Sustainable finance – policy and practice summary and look ahead to 2024

ONNECT

IEMA

David Luck and Rufus Howard

Introductions



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What is Sustainable Finance?

"Sustainable finance refers to the process of taking **environmental**, **social and governance (ESG)** considerations into account when making investment decisions in the financial sector, leading to more longterm investments in sustainable economic activities and projects"





The Sustainable Finance Network

The Sustainable Finance Network at IEMA is led by a member steering group, which enables the flow of information and knowledge sharing between investment and sustainability professionals in a way that helps address some of the most significant policy challenges concerning the natural environment, social inclusion and governance to be addressed.





Sustainable Finance Network Programme 2023/24





Horizon Scanning and Consultation Responses

Tracking updates from:

- International Sustainability Standards Board (IFRS S1 & S2)
- European Commission

EU Taxonomy; Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD); Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)

- U.S. Securities and Exchange (SEC) Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures
- World Bank Group

IFC Performance Standards; Environment & Social Framework; WBG EHS Guidelines

United Nations

Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB); Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs; Global Compact (UN GC); Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI); UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative

- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Taskforces

Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD); Taskforce on Naturerelated Financial Disclosures (TNFD); Taskforce on Inequality and Social-related Financial Disclosures (TISFD)



How IEMA can engage with Sustainable Finance

- Government Consultation
 Responses
- Inputs to International Standards
- Policy Papers
- Advice Notes
- Practitioner Journals
- Guidance and Good Practice
 Documents
- Webinars
- Events
- Training Development
- Awareness Raising





Three Initial Key Themes

Theme 1: Competency and Professional Standards

Theme 2: Sustainable Finance Back-to-Basics

Theme 3: Disclosure, Transparency and Reporting





Key Theme 1: Competency and Professional Standards

- Competency and Certification Working Group – Apply Now!
- IEMA Webinar on 29th September
 - ✓ Competency Greenwashing in Sustainable Finance.
 - ✓ Sustainable Finance Education Training Needs & Gap analysis
 - ✓ E&S Professional Competency Frameworks for E&S Leads
- The 1st Volume of the SF Insight Journal will be on ESG Professionals: Skills, Competencies and Certification.





The Sustainable Finance Insight Journal

The Sustainable Finance Network is launching a new practitioner journal, based on the popular Impact Assessment Outlook Journal format.

The 1st Volume of the SF Insight Journal will be on **ESG Professionals: Skills, Competencies and Certification**.

Article Proposals welcomed, please email a short synopsis of the article (no more than 100 words) to ia@iema.net by **15th October**.







• 5 September 2023

Paper and poster abstract submission opens

• 31 October 2023

Deadline for submission of paper or poster abstract (no exceptions)

- 30 November 2023
 Authors notified of paper or poster acceptance status
- Preliminary program information will be posted as it becomes available. Information will be complete by 1 October.

Submissions Open: THE FUTURE OF THE IA PROFESSION: TRANSITION OR TRANSFORMATION?

SESSION PROPOSAL ID 183 Lead Chair: Rufus Howard



IAIA24

43rd Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment

24-27 April 2024 The Convention Centre Dublin Dublin, Ireland

IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR A JUST TRANSFORMATION



Key Theme 2: SF Back to Basics

- IEMA SF Back-To-Basics Webinar Series
 - ✓ Global Frameworks
 - ✓ Global Standards
 - ✓ Global Regulations
 - ✓ 'E' in ESG
 - ✓ 'S' in ESG
 - ✓ 'G' in ESG
- Back-to-Basics: Demystifying the Alphabet Soup of Sustainable Finance





Key Theme 3: Disclosure, Transparency and Reporting

• IEMA Webinars

- ✓ Biodiversity Reporting and Disclosure in Finance
- ✓ Setting Metrics and Data for Reporting and Disclosure

- The 2nd Volume of the SF Insight Journal will be on Disclosure, Transparency and Reporting.
- Articles and speakers needed.





How to Get Involved

IEMA are always looking for diverse speakers for

- Webinars
- Insight Articles
- Working Group Members
- Horizon Scanning
- Workshops
- Consultation responses





Why to Get Involved

- Networking opportunities
- Continuing professional development
- Career progression
- Cutting edge and innovation
- Making an impact
- Giving back





Audience Quick Polls

Poll 1: What do you think IEMA should be prioritising in Sustainable Finance? (pick top 3)

Poll 2: In your view, what of the following is the current priority within your own organisation with respect to Sustainable Finance? (Pick one)

Poll 3: In your view, how reliant is your own organisation on consultants and external expertise on sustainable finance? (pick one)

Poll 4: In your view, to what extent is your organisation keeping pace with developing sustainable finance standards and implementing good practice? (pick one)

Open Discussion and Q&A



Thank You for Attending!

