

Organised by



30th – 31st March 2020 | Istanbul, Turkey

Executive Knowledge-Sharing Forum

Emerging Trends in SDGs Financing

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The Role of Participation Finance in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals:

Opportunities and Challenges in European and Central Asian Countries

Multilateral Partner



DISCLAIMER: Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided. However, the information and programme details may be subject to change without prior notice.

About CIBAFI

The General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (CIBAFI) is an international non-profit organization founded in 2001 by the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and a number of leading Islamic financial institutions. CIBAFI is affiliated with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

CIBAFI represents the Islamic financial services industry globally, defending and promoting its role, consolidating cooperation among its members, and with other institutions with similar interests and objectives.

With over 130 members from more than 34 jurisdictions from all around the world, CIBAFI is recognized as a key piece in the international architecture of Islamic finance.

About the Forum

Since the adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by the UN General Assembly in 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been increasingly focusing on the issue of sustainability in every high-level meeting and global event. Global leaders and stakeholders have been placing efforts worldwide for the attraction of public and private investments in areas that support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, catalyzing the development of innovative global financing solutions. The face of finance and banking has been changing as well. Institutions have been turning to the adoption of sustainable development and responsible practices as a means for the achievement of the sustainability agenda and the creation of sound financial systems and prosperous economic growth.

However, despite these efforts, financing the SDGs remains today a significant challenge and there is still a considerable financing gap to fill. While experts have typically turned to traditional development finance for a solution, other modes of financing, such as participation finance, have been also proving their high potential in this area.

Participation Finance has been growing impressively in recent years, not just in traditional markets but all over the world. With sustainable business practices and ethical values being in its essence, this model of financing offers an effective tool for financing development worldwide, fostering financial inclusion and infrastructure finance. CIBAFI Global Islamic Bankers Survey (GIBS) 2019 revealed that there is increasing concern internationally that banking should contribute to wider developmental aims. The report found a heartening level of participation banks' engagement with the SDGs, not only in the obvious areas of economic growth and industry but also in education and the elimination of poverty.

About the United Nations

The United Nations Development Coordination Office (UNDCO) has a support role to the new UN Resident Coordinator system as well as an oversight role that aims to bring together the different UN agencies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of development activities at country level. Transitioning from traditional funding mechanisms to a broader approach of financing the 2030 Agenda is a new imperative that can be promoted through knowledge-based understanding and intra-regional collaboration. The UNDCO in the MENA region and specifically RC in Bahrain Regional Arab States is bringing ideas, knowledge and expertise on the new forms of financing through the work of the RC system at country level and promoting knowledge-based collaboration across different regions together with national stakeholders.



The objectives of Participation Finance are to attain economic development and growth for the benefits of the society as a whole, which is going to a large extent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, UN Principles for Responsible Investment and Responsible Banking, and other ethical and responsible global initiatives. While Participation Finance is offering a range of innovative financial solutions to the most pressing developmental challenges, the industry still beholds a huge potential that has not yet been tapped. The lack of awareness of Participation Finance in many regions has not allowed for its adoption and the uncovering of its full potential.

Being the global representative of the Islamic financial services industry and in accordance with its new strategic plan for the period 2019-2022 that focus on enhancing the value proposition of Islamic finance, promoting sustainability and responsible business practices within the industry, and addressing real concerns and global challenges, CIBAFI has started various initiatives that aim to raise awareness about the role of the participation finance in promoting sustainability such as this forum which is the fruit of the joint collaboration between CIBAFI and the UN.



Objectives of the Forum

- To discuss the emerging trends in SDG financing from development cooperation perspective and introduce various financing mechanisms.
- To present an overview of the Sustainable Development Agenda and the alignment of participation finance (Islamic Finance) proposition and instruments with the achievement of the sustainable development goals.
- To network and share different views and discussions amongst different parties regarding sustainability and the financing of the SDGs through participation finance (Islamic Finance).
- To present different practices in achieving the SDGs through utilizing participation finance (Islamic Finance).
- To highlight key challenges in adopting participation finance (Islamic Finance) for sustainability and look into solutions to overcome these challenges.

Who Should Attend?

The Forum aims to bring together UN officials and their partners (Private-sector and relevant government officials) from the European and Central Asian countries and beyond to meet with senior executives and decision makers of Participation Finance Institutions across various countries.

Functional focus would include the following:

- UN Resident Coordinators and Heads of Agency; UN Partnership & Development Finance Officers; UN Agencies Partnership and Technical & Operational Officers.
- Bankers, Finance Professionals, Regulators, Policy Makers, Shariah Scholars, etc.
- Key Managers in the areas of Sustainability, Corporate Social Responsibility, etc.
- Ministers and Government Officials and Representatives of Private and International Organizations.
- Academics, Lawyers and other Professional Services Firms.



Day 1: 30th March 2020

8:30 – 9:00	Registration and Morning Coffee
9:00 – 9:45	Official Welcoming and Opening Ceremony <i>(followed by photo session with speakers and guests)</i>
9:45 – 11:15	<p>SESSION 1: Financing Frameworks for filling the Sustainable Development Goals and Investment Gap</p> <p>Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require public and private, domestic and international, financial as well as non-financial resources and means of implementation, as laid out in the Addis Ababa Agenda. However, many national sustainable development strategies have not sufficiently addressed key issues of financing and many developing countries are still lagging in integrated national planning and policies needed to support the achievement of the SDGs by 2030. Furthermore, the contribution of the private sector is indispensable for achieving sustainable development. A strategic framework for private sector investment in SDGs can help structure efforts to mobilize funds, to channel them to SDG sectors, and to maximize impacts and mitigate drawbacks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SDG financing from macroeconomic policies and regulations, SDG-related trade and investment agreements, debt sustainability and taxation systems in relations to SDGs. • Ways to collaborate with public and private financing mechanisms for sustainable development, mainly on green financing instruments, including a shared understanding of sustainable impact investment. • Implementation on Integrated National Financing Framework (INNF), including financing mechanisms for social protection and universal health coverage.
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break and Networking
11:30 – 13:00	<p>SESSION 2: Innovation & Digital Financing for the SDGs</p> <p>New and emerging technologies hold great potential for accelerating progress on the SDGs and their adequate financing, but also pose challenges to ensuring inclusive sustainable development. Digitalization, fintech and other rapidly changing technologies and innovations open new possibilities for financing for sustainable development, but they can also challenge traditional policy and regulatory frameworks; increase exposure to risk; and exacerbate inequalities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to unlock new sources of finance and financial innovation for sustainable investments in the digital era: opportunities and challenges. • The use of innovation and new technologies to benefit society as a whole and leaving no one behind in a digital economy. • Addressing challenges posed by financial innovation such as potential risks for customers and systemic risks to financial market stability. • How regulatory bodies should address capturing the opportunities of digital financing options and how to reduce risks with relevant regulations.
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch and End of Part 1 (Financing the SDGs)
14:30 – 16:30	<p>SESSION 3: Alignment Between Sustainability and Participation Financial Services Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN sustainable development agenda and UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking. • Global initiatives that raise awareness on sustainability and facilitates the establishment of successful finance mechanisms. • Characteristics of financial instruments for development needs to achieve the SDGs. • The alignment of the principles and value-added proposition of participation finance with the SDGs and ESG principles.
End of Day 1	

Day 2: 31st March 2020

8:30 – 9:00	Registration and Morning Coffee
9:00 – 10:30	<p>SESSION 4: Finance Infrastructure & Development by Sukuk: The Potential for Europe and Central Asian Market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the participation financial markets and architecture for long-term investment needs. • Examining the financial architecture in terms of long-term investment for infrastructure project needs. • Mechanisms to facilitate the flow of funds from the private sector to finance public infrastructure. • Participation Financing in Public Private Partner (PPP) Infrastructure. • Available instruments in the capital market such as local Sukuk and funds. • Potential of Sukuk to finance infrastructure projects in Central Asia. • Enabling regulatory environment for participation capital market in Central Asia.
10:30 – 12:00	<p>SESSION 5: Zakat & Waqf as Tools of Financial Inclusion and Shared Prosperity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participation finance industry as a model for solidarity-based financing with key features of social sustainability. • Examining the use of resources from Waqf and Zakat to finance microfinance and Qard al-Hasan programs. • Exploring the need for upgrade of Waqf and Zakat systems in order to boost their contribution to the 'unbankable' who are presently excluded from the financial sector. • Mobilize additional untapped resources for poverty alleviation and financial inclusion.
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch <i>(including photo sessions with participants)</i>
13:30 – 15:00	<p>SESSION 6: Use of Participation Finance to Fund Development Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive review of the current instruments for mobilizing funds. • The Use of the Participation Finance to finance health and education. • The development of new and adopted financial instruments for financing agricultural project by participation banks. • The current financial issues facing MSMEs and the aspirations of the Participation Finance industry to provide financing for businesses.
15:00 – 16:30	<p>SESSION 7: Key Contributions from Participation Finance Institutions into Achieving the SDGs (Real Cases from different regions)</p> <p>Overview of the key contributions and some success stories of participation financing of development projects that are linked to the SDGs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project financed through Sukuk/Green Sukuk • Project financed through Waqf • Project financed through Bai Salam • Project financed through Murabaha • Project financed through Mudharaba • Project financed through Ijara • Project financed through Zakat
16:30 – 16:40	Event Evaluation/Feedback Session.
16:40 – 17:00	Closing Remarks
End of Day 2	

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Registration Form

Name -----
Nationality -----
Institution -----
Position -----
Department -----
Address -----
Country -----
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Telephone -----
Fax -----
Mobile -----

Seats are limited and on first come first served basis.

To register, please send the completed form to CIBAFI Secretariat.

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