



RI Europe 2019

11th-12th June

Responsible Investor's 12th annual RI Europe investment conference in London returns on 11th-12th June 2019 at a brand new venue.

With the success of the past 11 years of the conference, RI Europe is moving to etc. venues 133 Houndsditch in 2019 in order to accommodate our ever growing number of attendees.

2019 will be a pivotal year for ESG, sustainable finance, and impact finance particularly in Europe where the European Commission is pulling together its landmark Action Plan for Sustainable Finance backed by regulatory/incentive input from the Financial Stability Board and the G7 and G20 countries.

The Action Plan, to be introduced during the year, will have huge operational and strategic ramifications for institutional investors in Europe and beyond.

In addition, EU member states are busying themselves with their country action plans for low carbon and sustainable finance as part of commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This investment conference is uniquely placed to tackle the most pressing issues where finance and sustainability cross over. If your firm engages with ESG investing or not, the demand for sustainable investment products will affect your long term business goals.

The RI Europe conference, which brings together 700+ top-level investment professionals, is the place to learn, share, and debate the opportunities and challenges from these major regulatory and business shifts at an event renowned for high quality networking and conviviality.

[Register now to join us.](#)

Asset owners and investment consultants attend for free

Public Pension Funds	Sovereign Wealth Funds
Corporate Pension Funds/Plan Sponsors	Large Family and Multi-Family Offices
Insurance Funds (Asset-Liability Management)	Fund Selectors (Non-proprietary and open architecture platforms)
Endowments	Central Banks
Foundations	Pension Consultants (Non-Discretionary)*

***Pension and investment consultants** considered for admission are those that primarily advise pension funds and other institutional asset owners on investments, independent from providing asset management products or discretionary investment services. For example, those that primarily provide services such as due diligence, evaluation, manager selection and monitoring on behalf of institutional asset owners, on a non-discretionary basis.

Europe London 2019

Sustainable business and finance



Agenda

For a detailed version of the agenda, including speakers, [click here](#).

RI Europe 2019			
Day 1, Tuesday 11 June 2019			
08.00 – 09.00	Registration, refreshments and networking		
09.00 – 09.10	Chairman's Introduction		
	Lead sponsor Introduction		
09.10 – 10.20	Plenary 1: The EU Action Plan on Sustainable Finance: the big picture on the EU's 2019/2020 regulatory push and what it will mean for investors and companies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Action Plan fit for purpose? What will the practical implications be and what will it achieve? How do investors and companies view it? What are the potential detrimental effects: could it stifle innovation? 		
10.20 – 10.40	Keynote Interview: Martin Spolc, Head of Unit, Capital Markets Union, DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, European Commission		
10.40 – 11.20	Morning networking break		
11.20 – 12.20	Plenary 2: The EU Action Plan investment detail: benchmarks, investment products and investor duties/transparency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the implications of the roll-out of 'Low carbon' indices aligned with the Paris Agreement and EU Climate Transition? The likely evolution of climate-related product labels on investment products The duty of asset managers, investment advisors and insurance companies on ESG risks. Is there one? Can the EU make sense of the proliferation of national RI fund labels? 		
12.20 – 13.20	Plenary 3: Getting Technical with the Green Taxonomy The EU's Technical Expert Group (TEG) is submitting an official technical proposal to the European Commission on climate mitigation and adaptation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will the green taxonomy be deployed and what will its legal/regulatory status be? How will the proposed Sustainable Finance Platform carry on the work of the TEG? What will be the impact of the taxonomy on company activities and investment product? Spotting the investment winners and losers of the energy transition: how will the taxonomy help? 		
13.20 – 14.15	Networking lunch		
	The RI Matrix/Breakout Panels:		
	Stream 1	Stream 2	Stream 3
14.15 – 14.55	a) Sustainable infrastructure: new policy foundations and investment plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is sustainable infrastructure an opportunity? Governments and cities step up on long-term, green infrastructure. How infrastructure fund managers are evolving their funds to meet the transition and demand. 	a) European countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) on climate change and meeting the Paris targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do they mean for investments? Do the targets align with the commitments? Could we start to see 'climate stranded' nations in terms of their assets? 	a) The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): are they actually investable? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making clear connections between the UN SDGs and financial value. How corporates are constructing the SDG business case. The reality of reporting on real progress against the SDGs.
15.05 – 15.45	b) Equities: What do ESG filters actually mean for investment universes, and stock selection? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on company selection pool. 	b) How can artificial intelligence, machine learning and big data boost sustainable finance? Translating the tech revolution into ESG decisions.	b) Careers: how to get ahead in responsible investment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is happening in the responsible investment jobs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implications on tracking error/benchmarking.• Performance implications and how to manage them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can "machine learning" and enhanced algorithms leading to better selection of sustainable companies, and how?• How is big data and tech getting around the constraints of ESG information collection, comparison and publication.• Enabling consumers to buy sustainable investment products through technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• market?• War stories and success tales.• The Next Generation: how can millennials make their mark?
15.45 – 16.15	Afternoon networking break		
16.15 – 16.55	c) ESG Data: Improving the investment relevance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can we get real time ESG data points?• New sources of information, new financially-relevant ESG KPIs• How are investors plugging the data into their models?	c) How do we get the tech giants to behave like responsible corporate citizens? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why responsible investors need to start talking about technology before it's too late.• Why do investors find it so difficult to address the challenges tech raises? Where do they sit alongside regulators and the media in addressing the problems?• Why collaborative action is particularly important in the technology sector. The special need to engage with Chinese tech companies!	c) Purpose, values, leadership and culture - what do the organisations we need for truly responsible investment look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What organisational values; what type of leadership?• Fostering innovation and learning for sustainability.• The real value of diversity: sex, age, disability, religion and sexual orientation• How can organisations enable their people to bring their 'whole selves' to work?
17.05 – 17.45	d) Wealth Management Focus. The rise of ESG and impact investing for family offices and HNW investors. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why and how is client demand translating into ESG integration strategies and products?• Impact themes and specialist funds.• How to report on impact outcomes.	d) ESG risk/return: the view from the trenches Risk/ESG analysts talk about what the practicalities of their work and its input into the investment process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is the ESG data set evolving in terms of risk analysis, return potential?• What do portfolio managers need, and how are investment models evolving?• How is ESG increasingly feeding into fund managers' Governance Risk and Compliance (GRC) approach?	d) Is corporate sustainability reporting actually relevant to investors? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better aligning the existing ESG corporate reporting frameworks (SASB, GRI, CDP).• Making the data relevant to investment decisions.
17.45 – 18.30	Cocktail reception and networking		
DAY 2, Wednesday 12 June 2019			
08.15 – 09.00	Registration and Refreshments		
	The RI Matrix/Breakout Panels:		
	Stream 1	Stream 2	Stream 3
09.00 – 09.40	e) Sovereign Bonds: Data innovation and real ESG integration <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What data is available for investors looking to meaningfully integrate ESG into their sovereign bond investments?• Where do the pain points still remain and how do you circumvent them?• What other methods/tools can investors use for responsible and sustainable sovereign bond exposures?	e) Building a responsible and sustainable blue economy: What is required to achieve SDG Goal 14 and how is this developing? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are we on track to meet the OECD's 2030 projection where a blue economy could outperform the global economy?• Notable projects aimed at tackling SDG Goal 14?• Where are we lacking?	e) TCFD: Analysing the scenarios of corporate and investor reporting on climate change. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The evolution of regulatory standards aligned to TCFD.• Best practice to date for TCFD compatibility by companies and investors.• Bespoke or generic tools for practices like climate scenario analysis.
09.50 – 10.30	f) Corporate Bonds Focus	f) How investable are impact investment funds for institutional investors? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the fund profiles across the impact investing sector: asset type, size, style?• How has historic performance been after costs?• What are the future prospects for impact funds: investment themes and return/impact expectations?	f) The effectiveness of climate voting and engagement. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is shareholder voting evolving for change: research, targets and outcomes?• The mechanics of corporate engagement: goals, collaboration, cost/resource and quantifying results.• How are corporates now responding to shareholder governance?

10.30 – 11.10	Networking break		
11.10 – 11.50	<p>g) Real Estate: Getting physical and fit. How property assets and insurance increasingly face climate related risks and need to get 'fit' for tightening environmental regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantifying rising temperatures, flooding, drought, sea level rise and water scarcity on buildings and their related insurance cover The value proposition for building 'adaptation' to mitigate risk and drive yields and sales. Are energy costs and efficiency driving the design of the built environment yet? 	<p>g) Asset owner case studies. Integrating ESG into investment decisions: how is it done?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How should asset owners think practically about the materiality of ESG to investment strategy. How can a pension fund actually decarbonise its investment portfolio in line with the 1.5 - 2 degree Paris agreement? How to communicate and engage on responsible investment with trustees, stakeholders and members? 	<p>g) Just Transition: How do investors integrate the missing social dimension into their climate strategy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the investor role in addressing stranded workers as well as stranded assets? How do you ensure green companies also have good social practices? How do investors address the tough issues in the just transition?
12.00 – 12.40	<p>h) Testing the rapid evolution of investment products on sustainability themes: low carbon funds and ETFs - ESG quant and smart beta solutions. A slew of new fund products is coming to market: what do they do, and how can clients gauge their investment thesis and sustainability credentials?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluating the investment profile of new sustainability funds; how do they really differ from existing funds Checking for investment biases and composition Assessing sustainability impact 	<p>h) Asset manager case studies: the ESG 'journey'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The investment and strategic rationale for responsible investment, and c-suite buy-in. The practicality of ESG integration: knowledge-sharing, data, application to investment, measurement. Specialist product development, sales and marketing 	<p>h) ESG in DC: the new sustainability products and platforms being launched for the mass market of defined contribution pensions and retail investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is the market evolving (regulation and competition) and how big could it become? How different are the funds and sales strategies for the DC market? What is the psychology of mass-market take-up of sustainability investment?
12.50 – 13.10	<p>Keynote: A revolutionary new platform for selling responsible funds Nigel Kershaw, OBE, Chair of the Big Issue Group</p>		
13.10 – 14.10	Networking lunch		
14.10 – 15.10	<p>Plenary 4: European financial centres, central banks and supervisory authorities: stepping up on climate change and sustainability?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are European financial centres evolving their sustainable investment platforms? Is it imperative for the ECB to do an EU-wide climate stress test? Highlighting the work that the Network for Greening the Financial System has undertaken so far Capital requirements for bank lending in the EU Action Plan The role of the European Supervisory Authorities 		
15.10 – 16.31	<p>Plenary 5: Larry Fink, CEO, Blackrock, said: "We are going to see evidence over the long term that sustainable investing is going to be at least equivalent to core investments. I believe personally it will be higher." So, is responsible investment now core to running pensions and institutional capital? If so, how? And why aren't more pension funds and investment managers doing it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESG in strategic asset allocation issues: why the global political and social landscape should be feeding into long-term investment decisions. Translating ESG into sound risk management. Short-termism v long-termism: making some sense of the debate. 		
16.10 – 16.15	Closing remarks		

Register

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