

European Association of Public Banks

European Association of Public Banks and Funding Agencies AISBL

Public Banks Drive Green Transition Through Innovative Export Finance Strategies

Brussels, December 04 – The recently concluded high-level event by the European Association of Public Banks (<u>EAPB</u>) on public import/export financing for a sustainable transition marked a significant milestone in highlighting the pivotal role of public banks in steering the global economy towards sustainability. As major providers of export finance, public banks, demonstrated a steadfast commitment to facilitating significant green and sustainable investments, aligning with the objectives of the European Green Deal, with the aim of accelerating and enabling change, innovation, and growth.

Distinguished high-level decision makers, including Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, OECD Deputy Secretary-General, and Mr. Antonio Fernández-Martos, Head of Unit, Multilateral Affairs and WTO, DG Trade, led a dynamic panel discussion at the conference. They were joined by Mr. Philippe Mills, CEO of SFIL, France, and Piotr Jablonski, Managing Director at BGK, Poland, who emphasized the successful convergence of regulators and export financers. The discussion focused on addressing regulatory and financial architecture gaps, highlighting the crucial role of public banks in financing and mitigating financial risks, while championing green exports and investments. The panel discussion was expertly moderated by Ms. Kira Taylor, guiding the conversation with insightful questions and ensuring a comprehensive exploration of the topics at hand.

Public banks demonstrated their adaptability in response to the evolving global financial landscape. Assessing the impact of current geopolitical tensions on trade, green growth, and the demand for export insurance and credits in light of inflation has become crucial. Public banks are actively engaged in evaluating the effects of geopolitical tensions on their products and services. The collaborative efforts highlighted at the conference underscored a shared vision for a seamless transition towards a more sustainable future.

Selected pictures of the EAPB event are accessible here

For media inquiries, please contact us here

About the European Association of Public Banks (EAPB): EAPB is the voice of the European public banking sector. EAPB represents directly and indirectly over 90 financial institutions with overall total assets of over € 3.500 bn and 15% market share of the European financial sector. EAPB members are national and regional promotional banks, municipality funding agencies and public commercial banks across Europe. EAPB members provide financial services and funding for projects that support sustainable economic and social development with, amongst others, activities ranging from the funding of companies and the promotion of a greener economy to the financing of social housing, health care, education and public infrastructure at national, regional and local level.