

Issues Note on Regional Chapters

1. Objectives

As announced in the 2nd GIP Plenary Meeting, the GIP looks to set up regional chapters in a few key regions along the Belt and Road, including in Central Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and other regions, in a staggered timeline, as a part of the GIP Vision 2023. Chapters will be hosted in one country but serve a broader region.

GIP Regional Chapters would seek to:

- Engage with local stakeholders for infrastructure investments, including public and private sector players, as well as local community and civil societies.
- Develop regional finance roadmaps to align private investors and catalytic public capital behind preparation and procurement of green projects.
- Disseminate tools and methodologies for climate and environmental risk analysis and management by the GIP working groups, and best practices in implementation and green investments.
- Cultivate regional networks to build capacity among local financial institutions and project owners/ developers, amplifying the reach and impact of GIP-championed approaches.

2. Progress and Work Plans

2.1. Central Asia

The GIP Central Asia Chapter is chaired by Mr. Yaseen Anwar and supported by AIFC Green Finance Centre (GFC). Since the last plenary meeting, the chapter's focus pivoted heavily to Kyrgyzstan, while the following key activities were carried out in 2022-2023:

- Webinar on CERAT tool within the World Investor Week, October 4, 2022
- First Kyrgyzstan Green Investment Forum, November 23, 2022 (Bishkek, hybrid)
- Two meetings of the Advisory Council of the GIP regional office (on November 23, 2022 (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, hybrid) and on June 6th, 2023 (Astana, Kazakhstan, hybrid)
- A thematic offline GIP panel session within Astana Finance Days ("The Future of ESG Reporting") held on June 7th, 2023.

Given the importance of providing tangible support to regulators and governments of Central Asia in developing and adopting the frameworks on sustainable finance GFC will continue supporting Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in their process of taxonomy adoption or sustainable finance instruments framework on national exchange, including any advisory assistance required.

- October 2023: Separate promotional session within a larger event
- November-December 2023: Standalone workshop on PCAF or Environmental risk analysis best practices (tentatively)
- November 2023: CA Advisory Council meeting.

The Chapter will also continue working with targeted potential GIP signees/observers or supporting members from the region and securing 1 potential GIP institution by next year and ensure 10 regional green projects included to the GIP Green Project Database.

2.2. Africa

The GIP Africa Chapter was officially launched on Nov 8, during COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. Co-chaired by Hendrik du Toit, Founder and CEO of Ninety One and Brahim Benjelloun-Touimi, Group Director and General Manager at Bank of Africa BMCE Group.

Key objectives include:

- To identify a transition roadmap for Africa, with the solutions required, and successful case studies which private sector can play in driving real economy transition.
- To build on the G20 transition paper and further develop an EM transition finance and investment framework that suits Africa to help channel capital into the much-needed sectors/areas based on collective thinking and work
- To strategically leverage the cross regions connectivity and initiatives from UK, Asia/China, Africa, and ME
- To develop targeted capacity building programs for investors, corporates and policy makers

On May 22, 2023, it held its Inaugural Advisory Board Meeting in London as side event during the City of London Net Zero Delivery Summit. The event convened key various stakeholders and representatives of emerging markets to discuss key topics related to green and transition finance challenges and opportunities in Africa. Proposed actions include developing a transition finance framework, exploring aligned financial products, and enhancing institutional capacity.

On July 27, 2023, in partnership with Casablanca Finance City, The GIP Africa Chapter held its first Capacity building webinar dedicated to “*Transition finance in Africa: Understanding the opportunities, needs and challenges*” as part of its COP 28 webinar series.

Key Deliverables:

- Develop a realistic, localized, and real economy ‘transition’ messaging and investment framework for EM/Africa for 3 buckets of investors, building on Mercer’s work (at COP28)

- Bring together innovation and 'first deals' to illustrate the transition framework – such as a First deals of Transition bonds/loans/funds
- Holding Capacity building webinars on transition finance based on the framework, (Ideally 2-3? Please provide number)
- Continue engagement with strategic stakeholders and expand the membership base in Africa
- Collaborating with GIP working groups and other external initiatives wherever necessary on key topics including transition finance, nature, etc.

2.3. Southeast Asia (in preparation)

The Southeast Asia Chapter will be announced at the 5th Plenary Meeting and formally launched in Q4 2023. The Chapter will be chaired by Ibu Mari Pangestu, former Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships at World Bank, and co-chaired by Mr. Rino Donosepoetro, Vice Chairman, ASEAN and President Commissioner Indonesia, Standard Chartered Bank.

Proposed working priorities include taxonomy, energy transition, and transition finance, while the working mechanisms and plans will be further elaborated at a later stage after the Plenary.

3. Questions for discussion

- Do you agree with the planning of the Regional Chapters?
- Do you approve the establishment of the Southeast Asia Chapter and the designation of personnel?