

New initiative to deliver green finance for fintech launched

Berlin and Stockholm, 30th May 2017: A bold new venture to encourage green digital finance initiatives has been launched at the occasion of the G20 Green Invest symposium currently taking place in Berlin – [Stockholm Green Digital Finance](#).

The symposium, a critical part of the German G20 Presidency's drive to leverage emerging digital and financial technology to advance green finance, will see many new ventures launched with the Stockholm Green Finance Initiative being one of the trailblazers.

Meeting the UN's ambitious [Sustainable Development Goals](#) by the 2030 deadline requires trillions of dollars of private investment. Sustainable economies require solutions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency, fight climate change and reduce pollution. These present potential investment opportunities to investors. Yet, actual capital redeployment to deliver solutions to these urgent challenges remains limited.

The inherent risk and lack of transparency of the capital market structure present barriers to mobilize private investment at scale. Green digital finance is uniquely positioned to address specific barriers to deliver on the UN SDGs and provide sustained and sustainable growth.

Cecilia Repinski, Director of Stockholm Green Digital Finance explains how sustainable fintech is critical in meeting development goals: *"Green innovators need access to capital to scale their solutions. Two billion unbanked people in the world need access to banking services. Sustainable lifestyles need to scale. Green digital finance can address these needs. We have only just begun to scratch the surface of the potential and Stockholm Green Digital Finance will lead the way in exploring new initiatives to deliver sustainable capital to businesses and communities."*

"Stockholm Green Digital Finance will be a key component of the [Stockholm Fintech Hub](#), established earlier in 2017 to foster the fintech industry in Sweden. Stockholm Green Digital Finance will be run from the Stockholm Fintech Hub to practically demonstrate and facilitate policy dialogue around how green digital finance can facilitate the transition to inclusive and sustainable societies."

Matthew Argent, CEO at the Stockholm Fintech Hub points to Sweden's credentials both in fintech and green tech: *"Sweden is the ideal place for such an initiative both in terms of policy objectives and business culture. The Stockholm Fintech Hub is proud to be supporting such a vital new project."*



Simon Zadek, Co-Director of the UN Environment Inquiry outlined the critical international element of the initiative: *“The Green Digital Finance Alliance looks forward to partnering with Stockholm Green Digital Finance around practical use cases to help unleash the full potential of green finance internationally.”*

Fintech business are already working in collaboration with the new initiative as **Sofie Blakstad, CEO of [hiveonline](#)** explains: *“ We are a founder member of the Stockholm Fintech Hub and are committed to putting our blockchain technology to work in advancing inclusive and sustainable societies. We will work with Stockholm Green Digital Finance to test new solutions and help make their ambition a reality.”*

Cecilia Repinski concludes: *“We have just thirteen years to deliver on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and green finance has to be a part of this. Our initiative will lead the way in channelling green finance through fintech.”*

Ends

Notes to Editors

[GreenInvest](#) was established at the G20 Leaders Summit in Los Cabos, Mexico, in 2013 to accelerate investment in green priorities in developing countries. Since then, green finance has risen up the agenda of both policymakers and markets. GreenInvest has been re-launched under the German G20 Presidency to strengthen the connection between green finance momentum and the insights, innovations and needs of developing countries. It aims to become the G20 platform for promoting policy dialogue, leadership and public-private initiatives with and for developing countries in advancing the mobilization and mainstreaming of green finance in the context of broader sustainable development objectives. GreenInvest is financially supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the UN Environment Inquiry.

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