



**Green Indian  
Financial System**

# **CONNECTING GREENS TRANSITING INDIA TO A RESILIENT & GREENER FINANCIAL SYSTEM**

## **CONTEXT NOTE OF THE SEMINAR**

**NOVEMBER 28, 2022 | MUMBAI**

*An Initiative By*







**Green Indian  
Financial System**

## **1) INTRODUCTION**

## **2) FOREWORD**

- Message from Mr. Rémy Rioux, CEO, Agence Française de Développement
- Message from Mr. Sivasubramanian Ramann, Chairman & Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India
- Message from Mr. Anshu Bharadwaj, CEO, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

## **3) CONTEXT NOTES FOR THE SEMINAR**

- Panel 1 - GIFS 2022 – Overview, achievements and next steps
- Launch of the Women Experts in Greening the Financial System in India
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# INTRODUCTION

**In January 2022, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation launched the Green Indian Financial System (GIFS) Initiative.**

The GIFS Initiative aims at building up on the current momentum around climate finance in India, and especially around the greening of the financial system – a less explored yet crucial dimension of the mobilization of climate finance.

By gathering a community of like-minded finance practitioners composed of banks and financial institutions from India and France, and willing to participate to the greening of the Indian financial system, GIFS Initiative expects to widen and shape the discourse around greening the financial ecosystem and support its operationalization through the Indian institutions. Ultimately, GIFS support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and Net Zero 2070 target fixed by Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi.

The initiative is fueled by continuous exchanges of ideas, knowledge and experiences between the Indian community and its French and European peers. In 2022, it has especially been implementing bilateral networking events, training cycles, conferences and high-level closed door seminars – designed to raise awareness and ultimately to support the progressive development of required tools for the Indian financial sector needs. Such events have been attended by public and private financial institutions, as well as by Indian and European policy-makers, regulators and supervisors (Ministry of Finance, Reserve Bank of India).

**For this last event of 2022, AFD, SIDBI and Shakti Sustainable Energy have the pleasure to convey high-level Indian officials and senior representatives of the Indian financial sector for the 2022 Closing Seminar, taking place on November 28, 2022, in Mumbai and online.**



# FOREWORD

## INTRODUCTORY WORDS BY CO-ORGANIZERS



### Mr. Rémy Rioux

CEO, AFD & President, FICS and IDFC

Since the launch of the initiative in early 2022, many players in the Indian financial system have been able to meet to exchange best practices and work together on a crucial but still nascent subject of green finance in India, the greening of the financial system. AFD is pleased to be able to continue working on this topic in close collaboration with Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), one of the major Indian development banks, member of the IDFC group (International Development Finance Club). This collaboration reflects a common desire to deepen Franco-Indian and European relations and strengthen our action to green the Indian financial system.

As the year comes to a close, GIFS made concrete the knowledge acquired and deployed this year, passing it through the Indian community of financial practitioners. As of today, the Initiative gathered more than 300 experts around the table, 20 prominent French and European institutions and as many Indian ones; and established a training programme in partnership with Indian Bank's Association (IBA). The launch of the women in climate finance's network and the endorsement of a joint statement by the three organizers and some

fellow bankers are direct consequences of discussions initiated by the Initiative that will be structuring the Initiative in 2023. Thus, I am delighted with the launch of the GIFS Center for Technical Assistance, which further extends and perpetuates the action of GIFS Initiative.

During COP27, India announced the implementation of a long-term low-carbon strategy. This announcement, coupled with the presidency of the G20 next year, may be a significant lever for the implementation of actions raised by GIFS Initiatives on the greening of the financial sector. This context is favorable for the establishment of even closer collaboration between financial players, and resonates with other initiatives such as the third Finance in Common (FICS) summit bringing together hundreds of development banks in Abidjan in October 2022.

This third conference will undoubtedly be an additional step in the sharing of knowledge and in the meeting between actors of the Indian financial system. The establishment of a technical dialogue is the last stage to allow all the actors involved to "connecting greens".

I look forward to the discussions, and extend my best wishes to the organisers, speakers and participants of this event.



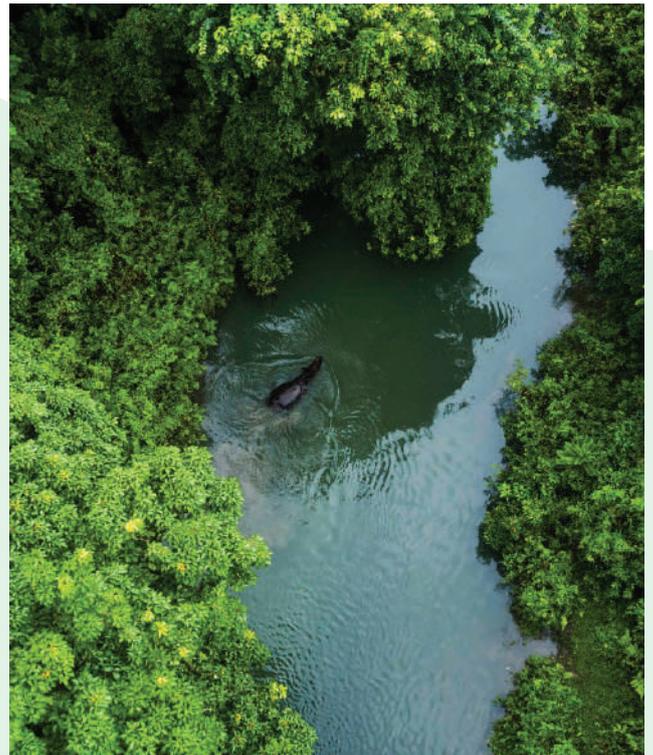
## Mr. Sivasubramanian Ramann

Chairman & Managing Director, Small Industries  
Development Bank of India

Greening the enterprise eco system is a vowed agenda aligned to national goals on energy independence and Carbon Neutrality. As founding partner of Green India Financial System (GIFS) along with Agence Francaise De Development (AFD), Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF) we realise the importance of capacity building of both supply side (the lenders / financiers) and demand side (entrepreneurs particularly MSEs). This calls for regular boosters of knowledge. Being flagbearers of G 20 presidency India has assumed leadership in thought and action which our Hon'ble Prime Minister recently termed as Sarvparshi (touching or connecting all), Sarvsamaveshi (all inclusive) in line with India's G-20 mantra 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. We present this booklet on Green Indian Financial System (GIFS) weaving the approach of this third conference. GIFS partners would look for your constructive feedback.

I assure you that SIDBI shall build upon your suggestions and aspirations in a manner that we keep our ears to the ground and maintain the last mile connect. GIFS is poised to set up a centre for sustainability with pillars of gender, mainstreaming green finance, creating a pool of trainers at lenders' level and enterprise association engagement.

Let us contribute to the mission of greening the value chain, together.





## Dr. Anshu Bharadwaj

CEO, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

The recent landscape study on climate finance flows in India has highlighted USD 44 billion in climate investment. While this number exhibits an increasing trend of investment flows towards climate action, it also reveals an investment gap of over 50% with respect to India's climate financing requirements. There has been noticeable progress in the Indian financial ecosystem, but it is not enough. The pace and scale of climate integration and focus must improve inordinately in this decisive decade of action. The new climate-aligned growth paradigm must be supported by a climate-resilient and agile financial system to drive this scale and quantum of finance flow.

The Green Indian Financial System (GIFS) initiative was launched in January 2022 by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, French Development Agency (AFD) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The initiative sought to establish additionality by convening stakeholders from varying backgrounds, including public and private finance practitioners, regulators and officials across India, France, and Europe to widen the discourse surrounding greening of finance, while drawing expertise and sharing knowledge across the network. We thank our partners for conceptualising and driving this initiative with us, in response to the urgent need for expansion and integration of climate financing to support India's transition towards a net-zero economy.

This platform was valuable in identifying key barriers to climate integration within the Indian financial ecosystem through a series of conferences, conversations, and seminars. Ecosystem developments, including the release of a discussion paper by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), further catalysed stakeholder action and dialogue.

Capacity building requirements along with climate data availability and need for regulatory frameworks emerged as recurring predominant themes. The platform will aim to tackle these constraints, focusing on capacity building and knowledge transfer, especially in Indian banking institutions through targeted training on climate risk integration and management. GIFS aims to build robust networks, housed by international and Indian experts, to augment the repository of accessible knowledge customised to the Indian context. To that extent, GIFS will launch the Women in Climate Finance network during the conference, building the next generation of experts alongside pioneering women who have been championing climate finance in their areas of expertise.

At Shakti, we work towards enabling clean energy and sustainability solutions through our work with policy makers, civil society, industry, think tanks, and academia. The GIFS initiative complements and enriches our work of building champions in the financial industry, assessing transitional requirements through modelling and analytical studies along with establishing sectoral co-linkages. In 2023, this initiative will continue to support international and domestic efforts to aid the collective goal of low-carbon transition and greening of our economy. It will seek to establish effective linkages with key developments such as India's G20 presidency, increase representation of emerging economies in sustainable finance dialogue and establish a technical assistance centre to capture knowledge spill-overs and collaborative opportunities. We hope to gather diverse stakeholder perspectives emerging from this final conference of the year, which will be invaluable in informing our strategy and creating participatory processes for greening of the Indian Financial System.



**Green Indian  
Financial System**



# **CONTEXT NOTES FOR THE SEMINAR**

**Panel #1 - GIFS 2022**

**Overview, achievements  
and next steps**



# Need and potential of greening the financial system in India

## Integrating climate and biodiversity related risks and opportunities into private financial institutions and capital markets

\$10 Tn

Indian economy by 2030

With an estimated GDP growth rate of ~6.5% in FY2022, India is on track to become one of the fastest growing economy in the world<sup>1</sup>. As a leading developing market, it is imperative that India ensures that its growth is sustainable both economically and environmentally.

COP26

India set out to be net-zero by the year 2070 which will require an investment of \$ 10.1 trillion<sup>2</sup>

India continues to battle with climate change-induced natural disasters. The government aims to achieve its net zero targets by reinforcing policies and extending guidelines underpinning the creation of a truly green economy.

COP27  
SHARM EL-SHEIKH  
EGYPT 2022

Focus on Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)

If this vision be achieved, India's green economy transition could create over 50 million jobs and have an economic impact of over \$ 1 trillion by 2030<sup>3</sup>.

## To reach its net zero targets, India needs move from small disparate actions to structural and policy level changes

\$200 Bn

Funding needed per annum over the next two decades in order to become net-zero by 2070<sup>3</sup>

Estimates suggest that the current tracked green finance in India is ~25% of the total requirement to meet the NDCs<sup>4</sup>. Additionally, several **institutional barriers, high upfront financing costs, transactions risks and long payback periods for green projects** could increase the real and perceived riskiness of green projects overall delaying the transition to a green economy further.

\$1.8 Bn

Attracted between 2016 and 2021, despite investment opportunity of ~\$ 45 billion by 2030 in the circular economy space<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Economy Watch Monitoring India's macro-fiscal performance, EY, October 2022

<sup>2</sup>Press release by the Indian think-tank Council on Energy, Environment and Water's (CEEW) Centre for Energy Finance, November 2021

<sup>3</sup>CDP India Annual Disclosure Report 2021, CDP

<sup>4</sup>Landscape of Green Finance in India 2022, CPI

<sup>5</sup>Circular Economy 2022, Kalari Capital report

# Need for greening India's financial system

**\$ 2.5 trillion**

Cumulative assets of Indian banks in 2021, not fully aligned with India's sustainability goals<sup>1</sup>

**# 4  
Global ranking**

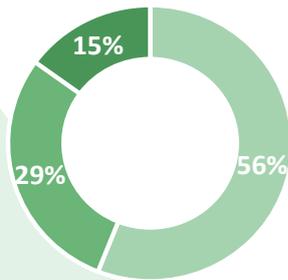
In financing coal plants, providing \$ 155.6 billion between 2012 and 2019<sup>2</sup>

**\$ 35 trillion  
Loss of economic potential by 2070**

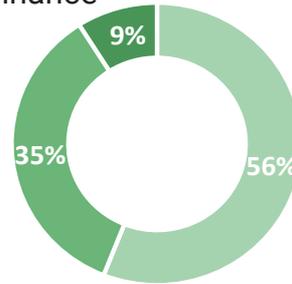
If an emissions pathway consistent with a 3°C temperature increase continue<sup>3</sup>

## The financial system is starting to recognise risks due to climate change and looking to reduce it by incorporating greening initiatives\*

Bank boards discussed the need to raise awareness on climate related risks within banks<sup>4</sup>

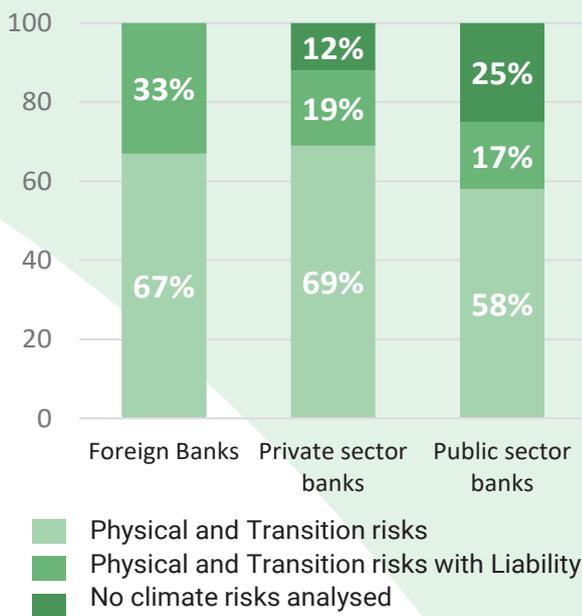


Bank boards discussed need to enhance lending/investment towards sustainable finance<sup>4</sup>

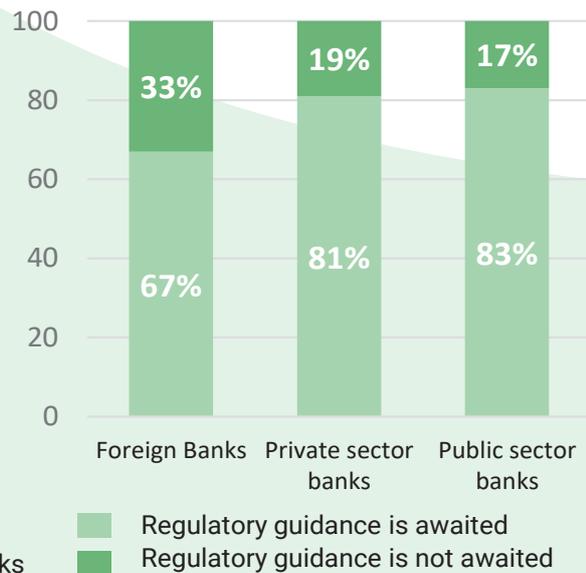


■ Discussed in current FY   ■ Plan to do so in next 12 months   ■ Not a priority in the short term

## Sources of climate related risks<sup>4</sup>



## Need for regulatory guidance for climate related financial risks<sup>4</sup>



■ Physical and Transition risks   ■ Physical and Transition risks with Liability risks   ■ No climate risks analysed  
 ■ Regulatory guidance is awaited   ■ Regulatory guidance is not awaited

<sup>1</sup>ETEnergy world, Accessed on 23 Nov 2022

<sup>2</sup>How Central Banks Are Fuelling the Climate Crisis, Oil Change International, August 2021

<sup>3</sup>Unprepared: India's big banks score poorly on climate challenge, 2022, Climate risks horizon

<sup>4</sup>Report of the Survey on Climate Risk and Sustainable Finance, RBI, July 2022

\*The Sustainable Finance Group (SFG), carried out a survey to assess the status of climate risk and sustainable finance preparedness in leading scheduled commercial banks comprising public sector banks, private sector banks and foreign banks having a major presence in India.

# India's journey at a glance

## Framework for India's transition to cleaner energy for 2021-2030

reducing **EMISSIONS** intensity **45%** by 2030  
Of the GDP From 2005

**50%**

cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030



### India started emphasising on green finance as early as 2007<sup>1</sup>

#### 2007-2008

- RBI issued notification on “Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development and Nonfinancial Reporting – Role of Banks”
- Launch of the **S&P ESG India Index**
- In 2008, NAPCC launched as a broad policy framework for mitigating the impact of climate change

#### 2012-2015

- **Climate Change Finance Unit** as a coordinating agency for green finance institutions
- **Sustainability disclosure** mandated for top 100 listed entities by SEBI
- MCA imposed **mandatory reporting of CSR progress**, 2013
- RBI incentivizes PLI towards green initiatives and projects
- Launch of the **MSCI ESG India Index**

#### 2016- 2018

- IREDA announced to become India's **first Green bank**
- **Gol offers subsidy on solar panel rooftop installation**
- SEBI issued guidelines for green bond issuance
- Report of the Committee on Corporate Governance proposed BoDs to discuss specifically strategy, board evaluation, risk management, ESG and succession planning once a year at least

#### 2021 -onwards

- **NITI Aayog SDG India Index:** World's first government-led sub-national measure of SDG progress.
- SEBI came out with **ESG disclosure** for top 1,000 listed entities (BRSR)
- RBI became a member of the **NGFS<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Green Finance in India: Progress and Challenges, RBI docs. April 2021

<sup>2</sup>PLI: Priority Sector Lending

<sup>3</sup>NGFS: Network for Greening the Financial System

\*LIFE: Gol vision of sustainable lifestyles and climate justice to protect the poor and vulnerable from adverse impacts of climate change through a mass movement for 'Lifestyle for Environment'

# India's journey at a glance

## From the Government Lens:

The 'Green Deal' put forward by India calls for an increase of capital flows from government as well as private entities to address climate and biodiversity related risks and opportunities. This can only be achieved when there is an environment that encourages climate-friendly investments and supports the national development goals.

The Indian banking sector, in particular, has been at the forefront of creating a green financial ecosystem. Public Development Banks (PDBs) have been key drivers of change in the climate and social development of India.

### Public sector to pioneer the way:

The scale of action required to green the financial requires a fundamental transformation of all actors, stakeholders and institutions. At the central level, Gol participates in global initiatives and multilateral forums, sets national climate goals, creates regulatory mandates and allows room for climate finance in budgets to create a case for climate finance in India. The Indian government has tied financial measures to policies in sectors particularly relevant to sustainable finance in order to achieve its economic growth and national targets. Central banks play a key role in monitoring sustainable finance activities

**22<sup>1</sup>**  
No. of PDBs in India

**\$ 327 Bn<sup>1</sup>**  
Total Assets under PDBs

**< 25%**  
Current tracked green finance

in the country. In India, the RBI supports the NGFS (Network for Greening the Financial System) declaration aimed to accelerate the scaling up of green finance.

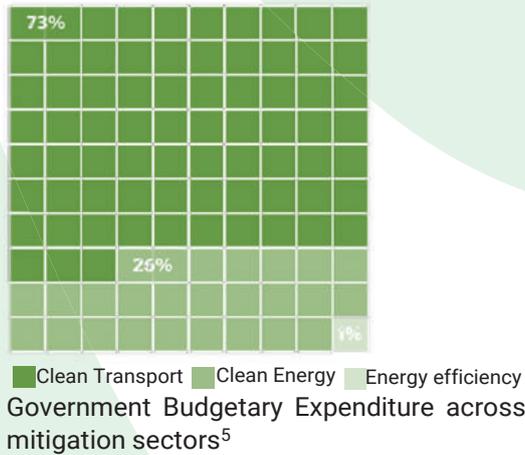
There is still a lot of room for the public sector to be bolder in incentivizing the market and mandating change. There needs to be a just transition that leaves no section of the society disadvantaged.

The government needs to align policies with long-term development goals and ensure that the financial system is economically resilient to sustain any shocks.

<sup>1</sup>FICS Progress report (2022)

# India's journey at a glance

## From the Government Lens:



India intends to mobilise climate finance through ministry-level budgets and state sponsored schemes, making the climate finance architecture in India predominantly a top-down structure. States are dependent on the central government for financial assistance to implement their State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCCs).

India's climate finance funds **focus needs to be shifted towards a less carbon-intensive future and greening the entire economy**

### Initiatives of GoI:

Finance minister's speech on Budget 2022-23 talks about innovative ways for financial inclusion such as issuance of SGBs<sup>1</sup>

- Supporter of the global EV30@30 campaign
- FAME
- Voluntary vehicle scrapping policy

Green hydrogen Policy: Scale green hydrogen production and increase the use of green hydrogen in industries

### Regulatory mandates and policies need to make room for creating a green economy in India



- According to Climate Action Tracker India's current climate action policies are insufficient to meet its net zero target and critically insufficient to support International targets<sup>3</sup>.
- India is not in line with its fair share contribution\*\*, and will need to implement additional policies to support a circular green economy<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ministry of Finance press release, November 2022

<sup>2</sup>Mobilizing Landscape-of-Green-Finance-in-India-2022, CPI

<sup>3</sup>Analysis by Climate Action Tracker, November 2022

\*India's existing NDC translates the 'Panchamrit' announced at COP 26 into enhanced climate targets

\*\* whether government promises for action in their country with their own resources and, if relevant, the financing of action abroad represent a fair contribution to global efforts.

# India's journey at a glance

From the Central bank and market regulator Lens:



**RBI intends to prepare a strategy for greening system<sup>1</sup>**



**SEBI's journey to standardise a framework for greening financing system**

Voluntary initiatives like KPIs and Green Data Centres		Blue bonds concept for sustainable financing activities aligning with the updated Green Bond Principles
Capacity building on benefits of green finance, working groups and tie-ups with multilateral institutions		Recognised inter-operability with international frameworks enabling entities to cross-reference disclosures
Explore forward-looking tools to identify and assess vulnerabilities in regulated entities (RE)		Consultation paper proposing framework to regulate ESG Rating Providers for securities markets
Broad guidance for all regulated entities on governance, strategy and risk management structure		Came out with mandatory ESG disclosure for top 1,000 listed entities (BRSR) from FY 22-23
Disclosure and reporting for regulated entities aligned with TCFD recommendations		Regulatory Framework For Issuance of Green Debt Securities In India in 2017
Bifurcation of climate-related risks i) Physical Risks and Transitional risk and ii) Operational risks		In 2012, SEBI mandated the Annual Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR)

## RBI's role



**Member since 2021 for climate risk awareness and monitoring financial stability**

**TFCR**  
Task Force on Climate-related Financial Risk  
Member since 2020 of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision

## RBI's action

**ECB**  
External Commercial Borrowings  
Liberalization of ECB authorizing Indian companies to raise green bonds finance

**SFG**  
Sustainable Finance Group  
Created in 2021 to provide a framework on climate change for banks and REs

<sup>1</sup>Discussion Paper on Climate Risk and Sustainable Finance, RBI, July 2022

# India's journey at a glance

From the financial sector Lens:



HDFC signed MOU with IGBC to promote green buildings<sup>1</sup>



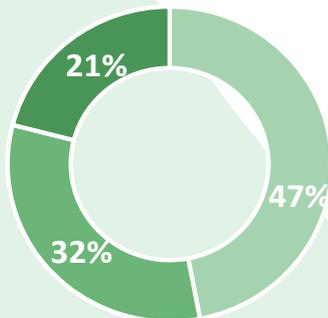
Net zero targets by 2030 with implementation plans for their Scope 1 and 2 emissions<sup>2</sup>



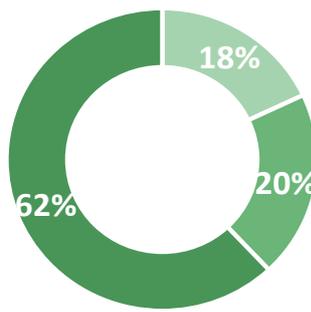
HSBC (India) provides funds from Green Deposits to invest in green projects and initiatives<sup>3</sup>

## Through intermediation, resource allocation across economy, and strategic decisions financial sector play a key factor in greening the financial system\*

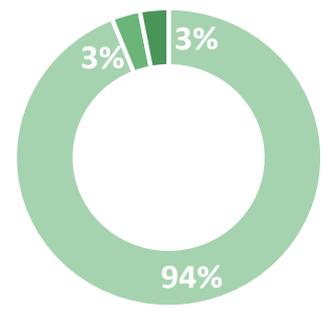
Banks offering/ intending to offer SLLs<sup>4</sup>



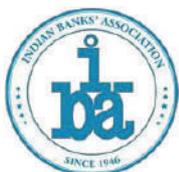
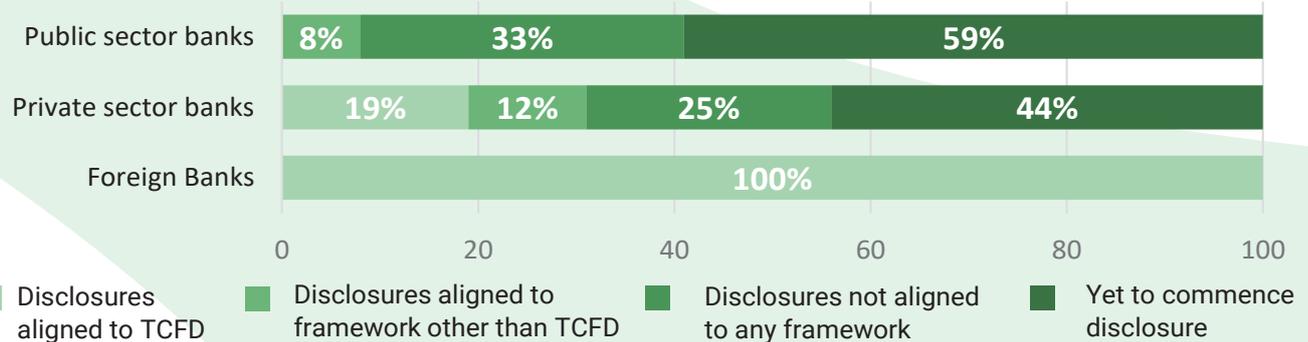
Green deposits by surveyed banks<sup>4</sup>



Banks offering loans for green products (solar roof tops, EVs)<sup>4</sup>



## Percentage wise distribution of surveyed banks on Climate related Financial disclosures<sup>4</sup>



Indian Banks' Association

### IBA's Sustainability Working Group

- 5 state-run, 6 major private and 4 foreign banks
- Recommendations on sustainable finance
- Considering a proposal to set up a committee on ESG

<sup>1</sup>Press-release-hdfc-ltd-signs-mou-with-igbc, HDFC, December 2020

<sup>2</sup>Unprepared: India's big banks score poorly on climate challenge, 2022, Climate risks horizon

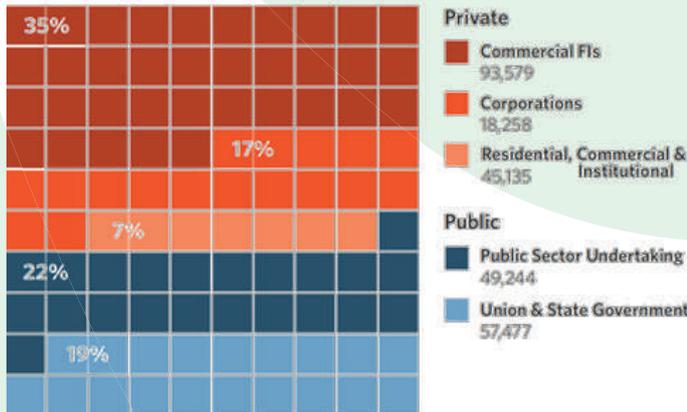
<sup>3</sup>News release: HSBC India launches a Green Deposit Programme, HSBC, August 2020

<sup>4</sup>Report of the Survey on Climate Risk and Sustainable Finance, RBI, July 2022

\*The Sustainable Finance Group (SFG), carried out a survey to assess the status of climate risk and sustainable finance preparedness in leading scheduled commercial banks comprising public sector banks, private sector banks and foreign banks having a major presence in India.

# India's journey at a glance

From the private sector Lens:



Domestic green finance by public and private sources (INR thousand crores)<sup>2</sup>

**22% of global energy transition investment in FY 2021 was made in India<sup>1</sup>**

For FY 2020, the total green finance raised was \$ 44 billion. Enabling policies and environment helped raise ~85% of this finance. Private finance sources contributed 60%, \$ 22 billion of the total domestic sources<sup>2</sup>

## 2021 the year of increasing business momentum in India

VC funding in climate technology surpassed \$ 1 billion over past 5 years<sup>3</sup>

88 Indian companies disclosed to Climate Change Disclosure representing a 27% growth since 2020<sup>3</sup>

Climate tech businesses received \$ 7 billion in equity funding; 4x increase in equity funding from 2020<sup>4</sup>

44% SBT initiatives committed companies have already set SBTs aligned with different climate scenarios<sup>3</sup>

Science-based target (SBT) commitments in India<sup>4</sup>



SBT is to help companies set ambitious climate goals based on the science for GHG emissions

## Drivers of the business momentum in 2021

<p>Regulatory and legal interventions</p>	<p>Push from global markets</p>	<p>Attract investors through ESG performance</p>
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<sup>1</sup>Mobilizing Capital Into Emerging Markets and Developing Economies, Bloomberg NEF

<sup>2</sup>Climate Finance for Startups in India – July 2022

<sup>3</sup>CDP India Annual Disclosure Report 2021, CDP

<sup>4</sup>The State of Climate Finance in India 2022, Unitus capital

<sup>5</sup>Mobilizing Landscape-of-Green-Finance-in-India-2022, CPI

# Innovative transactions/financing in India

## Key examples of innovative financing from private sector

- Cheaper loan with additional incentives based on KPIs revolving around not setting up any new coal based plant and boost renewable energy generation by 1.5 - 2 GT annually
- Financed by Club loan by Bank of America and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Term loan by Bank of America



**Tata Power Sustainability Linked Loan for \$ 320 million in FY 2022<sup>1</sup>**

- USICEF initiative to help distribute solar projects into viable investment opportunity via early-stage project preparation support
- Preparation support, sourced from leading foundations and MNRE under consideration for long-term financing from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)



**US-India Clean Energy Finance<sup>2</sup> (Blended Financing)**

## Key best practices from government sector

Project	Bihar's measures for long-term transformation towards green economic recovery <sup>3</sup>	Blended financing in Tamil Nadu to process local infrastructure projects <sup>4</sup>
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track the financial resources</li> <li>Understand budget response to clean energy transition and its impact on budget</li> <li>Present policy for climate mitigation policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable municipalities to tap capital markets to fund infrastructure</li> <li>Increased access to finance for municipal infrastructure projects</li> </ul>
Structure of Funding		

<sup>1</sup>Tata Power to Raise \$320 Million in Sustainability-Linked Loans, KnowESG, August 2022

<sup>2</sup> USICEF: Impact and Lessons Learned, 2017-2021

<sup>3</sup> Bihar's Policy and Budgetary Priorities for Transitioning towards Green Economic Recovery 2022, CBGA, January 2022

<sup>4</sup>Making Blended Finance Work for the Sustainable Development Goals, OECD, 2018

# Challenges in Greening the financial system



## Government

- No formal tracking of budget allocations to meet NDC targets
- Inadequate guidance at policy level to drive capital flows
- Efforts focussed on limited sectors
- No dedicated green financial institution and a green taxonomy



## Regulators

- Lack of standardised framework across sectors to strategize greening the financial system holistically
- No standard accreditation framework for rating agencies
- No advanced toolkits available to green finance actors for knowledge transfer and supporting capacity



## Banks

- Limited focus on specific sectors on priority sector lending rules (e.g. renewable energy)
- Insufficient clarity and limited guidance on green project financing
- Insurance companies, pension funds, and mutual funds not focused on green financing categories and environmentally-friendly sectors
- In built resistance to green financing due to lack of investor knowledge, appetite for innovative longer-term models, assessment tools to identify and analyse risks



## Non financial entities



## Rating agencies

- Insufficient integration of climate change risk into rating models
- Lack of robust framework or motivation to undertake climate risk assessment without regulatory guidance and investor demand

# Gap analysis in Greening the financial system



Different toolkits for Greening the Financial System*				
Strategy and coordination	Green Finance roadmap	National climate finance strategy	Green lending policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Toolkit does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> Toolkit exist to some extent Involvement of GIFS
	Build skills and capacity	National taskforce	International network   TFCR, IPFS, TCFD	Paris alignment by FIs      CCFU
Regulation and central banks	Climate & Environment risk analysis     	Supervisory Practise  	Supervisory Guidance   	Greening Central Bank Activities 
Transparency	Disclosure Reporting 	Taxonomy 		
Green(ing) FIs	Greening NDBs   	New Green Bank/ Finance Entity  		
Tools and instrument	Corporate Green Bonds  	Sovereign Green Bonds  वित्त मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF FINANCE वरिष्ठ वरिष्ठ	Blended Finance product  	Green/ Sustainability linked loans   

- Information asymmetry across sectors
- Time horizon related challenges
- Operational complexity in the measurement and evaluation of climate risk

\* Toolkits For Policymakers To Green The Financial System, World Bank and Internal analysis

# Impact created by GIFS

## Recommendations for GIFS to consider in their way forward



### Impact Till Now

- Inaugural Conference “Towards a Green Indian Financial System”, January 2022
- Webinar on the Green Sub-National Financing, April 2022
- GIFS Roundtable with an Indian high-level Delegation in Paris, June 2022:
- Marked the beginning of a process to continue such exchanges throughout 2022 between Indian and French experts
- Training programs for high-level management and executive team, assessment and measurement
- Brought up the need for global coalitions and partnerships to facilitate data gathering and data sharing through capacity building and public databases.
- Strategized concrete steps for building a climate finance strategy



### Next actionable agenda

- Launch of the women network of green finance between India/France/EU
- Enhanced knowledge repository for policy makers & practitioners
- Presenting good practices on green financing and financing the green from emerging economies
- Increased coordination and dialogue amongst relevant stakeholders on how resilient is India’s financial system to unprecedented impacts of climate changes



### Recommendations for GIFS

- GIFS can support FI's in breaking policy directives into short term objectives, that can enable smoother transition to a low carbon vision of GoI
- GIFS can facilitate development of methodologies and modelling systems for integrating climate change in FI's investment framework
- GIFS can be a nodal point for NGFS activities in India and bring in the best practices on climate change integration in bank and insurance related activity



**Green Indian  
Financial System**



## **Panel #2 Discussion from the RBI paper: Initiatives from the Indian banking system**

# Panel #2 - GIFS 2022

## Discussion from the RBI paper: initiatives from the Indian banking system

### Background – Release of RBI discussion paper

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a discussion paper on climate risk and sustainable finance in July earlier this year. The paper was a welcome step for climate integration within the Indian financial system, wherein the paper illustrated RBI stance and gave guidance to the wider financial community through recommendations and illustrative examples. It touched upon a) appropriate governance structures for climate risk, b) strategy to address climate change risks, c) translation of climate risk within micro-prudential risk framework, d) forward-looking tools like stress testing and climate scenario analysis and how they can be used to identify and assess vulnerabilities in regulated entities, and e) climate risk related financial disclosures and reporting for regulated entities. Finally, it posed six discussion questions for the regulated entities and financial sector to respond by September end.

Notably, RBI endorsed the Task-Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) as a good starting point for climate disclosure framework. Recommendations were provided on the four thematic areas under TCFD framework (Governance, Strategy, Risk Management, and, Metrics and Targets). RBI suggested that regulated entities could disclose annually in the initial stages and follow a 'comply-or-explain' approach. Further, RBI suggested that climate-related risk indicators could be percolated at sector and portfolio level to determine risk exposure. Complementing this, regulated entities were encouraged to develop climate scenarios to identify emerging risks in the short, medium and long term. These scenarios could cover the conventional business planning cycle (3-5 years) as well as longer term horizons (5+ years), such that the results may be used in strategic decision-making.

The release of discussion paper by RBI was seen as a signal on long-term direction of travel by the banking and financial community. Significant momentum was observed in the market, wherein banks seemed more eager to equip their institutions with climate risk integration capacity along with the required infrastructure for monitoring said risks.



## State of sector (as of July 2022)

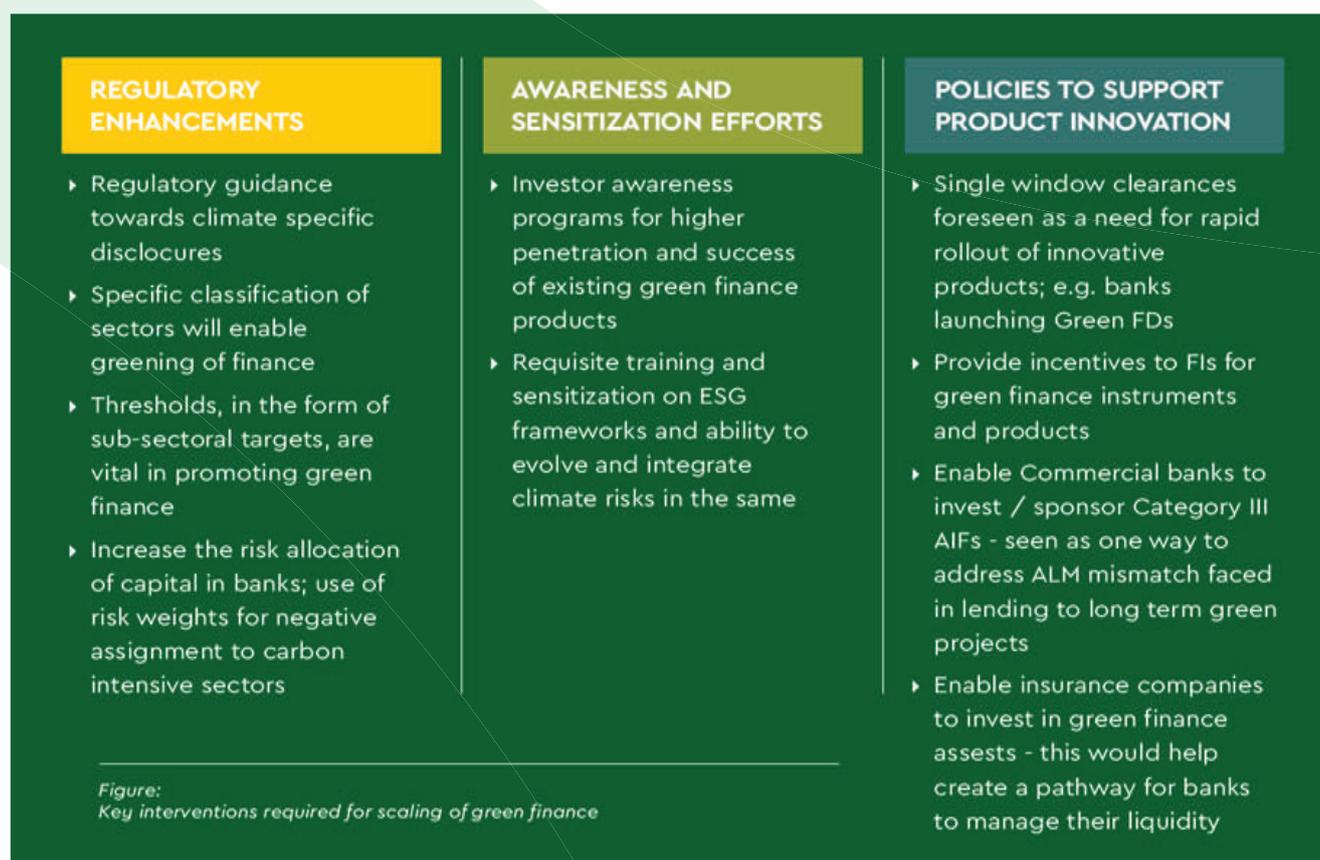
The survey of banks undertaken by the central bank of India indicated some degree of progress within the banking sector, albeit at a very slow pace. While majority banks acknowledged physical and transition risks arising out of climate change, very few had aligned their climate-related disclosures with an internationally accepted framework. A few challenges that emerged included the lack of sufficiently developed processes and methodologies to measure or monitor climate-related risks, limited talent pool and/or expertise within climate risk along with lack of sufficient data. The latter is particularly relevant for institutional investors such as mutual funds, who face specific data challenges owing to the degree of diversification. A few banks, however, are attempting to quantify lending and investment exposure towards climate risk.

Concerted effort and action was seen to be required in setting up appropriate governance structures for climate risk. In about a third of the banks that were surveyed, responsibility for overseeing initiatives related to climate risk and sustainability was yet to be assigned. Only a few banks had a strategy for embedding ESG principles in their business and/or scaling up their sustainable finance portfolio. It should be noted that banks with climate-integrated risk frameworks were also (often) proactive towards tapping into opportunities presented by climate change, through new loan and green deposit products. Many banks, especially post release of RBI discussion paper, are prioritising capacity building to better understand the financial implications of climate risk.

While these changes are positive, there is an urgent need for scaling up of ambition and pace. Between 2019-20, only USD 44 billion of climate investment was mobilised in the country, indicating an investment gap of over fifty percent. Financial institutions would be key to drive climate finance in the country and would require institutional changes through greening of financial ecosystem to drive capital flow.

## Perspectives from the sector:

Key identified interventions by the Green Finance Leadership Collaborative (GFLC) include:





### **In response to RBI paper:**

The discussion paper requested comments from the financial ecosystem, allowing a window of consultation to incorporate industry perspectives in regulatory decision-making. While the paper has been instrumental in stirring industry attention and has illustrated some best practices along with examples, it has been cautious in relaying future expected change in regulation. This lends itself reason as sudden onset of compliance requirements could aggravate loan books into distressed state. However, without a clear roadmap and plan of action, it is difficult for banks to pre-empt required climate infrastructure and processes. It is likely that this will be communicated by RBI post further consultation - a phased implementation approach would be key in ensuring concrete action while reducing cost of implementation. A major concern remains lack of data availability. This would need to be augmented by lender climate disclosure, governed largely by non-financial institutions. In this, an aligned approach for disclosure between SEBI and RBI could be pertinent is driving uniform climate data disclosure. Further, definitions must be clarified for 'green' and focus would also need to draw towards transitional finance as India develops a long-term transition plan for net-zero. The investment gap towards climate finance requirement could also be pivoted through expansion of eligible 'green' lending categories under Priority Sector Lending along with quantum of lending. The paper also provides examples of best practices for climate risk measurement and stress testing; however, no minimum quality of assurance or standardisation is yet suggested or expected. This must be maintained to ensure comparability of climate risk metrics and linkages with foreign firms in India along with international trade compatibility. RBI response to comments provided by various institutions is eagerly awaited by the Green Indian Financial System (GIFS) initiative.

### **GIFS Next steps:**

GIFS is currently working with the Indian Banking Association on one major identified theme i.e., capacity building on climate-related risk measurement. We envision this to play a key role in transforming the financial sector and could materially contribute to RBI vision. In addition, a technical assistance centre would be enabled through the GIFS platform to support effective knowledge transfer and provide a platform to Indian financial institutions. This could be used for sensitization efforts while bringing together industry voice was further discussion with regulatory and supervisory bodies.



**Green Indian  
Financial System**



**Panel #3 - GIFS & the Indian Presidency  
of the G20 : greening the financial  
agenda perspective**



# G20 – Impact in Climate Transition

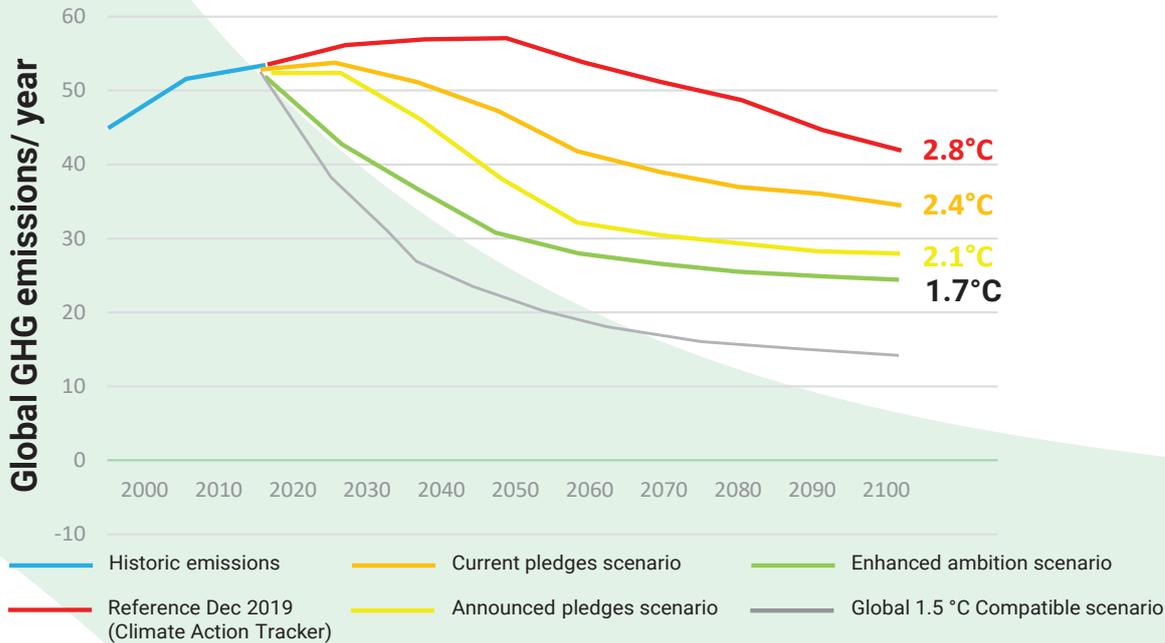
The G20 Nations hold both the largest responsibility and the highest potential to act on climate change.

85% of global GDP

60% of world population

75% of global GHG

### Impact of G20 ambition levels on limiting global temperature rise<sup>1</sup>

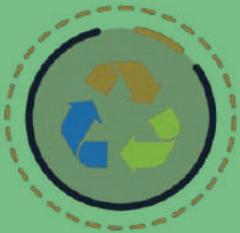


If all the G20 members were to adopt mid-century net zero commitments and align their NDCs with a 1.5°C pathway, end-of-century global warming could be limited to 1.7°C. The future investment needs for G20 countries account for approximately 40% of the total global investment in 2050.

<sup>1</sup>World Resources Institute and Climate Analytics



## G20 and COP 27 highlights



Adaptation finance - Build climate resilience and adaptation funding for \$ 4 billion by 2030. New pledges, totalling more than \$ 230 million, were made to the Adaptation Fund at COP27.



Scaling up the long-term finance for developing countries beyond \$ 100 billion by Finance for Action High-level expert group (total \$ 2 trillion by 2030)



Breakthrough Agenda - Countries representing 50% of the World's GDP, joined hands for a 12-month action to decarbonise power, transport and steel, Cement, scale up low-emission hydrogen production and accelerate the shift to sustainable agriculture



China is willing to contribute to a facility that compensates poorer countries for loss and damage



A G7-led plan called the Global Shield Financing Facility was launched at COP27 to provide funding to countries suffering climate disasters



## G20 : Presidencies at a glance



### Japan (2019)

- Promoting free trade & innovation
- Addressing inequalities
- Contributing to resolving environmental and global challenges



### Saudi Arabia (2020)

- Empowering people
- Safeguarding the planet
- Shaping new frontiers



### Italy (2021)

- Building more resilient societies
- Promoting equality
- Driving prosperity through digital transformation
- UNDP -SFWG secretariat



### Indonesia (2022)

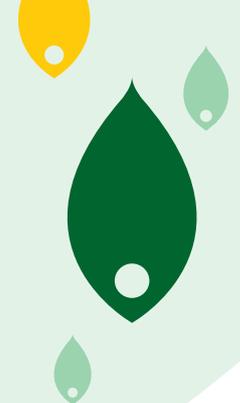
- Focus on Global Health Architecture, Sustainable Energy Transition, and Digital Transformation on economy

## G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG)

The G20 SFWG was set up to identify international barriers to scaling up sustainable finance instruments and mobilize funds amongst member countries. Forums like the SFWG play a key role in addressing the information asymmetry.

In 2021, **UNDP was invited by the Government of Italy to serve as the secretariat of the working group.** The efforts of UNDP have been instrumental in enabling knowledge networks to provide technical assistance, especially to emerging and developing economies. The SFWG has held

fruitful discussions on a wide spectrum of topics relevant to the international sustainable finance policy-making agenda and articulated priorities across focus areas.



# Indonesian Presidency's focus in 2022:



- **Scaling-up sustainable finance instruments:** Training professionals via capacity-building, strategy to identify and label green bonds and incentivising the use of sustainable finance instruments.
- **Reporting progress on G20 SFWG roadmap:** Noticeable progress made in areas related to the development and adoption of standards, taxonomies, net-zero commitments, and other alignment approaches for identifying sustainable activities and relevant investments.

- **Transition finance:** Suggests framework to fund transition activities (that accelerate the net-zero journey) along with 'pure' green instruments.
- **Role of private financial institutions:** Ensure credibility of voluntary commitments by private players and support developing countries by providing technical assistance.
- **Sustainable infrastructure investments:** Building transition pathways in the sustainable infrastructure landscape, and establishing a framework to leverage private sector participation in scaling up sustainable infrastructure investment.



**INDONESIA HAS ADOPTED A BALANCED FOCUS ON BOTH IMMEDIATE RECOVERY EFFORTS AND LONGER-TERM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS.**



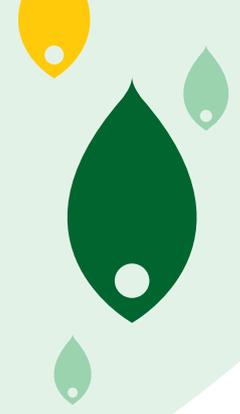
# State of greening the financial system

## G20 perspective

The most obvious involvement in providing green finance in developed countries has been that of the institutional investors. Developing countries too are turning to creating policies and regulation to build a green and resilient financial system. Internationally, organizations such as UNEP and the World Bank are actively promoting the planning and implementation of a green finance system. Countries are looking beyond green financial instruments such as green bonds, green credit, etc. and integrating green finance concepts into developing economic strategies.

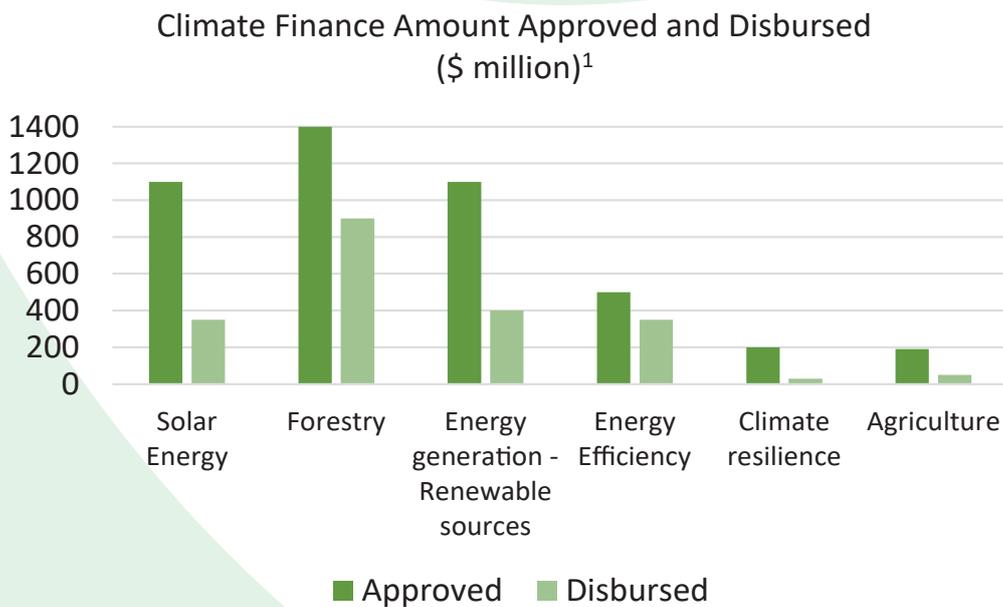
Country	Initiative
	The Central Bank of Brazil released new regulatory measures in 2014, requiring commercial banks to implement environmental and social risk management
	The EU demanded the large listed companies to disclose information on their environmental and social policies.
	The Bank of England has started to assess the vulnerability of insurance companies to climate risk
	The Central Bank of Bangladesh has specifically listed the enhancement of financial inclusion as a specific aspect of the monetary policy of the central bank.
	In South Africa, regulations require enterprises to disclose their finance and sustainability policies
	Australia requires governance reports of listed companies to disclose substantive economic, environmental and social sustainability risk exposure and measures to mitigate them

Source: Towards a Sustainable Financial System in Indonesia- UNEP, ASrIA and IFC



## State of greening the financial system

### Large Gaps between Climate finance amounts committed and disbursed



#### Role of FICS: Finance in Common

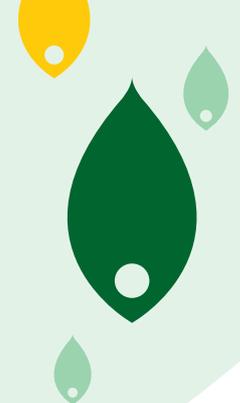
Recently the G20 nations have recognised the importance of FICS (Finance in Common) in building an international financial architecture.

The FICS was instrumental in understanding how a coalition of financial institutions can transform public resources into concrete and sustainable projects on the ground. It strives to link international policy issues with local solutions.

Since its creation in 2019, FICS has gathered public development banks from around the world, representing collectively more than \$ 23 trillion of assets and approximately 12%

of total global investment each year. During the last summit in Abidjan, in October 2020, FICS delivered its first report to the G20 Presidency, following its recognition in 2021, with tangible projects addressing four development priorities (food security, sustainable finance, health and energy transition). FICS also participated in a meeting with the SFWG, highlighting the role of the public development banks in scaling up green finance.

Lastly, FICS's members also announced its willingness to play an active role under the Indian presidency of the G20, together with Indian PDBs, as well as with upcoming COP 16 and 28 Presidencies.



## Spotlight: China's One-stop Service Platform

The understanding and exploration of creating a green finance system has been a gradual, evolving process in China. For the longest time, the Chinese government emphasised on economic growth in making financial decisions and consequently, environmental factors were put on the back burner. It was later in the mid-1990s when China started imposing restrictions on industries with high emissions in response to the rising environmental threats from climate change.

An issue hindering the growth of China's green finance system was the imbalance of policy measures. Subsequently, China took a systemic

approach and launched the Green Credit Guidelines and **Green Finance Task Force** that led China to progress in greening its financial system. It then approved the "Guidelines for Establishing the Green Financial System"—issued jointly by seven ministerial agencies—providing essential steps for implementing the overall strategy of promoting ecological civilization and determining how to mobilize and incentivize more social (or private) capital to invest in green sectors, while restricting investment in polluting sectors.

### Huzhou – China's One-Stop Platform

Most unique systems across the G20 in what a city took a holistic view on greening the nation's financial system with the vision of a city in providing a transition finance taxonomy

Objective was to close the funding gap for SMEs in the city

Leveraging fintech and big data, it provided green bank lending, green private equity finance, and green credit rating and connected businesses with banks to integrate the financial offerings of all 36 banks in Huzhou and offering over 300 lending products

Connects businesses with investors, providing transparent information about the financing needs small businesses which limits the costs involved in searching for green projects

In November 2022, the Bank of Huzhou signed a loan with ADB of \$ 50 million, to scale up energy efficiency with MSMEs, especially those owned by women.



# Spotlight: Brazil's Sustainable Finance Collaborative

At the policy level, the Ministry of Economy (ME) introduced ESG criteria into its public debt management and into the criteria for granting sovereign guarantees for international loans. The ME also issued a simplified and accelerated approval process for the issuance of green bonds for infrastructure investments after a consultation process that also involved **Brazil's Financial Innovation Lab (Lab)**

Multi-stakeholder platform that brings together sustainable finance experts from the public sector, the financial and economic sectors, academia and civil society to promote sustainable finance through knowledge gathering and sharing, exchange, piloting of innovative instruments, and policy dialogue.

Until May 2022, the Lab has published 44 reports, conducted over 40 webinars, and engaged in twelve regulatory initiatives, among them the review of CVM Resolution no. 59/2021 which enhances social-environmental disclosure of publicly traded companies.

The Lab is also a member of the International Network of Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S).



### Steering Group committees



### LAB Working Groups



Green Finance



Fintech



Financial Instruments and Impact Investment



ESG risk management and transparency





## Spotlight: Indonesia - Asia Climate Smart Landscape Fund

In Indonesia, the Asia Climate-Smart Landscape Fund (ACLF) is a **\$ 200 million blended finance** fund that provides medium to long-term small ticket size (\$ 5-20 million) loans to SMEs engaged in sustainable agriculture, agroforestry and aquaculture, with integrated climate, livelihood and gender equity co-benefits.

Indonesia, being the fourth largest emitter of GHG in the world has over 60% of the emissions arising from a change in land use from forestry to agriculture. With more than half of the forest canopy lost, Indonesia's economy is highly dependent on environmentally sensitive industries, such as agriculture and fisheries.

Indonesia had to strike a balance between economic growth and environmental protection.

Centred in Indonesia, one of the world's most valuable biodiversity hotspots, the fund addresses a large gap in medium term financing for these sectors and seeks to generate strong risk-adjusted financial returns whilst reducing GHG emissions and improving livelihoods. ACLF set the tone in thematic investing in **climate and food systems in Asia**. ACLF's ability to develop and manage partnerships that promote change has been commendable.

## Spotlight: GFANZ and Indonesia's Just Energy transition Partnership

Indonesia announced its **Just Energy Transition Partnership** at the G20 Summit in November 2022, which will mobilise \$ 20 billion over the next three to five years to help Indonesia transition away from using coal as its main source of energy.

A working group of GFANZ (Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero) consisting of banks including Deutsche Bank, HSBC, MUFG, Bank of America, Citibank, Macquarie and Standard Chartered –

will support the country with this ambitious transition path.

The Banks have committed to working closely with the government and partners, as well as GFANZ and the private sector with an aim to create a blueprint for how private finance can collaborate with governments, public finance, and others, to implement ambitious climate objectives.

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## G20 presidency: Indonesia passing the baton to India

The Indonesian presidency has laid the foundation for India by working in areas such as innovation, empowering MSMEs and vulnerable groups, and collaboration between developed and developing countries. India's G20 priorities, as stated by the government, are inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth, women's empowerment, digital public infrastructure, and tech-enabled development, climate financing, global food security and energy security, among others.

India may emphasize on the below as part of its G20 presidency agenda:

**Recognize the role of MDBs:** MDBs can subsidize riskier components of climate finance instruments that entail heavy exposure to renewable energy, infrastructure, etc. and make use of blended finance structures to foster innovation in climate change.

**Create digital solutions:** To support and transform the mobilization and tracking of green finance funds and leave no sector deprived.

**Mitigation and carbon pricing:** G20 economies priced 49% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy use in 2021. India must play an active role in reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through technology and carbon pricing. India can take this opportunity and seek assistance from the developed member countries to implement technology to reduce emissions.

- **Increased focus on climate adaptation funding:** Annual G20 investments in nature-based solutions need to increase by at least 140% to meet all agreed biodiversity, land restoration and climate targets by 2050, which means an additional **\$ 165 billion** a year, especially in ODA and private sector spending.
- **Multilateral reforms:** India can open up discussions for creating multilateral reforms to green the financial system and can adopt a combination of best suggestions.
- **Push for behavioural change (LiFE):** India's side-event of 'Lifestyle for Environment' at the latest COP27 indicates India's focus recognising individual actions. India can take up upcoming concepts such as circular economy which will help in creating instruments that can finance the sustainable journey amongst young adults.
- **Invite international expertise:** As one of the fastest growing economies, India is in a position to invite expertise from international agencies specifically to assist in designing the framework to setup a green financial system. This will also help India in building and strengthening its global relations.

# All hands on deck: Supporting India's G20 Agenda

GIFS



G20 ACTORS

## **Policy Interventions:**

GIFS should continue to conduct panel discussions that communicate the industry voice to the regulators

## **Robust Network across Private Sector**

India's private sector can gain a global perspective on its sector specific challenges through GIFS' ties with international agencies and EU markets

## **Knowledge building on specific sectors**

GIFS can conduct capacity building and creating a data sharing platform that will help create awareness and skills amongst professionals

## **Map/Tracking database**

GIFS can partner with other agencies and can help India in maintaining a database that can act as a tracker for India's net-zero journey and other NDCs

## **Convening and hand holding**

The key G20 actors can hand hold multiple financial stakeholders in India and bring them together for a shared mission

## **Sector deep dive aligned with the Breakthrough Agenda G20**

actors can analyse sectors ripe for investment and conduct research to measure the funding gap

## **Climate Adaptation Development support**

The UNDP in addition to their support at the secretariat of SFWG, may support India's Presidency by mobilising further support in Climate Adaptation, increasing funds and capacity building for community resilience programs



**Green Indian  
Financial System**



# **Launch of the Women Experts in Greening the Financial System in India**



# Launch of the Women Experts in Greening the Financial System in India

## Women and Greening Financial Systems

Climate change escalates social, political, and economic vulnerability for women and girls, acting as a threat multiplier with estimates suggesting that a staggering 80% of the people displaced by climate change are women. The IPCC report on Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability further established that gender inequities compound vulnerability to climate change impacts given the lack of access to and control over resources, assets, and services, as well as limited participation in decision making and leadership by women. This limits the capacity of women to adapt to climate change and exacerbates disparities leading to a disproportionate impact on their physical and mental health, and economic livelihoods.

Integration of women is pertinent to incorporate gender considerations for comprehensive action on climate change; however, only 2% of global climate investments were gender-tagged as of 2021. Moreover, development finance dedicated to gender equality and empowerment of women makes for a meager share of 5% (USD 6.3 billion). Financial systems across the globe continue to be inadequate with the integration of gender aspects into their organizations and green financing instruments. This gap persists despite existing obligations by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for gender mainstreaming of climate financing instruments under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

One of the primary reasons for the persistent lack of gender-responsiveness in the sector is the limited participation of women, particularly at leadership roles, with their share only at 24% within the financial industry. In India, the representation of women is even lower with only 14% of leadership positions being held by women on the Boards of banking and capital industry firms as 2021. Moreover, the participation of women in leadership roles in the sector has remained stagnant since 2017. This is worth noting given the huge influx of women at entry level positions with a significant share moving to middle level positions.

### Value of Women Expertise in Greening Financial Systems

Increased participation of women in decision-making leads to improved climate action, thereby exemplifying their role in potentially greening the financial system. It is estimated that if empowered women had full agency over their lives, and were able to make informed choices, global carbon dioxide emissions could be reduced by 59.6 GT by 2050. This is also evident from the fact that companies with more than 30% women board members have reported a growth rate of only 0.6% in their carbon emissions against the relatively higher 3.5% growth rate for companies without any women board members. Further, organizations that expanded the representation of women on their boards over a five-year period were 60% more likely to reduce the intensity of their energy consumption, 39% more likely to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and 46% more likely to lower their water use.

The correlation between higher representation of women in organization and lower carbon emissions could be attributed to clear climate governance strategies and timely and transparent disclosure of climate-related data. It has been found that companies with higher than 30% women board members

1. UN Women - Gender Inequality and Climate Change (2022)
2. OHCHR – Climate Change and Women (2022)
3. IPCC - Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability (2022)
4. CPI - Global Climate Finance Landscape (2021)
5. OECD – Gender ODA (2022)
6. Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
7. Women in the Finance Industry (2021)
8. Diversity in the Boardroom (2022)
9. UNFCCC – Climate Gender Report (2019)
10. BloombergNEF and Sasakawa Peace Foundation – Gender Diversity and Climate Innovation (2020)



had more robust climate governance. This is also evident at the government level wherein increasing the representation of women in national parliaments has led to adoption of more stringent climate change policies.

Inclusive business culture and gender-balanced workplaces also result in enhanced business outcomes, with almost 63% more likelihood of companies to increase their profitability and productivity. Studies have suggested that Fortune 500 companies with representation of three or more women on their boards significantly outperformed those with low representation by 84% on return on sales, by 60% on return on invested capital and by 46% on return on equity. Further, the more intangible aspects of the business are positively impacted by increased participation of women with gender-balance relating to greater creativity innovation and openness, and better alignment to consumer interest and demand.

**Figure 1: Value of Women in Greening the Financial Systems**



This reinstates that enhancing participation of women and leveraging their expertise can potentially accelerate the process of greening the financial systems. There is a need to recognize and leverage their expertise to effectively reinforce and capitalize on the gender axis of the financial industry.

## Challenges of Integrating Women in Greening of Financial Systems

The two critical challenges that limit integration of women in greening of the financial systems is, (a) significantly low level of participation by women in the sector and, (b) inadequate financial services landscape. The key issues underlying these challenges are detailed below.

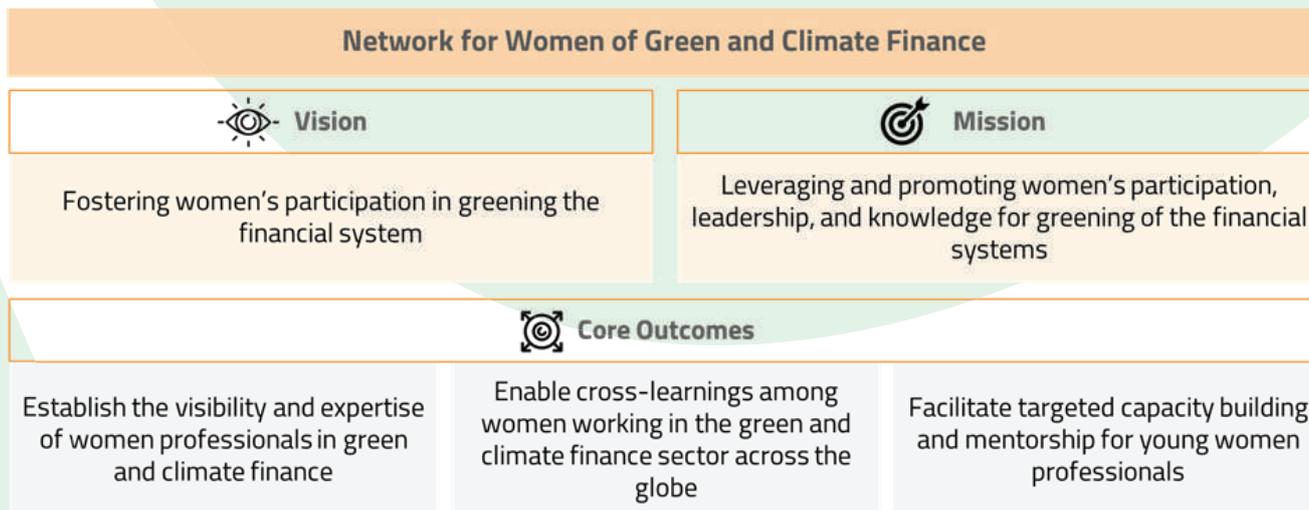
### Limited participation of women in the financial services sector

As of 2022, women Executive Directors in the banking and capital markets of India formed a meagre 6% demonstrating high under-representation within the financial services industry, particularly at leadership positions. This represents a reversal of sorts given that women accounted for at least 40% of total assets in banks until a few years ago. Even with respect to women legislators, senior officials and managers, the share of women remains at a low 17.6% as of 2021.

11. BloombergNEF and Sasakawa Peace Foundation – Gender Diversity and Climate Innovation (2020)  
 12. Gender and Climate Change (2018)  
 13. ILO - Beyond the glass ceiling (2019)  
 14. ILO - Women on Boards (2016)  
 15. Diversity in the Boardroom (2022)  
 16. WEF - Global Gender Gap Report (2022)



**Figure 2: Vision, Mission, and Core Outcomes of the Network**



**Outcome 1: Establish the visibility and expertise of women professionals in green and climate finance**

The network would engage women leaders and entrepreneurs in climate and green finance who are working across different sub-sectors and geographies to recognize the value of their expertise and establish their visibility in the field. This would be explored via designing and implementing campaigns/programs (like interviews with marquee women leaders in the climate and green finance space, podcasts on key themes by women experts etc.) on digital media (like LinkedIn, YouTube). This network would also include thematic working groups/task forces led and championed by women experts to create in-house content and share knowledge on the nexus of green finance, gender equality, and leadership. Some of the potential themes could be (a) role of women in greening of financial institutions (focus on incentives/mandates for including women in financial institutions); and (b) gender lens investing for climate action (focus on devising frameworks to facilitate gender integration in climate and green investment, preparing toolkits etc.).

*The Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET) hosts the Women in Energy Expert Platform that connects and empowers women working in sustainable energy around the world, with the aim to encourage greater visibility, networking opportunities and professional connections between women.*





### **Outcome 2: Enable cross-learnings among women working in the green and climate finance sector across the globe**

**The network would promote knowledge exchange and dissemination among relevant women professionals across the globe, with a focus on India and Europe, to enable cross-learnings.** This could be undertaken via a virtual interaction platform that enables networking options for global women professionals and facilitates exchange of insights, learnings, and best practices. Further, the network would seek to disseminate knowledge through a series of dialogues held on a quarterly basis to share lessons from global best practices across varied themes like designing and implementing guidelines and frameworks towards integrating women in climate and green finance. Cross-learnings would also be enabled via dedicated stakeholder workshops/conferences between relevant private sector players and policymakers to inform public policy priorities on green and climate finance, communicate critical policy initiatives, and gather regular feedback on upcoming policy changes – all with a gender focus.

*GenderSmart organized Capital Connect which is a global series of virtual gatherings with the goal of connecting gender-smart investors and fund managers with a gender lens. The program offers the opportunity for investors and those raising capital into gender-smart private capital vehicles to connect. Participants include managers of private capital vehicles and investors actively looking to deploy capital with a gender lens into private capital.*

### **Outcome 3: Facilitate targeted capacity building and mentorship for young women professionals**

**The network would seek to offer capacity building programs and mentorship support young women professionals to help them effectively contribute towards greening the financial systems.** This could be undertaken through partnerships with industry associations/academic institutions to build the capacity of women at junior to mid-level positions in Indian financial institutions on integration of women in green finance, key regulations and guidelines, best practices in greening of financial systems, etc. Further, corporate leadership programs would be explored for and by women working in the green and climate finance in India and facilitate engagement with corresponding counterparts in France, and Europe. This will advance the role of women agents by accelerating careers of women in junior/middle management positions to leadership positions as well as foster a global network of knowledge-sharing and empowerment.

*Women in Cleantech & Sustainability offers a 3-month Mentorship Program which is cohort-based program and supports women in advancing their careers in the cleantech and sustainability sectors. The program features include regular one-on-one meetings with a mentor, three group events to share insights and network with small cohort of industry professionals.*

**To take the forward the network execution and operationalization, we are launching a Call to Action wherein we invite interested women professionals to register their interest for the network. The registered professionals would be contacted to gain insights and inputs on the proposed outcomes and activities of the network, while also obtain a further understanding of their interests, their area of expertise and/or the areas they would like to build their expertise, and the level and type of engagement they would like to have with the network. We invite all interested women professionals to register their interest through this Google Form.**

# About the Organizers



**Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group** is a public financial institution that funds, supports and accelerates transitions towards a more just and sustainable world. As a French overseas aid platform for sustainable development and investment, we and our partners create shared solutions, with and for the people of the global South.

AFD is working on over 4,000 projects in 115 countries where it strives to promote health, education and gender equality, and to protect common resources with a focus on peace, biodiversity and a stable climate.

A partner of India since 2008, AFD works with Indian authorities to promote green and inclusive growth. AFD operates through loans to State and public enterprises as well as through technical assistance programs to support sustainable urban development, energy transitions and ecological preservation in the country.



**About Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) set up on 2nd April 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament, acts as the Principal Financial Institution for Promotion, Financing and Development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector as well as for co-ordination of functions of institutions engaged in similar activities.



**About Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation**

Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation is an enabler for clean energy and sustainability solutions. We work with policy makers, civil society, industry, think tanks, and academia to identify and scale energy system interventions that will reduce GHG emissions and tackle climate change.



[www.gifsinitiative.com](http://www.gifsinitiative.com)



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*An Initiative By*





# Green Indian Financial System

*An Initiative By*

