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THE BRIDGE



Sustainable
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Geneva

WHERE FINANCE MEETS IMPACT
NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2022

Chère communauté,

Comment ne pas évoquer la guerre qui se déroule sous nos yeux en Ukraine ? Une invasion qui a de dramatiques répercussions humaines, une guerre politique qui déploie également de forts effets économiques. Médusés, nous revisitons notre dépendance économique à la Russie et à l'Ukraine. 40% du gas naturel européen, et plus de 25% du pétrole provient de la Russie.

Alors que les gouvernements américains et européens accélèrent les discussions avec les autres Etats fournisseurs d'énergie ; que Biden accélère la sortie de crise avec l'Iran (pays par ailleurs peu coutumier du respect des droits humains), ne devrions-nous pas en parallèle accélérer les moyens financiers alloués à la transition énergétique ? Notre planète suffoque et le dernier rapport du GIEC nous le démontre – plus de 3.3 milliards d'humains sont vulnérables aux pires effets du changements climatiques. L'allocation des capitaux pour la transition énergétique, les plans de transition des entreprises et les comportements individuels ne sont pas à la hauteur de l'attention que notre écosystème naturel requiert. Pour SFG, la guerre que la Russie livre à l'Ukraine pose de manière brutale la nécessité de modification drastique des flux de capitaux. L'argent est le nerf de la guerre, il serait bon qu'il devienne avant tout le nerf de la paix.

Sandrine Salerno
Directrice, SFG

Interview of the month: SDG Impact Stories

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Clarissa Hediger, Guillaume Monnier, and Shaan Madhavji are on a 6-month World Tour across 20 countries, telling the stories of 50+ entrepreneurs leading the way towards social and environmental change.

A world tour of SDG Impact Stories kicked off last month from Switzerland, here's what you need to know. Three young people are traveling the world to capture the stories of social entrepreneurs who are using business to achieve the SDGs. [// Read more](#)

- **What's happening at SFG?**

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(Credit: SFG/ Laurent Giraud)

// Building Bridges is hiring

Building Bridges is looking for a Sponsorship Director, a Communications Director, and interns to support the planning of the 2022 edition of the event. If you or someone you know are interested, please apply before March 25. [Read more](#)

// Networking Events are back!

Restrictions have lifted making it the perfect opportunity to reconnect. Join us for our Meet & Connect apéro on March 9 at 18h30. [Register](#)

// Meet Jivan, our new SFG intern

Jivan Chetirian has joined us for a 4-month internship at SFG. In parallel, he is doing a bachelor's in economics at the University of St. Gallen. He has a keen interest in sustainable finance and the implications of climate change on society. Jivan was part of the organizing team of the Evolve Conference 2021, which is a project aiming at fostering sustainable entrepreneurship within the university campus.

// New SFG Partners

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// Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland (GLIS)

One Year Anniversary of the GLIS: Webinar on March 8, International Women's Day

International Women's Day marks the one-year anniversary of the Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland, [join us for a webinar](#) where we look back on what we have achieved so far, look forward to what we have planned for 2022, and hear from experts about the findings of the SAGE 4.0 report on tracking venture capital, private equity, and private debt with a gender lens. Speakers include:

- Suzanne Biegel, Co-Founder of GenderSmart
- Rachel Whittaker, Head SI Research at Robeco
- Ayesha Khanna, representing the Care-She Trades Impact Fund
- Tim Radjy, Chair of the GLIS

Save the Date: 17 May | GLIS Webinar on Equileap

Our next webinar will present Equileap, the leading gender equality data and insights provider. We will be joined by Diana van Maasdijk the Co-founder and Executive Director at Equileap and two major financial institutions who leverage Equileap's research to support their gender lens investing decisions.

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GLIS Event at Building Bridges 2021 (Credit: SFG/Mark Henley)

● Connecting financial centres

In partnership with [FC4S](#)

The UNDP-hosted Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S) has just launched their third annual **State of Play report**. It found strong growth in sustainable finance but identified several key areas where more focus is required to underpin progress. FC4S will host two webinars to present their findings on March 10. [// Read More](#)

● SFG Law Review

In partnership with [Oberson Abels](#)

In this paper, Oberson Abels takes a closer look at the role assigned to transparency by climate policies and how it materializes in the new Swiss regulations about non-financial reporting duties. [// Read More](#)

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// 7 March | 20h30 | Peace Finance Session at the World Bank Fragility Forum

SFG is collaborating on a session during the World Bank Fragility Forum on private sector investment models for peace. The Forum is free and conducted online, our session takes place 14h30 Washington DC time, 20h30 in Geneva. [Register here](#)

// 8 March | 16h | First Anniversary Webinar of the Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland (GLIS)

Join SFG and Alphamundi for the first anniversary of the GenderLens Initiative for Switzerland (GLIS) and participate in a one-hour webinar happening on International Women's Day [Register here](#)

// 9 March | 18h30 | Meet & Connect - Late Winter Drink

As part of the Meet & Connect series, SFG and the Positive Finance Network's next gathering will take place on March 9. [Register here](#)

// 10 March | 9h30 or 16h | FC4S State of Play Webinar

The FC4S will present the latest findings from their third annual State of Play report. [Register here](#)

● Sustainable Finance News

The ESG Mirage. MSCI is one of the prominent purveyors of ESG indexes and databases and is, therefore, a critical service provider in the field of sustainable finance. However, as this article shows, instead of assessing the impact of firms on the environment and society, MSCI is in practice evaluating the potential impact of ESG factors on corporations and their shareholders. // [Bloomberg](#)

Climate change risks are greater than thought, warns IPCC report. The world has a "brief and rapidly closing" window to adapt to climate change, with the risks associated with lower levels of warming greater than previously thought, the latest installment of a landmark UN report signed off by 270 scientists from 67 countries has concluded. // [Financial Times](#)

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relatifs à la gestion de l'eau sont mis évidence. Tout comme pour le climat et la biodiversité, les enjeux relatifs à l'eau requièrent le renforcement de l'afflux de capitaux et le renforcement de la collaboration entre divers acteur.rices du secteur privé et public. // [AllNews](#)

Finally, speaking truth to power. A participant of Building Bridges reflects on the importance of speaking truth to power at a time when "social needs cannot wait." He argues it is crucial that the financial sector emboldens its actions on social and environmental challenges and finally recants Milton Friedmann's doctrine. // [CounterPunch](#)



Produced in partnership with the new media on international development and cooperation, [Geneva Solutions](#).

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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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