

8th Annual Conference Agenda
Financial Policy and the Environment

October 20-21, 2021

Virtual on Zoom — All times Eastern

Wednesday, October 20: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

8:00 **Introductions:** GCFP Director **Deborah Lucas** and **C.S. Venkatakrisnan**, Barclays Head of Global Markets and Co-President of Barclays Bank PLC

8:10 **Keynote Address:** **Sarah Breeden**, Executive Director, Financial Stability Strategy and Risk, Bank of England

9:00 **Session 1: Panel Discussion** “First Principles: What role can and should financial regulation play in addressing the environment?”

Moderator: **James Poterba** (MIT)

Panelists: **Robert Litterman** (Kepos Capital), **Daniel Schrag** (Harvard University), **James Stock** (Harvard University)

10:00 **Break**

10:10 **Session 2: Panel Discussion** “Corporate and investor perspectives”

Moderator: **Ross Levine** (UC Berkeley)

Panelists: **Alan Haywood** (bp plc), **Richard Manley** (CPP Investments), **Brian Reilly** (Barclays)

11:10 **Break**

11:15 **Session 3: Paper Presentations** “Innovations in measurement and theory, Part 1”

Chair: **Luigi Zingales** (University of Chicago)

“On ESG Investing: Heterogeneous Preferences, Information, and Asset Prices” by **Itay Goldstein** (University of Pennsylvania), **Alexandr Kopytov** (University of Hong Kong), **Lin Shen** (INSEAD), **Haotian Xiang** (Peking University)

“ESG Confusion and Stock Returns: Tackling the Problem of Noise” by **Florian Bergy** (MIT), **Julian F. Koelbel** (MIT), **Anna Pavlova** (London Business School), **Roberto Rigobon** (MIT)

Discussant: **Jonathan Parker** (MIT)

12:15 **Break**

12:30 Session 4: Paper Presentations "New market-based evidence"

Chair: Gita Rao (MIT)

"The Real Effects of Environmental Activist Investing" by **Lakshmi Naaraayanan** (London Business School), Kunal Sachdeva (Rice University), Varun Sharma (London Business School)

"Sustainability or Performance? Ratings and Fund Managers' Incentives" by Nickolay Gantchev (Warwick Business School), **Mariassunta Giannetti** (Stockholm School of Economics), Rachel Li (University of Alabama)

"The low-carbon transition, climate commitments and firm credit risk" by Sante Carbone, **Margherita Giuzio**, Sujit Kapadia, Johannes Sebastian Krämer, Ken Nyholm, Katia Vozian (all European Central Bank)

Discussant: Marcin Kacperczyk (Imperial College London)

2:00 Day 1 adjourns

Thursday, October 21: 8:10 AM – 3:05 PM

8:10 Fireside Chat with Larry Fink, Chairman and CEO, BlackRock

Interviewer: Deborah Lucas (MIT)

8:55 Session 5: "The EU's green bond initiative"

Moderator: John Sterman (MIT)

Presenter: Gert Jan Koopman (European Commission)

9:55 Break

10:10 Session 6: Panel Discussion "Disclosures and metrics"

Moderator: S.P. Kothari (MIT)

Panelists: Gita Bal (Fidelity International), David Curran (Paul, Weiss LLC), Cyrus Lotfipour (MSCI ESG Research), Laura Starks (University of Texas)

11:10 Break

11:20 Session 7: Paper Presentations "Social discount rates revisited"

Chair: Deborah Lucas (MIT)

"It's time to fix our public discounting systems" by Frédéric Cherbonnier, **Christian Gollier** (both Toulouse School of Economics)

"The Social Discount Rate: Legal and Philosophical Underpinnings" by **Kip Viscusi**
(Vanderbilt University)

"Choosing the Future: Markets, Ethics, and Rapprochement in Social Discounting" by
Geoffrey Heal (Columbia University), **Antony Millner** (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Discussant: **Robert Pindyck** (MIT)

12:50 Break

1:00 Session 8: Paper Presentations "Innovations in measurement and theory, Part 2"

Chair: **Robert Merton** (MIT)

"Climate Stress Testing" by **Richard Berner** (New York University), **Robert Engle** (New York University), **Hyeyoon Jung** (Federal Reserve Bank of New York)

"Measuring ESG Return Premium in Equity Markets – the Right Way" by **Arik Ben Dor**,
Jingling Guan, **Yunpeng Sun** (all Barclays)

Discussant: **Andrew Lo** (MIT)

2:00 Break

2:05 Session 9: Paper Presentations "Young scholars forum"

Chair: **Jeffrey Meli** (Barclays Investment Bank)

"Corporate ESG Profiles, Matching, and the Cost of Bank Loans" by **David Shin** (Indiana University)

"Policy Interaction and the Transition To Clean Technology" by **Ghassane Benmir** (London School of Economics), **Josselin Roman** (PSL Research University - Paris Dauphine)

"Underwater Underwriting: Bank Screening and Credit Rationing in Flood Zones" by
Parinitha Sastri (MIT)

3:05 Conference adjourns