on our website. Follow the link [here](#) to explore.

Tools are also available to help financial institutions integrate Environmental, Social and Governance considerations into their organisation. Flagship UNEP FI tools include the ENCORE (Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities, Risks and Exposure) tool, the Climate Transition Check tool, the Guide to Sustainable Banking and the Human Rights tool. Click here to find [more](#).

Directing the work of UNEP FI: UNEP FI's Governance Structure

UNEP FI is a collaboration between the UN and a global network of banks, insurers and investors. The strategy and governance of the organisation reflects that status as UNEP FI's work is directed by a global steering committee and approved by the membership at annual general meetings. Banking, insurance and investment industry committees oversee the annual work programme.

UNEP FI's governance bodies are:



Communicating your achievements

Please share this information with your communications teams

We help amplify your company's sustainability achievements by promoting our members' news where and when relevant. We can also provide social media kits to help our members promote the cutting-edge UNEP FI initiatives that members are involved with and to highlight members' involvement with UNEP FI events. Please send all your company's sustainability news including new sustainable product launches or sustainability commitments to communications@unepfi.org. Ask your communications teams to get in touch on the same email address if they would like to promote UNEP FI events or initiatives.

UNEP FI uses the following social media channels:



twitter.com/UNEP_FI



[linkedin.com/
company/124958](https://linkedin.com/company/124958)



facebook.com/UNEPFinancialInitiative

Please ask your communications team to send us details of your company's social media channels so that we can follow your company's news and promote your company's social media activity.

Joint communications campaigns

On key initiatives and projects, we work with our members on joint communications campaigns which may include press releases issued by the UN Environment Programme head office in Nairobi and coordinated social media campaigns. For these projects, it is useful to work directly with your communications teams, so please send details of your communications contacts to your regional coordinator or communications@unepfi.org.

Find all the latest news, projects, events and webinars at www.unepfi.org.

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 [UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative](https://www.linkedin.com/company/UN-Environment-Programme-Finance-Initiative)

 [@UNEP_FI](https://twitter.com/UNEP_FI)