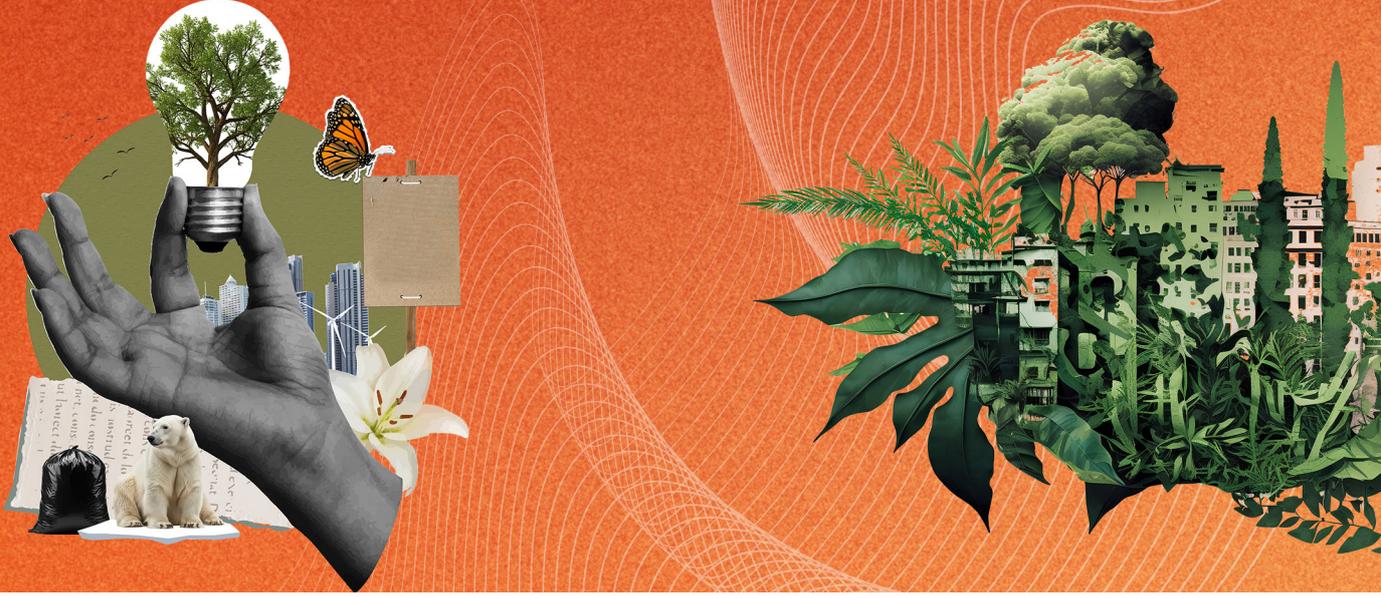




# Tattva

UK INTRODUCES NEW  
**sustainability  
reporting  
standards**



# INTRODUCTION

**Tattva Issue 62** highlights the sustainability momentum advancing globally, spanning corporate climate action, clean technology, and regulatory innovation. In the European Union (EU), the European Commission introduced new measures under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) to curb the destruction of unsold clothing, accessories, and footwear. Starting 2026, large companies will be required to disclose discarded products and cease their destruction, promoting reuse, resale, and circular business models across the textile sector. Technology-driven climate solutions are also gaining traction, exemplified by the launch of the Google Center for Climate Technology on India's Manthan platform. In collaboration with India's Principal Scientific Advisor, the initiative leverages AI-enabled research to accelerate decarbonization across sustainable aviation fuel, low-carbon construction, and workforce development, aligning national R&D priorities with climate innovation and sustainable-growth goals. On the corporate leadership front, Schroders Capital appointed Holly Turner as Head of Sustainable Investments, responsible for integrating sustainability across private equity, real estate, infrastructure, and private debt strategies. Furthermore, ClimeFi rolled out its Due Diligence Coverage platform, standardizing assessments of carbon removal projects based on carbon integrity, delivery risk, and broader climate impact, and tracking over 500 suppliers to support reliable net-zero investment decisions.

Sustainability practices are also being advanced through community and financial initiatives. First Abu Dhabi Bank Misr (FABMISR) launched a pilot program at a public school in Cairo, implementing solar-powered water reuse systems, waste segregation facilities, and green spaces while educating approximately 3,500 students and 150 teachers on environmental stewardship, supporting Egypt's Vision 2030 and fostering long-term climate responsibility. In regulatory developments, the UK finalized its Sustainability Reporting Standards (UK SRS) aligned with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) S1 and S2 frameworks, which are currently voluntary but under consultation for potential mandatory adoption among listed companies, signaling a future shift in corporate sustainability reporting. However, the European Central Bank (ECB) flagged risks in the EU's sustainability reporting simplification, cautioning that revisions to the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) could reduce mandatory disclosures and company coverage, potentially limiting transparency and comparability of sustainability data for investors. Collectively, these developments underscore a growing intersection of technology, finance, regulation, and corporate action, highlighting the continued institutionalization of ESG practices and the drive toward measurable climate and sustainability outcomes across multiple sectors worldwide.



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# MARKET TRENDS

## Trends driving positive environmental and social change

Businesses, financial institutions, and regulatory bodies have realized the significance of addressing ESG risks and capitalizing on the underlying opportunities to adopt sustainability. Catch the latest developments across industries, from government mandates to revolutionary initiatives, in this section.



## Dutch regulator tightens scrutiny of financial sustainability claims

The Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM) has urged banks, insurers, investors, and pension funds to strengthen the clarity and evidence behind sustainability claims. Following a 2024–2025 review, the regulator found many disclosures vague or poorly substantiated and warned that the supervision of sustainability communications and potential greenwashing will intensify in 2026.

► Source: ResponsibleUs



## Canada repeals zero-emission vehicle sales mandate

Canada will repeal its Electric Vehicle Availability Standard (EVAS), which mandated automakers to reach 100% zero-emission vehicle sales by 2035. The government will instead tighten Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions standards, expand EV purchase incentives, and invest in charging infrastructure, targeting 75% EV adoption by 2035 and 90% by 2040.

► Source: ESG Today



## Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation to Enter into Force in Europe

## EU adopts rules to ban destruction of unsold clothes

The European Commission introduced new measures under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) to curb the destruction of unsold clothing, accessories, and footwear. The rules mandate the disclosure of discarded products and ban their destruction for large companies from 2026, promoting reuse, resale, and circular business models across the textile sector.

► Source: European Commission



## NZAM relaunches with revised climate commitment

The Net Zero Asset Managers (NZAM) initiative was relaunched with over 250 signatories, after a year-long pause driven by political and regulatory scrutiny, particularly in the US. The updated commitment removes explicit 2050 net-zero investment alignment while allowing asset managers to independently set climate targets and disclose strategies addressing climate-related financial risks and opportunities.

► Source: ESG Today



# COLLABORATIONS

## Companies joining forces to shape sustainable solutions

ESG issues continue to grow in relevance, be it employee health & safety or climate change. The impact is multifold in current times. Investor groups and corporates are increasingly collaborating to address such issues and drive sustainability. Following are the major coalitions in the ESG space:

## BNP, Eclipse partner to build battery storage across Europe



BNP Paribas and Eclipse have partnered to accelerate Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) deployment in Europe. Combining BNP Paribas's

financial structuring with Eclipse's trading expertise, the collaboration provides strategic equity, tailored financing, and hedging solutions. This initiative aims to strengthen grid reliability, support renewable integration, and advance Europe's energy resilience and sustainability.

► Source: ESG Today



## Google launches climate technology center in India to accelerate AI-driven decarbonization

Google and India's Principal Scientific Advisor launched the Google Center for Climate Technology on the Manthan platform. Utilizing AI-enabled research, the initiative targets sustainable aviation fuel, low-carbon construction, and workforce development. This collaboration integrates climate innovation into national R&D priorities to accelerate India's decarbonization and sustainable growth.

► Source: ESG News

## ERM, Jupiter Intelligence partner to turn physical climate risk into investment and resilience strategy



ERM and Jupiter Intelligence have partnered to transform physical climate risk data into actionable business strategies. They aim to help firms quantify weather-related threats by merging science-driven

analytics with advisory expertise. This collaboration will enable the finance and manufacturing sectors to integrate climate resilience into capital planning, governance, and investment decisions.

► Source: ESG News



## Microsoft signs 1.8-million-ton carbon removal deal to restore African rainforest

Rainforest Builder and Microsoft signed a 15-year agreement for 1.8 million carbon credits from Sierra Leone's Project Buffalo. This large-scale restoration initiative will plant 10 million trees, creating habitats and 1,200 jobs. The partnership aims to support Microsoft's 2030 carbon-negative goal while catalyzing Africa's participation in global carbon markets.

► Source: ESG Today



# PEOPLE MOVEMENTS

## Thought leadership through key hires

Companies worldwide are demanding analysts, strategists, and knowledgeable professionals in order to understand and drive their ESG data, strategies, and solutions for a range of stakeholders. This section covers the latest movements of such highly skilled professionals in the ESG sector.

## Kearney appoints Angela Hultberg as Global Head of Sustainability



Kearney appointed Angela Hultberg as its new Global Head of Sustainability. She previously served as the firm's Global Sustainability Director. Hultberg will guide clients in adopting sustainable business practices. Earlier, she has spent over eight years at IKEA in sustainability leadership roles.

► Source: ESG Today

## Schroders Capital appoints Holly Turner as Head of Sustainable Investments



Schroders Capital appointed Holly Turner as Head of Sustainable Investments. Turner, who has worked at Schroders for over seven years, will lead sustainability integration across private equity, real estate, infrastructure, and private debt investment strategies.

► Source: ESG Today

## Ostrum AM appoints Maud Pierre-Minuit to lead Sustainable Transitions



Ostrum Asset Management appointed Maud Pierre-Minuit as Head of Sustainable Transitions. She will lead ESG strategy implementation, develop thematic investment solutions, and support clients in integrating climate and biodiversity considerations into their portfolios. Pierre-Minuit

previously worked at I Care by BearingPoint.

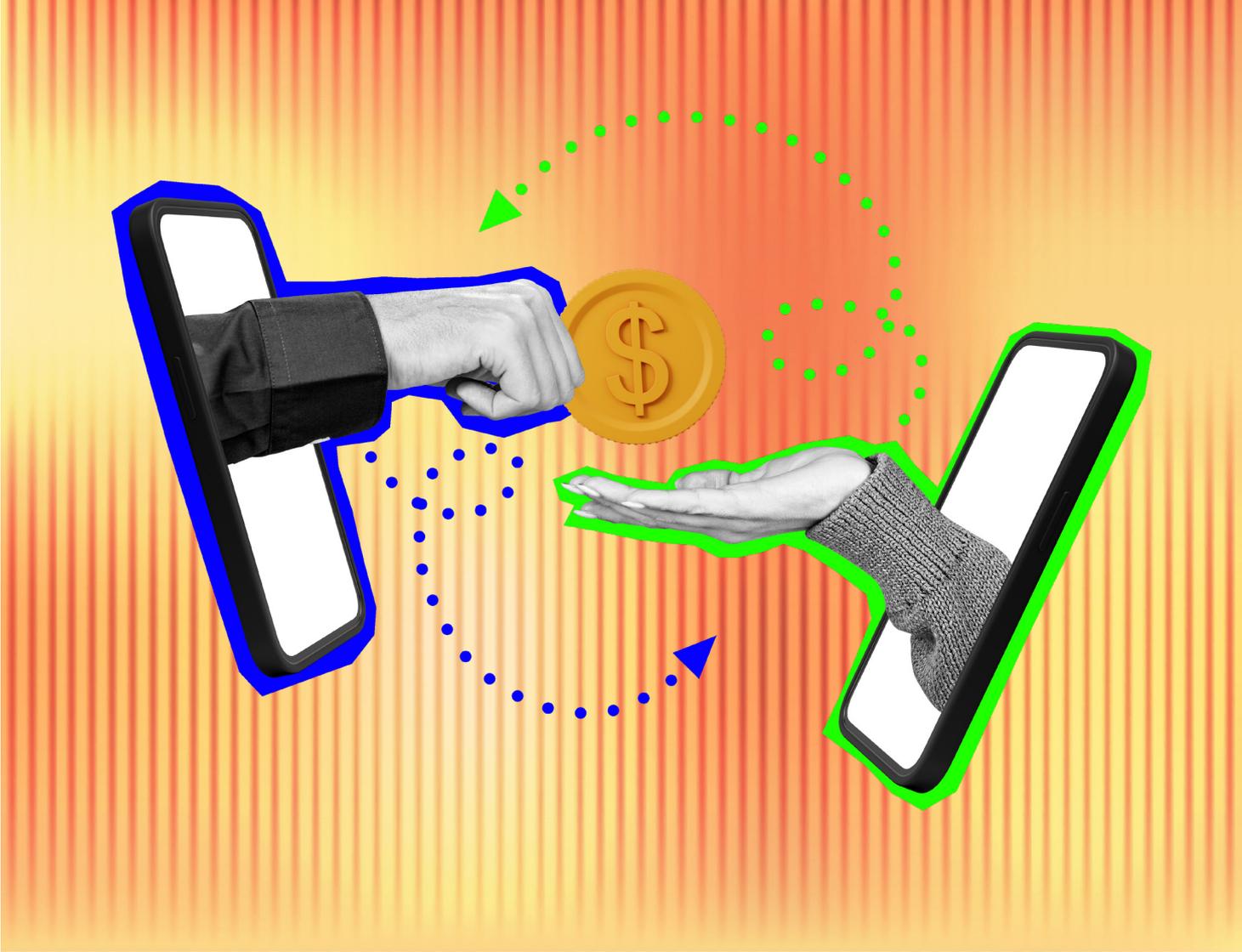
► Source: onestopesg

## Bloomberg appoints Lauren Smart as Global Head of Sustainable Finance



Bloomberg appointed Lauren Smart as Global Head of Sustainable Finance. Previously leading S&P Global's Sustainable1 unit, Smart will oversee Bloomberg's ESG and climate data strategy, growth, and solutions, and serve on the firm's Sustainability Oversight Committee.

► Source: ESG News



# FINTECH

## Innovation in sustainable investing

The Fintech section captures various innovations in the data analytics, software solutioning, and technology space that benefit investors and data providers. Learn about the most groundbreaking technologies leading their way to ESG.



### One Retail Hub simplifies supply chain due diligence

TrusTrace and several retailers launched One Retail Hub, a digital platform to streamline human rights and environmental due diligence in the apparel and footwear industry. Using an AI-supported questionnaire, One Retail Hub standardizes ethical sourcing data and allows brands to share responses, reducing compliance workloads for companies and suppliers.

► Source: ESG Today



### Absolute Climate launches low-carbon product certification system

Absolute Climate introduced a certification framework that converts verified emissions reductions from low-carbon materials into tradable environmental attribute certificates. Using life cycle assessment methods, the system allows companies to claim climate benefits without purchasing physical products while helping finance the production of low-carbon material.

► Source: ESG today



### ClimeFi introduces carbon removal project review platform

ClimeFi released its Due Diligence Coverage platform, enabling buyers to assess carbon removal projects using metrics such as carbon integrity, delivery risk, and broader climate impact. Tracking over 500 suppliers, the tool helps address fragmented market data and supports more reliable net-zero procurement decisions.

► Source: ESG today



### Datamaran unveils ESG regulatory monitoring tool

Datamaran launched a regulatory monitoring platform that uses AI analysis and expert insights to track global ESG policy developments. The tool helps sustainability and compliance teams identify regulatory risks, prioritize requirements, and move from reactive compliance toward more proactive governance strategies.

► Source: PR Newswire



# PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

## Industry demands met with sustainable investment products and ESG data & services

As businesses work toward getting ESG-compliant, and investors channel their funds into ESG products, the market is gearing up to facilitate all forms of products and services. In this section, you will find news on key products and services, including the launch of climate change-targeted funds as well as ESG data and services.



## Solar initiative transforms Cairo school into green learning hub

First Abu Dhabi Bank Misr (FABMISR) has introduced a pilot program bringing renewable energy and sustainability practices to a public school in Cairo. The initiative has implemented solar-powered water reuse systems, waste segregation facilities, and green spaces to improve environmental conditions and reduce heat on campus. Alongside infrastructure upgrades, environmental awareness sessions will educate about 3,500 students and 150 teachers, supporting Egypt's Vision 2030 and promoting long-term climate responsibility.

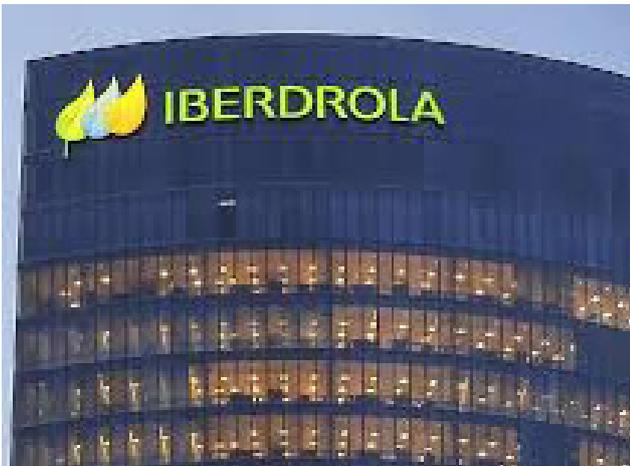
► Source: ESG News



## BBVA expands sustainable financing to record levels

Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) directed USD145bn toward sustainable initiatives in 2025, marking a 44% increase over the previous year. Most funding supported climate solutions such as renewable energy, water efficiency, and circular economy projects, while the remainder backed social priorities such as education and financial inclusion. Corporate banking led the activity, with growing demand for green bonds, electric vehicle loans, and efficient housing finance, reflecting the bank's stronger focus on transition investments.

► Source: ESG News



## Iberdrola secures strong demand for new green hybrid bond

Iberdrola raised USD708.47mn through a green hybrid bond offering with a 3.95% coupon, attracting more than USD5.9bn in investor demand from nearly 280 institutions. The instrument aligns with EU and International Capital Market Association (ICMA) green finance standards and will refinance an earlier hybrid issue. Treated partly as equity, the bond will help maintain financial stability while supporting renewable and grid investments, highlighting strong market confidence in the company's sustainability strategy.

► Source: ESG News



## DHL introduces flexible low-emission shipping options

DHL Global Forwarding unveiled the new GoGreen Plus portfolio designed to help businesses lower emissions from freight transport. The services include options that cut shipping emissions through sustainable fuels and cleaner technologies using a book-and-claim model. The base package offers a fixed-cost 10% reduction, while premium and customized plans deliver deeper cuts, supporting DHL's long-term net-zero and sustainable-fuel goals.

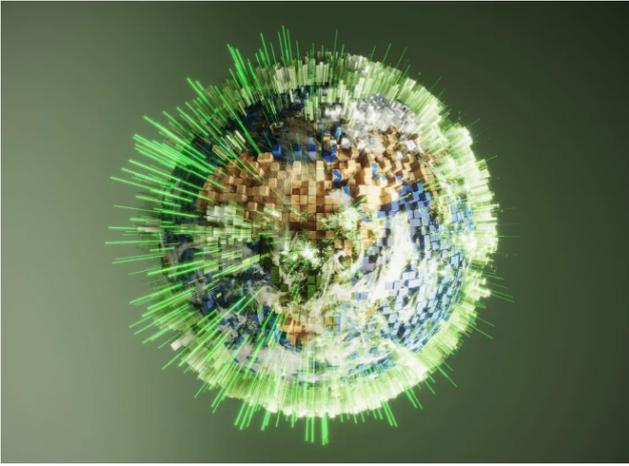
► Source: ESG Today



# LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

## Major policies that pave the way for disclosure in the industry

Policy reformation and amendments in the ESG reporting space are at an all-time high. What started as voluntary disclosures are now on their way to becoming mandates. Be it sustainable investment standards or climate change reporting mandates and transparency in governance practices, we bring you the latest regulatory updates in this section.



## UK introduces new sustainability reporting standards

The UK government released finalized UK Sustainability Reporting Standards (UK SRS) aligned with IFRS sustainability and climate frameworks. The standards are voluntary for now; however, regulators are consulting on mandatory adoption for listed companies, with possible future requirements for private companies.

► Source: ESG today



## European Parliament backs 90% emissions reduction target by 2040

The European Parliament approved amendments to the EU Climate Law, setting a binding target to cut GHG emissions by 90% by 2040 compared to 1990 levels. The agreement allows limited use of international carbon credits and delays the ETS2 system to 2028.

► Source: European Parliament



## EU launches certification methodologies for permanent carbon removal

The European Commission adopted its first voluntary certification methodologies for permanent carbon removals, covering technologies such as DACCS, BioCCS, and Biochar. The rules establish standards to quantify, monitor, and verify CO<sub>2</sub> removals, supporting certification, investment, and transparency in carbon removal projects.

► Source: ESG Today



## SEBI forms working group to review ESG rating providers' regulatory framework

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a working group to review the regulatory framework governing ESG Rating Providers (ERPs). The group will assess stakeholder feedback, evaluate global regulatory developments, and recommend measures to improve transparency, reliability, and investor confidence in ESG ratings.

► Source: SEBI



# CONTROVERSIES

## Global sustainability watchdogs chasing wrongdoers

Do companies follow their ESG commitments? Tracking corporate controversies helps in investment decisions and enables stakeholders to determine whether companies are being fair to their commitments or merely greenwashing. We bring you the top controversies in this section.



## US state AGs warn firms over sustainable packaging alliances

A coalition of 10 US state attorneys general led by James Uthmeier warned nearly 80 companies that joining sustainability groups pushing plastic reduction could raise antitrust risks. The letters target initiatives such as the U.S. Plastics Pact, citing concerns that coordinated packaging standards may restrict competition and increase consumer prices.

► Source: ESG Today



## US court dismisses Missouri anti-DEI case against Starbucks

A US federal court dismissed a lawsuit filed by Missouri's attorney general, claiming Starbucks' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies discriminated against certain employees. The judge ruled that the complaint lacked evidence of actual harm or discrimination against Missouri residents, failing to meet the legal standard required for the case to proceed.

► Source: ESG Today



## Vanguard settles Texas antitrust case for USD29.5mn

Vanguard Group agreed to pay USD29.5mn to settle an antitrust lawsuit filed by 13 Republican state attorneys general who accused the firm and rivals of using climate activism to influence energy markets. The settlement reinforces Vanguard's commitment to passive investing and limits its involvement in corporate environmental or social shareholder initiatives.

► Source: Reuters



## ECB warns ESRS simplification may reduce investor transparency

The European Central Bank (ECB) cautioned that recent simplifications to the EU's sustainability reporting framework could weaken transparency for investors. Changes to the ESRS under the CSRD significantly reduce mandatory disclosures and company coverage, potentially limiting comparable sustainability data for markets.

► Source: Fintech Global



# SGA ESG DATA INSIGHTS REPORT

How are top financial institutions leveraging ESG data to make smarter investments and stay ahead of evolving regulations? In this special **62<sup>th</sup> edition of Tattva**, we're excited to unveil our latest report, "**Bridging ESG and Finance | ESG Data Insights Report.**" It explores cutting-edge trends in AI-driven ESG analytics, risk assessment strategies, and regulatory shifts shaping the future of sustainable finance.

Unlock exclusive insights—read the full report now! [Read More...](#)



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