



OECD High-level Roundtable on Financing Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure

19 October 2017, 15-18h, OECD Conference Centre, Paris

Draft programme

Financing and developing sustainable infrastructure is key to achieving long-term goals for sustainable economic growth and development and is high on the agenda of international fora such as the G20, G7, and APEC. Investment in sustainable infrastructure investment has therefore become an important policy objective, most recently under the German G20 presidency and amongst APEC countries, as it can be a key part of achieving long-term growth targets, job creation, and goals for inclusive economic prosperity, helping to also meet the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and country contributions to the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Promoting long-term financing, fostering institutional investors' involvement, and supporting the development of alternative capital market instruments for the financing of infrastructure are all key parts of implementing this agenda that the OECD is supporting through its project on [Institutional investors and long-term investment](#) and a dedicated OECD/G20 Task Force.

Today's High-level Financial Roundtable on Financing Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure is taking place during "[Paris Infrastructure Week](#)", which features week-long events that will bring a number of experts to Paris.

This High-level Financial Roundtable is hosted by the OECD Committee on Financial Markets (*comité des marchés financiers*, CMF), a parent to the Task Force on [Institutional Investors and Long-term Investment](#). The CMF comprises officials from OECD central banks, finance ministries and other financial authorities, who meet biannually to review structural, institutional, regulatory, and market developments in financial services in OECD countries and emerging economies. As part of these meetings, financial roundtables are held to discuss specific topics with expert representatives of the financial services sector and other stakeholders.

The Roundtable discussion will focus on financing investment of sustainable infrastructure, including environmental and inclusiveness aspects as well as financing innovation and data collection on the financial and non-financial characteristics of infrastructure, and the development of infrastructure as an asset class. These issues will be addressed in three rounds of discussions (sessions), each featuring prominent keynote speakers from the private and public financial sectors followed by an open dialogue (general discussion) between the keynote speakers and the audience, i.e. delegates of the OECD Committee on Financial Markets and other participants from the private financial sector invited to this event.

Programme overview

15:00-15:10 Chair's welcome and introduction

15:10-16:00 Round 1: Promoting Sustainable Infrastructure for Long-term Investment – Evidence and Impact

16:00-16:45 Round 2: Financing Technology and Innovation – Implications for the Infrastructure Sector and Sustainability

16:45-17:00 Coffee break

17:00-18:00 Round 3: Data Collection and Infrastructure as an Asset Class – Closing the Data Gap

18:00-19:15h Networking cocktail

15.00-15.10	<p>Welcome and introduction: Mr. Grant Spencer, Deputy Governor and Head of Financial Stability, Reserve Bank of New Zealand, and Chair, OECD Committee on Financial Markets</p>
15.10-16.00	<p>ROUND I: Sustainable Infrastructure and Long-term Investment – Evidence and Impact</p> <p><i>In OECD countries, investments are increasingly needed to upgrade or replace existing ageing infrastructures. In developing and emerging economies, economic development and rapid growth in urbanisation are similarly driving increasing demand for infrastructure. But despite widespread recognition of the need to increase the level of infrastructure investment, there has been relatively less attention on the importance of ensuring quality investments in infrastructure and to enhancing the sustainability of infrastructure investments, including the short- and long-term economic, environmental and social costs and benefits.</i></p> <p><i>In this way, financial and economic benefits can result from reduced use of materials (efficiency), improved pollution prevention, reduced carbon emissions, and better labour and community relations, balancing these objectives with economic prosperity and improved wellbeing. Providing economically efficient, safe and resilient, and sustainable infrastructure solutions can be a key contributor towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and for helping countries meet commitments to the Paris Agreement on climate change.</i></p> <p>Issues for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is meant by the term “sustainable infrastructure” in different communities (and can we agree on a common definition)? What are the environmental, social, and political dimensions of promoting sustainable infrastructure development? Are there higher costs associated with sustainability? What opportunities exist within cities to promote sustainable infrastructure development? • How do institutional investors approach investment in sustainable infrastructure? • How can policymakers more effectively engage with stakeholders to support more inclusive infrastructure development? Is knowledge sharing and building technical capacities enough? How is it best to ensure a coordinated response from the different policy stakeholders? <p>Lead speakers:</p> <p>Scott Kalb, Chairman, Sovereign Investor Institute</p> <p>Christina Mihai, Head of Prudential Regulation and International Affairs, Insurance Europe</p> <p>Philippe Zaouati, Chief Executive Officer, Mirova</p> <p>Eugene Zhuchenko, Executive Director, Long-term Infrastructure Investors’ Association</p>
16.00-16.45	<p>ROUND II: Financing Technology and Innovation – Implications for the Infrastructure Sector and Sustainability</p> <p><i>Part of the solution to building more efficient and sustainable infrastructure is investing in new technologies for the future. Such new investments have the potential to revolutionise the way that infrastructure is procured and how services are delivered, impacting how energy is generated and delivered to customers, as well as transforming transportation and industry. The importance of efficiency is a consistent theme in sustainability, both when considering the upgrade of existing infrastructures, and the construction of new.</i></p> <p><i>Large scale uptake of new technologies will therefore be key to meeting growing infrastructure needs, yet early-stage finance for technological innovation remains limited relative to venture capital, R&D, and growth capital financing in other sectors, due to often long development periods, high upfront costs, and uncertain commercialisation pathways. Financing for energy efficiency may also not be happening at the scale needed due to limited access to finance.</i></p> <p>Issues for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are key elements of innovation and technology necessary to build and improve the infrastructure of the future? How can technology enhance sustainability (including environmental and social impacts)? • What are the primary investment models being used to finance innovation and technology in energy, transportation, and other major infrastructure sectors? How can additional capital be mobilised for clean technologies? Are there issues in the private equity and venture capital models for raising further investment in clean technologies? How can new technologies be successfully commercialised and diffused? <p>Lead speakers:</p>

	<p>Diego Díaz Pilas, Head of Corporate Venture Capital, Iberdrola Ventures (tbc)</p> <p>Daniele Rizzolini, Director, Infrastructure, Ardian</p> <p>Martyna Kurcz-Jenn, Government Affairs and Policy Manager, GE Europe (tbc)</p>
16.45-17.00	Coffee Break
17.00-18.00	<p>SESSION III: Financing and Investing in Sustainable Infrastructure – Data Issues, Risk Management, Standards, and Financing Models</p> <p><i>Greater involvement of the private sector in infrastructure is essential to meet infrastructure needs, ensure a better allocation of risks, and introduce a more efficient and competitive market structure. As financial markets can support infrastructure in various ways, the challenge of mobilising greater private sector financing for sustainable infrastructure implies a better understanding of the relationship between the participants in infrastructure financing; mapping channels of investment for infrastructure allows for governments to focus their mobilisation efforts.</i></p> <p><i>The lack of consistent and comparable cross-country information on infrastructure investment has been an important barrier for more detailed empirical study of the dynamics in infrastructure financing markets, and to completing mapping exercises, which can include evaluating financial instruments, finance models, risk management and allocation, and sustainability standards.</i></p> <p><i>Policy and industry initiatives have been launched to try to get a better understanding of infrastructure investment at the macro and micro level using sources ranging from country budget offices and national accounts to commercial databases. Both financial and non-financial (qualitative) information on infrastructure projects helps to form a more transparent infrastructure market, and can also support sustainability in infrastructure projects.</i></p> <p>Issues for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there data and information available on infrastructure projects that help to link sustainability and resilience performance with financial performance? What are some major performance-based standards, rating systems and benchmarking initiatives for sustainability in infrastructure? • Do current financing models for infrastructure support further investment in sustainable infrastructure? What is the role of public, private, and philanthropic capital? • How can policymakers support the use of innovation and technology to support investment in sustainable infrastructure? How can they also promote investment in emerging countries? • How can countries support data collection and analysis for sustainable and quality infrastructure? What is the potential role of the OECD and the G20? <p>Lead speakers:</p> <p>Mar Beltran, Senior Director, S&P Infrastructure</p> <p>Fraser Hughes, Chief Executive Officer, Global Listed Infrastructure Organisation</p> <p>Christopher Heathcote, Chief Executive Officer, Global Infrastructure Hub</p> <p>Layth Irani, Managing Director, Infrastructure Transport, and Islamic Finance, SMBC</p>
18.00-19.15	Networking cocktail