



**BUILDING BRIDGES**

Aligning finance with sustainability

**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
Where Finance  
& SDGs connect

# PRESS KIT

**Dec 9-12, 2024, CICG, Geneva**

**[media@buildingbridges.org](mailto:media@buildingbridges.org)**

# Beyond Soundbites

An unparalleled chance to interact with sustainable finance leaders

**Building Bridges aims to shape the global sustainable finance agenda** and build a bridge towards a global economic model aligned with with social and environmental sustainability goals. Every year, Building Bridges organises a ground-breaking event to advance sustainable finance around the world. This yearly event brings together over 150 organisations and institutions, more than 2500 participants, including policymakers, scientists, economists, banks, asset managers and owners and academics, over 4 days. First, a High-Level **Summit**, followed by three **Action Days** featuring over 70 Action Events crowdsourced from the community as well as High-Level Plenaries, a Solutions Stage and networking moments.

Launched in 2019, Building Bridges is a joint initiative, founded by Swiss public authorities (the Swiss Confederation, the Canton and City of Geneva), the finance community, the United Nations and NGOs to accelerate the transition to a global economic model aligned with sustainability goals. At the core of the initiative is the recognition that **the scale and complexity of the transition requires “building bridges” between multiple stakeholders** in the finance, government, and international development communities.

In 2024, after five years of commitment and growth, **Building Bridges transitions from an event to a foundation**. This evolution reflects our ongoing dedication to our mission and enables us to better respond to the needs of our partners and community. I strongly believe that **media is not just a channel for disseminating information but a transformative force that shapes narratives**, drives accountability, and mobilises action by raising important questions, elevating thought leadership and highlighting systemic solutions. I call on you to join us for the 5th Edition to build bridges and join the movement.



**Patrick Odier**  
Chair, Building Bridges

## Founding partners

### FINANCE COMMUNITY



### INTERNATIONAL GENEVA



### PUBLIC AUTHORITIES



The Foundation emerges from a commitment to listen to the voices of diverse stakeholders, and fostering a dedicated community united in their dedication to shift private capital towards sustainability goals. I am excited to build the institutional framework with partners to leverage top resources in advancing our global impact, transitioning from local roots to global influence.



**Karen Hitschke**  
CEO, Building Bridges



# Media Opportunities Overview

**Access to Dec. 9 High-Level Summit** — Hear from leaders in finance and sustainability and interact with other participants in the sector at the invite-only event.

**Full access to the Action Days, Dec. 10-12** — Connect with movers in the sector and discover the next big trends and projects in development through High-Level Event and a curated program of crowd-sourced Action Events.

**Media Amenities** — Access to the media room with high-speed internet; stand-up spaces for video and broadcast recording; professional photos, video feed and event B-roll. Lunch delivered daily (during Action Days).

**Media Lunch and Press Conference**— Building Bridges leadership and key speakers kick-off the event with press availability on Dec. 9.

**Media cocktail lunch 12:00 - 13:00, outside Room E**

**Press Conference 13:00 - 13:45, Room E**

**Exclusive Background Briefings throughout the week** — Featured speakers and industry leaders will host freewheeling off-the-record round table discussions with journalists.

**Interview Opportunities** — One-to-one interviews can be scheduled through Building Bridges media support team.

Apply for accreditation via email:

[media@buildingbridges.org](mailto:media@buildingbridges.org)

# Press Conference

Monday 9 December, 2024 13:00 - 13:45

This press conference offers journalists an opportunity to hear from experts about the critical context in which the 5th Edition of the Building Bridges Conference takes place. In a world grappling with a complex policy landscape, a fragile climate, and diminishing biodiversity, Building Bridges creates a space away from the theatre of political negotiations to focus on actionable solutions. Here, leaders in finance and sustainability collaborate to align the financial system with sustainability goals, bridging the outcomes of events like the Biodiversity and Climate COPs and setting the stage for the discussions at Davos.



**Patrick Odier**

Chair – Building Bridges

Patrick Odier will share his reflections about the week ahead at Building Bridges, and why Switzerland plays a critical role in the global discourse on both finance and sustainability.



**Mindy Lubber**

CEO & President – Ceres

Following **COP29**, Mindy Lubber will share her thoughts on how finance and markets will play a central role in achieving the world's shared goal of preventing the worst impacts of climate change.



**Dr. Jan Yves Remy**

Director of the Shridath Ramphal Centre (SRC) – University of the West Indies

Recently at T20, Dr Jan Yves Remy joins Building Bridges to share her expertise on **Bridgetown 3.0**, whilst simultaneously preparing to represent developing countries at the upcoming ICJ advisory proceedings for climate justice.



**Dan Esty**

Hillhouse Professor – Yale University

As new leadership descends on the **White House**, Dan Esty will give his own reflections on how this will impact sustainable finance as an expert in trade and environmental policy.

# An Innovative Week

Multiple High-Level Plenaries, over 70 crowdsourced events and the UNEP FI 18th Global Roundtable.

## BUILDING BRIDGES SUMMIT

December 9 - Afternoon  
Invite only and livestreamed

The Summit is the marquee event to kick off the week, featuring a distinguished line-up of speakers, addressing an audience of experts in their field, ranging from C-Suite executives to international development leaders who can help shape the global sustainability agenda.

## BUILDING BRIDGES ACTION DAYS

December 10-11-12  
Open for registration

The Action Days feature 70+ crowdsourced **Action Events** planned by our community in a range of formats that maximise interaction and allow for different levels of dialogue and collaboration. Unmissable **High-Level Plenaries** bring participants together at key moments and be a key moment to delve deeply into the four major themes.



#GRT2024 Global Roundtable

The biennial UNEP FI Global Roundtable is the premier UN event for sustainable finance. With a 30-year legacy, it gathers thousands of banks, insurers, investors, policymakers, and civil society to drive action and align finance with global goals like the SDGs. It also helps drive action on climate action, biodiversity loss and pollution through finance.

# Four Major Themes

Four major themes guide the week



### Impact Lens Investment

Exploring how impact is effectively integrated into portfolios to create measurable outcomes across various asset classes.



### Valuing Nature Beyond Climate

Broadening the focus from CO2 to nature finance, and understanding what investable opportunities are emerging to enable the inclusion of nature and biodiversity in portfolios.



### Valuing Society in Finance

Unpacking the types of investment strategies that not only protect the planet but also address various dimensions of inequality and vulnerability.



### Transition Finance in Action

Showcasing how private and public capital can share the investment needed to support economies and corporates in their transition to net-zero and nature-positive solutions.



# Summit 2024

Monday, December 9, 2024

14:00 - 19:00

In-person participation on invitation only  
Livestream available to all

The Building Bridges Summit will convene expert-led discussions to address our most critical and pressing global challenges. The discussions will explore the twin climate and nature crises, widening social inequalities and how to mobilize capital in unprecedented amounts to build a just, resilient, and sustainable future.

## Master of Ceremonies



**Nik Gowing**

Founder and Co-Director – Thinking the Unthinkable



**Patrick Odier**

Chair – Building Bridges



**Nina Seega**

Director – Centre for Sustainable Finance, CISL



**Mary Robinson**

Chair of The Elders, former President of Ireland, & former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights



**Sir Ronald Cohen**

President – GSG Impact



**Mindy Lubber**

CEO & President – Ceres



**Johan Rockström**

Director – Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research



**Dr. Jan Yves Remy**

Director of the Shridath Ramphal Centre (SRC) – University of the West Indies



**Xiye Bastida**

Co-Founder & Executive Director – Re-Earth Initiative



**Karen Hitschke**

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Building Bridges



**Ivo Germann**

Head – Foreign Economic Affairs Directorate – State Secretariat for Economic Affairs Switzerland

## Panel 1: Impact Lens Investing Across Asset Classes



**Dimple Sahni**

Managing Director Multi Asset Impact Investing – Antros Fund & Asset Management



**Yuko Takano**

Senior Investment Manager – Pictet Asset Management



**Uche Orji**

Non-Executive Director – The Private Infrastructure Development Group



**David Blood**

Senior Partner – Generation Investment Management



**Jean-Francis Dusch**

CEO & Global Head of Infrastructure, Real Assets & Structured Finance, CIO BRIDGE – Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management (UK)

## Panel 2: Nature Finance: How to Make Nature Count in Portfolios



**Mark Gough**

Co-Founder & Executive Director – Capitals Coalition



**Lauren Ferstandig**

Managing Director, NatureVest – The Nature Conservancy



**André Hoffmann**

Vice-Chairman – Roche Holding AG



**Judson Berkey**

Lead Advocacy and Nature, Chief Sustainability Office – UBS

## Panel 3: Financial Inclusion: Investment in Prosperous and Resilient Societies



**Delilah Rothenberg**

Co-Founder & Executive Director – The Redistribution Initiative



**James Mwangi**

Chief Executive Officer – Equity Group Holdings



**Mia Seppo**

Assistant Director-General for Jobs and Social Protection – International Labour Organization



**Jorge Rubio**

Global Head of Social Finance – Citi



**Jean Pesme**

Global Director, Finance – Finance, Competitiveness & Investment (FCI) Global Practice – The World Bank

## Panel 4: Transition Finance - Steering Towards a Sustainable Future



**Vanessa Havard-Williams**

Transition Finance Market Review Lead – UK Government



**Anja Hannerz**

Group Head of Sustainability – Nordea



**Michael Urban**

Chief Sustainability Strategist – Lombard Odier Group



**Stephanie Pfeifer**

Chief Executive – Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC)



**Helena Viñes Fiestas**

Chair of the EU Platform on Sustainable Finance and Co-Chair of the Taskforce on Net Zero Policy

# Action Days 2024

Registration available to all

Sessions in Room A, B, C and D will be livestream available to all

More detailed information available at [www.buildingbridges.org](http://www.buildingbridges.org)



**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
Aligning finance with sustainability



**#GRT 2024** Global Roundtable

10

DEC, 2024

## ACTION DAY ONE 09:00 - 19:45

### 2 High-Level Joint Sessions with UNEP FI

19 BB Action Events

10 UNEP FI 18TH GRT Sessions

4 Solutions Stage presentations

1 Speed Networking session

1 **Public Access Plenary**

*Closing cocktail courtesy of InTent*

11

DEC, 2024

## ACTION DAY TWO 09:00 - 18:30

### 1 High-Level Plenary on the Net-Zero Pathway

20 BB Action Events

12 UNEP FI 18 GRT Sessions

4 Solutions Stage presentations

1 Speed Networking session

*UNEP FI GRT Closing reception: Frontiers Planet Prize.*

*Courtesy of Frontiers Research Association.*

12

DEC, 2024

## ACTION DAY THREE 09:00 - 18:30

### 1 High-Level Plenary on the the Circular Economy

20 BB Action Events

3 Solutions Stage presentations

1 Speed Networking session

1 **Closing Ceremony: The Road to COP30**

*Closing cocktail courtesy of Building Bridges*

**[Please visit www.buildingbridges.org for the full Programme](http://www.buildingbridges.org)**

# High-Level Plenaries

Continuing on from the Summit, the High-Level Events during the Action Days convene leaders to unpack solutions to our most critical and pressing global challenges.

## Opening and Keynotes

**Tuesday 10 December, 2024 09:00 - 09:45**



**Nik Gowing**

Founder and Co-Director – Thinkin the Unthinkable

**Moderator**



**Alvaro Lario**

President – International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)



**Elisabeth Stern**

Board Member – KlimaSeniorinnen Switzerland



**Eric Usher**

Head – UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)



**Mary Robinson**

Chair of The Elders, former President of Ireland, & former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights



**Rémy Rioux**

Chief Executive Officer - Agence Française de Développement

## How Finance drives the Sustainability Agenda Forward

**Tuesday 10 December, 2024 09:50 - 10:30**



**Raj Kumar**

President & Editor-in-Chief – Devex

**Moderator**



**Anja Hannerz**

Group Head of Sustainability – Nordea



**Shargiil Bashir**

Chief Sustainability Officer and Executive Vice President – First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)



**Thomas Brauchle**

Head of Sustainability at Siemens Financial Services – Siemens

## Intergenerational perspectives: Our duties to the future

Public Access Plenary - Free and Open to All

**Tuesday 10 December, 2024 18:45 - 19:45**



**Peter Vanham**

Editorial Director, Leadership – Fortune

**Moderator**



**André Hoffmann**

Vice-Chairman – Roche Holding AG



**Elisabeth Stern**

Board Member – KlimaSeniorinnen Switzerland



**James Mwangi**

Chief Executive Officer – Equity Group Holdings



**Xiye Bastida**

Co-Founder & Executive Director – Re-Earth Initiative



# High-Level Penaries

Continuing on from the Summit, the High-Level Events during the Action Days convene leaders to unpack solutions to our most critical and pressing global challenges.

## Winning the Net Zero Pathway: The Critical Role of Asset Owners

Wednesday 11 December, 2024 09:00 - 09:45



**Katie Self**

Investment Manager, Thematic Equities – Pictet Asset Management

Moderator



**Laurent Ramsey**

Vice-President – Fondation Genève Place Financière



**Mindy Lubber**

CEO & President – Ceres



**Nadia Nikolova**

Lead Portfolio Manager, Sustainable Private Credit – Allianz Global Investors



**Peter Sandahl**

Head of Climate & Environment & Deputy Head of Group Sustainability – Nordea

## Unlocking the Power of the Circular Economy: A Bold Solution to Today's Environmental Challenges

Thursday 12 December, 2024 09:00 - 09:45



**Dan Esty**

Professor – Yale Law and Environment Schools

Moderator



**Eija Hietavuo**

Vice President Corporate Affairs – Tetra Pak



**Felix Philipp**

Head of Research for Circular Economy and Materials – Group Lombard Odier



**Julia Binder**

Professor of Sustainable Innovation and Business Transformation – IMD Business School



**Jodie Russell**

Global Public Affairs Lead - Packaging & Sustainability Nestlé

## Closing Ceremony, Road to COP 30: Igniting Global Action on a Warming Planet

Thursday 12 December, 2024 17:15 - 18:30



**Emma Benameur**

Head of Programming – Villars Institute

Moderator



**Dan Esty**

Professor – Yale Law and Environment Schools

# Action Events



Over the three Action Days, High-Level Plenaries, over 70 Action Events crowd-sourced from the Building Bridges community and pitches on the new Solutions Stage will animate the entire the CIGG venue. In addition, over 20 sessions of the UNEP FI 18th Global Roundtable will take place in Room C and D on Tuesday and Wednesday Dec 10-11. Participants of Building Bridges and the GRT will have full access to all events from both schedules with the single pass. More information about the UNEP FI GRT can be found at <https://www.unepfi.org/events/unep-fi-global-roundtable-2024/>

Tuesday						
	Room A	Room B	Room 9	Room E	Room F	Village
09:00	<b>Building Bridges x UNEP FI Joint Sessions</b> Opening and Keynotes Panel: How Finance drives the Sustainability Agenda Forward					
09:15						
09:30						
09:45						
10:00						
10:15						
10:30						
10:45						
11:00						
11:15	Climate Solutions Investing	Kenya Event	Coalition for Impact Impact-Driven Wealth	Biodiversity valuation	Pictet Group transition away from nature negative practices	Circular Economy start ups
11:30						One Creation Award
11:45						
12:00						
12:15						
12:30						
12:45						
13:00						
13:15						
13:30						
13:45	Impact-Driven Wealth Owners	Global South investee needs	Sustainable Supply Chains	Navigating a Just Transition: Financial Sector Roadmap	The Biodiversity Consultancy	
14:00						
14:15						
14:30						
14:45						
15:00						
15:15						
15:30	Servitization Business Models	Decarbonizing the Built Economy	impact investing and climate regulation		Intergenerational Collaboration	African startups
15:45						
16:00						
16:15	Mapping the Swiss Transition					
16:30						
16:45						
17:00						
17:15						
17:30	New Nature of Business	Nature Finance	Europe in Transition	The BIAF: Integrating biodiversity impacts into decision making	Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Building In Africa	Swiss based startups (GVA & Beyond)
17:45						
18:00						
18:15						
18:30						
18:45						
19:00	<b>Public Access Plenary</b>					
19:15	Intergenerational perspectives: Our duties to the future					
19:30						
19:45						
20:00	Social event - InTent					
20:15						



# Action Events



Wednesday						
	Room A	Room B	Room 9	Room E	Room F	Village
09:00	<b>Winning the Net Zero Pathway: The Critical Role of Asset Owners</b>					
09:15						
09:30						
09:45	Investing in Our Future	Advancing Global Health: Innovative Finance	Child Rights Lens on Finance	Mobilising private capital to tackle climate change	Scale local currency solutions in emerging markets	Regulatory reporting / platforms
10:00						
10:15						
10:30	Impact Accounting within International Regulations	Blended Finance for Nature: mobilizing the billions	Bridging health access gaps through innovative finance	Stewardship in action	Scale and impact in developing markets	Tech solutions
10:45						
11:00						
11:15						
11:30						
11:45	Uninsurable? How the Natural Disaster Fund	Innovative risk mitigation mechanisms	Investing in Childhood Health and Well-being	Engagement in Fragile Contexts	Hack the Future: 2100	Education
14:15						
14:30						
14:45	From asset owners to asset managers		Funding for OBF education programs			Speed networking - Pictet
15:00						
15:15						
15:30						
15:45	Advancing Gender-Smart Finance in Southeast Asia, Africa, and Asia		Pension Funds	Mandate and approach for the TISFD)	Credible climate transition plans across sectors	Health care x Climate -
16:00						
16:15						
16:30						
16:45						
17:00	Social event - Frontiers Planet Prize					
17:15						
17:30						
17:45						
18:00						
18:15						
18:30						
18:45						
19:00						
19:15						

From **artificial intelligence** to **child rights** and from **swiss policy** to **food systems transformation**, an incredible breadth of topics have been incorporated into the Action Days, co-organised by over 120 organisations of the Building Bridges community.

Thursday							
	Room A	Room B	Room c	Room 9	Room E	Room F	Village
09:00	<b>Unlocking the Power of the Circular Economy: A Bold Solution to Today's Environmental Challenges</b>						
09:15							
09:30							
09:45	Planning for a Future Beyond 1.5°C	Shifting to a Circular Bioeconomy	Bankable projects in African Food Systems	Accelerating the number of bankable projects in African Food Systems	Ocean Finance & Impactful Blue Economy	Championing impact investing in Switzerland	Green Fintechs success stories
10:00							
10:15							
10:30	responsible Gold supply chain contributes to Peace and Stability	AI, Harnessing Technology	Regenerative agriculture transition	Financing the regenerative agriculture transition	Unlocking the sustainable blue economy		Can alternative investments save the world?
10:45							
11:00							
11:15							
11:30							
11:45	Impact investing in Latin America				Disclose GHG emissions: the PCAF approach	Artificial intelligence (AI) to support the sustainable finance transition	Other solutions
13:30							
13:45							
14:00	AI in Sustainable Finance	Bioeconomy the G20 - A Bridge to COP30	Matching supply and demand in financing Emerging Impact Fund Managers	Financing Emerging Impact Fund Managers	Can the 'Climate Incentive' be a breakthrough for Swiss climate policy?	Agri-Food Systems Transformation	Confederation / ITU / SHF / SECO & WB
14:15							
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17:15							
17:30	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>						
17:45	Road to COP 30: Igniting Global Action on a Warming Planet						
18:00							
18:15							
18:30							
18:45	Social event - Building Bridges						
19:00							
19:15							

# About Participants

Building Bridges is a space to **network** with industry leaders and like-minded institutions committed to driving fair and just transitions. It is also a privileged scene to launch innovative projects, researches and actions.

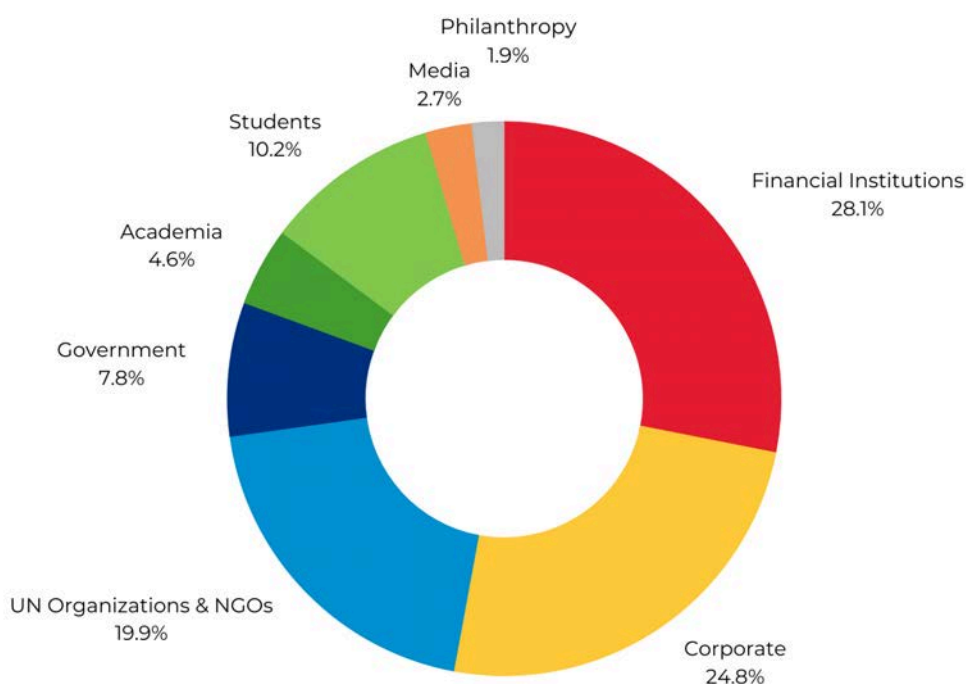
The strength of Building Bridges lies in the **diversity** of its community: decision makers and actors from the finance and corporate sectors, government, civil society, academia and sustainable development.

## From 2019 - 2023



## 2023 breakdown

2,596 participants: 40% increase compared to the 2022 edition



# 2024 Event Partners

## — DIAMOND —



## — PLATINUM —



## — SILVER —



## — BRONZE —



## — WITH SUPPORT FROM —



# Founding Partners

## — FINANCE COMMUNITY —



## — INTERNATIONAL GENEVA —



## — PUBLIC AUTHORITIES —





Apply for accreditation via email:

[media@buildingbridges.org](mailto:media@buildingbridges.org)

Questions?

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