

Call for Papers

Seminar by De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB) and the Irving Fisher Committee (IFC) on

Sustainability data issues and central banks' experience

Satellite event to the ISI 65th World Statistics Congress
4 October 2025, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Submission deadline: 30 April 2025

De Nederlandsche Bank and the BIS's Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics (IFC) are pleased to organise a Satellite Seminar on "*Sustainability data issues and central banks' experience*". Held in conjunction with the 65th World Statistics Congress (WSC) of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) (5-9 October 2025), this event will take place in person in Amsterdam on Saturday 4 October 2025.

The WSC Satellite Seminar aims to take an integrated view of central banks' experience in collecting and making use of sustainability data covering the broad range of environmental, social and governance (ESG) topics. The focus will be on highlighting the analytical value, the approaches and tools needed to unlock the value of such data as well as the challenges sustainability information poses. The seminar will bring together central bank economists and statisticians, as well as others who want to participate in discussing statistical issues of interest to central banks. It will provide a key opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and share ideas for the future of sustainability data as a valuable source of information and insight, building upon previous experience.

The plan is to structure the event into three broader parts and conclude with a high-level panel discussion.

1. The focus of the first part would be on **environmental data**.
 - a. We will first discuss **key examples of central banks' use of environmental data for their main policy activities, ie financial stability, monetary policy and asset/reserve management**.
 - b. We would also focus on the **measurement of the "carbon content" of economic activities**. There is a body of reports disclosed by companies on their emissions, complemented by official aggregate statistics. However, it is still quite challenging to have an overview of the entire value chain, also given the reliance on assumptions and estimates. Hence it is essential to review the potential contribution by central bank statisticians and the synergies that can be realised with the accounting industry to develop an effective, global carbon accounting framework.
 - c. Lastly the session would look at ESG implications from the perspective of the global economy and financial system. One particular focus is on exploring **the role of foreign direct investment (FDI) in climate change dynamics** – a topic of increasing policy attention, for instance in the context of the third phase of the Data Gaps Initiative endorsed by the G20. The session would in particular shed light on which combinations of country, economic activity, and location of FDI can lead to better sustainable approaches in terms of climate change risks.
2. The second session would discuss best practices for the use of the **wider scope of ESG concepts** by central banks and other stakeholders. While significant progress has been under way on

environmental data, supporting central banks in their pursuit of their core mandates, **social and governance issues** may have received less attention so far, as is the case for **biodiversity** issues, and would be the main focus of this session.

3. The third session would reflect on how the **global statistical infrastructure should be further enhanced to support the production and policy use of sustainability data**, especially also for forward-looking indicators. The focus would be on developing adequate standards and classifications, common entity identifiers and global registers as well as on making progress on data sharing and access to new information sources, not least by leveraging innovation and artificial intelligence.

Call for papers

We welcome submissions on topics related, but not limited, to:

- Examples of central banks' use of environmental data across their various activities, especially their core mandates (financial stability, monetary policy, asset/reserve management)
- Approaches to effectively measure the "carbon content" of economic activities
- ESG aspects that are relevant for developments in the global economy, with a particular focus on FDI issues
- Social, governance and biodiversity concepts and their use for policy-making by central banks
- Improvements in the global statistical infrastructure to support a better use of ESG data for policy
- Relevant work on forward-looking indicators and infrastructure that facilitates the use of forward-looking data sources.

Please send your abstract proposal for a paper / presentation, preferably in a pdf format, by 30 April 2025 to both sfs@dnb.nl and ifc.secretariat@bis.org. Authors of accepted contributions will be notified as soon as decisions are made and at the latest by end of June 2025.

Key dates:

- 30 April 2025: Submission deadline (abstract)
- 30 June 2025: Notification of selected presentations
- 15 September 2025: Submission of the presentations / papers
- 1 November 2025: Final paper submission for publication in the special edition of the IFC Bulletin series.