**EBRD IAF assignment for intern – Writing part**

The EBRD’s transition concept argues that a well-functioning market economy should be competitive, inclusive, well-governed, green, resilient and integrated. How would you align these six EBRD transition qualities with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? In other words, how do the six EBRD transition qualities map into one or more of the SDGs? [300-400 words max]

Many of the EBRD transition qualities are closely aligned with the 17 SDGs, which is not surprising given their wide commonalities in general goals and subjects. The coming paragraphs will give three aspects of how they align:

First, competitiveness is arguably the most fundamental aspect of a thriving market economy. This, together with resilience, aligns with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure). All these concepts focus on sustainable, socially friendly and strong economic growth that can sustain through opportunities and crises. For example, a competitive economy should encourage businesses for efficiency and excellence, leading to more employment opportunities and better-quality jobs. By promoting competitiveness, an economy also contributes to the realization of SDG 8's objective of decent work and economic growth.

Second, inclusiveness and integration can map much more widely to a range of SDG values, including SDG 1-5, and SDG 10. Firstly, inclusiveness is crucial in achieving these goals by ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are shared by all members of society, particularly those who are marginalized economically or socially. To facilitate inclusive growth, it is vital to provide equal and affordable access to opportunities, basic services, and social protection for people from all socio-economic background. Integration, on a higher level, means creating a welcoming environment where individuals and organisations connect and enjoy equal opportunities to social, economic, and political rights. This compares to SDG 10 which aims to reduce inequality within and among countries, in terms of income, social mobility, fair trade, financial markets, etc.

Third, well-governed and green also aligns widely to a range of SDGs, namely SDG 11-16, which focus on government and environmental policies. Climate action, life below water and life on land describe three major current issues in green development. An environmentally friendly and well-governed society should implement sustainable and transparent governance to combat climate changes, use land/marine resources responsibly, and biodiversity protection. In addition to environment, societies should also aim to utilise responsible governance to protect peace and justice, as well as sustainable communities under strong institutions. In short, they describe the enforcement of protection, both to the nature and people.