**Driving the future of European sustainable finance**

**Day one**

Wednesday 11 June

8:00 Registration and refreshments

8:55 Opening remarks

**9:00** **Plenary 1: Investment and sustainability: Squaring the circle?**

* How does sustainability fit into investment strategies in 2025?
* Performance first: Balancing net zero and fiduciary duty
* The universal owner: Taking a multi-asset approach
* Resource allocation: Setting priorities, doing more with less

Moderator: **Lucy Fitzgeorge-Parker**, Editor, **Responsible Investor  
Rasmus Bessing,** Managing Director, Head of ESG Investing & Co-CIO, **PFA   
Pedro Antonio Guazo Alonso**, CEO, **UN Joint Staff Pension Fund  
Morten Nilsson**, CEO**, Brightwell  
Claudia Kruse**, Managing Director RI Strategy, **APG**

**9:50 Plenary 2: Climate investing 2.0: New opportunities, new challenges**

* How is asset owner and asset manager thinking on climate evolving?
* Where are the next generation of climate opportunities?
* Climate adaptation and physical changes: Risk or opportunity?
* Transition finance: New market or marketing label?

Moderator: **Elza Holmstedt Pell**, Deputy Editor, **Responsible Investor**

**Viola Tang,** Vice President – Sustainability Office, **GIC**

**Richard Mattison,** Head of ESG & Climate, **MSCI**

**Bertrand Milot,** Head of Sustainability**, CDPQ**

**Catalina Secreteanu,** Managing Director, ESG Solutions, **Morningstar Sustainalytics**

**Laura Kaliszewski,** Global Head of Client Sustainable Investing, **Natixis IM**

10:40Networking break

11:10 **Keynote interview: What investors are getting wrong on the energy transition**

* Why energy transition fundamentals are strong despite political uncertainty
* How investors can get strategic on decarbonisation
* Reframing risks and harnessing change
* Looking ahead: understanding forecasts and the next big peaks

Moderator: **Elza Holmstedt Pell,** Deputy Editor, **Responsible Investor  
Kingsmill Bond**, Energy Strategist, **Ember**

**11:30** **Plenary 3: Implementing EU sustainability regulation: The insiders’ view**

* The Draghi effect: Sustainability and the EU’s competition drive funds
* CSRD year one: Early wins and teething troubles
* The omnibus effect: Is regulation consolidation a realistic solution?
* SFDR review: Lessons from the first four years

Moderator: **Fiona McNally,** Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**  
**Elise Attal**, Head of EU Policy, **PRI  
Theresa Nabel,** Co-Head, Sustainable Finance Center, **BaFin**

**12:20 Plenary 4: Nature in public markets: Risk, return and innovation**

* To what extent are investors equipped to understand nature-related risk to portfolios?
* How far is TNFD reporting addressing the nature data gap?
* What makes for effective engagement with corporates on nature-related issues?
* Are public markets suitable for nature-positive investment strategies?

Moderator: **Gina Gambetta,** Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor  
Kate Turner,** Global Head of Responsible Investment**, First Sentier  
Thomas Viegas,** Group Nature Lead - Group Sustainability, **Aviva  
Giorgio Cozzolino,** Nature & Biodiversity Modeling Lead, Climate & Nature Innovation Lab, **ISS STOXX**

**Sonya Likhtman,** Engagement, EOS, **Federated Hermes   
Joe Horrocks-Taylor**, Senior Associate, Analyst, Responsible Investment, **Columbia Threadneedle**

13:10 Lunch

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| Stream A | Stream B | Stream C |
| **14:10 – A1: Hard questions on hard-to-abate: What should investors do?**   * How should investors engage with firms in hard-to-abate sectors on decarbonisation? * Interventions and incentives: What could have a “catalytic” effect for challenged industries? * Which traditionally hard-to-abate sectors are closest to decarbonisation solutions? * Offset or avoid: how should investors navigate companies/sectors that may never be able to decarbonise?   Moderator: **Carmen Nuzzo,** Professor in Practice - Executive Director, **Transition Pathway Initiative Global Climate Centre Laith Cahill,** Head of Stewardship Research**, IIGCC Laura Hillis,** Director, Climate & Environment, **Church of England** | **14:10 – B1: Defence and sustainability: Squaring the circle**   * How are ESG-focused investors adjusting their approach to the defence sector? * How do defence companies fare on other sustainability issues? * Is the consensus on controversial weapons breaking down? * Are rollbacks on defence exclusions here to stay or a product of high returns and geopolitical pressures?   Moderator: **Dominic Webb**, Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**  **Tommy Piemonte**, Head of Sustainable Investment Research, **Bank für Kirche und Caritas**  **Mark Wade**, Head of Research and Stewardship, **Allianz GI** | **14:10 – C1: Social data: Are investors getting what they need?**   * Materiality analysis: which datasets are most relevant for investors? * Where are the gaps in social data and can they be filled? * How usable are estimated datasets? * How will sustainability reporting and due diligence regulations change the social data landscape?   Moderator: **Fiona McNally,** Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor Simon Rawson**, CEO, **TISFD Dan Neale**, Responsible Investment Social Themes Lead, **Church Commissioners for England James Lockhart Smith,** VP, Head of Sustainable Finance, **Verisk Maplecroft Julia Haake,** Head of ESG Rating Agency, **Ethifinance** |
| 14:55 Short turnaround break | | |
| **15:00 – A2: Manager selection: Future-proofing mandates**   * How are asset owners’ sustainability requirements of managers evolving? * Are investors moving beyond a tick-box approach to mandates? * What do managers need from mandates on ESG and sustainability? * How important is stewardship in winning mandates?   **Moderator: Melanie Jarman,** ESG Delivery Lead**, The Pensions Regulator (TPR)**  **Leanne Clements ,** Head of Responsible Investment**, Pension Partnership**  **Emma Adair**, Partner**, LCP**  **Claire Curtin**, Head of ESG and Sustainability, **Pension Protection Fund**  **Stephanie Christiansen**, Senior Sustainable Investment Specialist, **Velliv** | **15:00 – B2: The future of impact investing in public markets**   * How has thinking about impact investing in public markets evolved? * What do institutional investors want from impact funds in 2025? * What effect have fund-labelling regimes had on appetite for creating and investing in impact funds? * Do impact measurement methodologies and data meet investor needs?   Moderator: **Lucy Fitzgeorge-Parker**, Editor, **Responsible Investor**  **James Leaton**, Research Director, **SDI-AOP**  **Haili Liu**, Head of Sustainable Development Investment, **Entis**  **Piet Klop**, Head of Responsible Investment, **PGGM** | **15:00 – C2: Nature data: Assessing risk and impact**   * How are investor requirements on nature data evolving? * Do investors have what they need to assess portfolio nature risk? * Where can data be most useful in helping investors assess nature impact? * TNFD, ESRS, ISSB: can disclosure standards produce comparable, decision-useful nature data?   Moderator**: Gemma James,** Head of Biodiversity and Nature, **Chronos Sustainability Stephanie Hime,** Founder/Co-Founder, **Little Blue Research Mario Abela**, Director of Standards**, GRI** |

15:45 Networking break

**16:00 Interactive Session: Let’s Get Physical!** An immersive hybrid session dedicated to understanding and modelling physical climate risk, combining expert guidance with innovative team exercises

Chair: **Jakob Thomä**, Co-Founder and CEO, **Theia Finance Labs.** Author of *Pocket Guide to Planetary**Peril***Richard Mattison,** Head of ESG & Climate**, MSCI**

**Faith Ward**, Chief Responsible Investment Officer, **Brunel Pension Partnership**

**Sophie Dejonckheere**, Partner and AD, Climate and Sustainability, **BCG**

17:15 Networking drinks

18:30 End of day one

Day two

**Thursday 12 June**

8:00 Registration and refreshments

**8:00 Invitation only AO breakfast**

*Join fellow asset owners for a breakfast briefing and peer-to-peer discussions. This is a closed-door session for asset owners only.***David Russell,** Chair, **Transition Pathway Initiative**

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| Stream A | Stream B | Stream C |
| **09:00 – A3: Deep Dive: Climate risk and resilience: Investing in a warmer world**   * How are investors thinking about physical climate risk at portfolio level? * Do investors have the data and tools they need to assess physical climate risk across portfolios? * Where are the investment opportunities in climate adaptation? * What are the barriers to investing in climate adaptation?   **Craig Davies**, CEO, **Cadlas**  **Simon Atherton,** Senior Climate Investment Risk Manager, **Phoenix Group Elizabeth Clark**, Head of Investment Leaders Group, **University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership Anthony Tursich**, SVP, Co-Portfolio Manager, **Calamos** | **09:00 – B3: Deep Dive: Engagement tracking: Navigating an emerging space**   * How are investors improving reporting and communication on engagement? * What do asset owners want from managers and how is this changing? * Correlation vs causation: what outcomes can investors credibly claim credit for? * Where are the biggest challenges in engagement tracking?   Moderator: **Will Martindale**, Co-Founder**, Canbury Marie Marchais,** Head of Engagement Platform, **French SIF Andres van der Linden**, Senior Advisor Responsible Investment, **PGGM Paul Hewitt**, Responsible Investment Manager, **London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA)** | **09:00 – C3: Deep Dive: Understanding supply chain risk: An investors’ guide**   * How are investors engaging with corporates on supply chain risk? * Where are the biggest gaps in corporate supply chain data? * How is regulation affecting corporate supply chain reporting? * Which supply chain issues are most material for investors?   Moderator: **Gina Gambetta**, Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor Phil Davis,** Director of ESG & Impact, **Helios Investment Partners**  **Saurabh Srivastava,** Head of ESG Data and Ratings, **Inrate** |
| **9:50 – A4: Rethinking net zero: Targets, commitments and ambitions**   * Are 1.5C and/or 2050 still realistic targets for investors? * How have changes to GFANZ and its alliances affected financial institutions’ net zero ambitions and methodologies? * Will meeting the first round of interim targets require divestment and/or excessive use of offsets? * Is net zero delivering the outcomes needed for emerging markets?   Moderator: **Lucy Fitzgeorge-Parker**, Editor, **Responsible Investor**  **David Russell**, Chair, **Transition Pathway Initiative Katherina Lindmeier,** Head of Sustainability Strategy, **Nest Maria Nazarova-Doyle**, Global Head of Sustainable Investment, **IFM Investors** | **9:50 – B4: Water: A rising risk**   * Why has water become a key focus for investors? * Water quality vs water quantity: which should investors be focusing on? * Do investors have the tools they need to assess water risk? * What does effective engagement on water-related issues look like?   **Moderator**: **Rory Sullivan**, CEO, **Chronos Sustainability Cate Lamb**, Senior Freshwater Specialist- Nature Team, **UNEP Economy Micha van den Boogerd,** Director Responsible Investments Services, **TAUW**  **Saurabh Sharma**, Fund Manager, Thematic Investing, Regnan, **JO Hambro** | **9:50 – C4: Passive funds and sustainability: Evolution and engagement**   * How are asset owners thinking about passive funds developing and what does this mean for managers? * Engaging with index providers: what are the important asks for investors? * Should investors focus on engaging with constituents of passive index funds or re-weighting the funds? * Has there been growing interest in engagement-only mandates for passive portfolios?   Moderator: **Khalid Azizuddin**, Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**  **Sandra Metoyer**, Independent ESG Consultant **Paul Lee,** Head of Stewardship & Sustainable Investment Strategy, **Redington Ellen Quigley**, Principal Research Associate, the Co-Director of Finance for Environmental and Social Systemic Change, **University of Cambridge** |
| **10:20 – A5: AI and ESG reporting: Lightening the load**   * Can AI help ease the ESG reporting burden for investors? * Where can investors most effectively deploy AI in the reporting process? * What are the limits of AI use for ESG reporting? * Will regulators put guardrails around reporting and AI?   Moderator: **Elza Holmstedt Pell**, Deputy Editor, **Responsible Investor  Mark Hill**, Climate and Sustainability Lead, **The Pensions Regulator Lorenzo Saà,** Chief Sustainability Officer, **Clarity AI** | **10:20 – B5: Transition funds: Understanding new strategies**   * Will the momentum behind transition funds continue? * What do asset owners want from transition funds? * How are transition strategies performing vs other climate strategies? * To label or not to label?   Moderator: **Khalid Azizuddin,** Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**  **Andy Ford,** Head of Responsible Investments, **St James Place**  **Sally Ronald,** Head of Research, **Border to Coast**  **Robert Edwards**, Managing Director of Indexes, EMEA, **Morningstar Indexes** | **10:20 – C5: Green bonds: Impact and assessment**   * How can investors ensure that green bonds deliver on their commitments? * How are investors measuring the impact of green bond investments? * Can SPO providers help improve green bond outcomes? * Will the EU Green Bond Standard help raise standards in the market?   Moderator: **Dominic Webb**, Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**  **Simone Utermarck**, Senior Director, Sustainable Finance, **ICMA Marlene Eklund Kjær**, Senior Analyst, ESG, **ATP**  **Peter Munro**, Head of IR & Sustainable Finance, European **Investment Bank (EIB)** |

11:00 Networking break

**11:30 Keynote**

**Carine Smith Ihenacho**, Chief Governance and Compliance Officer, **Norges Bank Investment Management**

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

**11:50 Plenary 5: Unlocking innovation: The next generation of sustainable funds**

* Finding the sweet spot: What products are asset owners asking for?
* Understanding and navigating fund flows
* Making the case for sustainable funds in challenging times
* Is regulation a barrier to innovation in fund creation?

Moderator: **Elza Holmstedt Pell,** Deputy Editor, **Responsible Investor  
Piet Klop**, Head of Responsible Investment, **PGGM**

**Kris Nathanail**, Director, Standards Development, **IOSCO  
Hetal Patel,** Head of Sustainable Investment Research, **Phoenix Group**

**12:30** **Plenary 6: Corporate sustainability reporting and investor expectations**

* Is the push for standardised corporate sustainability reporting living up to investor expectations?
* What changes do investors want when the CSRD is streamlined? Has the regulation helped investors and corporates so far?
* Corporate strategies: Navigating the push to cut red tape and the ESG backlash

Moderator: **Fiona McNally**, Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor**

**Richard Barker**, Board Member**, ISSB  
Uwe Bergmann,** Global Director ESG Business Integration, **Henkel**

**Elizabeth Lance**, Assistant Chief Counsel, **Investment Company Institute**

**Aleksandra Palinska**, Executive Director, **Eurosif**

13:10 Lunch

**14:25** **Fireside Chat**

**14:45 Plenary 7:** **Back to basics: Rethinking stewardship and engagement**

* How to engage effectively with corporates for positive investment outcomes: A corporate and investor perspective
* Walking the line: How can asset managers meet the stewardship requirements of multiple clients?
* Skewed incentives: Can a focus on impact measurement cause unintended outcomes?
* Are shareholder legal action or policy engagement the only effective levers to address systemic risks?

Moderator: **Gina Gambetta,** Senior Reporter, **Responsible Investor  
Colin Baines**, Stewardship Manager, **Border to Coast  
Kiran Aziz,** Head of Responsible Investments, **KLP Insurance Pension Fund**

**Robert Rothman**, Partner, **Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd  
Ian Burger,** Head of Stewardship and Integration, **USS**

**15:30 RI Nature and Investors Survey: Results presentation**

**15:40 Nature and investors 2025: Taking stock of progress**

* Where have investors made the most progress on integrating nature into decision-making processes over the past five years?
* What have been the major hurdles to progress and how many of them have been overcome?
* How is the current external climate on sustainability affecting investor progress on nature?
* How do you expect investors’ approach to nature to evolve over the next five years?

**16:15** Closing remarks and end of conference