

## **\$2B Investments Programme to Support Growth of Green Finance in Singapore**

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**GIP to invest in public market investment strategies that have a strong green focus to support the Singapore financial centre in promoting environmentally sustainable projects to mitigate climate change risks in Singapore and the region**



The Singapore FinTech Festival (SFF) and the Singapore Week of Innovation and TeCHnology (SWITCH) has come together for the first time as SFF x SWITCH. Running from 11 to 15 November, this event has gathered the global innovation and business community in Singapore.

The inaugural SFF x SWITCH featured innovative technologies across five key sectors –FinTech, Urban Solutions and Sustainability, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering, and Services and Digital Services to catalyse cross-industry exchange and learning in technology adoption, application of R&D, and commercialisation of new solutions.

Organised by MAS in partnership with The Association of Banks in Singapore and in collaboration with SingEx Holdings, the Singapore FinTech Festival (SFF) is the world's largest FinTech festival and a global platform for the FinTech community to connect, collaborate, and co-create with one another.

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) announced on 11 Nov 2019, that it has set up a US\$2 billion green investments programme (GIP) to invest in public market investment strategies that have a strong green focus. This will help to support the Singapore financial centre in promoting environmentally sustainable projects and mitigating climate change risks in Singapore and the region.

The GIP is a major prong of the green finance action plan announced by Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister of Education, and Board Member, MAS at the 2019 Singapore FinTech Festival (SFF) x Singapore Week of Innovation and TeCHnology (SWITCH). The GIP aims to foster the growth of a strong and diverse ecosystem of green financing capabilities in Singapore.

MAS will place funds with asset managers who are committed to driving regional green efforts out of Singapore and contribute to MAS' other green finance initiatives including developing green markets and managing environmental risks.

Selected managers will be those who have demonstrated a firm commitment to deepening their green investment capabilities across functions such as research, stewardship, policy and portfolio management, accelerate local capability transfers, and increase the management of green-focused funds in Singapore. We are also looking for managers who can demonstrate their capabilities in incorporating environmental considerations into their investment process and actively directing capital towards investments that have a better green profile. The green capabilities and experience of the team managing the strategies will be a key part of the evaluation. The deep engagement with these asset managers will help to further the development of Singapore's green financing ecosystem, as well as strengthen MAS' understanding of climate change risks and to better position MAS' own investment portfolio for long-term sustainable returns.

MAS' first investment under the GIP will be a US\$100m placement in the Bank for International Settlements (BIS)' Green Bond Investment Pool (GBIP). Together with other participating central banks, MAS hopes that this initiative will help catalyse further deepening of the green bond market