# Incorporating ESG into Investment Strategy

Drive performance, attract investors, and increase NOI





### Our speakers



Roxana Isaiu **GRESB** 



Dan Winters **GRESB** 



Sean Daley **Goby** 



Kylie Ford **Goby** 

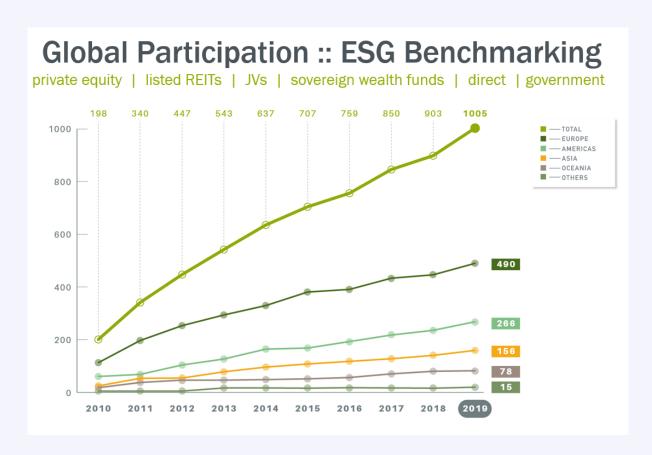


Michelle Winters **Goby** 

### Why ESG?

### Drivers behind participation

- Respond to existing investor requests for increased disclosure
- Attract new investors
- Improve company performance & NOI
- Identify and mitigate ESG risks
- Stay ahead of industry trends



# How to Engage with ESG

### Disclosure Mechanisms

#### **Elevating Metrics**

- Disclosure frameworks: GRESB, SASB, UNPRI, CDP, etc.
  - Overlap & synergy
- Industry trends towards environmental disclosure/carbon footprinting
  - TCFD expected to become widerspread

#### **Communication frameworks**

Company published ESG reports, GRI, etc.





# How to Engage with ESG Disclosure Mechanisms

What do investors actually see?

GRESB Investor Members are able to review Public Disclosure Data for all entities



# How to Engage with ESG Participation Driving Strategy

- Reporting frameworks create engagement within the company
  - Requires participation across departments/regions
  - Breaks down communication barriers
  - Creates a platform for investor/company collaboration
- GRESB/other disclosures inform long-term strategy
  - Highlights areas for improvement
  - Prompts questions of what else can be done
  - Drives participation in other ESG disclosure/reporting mechanisms

### **Most Asked Questions**

Institutional Investors + ESG Data + Real Estate | Infrastructure Portfolios

1. Why do Institutional Investors focus on ESG issues?

2. Which issues matter most?

3. How do the capital markets use ESG data?



# INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS ESG Objectives

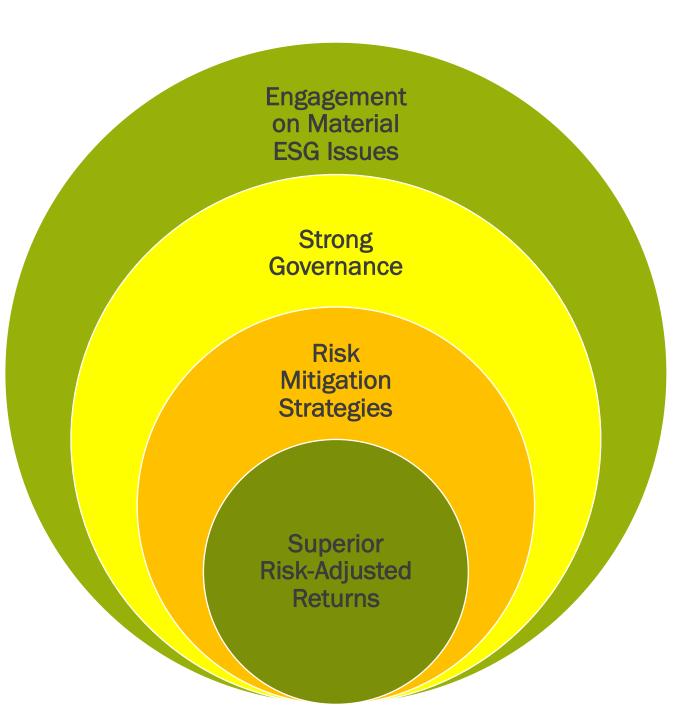
# **Objectives**

### **Primary**

Achieve superior risk adjusted returns
Implement industry best practice
Invest in best-in-class management teams

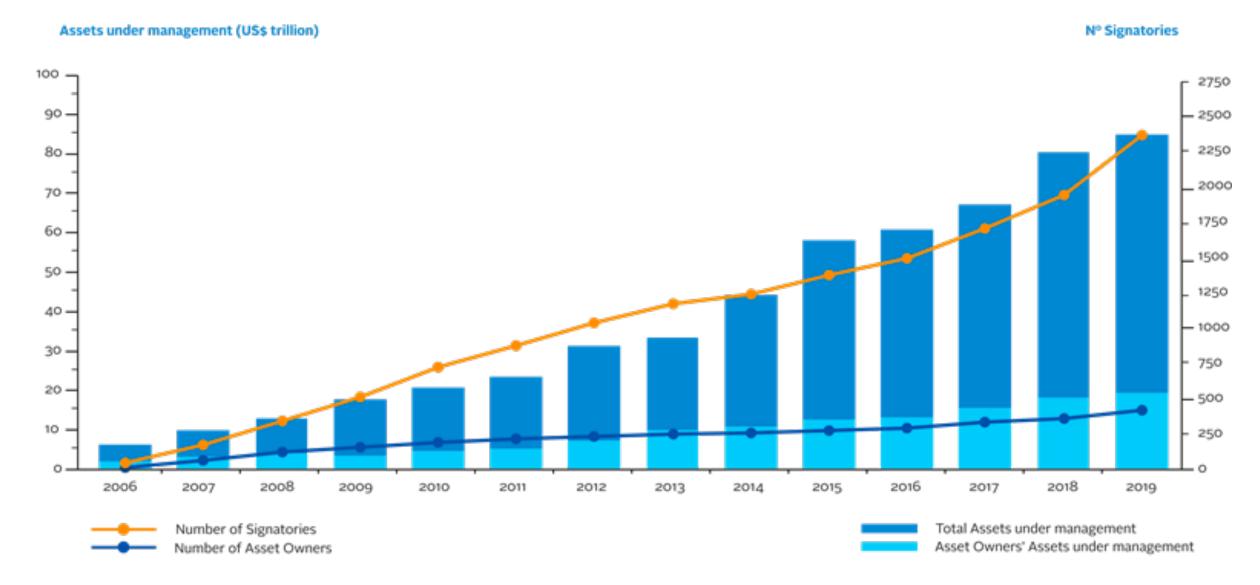
### Secondary

Mitigate reputational risks Long-term, intergenerational view



# **UNPRI Signatory Growth**

Accelerating since 2014



### **ESG** Issues

UN Principles for Responsible Investment

### **Environmental**

Climate change causes and effects

Water access / scarcity

Sustainable land use

Fracking

Methane release

**Plastics** 

### Social

Human rights

Labor standards

Employee relations

Conflict zones

### Governance

Tax avoidance

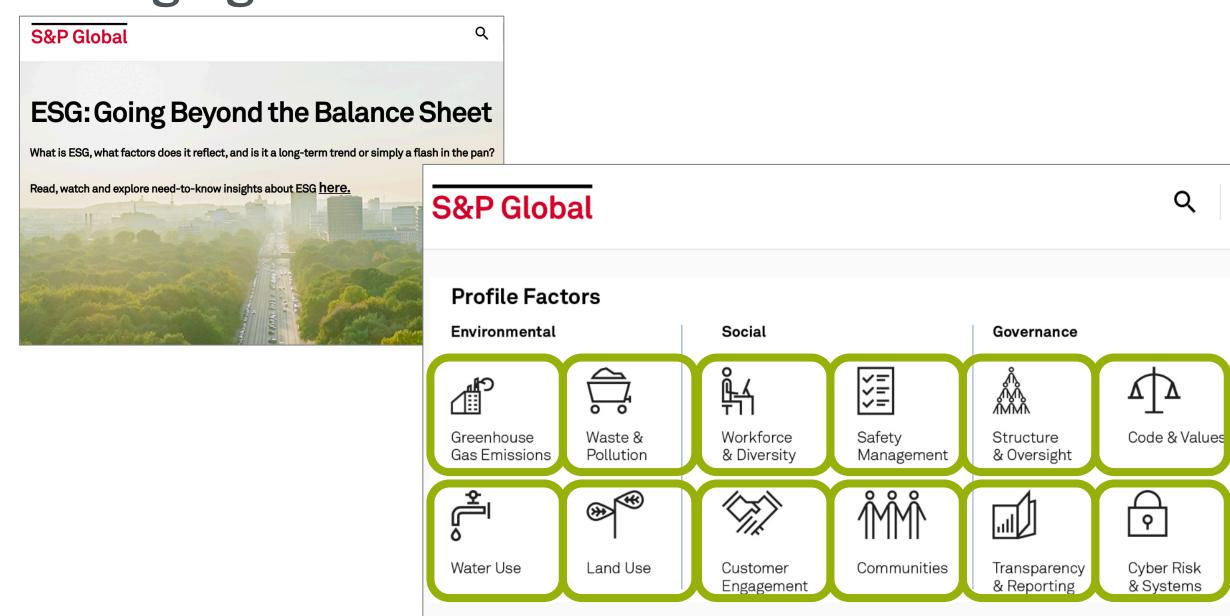
Executive pay

Corruption

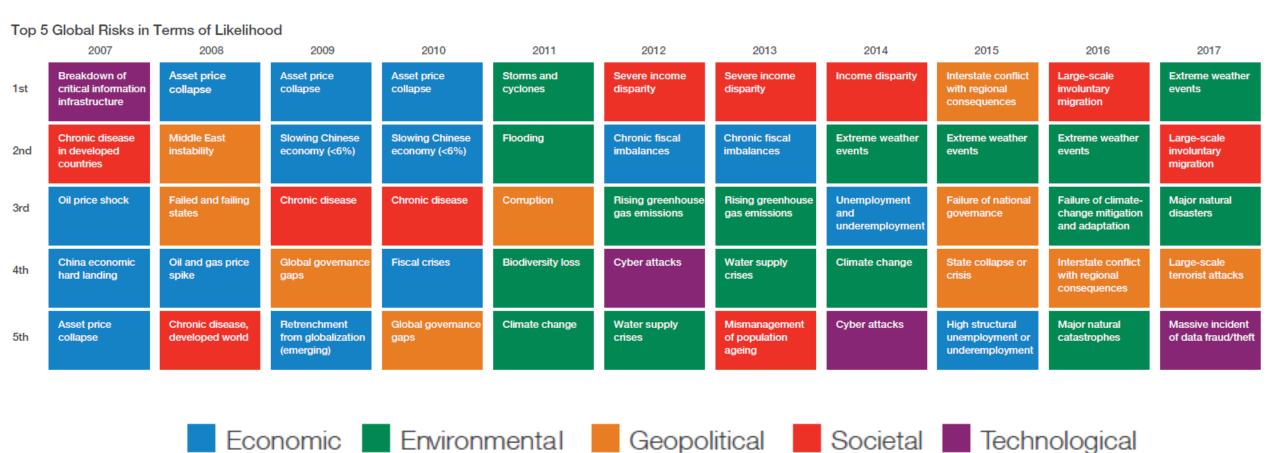
Director nominations

Cyber security

# **Rating Agencies**



### World Economic Forum's 2017 Risk Landscape



# World Economic Forum's 2019 Risk Landscape

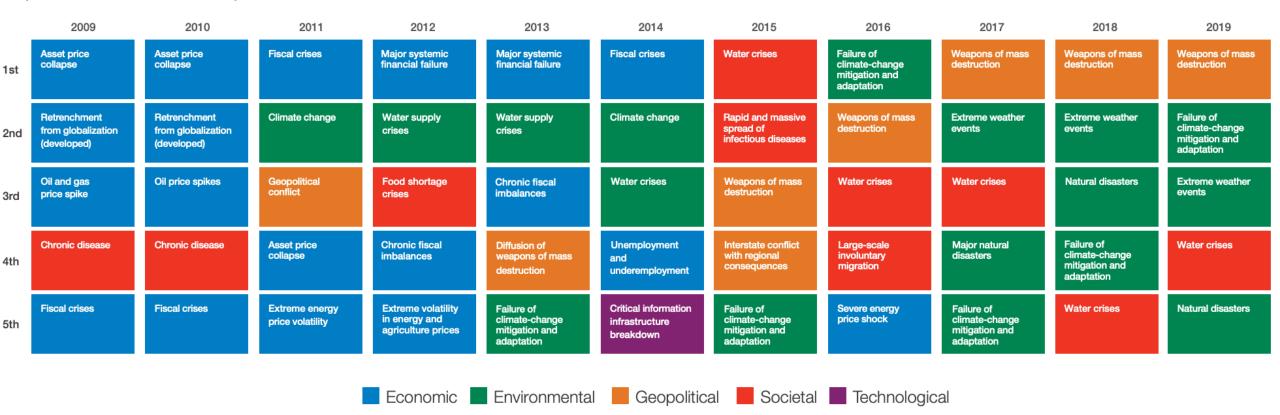
#### Top 5 Global Risks in Terms of Likelihood

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1st	Asset price collapse	Asset price collapse	Storms and cyclones	Severe income disparity	Severe income disparity	Income disparity	Interstate conflict with regional consequences	Large-scale involuntary migration	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events
2nd	Slowing Chinese economy (<6%)	Slowing Chinese economy (<6%)	Flooding	Chronic fiscal imbalances	Chronic fiscal imbalances	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events	Extreme weather events	Large-scale involuntary migration	Natural disasters	Failure of climate-change mitigation and adaptation
3rd	Chronic disease	Chronic disease	Corruption	Rising greenhouse gas emissions	Rising greenhouse gas emissions	Unemployment and underemployment	Failure of national governance	Failure of climate-change mitigation and adaptation	Major natural disasters	Cyber-attacks	Natural disasters
4th	Global governance gaps	Fiscal crises	Biodiversity loss	Cyber-attacks	Water supply crises	Climate change	State collapse or crisis	Interstate conflict with regional consequences	Large-scale terrorist attacks	Data fraud or theft	Data fraud or theft
5th	Retrenchment from globalization	Global governance gaps	Climate change	Water supply crises	Mismanagement of population	Cyber-attacks	High structural unemployment or underemployment	Major natural catastrophes	Massive incident of data fraud/theft	Failure of climate-change mitigation and adaptation	Cyber-attacks



### World Economic Forum's 2019 Risk Landscape

#### Top 5 Global Risks in Terms of Impact





#### **POLICY BRIEFING**

### EU REGULATION ON SUSTAINABILITY-RELATED DISCLOSURES IN THE FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR

#### **AT A GLANCE**

Organisation	Requirements					
Financial	At entity level, financial institutions must disclose:					
Institutions	<ul> <li>Details of their policies on the integration of sustainability risks into investment decision-making and sustainability in remuneration policies.</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Whether and how they consider the principal adverse impacts of their investments on sustainability (comply or explain for smaller firms).</li> </ul>					
	For all products, financial institutions must disclose:					
	<ul> <li>How sustainability risks are integrated in investment decisions, their likely impact on the financial product (comply or explain).</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Whether and how a financial product considers principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors (comply or explain).</li> </ul>					
	For funds targeting sustainability objectives, financial institutions must disclose:					
	<ul> <li>A description of the sustainability objectives of the product, details of how they are met, and the overall sustainability impact of the product.</li> </ul>					
Financial	At entity level, financial advisors must disclose:					
advisors	<ul> <li>Details of their policies on the integration of sustainability risks into investment and insurance advice, and how sustainability is integrated into remuneration policies.</li> </ul>					
	Whether and how adverse sustainability impacts are considered.					





CLIMATE TRANSITION BENCHMARKS, PARIS-ALIGNED BENCHMARK AND BENCHMARKS' ESG DISCLOSURES

December 20th 2019

## EU Disclosure Regulations – ESG / Sustainability

### EU regulators emphasizing:

- 1. The importance of ESG considerations in business strategies
- 2. Encouraging firms to be proactive in relation to ESG considerations

### EU Disclosure Regulation requires:

- Integration of sustainability risks in investment decision-making /advisory processes
- Transparency regarding financial products which target sustainable investments, including reduction in carbon emissions
- Specific financial product disclosure requirements
  - pre-contract
  - website disclosures
  - periodic reports [quarterly / annual]

- 1. Climate change innovators: spotting the sleeping giants
- 2. New terms for capital: ready or not, here comes ESG
- 3. Re-valuing real estate: investing in the eye of hurricane
- **4. The human capital paradox:** Juggling layoffs and shortages
- 5. Keeping score on stakeholder capitalism: looking for accountability in all new places





# INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

**ESG** Issues:: Real Estate

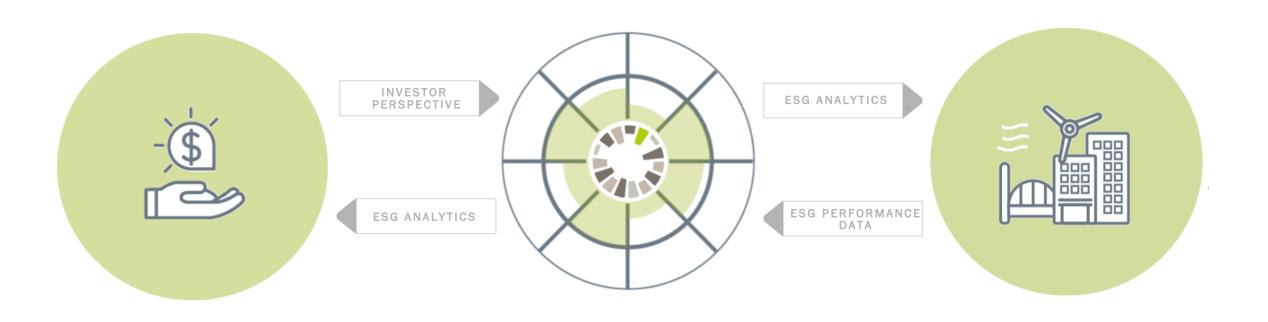
#### Phase I 2009-2014 Policies Targets Management **Practices PLAN** Due Diligence Reductions Stakeholder Policy & **Engagement** Disclosure **GRESB ACT** DO **INDICATOR SCORE** 4sessments Offsetting Building Certifications Monitoring & EMS **CHECK** Performance Data Management **Indicators** Reporting

**Tailored Aspects ISO Approach** 

Risks &

**Opportunities** 

### **Interactive ESG Data platform**



Institutional Investors

GRESB Assessments Fund managers Listed companies

### **Applications**

#### Opportunities for portfolio de-risking

#### Capital Markets | Institutional Investors

- Positive screening for capital allocation and manager selection
- Transparency mechanism for pursuing enhanced risk-adjusted returns
- Additional measure of performance
- Ongoing engagement tool with investment managers
- Carbon footprint reporting

#### **Industry Sectors | Participants**

- Understand ESG related portfolio risks and opportunities
- Identify industry best practices in ESG performance
- Perform gap analysis / introspection
- Develop tailored action plans for improvement
- Metrics for investor communications

# **ESG Integration: APG Asset Management**

Private real estate investment decision and engagement process

#### **Due Diligence**

#### **S&G Due-diligence**

- Quality of S&G policies, implementing measures, monitoring system and reporting regime in place
- Legal issues, reputation, and controversies
- S&G governance
- Level of commitment by investment partners

#### Screening

#### **S&G Consultation**

- Discuss with PMs the issues arising out of DD
- Resolve the issues or propose solutions for implementation prior to Investment Committee
- S&G meetings with managers

# Investment Committee

#### Formal S&G Review

- S&G Sign-off is submitted to Investment Committee
- Formal recommendation submitted for review by committee

#### Execution

#### S&G Implementation

 Ensure S&G initiatives, policies addressed in Formal S&G Assessment in place before executing commitment

# Asset Management

#### **S&G Monitoring**

- S&G Survey to monitor S&G performances across portfolio and vis-a-vis other regions
- Monitoring of S&G compliance
- S&G reporting

GRESB is used as basic diligence resources



GRESB @ 2020+

### Engagement

#### Private equity fund underwriting





#### ESG considered central to the investment process and needs to the client

- How do you use ESG factors to add value and influence your investment beliefs?
- Outline whether you perceive there to be a link between environmental performance and financial risk and return.
- Demonstrate how incorporating ESG factors have benefited your investments.

### **Due Diligence**

pre-investment phase



#### **Due Diligence**

- GRESB performance / internal ESG questionnaire
- Corporate <u>governance</u> record

#### **Criteria in Contracts**

 We ensure that every new investment completes the GRESB survey by way of a side letter

#### **Failure**

 We will <u>not invest</u> if a target fund fails our country and tenant exclusion check



















#### **Country & Tenant Exclusion**

 Prior to investment we request and review the target's rent roll represented by companies / countries on our exclusion lists

#### Support / Engagement

 We work actively with weaker funds that require extra guidance and support to improve their ESG credentials



# INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

Use of ESG Data

# **Common ESG Investment Strategies**

#### 1. Negative/exclusionary screening

• Eliminate companies in specific industries / countries

#### 2. Norms-based screening

• Eliminate companies that violate a set of norms [eg UN Compact 10 Principles, etc]

#### 3. Positive/best-in-class screening

Selecting companies with strong ESG performance based on metrics

#### 4. Sustainability-themed allocations

Renewable energy, clean water, carbon reduction

#### 5. ESG Integration

Includes ESG factors in fundamental company deep-dive analysis efforts

#### 6. Active ownership / engagement

aka 'a seat at the table'

#### 7. Impact Investing

Actively seeking investments that make positive impact(s) at competitive market returns

# **HBS Survey**

400+ portfolio managers [2017]

HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL Why and How Investors Use ESG Information: Evidence from a Global Survey Amir Amel-Zadeh George Serafeim Working Paper 17-079

URL: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2925310

#### Table 2: ESG information in investment decisions

N = 419

	Yes, because	82.1%
1	ESG information is material to investment performance	63.1%
2	of growing client/stakeholder demand we believe such policy to be effective in bringing about change at firms	33.1% 32.6%
4	it is part of our investment product strategy	32.6%
5	we see it as an ethical responsibility	32.6%
6	we anticipate it to become material in the near future	31.7%
7	of formal client mandates	25.0%
	No, because	17.9%
1	No, because there is no stakeholder demand for such policy	<b>17.9%</b> 26.7%
2	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data	
2	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data ESG information is not material to investment performance	26.7%
2	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data ESG information is not material to investment	26.7% 21.3%
2 3 4 5	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data ESG information is not material to investment performance we believe such policy to be ineffective in inducing change at firms it would violate our fiduciary duty to our stakeholders	26.7% 21.3% 13.3%
2 3 4	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data ESG information is not material to investment performance we believe such policy to be ineffective in inducing change at firms	26.7% 21.3% 13.3% 12.0%
2 3 4 5	there is no stakeholder demand for such policy we lack access to reliable nonfinancial data ESG information is not material to investment performance we believe such policy to be ineffective in inducing change at firms it would violate our fiduciary duty to our stakeholders such information is not material to a diversified	26.7% 21.3% 13.3% 12.0%

### **ESG Data Uses**

GRESB scores | aspects | KPIs

1. Management Engagement active strategies











2. Full ESG Integration

individual stock valuation fundamental analysis















3. Positive Screening

best-in-class



4. Thematic Strategies

issue-by-issue ESG analysis





5. Portfolio Tilt

indices

#### S&P Dow Jones Indices

GRESB @ 2020+

# **Investment Spectrum**





GRESB @ 2020+

## **Investment Spectrum**

#### **The New Paradigm**



# Questions?

### Thank you!





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