JURISDICTION: SWEDEN
AUTHORITY: FINANSINSPEKTIONEN (FI)

Background

Finansinspektionen (FI) is Sweden’s financial supervisory authority. Its role is to promote stability and efficiency in the financial system and ensure effective consumer protection. FI authorises, supervises and monitors all companies operating in Swedish financial markets. FI is accountable to the Ministry of Finance. FI was established in 1991, with the aim of creating a single integrated regulator for banking, securities and insurance. This was made possible through the merger of the former banking and insurance supervisory bodies.

Sustainability objectives

There is an important link between the goals of financial regulation and supervision and the goal that the financial system should contribute to sustainable development. FI’s assignments and work are linked to various sustainability issues and thereby to several of the goals in Agenda 2030. Thus, FI contributes in several respects to achieving these goals, both nationally and internationally.

One of FI’s assignments is to ensure that the financial system contributes to sustainable development. In order for the financial system to be able to contribute to sustainable development, relevant information must be accessible. Sustainability-related information can help safeguard the stability of the financial system, good consumer protection and well-functioning markets.

From an economic perspective, the price of carbon dioxide emissions is too low in large parts of the world. The pricing of carbon is a topic that is increasingly being raised as a risk firms need to assess, manage and disclose. One approach being discussed both in Sweden and internationally is for firms to disclose the price of carbon that they use in their internal calculations, for example when calculating the value of a new investment. Several firms already disclose their internal carbon price voluntarily. The United Nations and the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) advocate that firms disclose their internal prices for carbon.

Membership of any other initiatives/networks working on sustainability

- IAIS
- IOSCO Sustainable Finance Network
- NGFS

Recent engagement with SIF

FI has contributed a case-study to the SIF/IAIS Issues Paper on Climate Change Risks to the Insurance Sector. In May 2020, FI joined SIF for its virtual meetings and provided input as SIF planned its future work programme 2021-2023.