



For Immediate Release

Press Release

CIBC Caribbean Executive Director Highlights Role of Green Bonds in Financing Sustainable Development at Jamaica Stock Exchange Conference

Kingston, Jamaica, January 23, 2025 — Gillian Charles-Gollop, Executive Director, Head, Corporate Banking and Sustainable Finance at CIBC Caribbean, emphasized the pivotal role of green and sustainable bonds in addressing environmental and social challenges while unlocking new investment opportunities.

She was speaking as a panellist at the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) 20th Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference 2025 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel January 21-23, 2025.

The panel discussion was titled “Green Bond Market: The Way to Finance Sustainable Development & Launch of the Green Bond Market.” It also included Ms. Natacha Marzolf, Country Representative in Jamaica for the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), and Mr. Kishan Khoday, Resident Representative for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Country Office in Jamaica.

In her remarks, Ms. Charles-Gollop emphasized the pivotal role of green and sustainable bonds in addressing environmental and social challenges while unlocking new investment opportunities.

She noted, “Green and sustainable bonds provide a mechanism to channel much-needed capital into sustainable projects, driving economic growth and promoting environmental stewardship. CIBC Caribbean is committed to supporting our clients and partners in structuring innovative financing solutions that align with global sustainability goals, including Jamaica’s Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.”

Ms. Charles-Gollop highlighted case studies demonstrating CIBC’s global experience in sustainable finance, including transactions with public and private sectors globally.

“CIBC has supported transformative initiatives such as the Government of Canada’s \$4 billion social bond and private placements for Caribbean Utilities in the Cayman Islands of which \$50 million were labelled as a Green Issue under their Green Framework supported by the CIBC Sustainable Finance team.

Notably, our collaboration with multilateral agencies like the IDB for the Government of Barbados on their Debt for Climate Swap in 2024 and the Debt to Nature Swap in 2022 exemplifies how partnerships can drive impactful change. These initiatives supported marine conservation, reclaimed wastewater for groundwater replenishment, and sustainable agriculture in water-scarce regions like Barbados.”

Ms. Natacha Marzolf highlighted the IDB's commitment to supporting countries in the region with innovative financing tools, stating, "Green bonds are an essential part of the financing ecosystem, enabling both governments and private entities to address climate adaptation and mitigation. The IDB is proud to collaborate on frameworks that foster transparency and attract global investors to the region."

Mr. Kishan Khoday of the UNDP underscored the importance of integrating sustainability into financial systems, adding, "Green bonds represent a key pathway for achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. By leveraging private capital, we can accelerate climate action and sustainable development in ways that leave no one behind."

The panel discussion provided insights into: The potential of the green bond market to fund renewable energy, climate resilience, and sustainable infrastructure projects in the region; strategies to attract investors and foster confidence in green financial instruments and collaborative efforts needed to align regulatory frameworks and market practices with international standards.

During the session, the official launch of the Green Bond Market was also announced, signaling a transformative milestone for sustainable finance in the Caribbean. The initiative aims to mobilize private capital to support projects that mitigate climate change and enhance sustainable development across the region.

Ms. Charles-Gollop's participation reinforced CIBC Caribbean's sponsorship and dedication to fostering sustainable economic growth through innovative financial solutions. Her contributions resonated with the conference's theme of advancing regional markets and underscored the importance of private sector involvement in achieving sustainable development objectives.

The event, a landmark in the financial industry's calendar, brought together thought leaders and experts to explore opportunities for advancing regional capital markets.

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(L-r) Gemel Sobers, Director Corporate Banking, CIBC Caribbean; Gillian Charles-Gollop, Executive Director, Head, Corporate Banking and Sustainable Finance, CIBC; Peter Goldson, Myers Fletcher & Gordon; Annique Dawkins, Head of Corporate, CIBC; Jodykay Maxwell, Associate Director Environmental Credit Risk Management, CIBC and Douglas Cupidon, Director, Corporate Credit, Sovereigns and Financial Institutions, CIBC at the JSE 20th Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on January 22, 2025.



CIBC Caribbean's Gillian Charles-Gollop (centre), Executive Director, Head, Corporate Banking & Sustainable Finance and Douglas Cupidon, Director, Corporate Credit, Sovereigns and Financial Institutions with Oliver Mair (left), Consul General of Jamaica, Miami at the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference 2025 20th Anniversary, at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.



From left: Denise Rose Seivwright, Senior Corporate Manager, CIBC Caribbean; Terise Kettle, Senior VP Investment Banking, Barita; Gillian Charles-Gollop, Executive Director, Head, Corporate Banking and Sustainable Finance; Dr. Marlene Street Forrest, Managing Director, Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) and Annique Dawkins, Head of Corporate, CIBC at the JSE 20th Regional Investments and Capital Markets Conference at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on January 22, 2025.

CIBC Caribbean

CIBC Caribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Personal and Business Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in eleven (11) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services through approximately 2,700 employees in 45 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with US\$13 billion in assets and market capitalization of US\$1 billion. We also have a representative office in Hong Kong that provides business development and relationship management for our fund administration. The face of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC Caribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

CIBC Caribbean is a member of the CIBC Group. CIBC is a leading Canadian-based global financial institution with 11 million personal banking and business clients. Through our three major business units - Retail and Business Banking, Wealth Management and Capital Markets - CIBC offers a full range of products and services through its comprehensive electronic banking network, branches and offices across Canada with offices in the United States and around the world.

For more information about CIBC Caribbean,
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