

# LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2025

25 November 2025  
Merchant Taylors' Hall



# Welcome to UKSIF's Leadership Summit 2025

We are pleased to welcome so many of you to our Leadership Summit, the largest and most prestigious event in our busy calendar.

At last year's Leadership Summit, we woke up to the news that Donald Trump had been elected president in the US. One year later, it's safe to say that the sustainable landscape is facing a new set of challenges.

At COP30, the proceedings were complicated and conflicted. But the presence of so many industry heavyweights in Brazil showed the business case for climate action has not diminished. And while countries were unable to agree on a roadmap for phasing out fossil fuels, we have seen a shift towards sustainability within the finance sector.

The seventh Global Sustainable Investment Review, which we helped launch at COP30, showed that the value of fund assets reporting the use of responsible or sustainable investment approaches has increased by nearly 50% in two years. As the report makes clear: the sector has now moved from a "niche practice" to a "systemic consideration".

In reality, the economic case for reaching net zero emissions has never been stronger, with the global green economy now one of the world's fastest-growing sectors and record sums flowing into renewables.

This year's Leadership Summit has a jam-packed agenda, including topics on leveraging AI in sustainable investment research, the future of food, transition planning, mental health and mining.

Thank you to our sponsor, First Sentier MUFG Sustainable Investment Institute, for helping to make this possible and thank you to all our speakers and all of you for coming along. It's set to be an exceptional day.



**James Alexander, Chief Executive, UKSIF**

# Agenda

08:30 - 09:30: **Breakfast and Registration**

09:30 - 09:35: **Opening Remarks**

**James Alexander**, Chief Executive, UKSIF

09:35 - 10:00: **Keynote: Rt Hon Chris Skidmore OBE**

**Rt Hon Chris Skidmore OBE**, Chair, Climate Action Coalition

10:00 - 10:45: **Panel: COP30 and the global picture**

*On the day of Leadership Summit 2024, we woke up to the news of Donald Trump's second term as president, and since he's taken power in January, the global picture has shifted more than once. With tariffs and the US once again leaving the Paris agreement, where is the sentiment towards sustainable finance at the moment? How was COP30? What was discussed? Is greenwashing becoming more prevalent, and if so, what does this mean for the industry?*

**Miranda Beacham**, Head of UK Responsible Investment, Aegon Asset Management

**Eva Cairns**, Head of Responsible Investment, Scottish Widows

Moderated by: **James Alexander**, Chief Executive, UKSIF

10:45 - 11:15: **Coffee Break**

11:15 - 12:00: **A practical guide: how to leverage AI in sustainable investment research**

*AI is everywhere, and effective implementation is streamlining processes. But how, exactly, can it be used by research teams? How can it effectively breakdown data? How can it analyse climate risks? What are sustainability researchers seeing as the future (and the risks!) of AI in their teams?*

**Frances Grier**, Head of Sustainable Investment Models, Schroders

**Sudip Hazra**, Director, First Sentier MUFG Sustainable Finance Institute

**Bowie Ko**, Senior RI Researcher, Man Group

Moderated by: **Sally Kramers**, Head of Industry Development, UKSIF

12:00 - 13:00: **Panel: The future of food: sustainable food systems**

*A whistlestop tour of the opportunities available to shape farming, food and agriculture in the future. Each of our expert speakers will present for ten minutes on forward-thinking approach to food systems, highlighting the opportunities for change available.*

Topic introduction and moderator - **Gina Gambetta**, Senior Reporter, Responsible Investor

Vertical farming - **Peter Bachmann**, Managing Director, Sustainable Infrastructure, Gresham House

Regenerative Agriculture - **Ben Stafford**, CEO, Regenerate Asset Management

Protein Diversification - **Jo Raven**, Director of Thematic Research & Corporate Innovation, FAIRR

13:00 - 14:00: **Lunch**

14:00 - 14:30: **Fireside Chat: Re-framing the narrative of sustainable investing**

**Ian Simm**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Impax Asset Management

Moderated by: **James Alexander**, Chief Executive, UKSIF

14:30 - 15:00: **Keynote: Mining**

**Adam Matthews**, Chief Responsible Investment Officer, Church of England Pensions Board

15:00 - 15:30: **Coffee Break**

15:30 - 16:00: **Fireside Chat: Mental health benchmark, lessons learned, and progress made**

**Amy Browne**, Director of Stewardship, CCLA

Moderated by: **Oscar Warwick Thompson**, Head of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, UKSIF

16:00 - 16:30: **Keynote: Top Transition Plan Tips**

**David Russell**, Chair, Transition Pathway Initiative

16:30 - 16:55: **Fireside chat: Modern Slavery: The Hidden Risk Lurking in Investment Portfolios**

**Maria Nazarova-Doyle**, IFM Investors, Global Head of Sustainable Investment

Moderated by: **Oscar Warwick Thompson**, Head of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, UKSIF

16:55 - 17:00: **Closing Remarks**

**James Alexander**, Chief Executive, UKSIF

17:00 - 19:00: **Drinks reception**

# Thank you to our Sponsors

## First Sentier MUFG Sustainable Investment Institute

The First Sentier MUFG Sustainable Investment Institute provides research on topics that can advance sustainable investing. The Institute is jointly supported by First Sentier Investors and MUFG who share a commitment to sustainability and responsible investment, and believe that investment decisions should be made with consideration to our communities both now and in the future.

To learn more, please visit their website [here](#).