



CERISE+SPTF

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CERISE+SPTF TO CO-PRODUCE TWO LATE-SEPTEMBER EVENTS HIGHLIGHTING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FINANCE

Partnerships with AFD, OECD will bring leading global investors, financial service providers together in Paris, 28th-30th September

PARIS (9 August 2022): Cerise+SPTF, the leaders in social and environmental performance management for inclusive finance, have [opened registration](#) for two events taking place in Paris in late September.

The first of the two, the 2022 Cerise+SPTF Annual Meeting, is being hosted 28th-29th September at the Paris headquarters of Agence Française de Développement (AFD). The annual meeting will feature expert panels and plenary discussions on topics including customer protection and empowerment, green inclusive finance, the links between social and environmental performance management and better outcomes for low-income clients. Cerise+SPTF will also highlight national-level efforts from Cambodia, Egypt, Nicaragua, and the Philippines to codify social and environmental performance management standards within regulatory frameworks, and the impact of those efforts on market systems.

A post-meeting reception will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Universal Standards for Social and Environmental Performance Management (the Universal Standards), Cerise+SPTF's signature product which is now in use all over the world among stakeholders who are serious about responsible practices in inclusive finance.

Annual meeting registration, which remains open until 15th September, is \$500 USD for Cerise+SPTF members and \$600 USD for non-members.

On 30th September, Cerise+SPTF and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) will host "Finance United," an event focused on the Universal Standards and their complementarity with the Impact Standards jointly developed by OECD and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). "Finance United" will illustrate, via high-level panel discussions and case studies from the field, how the two sets of standards work together to create positive outcomes for clients while advancing the social and environmental performance goals of both impact investors and their financial institution investees.

"Finance United," which is offered free of charge, will take place at OECD headquarters in Paris. It is a follow-up to a virtual conference, held 22nd June, a recording of which can be heard [here](#).



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Register and learn more about both events at sptf.info/training-center/annual-meeting-2022.

ABOUT CERISE+SPTF

Cerise+SPTF is a joint venture between two of the global leaders in social and environmental performance management. Founded in 2005, the Social Performance Task Force, or SPTF, developed, and regularly updates, the Universal Standards for Social and Environmental Performance Management (the Universal Standards).

First issued in 2012, the Universal Standards, like all SPTF's efforts, guide impact-driven financial service providers in making finance safer and more beneficial for low-income customers. A membership organization, SPTF has more than 4,800 participating institutions from every region of the world and from every inclusive finance stakeholder group: practitioners, investors, donors, raters and other service providers, and other experts.

SPTF provides technical assistance, peer learning, and co-financing for its members, and hosts a variety of topic-related working groups, including the influential Social Investors Working Group, whose collective assets under management exceed USD 50 billion in microfinance alone.

Cerise, a French nonprofit created in 1998, pioneered the implementation of social performance management, working with committed microfinance institutions to launch the Social Performance Indicators initiative in 2001. As a social innovator, Cerise works with actors in inclusive finance, social business and impact investing to co-create social standards and social assessment tools that are free to all.

Cerise also offers fee-based consultancy services to all types of impact-driven organizations, equipping them with the skills and tools they need to define and achieve their impact goals.

As the developers and champions of interdependent and complementary tools and products, Cerise and SPTF have worked closely together since the mid-2000s. The two organizations formalized cooperation via a Memorandum of Understanding in 2021, and now operate under a common strategic plan.

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