



FIBS Partner programme 2025-2026

Apply no later than May 10th 2024

FIBS Partner programme in the nutshell

FIBS is now seeking partners for the 2025-2026 season to accelerate the efforts towards a more sustainable world.

- **The chosen partner organization will produce** content and services (e.g., research, training programs, small group activities, advocacy efforts) related to a specific theme for organizations within FIBS's network, in close collaboration with FIBS. FIBS has listed key themes and objectives which it aims to promote through Partner collaboration. Prospective Partners can also propose themes outside this list that they believe support FIBS members' journey towards sustainability.
- **In spring 2024, FIBS seeks Partners especially for themes** that have been defined as the basic level of sustainability in international sustainability frameworks. As plans progress, FIBS will organize supplementary calls for Partner Programme.
- **The program is particularly aimed at FIBS members** interested in extensive and long-term cooperation with FIBS. All FIBS members can apply to the FIBS Partner Program by completing the application form and returning it by 10 May 2024.
- **Detailed discussions will be held with all applicants** before the final selection. Selected partners will enter into a detailed agreement with FIBS. The chosen FIBS Partners will be announced in the fall of 2024.

Why apply to the FIBS Partner Program?

As a FIBS Partner, you will:

- Enhance your reputation as an expert in corporate responsibility or specific CSR themes.
- Expand your network within companies relevant to your operations.
- Establish yourself as a driver of sustainable business practices.



Interested?

**More detailed information on the
programme and the application
process.**

How does the FIBS Partner programme work?

- **FIBS is seeking partners for year 2025-2026** to accelerate the efforts of its members towards a more sustainable world.
 - **The selected partner organization will produce** FIBS services or activities related to a specific theme for organizations within FIBS's network in collaboration with FIBS. The theme, content, and implementation of each partnership will be determined individually with each partner.
 - **FIBS has listed specific themes** for which it is now seeking partners. As plans progress, FIBS will organize additional application rounds for the Partner Program.
 - **Partners are expected to contribute** approximately 15 days of work (pro bono) or equivalent financial contribution or a combination of both per Partner year. Partners will provide the agreed services or activities without separate compensation and will be responsible for their own expenses related to the partnership (including staff time, travel, and equipment costs, etc.).
- Pro bono partnership does not require partners to pay any fees other than FIBS membership dues.
- **A specific role for FIBS will also be agreed** regarding the implementation of the collaboration project. In return for the partnership, FIBS offers enhanced visibility to the Partner among FIBS's target audience (see separate attachment).
 - **Partnerships can last** for a maximum of two years, but shorter collaboration agreements are possible.
 - **A detailed agreement will be made** with each partner, outlining the specific objectives and implementation methods of the collaboration.

The key objectives for the FIBS Partner programme in 2025-2026

- **The organization selected as a partner** will produce content related to a specific theme for organizations within FIBS's network in close collaboration with FIBS.
- **The content produced through the Partner Program** supports FIBS's goal of "educating members on the most current issues in corporate responsibility" and "helping members integrate responsibility and business at a practical level."
- **In spring 2024, FIBS seeks partners especially for themes** that have been defined as the basic level of sustainability in international sustainability frameworks. Therefore, FIBS seeks for Partners to support our members in achieving the following sustainability goals:
 - Achieving science-based net-zero greenhouse gas emissions
 - Promoting the restoration of nature
 - Respecting the UN principles on business and human rights and implementing due diligence
 - Supporting participation, equality, diversity, and the elimination of all forms of discrimination
 - Publishing and utilizing information related to sustainable development, managing data, and considering ESG risks
 - Developing sustainable business models and promoting systemic change
- **As plans progress, FIBS will also organize supplementary searches** for the Partner Program after the spring 2024 application period.

Examples of FIBS Partner collaboration implementation methods

The implementation method of the partnership can be flexibly agreed upon to best support its set objective. Below are, however, listed other typical examples of implementation methods that are suitable for FIBS's current service offering.

- **Webinar series or coaching programs or online coaching programs** on a specific sustainability theme, during which knowledge about the theme is deepened and the sustainability processes of one's own organization are worked on (including homework).
- **Working groups** consisting of FIBS members, during which a solution-oriented approach is used to address a common sustainability challenge for all participants: At these events, ideas, perspectives, and practical experiences on new ways to create more impactful business or to develop a common vision or guidelines may be exchanged for the benefit of other FIBS members as well.
- **Corporate responsibility surveys and questionnaires** to gather information about the state of a specific sustainability challenge and its solutions.

- **Development of new tools**, e.g., for self-assessment, quality assurance, or impact management and evaluation.
- **Communication and advocacy campaigns** to stimulate societal discussion on a particular theme.
- **Sponsorship of seminar venues and refreshments, supporting FIBS activities by funding** its operations.

Most of FIBS's activities are primarily aimed at FIBS members only. Some activities are open only to FIBS Pro service subscribers or to the wider EU audience through FIBS's partner network. Advocacy and communication campaigns are generally targeted at anyone interested in corporate responsibility.

As professionalism in corporate responsibility advances, we hope to see both content based on specialized expertise for pioneers and adapted sections for basic levels and/or different professional groups/organizational levels.

FIBS Partner programme themes and objectives for 2025-2026

FIBS is now seeking Partners especially for cooperation projects and services that help our members achieve the following key sustainability goals:

- **Climate:** Identification, assessment, and reduction of climate impacts throughout the value chain (intermediate, and advanced levels)
- **Climate:** Training program related to setting and achieving science-based net-zero goals (for beginners)
- **Nature:** Identification, assessment, and reduction of ecological impacts especially in value chain, as well as support for nature-positive business practices (combination of webinars and training sessions, for beginners and advanced)
- **Nature:** Identification, assessment, and reduction of water-related impacts throughout the value chain (combination of webinars and training sessions, for beginners and advanced)
- **Human Rights:** Training program on key perspectives and solutions in human rights work

- **Diversity:** Establishment and facilitation of a diversity task force aiming to promote ambitious diversity efforts among participants
- **Diversity:** Training program on key perspectives and solutions in diversity, equity, and inclusion work
- **Reporting:** Sustainability reporting training program for beginners
- **Reporting:** Sustainability reporting training program for advanced users
- **Reporting and Risks:** managing and leveraging sustainability data and ESG risks
- **To prepare for changes in corporate sustainability legislation**

In addition to these themes and services, those interested in partnership can suggest to FIBS themes, objectives, or service formats for collaboration aimed at helping FIBS members towards a more sustainable world.

Criteria for selecting partners

FIBS conducts partner selection transparently, utilizing the following criteria:

- **The organization to be selected** as a partner must be a member of FIBS.
 - **Only organizations already familiar with and distinguished** in the specific theme in a corporate context may be selected as Theme-specific Partners. Besides substantive expertise, familiarity with current solutions, tools, and best practices tailored to businesses in the theme area is desired.
 - **If there are multiple interested and qualified partner candidates** for a specific theme, the following selection criteria are applied:
 - The partner's experience and expertise related to the theme in the corporate context.
 - Previous relevant experience of independently providing similar services to corporate clients and feedback received from them.
 - The partner's ability to commit to the agreement for the entire duration and to deliver the agreed services even in cases of illness or other unexpected obstacles.
 - The added value provided to FIBS members by the partnership theme, including the partner's contacts and collaborative relationships with experts or organizations familiar with the theme,
- which could be utilized in the implementation of the partnership program, or the partner's proven ability, through previous projects, to engage key experts in their projects.
- **The purpose of the FIBS Partner Program** is to enhance FIBS's expertise services. Therefore, only organizations offering genuinely more value-added services to clients compared to those offered solely by FIBS can be selected as partners.
 - **If there are multiple equal partner candidates interested in a particular theme** who meet the above criteria, FIBS may hold detailed discussions with different candidates, especially regarding how the partner would implement the collaboration. Ultimately, the most motivated and committed actor who can also offer the most suitable implementation method for the members' needs will be selected as the partner.
 - **Partnership is organization-specific.** If multiple actors are involved in content implementation, agreements can also be made as a consortium. In this case, all actors jointly assume responsibility for the collaboration as signatories of the FIBS Partner Agreement.
- FIBS seeks equality and considers partners of various backgrounds and sizes when creating FIBS Partner agreements.**

All FIBS partnerships are based on our values, which we also hope our partners and the projects carried out through collaboration will promote.

Pioneering

We highlight fresh perspectives and best practices.

We inspire companies to develop innovative sustainable solutions and responsible practices.

Cooperation

We seek solutions and promote collaboration between different stakeholders.

We strengthen participation within our network.

We value and utilize the expertise of our entire network.

Impact

We enhance companies' understanding of sustainable business.

We support businesses in managing and assessing their societal impact.

Our operations are efficient and effective.

This is how you can get engaged with FIBS Partner programme

- FIBS is seeking partners for the spring season of 2024 for the themes presented in this document.
- FIBS will conduct further discussions with applicants before final selection.
- The FIBS Partners for the themes announced now will be selected during the fall of 2024 and will be announced at a separately agreed time.
- FIBS will organize a new Partner search round later in the year as plans evolve and become more specific.
- FIBS reserves the right to make changes.

**Please submit
[your application](#)
no later than May 10th 2024.**

Ask us more about the FIBS Partner programme



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