

CONNECTING CAPITAL TO IMPACT

Mobilising Institutional Investment for the SDGs



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Schweizerisches Generalkonsulat in Frankfurt a.M.

BACKGROUND

On 9th September 2025, the SDG Impact Finance Initiative (SIFI) organised an evening event at the Consulate general of Switzerland in Frankfurt, with the generous support and hospitality of the Consul general, Dr. Erik Jakob.

The event addressed the persistent barriers preventing large-scale institutional investment into sustainable development. While global capital markets have increasingly embraced sustainability, institutional capital often remains held back by structural frictions such as illiquidity, limited exit options, and high transaction costs.

Frankfurt — Germany's leading financial centre with its strong concentration of institutional investors, regulators, and sustainability experts — provided the ideal setting for this gathering, which explored practical pathways to bridge these gaps and accelerate flows of capital to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



HIGHLIGHTS

The event opened with welcome remarks from **Dr. Erik Jakob, Consul general of Switzerland in Frankfurt**, followed by an introduction to SIFI's mission and approach by **Lena-Katharina Gerdes, Program Manager at SIFI**.

A total of 13 concise investment pitches were delivered by organisations from SIFI's Innovation and Investment Windows. Each showcased institutionally relevant, SDG-aligned opportunities spanning climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, inclusive finance, livelihoods, education, and nature-based solutions.

The interactive marketplace format proved highly effective. Participants engaged in dynamic exchanges, follow-up discussions, and networking throughout the evening, turning formal pitches into active conversations on unlocking capital for scalable solutions. To explore the investment opportunities showcased and other initiatives supported by SIFI, we invite you to visit our portfolio at <https://www.sdgimpactfinance.org/portfolio>

The event was attended by a full house of guests from Frankfurt's leading private financial institutions, family offices, foundations, and development finance organisations as well as SIFI's CEO Guillaume Bonnel.



NEXT STEPS

The positive reception of this inaugural event in Frankfurt confirmed the value of combining interactive pitching formats with curated institutional networking. SIFI will build on this momentum by:

- Facilitating follow-up conversations between investors and presenting organisations
- Continuing to develop and support innovative investment structures that address barriers such as liquidity, risk perception, and transaction costs
- Replicating this event format in other financial centres across Europe to strengthen dialogue between capital providers and scalable solutions

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SIFI extends its gratitude to the Consulate general of Switzerland in Frankfurt for its generous support and hospitality, and in particular to Dr. Erik Jakob for his leadership and personal engagement in making the event a success.

We also warmly thank the participating organisations from our portfolio for their high-quality pitches, and all guests from Frankfurt's financial community whose contributions and exchanges enriched the discussions



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The SDG Impact Finance Initiative (SIFI) is an international platform that mobilises catalytic capital to unlock private investment in emerging and developing economies. Through its three-window model, SIFI drives blended finance solutions deploying catalytic capital, fuelling innovation, and strengthening ecosystems to ensure finance delivers for both people and planet.

We partner with governments, foundations, and investors to enable capital to flow with scale, confidence, and integrity delivering measurable impact and sustainable returns, while supporting long-term international economic development.

www.sdgimpactfinance.org