**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 CentreLaith Cahill,** Head of Stewardship Research**, IIGCCLaura 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 InvestorSimon Rawson**, CEO, **TISFDDan Neale**, Responsible Investment Social Themes Lead, **Church Commissioners for EnglandJames Lockhart Smith,** VP, Head of Sustainable Finance, **Verisk MaplecroftJulia 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 SustainabilityStephanie Hime,** Founder/Co-Founder, **Little Blue ResearchMario 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 GroupElizabeth Clark**, Head of Investment Leaders Group, **University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability LeadershipAnthony 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**, CanburyMarie Marchais,** Head of Engagement Platform, **French SIFAndres van der Linden**, Senior Advisor Responsible Investment, **PGGMPaul 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 InvestorPhil 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 InitiativeKatherina Lindmeier,** Head of Sustainability Strategy, **NestMaria 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 SustainabilityCate Lamb**, Senior Freshwater Specialist- Nature Team, **UNEP EconomyMicha 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, **RedingtonEllen 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 RegulatorLorenzo 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, **ICMAMarlene 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