



# GLOBAL UPDATES ON ENVIRONMENT SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE

## MAJORITY OF INVESTORS PLANNING TO INCREASE SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS THIS YEAR: MORGAN STANLEY SURVEY

### Key insights of this survey were as follows:

- Investor interest in sustainable investing is high and rising. Key driving factors behind this growing interest includes climate science findings and performance of the sustainable investments.
- The study also explored the key drivers and barriers to sustainable investing, with investors citing inflation, new climate science findings and financial performance as the top events that have changed their interest in sustainable investing, and a lack of transparency and trust in reported data, and concerns about greenwashing, as well as investment performance as the top factors preventing them from including sustainable investments in their portfolios.
- Investors prioritized climate action, healthcare, water solutions and circular economy as top sustainable investing themes. However, investors appear uncertain on how to invest in social themes and favor environmental solutions when asked about specific and targeted investment objectives.

## BARCLAYS ESTABLISHES NEW ENERGY TRANSITION GROUP TO SUPPORT CLIENTS ON THE PATH TO NET ZERO

- Within its Corporate and Investment Bank, Barclays plans to establish a powerful centre of excellence that will offer a wide range of expertise in various aspects of the energy transition, including hydrogen, energy transition finance, carbon capture, renewables, nature-based solutions, and renewable natural gas.
- This initiative follows Barclays' 2022 goal to enable \$1 trillion in sustainable and transition financing from 2023 to 2030.
- As of July, the company has already contributed over £87 billion (\$112 billion) towards this goal.

## ECB ANNOUNCES INCREASED FOCUS ON CLIMATE RISK AND GREEN TRANSITION

- The European Central Bank (ECB) has released "climate and nature plan 2024-2025".
- This plan outlines its roadmap for action in the following three areas in 2024 and 2025.
  - the implications of the green transition;
  - the physical impact of climate change; and
  - the risk that nature loss and degradation pose to the economy.

## ESG INTEGRATION IN STARTUPS: NAVIGATING SUSTAINABLE PATHS IN EMERGING MARKETS

- Startups are spearheading a significant shift in the business narrative, transcending the conventional pursuit of mere profitability to adopt a more holistic approach.
- These startups are not only addressing local challenges but also contributing to the global discourse on sustainability by weaving environmental, social, and governance considerations into the fabric of their operations.
- The integration of ESG principles is not merely a trend for startups; it is a testament to their commitment to creating value that extends beyond profits, resonating with the evolving expectations of investors, consumers, and the broader global community.