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THE BRIDGE



Sustainable
Finance
Geneva

WHERE FINANCE MEETS IMPACT NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2022

2022 has been a pivotal year for sustainable finance – both public and private. The war in Ukraine shed a harsh light on our continued dependence on fossil fuels, kept artificially cheap through a combination of subsidies and lack of accounting for negative social and environmental externalities. An accelerated transition is now the only path towards energy security.

Beyond mitigation, COP 27 made some promising in-roads on the topic of loss and damage for the countries most affected by climate change, but capital now needs to flow faster than what's been promised and pledged. On the private finance side, those with Net-Zero commitments have been publishing action plans to demonstrate how they will deliver on their targets and what is needed from other parts of the system.

One thing is becoming clear, there will be no reaching Net Zero without accounting for nature and restoring the precious carbon sinks so essential to a balanced carbon cycle. Enter COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity kicking off next week in Montreal. This is a watershed moment for the future of nature – and therefore humanity. The next two weeks should deliver both a global framework for preserving and restoring biodiversity, and a range of tangible, nature-based solutions needed to tackle climate and nature in tandem.

We hope you enjoy the interview of the month which tackles this important topic.

Marie-Laure Schaufelberger, President of SFG

Interview of the Month

Ivo Mulder on the Upcoming Bioversity COP in Montreal



Ivo Mulder speaking at Building Bridges 2022. Mark Henley © Building Bridges 2022.

This month, we interviewed Ivo Mulder, Head of the Climate Finance Unit at UN Environment

We used the opportunity to ask him about what we can expect to see out of the upcoming biodiversity COP in Montreal. He shed light on the many opportunities that nature finance presents as well as the evolving world of nature-related risk disclosure. Mr. Mulder discussed the private finance industry's levers in preserving and restoring biodiversity, including some specific ideas for Geneva-based actors, as well as the momentum he is witnessing from the finance actors to play a more determining role in this fight.

"The private sector is waking up to the nature crisis and awareness of the financial materiality of biodiversity loss is rapidly increasing. "

// [Read more](#)

● **Coming Up**



// YOU'RE INVITED: SFG's Christmas Party on 15 December

SFG's Christmas Party will take place at **Little Barrel**, 15 Rue du Lac in Eaux-Vives. Wine and canapés will be served in a festive after-work ambiance.

Join us on **December 15 at 18h** at Little Barrel. // [Register](#)



6 December 2022
8:30 to 10 AM
SFG Offices



// Ideas for Breakfast with UNEP (SFG Members Only) : 6 December

This breakfast will take place at our offices in La Praille and will be an opportunity to unpack the findings of the new **State of Finance for Nature** report that just got released. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9 AM followed by the presentation of the UNEP team.

Join us next Tuesday at our offices to learn more about the state of nature finance. // [Register](#)

● **What's Happening at SFG?**

// Building Bridges After-movie

As a founding partner of Building Bridges, we are proud to be releasing the after-movie of the 2022 Edition of this ground-breaking event aligning finance with sustainability. // [Check out the after-movie!](#)

// Meet & Connect - Autumn Drinks: A BIG THANK YOU!

Christmas party on December 15!



Meet & Connect, November 10, 2022, Halles de l'île.

● GLIS: A look back at the milestones of 2022

2022 was a significant year for the GLIS. It celebrated its first anniversary with a [webinar](#) on 8 March, International Women's Day, and contributed to thought leadership by publishing an article on SDG5 and Gender Lens Investing in the [Swiss Sustainable Finance \(SSF\) Annual Sustainable Investment Market Study](#). The GLIS also published articles in [Geneva Solutions](#) and sponsored a change in Tameo's [annual survey](#) methodology to assess impact funds operating in emerging markets with a gender lens.

Our activities this year culminated in the release of the [GLIS Annual Report 2022](#) and

participants onsite and online, the session brought together actors from the Canton of Geneva; IFC, Equileap, EDGE, 2X, Women's World Banking Asset Management, Société Générale and more to make the business case for GLI, share GLI trends, and provide insights into regulatory frameworks and standards. We thank all our partners for their support. We look forward to 2023 and the increasing range of opportunities for the GLIS to advocate gender equality in finance.

● Opportunities

// CAS Sustainable Finance at HEG : registration is open

The next session will start on January 16th 2023. The Geneva School of Business Administration (Haute école de gestion Genève – HEG) is offering the online Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Sustainable Finance for the fifth year.

Seasoned sustainable finance experts from the financial, banking, international organisations and academic domains have contributed to this CAS. Further, it has received the prize for Best Pedagogical Innovation at the FIR-PRI Finance & Sustainability Awards 2019. // [More information](#)

// Public Comment Period on IRIS+ Conceptual Framework

A draft of the IRIS+ Conceptual Framework is now available for public comment.

Investors and experts are invited to share their thoughts until **January 22, 2023**.

- Access the draft document [here](#)
- Provide your comments [here](#)
- For more info, reach out to iris@thegiin.org.

● Sustainable Finance News

ESG Is Not Impact Investing and Impact Investing Is Not ESG

to oranges. // [SSIR](#)

A Sustainable Finance Policy Engagement Handbook

Public policies have a tremendous impact on the ability of investors to generate sustainable returns. This is why it is crucial for institutional investors to engage with policymakers. Here are a few recommendations on how to best engage with them.

// [PRI](#)

Switzerland Is Behind - And Yet in the Lead

Switzerland is still lagging behind the EU in terms of scope and speed of regulations in the field of sustainable finance, favoring a voluntary industry-led approach, but it also showed its seriousness in transitioning to sustainability by issuing the first green federal bond and by launching the Swiss Climate Scores. Learn more. // [SBA](#)

Climate Finance Funding Flows and Opportunities: What gets Measured Gets Financed

The Rockefeller Foundation and BCG produced this report tackling the issue of climate finance measurement tools, to contribute to filling the existing gap in reliable and transparent tracking mechanisms to fight effectively the climate crisis and help our economies transition to sustainability. // [The Rockefeller Foundation and BCG](#)



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Contact us at info@sfgeneva.org

Have a good day and keep an eye out for our **next newsletter 11 January 2022**.

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