



Green investments – How to access capital from the international markets? On a path towards circular economy and carbon sink solutions

Arctic Values



Workshop

Workshop language: English

Workshop participation requirements: No specific prerequisites

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Companies, municipalities and cities in Finland seek continuously innovative solutions to set highest standards in technology, research and business development. These pursuits are more and more in line with goals for ecological protection, tackling climate change impacts and overall strong performances in terms of sustainability. Despite the many good ideas in Finland to move towards circular economy and carbon footprint reductions, one major challenge is the access to capital to finance green projects and to bring the great ideas from the peoples' minds to implementation in the regions and inside the companies.

This workshop is designed to widen the perspectives of solutions to get access to green capital from the international markets to finance green projects. The global investment community is interested for various reasons to head towards green investments, amongst others to reduce their risks, to gain positive marketing effects for their ventures and many have understood that green projects allow good return on investments. These developments are opportunities for Finnish actors to rely not only on foundations and project funds, such as Horizon 2020, but issuing green financial products and realize green housing plans, energy-efficient production of goods, low-carbon footprints and green technologies with capital from private investors.

The particular workshop sessions include the basics of international finance. It is beneficial to understand how financial products, like shares and bonds work and how it is possible to utilize them. More specifically international market places, like stock exchanges and trading schemes are explained with simple examples. Green financial instruments, such as climate bonds, green funds and others are important elements of the workshop and it will be discussed how they have succeeded already on other markets in Europe and in a global context. Workshop participants do not need necessarily a background in economics or finance. The content orientates particularly to the Finnish context and its corporations, municipalities and cities.



Program:

Schedule	
<p>12 – 13.30 90 minutes</p>	<p>Green finance introduction – conventional & green investments Business development in the high North</p> <p>Green investments – A financial resource to realize circular economy projects in Finland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial market places (Luxembourg, NY, Singapore, Helsinki) - Green market growth - Climate bonds, green funds, green capital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Case studies (amongst others): Kuntarahoitus (MuniFin) City of Gothenburg - Issuance of a green financial product! Planning, time-span, interest rates, trading, bondholders and other elements - Social and environmental impact bonds (SIBs & EIBs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Case studies: Sitra’s EIBs Unites States SIBs <p>Discussion round</p>
Break – 20 minutes	Networking – Individual questions and discussion
<p>13.50 – 15.20 90 minutes</p>	<p>Developing an ESG-report to attract investors? (Environmental, Social, Governance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translation of innovations, business ideas to elements and factors that investors are looking for - ESG reporting standards, rankings and scorecards - Sustainability indices and being visible on the global markets - What belongs to an ESG report and what not? - ESG-concept as tool to exercise sustainable marketing <p>Discussion round</p>
Break – 20 minutes	Networking – Individual questions and discussion
<p>15.40 – 17.00 80 minutes</p>	<p>ESG-reporting and carbon sink/ circular economy projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Case studies (International examples to this day) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Forestry Criteria of the Climate Bonds Standard - Specific look at potentials to combine green finance, ESG and sustainable forestry - Green investment solutions to other carbon reduction solutions (e.g. CCS, bioenergy) <p>Discussion round and wrap-up of event</p>