

# PLENARY: THE FUTURE OF INVESTMENT

Business can lead the transformations required to meet the global challenges we face by creating and commercializing solutions that people need and want. But this has to take place within the parameters of true value creation where social and environmental costs and benefits are internalized and reflected in the relative price of goods and services, and in companies' P&L statements, costs of capital and market valuations.

Financial services and investment are at the heart of all economic activity. They underpin, underwrite and drive action and outcomes across all sectors. The extent to which these products and services are oriented toward supporting true value creation is therefore critical for driving sustainable growth. This session highlighted how investment strategies are changing, reflect on capital market implications, and highlight where CEO priorities should lie to succeed in this changing business environment.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Orienting financial and capital systems towards a zero-carbon, nature-positive, and equitable future is no longer an academic discussion. We are seeing real progress in regulation and mandatory disclosure, ESG standardization, the role of CFOs in sustainability, and true value approaches.
- There needs to be more done on harmonizing existing sustainability standards like TCFD as we move to a global standard for ESG metrics and disclosure. Business leaders need to be involved in these discussions. The codified purpose of a business has a role to play in the sustainable finance movement alongside efforts in reporting and disclosure.
- Transition finance is important to overcome a binary view of "green" and "not green" and helping companies move towards sustainable trajectories.
- It is important to recognize the need for a just transition, incentivizing emerging economies and pushing multilateral development banks to engage in sustainable development more meaningfully.

## WAY FORWARD

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### More information

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