

IIBF organised Banking Conclave on Responsible Banking in partnership with UNEP-FI

Indian Institute of Banking & Finance (IIBF), one of the premier Institutes of professional education in banking & finance domain in India, has successfully concluded a series of workshops on 'Climate Risk and Responsible Banking' for banking & finance professionals in Mumbai, spanning four-days between 30th January, 2023 and 2nd February, 2023, in collaboration with Principles of Responsible Banking (PRB) Academy promoted by United Nations Environment Programme-Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI).



(UNEP – FI IIBF programme on Responsible Banking for the Boards of Banks - Lamp Lighting Ceremony. Standing (from L to R): Ms. Nirmita Talukdar (Regional Coordinator-UNEP FI), Mr. Makaio Witte (Head-Sustainable Finance, GIZ Germany), Mr. Saurav Sinha (ED, RBI), Mr. Sunil Mehta (CE, IBA) and Mr. Biswa Ketan Das (CEO, IIBF)

The workshops were conducted as part of the general awareness and foundational capacity-building programme on the impact of climate change and sustainable finance.

The content for the workshop with respect to the financial sector in India was developed by IIBF, while Chartered Banker Institute, UK had developed content related to global scenario. This pilot project

launched in India by PRB Academy in association with IIBF, has been funded by GIZ, Germany.

These training cum awareness sessions were conducted specifically for different levels of Banking and Finance Professionals in the financial ecosystem in India, namely:



(Mr. Makaio Witte, Head-Sustainable Finance, GIZ Germany and Ms. Kavita Sachwani, UNEP FI Implementation Support Team, India, delivering the 'Call for Action' on Responsible and Sustainable Banking)

1. Board-Members and Senior Executives
2. General Bankers (Deputy General Manager/ equivalent and above)
3. Credit and Risk Management Officers
4. Corporate Relationship Managers

“We are keenly examining the feedbacks received from the Banks on the RBI discussion paper on climate change and sustainable finance,” said Mr. Saurav Sinha, Executive Director-Reserve Bank of India, during the first day of the programme meant for Board Members and Senior Executives. Mr. Sunil Mehta, Chief Executive-Indian Banks’ Association, congratulated IIBF on the initiative and suggested to hold similar programmes going forward, as well.



(Mr. Saurav Sinha, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India, delivering the keynote address on Responsible Banking)

designing. The participants have also discussed on the probable strategies to be adopted for certain key sectors in terms of climate risk, namely agriculture, steel, fossil fuels, chemicals, pharmaceuticals etc.

While the first workshop for Board-Members and Senior Executives were conducted at Hotel Trident, Nariman Point, the rest three workshops were conducted at Hotel Trident, BKC.

All the four workshops have seen an overwhelming response from the Banking fraternity. Active participation from the nominated officials, including the Board Members across Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, Small Finance Banks & Development Financial Institutions was the key for successful conduction of the conclave.

Based on the feedback received from the participating Bankers, IIBF is considering to hold similar workshops on pertinent topics like, climate risk stress testing and scenario analysis, TCFD guidelines etc. in different parts of the country.

During the workshops, some of the fundamental areas of climate risk and probable strategies to counter those risks have been deliberated upon. The participating bankers have shared the best practices adopted by their respective banks in factoring climate risk in their respective credit policies and product



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Biswa Ketan Das
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