



SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY  
FINANCE  
INITIATIVE

# The UNEP-SEFI Public Finance Alliance

A document to support the establishment of  
an international platform for managers of  
public and publicly backed funds dedicated  
to building sustainable energy markets





## Table of Contents

Introduction	5
<b>SECTION I</b>	<b>THE SEFI PUBLIC FINANCE ALLIANCE</b>
	About the SEF Alliance
	The value of an Alliance
	First of its kind
	The relative costs and benefits of participation
	The CESA model
	Activities and services
	Governance, structure and funding
<b>SECTION II</b>	<b>PUBLIC FINANCE MECHANISMS TO CATALYSE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SECTOR GROWTH</b>
	Public finance mechanisms
	The sustainable energy public finance environment
<b>SECTION III</b>	<b>STAGES OF FINANCING AND AREAS FOR COLLABORATION</b>
	Technology innovation
	Market rollout
	Deploying technologies at scale
	Industrial energy efficiency and energy saving
	End-user finance
	Public-private partnerships
	Joint research projects
	Impact assessment, project monitoring, and programme evaluation
	Joint marketing campaigns
	Steps forward
<b>SECTION IV</b>	<b>EXAMPLES OF RELEVANT FINANCING ENTITIES</b>
	CARBON TRUST
	General overview
	Programmes
	Spotlights
	SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IRELAND
	General overview
	Programmes
	Spotlight on the home and buildings approach
	SENTERNOVEM
	General overview
	Energy and climate change programmes
	Spotlight on the Green Funds Scheme
	THE FINNISH APPROACH
	Sitra
	Tekes
	Ministry of Trade and Industry
	WHAT CAN BE LEARNED?
Conclusion	69
Abbreviations	70





# Introduction

This document has been prepared in conjunction with the 2008 launch of the SEFI Public Finance Alliance (or “SEF Alliance”). The purpose of the report is: 1) to consolidate relevant information about the initiative - its structure, activities, prospective members, and the contribution it can make to the development of global sustainable energy markets; and 2) to demonstrate - via concrete examples of innovative actions - some of the synergies among the relevant programmes of prospective member agencies around the world, as well as the potential net benefits that these agencies can receive from participation.

The target audience of this report is officials who manage public money dedicated to building sustainable energy markets. The document should serve as a tool for these officials to become more familiar with the SEF Alliance, as well as with the programmes of some of their sibling agencies around the world. It should help them begin to consider ways in which they could become more effective, both individually and collectively, at building sustainable energy markets through exchange, collaboration, and the pooling of resources with international peer agencies. This includes ways to improve the cost-effectiveness of individual programmes by partnering with other agencies on common goals and challenges, as well as the potential to learn from the experience of peer agencies in other countries, and to think about the possibility of replicating successful approaches within their own regional contexts. The report aims also to show the role that the SEF Alliance can play in making these things possible.

The report is structured as follows. Section I gives an overview of the SEF Alliance, including its envisioned purpose, structure, activities and value. Section II offers a summary of the types of public finance mechanisms that are relevant for the envisioned focus of the initiative. Section III provides an overview of the stages of financing sustainable energy, once again highlighting key and successful financing mechanisms, providing a basis for considering possible areas for collaboration and exchange. Section IV gives a more in-depth presentation of four agencies, their priorities and programmes. References to innovative financing mechanisms appear within the various contexts of sections 2, 3 and 4, reflecting the important role that these play in public sector funding and to the SEF Alliance.





# SECTION I

## The SEFI Public Finance Alliance

This section gives an overview of the SEF Alliance as an international platform targeting managers of public or publicly backed funds dedicated to building sustainable energy markets. The section describes the structure of the initiative, its initial activities and scope of work, the unique role that it can play within the global sustainable energy arena, the value it offers to prospective members, and how it can help achieve global energy targets.

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