

PEP-SBF AWARDS 2023

PRO-ENTERPRISE SURVEY (PES) AWARD

Agency

Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)



Monetary Authority
of Singapore

Summary

The MAS fosters a pro-enterprise environment for financial institutions (FIs) by adopting a risk-focused and disclosure-based supervisory approach.

Responsive regulatory environment

- Our risk-focused supervisory approach gives greater business latitude to well-managed FIs. A disclosure-based regime provides greater room for FIs to offer new products and solutions.
- MAS simplifies compliance for FIs by introducing user-centric tools:
 - MAS FI-Transactions Platform to manage interactions with MAS
 - Data collection gateway for regulatory returns
 - Bill aggregator to consolidate MAS invoices

Partnering stakeholders

- By consulting and co-creating with stakeholders, MAS develops pragmatic regulations that consider market realities and industry practices. This includes (i) continually soliciting industry and stakeholder feedback on our regulatory framework and supervision; (ii) conducting stakeholder consultations during policy formulation; and (iii) co-creating regulations and standards with the industry.

Catalyse sector innovations

- MAS works closely with the industry to promote innovation and support a thriving and vibrant Financial Sector ecosystem:

- For strategies with cross-border dimensions, MAS engages regulatory counterparts to address policy, regulatory, and implementation issues. E.g. MAS established bilateral real-time cross-border payment linkages with Thailand and India, and is working with the Bank of International Settlements Innovation hub to link fast payment systems within ASEAN
- Introduces policies to support experimentation and adoption of technology and innovation, such as FinTech Regulatory Sandbox
- Organises the annual Global FinTech Hackcelerator, a competition that invites innovative solutions to FIs' industry challenges
- Initiates large-scale digital infrastructures like e-payments infrastructure (FAST, PayNow), Business sans Borders, SGFinDex, and API Exchange (APIX) platform, in partnership with industry and government. MAS also worked with partners like the Smart Nation and Digital Government Office and GovTech Agency to develop the National Digital Identify Platform, to support FIs' innovation efforts in integrated digital services for straight-through processing for a seamless customer journey

What is one takeaway that MAS has for other agencies in terms of pro-enterprise efforts?

MAS actively seeks feedback from the industry and other stakeholders and adopts a consultative approach to develop regulations that take into account industry practices and market aspirations.

This approach allows MAS to be forward looking and responsive to market changes and cycles, sensitive to costs and impact of regulation. It also facilitates clarity and consistency in our policy thinking and communications to our industry stakeholders to better support businesses.

What does MAS intend to do in the coming years to become more pro-enterprise?

Moving forward, MAS is committed to fostering a pro-enterprise environment by staying abreast of industry trends and innovations. We will continue to encourage new business ideas by providing a conducive regulatory environment that supports experimentation and innovation. MAS will also continue to adopt a risk-based approach to regulation, ensuring that rules are not unnecessarily restrictive but instead facilitative for growth. By maintaining a balance between regulatory requirements and business needs, MAS aims to promote a regulatory environment that encourages innovation and enterprise.

MAS will continue to deepen our partnership with stakeholders, including FIs, to understand their needs and feedback. This will allow us to continually refine our regulatory framework and policies to better support sector innovation.