



# **G**LOBAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CONFERENCE

**12TH TO 13TH OF JULY 2018 KARLSRUHE, GERMANY**



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## BACKGROUND

Massive opportunities are on the horizon for sustainable finance. Meanwhile, pressure on the incumbent financial sector players from emerging financial technology companies grows rapidly, and the regulatory environment becomes ever more complex and costly. The Global Sustainable Finance Conference (GSFC), is a premier forum for exploring these opportunities and addressing these challenges.

A range of new and conventional financial instruments are in demand for financing multi-billion dollar investments annually in climate action alone. The fast-emerging digital economy, which includes smart manufacturing, is creating new markets for trillions of investment dollars. Further 100 trillion dollars across the globe are needed by 2030, i.e. within the next 12 years, to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Clearly, the financial sector has a crucial role to play in enabling the transition to a modern economy - an economy which is green, digital and inclusive.

**There is an immense opportunity for financial institutions which cannot be missed, and a responsibility which cannot be escaped.**

At this critical juncture, a comprehensive, coherent, and coordinated approach to financing the transition to a modern 21st century economy, which includes both public and private sources of financing, is urgently needed. Therefore, the leadership of financial institutions, senior public officials and policy-makers, regulators and other stakeholders will come together from the 12th to the 13th of July 2018 in Karlsruhe, Germany to discuss financing solutions for securing a sustainable future .

## THE GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CONFERENCE

The GSFC, held annually since 2011, is a distinctive, premier international platform for discussing innovations in financial services and business models for sustainability.

During the upcoming 2018 conference, delegates will examine financing solutions that serve the changing requirements of businesses and help in closing the funding gap for modernizing and decarbonizing the economy. The delegates will explore latest trends in increasing financial inclusion and examine sustainable financing for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as for large-scale projects. They will also deliberate on an integrated approach to mobilize and manage public and private investments for transforming the world for the better.



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## MAIN CONFERENCE SESSIONS

### **Session 1: Transition to a Green, Digital and Sustainable Economy: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities for Financial Sector**

This session will begin with discussions about the transition to an inclusive and green economy, and the unfolding digitally-driven fourth industrial revolution. It will examine how these unstoppable developments are reshaping every economic sector, not only in the industrialized world, but also in countries with developing and emerging economies. The session will then look at the impact of all these developments specifically on financial institutions and markets. The discussions will consider strategies for responding to risks and challenges, and for capitalizing on enormous opportunities emerging in the financial sector worldwide.

### **Session 2: From Silos to Systems: An Integrated Approach for Financing Sustainable Development**

Gearing up for financing an inclusive, resilient and green economy requires breaking down silos and moving to an integrated and multi-stakeholder approach. This session will feature ways that governments, regulators, financial institutions and other stakeholders can work together for an effective and efficient sustainable finance ecosystem. The discussions will look at fiscal policies, good financial governance, incentive mechanisms and regulations for mainstreaming sustainable finance to achieve national development, including the SDGs. The session will also address the key role of public finance in directing private investments and creating public-private investment partnerships for accelerating the world's transition to a sustainable future.

### **Session 3: Sustainable Finance for All: Powering Micro to Large Enterprises for a 21st Century Economy**

As businesses transform to sustainability in a world of exponential change, and new enterprises emerge to address the needs of 21st century societies, their financing requirements and the way they raise capital are also changing. In this session, delegates will examine new approaches to finance the evolving needs of businesses of all sizes, from micro-enterprises and start-ups to scale-ups and SMEs, and discuss financial solutions for enabling their sustainability transformation. Delegates will also share the latest practices in financing large-scale projects for shifting to resource-efficient, climate-resilient and economically, socially and environmentally viable economies.



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#### Session 4: The Way Forward and the Next Actionable Steps

This session will summarize the conference highlights, re-visit the leading strategies and practices, and reflect on the success stories and challenges from around the world examined during the two-day conference. The discussion will then shift to envisioning the future of sustainable finance. Finally, this engaging session will focus on translating the conference’s key findings into actionable items, so that delegates can take home a collection of creative ideas and practical solutions for advancing the sustainability agenda of their institutions and countries.

**GSFC | AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS, EXPLORE, SHARE AND NETWORK TO ACCELERATE FINANCING THE TRANSITION TO A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY**

Discuss	Explore	Share and Network
<p><b>The Paradigm Shift</b></p> <p>» From short term profit orientation to long-term success</p> <p><b>Future Proofing</b></p> <p>» Embedding sustainability into the DNA of financial institutions for driving future performance and thriving in a competitive environment</p> <p><b>Seizing the Opportunity</b></p> <p>» Unlocking the business potential of embracing sustainability</p>	<p><b>The Survival Imperative</b></p> <p>» Shifting from shareholder to stakeholder value</p> <p><b>Leadership Strategies</b></p> <p>» Steering financial institutions in times of rapid change and the era of disruptive innovation</p> <p><b>Latest Trends and Developments</b></p> <p>» Innovations in financial inclusion, SME finance and large-scale project financing</p>	<p><b>Showcasing Achievements</b></p> <p>» Demonstrate your institution’s sustainability initiatives and get valuable feedback from peers and experts from across the globe</p> <p><b>Connecting with Change-makers</b></p> <p>» Build global strategic partnerships with forward-looking professionals and thought leaders committed to co-create the next generation of banking and finance</p>



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## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

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Chief Executives, Board Directors and Senior Executives of:

- Development Financing Institutions
- Commercial Banks and specialized financial institutions such as SME Banks
- Micro-Finance Institutions
- Equity and Venture Capital Firms
- Financial Technology Companies

Central Bankers and Regulators

Policy Makers and Senior Government Officials

Representatives of International Organizations and Regional & Multilateral Financial Institutions

Members of the academic community and research scholars from relevant fields

All those engaged in banking and finance for a sustainable future, and in making a transition toward a green and inclusive economy possible.

## KARLSRUHE: THE CONFERENCE LOCATION

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The conference will take place in the city of Karlsruhe in Germany. It is located on the Rhine River between the mountains of the Palatinate, the Vosges and the world-renowned Black Forest.

Karlsruhe enjoys excellent air, rail and road links. Frankfurt International Airport, which is one of the world's largest airports, is just an hour away by direct train. There are high-speed trains running between the airport terminal and Karlsruhe Main Station. For more information on timings and platform numbers, please visit the website of German Railways. The city is located at the intersection of the major Autobahn (German motorway) A5 and Hamburg-Karlsruhe-Basel A6/A8 (Paris).

Karlsruhe is a cultural center. It is home to several museums, including the largest cultural history museum in the region. It is also known for innovation and technology, a strong economic base, German Justice (home to Germany's highest courts), and above all for being a green city.



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To recognize and celebrate the latest best practices for embedding sustainability into the financial industry and efforts toward financing the transition to a modern 21st century economy, the conference also features the Karlsruhe Sustainable Finance Awards. The awards will be presented by the City of Karlsruhe, Germany to financial institutions and organizations that have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions to the field of sustainable finance.

There are three categories of awards:

- ◆ **Best Innovation in Sustainable Financial Products and Services**
- ◆ **Outstanding Sustainable Project Financing**
- ◆ **Outstanding Business Sustainability Achievement**

For more information, or to get an entry form for The Karlsruhe Sustainable Finance Awards, please contact us via email: [mail@eosd.org](mailto:mail@eosd.org)



**FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND FURTHER  
DETAILS, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO:  
mail [ @ ] eosd.org**

This global forum was launched in 2011 by European Organisation for Sustainable Development and the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia & the Pacific in cooperation with the City of Karlsruhe. It was initiated under the auspices of the World Federation of Development Finance Institutions and was endorsed by the United Nations Environment Programme - Financial Institutions (UNEP FI). The Association of African Development Finance Institutions (AADFI) is the conference partner.