

The Knowledge and Research Pillar

Suggested topics

1. SMEs and financial inclusion

- PDBs' financial and non-financial instruments for entrepreneurship and innovative projects (direct and indirect).
- Financing innovation, including technology adoption.
- Public development banks' financial solutions for micro enterprises.
- Financial and non-financial solutions developed by PDBs to improve access to financing for women owned SMEs.
- More access to capital at different stages of the life of the firm (regardless the use of funds), focusing more on small, young and women-owned enterprises.
- PDBs' experiences in market development to enhance SMEs' access to finance.
- Innovative mechanisms to increase financing for social investment projects.
- PDBs business strategies to support diverse and marginalised communities.
- Role of PDBs in fostering clean energy transformation.
- Role of PDBs in incubating and scaling up green bond markets and sustainable development bonds.
- Financial inclusion experiences by PDBs – best practices and lessons learned. Examples might include:
 - Tools to help SMEs decarbonise,
 - Digitalisation / industry 4.0,
 - Scaling up mid-sized firms and internationalisation of SMEs.
- PDBs role and solutions offered to support MSMEs in their journey to sustainability.
- Governance models to effectively embed sustainability into PDBs' policies, procedures and offerings

2. Climate and biodiversity

- Role of PDBs to scale up finance for biodiversity and bioeconomy in the context of the COP 15.
- PDBs strategies to catalyze public and private finance for climate adaptation and resilience.
- Helping public development banks navigate the "Paris alignment" approaches
- PDBs role in the circular economy and the decarbonisation of industries.
- PDBs catalytic and transformative role in Just Energy Transition.
- Climate and biodiversity finance: tools, instruments, concessional finance, and performance.

- Blended finance strategies for closing the financial gap to address climate change.
- Assessing potential for public-public collaborations for enhanced biodiversity (e.g., among PDBs and among PDBs and public sector services)
- Initiatives and Programs developed by PDBs that contribute to food security.
- Innovative financial tools that increase access to financing for agricultural actors and sustainable value chains.

3. Sustainable infrastructure

- The role of PDBs financing sustainable infrastructure: cases and lessons.
- PDBs role structuring infrastructure projects: the role of project preparation funds.
- PDBs endeavours in syndication platforms and portfolio approaches to mobilise institutional investors at scale.
- PDBs de-risking tools to increase investments in Sustainable Infrastructures through public-private partnerships (PPPs).
- PDBs de-risking private investment in new energy industries: the case of green hydrogen.
- Infrastructure and PPP projects at the subnational level: Key risks and role of PDBs.
- Public-public collaborations for sustainable infrastructure.
- PDBs and their financing role in advancing just transitions.

4. Public Development Banks' institutional agenda

- Role and potential of PDBs in the sustainable transformation of the global financial system.
- Forms and roles of PDB governance models in advancing finance for green and just transitions (domestically; bi-laterally; multilaterally).
- Reform of the multilateral financing system: challenges and opportunities for PDBs.
- Strategic partnerships between MDBs and Strategic partnerships between MDBs and NDBs: how to make the on lending from MDBs to NDBs work better?
- How can MDBs scale up their local-currency lending to mitigate balance-of-payment problems for host countries?
- Effective partnerships between PDBs and development agencies for transformative outcomes.
- PDBs guidelines and methodologies for the institutional alignment with the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals.
- What are appropriate financial regulatory framework for PDBs to incentivize them to fulfill their mandates while ensuring financial soundness?
- What are appropriate financial instruments (loans, guarantees, equity investments, and grants) for PDBs to address market failures?
- Halfway to the 2030 Agenda: PDBs' achievements and the challenges ahead.
- Institutional road ahead for better regulation, mandates, funding sources and governance of PDBs.
- How to take into account PDBs specificities and increase their financial capacity (regulation, capital adequacy, local currency, ...)?
- Countercyclical role of PDBs and PDB instruments: what trends in an inflation and credit contraction context?
- What are some of the most promising practices of PDBs, and what should they be aiming for?

- PDBs development programs: deep dive on impact measurement.
- Addressing the needs of PDBs to develop effective impact assessment.
- Using innovative data analysis to measure impact, including big data, artificial intelligence, and machine learning methods.
- Technical assistance for PDBs' sustainable transformation.
- PDBs and their role in improving social justice and human right conditions.
- How can we better measure PDB impact through the use of innovative data analysis, such as big data, artificial intelligence, and machine learning methods?
How can these technologies contribute to achieve the SDGs more effectively?