

International Conference on Statistics for Sustainable Finance

Banque de France, Deutsche Bundesbank, Irving Fisher Committee

Paris, France, 21 & 22 October 2020

CALL FOR PAPERS

5 March 2020

This conference will bring together users and producers of statistics on sustainable finance to discuss their data and analytical needs as well as the challenges they face. The goal is to look at how to best address current measurement issues and ensure the future development of statistics on sustainable finance – that is, the activities that contribute to sustainable developments from an environmental, social, and governance perspective, in particular by addressing the financial risks associated with the transition to a low-carbon economy and the physical impact of climate change.

The targets of the conference include among others:

- taking stock of the related statistical data needs of users in policy-making financial institutions, especially central banks and supervisors;
- sharing the last updates of international statistical initiatives to address these needs and close potential data gaps, both in the official and the private sector – for instance in the context of the efforts undertaken by the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System (NGFS);
- reviewing indicators, ad-hoc surveys, analytical datasets developed or under development at national, regional, or industry levels, contributing to meeting policy requirements;
- reviewing operational ways for bringing together data supply and demand (eg development of statistical hubs); and
- paving the way forward for developing a comprehensive framework for sustainable finance statistics, in particular by facilitating the sharing of experiences.

The Conference is being organised jointly by the Banque de France (BdF), the Deutsche Bundesbank (BBk), and the Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics (IFC) of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). It will take place in Paris from 21 to 22 October 2020. It is planned to focus on the three following main themes:

1. What statistics do users in central banking and supervision need to address sustainable finance issues?

Sustainable finance aims to take due consideration of the various environmental, social, and governance issues – in particular climate and transition-related risks – that can impact the sustainable development of the overall economy and the global financial system. For instance, the asset class of sustainable finance has become an important topic for many market participants, with potential financial, macroeconomic, and systemic implications. Sustainable finance thus can

affect the whole range of policies such as those conducted by central banks and financial supervisors. Presentations are invited on the various statistics needed, and for which purposes, by public authorities in the areas of market operations, microprudential supervision, macroprudential policy and financial stability, monetary policy, risk management, research, and so forth.

2. What statistical data are already available from official and private sources?

So far, only little information is available for analysing sustainable finance issues. However, there are important initiatives under way both in the private and the public sectors: specialized market data providers are working on assessing sustainable finance metrics and risks as well as shifts in the behaviour of economic agents; scientific institutes are setting up models for estimating the impact of ongoing trends and potential policy actions; and statistical offices are already developing data collections related to the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) in the System of National Accounts (SNA) framework, and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set up by the international community under the United Nations (UN) initiative. Submissions are invited to review these various developments and their potential usefulness for central banks and supervisory institutions.

3. What are the best practices to close the sustainable finance data gaps?

A key objective is to ensure that climate and sustainability risks are communicated to the public in a transparent way, in line with the principles governing official statistics. In practice, this calls for developing public repositories for relevant databases, using innovative data sources and techniques, and developing tools to support policy users' needs. Given the global nature of the financial system, it also puts a premium on international cooperation. In addition, there are potential synergies between the various sustainable finance data projects, which can be achieved with strong meta data documentation, the linking of the various databases collected, and adequate data sharing processes. Submissions should review existing best practices and provide insights for making progress looking forward.

This call for papers invites submissions of papers covering these various themes. The papers presented at the conference will be published in a special issue of the [*IFC Bulletin*](#).

Important dates:

- Abstract submission: 15 May 2020
- Acceptance notification: 1 June 2020
- Registration submission deadline: 30 June 2020
- Registration confirmation by the organisers: 15 July 2020
- Submission of papers: 15 September 2020
- Submission of presentations: 1 October 2020

Contacts:

- Banque de France: sustainability-data@banque-france.fr
- Deutsche Bundesbank: sustainability-data@bundesbank.de
- IFC Secretariat: IFC.secretariat@bis.org