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Overview of NGOs and Think Tanks

Sustainability & Sustainable Finance in the UK and Czechia





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WHO WE ARE

The International Sustainable Finance Centre (ISFC) is an independent, apolitical and impact-driven non-profit organisation whose aim is to carry out in-depth research on sustainable finance topics. The Centre uses expert insight and practical policy solutions to inform public debate and policymaking on sustainable finance, while also helping to build local expertise, networks and capacity on key topics, which include the EU's Green Deal, its Sustainable Finance Agenda and its post-COVID19 recovery packages.

Sustainability is a concept related to the development of products, goods, and services that involves meeting our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to fulfil their own needs. Sustainability and sustainable finance are becoming topics of growing importance to both the public and private sector, as has been shown by the great interest in the EU's Taxonomy regulation and its Sustainable Finance Agenda. Linkages between finance, climate and environment are becoming better understood, driving demand for analysis and knowledge.

While think tanks and NGOs in Europe have built up expertise on climate and environmental policies, their financial expertise is often under-developed. Yet, the financial sector holds enormous power due to its role as the lifeblood of the economy. It is therefore crucial for NGOs to have the tools and expertise to engage with the most important issues and debates about the role of finance in the creation of the low-carbon economy.

Organisations and academia in the United Kingdom (UK) have been working on sustainable finance topics for a much longer time than their counterparts in Czechia. This is mainly due to the City of London being one of the world's big financial centres, and the UK government's focus on decarbonisation. Therefore, they have much better foundations from which financial sector can draw expertise for their decision-making and operations. Over the last year, private and public sector representatives from Central Europe have shown growing interest in sustainable finance and sustainability - offering a great opportunity for NGOs to provide expert analysis, guide the discussion, and to generate interesting insight.

We believe that sharing knowledge, best practices, and insights from different projects can help NGOs in Czechia and the UK to find opportunities for cooperation. Since funders and supporters prefer cross-regional projects and collaborations, an improved understanding of the civil society landscape is key.

Therefore, we have prepared a following report, which can help to identify

- potential UK-based partners for collaborations,
- potential CZ-based partners for collaborations,
- research areas that are of growing popularity,
- synergies for future projects and whose work to follow,
- latest publications and updates from world's leading NGOs working on sustainable finance,
- the approaches to the different topics taken by CZ and UK based organisations.

UK NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



CARBON TRACKER INITIATIVE

Carbon Tracker Initiative is a non-profit independent financial think tank that carries out in-depth analysis on the impact of the energy transition on financial markets, and the consequences of potential investment in high-cost, carbon-intensive fossil fuels. Working with data and asset-level analysis, Carbon Tracker provides expert insight for those engaging with energy companies around future strategy and capital expenditure and supports an energy system that stays within a 1.5°C global average temperature rise.

The initiative is a team of financial, energy and legal experts who carry out analytical and regulatory research to identify the highest cost, riskiest investments enabling greater scrutiny by analysts, asset owners, investors, policy makers and financial regulators, while building the case for reform of the financial regulatory system in order to improve transparency of climate-related financial risks. Carbon Tracker challenges unsustainable business-as-usual approaches and practices with technical knowledge, connections and reach on a global scale.

FOCUS AREAS

- Energy transition
- Climate risk disclosure
- Carbon markets
- Oil, gas, coal...

WEBSITE: <https://carbontracker.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Carbon Tracker Initiative Group](#)

TWITTER: @CarbonBubble

EXAMPLE OF WORK: REGULATORY RESEARCH

In parallel with the International Accounting Standards Board's Management Commentary work stream, in May 2019, Carbon Tracker published the paper "[Reporting for a Secure Climate](#)" that identified the types of forward-looking, quantitative information companies could disclose to enable investors to assess transition risk. This report garnered significant international media coverage from outlets including major international outlets, like AFP, Environment and Energy News, City AM and others. Also in May, Carbon Tracker submitted written evidence to the [Treasury Select Committee inquiry](#) into the decarbonisation of the UK economy and green finance following The UK Climate Change Committee (CCC) reporting on its recommended targets for the UK to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050.

One of the most recent research activities of Carbon tracker focus on topics that has started a new debate on how to align the financial system in the transition to a low carbon economy. For example, following on from [Do Not Revive Coal](#) report, the report [Put Gas on Standby](#), switches attention to the fossil fuel that has long been viewed as a major part of the long-term climate solution.

UK100

UK100 is a network for UK locally elected leaders who have pledged to play their part in the global effort to avoid the worst impacts of climate change by switching to 100% clean energy by 2050. It brings together local authorities, from cities to the countryside, to share knowledge, collaborate, and petition the UK government with their collective power while supporting them in communicating climate change to their communities. The network collaborates with elected representatives and policy experts to develop solutions to the challenges all local leaders face, and to build public support for the transition.

UK100 is the secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Sustainable Finance. APPG on Sustainable Finance supports parliamentarians to understand more about sustainable finance. It provides opportunities for the finance sector and the energy industry to meet with parliamentarians to discuss the policy and regulatory framework needed to unlock sustainable finance. The APPG Secretariat is led by Polly Billington, Director of UK100.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate change
- Clean air
- Green finance

WEBSITE: <https://www.uk100.org/>

LINKEDIN: [UK100](#)

TWITTER: @UK100_

EXAMPLE OF WORK: FINANCING LOCAL ENERGY

The campaign consisted of research among members of UK100 (local leaders motivated to achieve Net-Zero) to determine common obstacles they face in adopting green solutions. This resulted in a Report "*Financing the Transition: Harnessing UK Cities' Ambitions for Clean Energy*" (2019) which recommended the creation of Clean Energy Action Partnerships. These should connect local authorities which have Net-Zero development ideas or projects with stakeholders such as government, academia, business, distribution network operators etc. providing technical and financial support to chosen projects. UK100 also organised green finance workshop programmes in five regions across the country. This helped to determine barriers to unlocking place-based green investment and resulted in a Summary Report "*Accelerating the Rate of Investment in Local Energy Projects*" (2020). This report suggested the creation of a Net Zero Development Bank, which would work with private investors and local authorities to scale up investments into clean energy projects.

SHAREACTION

ShareAction is a UK-based charity that focuses on responsible investment. It grew out of a campaign by People & Planet that helped Britain's largest single pension scheme adopt a responsible investment policy. Their goal is to create a movement for sustainable investment and take it worldwide, to transform the investment system and unlock its potential to be a force for good.

ShareAction's way of delivering impact involves three mutually reinforcing elements that are woven into all programmes. These elements involve: building a movement for responsible investment; reforming the rules, governance, and incentives inside the investment system; and unlocking the power of investors to catalyse positive social and environmental change.

FOCUS AREAS

- Responsible investment
- Climate change
- Health

WEBSITE: <https://shareaction.org/>

LINKEDIN: [ShareAction](#)

TWITTER: @ShareAction

EXAMPLE OF WORK:

ASSET OWNER DISCLOSURE PROJECT (AODP)

AODP, a ShareAction project, assesses and engages the world's largest institutional investors on their approach to responsible investment. The overarching mission is to leverage the global financial system to tackle key global issues, with a focus on climate change, human rights, and biodiversity. The project's latest report, [Point of No Returns \(2020\)](#), ranks 75 of the world's largest asset managers on their approaches to responsible investment. Among other findings, the report discloses that over 50% of asset managers have a very limited approach to managing ESG risks, or that when it comes to ESG-related engagement, most managers report on their engagement at an aggregate level, but the quality of reporting is low - with just 17% publicly disclosing a comprehensive record of their activity. Alongside this report, ShareAction looked into asset managers' approaches to the issues of [climate change](#), [biodiversity](#) and [labour rights](#).

GREEN FINANCE INSTITUTE

Green Finance Institute is the UK's principal interface between the public and private sectors, identifying and unlocking barriers to deploy capital at pace and scale towards impactful, real-economy outcomes. The institute works with finance practitioners, policymakers, business innovators, academics and non-profit professionals to identify the required policy, technology and financial pathways that will enable the transition to a green economy.

The workstream consists of coalitions and initiatives including action connecting the financial sector with biodiversity protection following the Dasgupta Review, the Coalition for the Energy Efficiency of Buildings (CEEB), the Coalition for the Decarbonisation of the Road Transport and many others. The coalitions comprise practitioners from industry, finance, government, academia and the non-profit sectors, who understand the market failures and investment gaps, and can co-design the innovative financial products and vehicles that combine both public and private finance to create attractive investment opportunities. The recently deceased Sir Roger Gifford, one of the first advocates and leaders of Green Finance in the UK, was the former chairman of Green Finance Institute.

FOCUS AREAS

- Green finance
- Decarbonisation
- Energy efficiency
- Taxonomy

WEBSITE: <https://www.greenfinanceinstitute.co.uk/>

LINKEDIN: [Green Finance Institute](#)

TWITTER: @GFI_green

EXAMPLE OF WORK: GREEN FINANCE EDUCATION CHARTER

Announced in the UK's Green Finance Strategy in July 2019, the Green Finance Education Charter brings together many of the world's leading professional bodies for the first time in a commitment to integrate green and sustainable finance principles into the education and training programmes of finance professionals worldwide. The Charter also forms an important part of the UK Government's 'Pathway to COP26'. The Green Finance Education Charter is designed as a mechanism to help build the capacity and capability of the green finance sector by: ensuring all financial services practitioners have the vital skills necessary to accurately assess climate-related risk and opportunities; and engaging with the domestic and international community through advocacy and shared knowledge and best practice, and responding to the dynamic and rapidly evolving green finance space. In the UK alone, signatories of the charter represent more than a million accountants, actuaries, bankers, financial analysts, treasurers, risk managers and other professionals whose work is fundamental to the greening of finance.

IMPACT INVESTING INSTITUTE

Impact Investing Institute is an independent, non-profit organisation, which brought together two influential initiatives: the Government's Taskforce for Growing a Culture of Social Impact Investing in the UK and the UK National Advisory Board on Impact Investing. The goal of the institute is to accelerate the growth and improve the effectiveness of the impact investing market in the UK and internationally. The vision is for lives to improve, as more people choose to use their savings and investments to help solve social and environmental challenges, while seeking a financial return. The Institute works with investors from across the spectrum of capital, including pension trustees, asset managers, investment advisors, as well as individual savers.

FOCUS AREAS

- Policy and advocacy
- Education
- Impact measurement
- Management and reporting

WEBSITE: <https://www.impactinvest.org.uk/>

LINKEDIN: [Impact Investing Institute](#)

TWITTER: @ImpactInvInst

EXAMPLE OF WORK: PENSIONS WITH IMPACT

In partnership with [Pensions for Purpose](#), Impact Investing Institute designed and published the [Impact Investing Principles for Pensions](#) (2020) which provide practical guidelines on how pensions can pursue an impact investing strategy. They offer a good governance framework which tackles the investment process at every stage in the investment chain – from how pension schemes can put in place objectives and set an implementation framework, to how to hold investment consultants and managers to account, and how to report on what is being achieved through a balanced measurement framework. The Principles are for trustees, local government pension scheme (LGPS) committee members, advisors and in-house investment teams across the full spectrum of pension schemes. They are also a useful tool for investment consultants, fiduciary managers and asset managers.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (ODI)

Overseas Development Institute is an independent, global think tank with more than 220 staff, including researchers, communicators and specialist support staff. The main goal of ODI is to deliver high-quality, internationally recognised research that informs policy design and convenes leadership across the global challenges. There is a strong focus on low and middle-income developing countries, with a wide range of areas covered: from gender equality, social policy or climate to politics and governance or digital societies.

ODI's workstream on Climate and Sustainability includes topics such as Climate Finance, Green Fiscal Policy, Sustainable Energy and Low Carbon Development. In the context of International Development, the Institute carries out high quality applied research and provides practical advice to inform and influence policies, practices and public debate on climate finance. ODI partners with governments, international organisations and research institutes, to promote the effective use of finance in meeting the challenge of climate change.

FOCUS AREAS

- Environment
- Climate finance
- Green growth
- Resilience

WEBSITE: <https://odi.org/en/>

LINKEDIN: [ODI](#)

TWITTER: @ODI_Global

EXAMPLE OF WORK: CLIMATE FINANCE

The ODI team works to broaden the debate on global climate change financing through innovative products like the annual [10 things to know about climate finance](#) and interdisciplinary research such as [Six development finance proposals to expand climate investment](#). Key aims of these projects are to: inform international climate finance policy processes; help shape the design and operation of climate funds; support effective utilisation and management of climate finance; and evaluate options for shifting private investment away from business as usual towards low emission, climate resilient economies.

THE UK SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT AND FINANCE ASSOCIATION (UKSIF)

The UKSIF is a membership network for sustainable and responsible financial services. It promotes responsible investment and other forms of finance that support sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment. UKSIF runs a series of projects which aim to develop the market for sustainable and responsible finance. It also runs a wide range of events, from analyst seminars to larger events reflecting the full spectrum of interests of their members, and works to educate the public and government about sustainable and responsible finance.

FOCUS AREAS

- Connecting the community
- Policy influencing
- Knowledge sharing

WEBSITE: <https://www.uksif.org/>

LINKEDIN: [UKSIF](#)

TWITTER: @UKSIF

EXAMPLE OF WORK: KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND SUPPORT

A key membership benefit is access to UKSIF's events programme, curated with the support of our Analyst Committee to inform members on the most pressing topics in sustainability and providing direct support on the latest developments and ways to approach new policies and regulations. UKSIF holds 30+ annual events, including flagship conferences, webinars, roundtables and briefings, operating under the key themes such as "The Big Picture in ESG, sharing the latest developments across the ESG space"; "The Sectoral Dimension, diving into the challenges, opportunities and risks facing different industry sectors in the transition to a sustainable economy".

GREEN ALLIANCE

Green Alliance is an independent think tank and charity focused on ambitious leadership for the environment. It provides in depth research and advocacy by experts, often in partnership with other organisations and interests. Green Alliance organises high profile events and specialist seminars, providing opportunities for dialogue with key decision makers.

FOCUS AREAS

- Greening the economy
- Low carbon future
- Natural environment
- Resources

WEBSITE: <https://green-alliance.org.uk/>

LINKEDIN: [Green Alliance](#)

TWITTER: @GreenAllianceUK

EXAMPLE OF WORK: DEVELOPING NEW MARKETS FOR LAND AND NATURE

Green Alliance works closely with the National Trust to develop and flesh out the detail of a Natural Infrastructure Scheme (NIS), an idea for a market mechanism to trade environmentally beneficial activities. This work, presented to Defra, is influencing the shape of the new environmental land management system being developed to replace EU Common Agricultural Policy support for UK farmers. Different aspects of the NIS were explored in two reports. The first, [Funding nature's recovery](#) (2018), outlined how the government's new system could support new markets in land management for nature's recovery. The other, [New routes to decarbonise land use with Natural Infrastructure Schemes](#) (2019), demonstrated how carbon reduction could be an additional marketable service from land enhancement projects, making them more viable and potentially more environmentally beneficial.

INFLUENCEMAP

InfluenceMap is an independent think tank that provides data and analysis on how business and finance are affecting the climate crisis. It launched its corporate climate lobbying platform on the eve of the Paris Agreement in late 2015 in response to growing demand from investors and other stakeholders. The analysis provided clarity and detailed measurement of how corporations influence policy needed to address climate change. It introduced the concept of a corporation's Carbon Policy Footprint or Scope 4 emissions.

InfluenceMap places great importance on evidence-based assessment using reliable data and rigorous methodologies. Their work is used extensively by powerful actors in finance, business, campaigns, policymaking, and the media to drive meaningful change. InfluenceMap is philanthropically funded and based in London, with offices in Tokyo and New York.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate policy lobbying
- Finance and climate risk
- Energy policy

WEBSITE: <https://influencemap.org/>

LINKEDIN: [InfluenceMap](#)

TWITTER: @InfluenceMap

EXAMPLE OF WORK: AN ANALYSIS OF ESG AND CLIMATE-THEMED EQUITY FUNDS

This research assesses 723 equity funds specifically marketed using ESG- and climate-related keywords, with over US\$330 billion in total net assets. It does so on the basis of two climate criteria (portfolio Paris Agreement alignment and fossil fuel intensity) likely to be of primary interest to investors in funds marketed in this manner. A key finding of the research is the wide spectrum of terms used to describe climate-themed strategies in listed equity funds and the resulting difficulty, even within financial databases, of comparison between them. Given the relative lack of standards and regulation currently governing the marketing of ESG and climate funds, this research has defined over 30 search terms to group funds into two main categories: 'broad ESG' and 'climate-themed'. In the broad ESG category, this report identifies 593 equity funds with over \$265 billion in total net assets. Of the funds assessed, 421 of them, or 71%, have a negative Portfolio Paris Alignment score, indicating the companies within their portfolios are misaligned from global climate targets.

WWF UK

Although it is known mostly for its work on environmental protection, the WWF has also a Sustainable Finance team which supports the financial sector to begin Investing and lending in low carbon and sustainable sectors, Supporting innovation and research. For nearly ten years, the WWF-UK Sustainable Finance team has been actively engaging with governments, international organisations, civil society and the finance sector to advocate for sustainable finance policy reform and develop the tools and standards to safeguard a sustainable environment.

The WWF Sustainable Finance team works with banks, pension funds, asset managers, asset consultants and insurers on driving more sustainable investments that serve people and the planet, as well as thought leaders and other non-profits. The goal is to assess environmental risk to businesses and outline opportunities for investment in a fast-changing climate and environment.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate
- Nature
- Sustainable finance
- Sustainable economic policy

WEBSITE: <https://www.wwf.org.uk/>

LINKEDIN: [WWF-UK](#)

TWITTER: @wwf_uk

EXAMPLE OF WORK: BLUE ECONOMY FINANCE

Working in collaboration with the [Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit](#), the European Commission and the European Investment Bank, WWF has developed a set of voluntary sustainable [Blue Economy Finance Principles](#) to act as a framework for investment and development policy decisions. These principles complement existing frameworks in sustainable finance and recognise the importance of compliance, transparency and disclosure, as well as the specific challenges of investment in the context of the ocean. Additionally, a collaboration between WWF and Metabolic, supported by WWF-Sweden, WWF-UK & WWF-International has resulted in the report on [Value at Risk in the Blue Economy](#) (2019-2020) that built an innovative modelling tool to assess risk to investments in the Baltic ecoregion. This project is currently being upscaled to a global model.

FORUM FOR THE FUTURE

Forum for the Future is an international sustainability non-profit. It was founded in the UK in 1996 and today they have grown to an international organisation situated across four offices: London, New York, Singapore and Mumbai. Forum for the Future specialises in addressing critical global challenges by catalysing change in key systems, from food to apparel, energy to shipping.

Forum partners with pioneering businesses, foundations and civil society organisations that share the purpose of accelerating the shift to a sustainable future. Together they are tackling the climate crisis, transforming food systems and ensuring the supply chains we rely on for goods and services are more resilient and equitable. They also equip organisations and individuals with the skills needed to take meaningful action.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate change
- Circular economy
- Global challenges

WEBSITE: <https://www.forumforthefuture.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Forum for the Future](#)

TWITTER: @Forum4theFuture

EXAMPLE OF WORK: LOCAL JUST TRANSITION CHALLENGE

In the Local Just Transition Challenge, Forum for the Future is working with two distinct communities to demonstrate how the long-term benefits of the transition to a net-zero economy can be felt by everyone and to develop a best practice approach that can be scaled to build momentum for the just transition nationwide. The vision is for all communities to benefit from the transition to a net-zero economy that the UK is undertaking. Over the course of 2021 and 2022, working closely with public participation charity [Involve](#), Forum for the Future will work with those two communities to better understand how the net zero transition relates to them and their everyday needs, and what a vision of a just or fair transition looks like for them; explore how local, regional and national actors might work together to help realise this vision and the potential projects that support it; and leverage the commitments, resources, and funding needed to catalyse the changes they would like to see.

ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation is a UK registered charity which promotes the circular economy. It is a founding member and partner of the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE) which was launched by the World Economic Forum in 2018. The Foundation's work focuses on six interlinking areas: Learning; Business; Institutions, Governments and Cities; Insight and Analysis; Systemic Initiatives and Communications. A network is built around these topics that brings together businesses, innovators, cities, governments, universities, and thought leaders to build and scale a circular economy. It comprises Members, Partners and Strategic Partners and an open Community. The community recognises the need for all stakeholders to take action to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy – through insights, events, learning, and access to the Community Platform of circular economy practitioners. Joining the community is free.

FOCUS AREAS

- Circular economy
- Biodiversity
- Finance

WEBSITE: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org>

LINKEDIN: [Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#)

TWITTER: @circulareconomy

EXAMPLE OF WORK: FINANCING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Foundation's report Financing the circular economy - Capturing the opportunity (2020) brings new analysis that highlights the rapid growth in circular economy financing and investment across asset classes and sectors. It calls on financial services firms to build on the momentum by seizing the opportunities and scaling the circular economy, in collaboration with governments and corporates. Recommendation from this report were presented in a panel discussion of the Financial Times Moral Money Summit 2020.

CLIENTEARTH

ClientEarth is an environmental law charity which uses the power of law to bring about systemic change that protects the earth for – and with – its inhabitants. The charity works in partnership across borders, systems and sectors, ingeniously using the law to protect life on earth. The main goal is to bring about end-to-end systemic change: informing, implementing and enforcing the law, advising decision-makers on policy, and training legal and judicial professionals.

ClientEarth's activities on climate finance involve pushing companies towards reporting climate risk; ensuring pension funds recognise their legal duty to manage climate-related risk; highlighting where companies are failing to recognise the impact of climate change and advocating for the integration of climate considerations in industry guidance and laws. The charity is pioneering the use of corporate and finance law to drive climate action.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate accountability
- Green washing
- Clean energy
- Climate finance

WEBSITE: <https://www.clientearth.org/>

LINKEDIN: [ClientEarth](#)

TWITTER: @ClientEarth

EXAMPLE OF WORK: REVEALING LACK OF ADEQUATE REPORTING IN UK COMPANIES

ClientEarth lawyers conducted an extensive review of the entire FTSE 100 and the largest 150 companies on the FTSE 250, studied each company's most recent annual report, and developed a quantitative assessment of how company disclosures match up against existing disclosure requirements. In their comprehensive [review](#) (2019-2020), they found that more than 90% of financial accounts and associated audit reports make no reference to climate change-related risks and impacts; around 40% of companies did not refer to climate-related risk in the 'principal risks and uncertainties' section of their annual report, and less than a quarter clearly referenced the impact of climate change on their business model; almost half of the companies assessed, mentioned some form of target to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement, or 'net-zero' emissions. This is a step in the right direction, but the lack of material detail presented makes it difficult to assess how ambition is translated into practical action.

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is an independent research organisation that aims to deliver positive change on a global scale. IIED is working on more than 150 active projects around the world. The work of the institute is structured around its [2019-2024 Strategy](#), which states that from now to 2024, IIED will help vulnerable communities achieve climate resilience and development, simultaneously pushing hard for global action to restrict planetary warming to 1.5°C. IIED's research takes valuable local solutions to influential global forums, achieving impact at many levels, promoting biodiversity alongside social justice, ensuring the women and men closest to the land, ocean and natural resources are heard. IIED is also a member of the Green Economy Coalition — the largest alliance of organisations committed to accelerating the transition to green and fair economies.

FOCUS AREAS

- Sustainable markets
- Green economy
- Climate change
- Governance

WEBSITE: <https://www.iied.org/>

LINKEDIN: [IIED](#)

TWITTER: @IIED

EXAMPLE OF WORK: GREEN ECONOMY: COVID-19 RECOVERY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

IIED carried out vast research on the topic of Covid-19 impacts on developing countries. Through reports, articles and blogposts, the institute analyses financial mechanisms of recovery from the pandemic in most impacted low and middle-income countries. For instance, the briefing [Sustainable financing of The Gambia's development in a COVID-19 era](#) (2021) considers the requirements of sustainable financing for post COVID-19 development in The Gambia and explore important factors required to support it, from a strong legal framework and enabling environment to risk and resilience financing, digitalisation and debt management options. In the paper [Redesigning debt: lessons from HIPC for COVID, climate and nature](#) (2021) proposes a new international debt relief initiative, which prioritises investment in climate and nature, to get developing countries' economies back on track post-pandemic.

GLOBAL ETHICAL FINANCE INITIATIVE

The Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI) oversees, organises, and coordinates a series of programmes to promote finance for positive change. GEFI assists organisations in the development of their ethical and sustainable finance approach by completing research, delivering capacity building training and carrying out tailored advisory work. As it is a not-for-profit rather than a commercially focused organisation, the motivation behind their advisory work is to progress the ethical and sustainable finance agenda.

Along with delivering practical projects, GEFI annually hosts the Ethical Finance Summit in Edinburgh, the premier platform that convenes the world's foremost business, political, civic, and social leaders of society to network, share, co-develop and shape a fairer, more sustainable financial system. GEFI also hosts the SDG Financial Products Platform, a collaboration between GEFI and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to facilitate the development of innovative financial products that are SDG aligned.

FOCUS AREAS

- Events
- Round tables
- Knowledge sharing
- Climate finance

WEBSITE: <https://www.globalethicalfinance.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Global Ethical Finance Initiative \(GEFI\)](#)

TWITTER: @Finance4Change

EXAMPLE OF WORK: THE ETHICAL FINANCE SUMMIT

The Ethical Finance Summit has a history of driving action by bringing together a global coalition across financial services. Since 2015, GEFI have uniquely convened stakeholders from all parts of the financial system, including banking, asset management, asset owners, regulation and more at their flagship annual summit. The last summit was themed "Financing a Sustainable Future: Climate and Beyond". The Summit began with leadership showcases hosted in four global financial centres on day one, focusing on climate finance and natural capital, ahead of COP26, on day two. The third day explored the long-term future of ethical finance, looking at financing the sustainable development goals, social impact (the "S" in ESG) and leadership for the journey ahead.

THE ETHICAL FINANCE HUB

The Ethical Finance Hub (EFH) is an advocacy and advisory body based in Edinburgh which researches and promotes ethical finance in Scotland. Together with its parent organization, the Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI), the centre emerged from the award-winning Edinburgh Ethical Finance Round Table series (EEFRT) that has been running a series of discussions on ethical finance among leading industry practitioners since 2010. The success of the EEFRTs led to demands from participants for a more permanent platform that engages with topics around ethical finance.

After development of an initial business case and demonstration of strong industry support for their practitioner-led platform, the Scottish Government agreed to fund the initial phase of the EFH in 2016. Since then, the EFH has campaigned tirelessly for ethical finance in Scotland. The hub has authored reports, advised on public policies, organised discussions, and ran campaigns. In addition, the EHF aims to build capacity in the Scottish ethical finance industry by developing and delivering education and training courses, and by maintaining an unique internship placement.

FOCUS AREAS

- Banking
- ESG
- Impact investment
- Green finance

WEBSITE: <https://www.ethicalfinancehub.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Ethical Finance Hub](#)

TWITTER: @EF_Hub

EXAMPLE OF WORK: MAPPING THE RESPONSIBLE INVESTING LANDSCAPE IN SCOTLAND

This report is the first analysis of the responsible investment landscape in Scotland and was released in May 2020. The motivation behind the report was the mission to raise awareness and support the growth of the responsible investing market in Scotland. Having engaged with a number of stakeholders as well as undertaken internal desk-based research, it was apparent that, whilst data on the sector exists for the UK as a whole, there was little or nothing specific to Scotland available. Following further consultation with stakeholders, the EFH committed to preparing a research report that would help to define and measure the responsible investing market in Scotland. The report is primarily intended for the business and financial community in Scotland, as well as the Scottish Government.

MAKE MY MONEY MATTER

Make My Money Matter is a people-powered campaign that advocates for transparency of pension investments and of possibilities to exert influence over pensions' investments to demand sustainability criteria. They stipulate that money should be invested in building a future to be proud of, economies that can be relied on, and an environment everyone can thrive in.

Make My Money Matter is committed to supercharging the power of citizens' money, helping people unlock the £2.6 trillion saved in UK pensions to build a just, sustainable future which everyone would like to retire into. Citizens' pension investments can help achieve this through financing measures that deliver on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The movement argues that switching a pension to a sustainable option is 21x more powerful in addressing climate change than becoming vegan, avoiding flying and switching energy provider combined.

FOCUS AREAS

- Pensions
- Impact investment

WEBSITE: <https://makemymoneymatter.co.uk/>

LINKEDIN: [Make My Money Matter](#)

TWITTER: @MMMMoneyMatter

EXAMPLE OF WORK: 21X CHALLENGE

Make My Money Matter encourage people to ask their pension provider to clean up their investments, in order to cut their carbon footprint 21x more than giving up flying, going veggie and switching energy provider. That's based on a study which says that moving the national average pension wealth to the sustainable fund used in the calculation is 21 times more effective (respectively) than the combined annual carbon savings of switching to a renewable electricity provider, substituting all air travel with rail travel and adopting a vegetarian diet.

CLIMATE BONDS INITIATIVE (CBI)

Climate Bonds Initiative is an international organisation working solely to mobilise the largest capital market of all, the \$100 trillion bond market, for climate change solutions. CBI promotes investment in projects and assets necessary for a rapid transition to a low carbon and climate resilient economy. The strategy is to develop a large and liquid Green and Climate Bonds Market that will help drive down the cost of capital for climate projects in developed and emerging markets; to grow aggregation mechanisms for fragmented sectors; and to support governments seeking to tap debt capital markets. CBI empowers their partner organisations with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate, influence, and instigate change.

FOCUS AREAS

- Green bonds
- Trainings
- Policy models and advice

WEBSITE: <https://www.climatebonds.net/>

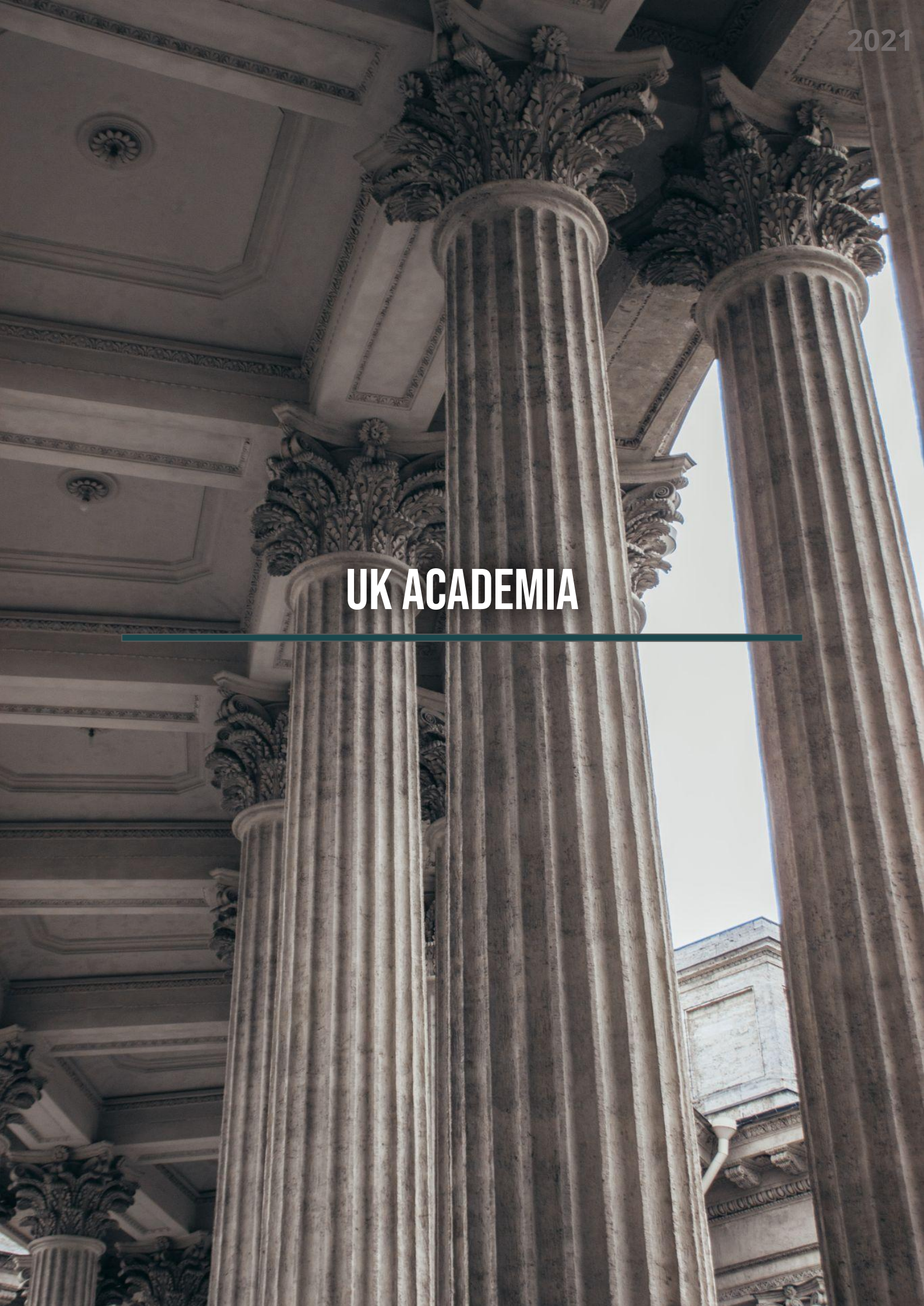
LINKEDIN: [Climate Bonds Initiative](#)

TWITTER: @ClimateBonds

EXAMPLE OF WORK: CLIMATE BONDS TAXONOMY

The Climate Bonds Taxonomy is a guide to climate aligned assets and projects. It is a tool for issuers, investors, governments and municipalities to help them understand what the key investments are that will deliver a low carbon economy. The Taxonomy is grounded in the latest climate science and has been developed through an extensive multistakeholder approach, leveraging the work of their Technical and Industry Working Groups. The Taxonomy aims to encourage and be an important resource for common green definitions across global markets, in a way that supports the growth of a cohesive thematic bond market that delivers a low carbon economy. Climate Bonds has been a major contributor to the development of the EU Sustainable Finance Taxonomy.

UK ACADEMIA



CENTRE FOR CLIMATE FINANCE & INVESTMENT

AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

The Centre executes interdisciplinary research combining intellectual rigour and industry relevance to unlock solutions within capital markets to address the challenges posed by global climate change. Through collaboration between academics and practitioners, a new understanding of the investment opportunity in renewable energy, clean technologies, and climate-resilient infrastructure is generated.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

[Climate Change and the Future of Food](#) (2021) - This report expands on the known risks of climate change to the agriculture sector by examining the failings of major climate models to analyse extreme weather events and to address the immediacy of the significant impacts.

[The Race for Green Capital in Emerging Markets](#) (2021) - This paper describes structural reasons why, without intervention, Emerging Markets cannot capture the potential of rapidly growing green bonds markets and other measures to attract foreign capital to fund transition, mitigation, and adaptation measures.

WEBSITE: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/business-school/faculty-research/research-centres/centre-climate-finance-investment/>

CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

AT UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Through a unique combination of deep industry collaboration, high-calibre research, and exceptional education programmes, the Centre for Sustainable Finance is helping financial institutions to play a leading role in building a more sustainable economy.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

[Handbook for Nature-related Financial Risks: Key concepts and a framework for identification](#) (2021) - CISL has built on the Dasgupta review to produce a handbook, in collaboration with financial institutions and University of Cambridge academics, for identifying nature-related financial risks that explains key concepts and provides a framework for risk identification.

[Bank 2030: Accelerating the transition to a low carbon economy](#) (2020) - This report authored by the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership's (CISL) Banking Environment Initiative (BEI) highlights the need for banks to develop an 'active mindset' in order to accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy.

WEBSITE: <https://www.cisl.cam.ac.uk/centres/centre-for-sustainable-finance>

GRANTHAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment was established by the LSE in 2008 to create a world-leading centre for policy-relevant research and training on climate change and the environment, bringing together international expertise on economics, finance, geography, the environment, international development and political economy. One of the centre's focus areas is Sustainable Finance.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

[Insurance as a catalyst for using climate risk information for government planning and decision-making: A framework for analysing drivers and barriers, tested against evidence emerging from Sub-Saharan Africa \(2019\)](#) - The analysis offers a new perspective on the catalyst role of insurance by focusing on underpinning political economy factors, particularly incentives and relationships that influence the catalysing process.

[A time for action on climate change and a time for change in economics \(2021\)](#) - In this paper, Nicholas Stern argues that the COVID-19 and climate crises, and the weaknesses that produced them, should be tackled together and that the response must be a new sustainable, resilient and inclusive approach to growth and development. The paper explores relevant policies and actions, and then turns to the changes to economics necessary to pursue these ideas and imperatives.

WEBSITE: <https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/>

CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

AT SOAS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The SOAS Centre for Sustainable Finance aims to advance the transition to an equitable, low-carbon economy by providing a forum for interdisciplinary research on sustainable finance and investment. It seeks to enhance the knowledge and understanding of sustainable finance in both the Global North and South and act as a focal point for policy debates in this area. Researchers at the SOAS Centre for Sustainable Finance are working with national and international partners on a range of topics, with funding from different institutions.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: SUFINDA

Hosted at SOAS University of London's Centre for Sustainable Finance, SUFINDA (short for sustainable finance data) is an organisation set up to support the global community of climate and sustainable finance researchers, decision makers and investors. It is the holding company for the Climate and Sustainable Finance Data Initiative, a unique data project combining relevant country information, multi-level and multi-sectoral financial data and assessment of progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate change mitigation and adaptation. SUFINDA's global database will enable researchers, investors and practitioners to assess not only how much public and private money is flowing to developing and transition economies, but also to better understand which business models prove most effective, why money flows to certain places, how to assess enabling frameworks and regulation as well as barriers to action. Such data can be used to accelerate flows of climate and sustainable finance and enhance the effectiveness of existing investment, which is currently hindered by the significant gap in available and reliable data.

WEBSITE: <https://www.soas.ac.uk/centre-for-sustainable-finance/>

CZECH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CENTRE (ISFC)

ISFC is an independent, apolitical, and impact-driven non-profit Prague based organisation whose aim is to carry out in-depth research on sustainable finance topics. It uses expert insight and practical policy solutions to inform public debate and policymaking on sustainable finance, while also helping to build local expertise and capacity on a range of topics. For this purpose, ISFC co-organized last year the CEE Sustainable Finance Summit that aimed to ignite the discussion about sustainable finance and the opportunities it offers for Central and Eastern Europe.

The centre's analysis of complex policy issues is available to the widest possible audiences in accessible and easy-to understand formats. ISFC offers training and learning opportunities, organises practical workshops, guest lectures and helps design course work on different sustainable finance topics for financial institutions, public sector organisations, and universities. ISFC also provides advice and consulting services to both private and public sector organisations on their strategy, sustainability reporting, ESG implementation, impact measurement, EU Green Deal and Taxonomy compliance, and more.

FOCUS AREAS

- ESG & Sustainable investing
- EU Green Deal
- Sustainable innovation
- Just transition

WEBSITE: <https://www.isfc.org/en/home>

LINKEDIN: [ISFC](#)

TWITTER: @isfcentre

EXAMPLE OF WORK: AMPLIFYING THE "S" IN ESG: INVESTOR MYTH BUSTER

ISFC, together with several influential partners from around the world, has created ESG working group as a pro bono partnership that brings together civil society, experts and private sector. The group produced the white paper, to help create a greater momentum for both improving an understanding of the "S" issues, and encourage a wider adoption of social criteria in investment strategies. The group also plan to carry on with this work by engaging with more stakeholders, as well as organising events and training sessions to build greater capacity.

ASOCIACE PRO MEZINÁRODNÍ OTÁZKY (AMO)

AMO (Association for International Affairs) is a non-governmental not-for-profit Prague-based organization founded in 1997. Its main aim is to promote research and education in the field of international relations. AMO facilitates expression and realization of ideas, thoughts, and projects in order to increase education, mutual understanding, and tolerance among people. The association formulates and publishes briefings, research, and policy papers; organizes international conferences, expert seminars, round tables, and public debates; organizes educational projects; presents critical assessments and comments on current issues for local and international press; creates favorable conditions for the growth of a new generation of experts; supports interest in international relations among the general public; and cooperates with a number of like-minded local and international institutions.

Since 2019, AMO has a Climate Policy Project which aims at enhancing the analytical basis of climate policies in the Czech Republic. Its backbone consists of the setup of an climate expert team within AMO, which enriches the insufficiently open Czech public debate with new topics and angles including those that can be found for inspiration abroad. AMO strives for maximum impact by linking the Climate Policy Project with other ongoing projects including in the field of energy.

FOCUS AREAS

- Taxonomy
- Climate policies
- Energy
- Visegrad four

WEBSITE: <https://www.amo.cz/en/>

LINKEDIN: [AMO - Association for International Affairs](#)

TWITTER: @AMO_cz

EXAMPLE OF WORK: EU TAXONOMY WEBINAR AND FACTSHEET

In March 2021, the Climate team at AMO in collaboration with Frank Bold organised a closed-door webinar on EU Taxonomy and non-financial reporting for banks, investors, companies, government officials and experts. The keynote speaker Jeffrey Sachs from Columbia University was followed by Štěpánka Králíková from AMO, Sebastian Rink from the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Alois Míka from ČSOB. For the purpose of the webinar, a short and useful Factsheet on EU Taxonomy and non-financial reporting was published.

CENTRUM PRO DOPRAVU A ENERGETIKU (CDE)

Centre for Transport and Energy (CDE) is a non-profit non-governmental organisation founded in 1998 which focuses on the environmental impacts of transportation and energy production, especially those on the Earth's climate. We see our goal in building and reinforcing a wide platform of groups and individuals who are interested in working towards sustainable transport and energy future. Main activities of the centre involve: Influencing transport, energy and climate policies and legislation; Education and awareness-raising about climate change and its impacts; Organising information exchange among NGOs and international co-operation and networking; Promoting energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy; Increasing transparency of export credit agencies; and Preparation of expert studies.

Centre for Transport and Energy is a member of networks of Czech environmental NGOs Green Circle and one of the founding members of the platform of Czech environmental and development NGOs Climate Coalition. At the international level, the centre also participates actively in CEE Bankwatch Network (a network of environmental NGOs monitoring the activities of international financial institutions in the CEE region), Climate Action Network Europe and European Federation for Transport and Environment.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate and energy regulation
- Clean energy
- EU budget
- Just transition

WEBSITE: <https://www.cde-org.cz/>

LINKEDIN: [Centre for Transport and Energy](#)

TWITTER: @CDE_CzechRep

EXAMPLE OF WORK: JUST TRANSITION

CDE supports the efforts to socially and economically just coal phase-out, taking part in the international platform Just Transition and supporting sustainable strategic plans of restructuring the Czech coal regions, RE:START. CDE contributed to CEE Bankwatch's Territorial Just Transition Plan Checklist. This paper outlines recommendations for the content of each section in the TJTP in order to help countries produce meaningful plans which will ensure that the solutions envisaged for regions are sustainable and fair. Most recently, CDE held an international workshop "*Cultivating Just Transition in Central and Eastern Europe*", which brought together initiatives from the region and made space to share their stories of just transition. A paper was published afterwards with the key messages together with recommendations for policymakers and NGOs on how to make the just transition a reality. The document focuses on the creation of just transition story, perspective and engagement of local people and ambitions and leadership as an important part of decarbonisation. Together with CEE Bankwatch, CDE published the paper *Status of the Territorial Just Transition Plans in Central and Eastern Europe*, which provides an analysis of the state of the TJTPs' design in 6 CEE countries.

FRANK BOLD SOCIETY

Frank Bold is a purpose-driven law firm using the power of business and non-profit approaches to solve social and environmental problems. The fifty-person law organisation operates six branches across three European countries. Frank Bold promotes corporate and governmental accountability, and provides legal support to civil society in human rights, environmental, and anticorruption cases. Offices situated in Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Kraków and Brussels provide specific legal consultations to the public and local NGOs, run legal cases and publish briefings and papers.

Frank Bold is made up of two organisations: a not-for-profit and a law firm, the latter has earned B Corporation status in 2016. The non-profit section deals with following topics: Responsible State - empowering people to defend the public interest and develop, promote, and enforce laws to prevent systemic corruption in the Czech Republic; Responsible Companies - developing and promoting new business models that better integrate societal interests into corporate purpose, governance, and decision-making; Responsible Energy - developing and promoting legal initiatives that support the transformation towards clean and decentralized energy production and consumption in EU countries; Legal Counselling Centre - empowering citizens and local communities in the Czech Republic by helping them to assert their rights and actively participate in public policy.

FOCUS AREAS

- Responsible companies
- Climate and energy
- Corruption
- Empowerment of society

WEBSITE: <https://frankbold.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Frank Bold](#)

TWITTER: @FrankBoldCZ

EXAMPLE OF WORK: RESPONSIBLE COMPANIES - NON-FINANCIAL REPORTING

The organisation is coordinating the [Alliance for Corporate Transparency project](#), which is a three-year research project bringing together leading civil society organisations and experts with the aim of analysing the corporate disclosure on sustainability issues by the 1000 largest companies operating in the EU. The objective of this initiative is to serve as guidance to companies and regulators and provide data to substantiate the discussion on the standardisation of sustainability disclosure. To this end, the project is assessing how European companies disclose information necessary for understanding their impact on society and the environment, as required by the EU Non-financial Reporting (NFR) Directive. Frank Bold also prepared [instructions on how to report correctly according to EU legislation](#). In connection with the Alliance for Corporate Transparency, Frank Bold is also leading a [project](#) that is specifically looking into the implementation of the NFR Directive in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

INSTITUT CÍRKULÁRNÍ EKONOMIKY (INCIEN)

INCIEN is a non-profit, non-governmental organization focusing on innovative environmental management. Together with partners the institute works on projects to inform, educate and interpret best practices and co-creates pilot projects that strive for a transition from a linear to a circular economy. In collaboration with companies, municipalities, the governmental sector, NGOs and other stakeholders, INCIEN participates in many different projects every year. The growing interest in the circular economy in the Czech Republic on a political, social, and business level is in the need for practical solutions and showcases. The institute's services and products are therefore designed so that they enable the decision-making and action-steps for a wide spectrum of stakeholders from various sectors.

INCIEN provides analytical and educational programs as well as project management tools for various organizations and individuals, bringing practical solutions and state-of-the-art concepts encountered every day to develop and implement effective responses on key environmental topics. By involving and working with the private sector, governmental institutions and citizens from various fields, INCIEN delivers tailored-made solutions. All solutions provided stems from collaborations with international partners with whom the institute shares the best practices and know-how.

FOCUS AREAS

- Circular economy

WEBSITE: <https://incien.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Institut Cirkulární Ekonomiky, z. ú.](#)

TWITTER: @INCIEN_ORG

EXAMPLE OF WORK: WASTE AS A RESOURCE CONFERENCE

INCIEN organises annual conferences "Waste as a resource". The fifth year (2020) focused on circular public works contracts. Previous years were designed more broadly to offer solutions for self-subsistence and efficient management of towns in areas such as Waste, Energy, Water, Constructions and Circular Townhalls. The main goal of the conference "Waste as a Resource" is to provide its attendees with a complex overview of the application of circular economy principles. This not only relates to the governance of towns and cities but also to company management. INCIEN strives to show best practice examples from the Czech Republic and from abroad and provide an opportunity for local authority officials, companies representatives and other stakeholders to discuss with experts in the field of circular economy.

EUROPEUM

EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy is a non-profit, non-partisan, and independent think-tank focusing on European integration and cohesion. EUROPEUM contributes to democracy, security, stability, freedom, and solidarity across Europe as well as to active engagement of the Czech Republic in the European Union. EUROPEUM undertakes original research, organizes public events and educational activities, and formulates new ideas and recommendations to improve European and Czech policy making. One of the institute's focus areas is the EU's Green agenda: Analyzing the impact of climate change and policy developments designed to mitigate it, such as the European Green Deal. Sustainable Finance issues are represented in many of EUROPEUM's ongoing projects, including the Prague European Summit: Mladí a klima (Youth and the climate); and Prague Climate Talks, European Summer School (This year focused on Recovery and Resilience).

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate change
- EU's green agenda
- EU institutions and budget
- Member states & CEE role

WEBSITE: <https://www.europeum.org/>

LINKEDIN: [EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy](#)

TWITTER: @EUROPEUMPrague

EXAMPLE OF WORK: DECARBONIZATION OF THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

The project called Decarbonization of the automotive industry aims to enable fast and fair decarbonization of the automotive industry in the Czech Republic by bridging the gap between policy- and decision-makers and companies. The key networking activities rely on evidence-based research outputs and follow-up activities with the respective stakeholders of the automotive industry in the Czech Republic. Furthermore, the project aims to deepen the public understanding and social acceptance of the inevitable changes in the transport sector. The project is led by EUROPEUM with financial support from the European Climate Foundation.

RE-SET

Re-set is a platform for a socio-ecological transformation, thinking through and popularizing concepts for a social, ecological and democratic economy. The platform investigates the causes of social and environmental problems and looks for solutions. Re-set focuses on research and educational projects, facilitating information transfer between academia, social movements and the public. The young team supports people's initiatives and works with social movements that strive for a good life for all in different areas.

One of Re-set's main areas of focus is Climate Justice, where they are devising and promoting solutions which combine fast reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and landscape restoration with the correcting of social inequities and supporting movements and initiatives pushing for a transition towards sustainable, renewable and democratically controlled energy systems.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate justice
- Fossil finance divestment
- Education

WEBSITE: <https://re-set.cz/>

LINKEDIN: [Re-set](#)

TWITTER: @reset_platforma

EXAMPLE OF WORK: FOSSIL FINANCE DIVESTMENT AND CLIMATE MOVEMENT BUILDING

The project focuses on the role of the finance sector in bankrolling the climate crisis. Its goal is to reveal the role of financial institutions – and specifically insurance companies – in supporting fossil fuel industry corporations whose business models are incompatible with the goals of the Paris Agreement and a fast and just solution to the climate crisis. It will develop popular education initiatives and public campaigns aiming and cutting off coal and other fossil fuel companies from sources of insurance, loans, investments and other finance – and simultaneously support the development of the climate movement in the Czech Republic by education, capacity building and skills sharing.

GLOPOLIS

Glopolis focus on networking and connecting different perspectives. Their goal is to co-create a global community based on mutual respect, cooperation and democratic principles - a global polis. Glopolis try to understand specific civic and environmental problems in a broader context. In their efforts, they encourage more honest dialogue and better relations between supporters of different perspectives along with coordination of practical, joint projects between different groups of civic organisations, investors, officials or farmers.

Glopolis focus on a wide range of topics, which results in variety of outputs. For example, Glopolis co-authored joint publication by development and environmental organisations, which outlines what steps need Czechia take to prepare for climate change, Study on how the Czech power grid can cope with the decline of coal-fired power plants and the rise of renewables or research report on mapping of double taxation treaties (DTTs) of selected Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries with primary focus on treaties with developing countries.

FOCUS AREAS

- Democracy
- Sustainability
- ESG
- Responsible investment

WEBSITE: <https://glopolis.org/>

LINKEDIN: [Glopolis](#)

TWITTER: @Glopolis

EXAMPLE OF WORK: INVESTMENTS IN SUSTAINABILITY

Among Glopolis recent endeavours belong activities that are supposed to help Czech companies to transform their businesses to carbon-neutral. At Glopolis, they recognise that business sustainability is essential, which brings huge opportunity, but also risk for those who don't know how to make it happen. That's why at Spring 2021 they organized two expert debates on ESG investing and measuring sustainability. Anyway, they want to continue their efforts and in the next phase they plan to focus on mapping, networking, awareness and support of Czech companies.

GREEN DOCK

Green Dock is a non-profit initiative of social psychologists, data analysts and service designers. The aim is to help organisations apply knowledge and principles from behavioural sciences and create effective environmental programs and services. Green Dock can help with behavioural diagnostics and segmentation, Design of sustainable programs and services, Testing and evaluation or workshops and trainings. At Green Dock they combine academic carefulness with practicality and consult with world-class academics, while many of their team work professionally as consultants in the public or private sphere. They find a unifying line in the current climate situation and in their passion to contribute with their expertise to the solution.

FOCUS AREAS

- Behavioural diagnosis
- Testing & evaluation
- Workshops & trainings

WEBSITE: <https://greendock.cz/>

LINKEDIN: [Green Dock](#)

TWITTER: @GreenDockCZ

EXAMPLE OF WORK: HOW TO HELP PEOPLE OVERCOME BARRIERS TO SUSTAINABILITY

One of Green Dock's project focused on developing a practical guide for environmental initiatives that facilitates systematic work with psychological barriers to sustainable behaviour and could be used in the designing of campaigns, services and programmes that aim at changing people's behaviour to more sustainable ones. The handbook is based on the COM-B model (C - capability, O - opportunity, M - motivation, B - behaviour) developed by S. Michie's research team at University College London.

CI2

CI2 is a non-governmental non-profit organization focused on sustainable development, education, publishing and science and research. It was established at the beginning of 2013 through the transformation of Iris, o.p.s. The purpose of the transformation was both to continue the activities implemented by Iris, o.p.s. and to effectively and comprehensively develop the issue of carbon footprinting in the Czech environment and to more intensively promote sustainability indicators in the policies and strategies of local and regional public administration.

FOCUS AREAS

- Sustainable indicators
- Ecological & Carbon footprint
- Environmental reporting
- Climate change adaptation

WEBSITE: <https://ci2.co.cz/>

LINKEDIN: [CI2, o. p. s.](#)

TWITTER: @CI2ops

EXAMPLE OF WORK: SLEDUJEME / SNIŽUJEME CO2

The Sledujeme / Snižujeme CO2 programme is a voluntary environmental protection tool that promotes the active involvement of businesses, municipalities and others in climate protection activities. The programme is based on the objectives of international and national agreements and aims to raise awareness of climate protection issues and to promote and raise the profile of specific measures and projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The programme is the only one of its kind in the Czech Republic, was launched in July 2015 and is also open to foreign entities.

EKOLOGICKÝ INSTITUT VERONICA

The Veronica Ecological Institute is a professional workplace of the Czech Union of Nature Protectors Veronica. Through its expert and educational activities, it provides interpretation of professional environmental topics. It operates in Brno and Hostětín, dealing with both urban and rural environments. Its activities range from local to international contexts. Veronica has been publishing the eponymous environmental and cultural magazine since 1986, founded and developed ecological consulting in the Czech Republic, and built the Veronica Hostětín Centre, where it tests theoretical knowledge on model projects of sustainable development.

FOCUS AREAS

- Climate protection
- Sust. Regional development
- Sustainable consumption
- Energy savings & renewables

WEBSITE: <https://www.veronica.cz/>

LINKEDIN: -

TWITTER: -

EXAMPLE OF WORK: WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES FOR VARIETY OF SUBJECTS IN VERONICA CENTRE HOSTĚTÍN

The Veronica Education and Information Centre operates in the unique environment of the village of Hostětín. The village is known for its ecological projects, which have been realized thanks to the cooperation of the village with the Veronica Centre and the Civic Association Tradition of the White Carpathians. They offer for example excursions to ecological projects, professional seminars, conferences and trainings for representatives of public administration, the professional public, NGOs and the corporate sector, but also, educational programmes and workshops for schools of all types.

HNUTÍ DUHA / DUHA MOVEMENT

Duha push politicians and authorities, deal with companies and help households. It strives for a free and democratic society that respects and protects nature and provides a clean and healthy environment for life. Duha has several achievements on its record, including prevention of a non-ecological and unjust reform of electricity payments or repeated help to save North Bohemian villages from coal mine excavators. Moreover, Duha run a web platform Farmers directory which have linked thousands of customers with local farmers who offer fresh local food. Duha also protects large carnivores from poachers, help livestock breeders to secure their cattle, monitors the movement and brings unique visual material from the private live of lynx lynx and wolves, as well as valuable scientific data for further research.

FOCUS AREAS

- Energy & Renewables
- Climate protection
- Waste management

WEBSITE: <https://www.hnutiduha.cz/>

LINKEDIN: [Hnutí DUHA](#)

TWITTER: @HnutiDUHA

EXAMPLE OF WORK: ANALYSIS OF WIND ENERGY & MAGAZINE EVERGREEN

An analysis of the Czech wind energy sector based on models by academics from the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences was presented by representatives of the Chamber of Renewable Energy Sources and the DUHA Movement. This analysis is the first sub-study of an analysis that maps the feasible energy and economic potential of each renewable energy source.

Moreover, DUHA publishes a magazine called Evergreen 3 times a year. It informs about the latest news from the Duha movement, but also about recent events related to their work in the Czech Republic and the world. The magazine also includes various interviews with interesting people from different fields.

CZECH ACADEMIA



ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

The Charles University Environment centre was founded as a part of Charles University in 1992. It conducts environmental research and provides environmental expertise and information for students, university staff and for the general public. The centre collaborates with parliamentary bodies, state administration, non-government organizations and many academic and research institutions both locally and abroad. CUEC consists of the three units: sustainable development indicators, environmental economics, and education and information for sustainable development.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

Responsible consumption - materials for education for sustainable lifestyle - the project will review the most up-to-date research results on environmental aspects of consumer behaviour and determine its relevance to education. It will identify concepts and methodological tools to support behavioural change. The main result will be a methodology for teaching and evidence-based policy.

Schools for the Future - The main goal of the project is to create an environment for transformational learning to support pupils' self perception of themselves as agents of change. Empowered to imagine and contribute to building alternative futures, the project will support pupils' capacities for decision-making and making their voice heard, to reflect critically on the values shaping society today and active participation in creating a socially just and ecologically sustainable society.

WEBSITE: <https://www.czp.cuni.cz/czp/index.php/en/>

CENTRE OF SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT

AT UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

The centre uses its expertise to help organizations and individuals solve sustainability problems. Centre's activities are focused on the entire process of sustainable production and consumption starting from training future managers, through the sphere of management of multinational corporations and large enterprises, SMEs, public administration and local government, to the consumption of organizations and individuals. Centre provides research and its expertise is practically applied in cooperation with organizations.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

Collaborations - The centre is involved in organizing the international scientific conference "Innovation Management, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability" (IMES), which takes place at the Prague University of Economics and Business. The centre also actively cooperates with the Czech Management Association and the Czech Business Council for Sustainable Development.

Work with corporations - cooperate with corporations such as IKEA, Skanska or CSOB. Based on the results of this cooperation, the companies have been implementing concrete measures to increase sustainability of their core businesses. The Centre also draws on expert opinion, which they give to organizations, whether it concerns their strategic documents or analyses, or project proposals.

WEBSITE: <https://im.vse.cz/sustainability-management/>

INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

AT UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

The Institute for Sustainable Business was established at The Prague University of Economics and Business, Faculty of International Relations, with a mission to explore a variety of research topics in the field of sustainable development and their impact on entrepreneurial activities on a global, regional, and local scale. These topics include socioeconomic and environmental interdependencies, history, current issues and solutions, promotional tools, and international cooperation in maintaining sustainable development standards. The main emphasis is on research and publication activities.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Municipalities in the circle of the Circular Economy - Main goal of the project is to define and verify steps that lead the municipalities towards the transition to Circular Economy (CE) namely in various groups by population and other specific aspects. Project will result in methodology and interactive web application for representatives of municipalities and cities that will help to solve concrete and usual problems in circular economy principal.

The 23rd Annual Conference "Environmental Economics, Policy and International Relations" - The Conference provides a conducive environment for a comprehensive exchange of ideas and discussion on new theoretical or/and empirical research papers in environmental economics and policy including energy issues, climate change, sustainable tourism, circular economy, bio-economy, water management, and international environmental relations.

WEBSITE: <https://isb.vse.cz/>

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

AT MASARYK UNIVERSITY

The Research Institute for Sustainable Business (RISB) was established at the Faculty of Economics and Administration of Masaryk University in order to intensify cooperation between the involved departments and institutions on the support of scientific activities, transfer of knowledge between the faculty and practice and also the improvement of teaching and studies. It is thematically defined by the concept of sustainable business, while it understands sustainability in its broader meaning, i.e. the ability to persist over time and resist external shocks.

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH:

EDUCating for Positive Management (EDUC Management) - The project aims to provide new tools that could help to develop new business models, as a functional economy, which objective is to sell the use instead of the product. It will help the circular economy to be efficiently achieved. The major objective is to improve the contents of fundamentals in management, including social and environmental issues.

WEBSITE: <https://risb.econ.muni.cz/en/aktualne>

UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS

AT CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE

The centre was founded as an independent institute of the Czech Technical University in Prague under the auspices of four departments – Civil engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering. The mission of the Centre is to offer new scientific and technical innovation premises, providing state-of-the-art research equipment and facilities for a unique combination of participating specializations. Research institute Associates the experts from Czech Technical University in Prague dealing with sustainable buildings and facilitates university and industry cooperation, focuses on the commercialization of research results and technology transfer. Moreover, it develops, innovates and offers original solutions for sustainable buildings throughout their lifecycle, including a healthy indoor environment, considering saving of investment, operating and energy costs.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:

The centre offers wide range of services or help to industry and enterprises, developers, proprietaries, building administrators but also to research institutions. They can help with customized research and development, grant consulting, testing and diagnostics, operational costs optimization, comprehensive personal health systems and assistive technologies, project assessment and implementation, long-term monitoring of buildings and many more.

WEBSITE: <https://www.uceeb.cz/en/about-us>



British Embassy
Prague



GET IN TOUCH



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