



Call for Papers
"Managing and Financing Responsible Businesses"

Inaugural Conference, Global Research Alliance for Sustainable Finance
and Investment

Maastricht, September 5-6, 2018

Hosted by:

The European Centre for Corporate Engagement ([ECCE](#)), Maastricht University School
of Business and Economics, Maastricht University, The Netherlands



GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE
FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

The Global Research Alliance for Sustainable Finance and Investment (**GRASFI**), a new network of global research universities established to promote rigorous and highly impactful academic research on sustainable finance and investment, is holding its inaugural conference at the European Centre for Corporate Engagement (**ECCE**) at Maastricht University School of Business and Economics. The conference, which is entitled “Managing and Financing Responsible Businesses”, will host papers on sustainability with major contributions to complementary disciplines such as finance, accounting, management, strategy and development economics.

The Conference Committee encourages submissions of thought-provoking working papers with theoretical, empirical, or methodological and research-design contributions. Examples of topics include:

- The business of business: profit, purpose, and alternative organizational forms
- Making sustainability an integral part of companies: implications for strategy, management, finance & accounting
- Climate change: implications for businesses and institutional investors
- The role of corporate governance mechanisms and active ownership in promoting sustainability
- Impact investing: measuring social impact alongside business results
- Behavioural factors affecting individuals and the sustainability of markets
- Philanthropy and effective altruism
- Big data, FinTech and financial innovation for sustainability
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Best paper awards in certain areas are being finalised and further details will be made available in due course.

Keynote Speakers:

Alex Edmans (London Business School)

Tima Bansal (Ivey Business School)

Conference Program Committee

Rob Bauer, Jaap Bos, Jeroen Derwall, Paul Smeets, Clemens Kool, Bart Verspagen (Maastricht University), Nadja Günster (University of Münster), Philip Krüger (University of Geneva), Sébastien Pouget (Toulouse School of Economics), Gordon Clark (University of Oxford), Ivan Diaz-Rainey (University of Otago), Charles Donovan (Imperial College), Samuel Hartzmark (University of Chicago), Chendi Zhang (University of Warwick), Caroline Flammer (Boston University), and David Robinson (Duke

University).

Conference Schedule

September 5:

The conference will start with a PhD seminar (during the day). PhDs are invited to submit papers or project ideas on the same topics. A selection of PhDs will be invited to present their papers or projects. Professor Edmans and Professor Bansal will also give a lecture in the PhD program.

The main conference kicks off in the evening with a keynote by Professor Alex Edmans followed by an informal diner.

September 6:

Professor Tima Bansal will start the full conference day with plenary sessions and limited parallel sessions, followed by a conference diner.

September 7:

GRASFI Member University participants will stay in Maastricht to discuss future plans for the Alliance.

More detailed information will follow soon, check the [conference event page](#)

Submission of Papers

Interested authors should electronically submit a completed paper including an extended, detailed abstract by April 30th via the following submission links below:

- Submit your [PhD paper](#)
- Submit your [Conference paper](#)

Deadline for Paper Submission:

April 30, 2018

Notification of Acceptance by:

June 15, 2018

Authors' Registration Deadline (for inclusion in the Conference Programme): June 30, 2018

Conference Dates:

September 5-6, 2018

Venue and organizational details:

The venue of the conference will be located just outside Maastricht at [Chateau St. Gerlach](#). Transportation from Maastricht city centre will be arranged.

A selection of hotels in Maastricht will be made available shortly.

For more information and updates please check the [conference event page](#) regularly. Contact details of the conference secretariat at Maastricht University School of Business and Economics, the Netherlands will be published on the conference website.

Expenses:

A conference fee of €250 applies to all presenters, discussants, and conference participants. There is no paper submission fee for the conferences.

There will be a limited number of conference fee waivers and scholarships available to early career researchers and PhD students. These are currently being determined and more details will be available shortly. We would encourage members of GRASFI Member Universities to apply for funding within their own institutions.

About the Global Research Alliance for Sustainable Finance and Investment

The Global Research Alliance for Sustainable Finance and Investment was founded in 2017 to promote multi-disciplinary academic research on sustainable finance and investment. The Alliance consists of global research universities, each with expertise in this emerging field.

The Alliance aims to: organise the major annual academic conference on sustainable finance and investment internationally; develop academic collaboration between researchers working on sustainable finance and investment; and nurture the growth and development of graduate students and junior academics working on sustainable finance and investment.

There is significant and growing interest among practitioners, policymakers, and civil society in the topic of sustainable finance and investment. There is a now an opportunity to ratchet up the quality and quantity of academic research in this area.

High-quality, rigorous academic research can inform necessary developments in the theory and practice of sustainable finance and investment. Doing so will help align the financial system with global environmental sustainability, a necessary condition for implementation of the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Alliance currently consists of the following global research universities:

1. University of California, Berkeley
2. University of Cambridge
3. Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE)
4. Columbia University
5. Frankfurt School of Finance and Management
6. University of Hamburg
7. Imperial College London
8. London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
9. Maastricht University

10. University of Otago
11. University of Oxford
12. Stanford University
13. Stockholm School of Economics
14. University of Toronto
15. Tsinghua University
16. University College London
17. Yale University
18. University of Zurich

The Alliance is run by an Organising Committee consisting of representatives from each Member University. The Organising Committee is currently co-chaired by Professor Rob Bauer (Maastricht University) and Dr Ben Caldecott (University of Oxford).