

# A sustainable way is the only way

....cause what would the alternative be?

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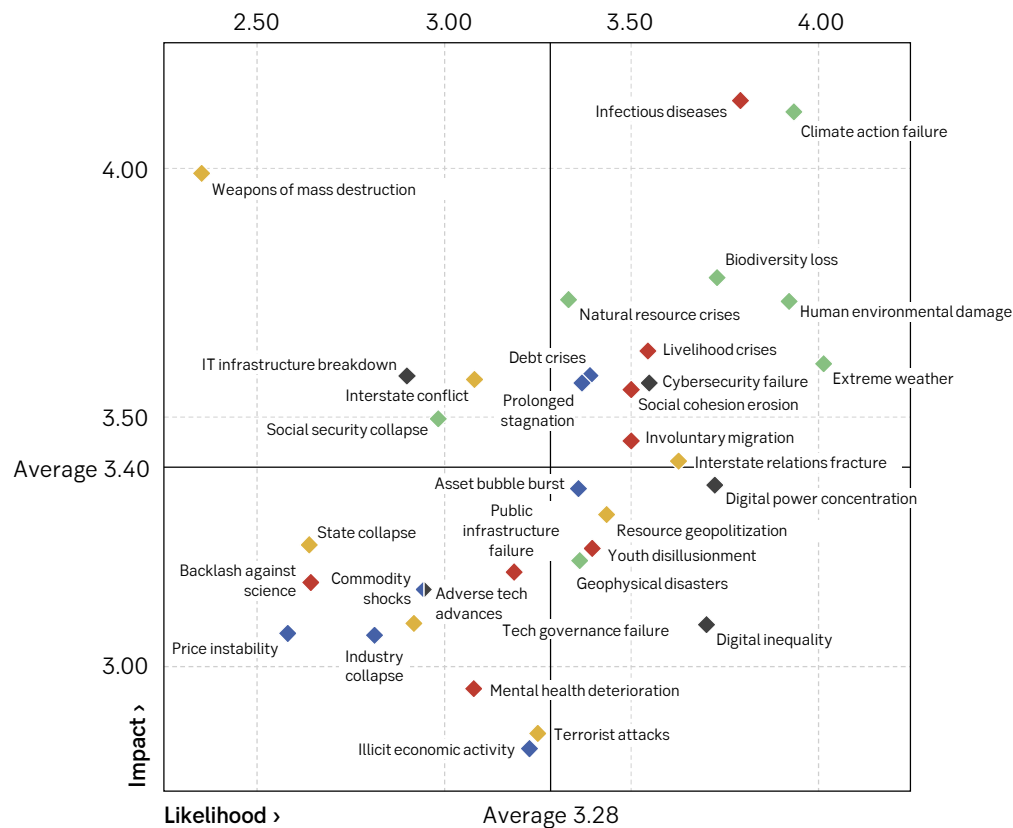
# This is what its about

• — Must decline — •      • ————— If we want to keep this... ————— •      • ————— we have to fix this. ————— •

$$\text{CO}_2 = \text{Population} \times \frac{\text{GDP}}{\text{Capita}} \times \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{GDP}} \times \frac{\text{CO}_2}{\text{Energy}}$$

# World Economic Forum

## Global Risks Landscape 2021



### Top Risks

by likelihood

- Extreme weather
- Climate action failure
- Human environmental damage
- Infectious diseases
- Biodiversity loss
- Digital power concentration
- Digital inequality
- Interstate relations fracture
- Cybersecurity failure
- Livelihood crises

by impact

- Infectious diseases
- Climate action failure
- Weapons of mass destruction
- Biodiversity loss
- Natural resource crises
- Human environmental damage
- Livelihood crises
- Extreme weather
- Debt crises
- IT infrastructure breakdown

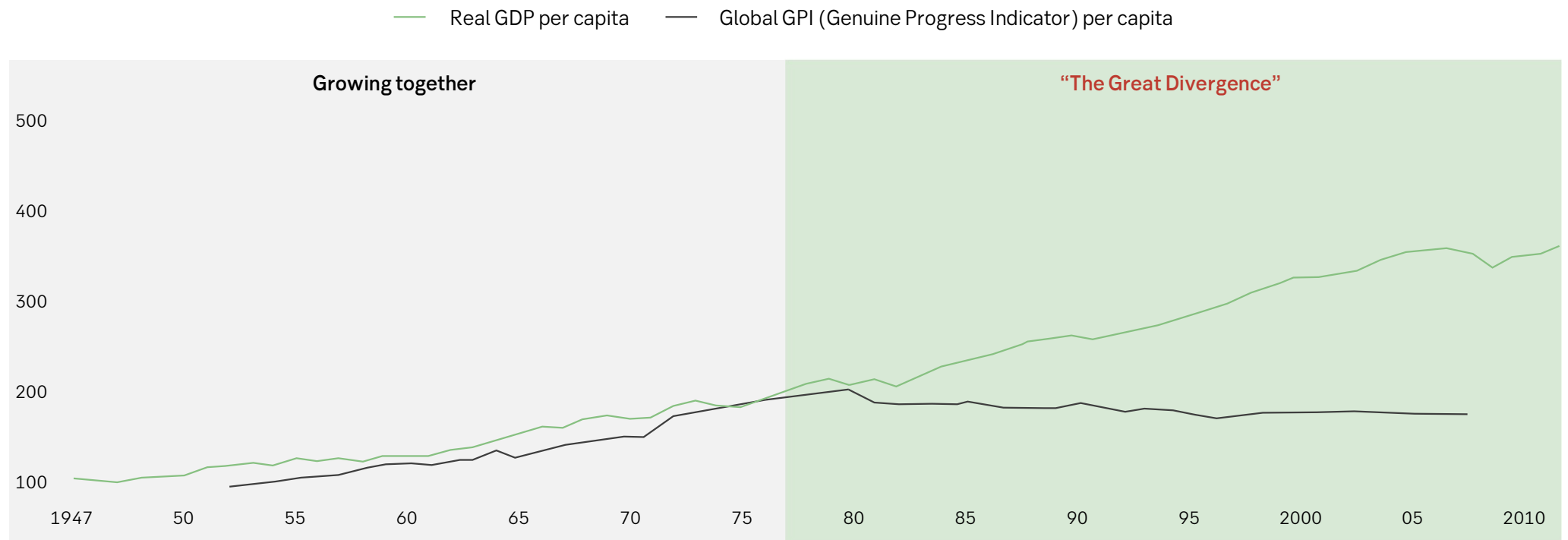
### Risk categories

- Economic
- Environmental
- Geopolitical
- Societal
- Technological

Source: World Economic Forum: The Global Risks Report 2021

# A good reason

No economic growth since 1980 if we include the cost of cleaning up the environment?



Source: Material Economics

# The Force of Change in Europe

## 2014–2019

A Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-Looking Climate Change Policy

### Targets

40%

cuts in greenhouse gas  
emissions by 2030

32%

renewables in energy  
consumption

32.5%

energy savings



Jean Claude Juncker, 2014

## 2019–2024

A European Green Deal

### Targets

50–55%

cuts in greenhouse gas  
emissions by 2030

First climate-neutral

continent by 2050



Ursula von der Leyen, 2019

Public money



The yearly investment gap to meet these  
targets is estimated to be between  
€175 to 290 billion



Private money

Source: EU Commission, 2020 [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en); TEG, 2019

# The EU Taxonomy – the EU's definition of sustainability

Details as to how an economic activity can be aligned with the EU Taxonomy

## Background

The EU Taxonomy Regulation aims to define environmentally sustainable economic activities to help investors to take informed decisions in the transition to a fossil free society

The EU Taxonomy has six environmental objectives, which are used as a baseline for sustainability

The EU Taxonomy covers 13 sectors, whereby technical screening criteria are developed for different economic activities within each sector

So far, technical screening criteria have only been developed for two of six the objectives

For an economic activity to be aligned with the EU Taxonomy it needs to meet all the specified technical screening criteria, as well as the minimum safeguards

From 2023 (for FY2022) corporates are required to report Taxonomy alignment

## 6 environmental objectives and 13 sectors

1. Forestry						
2. Environmental protection & restoration						
3. Manufacturing						
4. Energy						
5. Water, sewerage, waste & remediation						
6. Transport						
7. Construction & real estate						
8. Information & communication						
9. Professional, scientific & technical activities						
10. Financial and insurance activities						
11. Education						
12. Human health and social work activities						
13. Arts, entertainment and recreation						

## Examples

### For climate change mitigation

Cars: tailpipe emissions < 50 gCO<sub>2</sub> /km

Steel : emissions < 1,48 tonne CO<sub>2</sub> / tonne product

Batteries, production of H<sub>2</sub>, Renewable energy technologies

Power generation: emissions < 100g CO<sub>2</sub> / kWh

Storage of electricity & H<sub>2</sub>

New Buildings: 10% below Nearly Zero Energy building requirements

Examples relate to the technical screening criteria for substantial contribution to climate change mitigation, there is further technical screening criteria for 'Do No Significant Harm'

## Requirements

**Substantial contribution to at least one environmental objective**

+

**Do no significant harm to the other five objectives**

+

**Minimum safeguards (labour & human rights)**

=

**Environmentally sustainable economic activity**

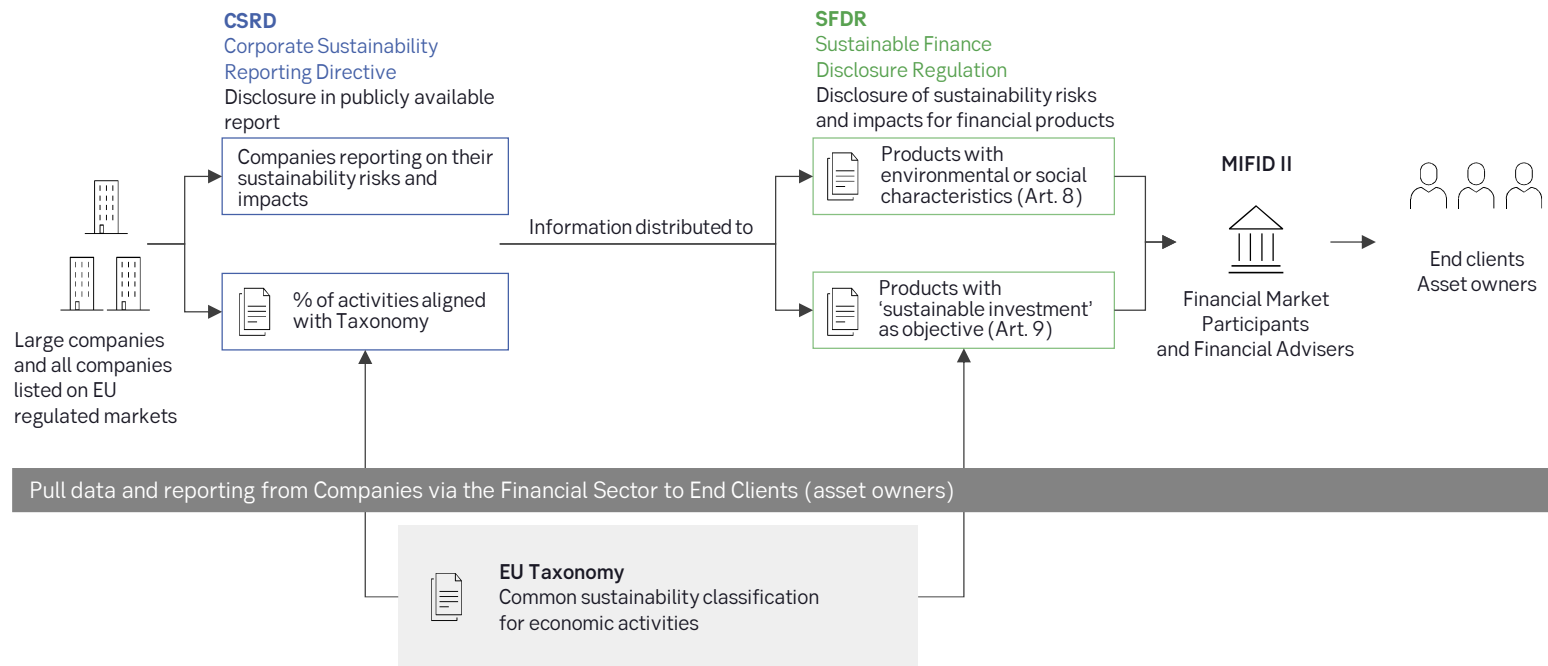
Technical screening criteria

Source: European Commission

# Overview of EU Sustainable Finance regulations

The aim of EU Sustainable Finance regulations is to redirect capital flows

## Snapshot of the EU Sustainable Finance regulations



Source: European Commission

## Q&A

### Who will be affected?

- Almost all (the smallest corporates will not be affected) European companies, as well as international companies with EU operations
- Any financial participant providing advisory / products in the EU

### When will they be affected?

- Regulations have already started to affect market participants from FY 2021, current defined regulations will continue to come into force until 2026

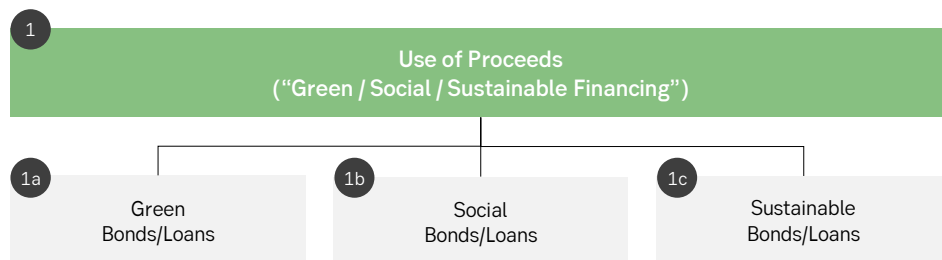
### What will be the impact?

- The wave of regulation will create an environment where there is nowhere to hide for both corporates and investors in terms of their sustainability performance – creating an even-playing field where both can be held to account to their commitments and can be negatively impacted through sub-par performance



# Sustainable Finance Market Overview

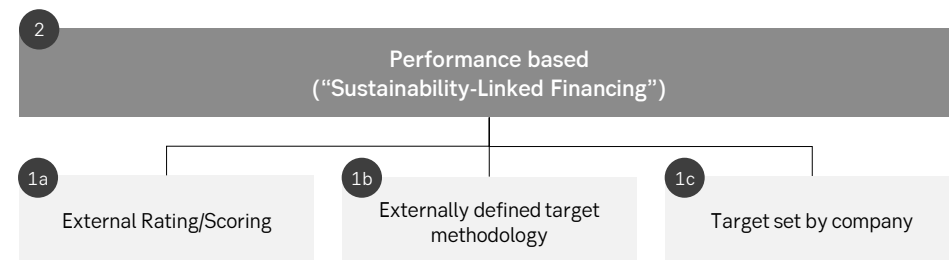
The two main approaches



Funds from the financing needs to be allocated to specific and predefined eligible projects



Focus on investment / project / asset



Company assigned an external scoring, e.g. an ESG level

Needs to have an external ESG rating

Company benchmarked against e.g. a defined Science Based Target

Involves external 3<sup>rd</sup> party to assess set up and target levels

Company benchmarked against internal sustainability KPIs

Requires existing and credible ESG targets, monitoring and reporting

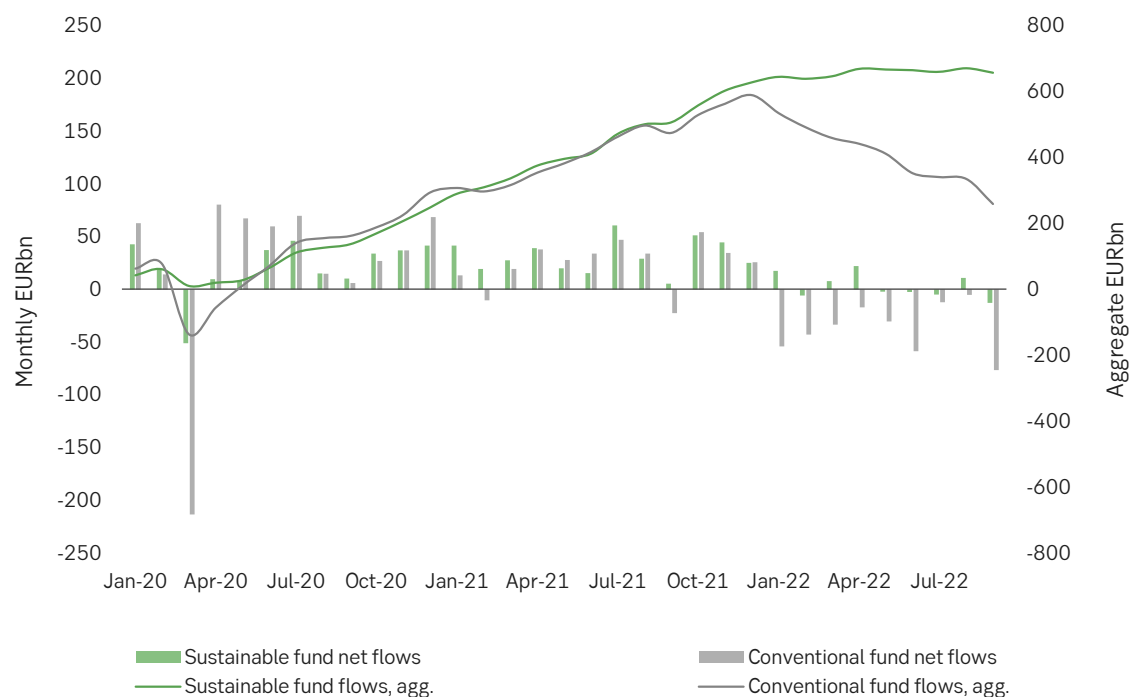


Focus on issuer / borrower



# Sustainable fund flows and sustainable finance infrastructure

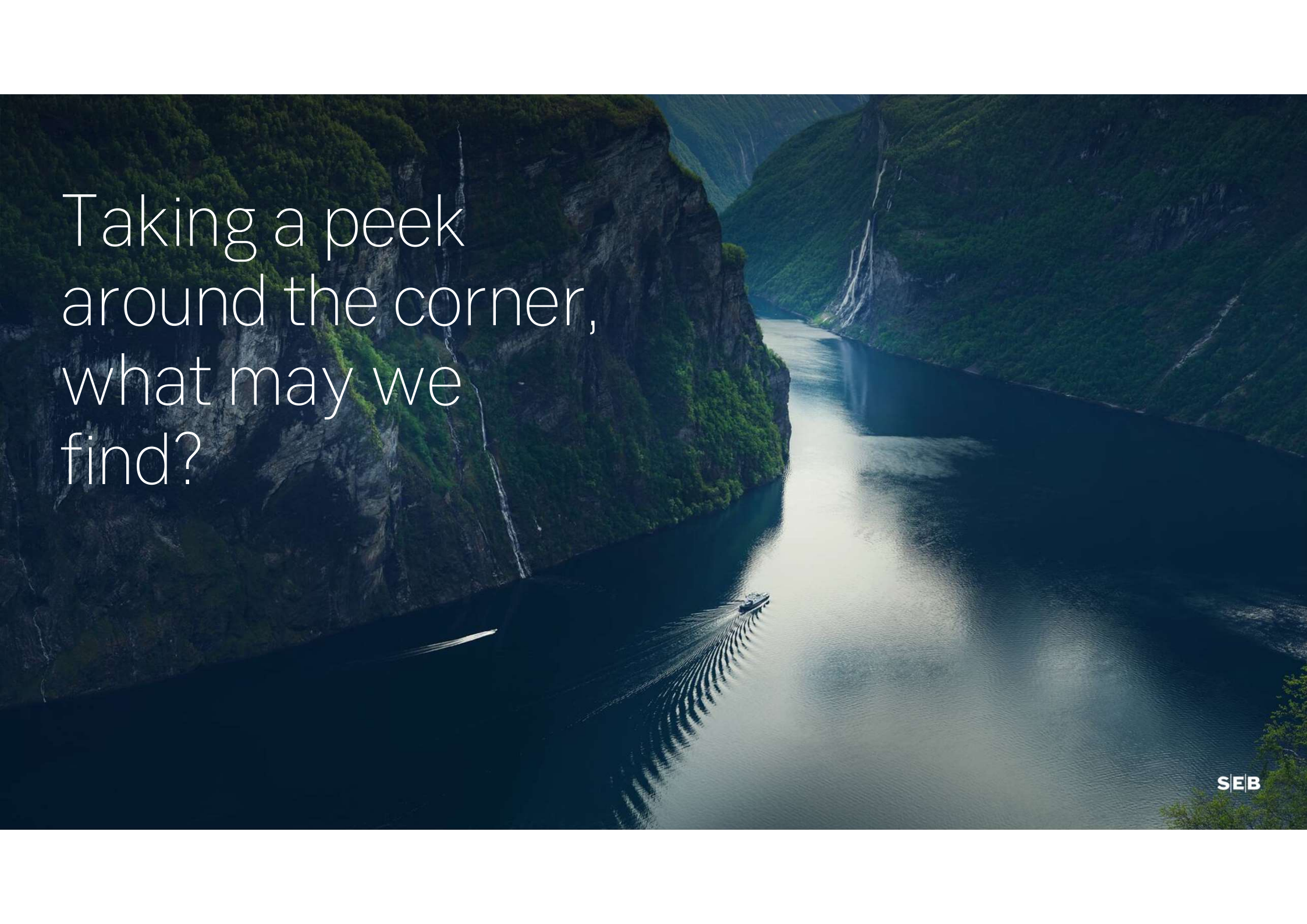
Net fund flows from European sustainable and general funds since January 2020<sup>1</sup>



Net fund flows from European sustainable and general funds since January 2020<sup>1</sup>



1. Sustainable funds is defined by Morningstar as a fund that, by prospectus or other regulatory filings, claim to use environmental, social, or governance factors as a central focus of their investment process. The analysis includes open-end funds and exchange-traded domiciled in Europe.

An aerial photograph of a deep fjord. The water is dark blue and calm, reflecting the surrounding green, forested cliffs. A small boat is visible in the lower center, leaving a white wake. The cliffs are steep and rugged, with some waterfalls visible. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Taking a peek  
around the corner,  
what may we  
find?

# Implications of the regulations on corporates

Compliance, risk and repricing



## Need to conform with a common definition of sustainability

- Taxonomy setting a common definition for sustainability across asset managers, public institutions, banking sector
- Companies will need to show how their activities align with this definition and how they compare to peers



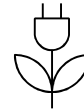
## Regulatory tightening affects operations

- Increased pace, extended scope and a rapid tightening of regulatory environment has made investors wary of increased transition risks



## Access to bank financing will be linked to sustainability factors

- Integration of sustainability considerations to banks' credit approval policies



## Investors search for sustainable opportunities

- Companies with credible Paris aligned plans face considerable investor interest
- Investors are looking for exposure to new green stocks
- Increasing investor engagement and pressure on companies and financiers



## Data and communication will increase transparency and set higher expectations

- Better reporting and high-quality communication will lead to higher overall transparency in the market
- Transition laggards will be fully exposed when they report
- Increased focus on corporate sustainability data



# Regulatory-imposed disclosures will leave corporates with nowhere to hide as investors fulfil sustainability commitments

## Transition laggards

### Management decisions

- ✗ Failure to act and integrate sustainability risks into business model, means the company is unprepared for sustainability regulations
- ✗ Failure to invest into clean technologies, invests steadily into fossil fuel related infrastructure

### Implications

- Perform weakly in peer benchmarking
- Indicate to investors poor governance, which results in divestments
- Loss of market share due to lack of sustainable products
- Negative outlook results in reduced free cash flows
- Unable to attract top talent
- Further divestments and erosion of shareholder value

## Transition leaders

### Management decisions

- ✓ Have been reporting on ESG for a number of years and are well prepared for regulatory sustainability disclosures
- ✓ Strong integration of sustainability risks and opportunities into the business model (i.a. set targets and implement a governance structure)
- ✓ R&D investments into clean technologies (e.g. EVs, green steel)

### Implications

- Perform strongly in peer benchmarking
- Indicate to investors strong governance, which encourages investments
- Gain market share through offering of sustainable products
- Demand for products enables a price premium which improves cash flows
- Attract top talent
- Increase shareholder value

Banks are unable to finance, investors are unable to hold in their portfolios, lack of access to capital means the company is no longer able to operate and risks becoming a stranded asset

Strong management enables the company to anticipate the evolving landscape, benefiting in the short-medium term and enabling the company to remain relevant in the longer-term

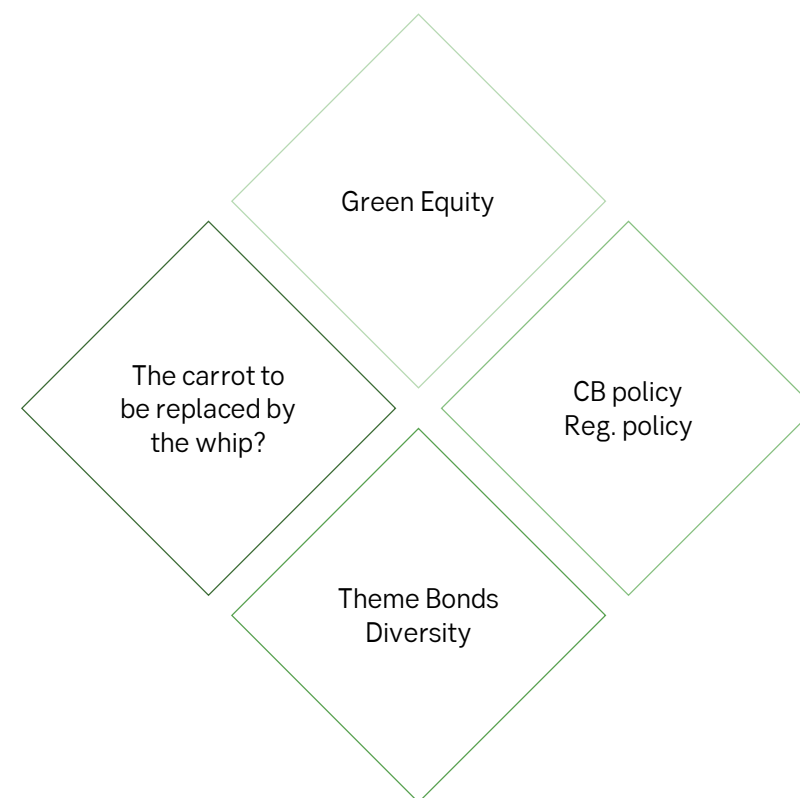
Evolving landscape will result in a market equilibrium by 2050, whereby all the companies which continue to operate in the market have fully integrated sustainability into their business model.

# A few more thoughts



## Topics to consider

1. Greenflation
2. From voluntary to regulations?
3. Regulatory harmonization – capital flows
4. Incentives – taxes, discounts?
5. Defining the price of carbon?
6. Carbon tax, why not?
7. ESG – extracting Alpha



# SEB has been advisor for over 150 ESG financing Frameworks globally

SEB was awarded no. 1 Sustainability Advisor in the Nordics for 2020 and 2021



SEB has structured a vast amount of ESG Financing Frameworks globally for a broad variety of clients and industries.



Thank you.

# CSRD – the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive

## CSRD Timeline – when will corporates be affected?

FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
<b>Largest corporates (NFRD)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Companies with more than 500 employees and listed in EU regulated markets</li><li>Banks and insurance companies</li></ul>	<b>Large and listed corporates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All listed companies</li><li>All large companies (where the company has at least 250 employees and either EUR 40m net turnover or EUR 20m net balance sheet)</li></ul>	<b>Listed SMEs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All listed SMEs (where the company has at least 50 employees and either EUR 8m net turnover or EUR 4m net balance sheet)</li></ul>

## What will corporates have to report on?

Corporates will be required to report on both sector agnostic and sector specific indicators, as well as the sustainability business model, strategies, policies and targets. Some examples include:

<b>Environmental</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scope 1,2 and 3 GHG emissions</li><li>Carbon intensity</li><li>Share of non-renewable energy consumption and production</li><li>Exposure to coal, oil and gas-related activities</li><li>Activities negatively affecting biodiversity-sensitive areas</li><li>Emissions to water</li><li>Hazardous waste ratio</li></ul>	<b>Social</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Violations of / lack of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises</li><li>Unadjusted gender pay gap</li><li>Board gender diversity</li><li>Workers in both own workforce and workers in value chain</li><li>Exposure to controversial weapons</li></ul>	<b>Governance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Resilience of business model and strategy to risks related to sustainability matters, as well as opportunities related to sustainability matters</li><li>Financial and investment plans to ensure business model and strategy are compatible with the Paris Agreement</li><li>Time-bound targets related to sustainability matters, including GHG emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2050</li><li>Policies and management incentive schemes related to sustainability matters</li></ul>
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Source: European Commission

# SFDR – the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation

## Reporting rules for financial market participants and advisers that manufacture financial products

### What is the SFDR?

The Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2019/2088) lays down sustainability disclosure obligations for manufacturers of financial products and financial advisors towards end-investors. It requires disclosure on:

- The integration of sustainability risks
- Principal adverse impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors of which 14 are mandatory on the entity-level including scope 1-3 GHG emissions, unadjusted gender pay gap

SFDR reporting with regulatory technical standards applies from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023

### Who is affected by SFDR?

Financial market participants including financial advisors offering the following products or services:

- UCITS
- AIF (Alternative Investment Fund)
- Portfolio management (MiFID Article 4(1) point 8)
- IBIP (Insurance Based Investment Product)
- IORP 2
- Solvency 2
- PEPP (Pan-European Personal Pension Product)

Essentially all participants managing assets

### Product-level disclosure requirements

There are three products types which the SFDR regulation refers to and the disclosure requirements for the financial market participants managing these products varies depending on the product type:

#### Art. 6 products

A product where no sustainability claims are made



Statement on non-consideration of Principle Adverse Impacts (PAI) and reasons for this

Information of PAI on sustainability factors

#### Art. 8 products

A product “promoting environmental or social characteristics”



Consideration of the product's Principle Adverse Impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors

Disclosure on how the “characteristics” are met and the consistency of benchmark index with the characteristics

PAI on sustainability factors

The extent to which the environmental or social characteristics are met

#### Art. 9 products

A product with “sustainable investment as its objective”



Consideration of the product's Principle Adverse Impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors

Disclosure on how the “objective” is to be attained and alignment of the benchmark index with the objective

PAI on sustainability factors

Overall sustainability related impact  
Comparison between the product impact and impacts of relevant indexes

Pre-contractual

Periodic reports

Principle Adverse Impact Indicators (PAI) refers to indicators which fund managers are required to disclose for their investee companies.



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