



# How to Accelerate the Uptake of the SDGs?

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Group CEO



#ADecadeOfExpertise

# About Sustainable Square

150+

Clients Served

92.3%

Customer  
Satisfaction Score

90%

Customer Retention

9x

Profit Increase  
(Financial  
Sustainability 2022)



15+

Markets of  
Operation



350+

Projects  
Delivered



11

Nationalities in  
Team



1:1.3

Male to  
Female Ratio



10+

Government  
Policies Created  
in GCC



2K+

Board capacity  
Building Sessions  
Delivered



10K

LinkedIn  
Followers



2

No. of ESG  
tech solutions



# Our Portfolio

We have serviced clients across sectors, verticals and beyond geographical boundaries.



## CONGLOMERATES



## CONSTRUCTION



## F&B / AGRICULTURE



## FINANCIAL



## TELECOM



## ENERGY



## SOCIAL



## GOVERNMENT



## PRODUCTION/MANUFACTURING



## TRANSPORT+LOGISTICS



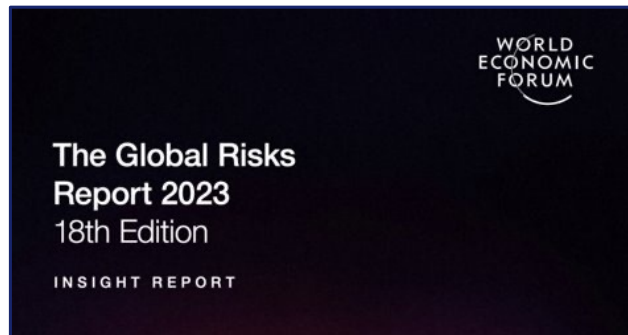
## HEALTHCARE



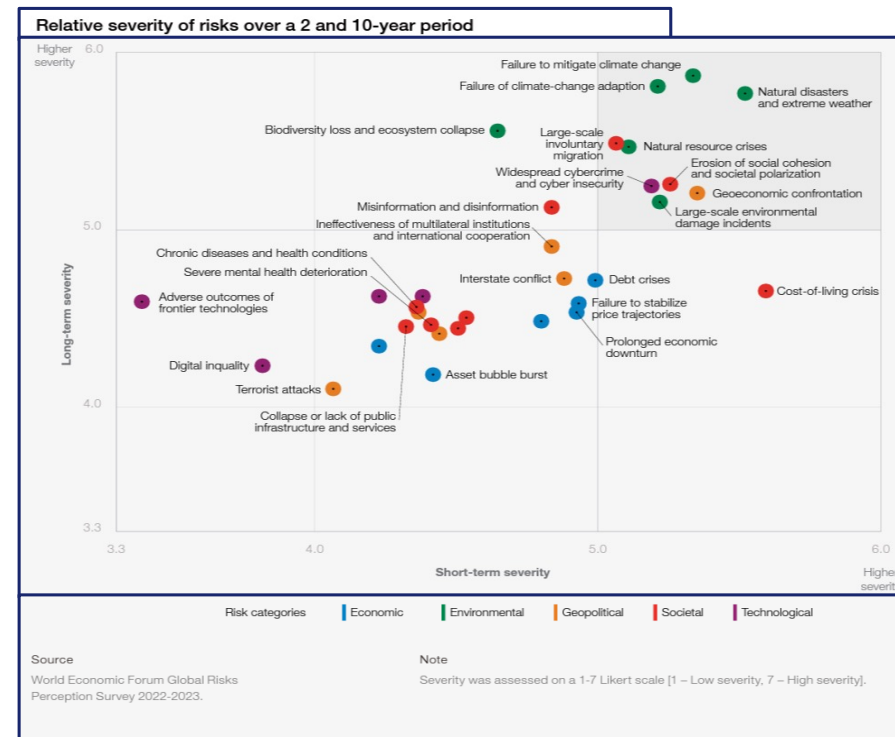
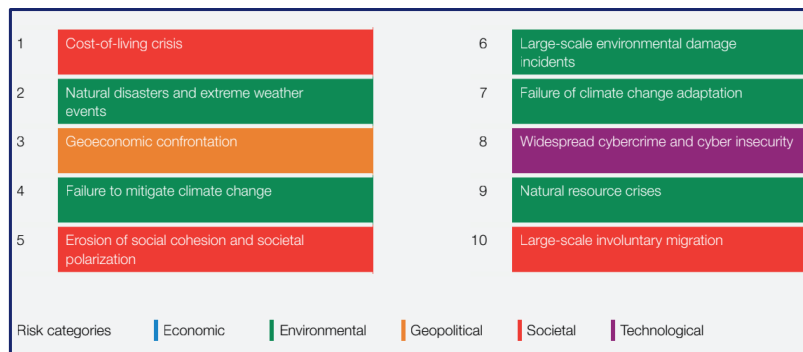
## OTHERS



# Global Urgency for Serious ESG Consideration in Business



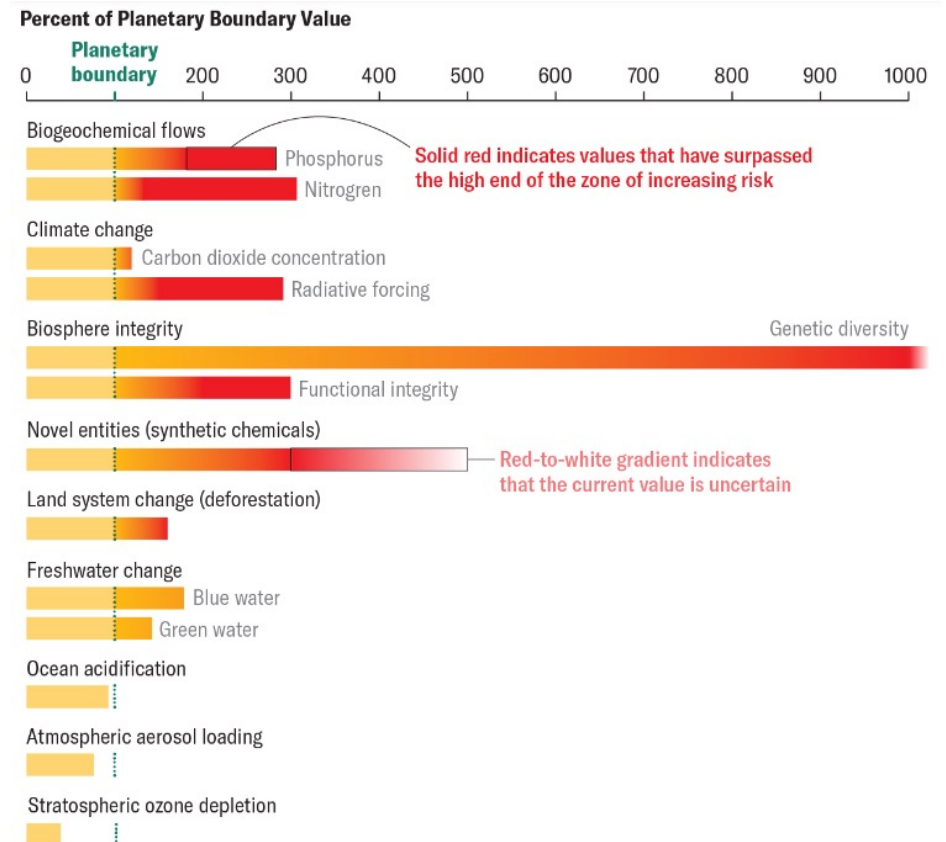
Global risks ranked by severity over the short term (2 years)





# 6 of 9 Earth's Safe Boundaries Have Been Crossed

- Human activity is pushing Earth to the brink of a dangerous climate tipping point.
- The Arctic is warming **4x faster than the global average**.
- Greenland is losing **trillions of tons of ice** every decade. This ice loss is accelerating, and Greenland contains enough water to raise sea levels by 7 meters.
- If the world breaches 1.5°C, **we are likely to trigger at least four tipping points**, including the **irreversible** melting of the Greenland ice sheet and loss of the world's tropical coral reef systems.
- Yet **every month** we use 1% of the remaining carbon budget for 1.5°C.



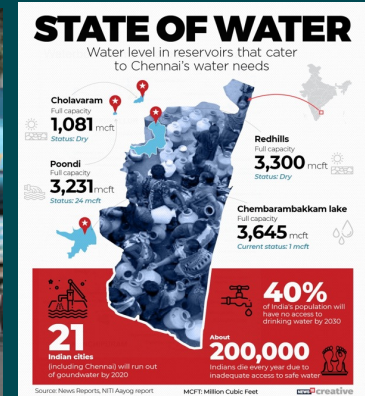
# Consequences of Climate Change are Physical and Noticeable

This is Canada's worst wildfire season on record, researchers say

Greek PM says country is fighting a 'war' on climate change after summer of fires and flooding

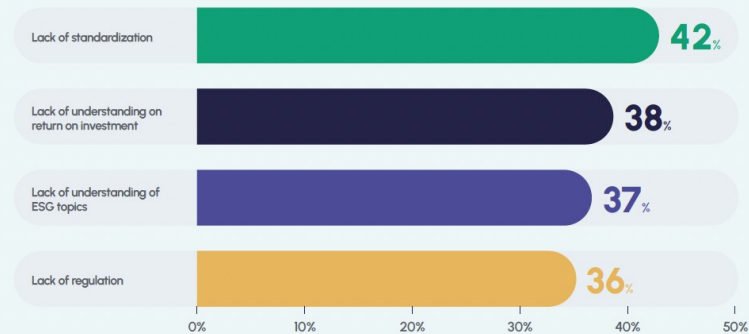
WORLD NEWS

Flooding death toll soars to 11,300 in Libya's coastal city of Derna, aid group says



# ESG/GCC Context

## What are the Top Challenges Companies are facing regarding ESG Integration?



Disclaimer: respondents could select multiple options.

Lack of understanding the ROI, financing, investment and access to capital remain to be a major issue.

## What challenges are companies facing when transitioning to a net-zero economy?





# Funding the SDGs

## Financial Gap



The UN estimates the gap in financing to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at \$2.5 trillion per year in developing countries alone ([UNCTAD, 2014](#)).

Whilst the public sector will continue to play a key financing role, **there is greater scope for the private sector** to engage in financing many areas of the SDGs to help close the gap.

The private sector must be fully on board.

**Private companies bring creativity, resources & innovation.**

# Funding the SDGs

## Financial Gap

An IMF study shows that the required scale-up varies widely across countries. The average additional annual spending required in 2030 to reach key SDGs stands:

**Emerging  
Market  
Economies**

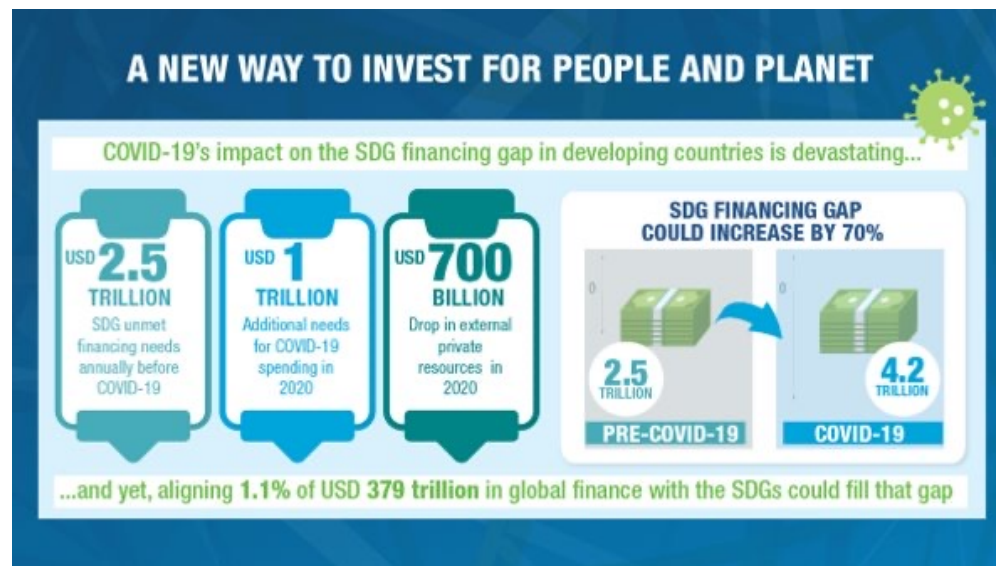
US \$0.5 trillion

**Low-Income  
Developing  
Countries**

US \$2.1 trillion



# The Outbreak of COVID



<https://www.oecd.org/development/global-outlook-on-financing-for-sustainable-development-2021-e3c30a9a-en.htm>

The outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) has magnified the financing gap to achieve the SDGs in developing countries, with threats to SDG progress across all countries.

- As COVID-19 unfolds, **financing for sustainable development is at risk of collapse**, with all resources available to developing countries under stress.
- **The 'scissor effect' of SDG financing** – increasing needs and declining resources already observed in previous years – has been magnified.
- Poverty levels are on the rise and **millions of livelihoods are at stake**.



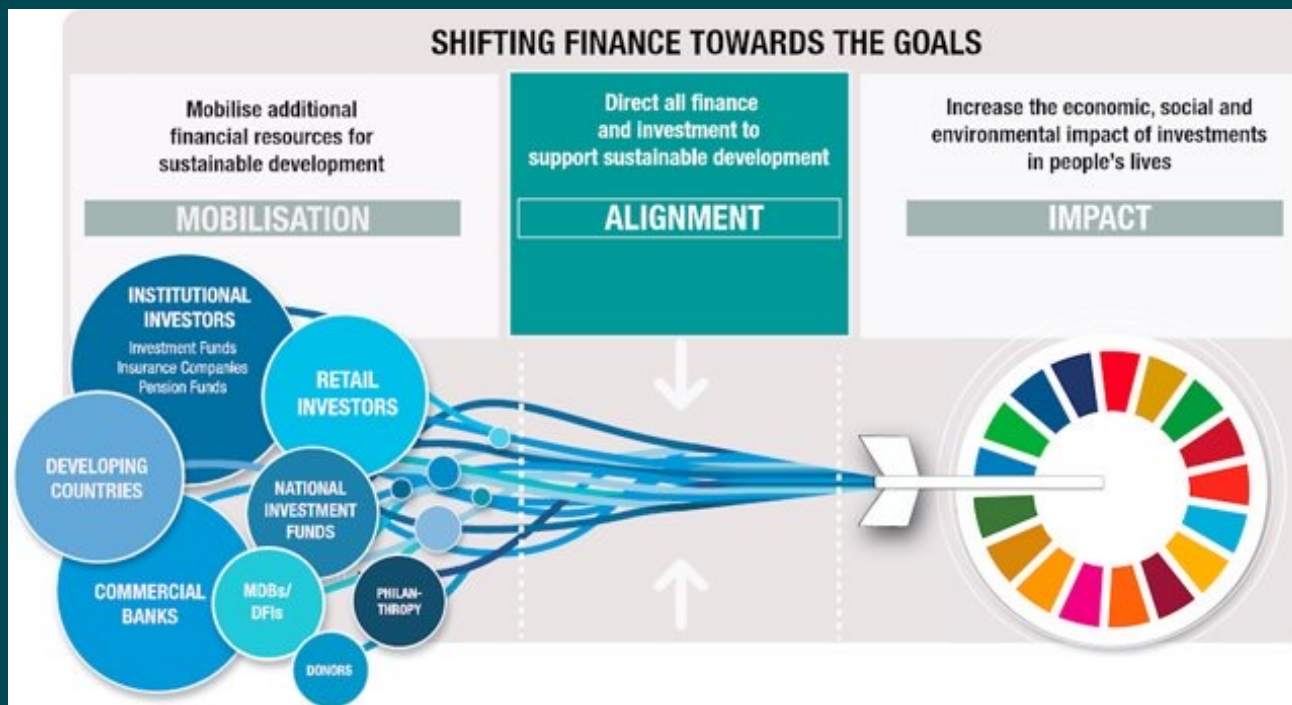
# Funding the SDGs

## Financial Gap

Global financial assets are sufficient to meet the financing needs of the **2030 Agenda**.



# The Shift

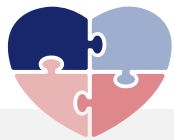


There is a big potential to **respond to the need** to mobilise resources for development by **making better use of each resources** leveraging power, fixing leakages in transmission channels, and **increasing the quality of existing flows to achieve greater SDG impact.**

Source: (OECD, 2018[27]), *Global Outlook on Financing for Sustainable Development 2019: Time to Face the Challenge*, <https://www.oecd.org/development/global-outlook-on-financing-for-sustainable-development-2019-9789264307995-en.htm>.

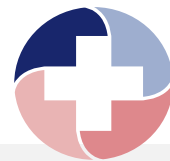
# The Shift

A step change is needed to shift the trillions in favour of sustainable and inclusive development along the entire investment and financing chain:



## Beyond Ethics

Investing in the SDGs and “leaving no one behind” go beyond an ethical imperative; they are also a risk mitigation strategy and a business opportunities.



## Crisis vs a Black Box

Trillions held in the financial **system continue to fuel inequalities** and unsustainable investments. On the one hand, **a debt crisis looms** in developing countries who lack financial reserves to implement a greener and more resilient recovery. On the other hand, **a black box surrounds the actual impact of investments.**



## SDGs Assessment

The fragmentation of different measurements of quality or sustainability of financing have led to **challenge to assess SDGs alignment across different sources of financing**, increasing the risk of SDGs washing and threatening the long-term value of assets.



# Actions vs Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Size	Action to Align	Policy Makers: actions to support alignment
<b>1</b> Asset Managers	\$ 91T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invest in <b>new tools and technologies</b> to integrate SDG metrics</li> <li>Build asset manager <b>capabilities</b> to source SDGs investments</li> <li>Incorporate SDGs mandates into funds <b>managers' objectives</b></li> <li><b>Decarbonize</b> assets and portfolios.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage asset managers to make <b>publicly available</b> comparable, consistent, and verifiable <b>ESG information</b></li> <li><b>Create platforms</b> that build relationships between asset managers and sustainable companies, sustainable development bond issuers, development finance institutions, and aid agencies</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> Insurance	\$32.9T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjust range of risk factors to insure and <b>develop ESG-related insurance products</b></li> <li><b>Incorporate ESG</b> into repairs, replacements, disputes, and other claims services</li> <li>Measure and monitor <b>ESG risk reduction progress</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support <b>regulatory and legal frameworks</b> for ESG risk reduction</li> <li>Invest in <b>capacity and technical assistance</b> to develop insurance markets in emerging economies</li> <li>Adopt policies to encourage companies to <b>broaden ESG coverage and risk factors</b></li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Pension Funds	\$35.6T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add <b>SDGs criteria</b> to investment decisions</li> <li>Strengthen <b>expertise and capacity</b> of fund managers on ESG</li> <li>Set <b>SDG targets</b> in terms of SDGs investments and outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incentivise pension funds to <b>factor in ESG impact through regulation</b></li> <li>Improve availability, consistency, and quality of <b>ESG information</b></li> </ul>

# Actions vs Stakeholders

Goal	Size	Action to Align	Policy Makers: actions to support alignment
4 Investment Banks	\$147.9T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure, document, and disclose investments in fossil fuels</li> <li>• Provide advisory services to companies supporting SDGs</li> <li>• Commit to underwriting green, social, and development impact bonds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Require disclosures from financial institutions on ESG risks</li> <li>• Encourage stress tests to evaluate banks performance on environmental and social risks</li> <li>• Provide forward guidance on ESG risk management and due diligence</li> </ul>
5 Impact-Driven Businesses	\$?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push innovation and start-ups creation with an impact business model</li> <li>• Build business models that ensure mutual shared values.</li> <li>• Spot SDGs risks and opportunities in private sectors supply chains</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a clear regulation on social enterprises licensing and activities.</li> <li>• Provide incentives schemes on SDGs driven SMEs.</li> <li>• Activate an ecosystem of impact-driven startups and incentives investments.</li> </ul>
6 Philanthropic Organizations	\$7.1B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve knowledge sharing with governments and donors</li> <li>• Make better use of existing platforms to improve data transparency on philanthropic giving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt more systematic approaches to engagement with foundations</li> <li>• Adapt regulation to improve enabling environment for philanthropy on SDGs</li> </ul>

**Others:** Private sector, sovereign funds, central banks, family businesses, retail investors etc.



# Race to Zero Global Pledge

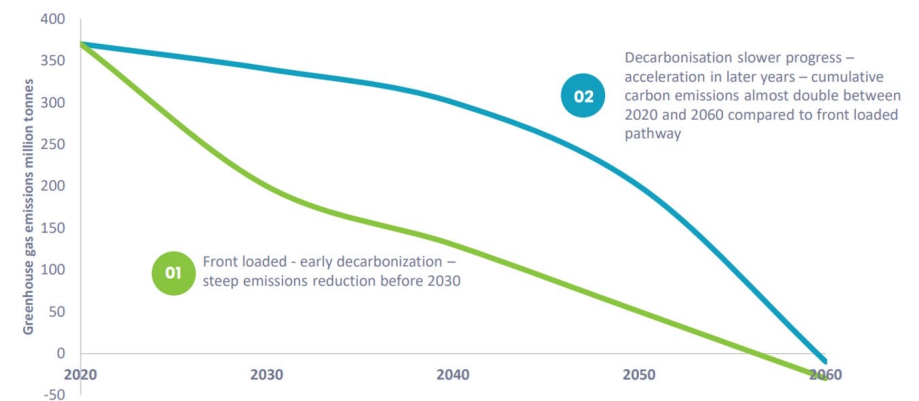
RACE TO ZERO is the UNFCCC umbrella campaign to mobilize cities, businesses, states and regions, investors and others:

- Pledging to reach Net Zero ASAP and before mid-century
- 50% reduction by 2030 – FRONT LOAD

To win the RACE TO ZERO emission, the world must achieve breakthrough within every sector of the global economy.



Front-loading of emission reductions (e.g. for a company)



# Investment vs. Priorities



## Education

We need **\$39B** to provide education for all



## Water & Sanitation

We need **\$114B** to provide water and sanitation for all



## Health & Nutrition

We need **\$274B** to provide health and nutrition for all



## Climate Action

We need **\$3.5T** to embrace climate and environmental actions for all



**Sugar**  
**\$73B**



**Cosmetics**  
**\$463B**



**Ice Cream**  
**\$95B**



**Gambling**  
**\$876B**



**Adult Entertainment**  
**\$44.9B**

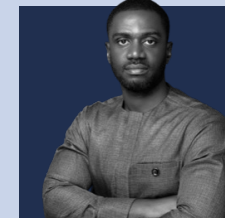


**Tobacco**  
**\$937B**



**Defence**  
**\$4T**





Thank You



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