

IFC/ICMA Green, Social and Sustainability Bonds Training

GB-TAP Green Bond Technical Assistance Program



Modalities: In-Person
Facilitated Virtual Training
Self-Paced Online Training

About GB-TAP

Recognizing that Green, Social, and Sustainability Bonds (GSS) have a crucial role to play in tackling the ongoing climate crisis and helping Financial Institutions (FIs) achieve their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), IFC launched the Green Bond Technical Assistance Program (GB-TAP) in 2018. The Program was created in partnership with the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the Ministry of Finance of Luxembourg.

The GB-TAP aims to stimulate the issuance of GSS bonds in emerging markets by providing executive trainings and sharing global best practices.

The GB-TAP has partnered with the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) to deliver trainings to emerging market financial institutions. So far, we have trained over 850 professionals (41% of whom are women) from 179 financial institutions across 48 countries. Our program has mobilized over \$3.5 billion of investments in green and social projects in emerging markets.

ICMA serves as Secretariat of the Green Bond Principles (GBP), the Social Bond Principles (SBP), the Sustainability Bond Guidelines (SBG) and the Sustainability-Linked Bond Principles (SLBP) – principles that have become the leading frameworks globally for green, social and sustainability bond issuance.

Objectives & Expected Outcomes

This highly practical training is designed specifically for emerging market banks interested in issuing GSS bonds. The training seeks to strengthen the bank staff's foundational skills in green and sustainable finance. Topics covered also include the investor perspective, practicalities of GSS bonds issuance, reporting to investors, and the use of second opinions, among others. As a result, participants can expect to:



Understand how a GSS bond issuance can reinforce and be an integral part of the bank's ESG strategy



Understand how to build a GSS Bond Framework in line with the GSS Bond Principles/Guidelines, how to commission a Second Party Opinion and how to make these two documents a core component of the bank's outreach to investors



Interact with other professionals, leading market participants and members of faculty to gain first hand experience of GSS markets best practice



Understand the different steps and timelines for successfully bringing a Green, Social, or Sustainability Bond to market

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Certificate of Completion

Participants will receive a certificate of completion which can be used as evidence of professional development.

Who should attend?

The executive in-person and the facilitated online training is by invitation only to selected banks and trains a maximum of 36 professionals per cohort.

The issuance of a GSS Bond by a financial institution is a multi-disciplinary process and is transformational not only strategically but also operationally and culturally. Through this process, the bank's balance sheet and business model will also change as it focuses on the origination of new, eligible assets. There will also be a greater internal organizational awareness of ESG issues which will impact culture, and it is a process that will touch many different parts of the bank in addition to those that usually manage debt issuance, such as the Treasury and Legal Department.

These professionals will find that they will be working with colleagues and resources from other departments with whom they have not worked before, and the bank's 'Sustainability Bond Project Team' will reflect this diversity. It is for this reason that we open our training to a wide range of professionals from across the bank and have welcomed participants from the following departments amongst others:

Treasury, Loan Administration, Legal, IT, Sustainability, Investors Relations, Strategy, Business Development, Reporting

Overview of the training

The training will provide in-depth understanding of the mechanics of Green, Social and Sustainability bonds. Subject matter experts will discuss the Green and Social Bond Principles, the Sustainability Bond Guidelines and the new Sustainability-Linked Bond Principles. More importantly, they will explain how these principles work in practice, including evaluation and selection of eligible projects for funding, the role of external reviewers, and guidance on reporting. The training is enriched with examples and case studies from the market and delivered by industry leaders.

The training is delivered by leading market practitioners who will provide insights into global best practices and their relevance for emerging markets financial institution issuers. Trainers include faculty from IFC, leading market investors, investment banks, second opinion providers and banks who have issued GSS bonds.

"I was delighted to participate in such an excellent training opportunity. Before the session, I had limited knowledge of green bond issuance, and this valuable program has taught me the framework and the process, including a pitching session to real investors. This technical understanding really helps me drive green finance initiatives in our bank."

Ms. Wilawan Chokkhanchitchay
Senior Vice President, Sustainability Office Division,
Corporate Office Function, Chief Strategy Office
Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited

"IFC's green bond training opened my eyes to the huge potential of green bonds to help reduce CO2 emissions in EMs. With this training, we could initiate and guide our company in issuing our own green bond framework in only three months. This will enable us to assist financial institutions in EMs to issue green bonds."

Mr. Florian Grohs Managing Director
Symbiotics
Netherlands

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GSS Bonds Training delivered in three modalities:

- 1 **In-Person** The Training is delivered over a period of 2-5 days.
- 2 **Facilitated Virtual Training** The Training is delivered over a period of 3 weeks, with requirement of an 18-hour time commitment.
- 3 **Self-Paced Online Training** Self-paced training requiring participants to watch 12 online videos.

Banks Alumni of the Training

- Access Bank (Nigeria)
- Rand Merchant Bank (South Africa)
- West African Development Bank
- Bangkok Bank (Thailand)
- Blom Bank (Lebanon)
- Bank Mandiri (Indonesia)
- Ipoteka Bank (Uzbekistan)
- Isbank (Turkey)
- Crédit Agricole (Ukraine)
- Millenium Bank (Poland)
- Bank of Georgia (Georgia)
- Banco Santander (Mexico)
- Grupo Bancolombia (Colombia)
- Davivienda (Costa Rica)
- Scredi (Brazil)

Previous Training Market Speakers

- AP4 Sweden
- Cicero
- Sustainalytics
- ISS ESG
- Vigeo Eiris
- Bancoldex
- Isbank Turkey
- Bank of America
- MSCI
- CBI
- Amundi Asset Management
- BNP Paribas
- Citi Group
- West African Development Bank (BOAD)
- Credit Agricole
- NMB Tanzania

Academic Partners

- University of Los Andes ,Regional Center for Sustainable Finance (Colombia)
- Fundação dom Cabral, Business School (Brazil)
- Stockholm School of Economics (SSE) Executive Education (Sweden)
- Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral - ESPOL (Ecuador)
- HEC Paris (France)

Training Market Contributors

- SEB (Sweden)
- Luxembourg Stock Exchange
- Cassa Depositi e Prestiti Italia
- Sura Asset Management (Colombia)
- Symbiotics Group (Switzerland)
- APK (Austria)
- Pension Denmark
- AP2 (Sweden)
- Alecta (Sweden)
- Bamboo Capital (Brazil)
- Sigma Advanced Capital Management (USA)
- Arise Invest (South Africa)
- Vantage Risk (USA)

Fees

This unique training program is offered by the IFC GB-TAP as a global public good in partnership with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Switzerland's State of Economic Affairs (SECO), and Luxembourg's Ministry of Finance. As such the training is free of charge to invited banks.

GB-TAP one on one training: GB-TAP also provides one on one training and support to banks and non-bank financial institutions that want to explore green and sustainability bond issuance. The support covers both pre-issuance preparation (training for business units and sustainability teams, portfolio diagnostics, identification of green assets or pipelines, framework development), external reviews (for first time issuers), and post-issuance monitoring (green pipeline development and impact reporting).



For more information on GB-TAP and its publicly available research reports, case studies, and webinars please visit our webpage at <https://www.environmental-finance.com/content/focus/creating-green-bond-markets/>



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