



17/02/26
Members' webinar

UNEP Finance Initiative

What's up for Principles for Responsible Banking signatories in 2026?

Your guide to get involved in the UNEP FI Banking Work Programme



Agenda

1. Progress so far and priorities for PRB in 2026
2. Work programme 2026
3. Work programme highlights
4. Regional opportunities in 2026
5. Q&A
6. How to sign up: Members' Area & Portal
7. Guide to resources
8. Q&A

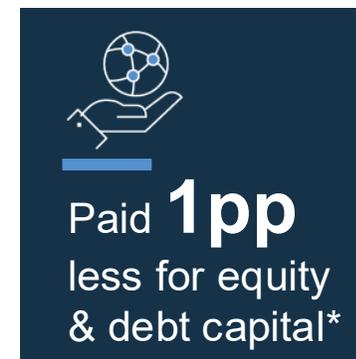
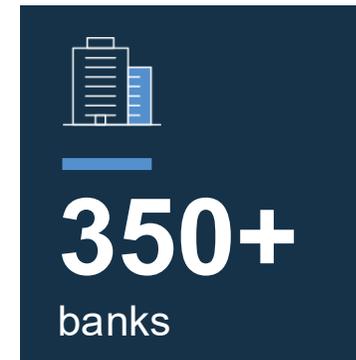
Moderator: Puleng Tumelo Ndjwili-Potele

Progress so far and priorities for PRB in 2026

Simone Dettling

Overview

- As the UN Responsible **banking community**, we can achieve far more than any single bank.
- PRB signatories are better positioned to navigate **risk, impacts and opportunities**.
- Signatories are **driving** innovation, **inspiring** global norms and good practice, **strengthening** banking sector resilience and **enabling** real economy transition.



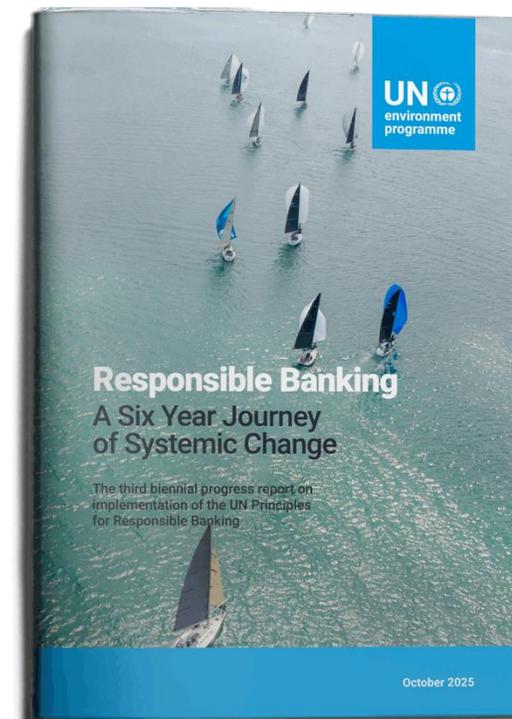
vs. 23% non-PRB banks

*Source: MSCI, [Do commitments matter?](#)

Third biennial PRB progress report

Released in 2025, the report showcased a sector-wide shift in banking practices

- Implementing the PRB is catalyzing **systemic change**, both within the banking system and across the real economy.
- PRB signatories are increasingly moving from **commitment to action**, with tangible impacts now visible on the real economy and society.
- Research suggests a positive link between banks that commit to the PRB and their overall performance on **key sustainability metrics**.

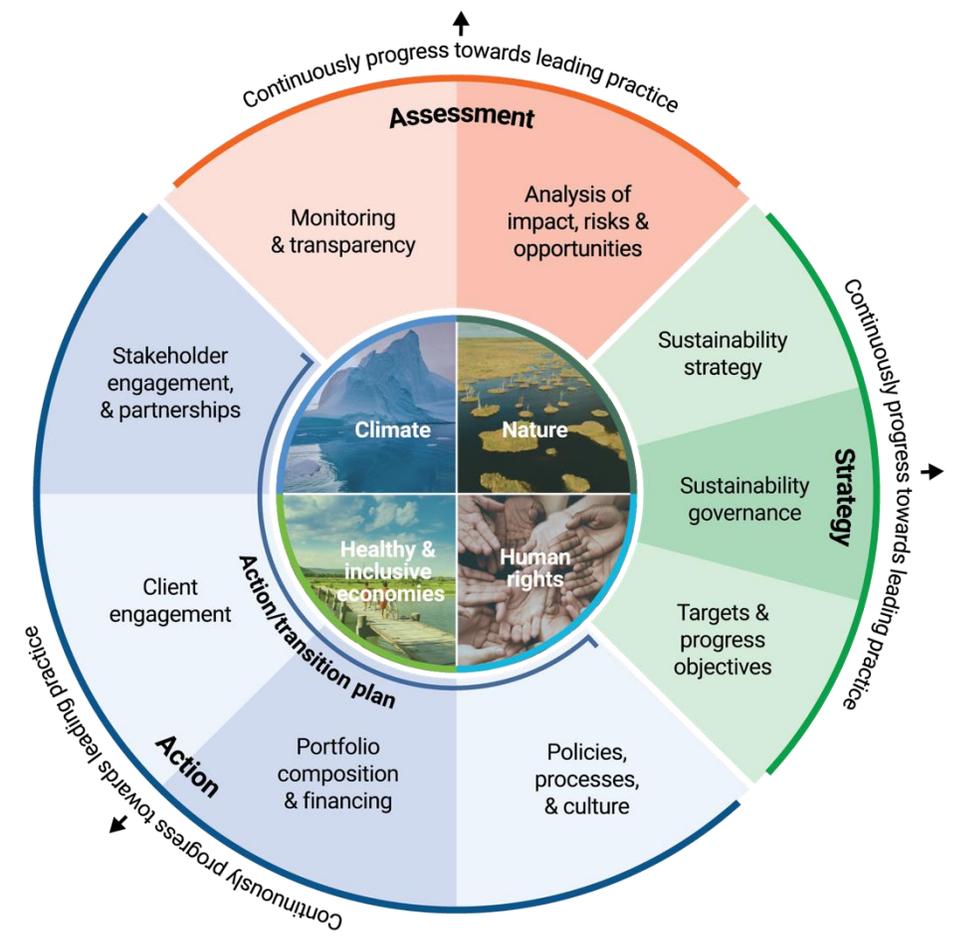


[Access here](#)

2026 Strategic Priorities

Continue to **support banks in advancing from foundational to leading practices** and to drive innovation and shape global good practice across all four interconnected priority areas - **climate, nature, healthy and inclusive economies and human rights** - with a focus on:

- 1) **Helping banks to support clients' sustainable transition**
 - engaging **sustainable finance, business and client-facing teams**
 - Flagship work track *Engaging clients on sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities*
- 2) **Convening and collaborating for systemic change**
 - strategic dialogue (no advocacy) at Banking-Board level with Central Banks
 - engagement with policy makers, collaboration with data providers and positioning towards investors



2026 Strategic Priorities



We can achieve far
more as part
of the **UN
Responsible
Banking
Community** than
any single bank can

To achieve the above priorities and improve/adapt our ways of working to an evolving context, we will focus on:

- 1) Evidencing and communicating the **business case** for responsible banking and client transition to banks' internal (commercial teams, risk teams, C-Suite) and key external stakeholders (regulators, investors, clients)
- 2) More inclusive ways of working
 - language, time zones, engagement formats
 - new CSO peer exchange formats and promotion of leading practices and case studies
- 3) Adopt **sector approach**, integrated across the four sustainability priority areas
- 4) Streamline and improve **members communication** and enable members and stakeholders to **better access our guidance and offerings**.

Work programme

Banking work programme, 2026

The work programme will:

- Support banks to **progress further and faster** along their responsible banking journeys.
- **Respond to the contexts** of each institution's regional setting, commercial framework, regulatory environment and level of maturity.
- Help our community increase **operational resilience**, ensure institutional future-proofing, and realize **commercial growth**—whilst driving **positive change** for both people and planet.

Sign up to activities by 6 March 2026

Now members can sign up through the UNEP FI portal: More information on slides 27-30



[Access here](#)

Work programme 2026: formats & services



One-on-one bespoke expert support

We annually review each PRB signatory's progress and hold a review and feedback meeting, offering strategic discussion, tailored guidance, targeted peer learning, and benchmarking



Communities of practice

Exchange best practices on innovative solutions, risk management, market opportunities, emerging sector developments, and learn from leading experts



Workstreams supporting the co-creation of new guidance

Work with experts and leading industry actors, to advance global industry practice and norms



Pilot groups

Be the first to apply and test methodologies, guidance and tools, refining existing guidance and approaches



Regional implementation support

Expand networks and build internal capabilities applied to your regional and national contexts. Share knowledge and experiences with regional peers



Peer exchange and case studies

Members share learnings and successes through facilitated peer discussions, and examples of good practice showcased in various formats



Learning and development

The PRB Academy offers a training and professional development programme designed for colleagues within your organization to support culture change and implementation across functions



Leading resources

A repository of materials developed by, with, and for banks, including topic specific and sectoral reports, research, case studies and blueprints, relevant to functions including risk, sustainability and commercial teams

Members can use new features in the **UNEP FI Online Portal** for an easy way to sign up to activities of interest. [Access it here.](#)

As seen in the 2026 'What's up for Principles for Responsible Banking signatories in 2026?' work programme

Work programme overview part 1: workstreams

<p>Worktrack on engaging clients on sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essentials of Client Engagement • Engagement in digital infrastructure, data centres and artificial intelligence • Client engagement in agriculture, with a focus on dairy and livestock • Supporting SME Clients in their sustainability journeys 	<p>UNEP FI Impact Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review group on bank contribution to the SDGs • Review group for the new sector impact materiality matrix • Community of practice on ESRS Impact Materiality Assessment
<p>Workstream on Nexus: circular economy and healthy & inclusive economies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring circular economy as an enabler for healthy and inclusive economies' 	<p>UNEP FI Risk Centre <i>Members pay additional fee to participate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability risk integration into risk management practices • Physical climate risks and adaptation benefits • Enhancing environmental risk reporting and disclosure practices • Physical nature risk • Assessing and using Client Transition Plans • Forum: regulatory perspectives on leading risk management practices for banks
<p>Climate transition worktracks <i>Members pay additional fee to participate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worktrack on climate transition finance, planning and targets Transition finance Food and agriculture Residential real estate • Worktrack on real economy policy for climate transition Aviation Automotive Cement sector policy briefs 	<p>Finance Leadership Group on Plastics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group will work on implementing recommendation in the discussion paper

Work programme overview part 2

<p>Communities of Practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New! Just transition • Nature • Adaptation and resilience • Human rights • Circular economy • Healthy and inclusive economies 	<p>Global knowledge sessions / webinar series</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Learning Series • Financing agrochemical reduction management knowledge series • Adaptation series for banks and insurers knowledge series
<p>Pilots</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature impact targets • Pollution in agriculture • Circular economy pilot for banks and MDBs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional implementation support (slides 22-25) • Regulatory implementation support programme • In-person peer exchange • Learning and development through the PRB Academy 	

Work programme: Highlights

Work programme: Highlights

- **Engaging clients on sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities** (*Johanna Dichtl*)
- **Pollution** (*Peggy Lefort*)
- **Climate change** (*Remco Fischer*)
- **Human rights** (*Joana Pedro*)
- **Circular economy (Enabling approach)** (*Peggy Lefort*)
- **UNEP FI Impact Centre** (*Careen Abb*)
- **Global Roundtable** (*Mustafa Chaudry*)
- **Networking opportunities** (*Puleng Ndjwili-Potele*)



Engaging clients on sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities

Banks joining this worktrack can expect to:

- Access practical, bank-specific guidance and tools
- Strengthen client relationships and commercial outcomes
- Build internal capability and cross-functional buy-in
- Shape guidance and influence emerging best practice

Delivered through 4 workstreams:



Essentials of client engagement



Client engagement in digital infrastructure, data centres and artificial intelligence



Client engagement in agriculture, with a focus on dairy and livestock



Supporting SME clients in their sustainability journeys

For more information, read the [Terms of Reference](#)

Sign up through the UNEP FI Portal or by contacting johanna.dichtl@un.org

Pollution

Pollution knowledge series on financing agrochemical reduction management

- sessions convening banks, MDBs, industry experts and regulators, focused on agriculture

Pilot of the pollution guidance in the agriculture sector

- The pilot will support implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals

Contact Benjamin.Warr@un.org

Finance leadership group on plastics

- Support to implement recommendation in the discussion paper

Contact jan.raes@un.org

Climate change

Adaptation and Resilience (A&R)

Community of practice

- Engage and learn with investors, insurers, financial regulators, industry associations, development finance institutions, NGOs
- Learn about physical climate-related financial risks, and the allocation of finance for climate change adaptation

Contact Diana.DiazCastro@un.org

Investors Resilience Challenge: Increasing the resilience of investments and increasing the amount of financing towards A&R solutions.

Knowledge series for banks and insurers: webinar series exploring collaboration opportunities on risk transfer solutions, client engagement and product development

Contact Paul.Smith@un.org

Climate transition worktracks

Worktracks available for a supplemental fee:

Worktrack on Climate transition finance, planning and targets

- Webinars and Workstreams on: Transition finance | Food and Agriculture| Residential real estate

Worktrack on Real economy policy for climate transition

- Aviation | Automotive | Cement policy briefs

Contact Simon.Messenger@un.org

Risk Centre (climate risk focus)

Worktracks available for a supplemental fee

Climate risk Focus:

- **Physical Climate Risks and Adaptation Benefits**

Climate risk embedded in:

- **Enhancing Environmental Risk Reporting and Disclosure Practices**
- **Assessing and Using Client Transition Plans**

Members have access to good practices and leading resources, [here](#)*

Contact Arjun.Mahalingam@un.org

Cross-cutting climate integration & capacity building worldwide

- Benefit from our end-to-end climate focused capabilities roadmap for banks, the Climate Mitigation Journey (CMJ)
- Access implementation support specific to your regional context
- Benefit from one-on-one sessions with our climate experts
- Convenings to facilitate engagement with the ecosystem of relevant actors in your region

Contact Orestis.Velentzas@un.org

Human rights

Community of practice on human rights

The UNEP FI Human Rights Toolkit section on heightened human rights due diligence in conflict affected and high-risk areas (CAHRAs) will be updated, in consultation with the Human Rights Community of Practice, in partnership with the EIB.

Contact magdalena.garciaelorrrio@un.org

Circular economy

Enabling approach

Workstream: exploring circular economy as an enabler of healthy & inclusive economies

- Understand how circular solutions can help improve economic resilience and competitiveness and build inclusive economies.

Contact Kavita.Sachwani@un.org

Circular economy pilot in high impact sectors

- Buildings and construction, agriculture, minerals and metals, plastics, textiles.

Contact Kavita.Sachwani@un.org

Community of practice

- Peer exchange of best practice on circular economy financing, between banks, development banks, policymakers, business and civil society.

Contact Aditi.Srivastava@un.org

Global Event:

UNEP FI will participate in the **World Circular Economy Forum, 2026**, in India.

UNEP FI Impact Centre

The Impact Centre supports members in advancing their impact management as a core driver of responsible banking practice

Main areas of work include:

- Impact management methodology (Impact Protocol, Mappings and Tools)
- Implementation support
- Interoperability solutions (e.g. ESRS)
- Convening and consensus-building with peer initiatives (Impact Management Platform)

Members can participate in

- Review Group on Bank Contribution to Sustainability and the SDGs
- Review group for the new Sector Impact Materiality Matrix (former Sector/Impact Map)
- Community of Practice on ESRS impact materiality assessment

Contact Caren.Abb@un.org

Key global events and networking opportunities



UNEP FI Global Roundtable (GRT) 2026

UNEP FI is bringing the 19th edition of the GRT to London, to host one of the UN's largest sustainable finance-focused events during London Climate Action Week (22–26 June). The theme, 'From Risk to Resilience: Financing the Future', reflects the growing need across the financial industry to lead with vision, integrity, and impact for a resilient future.

For more information, contact Mustafa.Chaudhry@un.org

Peer exchanges between Chief Sustainability Officers

This year, we will facilitate senior executive and C-suite peer sharing opportunities amongst members across different regions. These in-person curated opportunities will facilitate engagement on shared challenges and learning on areas of progress.

Look out for further information from Wendy.Dobson@un.org in due course.

Regional opportunities in 2026

Regional opportunities for signatories in 2026

	AME	APAC	Europe	LAC	NA
Climate mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar series 1-on-1 technical support In-person workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar series 1-on-1 technical support In-person workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar series 1-on-1 technical support In-person workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar series 1-on-1 technical support In-person workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar series 1-on-1 technical support
Climate adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional webinars Adaptation in Kenya 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional webinars 	
Nature		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature Reporting Preparer Forum Support with nature target setting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature Reporting Preparer Forum Community of practice IFACC engagement opportunity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community of practice
Policy & Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized regulatory webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized regulatory webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized regulatory webinars Taxonomy pilots 	
Healthy & inclusive economies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized support for China 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalized support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing focus
Just transition		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities of practice 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional webinar 1-on-1 support 	
Pollution & circular economy			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy efficiency workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community of practice 	
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On demand support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interoperability project (China) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interoperability project (EU) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On demand support
Peer engagement opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AME Engagement Forum Case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition finance workstream Case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities of practice in person Case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case studies 	

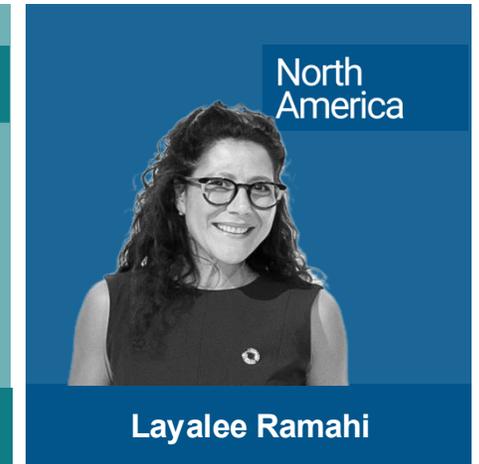
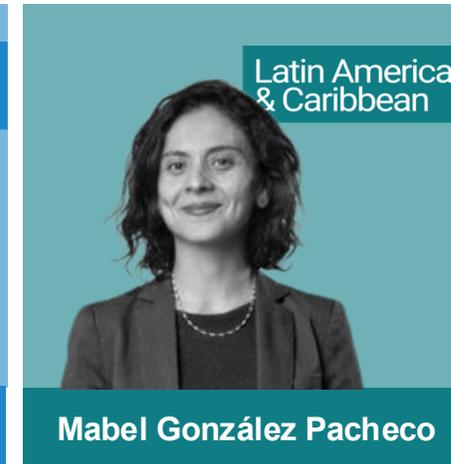
Upcoming regional sessions – register now!

We encourage you to take advantage of our vast regional offering and share with your colleagues

- **Members-only session | 24 February** | APAC Nature Reporting Preparer Forum: Key Concepts in Nature-related Disclosures & Application of LEAP | Contact [Umang Vats](#)
- **Members-only session | 25 February** | Climate Series for Europe: Transition Plans & Sector Insights | [Register here](#) | Featuring speakers from ING and ECO:FACT. ***This session will not be recorded.***
- **Webinar | 27 February** | Evaluaciones de Materialidad en Instituciones Financieras de América Latina y el Caribe: Herramientas y Orientación del PNUMA para Instituciones Financieras | [Regístrate aquí](#)
- **Members-only session | 11 March** | Climate Series for North America: On the Radar: Climate and Sustainable Finance Topics to Watch in 2026 | [Register here](#) | Featuring a speaker from **MSCI**. ***This session will not be recorded.***
- **Members-only session | 31 March** | Climate Series Webinar Africa and Middle East: Understanding Transition Plans: The Strategic Imperative and the Management Components | [Register here](#) | ***This session will not be recorded.***

Regional contacts

Contact your Regional Lead for more information about our regional offering



Find up to date information about region-specific opportunities

- Africa and Middle East [here](#)
- Asia Pacific [here](#)
- Europe [here](#)
- Latin America and Caribbean [here](#)
- North America [here](#)

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Q&A

PLEASE PLACE YOUR QUESTIONS
IN THE CHAT

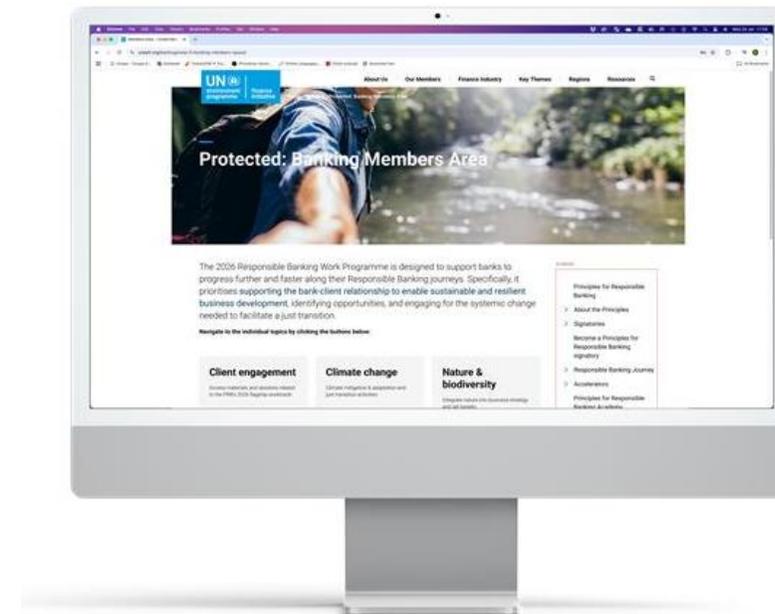
Work programme: How to sign up

UNEP FI Banking Members Area

Find more information about the 2026 Banking work programme by visiting the Members' Area

Find the UNEP FI Portal link for easy sign up to activities

The Members' Area will be updated frequently, providing up to date information about workshops, webinars, workstreams, and resources.



[Access the members area here](#)

The password can be found in your monthly PRB Update, or by contacting Alizah Beg at: alizah.beg1@un.org

UNEP FI Portal functionalities | For easy sign up to activities

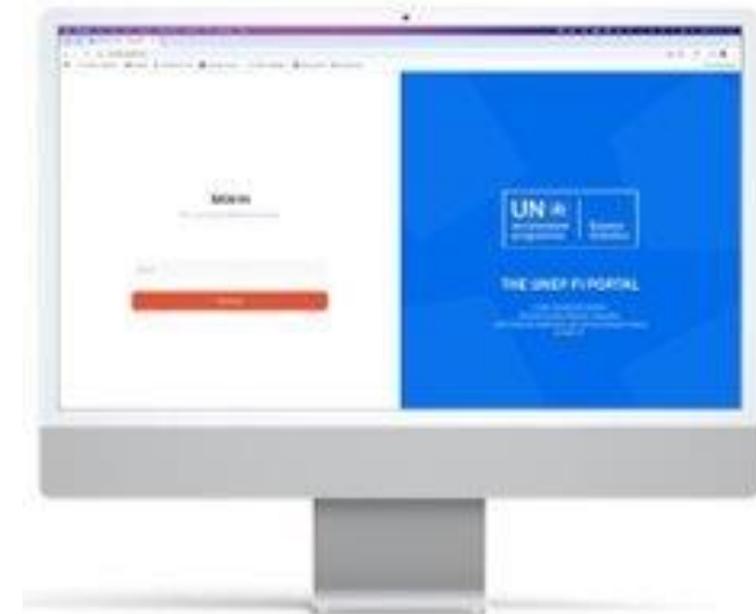
Access and functionalities

The Portal is accessible through the UNEP FI Members Area or directly [at this link here](#), allowing members to:

- **View and request to join activities**
- **View your institution's profile and engagement**
- **Manage contacts' information**
- **Manage your communication preferences**

By accessing these resources through one integrated location, you can streamline your experience, stay organized, and engage more effectively with the resources and opportunities available.

Staff from all UNEP FI members with a valid institutional address can register to use the Portal.



Click [here](#) to navigate to the Portal
For step-by-step guidance, refer to the [Portal user guide](#)

UNEP FI Portal | How to sign up to activities

Contacts Management

[Manage XYZ Bank Ltd contacts](#) [Verify XYZ Bank Ltd contacts](#)

[Update your Communication Preferences](#) [Update your profile](#) [Update your password](#)

Engagement Gateway

[View XYZ Bank Ltd's UNEP FI Engagement Profile](#)

JOIN OUR PROGRAMS

[Sign up to Global Activities](#) [Sign up to our Region-specific support](#)



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Guide to resources

Guide to resources

PRB Academy

Offering a tailored online education and training programme to support banking professionals across your organization.

[Learn more about the courses here](#)

<p>Getting Started In Responsible Banking</p> <p>👤 Beginner ⌚ 10-15 Hours</p> <p>📺 Online 💰 £100</p> <p>Getting Started in Responsible Banking is the PRB Academy's introductory course. It is aimed at all bank employees who would like to learn more about the Principles and practice of responsible banking so that they can support implementation of their bank's strategy, serve their customers well, and reflect on what they personally can do to contribute to a more responsible banking profession and support the transition to a more sustainable world.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">See More ></p>	<p>Clients And Customers</p> <p>👤 Specialist ⌚ 6-7 Hours</p> <p>📺 Online 💰 £125</p> <p>Clients and Customers is a specialist course designed to raise your awareness and knowledge of sustainability, what it means to be a responsible bank, and how you can encourage and support your clients and customers to transition to more sustainable practice.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">See More ></p>
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PRB Case Studies

Covering multiple regional contexts, these case studies provide valuable insights into the innovative ways peer banks are embedding responsible banking practices across the breadth of their operations and investments.

[Access case studies & videos](#)



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Q&A

PLEASE PLACE YOUR QUESTIONS
IN THE CHAT

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Thank you

ACCESS THE WORK PROGRAMME [HERE](#).

