



Eurosif

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Is Nuclear a Sustainable Solution for the future?

Eurosif (European Social Investment Forum) publishes today a report covering environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges for companies in the Nuclear energy sector. This sector note is being launched at an event in London, supported by UKSIF and hosted by Schroders, with Lady Barbara Judge, the chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, as the keynote speaker.

This is the eighth such note in Eurosif's series of publications aimed at raising awareness among a wide European audience on the nature and understanding of ESG issues, as well as related business opportunities potentially affecting long-term returns and productivity within these sectors.

The sector reports aim at helping policy makers, mainstream and specialist SRI investors, pension fund trustees, and companies understand risks that are not consistently integrated into traditional financial analysis, but which have the potential to influence companies' shareholder value and fund managers' investment decisions. They describe the companies' impacts on the environment and society, discuss the opportunities and risks such issues present and outline ways in which companies can address them.

Eurosif worked with ECPI for the research side of the Nuclear report. The sector note was presided by a steering committee of asset managers to debate the issues and develop ways to present the stakeholder and financial points of view. The steering committee included representatives from Dexia Asset Management, Fortis Investments, Groupama Asset Management, and Schroders.

Matt Christensen, Executive Director of Eurosif, says "Our sector reports tackle the main environmental, social and governance issues European industries are currently dealing with. This project allows our member affiliates to work together and share their collective knowledge about the extra-financial risks and opportunities that should be taken into account when assessing companies in the Nuclear sector."

Eurosif highlighted six key challenges for the Nuclear sector: Climate Change, Safety, Spent Fuel Waste Management, Plant Decommissioning, Social Acceptance and Educating New Talent.

ECPI states, "Since there is no silver bullet solution to the global energy crisis, even the nuclear power option should not be excluded from the portfolio of solutions. Corporate transparency is crucial to reduce fears around nuclear power as a real alternative. As each country adopts specific standards, the convergence of practices according to harmonised safety requirements is important for a grounded ESG judgement."

This report will be followed by three more from Eurosif covering the Information & Communications Technology sector (concentrating on hardware) to be released on June 12th at the FAIRE conference in Paris, Water to be released in October and Shipping to be released in December.

To view the reports please go to www.eurosif.org.

Notes to Editors

Eurosif

11 avenue de l'Opéra / 75001 Paris, France

Tel/Fax: +33 1 40 20 43 38
contact@eurosif.org / www.eurosif.org

Press Contact:
Sarah Clawson, head of communications
Tel: +33 1 40 20 07 67 / Fax: +33 1 40 20 43 38
sarahc@eurosif.org

EUROSIF, the European Social Investment Forum, is the pan-European network whose mission is to **address sustainability through the financial markets**. Eurosif works as a partnership of the national Social Investment Forums (SIFs) within the EU and with the support and involvement of Member Affiliates. Recognised as the premier European forum for sustainable investment, Eurosif's Member Affiliates are drawn from leading pension funds, asset managers, NGO's, trade unions, academic institutes and research providers, together representing assets totalling over €600bn. The key benefits that Eurosif affiliate members receive include EU interfacing, SRI information and European wide initiatives that integrate ESG issues into the financial services sector.

ECPI

Corso Italia 13 • 20122 Milan, Italy
Tel: +39 02 8818 121 / Fax: +39 02 8818 1210
research@e-cpartners.com • www.e-cpartners.com

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ECPI produces ESG/Risk Ratings on traditional and innovative asset classes such as Equity and Credit Portfolios, CDOs, Hedge Funds, and a full range of Beta and Alpha Market Indices (ECPI® Index Family).

Worldwide clients are major international Investment Banks, Retail and Private Banks, Asset Managers, Insurance companies, Foundations, Pension Funds and other institutional investors. ECPI teams up with Investment Banks/Asset Managers to customize the distinctive piece of investment products, ranging from Innovative Equity-linked, to Monitored CDOs, to Sustainable Funds of Hedge Funds, offered by them to Institutional and Retail Investors.

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