

Hosted by:

中国人民银行研究局



Partners:



°CICERO

Strategic Alliance on

Green Bond Market Development in G20 Emerging Economies

**Experts Roundtable:
Towards A Common Understanding
in The Green Bond Market**

2 November 2018

Venue: Function Room, 3rd Floor, Hotel Jen, Beijing
No.1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing 100004 China

Language: English-Chinese Simultaneous Translation

Organizers

Research Bureau of The People's Bank of China (PBoC)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Partners

SEB

CECEP Consulting Corp. Ltd.

CICERO

AGENDA

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

Morning Session: 09:00 – 12:20

- **Moderator:** *Qi Lan, Senior Project Manager, Emerging Markets Dialogue on Finance (EMDF), GIZ*

09:00 – 09:20 Opening Remarks

ZHOU Chengjun, Deputy Director General, Research Bureau of PBoC

Thorsten GIEHLER, Country Director China, GIZ

09:00 – 09:35 **Keynote Speech:
Green finance China chapter**

ZHOU Chengjun, Deputy Director General, Research Bureau of PBoC

09:35 – 10:50 **Session 1:**

The Path Leading to Convergence – Harmonizing the Definitions of “Green” in the Bond Market

Objective: *Globally, the definitions of “green” are not harmonized. Is it an obstacle for scaling up green bond markets? This session will identify and discuss current approaches and gaps in Chinese green finance frameworks, as well as highlight domestic and international efforts towards harmonizing green definitions and standards, and to share a neutral comparability measurement approach developed by EIB, which aims for convergence.*

- 09:35 – 09:45 • The Green Industry Standard *Dr. GU Lijing, Associate Research Fellow, Energy Research Institute, NDRC*
- 09:45 – 09:55 • The green policy framework and standards in China aiming for convergence *Dr. YANG Ping, Deputy Director, Financial Market Division, Research Bureau of PBoC*
- 09:55 – 10:05 • Green bonds: into the mainstream *Ricco ZHANG, Director, Asia Pacific, International Capital Markets Association (ICMA)*
- 10:05 – 10:20 • Separating classification from standards for a shared measurement of environmental impact and risk *Aldo ROMANI, Head of Sustainability Funding, European Investment Bank (EIB)*

Discussants:

- 10:20 - 10:30 • Highlighting current harmonization progress and areas for further action *LIAO Yuan, Deputy General Manager, CECEP Consulting Corp. Ltd.*
- 10:30 – 10:40 • Voluntary principles vs. detailed system on what is green *Kristina ALNES, Senior Advisor, CICERO*

10:40 – 10:50 **Q&A**

10:50 – 11:00 **Tea Break**

11:00 – 12:20 **Session 2:**
Leveraging Fintech to Upscale Sustainable Finance

Objective: *Fintech is gaining momentum in supporting innovations in sustainable finance. International markets are exploring the potential of digital financial solutions for financing SDGs at low cost and large scale. This session will showcase a pioneering blockchain technology that delivers a technical solution to enhancing transparency and accountability in the green debt market. The panel will elaborate on practical applications of Fintech in the green finance sphere.*

- 11:00 – 11:20
- Green Assets Wallet (GAW) – the fintech technology for scaling the green debt market *August BOTSFORD, Technical Director Chromaway and Green Assets Wallet Technical Lead*

11:20 – 12:20 **Moderated panel discussion:**

Topics:

While the international financial community harnesses the power of Fintech for scaling up sustainable finance, what are the key opportunities and risks? Will Fintech unlock more private capital for scaleable sustainable investments at low cost? Do the envisaged benefits offset additional costs? Will Fintech play a transformative role for market innovation and growth? The panelists are encouraged to share any innovative sustainable Fintech initiatives in the market

Moderator: Kelly YU, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Digital Finance Alliance (SDFA)

- *August BOTSFORD, Technical Director Chromaway and Green Assets Wallet Technical Lead*
- *PAN Aimin, Deputy General Manager, CECEP Hundred*
- *LI Zhenhua, Executive Director, Ant Financial Research Institute*
- *Kristina ALNES, Senior Advisor, CICERO*
- *Dr. LIN Le, CEO, Neng Lian Tech. Ltd / Vice Executive Secretary of ShenZhen Green Finance Committee*

12:20 – 14:00 **Lunch**

Afternoon Session: 14:00 – 15:45

- **Moderator:** Yannick MOTZ, Lead, Emerging Markets Dialogue on Finance (EMDF), GIZ

14:00 – 15:40 **Session 3:**

How to Keep Up the Momentum for Green Bonds?

Objective: *After two years of exponential growth, the global green bond market today presents a diverse profile of issuers due to increased awareness among market participants and greater attractiveness to new entrants. This session will discuss new incentives and innovative products as well as practices which will drive the green bond market development in the future. The European Commission adopted the Action Plan on Sustainable Finance in May 2018, which shall facilitate increased cross-border investments. China recently made bold moves to open up its financial sector, potentially accelerating growth in green bond markets there. The session will also look at the challenges and barriers for sustainable market growth from an institutional investor's perspective. Moreover, as sustainability bonds and social bonds become popular, will they divert investors' interests from green bonds? Or can green bonds serve as a blue print template for other sustainable financial products and create valuable synergies?*

In the second part of the sessions, the focus is on independent external reviews, which play a significant role in ensuring alignment with voluntary principles or country standards regarding environmental and procedural integrity. As both the Green Bond Principles (GBP) and Chinese regulators raised their requirements for

external reviews, we will discuss recent developments and international best practices regarding review, environmental information disclosure and impact reporting.

14:00 – 14:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snapshot of the global green bond market – products and innovation 	<p><i>Carol AU-YEUNG</i> Senior Capital Market Sales / Climate & Sustainable Finance, SEB</p>
14:15 – 14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International cooperation on green bond market development 	<p><i>Claire LIU, Executive Director,</i> Global Business Department, Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE)</p>
14:30– 14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green municipal bonds 	<p><i>Christopher FLENGSBORG, Head</i> of Climate & Sustainable Finance, SEB</p>
14:45 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising the bar for external reviews and impact reporting – a review of recent developments 	<p><i>Kristina ALNES, Senior Advisor,</i> CICERO</p>
Discussants:		
15:00 – 15:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chinese green bond market - ways forward 	<p><i>Prof. WANG Yao, Dean,</i> International Institute of Green Finance, Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE)</p>
15:15 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extending classification and impact measurement: new trend of sustainability bonds and social bonds & its implication for green bond market development 	<p><i>Aldo ROMANI, Head of</i> Sustainability Funding, European Investment Bank (EIB)</p>
15:30 – 15:40	Q&A	
15:40 – 15:45	Wrap-up	<p><i>Peter LING-VANNERUS, Chief</i> Representative, SEB Beijing</p>
15:45	Closing	

Green Bond Market Development in G20 Emerging Economies

Against the background of the urgent need to mobilize capital at scale in support of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the green bond pioneer **Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB)** and the **Emerging Markets Dialogue on Finance (EMDF) of GIZ**, initiated a developPPP public-private partnership in early 2016 with the objective to support the development of prosperous and sustainable green bond markets in Brazil, China, India and Mexico.

In order to promote highest environmental, market and transparency standards, **the Strategic Alliance (STA)** aims to raise awareness, enhance practical knowledge and build professional capacity on green bonds as (re-)financing and investment tool. Core activities comprise workshop series, roundtables, symposia and individual advisory support addressing key stakeholder groups, including potential issuers, investors, underwriters, regulators & policy makers, as well as external verifiers.

In the events, leading international and domestic green bond experts share their profound knowledge and hands-on technical expertise on the pillars that constitute a robust green bond framework. In alignment with the *Green Bond Principles*, focus themes include:

- Definition
- Selection
- Verification
- Monitoring
- Reporting
- Market Aspects

Since the launch of the STA in April 2016, the STA and its partners hosted nine green bond-focused events in China, including a number of fora, conferences, workshops, roundtables and trainings. Over 1,000 market stakeholders (person-time) during past two years have benefited from participating in these capacity building activities.

All activities of this multi-stakeholder approach are designed to build on and complement existing national and international initiatives and foster the mutual learning and dialogue to mobilize human capital, which ultimately represents the essential ingredient for a successful green transformation.