

Sustainable Finance: Going to Scale

Austrian Climate Change Workshop 2019

Date: 31 January 2019

Venue: Kommunalkredit Public Consulting, 1092 Vienna, Türkenstrasse 9, Austria

Background to the event

Sustainable Finance has become a key topic both for European policy makers and financial market players: With climate goals under the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals as key public drivers to re-orient capital flows towards low emissions and climate-resilient development, the EU Commission has started implementation of its ambitious Action Plan through a set of legislative proposals and technical working groups.

Further smart measures need to follow to incentivise, mobilize and cooperate with the financial sector to significantly scale-up the long-term allocation of resources in accordance with environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria, as the EU sets out to address a substantive investment gap for meeting its 2030 climate and energy targets as contribution to the Paris Agreement.

In this context, several key questions remain, such as:

- How to further mainstream sustainable finance through measures by public and private actors?
- How to ensure alignment of financial flows with the targets under the Paris Agreement?
- How to ensure a balanced progress on other ESG-related issues?
- How to best harness the power of the entire financial industry, including the banking sector?
- How to best expand efforts beyond European borders to reach global scale?

Objective, target audience and format

This event aims to address the above key issues to further advance the sustainable finance agenda through engaging representatives of the public and the private sector in constructive dialogue, as well as through sharing best practices. The target audience comprises first movers from the financial sector, sustainability professionals from corporates and NGOs, as well as officials from public authorities with a keen interest to advance the sustainable finance agenda. Core topics will be explored through key notes, presentations and panel discussions by outstanding experts, allowing for close involvement of the international audience.

We look forward to welcoming you in Vienna

The event outcomes will be shared through our [website](#) after the event.

Event Program

08:45

Registration and morning coffee

09:30

Welcome and opening remarks

Helmut Hojesky | Head of Climate Change, Austrian Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism
Alexandra Amerstorfer | Executive Director and Sustainability Lead, KPC

Event overview *Martin Gauss | Moderator, KPC*

09:45

Key note: Sustainable Finance – market overview, barriers and opportunities

Flavia Micilotta | Director, Luxembourg Green Exchange; former Executive Director, Eurosif

10:15

Re-orienting capital flows: Setting appropriate incentives for the financial sector

Given the challenges ahead, do we have the right incentives in place for financial markets to reach sustainability objectives including climate-related targets under the Paris Agreement? This session will discuss regulatory incentives as proposed by the European Commission as well as additional measures that could spur the demand for sustainable finance.

Speakers: *Martin Koch (DG FISMA – European Commission), Michaela Seelig (Austrian Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism), Adam Lessing (Fidelity International); Wolfgang Pinner (Raiffeisen Capital Management), Simone Nemeskal (Austrian Bankers' Association).*

11:30

Coffee Break

11:45

Assessing climate-related risks and opportunities in investment and lending portfolios

How can institutional investors as well as banks assess their exposure to climate-related risks and the implications? This session will provide an overview on current tools and instruments to gauge these risks and track alignment with targets under the Paris Agreement.

Speakers: *Edward Baker (UN PRI), Remco Fischer (UNEP Finance Initiative), Angelika Delen (Mercer Austria), David Lunsford (Carbon Delta), Viola Lutz (ISS Climate).*

13:00

Lunch break

14:00

Showcasing best practices in Sustainable Finance

This session will present outstanding examples from the investment and banking industry that can lead to way in terms of managing and disclosure of ESG issues in long-term investment, client engagement and cooperation between the public and the private sector.

Speakers: *Bodo Winkler (Berlin Hyp AG), Günther Herndlhofer (VBV Vorsorgekasse AG), Jacob Klingemann (Danish Climate Investment Fund), Marie Laure Bourat (Société Générale), Leopold Reymaier (Session moderator, Kommunalkredit Austria).*

15:30

Coffee Break

16:00

Promoting Sustainable Finance beyond European borders

This session shed light on the following questions: How can the current momentum in the EU be extended to other countries, continents or even globally to reach global sustainability goals? Which roles will tools such as the EU sustainability taxonomy play? Which promising initiatives are already underway or should be triggered?

Speakers: *Martin Dasek (IFC – Sustainable Banking Network), Franz Partsch (OeNB – National Bank of Austria), Julien Touati (Meridiam), Jean-Jacques Barbéris (Amundi Asset Management), Wolfgang Diernhofer (Kommunalkredit Public Consulting).*

17:30

Closing remarks followed by a **networking dinner** at the venue