

RI Europe 2023

13-14 June
London

RI Europe 2023 Agenda

Day one Tuesday 13th June

8.00-9.00 Registration and morning coffee

9.00-9.05 Welcome remarks

Lucy Fitzgeorge-Parker, Editor, **Responsible Investor**

09:05-10.00 Plenary 1: Net zero: Are financial institutions on track to meet 2025 goals?

- What will be the main challenges in meeting the first round of interim targets?
- Could the risk of missing targets lead to hurried divestment from higher-emitting sectors/jurisdictions?
- How much leeway is built into the system?
- If targets are missed will the credibility of the net zero project be affected?

10:05-10.30 Day one keynote

10.30-11.00 Networking break

11.00-12.00 Plenary 2: Regulation: Taking stock of EU sustainability regulation

- Two years of SFDR: an evaluation of implementation and its impact
- Is the 'Article 9 exodus' a sign SFDR is working effectively or a cause for concern?
- Preparing for CSRD: what is the investment community expecting?
- Interoperability or unwanted burden: EU regulation and the rest of the world

12.00-13.00 Plenary 3: ESG in the polycrisis: The challenges for asset owners

- Has investing sustainably become more challenging for asset owners over the past two years?
- What is keeping senior leaders at asset owners up at night in 2023?
- How are investors balancing the need to meet short terms return hurdles with longer term considerations when selecting assets?
- How are investors prioritising their time and efforts on sustainability – is it really front and centre now?

13.00-14.00 Lunch

<i>Stream A</i>	<i>Stream B</i>	<i>Stream C</i>
<p>14.00 A-1: Climate lobbying: behind closed doors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing corporates' governance of climate policy advocacy: what is best practice? Have investors been tough enough on climate lobbying? How and when should investors escalate on climate lobbying? What is misaligned with Paris when it comes to lobbying? 	<p>14.00 B-1: What does effective engagement look like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying what's possible: what are the limits of corporate engagement? How do you achieve impact in engagement, how do you measure success? How and when should investors escalate engagement? How to balance being a supportive partner while maintaining a critical distance? 	<p>14.00 C-1: ESG data in 2023: New challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do upcoming EU disclosure regimes mean for data providers? What would effective ESG data regulation look like? Sovereigns to Scope 3: the next ESG data challenges What are the implications of open source/free data revolution?
<i>14:45 Short networking break</i>		
<p>15:00 A-2: UK regulation: The next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the key milestones for UK ESG regulation over the coming year? Should the UK look to learn lessons from the EU or is divergence dangerous? SDR and the green taxonomy: next steps for investors Transition plans: what are the lessons from year one? 	<p>15:00 B-2: Just Transition: Who, what, where, how?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does Just Transition mean in developed versus emerging markets? What does Just Transition mean in different sectors? Whose responsibility is the Just Transition: private or public sector? How can investors most effectively promote a Just Transition? 	<p>15:00 C-2: Fixed income engagement: the power of bond markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can bond investors most effectively use their leverage to influence companies on ESG? How should firms be integrating their equity and fixed income engagements? What strategies should investors use when engaging governments and SOEs?
<i>15:45 Extended networking break</i>		

<p>16:15 A-3: Corporate transition plans: credibility, consistency, scrutiny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What constitutes a credible transition plan in 2023? • Are investors providing consistent messaging to companies with their voting? • Say on Climate: does opposition mean that mechanism is beginning to work? • Rebaselining: will it become a standard ask from investors? 	<p>16:15 B-3: Engagement in emerging markets: challenges and opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting approaches to local market conditions • Equity vs fixed income engagement • The challenge of state ownership and influence • Case studies: Asia, CEE, LatAm 	<p>16:15 C-3: ESG-labelled bonds: a question of quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should investors assess SLBs and proposed use of proceeds for impact and credibility? • Are quality issues a question of greenwashing or poorly understood standards? • How can investors best provide feedback to issuers and underwriters on their concerns? • How important are second-party opinion providers to market development?
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17:00 Cocktail reception and networking

18.30 End of day one

Day two
Wednesday 14th June

8.00-9.00 Registration and refreshments

9.00-10.00 **Interactive roundtables**

- Dispelling the data myths
- Climate adaptation
- Nature finance
- Transition plans
- Climate litigation
- Understanding ESG in frontier markets
- Blended finance in developed markets
- The methane challenge

10.00-10.30 Networking break

<i>Stream A</i>	<i>Stream B</i>	<i>Stream C</i>
<p>10:30 A-4: CSRD and ISSB: The beginning of a beautiful relationship?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the practical difference between enterprise value and double materiality? • What are the limits of harmonisation and the 'build-block' approach? • Where and what are the key and future unresolved issues between the ISSB and EFRAG's standards? • What degree of interoperability is necessary to alleviate reporting burdens on companies? 	<p>10:30 B-4: Investors and the cost-of-living crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should investors think about the cost-of-living crisis? • Should investors take an active role in pay negotiations? • Is engaging on government policy a political act and beyond investor remits? • What are the risks for companies of failing to address the cost-of-living crisis? • Ensuring diversity at investor level 	<p>10.30 Deep Dive workshop – Net zero: Getting a handle on scope 3 emissions</p> <p>The purpose of the workshop is to impart best practices and insight on how investors can understand, measure and manage scope 3 emissions.</p> <p>The workshop will also discuss engagement strategies for influencing companies and debate key areas of difficulty. The workshop will explore questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do companies and investors have access to the tools and data they need? • How close are investors to understanding scope 3 emissions across portfolios? • How are upcoming mandatory and
<p>11.15 A-5: Blended finance: creating investible solutions for institutional investors</p>	<p>11.15 B-5: DE&I: Has gender dropped off the agenda?</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the barriers to scaling blended finance? • What can investors, MDBs and policymakers do to increase opportunities? • What are the limitations of blended finance? • What could be alternative public-private structures? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender “fatigue” – have asset managers moved on to other battles? • Holistic versus targeted DE&I: which is more effective? • What has changed in terms of gender parity: a qualitative and quantitative assessment • Gender initiatives – do they work? 	<p>voluntary disclosure regimes addressing scope 3 emissions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can investors engage with companies on scope 3 emissions measurement, disclosure and reduction? • Scope 4 emissions: the next disclosure frontier?
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12.00 short networking break

<p>12.15 A-6: Antibiotic resistance: what role do investors have in addressing this systemic societal risk?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The economic and social damage from Covid-19 pales in comparison to the potential harm from mass antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Are investors sleeping on this issue? • What tools and methodologies can investors use to gauge the risks from AMR? • What should be the practical role of investors in addressing AMR? • What are the challenges of engaging with companies on systemic, as opposed to idiosyncratic, risk? 	<p>12.15 B-6: Human rights: due diligence directives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can investors prepare for the CSDDD? • What will be the biggest challenges in implementing the legislation, for a) corporates, b) FIs? • Are there early lessons from Germany’s due diligence legislation? • How will CSDDD interact with other EU sustainable finance initiatives? 	<p>12.15 C-6: Evolution and utility of voluntary carbon markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role can and should VCM play in net zero strategies? • How should investors engage on carbon credits? • Are carbon credits suitable for commoditisation? • Countering negative perceptions of nature-based solutions
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13:00 Lunch

14.00 **Day two keynote**

14.30 **Plenary 4: The power of nature: Understanding biodiversity risk**

- Biodiversity as a systemic risk: how are central banks approaching the challenge?
- Transition risk: how can investors prepare for biodiversity regulation?
- Measuring biodiversity risk across portfolios: methodologies, tools and barriers
- Helping corporates understand the relevance of biodiversity loss to business models

15.15 **Closing panel: Strength in numbers? The future of collective engagement**

- The big question: is size everything or can smaller groups make a larger impact?
- The problem of free riders: how to make sure all members pull their weight
- Would a more strategic approach that leverages the different capabilities of individual members make collective engagement more effective?
- How can investors navigate anti-trust and acting-in-concert laws across jurisdictions?

16.00 End of conference