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# THE BRIDGE



Sustainable  
Finance  
Geneva

## WHERE FINANCE MEETS IMPACT

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2022

Switzerland: the country of watches, chocolate, banks, and snow-covered peaks... this caricatured image is becoming a sweet memory. The proof is a recent study conducted by the Universities of Lausanne and Basel, which shows with satellite images that the Alps are becoming dangerously green. From 1984 to 2021, the plant biomass has increased above the tree line by more than 77%. This change to our ecosystem has repercussions on all biodiversity, which is seriously threatened in Switzerland, and the quantity of water available in mountain regions. This observation should alarm us and encourage us to fundamentally change our habits and lifestyles. In terms of financial flows and policies, it is more urgent than ever to face the challenges posed by climate change. See you October 3 to 6 at Building Bridges to talk about it!

Sandrine Salerno  
Directrice, SFG

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## Interview of the month: SFG's New President

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*Marie-Laure Schaufelberger, New President of SFG*

**SFG's General Assembly saw the election of our New President, Marie-Laure Schaufelberger.** In our Interview of the Month, we ask Marie-Laure about her vision for the organization and the unique role SFG plays in advancing a sustainable future.

Quote snapshot:

*"Over the coming decades, we must deepen our understanding of environmental and social stocks and flows in order to build a financial system that doesn't thrive on extraction, but instead is regenerative and restorative by design."*

[// Read more](#)

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## ● What's happening at SFG?

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requires a bilingual candidate with strong attention to detail and superior organization skills. [Learn more](#) or [Apply on LinkedIn](#) by June 15

### // Summer Meet & Connect

We are holding our next Meet & Connect with the Positive Finance Network on June 22 to celebrate the summer solstice. [Register](#).

### // L'assemblée Générale de SFG - 5 mai 2022

L'assemblée Générale de SFG s'est tenue dans les nouveaux locaux de SFG en la présence d'une quarantaine de membres. L'occasion de revenir sur une année chargée en événements et marquée par la deuxième édition de Building Bridges.

SFG a eu le plaisir d'accueillir 2 nouvelles personnes au sein du comité Stratégie et Surveillance :

- Kim-Andrée Potvin· Partner, Head of Operations at Bamboo Capital Partners
- Francesco Perlini· Financial Section Lead at the World Trade Organization

Nous leur souhaitons la bienvenue et nous réjouissons de collaborer.

Lire le procès-verbal [ici](#).

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## THERE'S NOTHING MICRO ABOUT A BILLION WOMEN

Making Finance Work for Women

Mary Ellen Iskenderian

President and CEO of Women's World Banking

Monday 27 June 2022, 17:00-19:00 CET  
ResponsAbility, Zurich

[RSVP for more information](#)



### // Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland (GLIS)

#### Book Reading in Zurich | There's Nothing Micro About a Billion Women

The GLIS aims to raise awareness of gender lens investment approaches and opportunities. We are thrilled to be hosting a book reading event with Mary Ellen Iskenderian, the President and CEO of Women's World Banking. In her new book, she provides a comprehensive look at how we can bring more women into the global financial system, beyond simply microfinance approaches. The event is hosted by ResponsAbility and will take place June 27 from 17-19h. [Register now](#).

#### GLIS feature in SSF Market Study 2022

Our partners and friends at Swiss Sustainable Finance (SSF), have allowed us to include a piece on Gender Lens Investing in their 2022 Swiss Market Study. The study will launch on June 9 in Zurich and the GLIS President, Tim Radjy, will say a few words about our contribution. [Join us there](#).

## ● SFG Law Review

In collaboration with [Oberson Abels](#)

### Greenwashing – Overview of European and Swiss initiatives (Part I)

It is now impossible to talk about sustainable finance without mentioning the risk of

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a low-carbon economy. Part I of this paper will look at some of the regulations devised in the EU to counter greenwashing. // [Read More](#)

## ● Coming Up

### // June 9 | 10h30 | 2022 Swiss Sustainable Investment Market Study | Zurich

Each year, Swiss Sustainable Finance (SSF), jointly with the Centre for Sustainable Finance and Private Wealth (CSP) at the University of Zurich, provides insights into current market trends of sustainable investments in Switzerland. This year's launch will be in-person. [Register](#)

### // June 13-14 | E4S' 2030 Showcase | Lausanne

For two days, Showcase 2030 gathers impact-driven startups, researchers, corporates, international organizations, public sector representatives and the civil society to build a collaborative ecosystem that enables the creation and scaling of systemic interventions. [Register](#)

### // June 16 | 15h30 | Impact Finance Lab on Emerging Markets | Geneva

The first round of this year's Impact Finance Lab will focus on exploiting opportunities for achieving an impact in emerging markets. [Register](#)

### // June 22 | 18h30 | Summer Meet & Connect | Geneva

As part of the Meet & Connect series, SFG and the Positive Finance Network's next gathering will take place on June 22 to celebrate the summer solstice. At this event, we will also celebrate the official creation of Swisox and tell our community all about the latest developments of this exciting project. [Register](#)

### // June 27 | 17h | GLIS Book Reading | Zurich

Mary Ellen Iskenderian the author of "There's Nothing Micro About a Billion Women: Making Finance Work for Women" will do a reading of her new book for guests of the Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland. [Register](#)

### // June 29 | 13h | SFF Annual Event 2022: Addressing Global Challenges | Bern

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economy and finance and the Swiss regulatory approach to sustainable finance as well as interviews with experts from key finance initiatives addressing environmental challenges and followed by a panel discussion on data challenges. [Register](#)

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## ● Sustainable Finance News

**7 sustainable finance challenges to fix global inequality.** Despite the recent surge in global demand and supply of sustainable finance, the financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has actually widened. The drive for sustainability has magnified global inequalities and entails a new range of risks and challenges that require our urgent attention and need to be mitigated. // [WEF](#)

**The banks collapsed in 2008 – and our food system is about to do the same.** Is our food system on the verge of collapse? Although global food production has been rising steadily in the last decades, the strain exerted on the supply chains because of the war in Ukraine and the growing complexity of the food system are hinting to the possibility of a systemic collapse. // [The Guardian](#)

**Using Mortgages as Leverage for Climate Change.** Building renovation is an urgent matter to drive Switzerland toward Net Zero. This represents both a herculean challenge for banks but also an opportunity to reduce building energy consumptions and thus owners' operating costs through the issuance of Green Mortgages. // [FINEWS](#)

**Five things that could happen if blended finance scaled.** Blended finance represents a unique opportunity to bring together the public and private sector to work together on strengthening inclusive economic growth and alleviate poverty. However, there remains many obstacles that need to be overcome to scale this solution up. // [Convergence](#)

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

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