



# THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE DATA ALLIANCE

The Alliance is a global network with the goal to identify and develop the data required for improved investor decision making in sustainable finance.

It will achieve its objectives by (a) facilitating exchange of experience and insights on relevant data; (b) serving as a forum to harmonize and promote common standards and best practices; and (c) working with the members to produce recommendations on the future of sustainable data.

It is open to Partners and Supporters who can contribute to these objectives through their experience and expertise and who want to work with market leading peers to shape and drive industry requirements for actionable and reliable ESG data.

## CONTEXT AND VISION

ESG data is at the root of the fast-evolving landscape of sustainable investment. It can guide the allocations of trillions of dollars of 'ESG integrated' investment capital. To ensure that the world shifts towards a sustainable future we must plan for the data we need to make better and more impactful investment decisions at scale. Large quantities of data have become available to investors in the last few years, led by taskforces and regulatory and industry bodies such as the UN, TCFD and the European Commission. However, ESG adoption by mainstream players and allocation of mainstream capital remains limited.

The Future of Sustainable Data Alliance's focus is therefore to perform an analysis of the completeness and consistency of the ESG data space, identifying the data holes and working to minimise data gaps. Challenges are further compounded by the lack of standardisation in company reporting on non-financial, ESG issues. With this in mind, the Future of Sustainable Data Alliance will provide recommendations for regulators, government and the industry as a starting point in addressing data holes and reporting issues, with the view to move towards investment grade sustainability data needed to achieve the UN SDGs, Paris Agreement goals and a sustainable post-Covid recovery.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE ALLIANCE

- **ESG DATA REQUIREMENTS**

Articulate the future data requirements investors and governments need to accurately integrate ESG data into decision making processes. Consolidating and documenting the data needs of global investors to highlight what is needed to make sustainable decisions.

- **TECHNOLOGY AND ALTERNATIVE DATA**

Highlight new technology and data sets that can support a just transition to sustainable development. Scoping future trends in technology, digitisation and open data that can support further transparency for sustainable investment decision making.

- **UN SDG IMPACT DATA**

Determine data needs and how to satisfy them for investors wanting to take greater account of SDG Related Risks and Impacts. Agree on standard ESG mappings to SDG indicators to harmonise SDG impact considerations.

The Alliance will work with Partners and Supporters to answer the question: what data do investors and governments need to meet the requirements of regulators, citizens and market demand for sustainable investments and how can we deliver them?

## **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

### **ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP**

You can become a member of the Alliance as either a Partner or Supporter. Membership is signified by a signature from the Partner or Supporter organisation and their organisation's logo. Members endorse the Alliance's objectives when becoming a member.

#### **Partners (Roles and Responsibilities)**

- Partners to the Alliance will work in full partnership together in a "coalition of the willing" to produce reports, case studies and materials meant to advance the sustainability data needs of the future.
- They will contribute their logo to the Alliance press releases and be named as a Partner on the website and in the materials produced.
- Partners will agree to name a specific person to attend a minimum of 4 Alliance meetings over the course of 2021.
- Partners will commit to contributing to workstreams of the Alliance and verifying reports, and will help where possible in amplifying the work of the Alliance, sharing findings with their membership and seeking ratification support, and will lend support in engagement through their contacts and networks where appropriate. Partners will commit to hosting an online or offline webinar/roundtable meeting during 2021 and/or contribute to the requirements of the FoSDA secretariat including costs for PR, project assistance, report design, research etc.
- Founder Partners are Partners that participated in the year one formation of FoSDA and have contributed to the establishment of the Alliance. They will be named as such on the website.

#### **Data Council (Roles and Responsibilities)**

- The Data Council is a sub-body of the Alliance that consists of data providers able to provide expert insights to FoSDA. Data Council participants can commit to full partnership of FoSDA or choose to act just within the Data Council.
- The Council will act as a clearing house for market problems and solutions on sustainability data and will provide market insight and help inform discussions at partner level. The Council allows partners to test the marketability of ideas/solutions being put forward to fill data gaps/holes and advance the field of sustainable data.
- The Council meets regularly throughout the year in coordination with partner meetings and requests.
- The Council will agree to contribute to reports, seminars, regulator meetings, and other engagements outside the Council meetings to further the recommendations of FoSDA.

**Supporters (Roles and Responsibilities)**

- Supporters agree to contribute their logo to be listed as a supporter of the initiative and in publications.
- Supporters will name a point person in their organisation to receive updates on the Alliance's progress through 2021.
- Supporters will be invited to attend and play a role in roundtable meetings to build the reporting and output but not be required to attend Partner meetings.
- Supporters contribute their time to review documents and provide support to outcomes shaped by the Alliance partners to ensure the end product is reflective of industry sentiment.
- Supporters will also be encouraged to craft and submit requested case studies to give further information to support the FoSDA initiatives from time to time and on an ad hoc basis.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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