## ESG:

## Market development and disclosure standards in Colombia

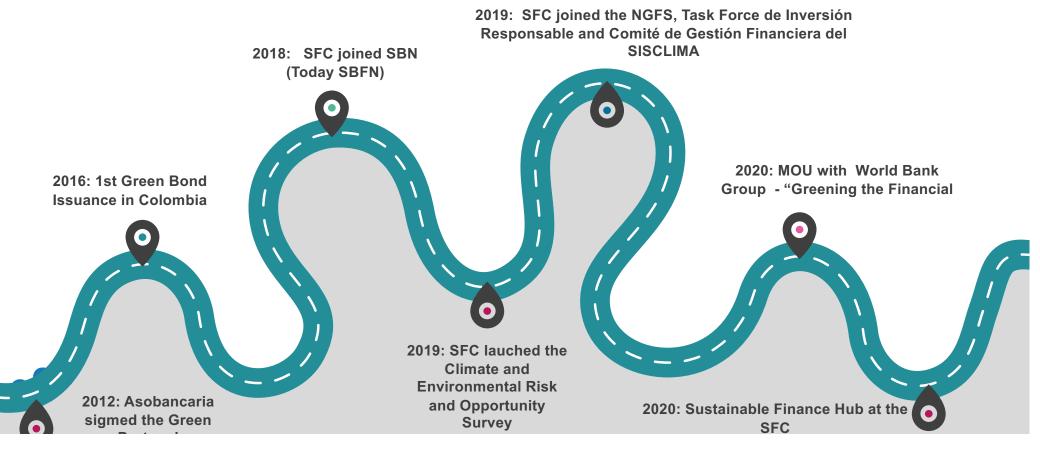
Mariana Escobar Uribe
Sustainable Finance Hub Head



CMF+NGFS

# For financial regulators and supervisors, sustainability has gone from being a philanthropic cause to a strategic priority for the sector.

For the Superintendence, the prioritization of sustainability and climate change in its strategy was driven by the growth in the issuance of green bonds.



Colombia is transforming the Financial System to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. The SFC is ensuring that financial risks and opportunities from climate and environmental factors are integrated into mainstream financial decision making ...

Promote a more resilient financial system that incorporates in its DNA climate change and nature related risks and oportunities

Facilitate capital mobilization towards green growth objectives and and facilitate a country's transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

Enhance financial systems ability to identify and manage climate-related and environmental risks.

Taxonomy

Thematic bonds regulation Other innovative financial products

ESG disclosure ESG integration

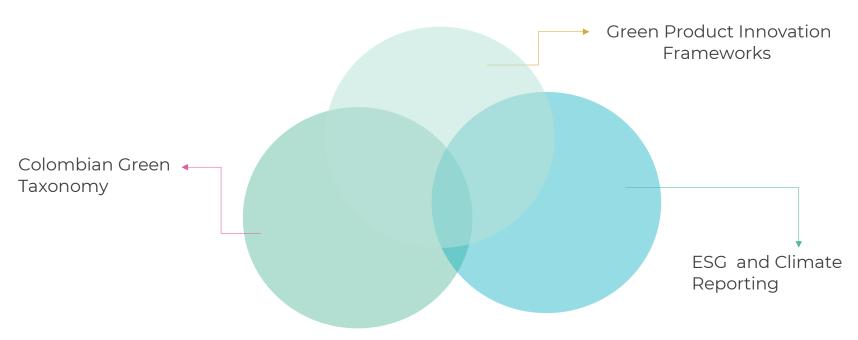
Vulnerability and Scenario Analysis





### ....and where transparency is one of its main building blocks.

#### TRANSPARENCY "ECOSYSTEM"





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## **Green Taxonomy**

### **Environmental Objectives and defined Screening Criteria**

The **Colombian Green Taxonomy** is classification of environmentally sustainable economic activities and assets that will serve as guideline for green financing and will help align the private sector with the national objectives and international environmental commitments.

#### **7 ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES**

| Climate Change Mitigation | Climate Change Adaptation        | Protection of ecosystems and biodiversity                    |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Uso/Gestión del suelo     | Pollution prevention and control | Sustainable Use and protection of water and marine resources |
|                           | Transition to a circular economy |  |

#### **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

**FILTERS** 

Economic activities and assets that substantially contribute to one or more environmental objectives

TECHNICAL SCREENING CRIETRIA

- Eligibility criteria and thresholds
- Standards
- Good Practices

TREATMENT OF RISK

Comply with DNSH for the other environmental objectives, social/labor issues and relevant regulation



### Sectoral scope

10 sectors and 50 activities included in the Colombian Green Taxonomy.

#### 1. Energy

Generation transmission storage of solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, biofuels and hydrogen (18)

#### **6. ICT**

Processing of data, hosting and related activities and solutions for GHG reduction base data (2)

#### 2. Construction

Construction, renovation and acquisition of buildings and building products and materials

(3)

#### 7. Manufacturing

Manufacture of low carbon technologies and component for cement, steel, chlorine and other products (7)

management and carbon capture
Treatment,
collection, transport
of wastewater,
compost, capture of
landfill gas and GHG
(8)

3. Waste

#### 8. Cattle ranching

Basic, intermediate and advance practices + eligible inputs

#### 4. Water

Water efficiency, treatment & recycling, resource recovery (4)

#### 9. Agriculture

Basic, intermediate and advance practices + eligible inputs

#### 5. Transportation

Public transportation, freight, private vehicles, micromobility (5)

#### 10. Forestry

Basic, intermediate and advance practices + eligible inputs

- Activities that substantially contribute to mitigation
- Enabling Activities
- Activities that substantially contribute to more than one environmental objective



### **Taxonomy implementation**

The Financial Superintendence of Colombia has issued several External Circulars for financial market participants participants offering financial products, where the relevant financial products contribute to an environmental objective.

#### Who does the Taxonomy Regulation apply to?







ISSUERS

PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATORS

LEVANI

- CE 28, 2020 Green Bonds
- CE 08, 2021 ESG Integration for Voluntary Pension Funds
- CE 31, 2021 ESG and Climate Disclosure Regulation for Issuers
- PCE 2022 Sustainability Linked Bonds



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## **ESG Reporting**

# The increase in sustainability reports in recent years has brought important challenges for issuers and users of information.

In Colombia ESG disclosure reports lacked reliability, standardization and relevance to investors



STADARIZNATION AND COMPARABILITY



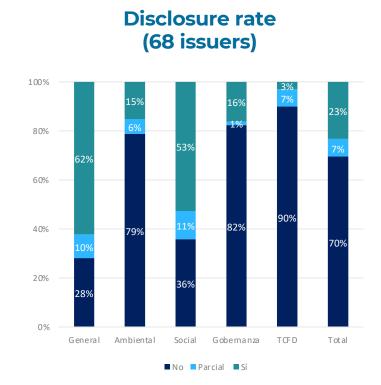
QUALITY AND CREDIBILITY



RELEVANCE FOR INVESTORS



REPORTING FATIGUE

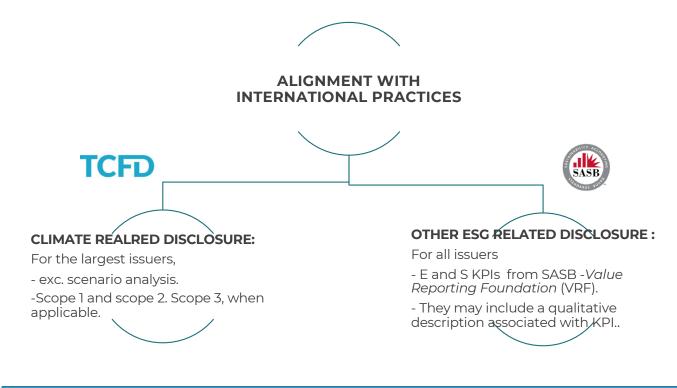






# The SFC conducted both, desk research and a participatory consultation with users and preparers, to develop the the disclosure regulation.

As a result, Circular 31 of 2021 was issued, based on the principle of proportionality and gradualness, recognizing the needs of the different issuers but aligning the market with international discussion







# The CE 31 is based on the principle of financial materiality, which recognizes the impacts of ESG issues on the financial situation of the issuer...

...and this way generating greater transparency and minimize the risk of greenwashing in products with ESG denomination





### Some final thoughts...

- How to embrace interoperability of green taxonomies and understand the role for transition taxonomies for emerging markets. Which one should be developed first?
- How is the best way to implement taxonomies? Should we set a priorities when defining the taxonomies strategic objective? Balance between public and private finance when implementing
- When to issue regulation around ESG disclsoure? Whould emerging markets wait for the IFRS proposal to avoid costs?
- Why or should emerging markets issue regulation or additional frameworks around green fianncial products? Balance between innovation and possible greenwashing risks.











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