Partnership Opportunities

A 12 month initiative to drive commitment and action ahead of COP28, hosted 30 November to 12th December 2023, Dubai Expo City, UAE
The Path to COP28 is an opportunity to showcase the work you are doing on climate finance. By joining an established programme with a track record of success at COP, you can get the most out of the climate summit and deliver effective climate action.

The campaign is a platform for collaboration on climate finance, which is built upon our inclusive approach, high-level contacts in multiple governments and UN agencies and links with the finance industry. Our Path to COP26 campaign hosted regular dialogues to share updates on the COP process, best practice among the finance sector, and progress from financial institutions.

Our Accredited Observer status from the UN provides us with access to both the Blue and Green zones at COP28, while our team’s experience at past COPs gives us the knowledge of both the formal and informal processes to ensure that Path to COP28 campaign members are able to deliver on their ambitions at COP28.

Joining the Path to COP28 campaign gives a unique opportunity to build your network, share your work, learn from leaders in the field and drive climate action.

Contact Chris Tait on chris@globalethicalfinance.org to discuss the strategic partnership opportunities associated with our forthcoming Path to COP28 programme »

“The Path to COP28 is inclusive global campaign open to all and we invite financial institutions and financial services stakeholders from across the globe to get involved.”

Dame Susan Rice
Chair, Global Steering Group
Global Ethical Finance Initiative

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Image: Dubai Expo City, Sustainability Pavilion
JOIN US

We invite financial institutions and financial services stakeholders committed to helping make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development to join the Path to COP28.

By joining the Path to COP28, you are demonstrating a commitment to supporting global climate action, to protecting our planet and to raising awareness of the financial risks and opportunities associated with climate change ahead of COP28 in Dubai and beyond.

SPONSORSHIP & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to endorsing the campaign, we invite organisations to partner with us to help shape the campaign.

Contact us to learn more about sponsorship and partnership opportunities.

Endorser
An informal partnership aimed at non-profit and charitable organisations to promote and, where appropriate, participate in Path to COP28 activities and events.

Visit pathtocop28.org to apply to become a endorser

Headline Partner
£POA
A comprehensive, mutually agreed programme of activities and events to run throughout the 12-month initiative. This could include: high profile branding, co-developing dedicated events, keynote speaking slots, leading on a specific campaign workstream, collaborating on research projects, reports and full access the wider GEFI network and programme.

Strategic Partner
£POA
A mutually agreed programme of activities and events to run throughout the 12-month initiative. This could include: branding, speaking slots, partnering on workstream, input into research projects, reports and select access the wider GEFI network and programme.

Please contact chris@globalethicalfinance.org to discuss partnership opportunities

Existing Partners

DIFC
NatWest Group
London Stock Exchange
RJ Fleming & Co.
Chartered Banker
REFINITIV
UNDP
assetTV
pathtocop28.org

Learn more about partnership opportunities »
THE PATH TO COP28 (2023)

Whilst COP27 has continued to enhance the scope of initiatives around mitigation, adaptation, finance, loss and damage, at Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI), we are looking ahead to COP28 as the next key milestone in terms of measuring progress on climate action.

With finance now firmly embedded on the COP agenda we will build upon our successful Path to COP26 campaign to ensure the finance sector in the UAE, Middle East and beyond takes decisive action ahead of COP28.

The Path to COP28 campaign will seek to encourage and support financial institutions to transition from climate commitments to implementation, measurement, and reporting. With over 12 years’ experience in ethical finance, a portfolio of established initiatives and events, strong GCC knowledge and an extensive global network the Path to COP28 campaign will bring together stakeholders from across finance and beyond to drive climate action before, during and after COP28.

The first finance-focused campaign for COP28 is committed to making finance work for COP28, and COP28 work for finance.

OUR PLANS

The Path to COP28 campaign was formally launched at Dubai International Finance Centre (DIFC) on 24th October 2022. Ahead of the event GEFI Chair Global Steering Group Chair, Dame Susan Rice joined Co-Founder and Managing Director Omar Shaikh to sign a “Host Financial Centre” Memorandum of Understanding with DIFC CEO Arif Amiri. The launch generated 58 pieces of media coverage with the campaign being promoted extensively across the digital DIFC estate.
PATH TO COP28 WORKSTREAMS

Our 12 month programme will be focused on four core workstreams with indicative themes and activities outlined below:

**Delivering Net Zero**

- Developing a service offering to support family offices and private equity investors in the GCC to align their portfolios with Net Zero
- Planning a CPD-accredited programme to build knowledge and awareness of COP28 and climate finance
- Publishing an analysis of c2,000 equity investments made by Scottish Local Government Pension Schemes
- Leveraging our position as UN Principles for Responsible Banking Stakeholder Endorser to encourage banks to decarbonize their lending books

**Unlocking Islamic Finance**

- Working with the High-Level Working Group on Green and Sustainable Sukuk to deliver some of the recommendations made in the report published at the Path to COP28 launch event
- Leading a 12-month research & development programme to create a Tayyib Impact Framework (Shariah compliance plus ESG)
- Conducting a pioneering global retail survey looking at consumer awareness and attitudes towards Islamic finance and the SDGs
- Delivering a 6-part thought leadership series covering:
  - Landscape mapping of climate commitments in GCC
  - Deep dive into UAE (commitments, taxonomy, COP28 targets etc)
  - Tayyib and Islamic impact investing
  - Challenges of IFIs engaging with net zero frameworks and other initiatives
  - Islamic capital markets – opportunity for green sukuk
  - Islamic finance OCP28 preview

**Financing Nature & Biodiversity**

- Delivering a 60-minute introduction to finance for nature ‘anchor’ session broadcast at UNDPs Nature for Life Hub 2022
- Scoping a approach to nature and biodiversity as a financial risk taken by central banks across
- Publishing a 4-part thought leadership series covering:
  - Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)
  - A Scottish perspective on TCFD and nature
  - Measuring biodiversity
  - Key Challenges for private sector investment

**Financing the SDGs**

- Developing a service offering to support family offices and private equity investors in the GCC to align their portfolios with the SDGs
- Promoting SDG linked financial products to attract new funds
- Publishing, in partnership with UNDP, a thought leadership series covering:
  - Introduction to the SDGs
  - SDG Impact Standards
  - Fixed income
  - Listed equities
  - Banking
  - Reporting and Assurance

The workstream themes will be covered across our events programme (including in-person events in Dubai, Edinburgh and London) and will also feature in our 6-part podcast series and 4-part Asset TV series.
PATH TO COP28 INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES

We will work with our campaign partners to co-develop a mutually beneficial programme aligned with COP28. This can range from leveraging GEFI’s existing events and projects to developing bespoke activities or a combination of both.

Thought Leadership
- Policy Positioning Papers
- Market Reports
- Article Series
- Asset TV Series
- Essay Series
- Podcast Series

Product / Initiatives
- Platform to launch new products / initiative
- Platform to promote existing products / initiatives to a global audience
- Co-develop new products / initiatives

Communications

Press / Media Campaigns
- YouGov surveys
  - OpEd
  - News releases

Open letters
- COP President
- Governments
- Regulators
- Financial institutions

Social media engagement
- Twitter
- LinkedIn

Events

Meetings
- Campaign stakeholder updates
- GEFI account management

Pre, During and Post COP
- Webinars
- Private round tables / workshops
- Blue zone/green zone and in-host city side events

Summit
- Ethical Finance ASEAN
- Ethical Finance Global
- SDG Hive programme

PATH TO COP28 TIMELINE

- Path to COP28 Launch event
  - 24th October 2022, DIFC, Dubai

- COP27 Programme
  - 6th-13th November, IsDB & CGI Blue Zone Events, Sharm el-Sheikh

- Post COP27 OMFIF Round Table
  - November / December, 2022, London

- UNDP Nature for Life Hub
  - 28th-30th November 2022, Virtual

- Post-COP27 abrdn Climate Series Webinar
  - January, 2023, Virtual

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 19th January 2023

- Path to COP28 Mini-Summit & Round Table Series 1
  - 28th February 2023, DIFC, Dubai

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 16th March 2023

- Ethical Finance Asean 2023
  - May / July 2023, Virtual

- Path to COP28 Mini-Summit & Round Table Series 2
  - June 2023, DIFC, Dubai

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 6th July 2023

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 7th September 2023

- Ethical Finance Global 2023 & SDG Hive
  - 20th September 2023, NatWest Group, Edinburgh

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 5th October 2023

- Pre-COP28 Briefing
  - October 2023, DIFC, Dubai

- Path to COP Stakeholder Update Meeting
  - 2nd November 2023

- COP28 programme
  - 30th November-12th December 2023, COP28 Blue Zone and DIFC, Dubai

- Global Islamic Finance and SDGs Summit
  - December 2023, Hybrid
The Path to COP26 was a pioneering campaign for the finance sector, bringing together over 60 signatories, including 20 financial institutions representing £2 trillion in assets to drive finance for positive change before, during and after COP26.

The campaign was focused around 4 key workstreams: Adam Smith at the COP, Finance for Nature, Faith in the SDGs and Net Zero Pensions.

The 15 month programme culminated in a range of public and private hybrid events at iconic locations in and around Glasgow during the two weeks of the UN climate summit.

At COP26, our partners derived great value from connecting with peers, sharing thought leadership, engaging in our events and being part of an action-oriented community of practitioners.

“COP28 must be a ‘solutions COP’ and our campaign will bring the finance world together to move from commitment to implementation, measurement, and reporting.”

Chris Tait
Chief Operating Officer
Global Ethical Finance Initiative
PATH TO COP26 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Path to COP26 campaign brought together stakeholders from across finance and beyond for the Glasgow summit. In the run up to, during and after the summit, we organised meetings, events and campaigns to enable finance to work for COP26, and COP26 to work for finance.

Learn more by viewing our Path to COP26 Photobook »

We hosted events across Glasgow during COP26, from the historic Glasgow University to the picturesque banks of the famous Loch Lomond.

Our SDG Financial Products Platform launched, with a $100m+ SDG-linked sovereign bond fund from Aegon Asset Management.

We creatively updated Adam Smith's most famous work, publishing The Wealth of Nations in the 21st Century essay series and hosting a unique performance based upon his life.

The campaign saw participation from ministers of the UK, Indonesian and Scottish Governments, former COP Presidents, CEOs of global financial institutions, senior central bank officials from the UK, Ghana and Pakistan, and High-level Climate Action Champions.

Our events comprised workshops, product launches, seminars, private meetings, report launches and lectures, linking climate to faith, nature, pensions and economics.

We published two reports examining the contribution pensions and retirement savings can make towards the climate crisis.

With our partners UKIFC and LSEG, we launched the High-level Working Group on green sukuk, aimed at unlocking Islamic finance for climate action.
PATH TO COP26 REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATORIES

+ OVER 50 ADDITIONAL LEADING FINANCIAL SERVICES BODIES, PROFESSIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BODIES, ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, CAMPAIGNING ORGANISATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNATORIES
ABOUT GLOBAL ETHICAL FINANCE INITIATIVE

We are a non-profit organization, based in the UK with a global footprint.
We are dedicated to enabling finance to deliver positive change for global communities whilst helping achieve the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Since the Ethical Finance Round Table Series was founded in 2010, we have grown into a leader in curating and hosting the global ethical finance debate, with a global network of over 15,000 finance professionals.

Our flagship annual Ethical Finance Global Summit has become the premier platform for open, honest and progressive discussion and debate. Our Path to COP26 programme was one of the largest financial services campaigns for COP26 – the Glasgow climate summit.

Our core team has expertise in corporate finance, ethical finance, faith-based finance, sustainability, economics, banking law & governance and communications.

We are guided by our Global Steering Group, chaired by Dame Susan Rice and representing global financial services leaders passionate about making finance work for positive change.

OUR CORE PARTNERS

As a non-profit organisation we have enjoyed multi-year support from a range of core partners. The support, which tends to be financial, contributes to our operating expenses and enables us to embark on new events, projects, and initiatives.

To avoid the risk of ‘greenwashing’ our core partners must demonstrate a shared vision for a financial system that serves people and the planet.

Our core partnerships are not transactional and go beyond merely contractual relationships. We are looking for something more transformational and two-way: a meaningful partnership, where shared goals are at the core of the strategy and impact is achieved for both partners.
In our hands, now lies, not only our own future, but that of all other living creatures with whom we share the earth.

Sir David Attenborough, Broadcaster