

Green Finance Opportunities in ASEAN

Mr. Mikkel Bilyk Larsen, Managing Director, Chief Sustainability Officer of DBS

Wednesday, 11 April 2018
3.00 pm to 4.00pm
ESI Conference Room
29 Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Block A, #10-01, Singapore 119620

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Synopsis

A Report by the United Nations Environmental Agency (UNEP) and DBS estimated that a total of US\$3 trillion in ASEAN is required over the next 15 years to transition to a low-carbon global economy. The investment needs cannot be filled by public finances alone. Private finance, particularly from large financial institutions, are critical to ensure the adequate capital flows to key low-carbon sectors. Since the Paris accord, there has been significant advances in the global momentum in green finance.

Being one of Singapore's largest banks, DBS recognizes its role in shaping the green finance agenda early on. To date, DBS is seen as the frontrunner in green finance in the domestic market. In 2017 DBS issued a green bond in 2017. DBS also played an active role in bringing a Women's Livelihood Bond - the world's first social sustainability bond to be listed on a stock exchange - to fruition. DBS is the only Southeast Asian bank who have signed to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

In this seminar, Mr. Larsen will shed some light on the regional challenges and opportunities for green finance, given that ASEAN remains a relatively nascent market. In addition, Mr. Larsen is also expected to share his experience on aligning sustainability considerations in the broader corporate strategy.

About the Speaker



Mr. Larsen is Managing Director, Chief Sustainability Officer of DBS. In recent years, DBS has been strengthening its sustainability agenda in various ways. In July 2017, the Bank was the first financial institution in Singapore to issue a green bond to support the financing of green assets. It was the sole bookrunner of Singapore's first corporate green bond in April 2017. As an affirmation of its commitment to sustainability, DBS was also the first Singapore bank to be included as an index constituent of the FTSE4Good Global Index in 2017, making it one of 8 Singapore-listed companies to be globally recognised for its Environmental, Social and Governance practices.

Prior to joining DBS, he was CFO for Asia Pacific in UBS from 2009 to 2012, covering Investment Bank, Wealth Management and Asset Management. He was previously the Asia Pacific Head of Accounting Policy and location controller for Hong Kong at UBS. Mr. Larsen has also worked in Citigroup in London and KPMG in London and Denmark.