

Media release

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Agriculture & Forestry Industry Working Group launched - big businesses and banks tasked with advising on practicality of the Climate Bond AFOLU Standard.

Expert committee includes representatives from World Bank, Credit Suisse, IADB, Rabobank and more

London 19 March 2015 - Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Industry Working Group was set up and held its first meeting. It will support the work of the AFOLU science expert committee that was launched in 2014 to develop eligibility criteria for climate bonds that can be certified under the [Climate Bonds Agriculture & Forestry Standard](#). Climate Bonds Standard is a FairTrade-like labeling scheme for bonds that allows investors to easily prioritise 'climate-smart' investments.

Made up of banks and big businesses, the Industry Working Group is tasked with ensuring that proposals developed by the science committee are practical, easy to use and applicable across a number of key investment areas under the sector.

The IWG includes representatives from Credit Suisse, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Rabobank, Banorte, ADM (one of the world's largest agricultural processors and food ingredient providers), Hassad Food Company, Olam (one of the world's largest agriculture businesses operating from seed to shelf in 65 countries), Hancock Natural Resource Group (one of the world's largest asset managers of forestry and agriculture investments), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and many more.

The UNFCCC has estimated that globally, about USD 14 billion will be required in 2030 to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change in the Agriculture, Food and Forestry sectors - slightly more than half of this will be needed for developing countries alone. Other estimates suggest that between USD 7 billion and 7.6 billion are required per year for adaptation measures.

Sean Kidney, CEO of the Climate Bonds Initiative said: "The end-goal of this initiative is to catalyze increased investment, by both private and public bodies, in mitigation, adaptation and resilience interventions in Agriculture and Forestry. Looking for ways of doing that in a commercially viable way that will support bond issuance is one of the things we'd like to tackle through this particular committee."

Working group lead expert Tania Havemann said: "The purpose of this group is to explore the opportunities around the AFOLU Sector for bond issuance. We need to explore where the industry sees the priorities and what sectors might be most interested in terms of potential bond issuance."

Chris Brown from Olam said: "We're definitely interested to see how this can be turned from an idea into reality and to explore which areas of the business it could add value for." Tim McGavin from Laguna Bay added: 'The farmers in Australia get the environmental challenges but most of them don't have resources to invest in technology – so there is a huge potential application here'.

Esben Brandt from Quantum Global Alternative shared his thoughts by saying: 'Climate bonds are an opportunity that could be very relevant for the African perspective'. We also heard from Cristiano Oliveira from Fibria: 'We are very interested in what the financial mechanisms could look like when sustainability aspects are taken into account.'

The Climate Bonds Standard for Agriculture & Forestry is being developed on the back of strong investor interest in sustainable investments of which evidence came during the UN Climate Summit where [investors managing \\$24 trillion of assets](#) came together and called on governments to quickly address climate change.

John Tobin, Global Head of Sustainability at Credit Suisse commenting on the bank's involvement in the AFOLU Standard development said: 'Focusing on sustainability does not mean looking only at risks but also opportunities. More and more, we're finding ourselves on the opportunity side of things and green bonds, climate & environmental bonds are of particular interest to us. So when the opportunity to support the development of the AFOLU Standard development came round we were delighted and look forward to making a meaningful contribution for the sector and business.'

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For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

Rozalia Walencik, Communication, rozalia@climatebonds.net +44 207 749 2264, +44 772 382 8954,

About Climate Bonds Initiative: The Climate Bonds Initiative is an investor-focused not-for-profit. It is the only organization in the world focusing on mobilizing the USD 100 trillion bond market for climate change solutions. www.climatebonds.net [@ClimateBonds](#)

Climate Bonds Standards and Certification Scheme – Climate Bonds Standard is a screening tool for investors and governments which allows them to easily prioritize climate and green bonds with confidence that the funds are being used to deliver climate change solutions. It is co-ordinated through the work of dedicated working groups, overseen by a Climate Bond Standards Board representing \$32 trillion of assets under management. www.climatebonds.net/standards

Members of the Industry Working Group:

- Ali bin Mohamed, [Hassad Food Company](#)
- Brian Kernohan, Director of Policy & Environmental Advocacy, [Hancock Natural Resource Group](#)
- Chris Brown, General Manager for Environmental Sustainability, [Olam](#)
- Cristiano Oliveira, Sustainability Consultant, [Fibria](#)
- Esben Brandi, Head of Timberland, [Quantum Global](#)
- Fabian Huwyler, Vice President, Sustainability Affairs, Credit Suisse
- Hans Biemans, Head Sustainability, Markets, Rabobank
- Jason Green from ECOM
- John Simpson, Vice President, [Duxton Asset Management](#)
- John Tobin, Global Head of Sustainability, [Credit Suisse](#)
- Justin Sherrard, Global Stretegist, Rabobank
- Karla Carnavan, Commercial Director, [Bunge](#)
- Katalin Solymosi, Sustainable Land Use Associate, [Inter-American Development Bank \(IADB\)](#)
- Lara Jacob, Director of Corporate Engagement, TNC
- Mads Aspren, CEO, Green Resources
- Marc Sadler, Adviser, Agricultural Risk and Markets, Agriculture Global Practice, World Bank
- Marcos Mancini, Director, Sustainable Banking, [Banorte](#)
- Michiel Hendriksz, Director of Sustainability, [ADM](#)
- Olli Haltia, Dasos
- Robert-Carl van Koppen, Director, [Form Valuations](#)
- Tim McGavin, CEO, [Laguna Bay](#)
- Timm Tennigkeit, Managing Director, [UNIQUE Forestry and land use](#)