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SME FINANCE
FORUM

Sustainable Bond of the Year

To identify institutions that demonstrate a sustained commitment to serving the SME sector in its market(s) through issuance of a green, social or sustainable bond or bond program with proceeds benefitting SMEs in some way.

Start Here

Entry name

General information

All questions are required unless otherwise noted, so please enter N/A where an answer is not applicable.

Name of Institution

Or names of institutions if part of a partnership or consortium.

Name of Applicant/Contact Person

Job Title of Applicant/Contact Person

Email address of Applicant/Contact Person

Website of Institution

Institution Type

Commercial Bank
FinTech Company
Development Finance Institution (DFI)
Credit Guarantee Institution
Non-bank Financial Institution (NBFi)
Credit Bureau
Other

Headquarters Location

Number of countries where your institution has active operations

Number of Staff

Number of Years in Operation

IDA and/or FCS countries with operations (optional)

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- ...

If you operate in IDA or FCS countries, please select all IDA and/or FCS designated countries in which you have operations.

Please refer to the country lists for the World Bank Group official IDA (<http://ida.worldbank.org/about/borrowing-countries>) and fragile and conflict-affected situations (<https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/608a53dd83f21ef6712b5dfef050b00b-0090082023/original/FCListFY24-final.pdf>).

Please provide a brief background / summary of your institution.

How do you define SME? How do you distinguish this from microenterprise?

Do you have separate accounting for your SME portfolio – e.g., numbers of accounts, loans, product volume; financial spread; allocated overhead; net profit?

Do you consider your institution an SME market leader? Why? How does your institution compare to the competitors in your market such as: 1) overall market share; 2) share in the SME market; 3) standing among competitors for your market segment.

Project Summary

Text entered in this summary section may be used to create the basis for a case study.

Project Title

Provide additional information about the project and its achievements.

500 words

This should be a short executive summary of your entry that provides a concise narrative of why you are submitting this entry.

This refers to providing a summary of the bond issuance or bond program that your institution has undertaken and describing how it is benefitting SMEs.

Criteria

What type of bond are you showcasing? Green, Social or Sustainability Bond?

Green Bonds are those with proceeds earmarked for projects with positive environmental benefits. Social Bonds have proceeds earmarked for projects with positive social outcomes for a target population. Sustainability Bonds have proceeds earmarked to projects with positive environmental and/or social outcomes.

How is the bond aligned with your strategy? And what were you trying to achieve through your bond?

Please elaborate on the bond structure and provide detailed information about the bond: its face value, maturity, rate, the currency of issuance, whether it is listed or not listed, whether it was a public issue or a private placement, whether it was issued domestically or in the international market, how it was distributed, which marketing strategy was adopted, and so on. Please provide further information as relevant.

Did you work with an Arranger/Investment Bank for the bond issuance? If so, please elaborate.

Did you appoint a structuring advisor?

Did you obtain an External Review? If so, please elaborate.

In what country(ies) will the bond have impact?

Please list the names of all the countries where this is relevant.

Please describe how the proceeds of the bond are being used. For example, what type of green/social projects are being funded?

Further to the above, what is the percentage of the proceeds that are being allocated for SME projects?

Please describe the SME projects that are benefiting from the bond proceeds, such as the sectors and/or population segments for which the bond will have impact. (Note: Since this is an award to recognize the impact of bonds on SMEs, please provide as much relevant detail as you can.)

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Please elaborate on why you think your bond issuance is noteworthy and special and differentiates itself from the others? What do you consider to be its innovative features?

Please share any lessons learned that you think could be useful to others seeking to do similar work in issuing a green, social or sustainable bond. Of note would be challenges you faced and how they were overcome.

Please share any testimonials you may have from your work in issuing your bond e.g., clients, staff members, etc. (optional) that may be able to speak to the process and/or impact. (Note: these can be provided as attachments on the Attachment Tab).

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Please attach your Green, Social and/or Sustainability Bond Framework and External Reviewer reports on the Attachments Tab. If you have an allocation and/or impact report already published for your bond, please attach it as well.

Attachments

Please provide documentation that is directly relevant to your entry and that supports information/data you have provided in the entry. Do NOT provide information that is indirectly related or unrelated to your submission.

Judges will review files, websites and videos that you provide BUT your entry should contain all the information that they will need to understand your entry as they will not be doing any additional research outside of your submission and attachments.

Attachments should act to support your entry, not to substitute for the entry form. Incomplete entry forms will be rejected.

Supporting information may be supplied as follows:

1. Upload JPEG or PDF files. Maximum file size is 10MB per piece. Please limit number of uploaded attachments to five.
2. Video attachments may be hosted on a video site such as YouTube or Vimeo and the url provided.
3. Provide website URL's or active URL of a landing page. If any sites are not public, please ensure any applicable usernames and passwords are provided and active for judges to review.
4. The written component of your entry should be fully explained within the provided fields with attachments supporting but not substituting for your entry.



Please attach your green, social and/or sustainability bond framework and second opinion provider reports.