



Introduction

As the global finance sector grapples with a myriad of issues shaped by economic conditions, geopolitical events, evolving regulatory landscapes, and elections, the summit will explore the extent to which these market forces will contrive to catalyse progress or justify procrastination in the sustainable finance sector.

On one hand, there has been significant advancement with the integration of ESG criteria into investment strategies, the proliferation of green bonds, and increased corporate transparency on sustainability issues. However, despite this progress, procrastination persists, particularly in the standardization of ESG metrics and the widespread adoption of sustainable practices across all sectors. Many companies still engage in greenwashing, and the transition to sustainable finance is often hindered by short-term profit motives and insufficient regulatory frameworks.

The summit will consider these challenges and seek to inspire the finance sector to focus on progress, rather than procrastination, to meet global sustainability goals and combat climate change.

Across a series of keynotes, interviews, firesides and panels, the summit will tackle navigating uncertainty, leadership and purpose in times of crisis, delivering a just transition, and developing practical solutions for climate and nature.



Draft Agenda (Correct as of 20 Sep)

Session	Time (BST)	Confirmed speaker(s)
Registration/ networking	0830-0930	
Welcome Words [10m]	0930-0940	Speakers • Omar Shaikh, Managing Director, GEFI • Thom Kenrick, Head of Social Strategy & Impact, NatWest Group • Dr Sarah Ivory, Senior Lecturer in Climate Change and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Business School
Scottish Taskforce Launch Keynote/Fireside [30m]	0940-1010	Speakers • Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister of Scotland and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic • David Pitt-Watson, Chair, Scottish Taskforce for Green & Sustainable Financial Services • Mark Carney, UN Special Envoy on Climate Action and Finance (<i>Video address</i>)
MC Welcome Words [5m]	1010-1015	Speaker • Dr Sarah Ivory, Senior Lecturer in Climate Change and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Business School
Living with Uncertainty Keynote [10m]	1015-1025	Speaker • John Pang, Senior Fellow at The Belt and Road Initiative Caucus for Asia Pacific
Navigating Uncertainty Fireside [45m]	1025-1110	Speakers • (Moderator) Amal Larhlid, Partner, PwC Middle East • Leon Kamhi, Head of Responsibility and EOS, Federated Hermes • Rachel A. Arron, Managing Director, Tugo Cwiny Management Consulting • John Pang, Senior Fellow at The Belt and Road Initiative Caucus for Asia Pacific
BREAK [30m]	1110-1140	
Challenging Business as Usual in the Face of Global Crises Fireside [20m]	1140-1200	Speakers • (Moderator) Dr Sarah Ivory, Senior Lecturer in Climate Change and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Business School • Professor Tim Jackson, Author & Economist
Ethics and AI Fireside [25m]	1200-1225	Speakers • (Moderator) Nicola Anderson, CEO, Fintech Scotland • Giles Cuthbert, Managing Director, Chartered Banker Institute • Sarwar Khan, Sustainability Director, BT Group
UNEP FI Guidance for Leadership and Purpose-Driven Decision-Making Presentation [5m]	1225-1230	Presenter • Laura Lightbody, Governance & Legal Counsel, UNEP FI
Leadership and Purpose Fireside [25m]	1230-1255	Speakers • (Moderator) George King, Senior Wealth Manager, MASECO • Sandy Boss, Senior Managing Director and Chair, BlackRock UK
Confessions of a Justified ESG Practitioner Presentation [10m]	1255-1305	Presenter • Amanda Young, former Chief Sustainability Officer
LUNCH [60m]	1305-1405	
MC Update	1405-1410	Speaker • Dr Sarah Ivory, Senior Lecturer in Climate Change and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Business School



Global Climate Transition Scorecard Keynote [10m]	1410-1420	Speaker Satya Tripathi, Secretary-General, Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (former UN Assistant Secretary-General)
UK Transition: Energy Sector Perspectives Keynote/Fireside [30m]	1420-1450	Keynotes/Fireside (Moderator) Dame Susan, Chair, GEFI, Forth Green Freeport - David Whitehouse, Chief Executive, Offshore Energy UK - Keith Anderson, CEO, Scottish Power
Financing the Just Transition Panel [40m]	1450-1530	Speakers (Moderator) Kate Brett, Global Intellectual Capital Leader – Sustainable Investment, Mercer - Arnaud Cohen Stuart, Head of Business Ethics, ING - Rafe Haneef, Group CEO, MBSB Holding Group - Lauran Halpin, Head of Impact Equities, Martin Currie - Arslan Iqbal, Chief Risk Officer, Bank of Punjab
BREAK [30m]	1530-1600	
Young Banker of the Year Presentation [5m]	1600-1605	Presenter Craig Herd, Propositions Analyst, Royal London
Mobilising Finance for Nature Panel [40m]	1605-1645	Speakers (Moderator) Professor Jan Bebbington, The Rubin Chair in Sustainability in Business, Director of the Pentland Centre, Lancaster University - John Willis, Director of Research, Planet Tracker - Helen Avery, Director of GFI Hive and Nature Programmes, Green Finance Institute - Dr Theresa Bodner, Head of Nature-Based Solutions, MSCI - Rhona Turnbull, Head of Nature, NatWest Group
Climate Solutions for Net Zero Panel [40m]	1645-1725	Speakers (Moderator) Kimberley Player, Strategic Investment Advisor, Player Research & Consulting - Anne Scott, Global Climate Solutions Lead, Aegon Asset Management - Dr James Wilde, Chief Sustainability Officer, Phoenix Group - Hannah Simons, Head of Sustainability, Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets - Ugo Biggeri, Regional Representative for Europe, Global Alliance for Banking on Values
Wrap-up [5mins]	1725-1730	Speaker Dr Sarah Ivory, Senior Lecturer in Climate Change and Sustainability, University of Edinburgh Business School
Castle	[1845/1900]	Guests will arrive at Edinburgh Castle by 1845 for a 1900 reception