

The **Sustainable Banking and Finance Network** (SBFN), founded in 2012, is a unique, voluntary community of financial sector regulatory agencies and industry associations from emerging markets committed to advancing sustainable finance in line with international good practice.

The first global network of its kind focused on sustainable finance at market level, SBFN represents 73 institutions from 62 countries and US\$43 trillion (86 percent) of the total banking assets in emerging markets.

## SBFN's unique strengths:

- A dedicated focus on emerging markets
- Enabling public-private partnerships between regulators and industry associations
- Committed to practical peer learning and support between members, and
- Facilitating access to technical advice and support from IFC and the World Bank Group.

IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, acts as the Secretariat to SBFN, playing the role of strategic and technical advisor, as well as global convener to SBFN and its members.

## SBFN 2021 Global Progress Report

### Accelerating Sustainable Finance Together: Evidence of Policy Innovations and Market Actions across 43 Emerging Markets

SBFN's biennial Global Progress Report is the most comprehensive benchmarking of national sustainable finance initiatives across emerging markets. It uses a measurement framework developed by members across three thematic pillars: Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Integration; Climate Risk Management; and Financing Sustainability (the opportunity side).

The 2021 report showcases the efforts of 43 emerging economies to accelerate national sustainable finance policies and prepare the financial sector to address climate change.

#### Key findings include the following:

- To date, 33 member countries (over 75 percent) have launched over 200 policies, principles, guidelines, and tools that enable sustainable finance.
- Collective action between regulatory agencies and with industry associations across the financial sector has emerged as an essential strategy to address ESG risk and opportunities in all financial sector activities.
- Twenty-eight SBFN countries (65 percent) are leveraging existing ESG risk management frameworks for financial institutions to raise awareness and take initial steps to address the financial sector's exposure to physical and transition risks from climate change.
- Members are promoting sustainability-focused finance to guide capital flows to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Over half of SBFN countries have launched green, social, or sustainability bond guidelines. As of December 2020, these countries represent 18 percent of cumulative global green bond issuance according to data from the Climate Bonds Initiative.

