

## Driving the future of European sustainable finance

Day one

Wednesday 12 June

### 8:00 AO and AM breakfast

8:55 Opening remarks

### 9:00 Plenary 1: Tackling transition finance: Next steps for investors

- Investing in the energy transition: opportunities and limitations
- Are regulatory regimes designed to support transition finance?
- Defining transition finance: achieving consensus, building guardrails
- Is transition finance compatible with net zero commitments?

### 9:50 Plenary 2: Policy and regulation: Sustainable finance in the next EU legislative phase

- What comes next? Hopes, expectations and concerns in the aftermath of EU elections
- SFDR and taxonomy progress: is usability improving?
- The ones that got away: transition, social and stewardship
- CSRD: how are corporates coping in year one?

10:40 Networking break

*Please note, this is a draft document, session timings and descriptions are subject to occasional change.*

## 11:10 Keynote 1: Regulation: EU / UK

Verena Ross, Chair, **European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)**

## 11:30 Plenary 3: Sustainability standards: Implementation and interoperability

- Expectations for the first round of CSRD reporting
- Interoperability between the big three: is it looking likely?
- Sector standards: what do investors want and need?
- Nature and social under the ESRS and ISSB

### Speakers:

Kiran Aziz, Head of Responsible Investments, **KLP Insurance Pension Fund**

## 12:20 Plenary 4: TNFD: Getting to grips with nature-related reporting

- Lessons from early adopters of the TNFD framework
- Will TNFD provide the data investors need to invest in and engage on nature?
- How does the TNFD align with other initiatives (e.g. SBTN, EFRAG, GRI)?
- Next steps: Update from the TNFD on its work

### Speakers:

Romie Goedicke den Hertog, Co-Head Nature, **UNEP FI**

13:10 Lunch

Stream A	Stream B	Stream C
<b>14:10 – A1: Second-mover advantage: UK sustainable finance regulation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How are investors feeling about the long-delayed UK green taxonomy?</li></ul>	<b>14:10 – B1: AGMs and ESG: Is proxy voting losing its lustre?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can investors use their votes most effectively to drive change?</li></ul>	<b>14:10 – C1: ESG assurance: Rising to the challenge</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What will political shifts mean for UK regulation on sustainable finance?</li> <li>• Will incorporation of ISSB be pain-free or a compliance nightmare?</li> <li>• How are investors preparing for the implementation of SDR?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How have investor voting patterns evolved over the past two years?</li> <li>• Filing proposals: the challenges and opportunities for investors</li> <li>• How does proxy voting compare with other forms of stewardship in terms of impact?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability assurance: a game changer for comparable and reliable data?</li> <li>• How valuable is limited assurance to investors?</li> <li>• Dealing with qualified reports</li> <li>• Auditors: are there enough to go around?</li> <li>• Does the market need more labels or is GSS+ the way to go?</li> </ul>
14:55 Short turnaround break		
<p><b>15:00 – A2: ESG ratings: Overhaul or business as usual?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do recent developments to regulate or provide guidance for ESG ratings mean in practice for ratings providers and investors?</li> <li>• How can ESG ratings evolve further?</li> <li>• The potential for leveraging forward-looking data from company reporting</li> </ul>	<p><b>15:00 – B2: Corporate due diligence: Risk, regulation and reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSDDD outcome and next steps</li> <li>• Investor due diligence approaches and developments</li> <li>• A The regulatory outlook across jurisdictions</li> <li>• Managing supply chain risk: the challenges for investors</li> </ul>	<p><b>15:00 – C2: ESG-labelled bonds: Ensuring integrity, managing incentives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the EU Green Bond Standard prove successful in raising quality? Are other jurisdictions likely to follow?</li> <li>• Is the SLB market reaching its moment of maturity after long periods of controversy?</li> <li>• How are investors pricing SLB step-ups?</li> </ul>

15:45 Networking break

**16:00 Workshops**

<b><u>Workshop A</u></b>	<b><u>Workshop B</u></b>	<b><u>Workshop C</u></b>	<b><u>Workshop D</u></b>	<b><u>Workshop E</u></b>
Deforestation	Climate adaptation	Water	Critical minerals	Blended finance

17:00 Networking drinks

18:30 End of day one

Day two

Thursday 13 June

**8:30 Networking breakfast**

Stream A	Stream B	Stream C
<b>9:35 – A3: Deep dive: Assessing corporate transition plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What makes a credible transition plan?</li><li>• Models and methodologies assessed</li><li>• Sectoral approaches and distinctions</li><li>• Timelines for transition</li><li>• The role of carbon pricing and offsets in transition plans</li></ul>	<b>9:35 – B3: Deep dive: Scenario analysis: An investor's guide</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physical risk vs transition risk</li><li>• Understanding central bank models</li><li>• Lessons from the insurance industry</li></ul>	<b>9:35 – C3: Deep dive: TNFD reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tools and methodologies</li><li>• Corporate case study</li><li>• Investor perspective</li></ul>
10:20 Short turnaround break		
<b>10:25 – A4: Engagement in emerging markets</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bonds vs equities: where are the greater opportunities for influence?</li><li>• Public sector: engaging with sovereigns and SOEs</li><li>• Making and measuring impact through engagement</li></ul>	<b>10:25 – B4: Nature data: Measurement, metrics, missing pieces</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How are innovations in location-specific data filling in the gaps?</li><li>• How are investors approaching the biodiversity metric debate?</li></ul>	<b>10:25 – C4: What's in a name: Navigating the regulatory focus on fund names</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How should the European Commission balance ambition and interoperability in its SFDR reforms?</li><li>• How are managers preparing for the UK labels to come into force?</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strength in numbers: the power of collaborative engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is ocean ecosystem data the next frontier?</li> <li>What does contributing to “nature positive” mean?</li> <li>How are investors starting to set nature targets for their portfolios?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a still a role for voluntary labels or have they had their day?</li> <li>Do new naming rules eliminate the possibility of greenwashing or are there still gaps?</li> </ul>
11:10 Networking break		
<p><b>11:25 – A5: Sustainability and insurers: limitations and opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the specific sustainability requirements of insurers as asset owners</li> <li>How has Solvency II affected insurers’ ability to finance the energy transition?</li> <li>Where are the main opportunities for insurers in ESG investing in 2024?</li> </ul>	<p><b>11:25 – B5: Climate lobbying: Trade associations, transparency and reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are companies becoming more receptive to investor engagement on lobbying?</li> <li>Has lobbying really risen up the agenda of investors or just a “noisy few”?</li> <li>The role of trade associations</li> <li>Investor-company case study post trade review</li> </ul>	<p><b>11:25 – C5: ESG data: Meeting the evolving needs of responsible investors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What will CSRD and other corporate disclosures mean for ESG data users and providers?</li> <li>What type of data is lacking – what are some emerging data points that investors want?</li> <li>How much is too much? Estimations and models</li> </ul>

12:10 Lunch

## **13:10 Keynote 2**

Doug Gurr, Director, **Natural History Museum**

## **13:30 Plenary 5: From activism to compliance: The changing face of the sustainability function**

- What has the mainstreaming of ESG meant for the sustainability function in financial institutions?
- The evolution of the sustainability professional: skill set, responsibility, reporting lines
- Has squaring the circle of sustainability and profitability become more challenging?
- Are CSOs and sustainability professionals getting the support they need to drive change?

14:15 Networking break

## **14:30 Plenary 6: Return on engagement: Measuring the impact of stewardship**

- How can investors best track and report on stewardship impacts?
- Active ownership vs passive ownership
- How can impact and influence be assigned in collaborative engagements?
- What do asset owners want to see from managers on stewardship impact?

## **15:15 Plenary 7: Making the case for 1.5C: Investor strategies**

Few investors that have set 1.5C targets for their investments have rolled back on these goals despite it looking unlikely that this target will be met. But what is actually feasible for asset managers and asset owners if the real economy doesn't decarbonise fast enough? This panel will see a number of investors make the case for how they view 1.5C, what they're doing to ensure Paris-alignment and the challenges they face.

16:00 Closing remarks and end of conference