

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND NOTES

Sustainability – and sustainable finance – are key political priorities for the European Union. The EU's Green Deal aims to transform the European economy, including through reforming to financial services policy.

Globally, PRI recognises a shift in thinking from financial policymakers and regulators. Sustainable finance policy is becoming more comprehensive, more technical, and is increasingly seeking to link financial policy to changes in the real economy. The EU is seeking to lead this charge.

The PRI's policy team actively engages in support of progressive policy reform in Brussels and at EU Member State level.

This interview is part of a project to engage PRI signatories around the next phase of policy reform, to understand the opportunities and the key priorities.

The PRI will issue a report with the findings in early 2020 to inform policymakers on the responsible investor perspective and their priorities for sustainable finance policy in the coming 5-year.

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United Nations
Global Compact

An investor initiative in partnership with UNEP Finance Initiative and UN Global Compact

Subject Area	Questions/Pointers
<p>Introduction: Awareness and engagement</p>	<p><i>The aim is to understand to what extent the organisation is informed and active about previous and future policy developments.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How aware is your organisation of the different EU policy developments? (Not at all / to some extent / to a large extent). • To what extent have you been engaged in sustainable finance policy on national, European and/or international level? (Not at all / to some extent / to a large extent). • Have there been any barriers for you to follow and/or engage EU policy developments?
<p>Review: EU Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth</p>	<p><i>The aim is to understand how the organisation has evaluated previous policy developments under EU Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth.</i></p> <p>The current state of progress is described in a briefing note. How has the organisation addressed the actions EU Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth? What steps have you been taken to prepare for new and coming legislation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing an EU classification system for sustainability activities (Taxonomy) • Creating standards and labels for green financial products • Fostering investment in sustainable projects • Incorporating sustainability when providing investment advice • Developing sustainability benchmarks • Better integrating sustainability in ratings and research • Clarifying institutional investors and asset managers' duties • Incorporating sustainability in prudential requirements • Strengthening sustainability disclosure and accounting rule-making • Fostering sustainable corporate governance and attenuating short-termism in capital markets
<p>Barriers to sustainable finance:</p>	<p><i>The aim is to identify the challenges and barriers, and to understand how the organisation has addressed or overcome these.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you consider to be the main barriers (top-three) European investors face in scaling up sustainable finance? • What policy actions that could help address them?

<p>Evaluation of the actions under the European Green Deal:</p>	<p><i>The aim is to understand how the organisation evaluates latest policy developments, specifically the European Green Deal.</i></p> <p>Please refer to the briefing note for an overview on European Green Deal. How does the organisation evaluate the actions relating to sustainable finance under the European Green Deal?</p> <p>Sustainable Europe Investment Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could public finance support or enable the flow of private finance? • What role could the EU take in developing the pipeline of investment-ready sustainable projects? • What needs to be included in an enabling framework to mobilise private and public investments for the sustainability transition? <p>Just Transition Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can this support private investors to contribute to a Just Transition? <p>Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which new measures would be most effective in enabling private capital to flow to sustainable investments? <p>Significant review of corporate reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should disclosure obligations be better aligned and mandated? • Is there a role for the EU to promote international standardisation? <p>Corporate governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could corporate governance and investor stewardship evolve? <p>Climate and financial risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What steps could be taken to increase the resilience of the financial system to environmental risk, and to increase the contribution of the financial system to environmental resilience? <p>Additional questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there additional areas that should be considered, in addition to the topics covered under the Green Deal? • In view of all of these initiatives, what would you consider a top priority, and why?
<p>Conclusion:</p>	<p><i>The aim is to understand which other issues are of interest to the organisation in relation to sustainable finance policy.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there any other significant market developments you are following that are not mentioned here? • Would you like to make any further comments or concluding remarks?