

Global Sustainable Infrastructure Label Officially Launched at Davos, Backed by Leading Financial Institutions

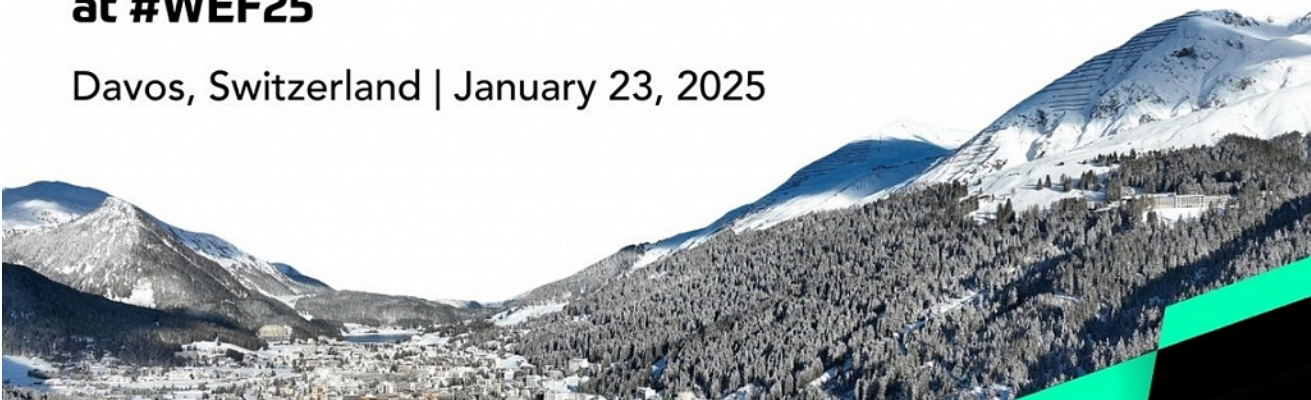


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Launch of the FAST-Infra Label at #WEF25

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On January 23, 2025 Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB) and Bloomberg L.P. (Bloomberg) announce the official launch of the FAST-Infra Label, a first-of-its kind globally applicable labelling system designed to evaluate the sustainability and resilience performance of infrastructure projects. Now accessible to all via the FAST-Infra Label Application Portal, the Label will help unlock much-needed finance for sustainable infrastructure projects and help close the estimated USD 15 trillion investment gap projected by 2040.

Investors see the clear importance and value of sustainable infrastructure investment. By developing a global framework, interoperable across regions, asset types and project stages, the Label creates the consistency and data availability that the market has long needed. Now, investors can more easily and quickly determine projects to which they can deploy capital, manage risk and support sustainable infrastructure to meet global decarbonization goals.

The FAST-Infra Application Portal, built and operated from a technical perspective by Bloomberg, acts as the central repository for all project-related data - supporting the FAST-Infra Label's aim of creating consistency and comparability for project submission data and evaluation across companies, industries and geographies. It will streamline the submission of data from projects, facilitate the application for the Label by allowing verifiers to evaluate projects, and improve investor access to decision-critical information.

Infrastructure projects have already begun to apply for the FAST-Infra Self Assessed Label. With the Application Portal now live, projects around the world will be able to use the platform to submit applications and engage third-party verifiers to apply for a FAST-Infra Verified Label, helping to scale and accelerate sustainable investment globally.

Louis Downing, CEO of GIB said: "We are delighted to be launching the FAST-Infra Label. There is clear investor appetite to deploy more capital in sustainable infrastructure as governments around the world work to reach their net zero goals and build resilience in their existing real assets. Together with Bloomberg, we look forward to having investors, project and portfolio

managers engage with the Label and Application Portal, enabling standardized climate impact assessment to effectively measure and deliver meaningful sustainability outcomes."

James Hook, Head of Data at Bloomberg, said: "This is a milestone for the sustainable infrastructure asset class. Building consistency through a commonly accepted, consistent framework based on sophisticated, high-quality data sets, the FAST-Infra Label is a much-needed solution for infrastructure investors and managers. Harnessing our expertise at the intersection of data and the financial markets, we have worked closely with the FAST-Infra Group to build a framework for developing high-quality data that investors can trust ? unlocking sustainable investment decisions and ultimately helping to close the immense climate financing gap."

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About the Label

The FAST-Infra Label is a private-sector-led initiative, founded in early 2020 under the auspices of the One Planet Summit. It has been led by major financial institutions and global organizations including HSBC, Macquarie, Meridiam, Climate Policy Initiative, International Finance Corporation, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank Group's Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF). More than 200 organisations from across the infrastructure markets have been involved in the initial development of the Label.?

The FAST-Infra Group was created to accelerate the work carried out by this initial multi-stakeholder effort. In 2022, the FAST-Infra Group selected the Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation for the Secretariat and Bloomberg as Data Repository developer to accelerate the development and widespread usage of the Label.

Building on the work of over 55 existing standards, frameworks and taxonomies, the Label harnesses trusted technology and infrastructure expertise to bridge the gap between the wide range of sustainable labels and frameworks that currently co-exist in the market to present a consolidated and reliable source for investors. ?

Project sponsors and developers can use the Label to integrate best practice in ESG aspects during the project lifecycle, to signal the sustainability of the project and attract capital. Investors can apply the Label framework to develop sustainable infrastructure deal origination, decrease risks in screening and streamline disclosure processes.

Projects apply against a framework of 14 criteria spanning four 'dimensions' of sustainability: Environmental, Social, Governance, and Adaptation and Resilience - and investors can use the Label to demonstrate their own financing projects tangibly meet these measurements.

Thierry Déau, Founder and CEO of Meridiam, and the Chairman of the FAST-Infra Group, said: "The FAST-Infra Label makes a fundamental contribution to the future of sustainable infrastructure because it brings transparency comparability, thereby enabling the scale-up of sustainable infrastructure. Today, we have multiple mechanisms that assess climate impact in infrastructure assets ? but this Label creates a single, simple way of identifying sustainability features into infrastructure, allowing more investors, globally, to deploy capital effectively and push this agenda forward."

Barbara Buchner, Global Managing Director of Climate Policy Initiative, said: "To attract more institutional investment in sustainable infrastructure, we must enhance standards and metrics that enable robust risk management and clearly demonstrate the long-term benefits of quality infrastructure projects. The FAST-Infra Label has great potential to drive harmonization and consistency in the successful delivery of climate investments in the infrastructure space."

Marcos Marinez, Head of PPP Advisor Unit at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, said: ?On receiving the Self Assessed Label, we can demonstrate to companies that the project they want to invest in has undergone a high level of due diligence in the environmental, social, and governance dimensions."

Edith Guedella Bustamante, Head of Sustainability, Acciona, said: "The FAST-Infra Label aligns with Acciona's sustainability

strategy, enabling us to claim positive contributions. For one of our projects, which earned the Self Assessed Label, we claimed positive contributions in five criteria during the construction phase. Embedding these criteria early in the project will further enhance its lifecycle and long-term impact."