

ZSL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE ADVISORY

Founded in 1826, ZSL (Zoological Society of London) is a global science-led conservation organisation, working to save animals from the brink of extinction and those who could be next. We are a centre of excellence in conservation science and applied conservation.

ZSL's Sustainable Business & Finance (SBF) team works with commercial organisations, financial institutions, communities, NGOs and governments to address the major global challenges of rainforest and biodiversity loss.

We provide insights to help financial institutions mitigate nature-related risks in their portfolios – so that their investment decisions and stewardship activities contribute to global biodiversity goals and reflect their clients' environmental and social values.



CORE COMPETENCIES

ZSL is at the forefront of science-driven biodiversity assessment and improvement. Our experience working with the finance industry, while undertaking biodiversity research and carrying out on-the-ground conservation projects globally, has contributed to our deep understanding of the relationship between the financial sector and nature. ZSL's core competencies include:



Biodiversity data, metrics and measurement expertise



Impact Framework, Theory of Change and fund design support



Company and supply chain analysis



Company engagement expertise



Alignment to industry standards and regulations



Bespoke portfolio, sector and jurisdictional risk analysis



Cutting-edge, science-based academic research



On-the-ground monitoring and multistakeholder engagement



PROJECTS AND CLIENTS

ZSL's work is realised through field conservation and research in over 50 countries across the globe. The team includes environmental scientists; finance, business and sustainability experts; field researchers; and data analysts. ZSL's Institute of Zoology (IOZ) was scored in a joint submission to REF2021 as some of the highest in the UK, with 88.5% of research outputs and 90.9% of impacts judged as 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent'. Advisory services are delivered through the Sustainable Business and Finance team, within the global Conservation and Policy directorate.

Impact fund stewardship support - AVIVA

ZSL is conducting deep dive biodiversity research into companies selected by Aviva Investors for their Natural Capital Transition Fund. We analyse company operations and supply chains, and review of policies, targets, and mitigation actions. ZSL also helps focus Aviva's stewardship practices by providing bespoke engagement suggestions for each company.

Conservation investment innovation - Rhino Impact Bond

Recently issued by the World Bank, the \$150 million Rhino Conservation Bond was developed by ZSL, who remain as a project partner. It provides an innovative financing model for wildlife conservation that includes performance related outcome payments by the Global Environmental Facility based on investee's success increasing the southern white rhino population.

Forest Conservation Fund – Training on SMART monitoring

To achieve their biodiversity outcomes, Earthworm Foundation commissioned ZSL to train its investees on biodiversity monitoring tools, in a tailored program delivered to local community representatives in Indonesia.

SPOTT –Transparency assessment on commodity producers

A flagship initiative of ZSL's Sustainable Business and Finance Programme, SPOTT is a free, online platform used by financial institutions and others. We assess commodity producers, processors and traders on their public disclosure regarding their organisation, policies, and practices related to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues.

Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR) – Creating reporting standards

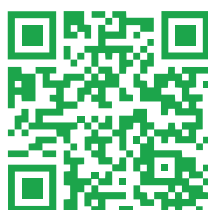
ZSL prepared Reporting Requirements for GPSNR members, providing the natural rubber industry with a comprehensive set of standards applicable to growers, processors, traders and manufacturers of tyres and automobiles, reflecting a full scope of ESG indicators.

Deforestation-risk open-access database – Data alignment project

ZSL and Global Canopy will be launching a new platform in 2023 bringing together the best data available on corporate exposure to, and reporting on, deforestation and other related ESG issues. Underpinned by SPOTT, Forest 500 and Trase data – this open-access platform will help financial institutions to identify portfolio risks and engagement opportunities.

SIPEF – Wildlife monitoring and management

ZSL is working closely with a major palm oil company to provide technical training and strategic guidance on wildlife monitoring and management within an Ecosystem Restoration Concession, utilising ZSL's expertise in both tropical commodity production and species



Contact ZSL's SBF Team
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