



# SSF Activity Report 2014/2015

Report on activities since launch in July 2014

Presented to the Members' Assembly on 17 June 2015

## Content

1	Introduction.....	3
2	SSF as an organisation.....	4
2.1	SSF Goals .....	4
2.2	SSF members and network partners .....	5
2.3	SSF Board .....	7
2.4	SSF management team.....	9
2.5	SSF communication policy .....	11
3	SSF Workstreams, workgroups and other activities.....	12
3.1	Promotion of Sustainable Finance.....	12
3.2	Market Intelligence .....	18
3.3	Capacity Building .....	18
3.4	Institutional Asset Owners .....	20
3.5	Private Wealth Management .....	20
3.6	Investments for Development.....	21
3.7	Other activities.....	21
4	Additional member services .....	22
4.1	Members' section on SSF Website .....	23
4.2	Visibility on the SSF platform.....	23
4.3	Job listings .....	23
4.4	Discounts .....	23
5	Appendix .....	24
5.1	SSF Board member biographies.....	24



## 1 Introduction

Swiss Sustainable Finance (SSF) was established less than a year ago. The setup of this national association for sustainable finance was a direct result of the publication of the Whitepaper “Path to the sustainable financial centre Switzerland” in 2013, a joint piece of work by the Sustainability Forum Zurich (TSF) and Sustainable Finance Geneva. We are convinced that this step was the right one to take as illustrated by the fact that we already unite most of the Swiss sustainable finance specialists as well as the major players in Swiss finance. SSF has already become the main point of contact for Swiss authorities, the media and business actors when it comes to sustainable finance topics in Switzerland. The timing for the establishment of SSF could hardly have been better as the topic is gaining more visibility both on a federal level and with business actors. We see this through initiatives such as the Swiss contribution to the “UNEP Inquiry” which creates more momentum when a national partner acts as a supporter and multiplier.

With this first activity report we give an overview of the broad activities SSF implemented in its first year of existence. We look forward to bringing them to the next level in the year to come – jointly with you.

Klaus Tischhauser, President

Sabine Döbeli, CEO

## 2 SSF as an organisation

### 2.1 SSF Goals

SSF was founded with the intention to create a Swiss national platform to strengthen the position of Switzerland in the global marketplace for sustainable finance by informing, educating and catalyzing growth. The organisation has the following goals:

#### **Visibility and market intelligence**

SSF maintains and increases the visibility of sustainable finance and of Switzerland as a leading market place in this field by ensuring that market intelligence is available and adequately disseminated.

#### **Promotion and enabling**

SSF promotes sustainable finance and enables different actors to implement sustainable finance strategies by developing guidelines and tools as well as providing implementation support.

#### **Representation and influence**

SSF ensures that the sustainable finance industry is well represented and known within relevant national and international bodies such as industry bodies, policy makers and regulators by maintaining regular contact and participating in and planning events. Through active dialogue it encourages improvements on a regulatory and legislative level.

#### **Capacity building**

SSF ensures that Swiss finance professionals learn about sustainable finance in the course of their training by providing standard materials for relevant industry trainings and academic programs and promoting sustainable finance courses.

#### **Industry efficiency**

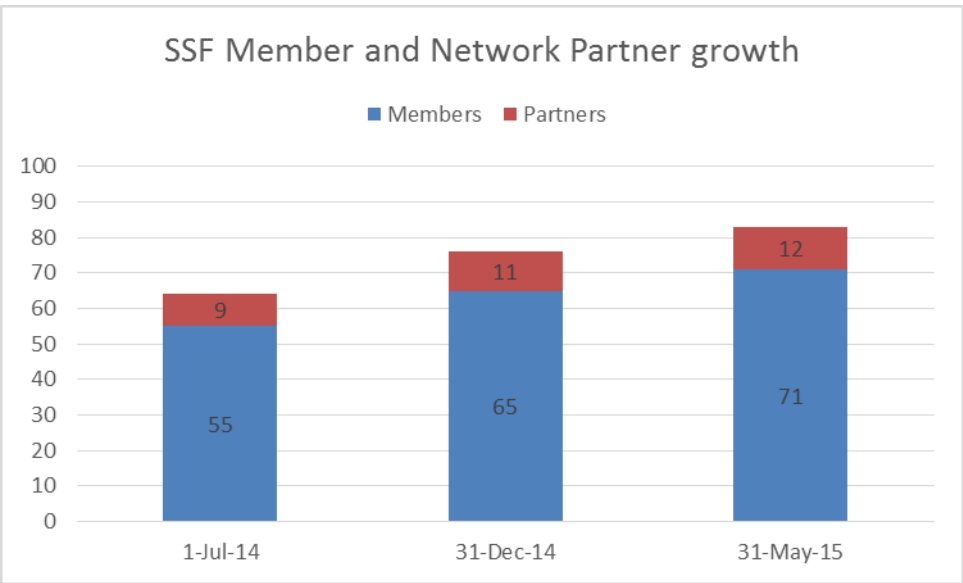
SSF creates maximum transparency and therefore efficiency on activities and developments in this market by providing networking platforms and ensuring that different actors speak a common language.

## 2.2 SSF members and network partners

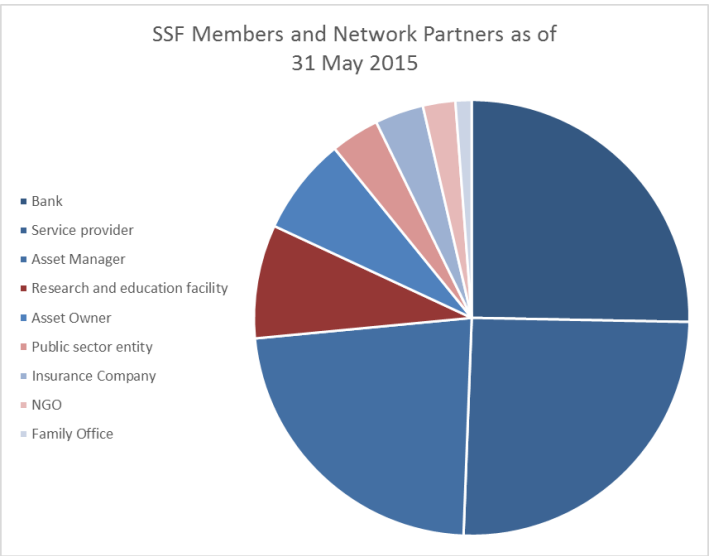
SSF was launched with a total of 64 founding organisations on 1 July 2014, of which 55 were members and 9 network partners. By the end of 2014, SSF counted on the support of 65 members and 11 network partners. At the end of May 2015, SSF encompassed 71 members and 12 network partners, for a total of 83 supporters.

Since the launch on 1 July 2015, a total of 20 organisations joined SSF, while 1 organisation decided to end its membership due to withdrawal from the Swiss market.

The following graph illustrates the growth in members and network partners since the launch of SSF.



Our members and network partners represent different types of organisations as illustrated in the following chart.



### 2.2.1 Founding members and network partners

The following organisations supported the launch of SSF as founding members and partners:

Adveq Management AG	Helvetia Insurance
AlphaMundi Group Ltd.	Inrate Ltd
Bamboo Finance	LGT Group
Bank J. Safra Sarasin	MIRABAUD et Cie SA
Banque Bonhôte & Cie SA	Nest Collective Foundation
Banque Lombard Odier & Cie SA	Notenstein Private Bank Ltd
Banque Pâris Bertrand Sturdza SA	Office for Economy and Labour, Canton of Zurich
Baumann & Cie	OnValues GmbH
BHP - Bruggen and Partners Ltd.	Pictet Group
BlueOrchard Finance S.A.	Prakriti Projects Ltd.
BSI SA	PwC
Café Europe Textagentur GmbH	Raiffeisen Switzerland
CANDRIAM INVESTORS GROUP	REES AG
Center for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CCRS)	RepRisk AG
Center for Microfinance, Department of Banking and Finance, University of Zurich	responsAbility Investments AG
Center for Responsibility in Finance, Department of Banking and Finance, University of Zurich	RobecoSAM AG
Clarmondial	South Pole Group
CONINCO Explorers in finance SA	State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
Conser Invest SA	SECO
Contrast Capital	Sustainable Finance Geneva
Covalence EthicalQuote	suva
De Pury Pictet Turrettini & Co Ltd.	Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM)
E2 Management Consulting AG	Swiss Mobiliar Cooperative Company
Economic Development, City of Zurich	Swiss Philanthropy Foundation
Edmond de Rothschild (Suisse) S.A.	Swiss Re
Emerald Technology Ventures Inc.	Swisscanto Asset Management Ltd.
ETH Sustainability - ETH Zürich	Symbiotics SA
Ethos Foundation	SYZ Group
Fondation Guilé	Thurgauer Kantonalbank
Forma Futura Invest Inc.	VELUX STIFTUNG
Fundo SA	Vontobel
Globalance Bank	WWF Switzerland
	Zurmont Madison Private Equity



### 2.2.2 Change in membership base since launch

The following 20 organisations joined SSF since 1 July 2014:

Abels Avocats	Geneva Finance Research Institute - University of Geneva
Alternative Bank Schweiz AG	Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation
AST FEE Anlagestiftung für erneuerbare Energien i.G.	Impact Finance Management SA
Business School Lausanne	Julius Baer Group Ltd
Centro di Studi Bancari	Partners Group
Credit Suisse AG	UBS AG
EBG Investment Solutions	Unigestion SA
Eltaver AG	Valeur Fiduciaria SA
FINANCEcontact Ltd.	Vietnam Holding Asset Management
ForestFinance Ltd.	Zürcher Kantonalbank

REES AG decided to end its membership with SSF because they are no longer active in Switzerland.

## 2.3 SSF Board

The Board of SSF is responsible for the strategy of the association. It represents different member types as outlined in the Articles of Association.

The Board meets 4 times a year in person to discuss the strategy and activities of the association. Since the election of the SSF Board at the first Members' Assembly on 22 September 2014, the Board has had 4 Meetings/Telephone conferences:

Type	Date	Place
Telephone conference	20 October 2014	-
Meeting	9 December 2014	Zurich
Meeting	24 March 2015	Geneva
Meeting	3 June 2015	Lucerne

### 2.3.1 Board members

The SSF Board is made up of 11 members (see table below) representing different member types and regions. Please see the appendix for the short biographies of the SSF Board members. Currently, Klaus Tischhauser serves as the President of SSF.



**Philipp Aeby, CEO, RepRisk**



**Nicola Battalora, Head of Asset Management and Capital Markets, BSI**

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**Eric Borremans, Sustainability Specialist, Pictet Asset Management**



**David Bresch, Global Head of Sustainability, Swiss Re**



**Ladina Caduff, Head Sustainability, Raiffeisen**

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**Jean-Philipp de Schrevel, CEO, Bamboo Finance**



**Angela de Wolff, Founding Partner, Conser Invest and Co-Founder, Sustainable Finance Geneva**



**Hubert Niggli, Head of Finance Department, Suva**

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**Klaus Tischhauser, CEO, responsibility (President of SSF)**



**Daniel Wild, Head of Sustainability Investing Research and Development, RobecoSAM**



**Beatrice Zwicky, Board member and member of the investment committee, Nest Collective Foundation**

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### 2.3.2 Representation of different member types and criteria

Name	Company	Represents Member Type:										Represents Region:			Represents Gender:	
		Global Banks	Banks	General AM and PE	Specialised AM	Insurance Companies	Service Providers	Pension Funds & oth. AO	Foundations and FO	SFG	President (ad pers.)	Swiss German	Swiss Romand	Swiss Italian	Male	Female
Philipp Aeby	RepRisk						1					1			1	
Nicola Battalora	BSI		1											1	1	
Eric Borremans	Pictet		1										1		1	
David Bresch	Swiss Re					1						1			1	
Ladina Caduff	Raiffeisen		1									1				1
Jean-Philippe de Schrevel	Bamboo Finance				1								1		1	
Angela de Wolff	SFG, Conser						(1)			1			1			1
Hubert Niggli	SUVA							1				1			1	
Klaus Tischhauser	ResponsAbility				1							1			1	
Daniel Wild	RobecoSAM			1								1			1	
Beatrice Zwicky	Nest							1				1				1
Sub-Total		0	3	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	7	3	1	8	3
Range as in AOA		1-2	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3	1-3	1-2	0-1	1	1					
Total											11			11		11

### 2.4 SSF management team

SSF can build on the support of four management team members governing the activities of the association based in the three locations Zurich, Geneva and Lugano. As CEO of SSF, Sabine Döbeli is responsible for all activities and builds the link to the Board of the association. She is supported by Jean Laville, deputy CEO based in Geneva. Kelly Hess, project manager based in Zurich coordinates workgroups, carries out research and manages member requests. Alberto Stival represents SSF in Ticino and coordinates all activities there. The team has a total workforce of approximately 2 full time equivalents.

#### Sabine Döbeli, CEO



Sabine Döbeli has worked in the field of sustainable finance for close to 20 years in different roles. At SSF she is responsible for the management of the organisation, for the communication activities as well as for the steering of the different workstreams.

In her other role, Sabine Döbeli is Head of Corporate Sustainability Management at Vontobel. There she is responsible for coordinating sustainability topics at group level as well as for integrating sustainability aspects into the different business units.

Sabine has many years of experience within the area of sustainable investing. Prior to joining Vontobel in 2006, Sabine worked at Zürcher Kantonalbank, where she built up the sustainability research unit within the financial analysis department. The team was involved in the launch of various sustainable products. Before that, Sabine worked for an environmental consulting agency in the field of environmental impact assessments.

Sabine holds a Masters in Environmental Sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich and completed a post-graduate degree in business administration and marketing at the University of Basel. She is a board member of the Swiss Climate Foundation and a member of the advisory council of the department of environmental systems science at ETH Zurich.

#### **Jean Laville, Deputy CEO, Geneva**



Jean Laville has been active in the financial sector for 25 years, including 15 in the field of Responsible Investment. At SSF he is responsible for liaising with the members in the Romandie and communication activities in this area. Furthermore, he drives the workstream on capacity building and education.

Jean Laville is also a partner at Conser Invest since 2012, an independent advisory and asset management firm dedicated to sustainable investment solutions for private and institutional clients.

He develops and runs quantitative tools enabling the systematic screening of the fund universe and the compliance of underlying holdings with ESG objectives. As Deputy Director he managed Ethos Foundation's and Ethos Services' from 2002 to 2012. Previously he held the position of quantitative asset manager with Banque Pictet & Cie in Geneva, since 1998.

In 1980, Jean Laville graduated in economics, majoring in political economy, from the Higher Business School (HEC) in Lausanne. He then followed the doctorate program from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.

#### **Kelly Hess, Project Manager, Zürich**



Kelly Hess began her career in the financial sector in 2010. At SSF, as Project Manager, she is responsible for developing communication tools, setting up member services, carrying out applied research, implementing different work streams and liaising with members and other stakeholders.

Prior to joining SSF, Kelly spent the last 5 years at RobecoSAM in various positions related to Sustainability Indices. As part of her role, she was responsible for the development and commercialization of financial indices in the area of Clean Energy, Water, Waste Management,

Transport and Healthcare. She was also responsible for the development and commercialization of new sustainability indices within the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) family. Prior to RobecoSAM, Kelly worked in energy consulting for small organisations looking to achieve more favourable energy efficiency.

Kelly holds a Masters in Environmental Sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich and a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

### **Alberto Stival, Representative Ticino**



Alberto Stival has been active in the financial sector for 15 years. At SSF he is responsible for liaising with the members in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland and communication activities in this area.

Alberto Stival is also Deputy Director at Centro di Studi Bancari (CSB), the Center for Banking Studies established in 1990 by the Ticino Banking Association, a registered Foundation providing education and training for banking industry personnel in every segment of financial systems.

Before his employment at CSB, Alberto Stival has been active in the financial sector working for BSI SA and the Ticino Cantonal Bank where he was responsible for the sustainability report. Since 2007 he has been a member of the Executive Board of AKAD Banking+Finance AG, since 2011 a member of the Commission for education at SwissBanking and since 2013 a member of the Board of CYP (Center for Young Professionals in Banking).

Alberto Stival graduated in economics, majoring in political economy, from University of Fribourg and has spent an academic semester at University College Dublin (UCD). His master's thesis focused on the relation between quality of life and economic growth.

## **2.5 SSF communication policy**

As a members based organisation, SSF is bound to a transparent information policy. It publishes all relevant information on its website. A members' section of the website provides information on progress in the different workstreams and other background information.

### 3 SSF Workstreams, workgroups and other activities

SSF currently groups its activities into six different workstreams. The topics were presented and discussed at the first Members' Assembly in September 2014 and the objectives of the workstreams were shaped on the basis of these discussions. SSF has several workgroups supporting the management team in addressing the different workstreams. SSF members and partners with activities related to the respective topics are invited to actively participate in these workgroups and supply input and therewith contribute to the outcomes of the workstreams.

#### 3.1 Promotion of Sustainable Finance

One of the main objectives of SSF is to better promote existing Swiss strengths in sustainable finance both towards the mainstream industry as well as to the public. We further see it as an opportunity to promote sustainable finance as a core competence of the Swiss financial centre abroad leading to higher adoption of sustainable finance strategies and growth of the Swiss industry. Through this workstream, we aim to have SSF and the theme of sustainable finance increasingly present in relevant media and at finance events, helping to change public perception towards viewing sustainable finance as an opportunity and Switzerland as a strong player in the field representing quality and innovation.

##### 3.1.1 Communication concept

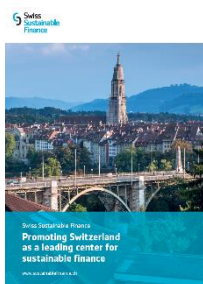
A communication concept was prepared to outline the main messages, define the communication tools and describe other ways to promote sustainable finance. The board discussed and signed off the communication concept in December 2014.

##### 3.1.2 Communication tools

SSF has established a **website** providing up-to-date information on sustainable finance topics, events, publications and activities. The website has a members' section providing background information on workstream activities, Members' Assemblies and other internal matters.

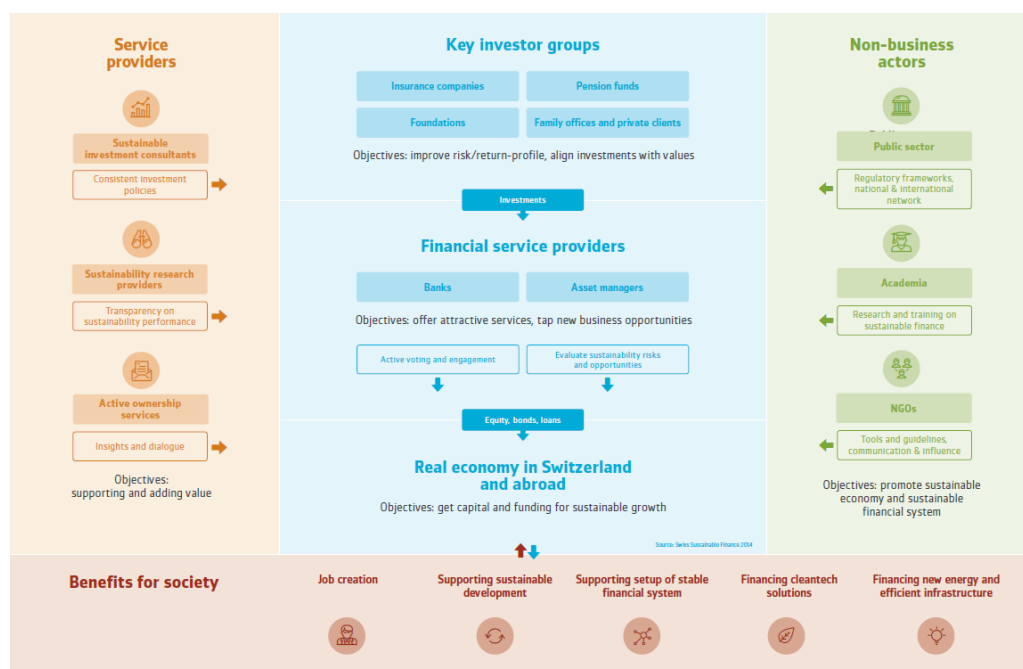
We've received a lot of positive feedback on the website and the statistics show a high interest especially regarding events and publications.

For details see [www.sustainablefinance.ch](http://www.sustainablefinance.ch)



The **brochure** presenting SSF has proved to be a useful tool to explain the objectives and activities of SSF to different target groups. It explains the vision and mission of SSF, outlines our understanding of sustainable finance, lists the workstreams, provides arguments for why sustainable finance makes sense and illustrates the landscape of Swiss Sustainable Finance as it is represented by SSF.

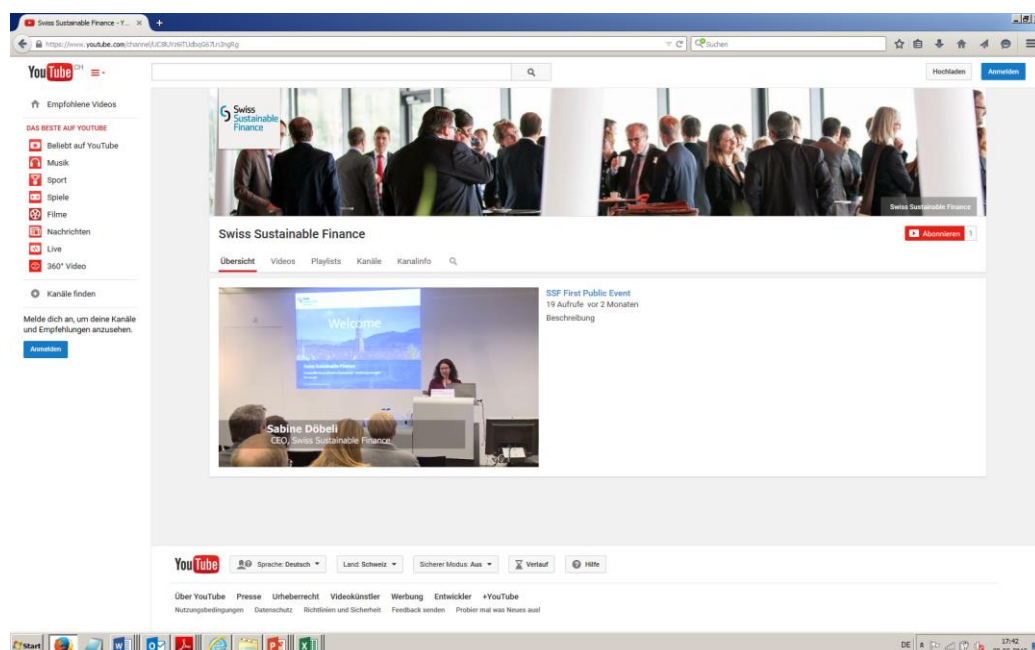
### Landscape of Swiss Sustainable Finance:



Swiss Sustainable Finance News  
Dear Ms. Döbeli  
We are happy to present you the first edition of "Swiss Sustainable Finance News" providing topical insights on activities and events in this field.

SSF informs members and the public in a bimonthly **newsletter** on its activities and developments in sustainable finance. The newsletter links to updated website sections where more information can be found. Additionally, members receive direct information from the management team to supplement the newsletters and provide more frequent and internal information.

SSF has established a **youtube-channel** ( <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8IUvZ6iTUdbqG67Ln2ngRg> ) to publish SSF films and third-party films portraying SSF. Over time, the collection of videos will provide a good overview on SSF activities.



Youtube-Channel of SSF

Most recently, SSF has set up a **Twitter** account (@SwissSustFin) and **LinkedIn** account, to better spread news on sustainable finance and the activities of the association.

### 3.1.3 Media Work

Since its launch on 1 July 2014, SSF has published 5 **press releases**. Four of them were published in German, English and French, one of them in German and English only. The press releases resulted in considerable news coverage (Approx. 50 articles). The main target media (NZZ, FuW, Le Temps, L'Agéfi) covered SSF with a total of 11 articles. A list of the most important articles can be found on the website ([http://www.sustainablefinance.ch/en/ssf-in-the-news-\\_content---1--1044.html](http://www.sustainablefinance.ch/en/ssf-in-the-news-_content---1--1044.html))

A total of four discussions were set up with key journalists from our target media (NZZ, FuW, Le Temps) and with finews in order to provide background information on the objectives of SSF and create a stronger relation to promote sustainable finance news.

SSF was invited to write articles on sustainable finance by different media. Since its launch, SSF placed 5 articles in different media ranging from Banco to Finews.



### 3.1.4 SSF events

#### **22 September 2014: First Members' Assembly**

SSF members and network partners met for the first Members' Assembly in the Kursaal in Bern. They elected the SSF Board and debated the suggested workstreams in different breakout sessions.

Around 80 member and network partner representatives visited the first Members' Assembly.

#### **23 October 2014: First public event**

The official launch event took place on 23 October in Zurich and was entitled: "Sustainable financial centre Switzerland – combining strengths for success". Key note speakers included State Secretary Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen Fleisch, Head of SECO, and Marianne Fay, Chief Economist of the Climate Change Group of the World Bank. A panel moderated by Mr. Haig Simonian debated opportunities and risks that will emerge from a sustainable Swiss financial centre.

Around 200 people visited the first SSF event in the SIX Convention Point.

#### **12 March 2015: Networking lunch on Private Wealth Management and SI**

The first SSF networking lunch covered the topic "Private wealth allocation to sustainable investments: assessing barriers and opportunities". Falko Paetzold, Fellow, Initiative for Responsible Investment at Harvard University, shed light on the sustainable investing gap of private clients in his PhD and presented the results of his three papers at the Swiss Sustainable Finance lunch event. Investments in sustainable products have globally seen above average growth rates over the last years. However, it has become apparent that they are underrepresented in wealthy private clients' portfolios, although they are recognised as highly suitable for their needs. In the discussion following his presentation, Heiko Specking, Founder and Partner at specking+partners GmbH, challenged the findings and created a link to a practitioners' view.

70 professionals attended the first SSF networking lunch.

### 3.1.5 Joint events

#### **6 May 2015: Swiss Finance in a changing world**

At the symposium entitled «Swiss Finance in a changing world» held in Bern, national and international experts identified and debated ways in which the financial system can contribute to the transition to a green economy. The symposium was hosted jointly by the United Nations Environment Programme UNEP, the Federal Office for the Environment FOEN and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO and was staged in partnership with Swiss Sustainable Finance. A workgroup of the Swiss Team for the UNEP Inquiry, of which SSF was part, prepared the program and supported BAFU in organising the event.

After a welcome note from Bruno Oberle, Director of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations gave a key-note speech and expressed the urgency to use financial processes to achieve a resource-efficient economy. Simon Zadek, Co-Director of the UNEP Inquiry, then outlined the main objectives of the project and the results attained so far. He stressed the importance of the different country inputs and encouraged Switzerland to taking on a leading role in implementing the suggested changes to the system. Attendees then participated in break-out sessions revolving around the topic of “future best practice in finance”. These sessions were followed by afternoon keynote speeches by Nick Robins, Co-Director of the UNEP Inquiry and Sabine Döbeli, CEO of Swiss Sustainable Finance. Sabine Döbeli presented the Swiss Team input into the UNEP inquiry to the audience of national and international experts. In a surprise guest appearance by Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard reaffirmed the importance of Switzerland’s role in designing a sustainable financial system. To conclude the day, opportunities for Switzerland were debated in high-level expert panel discussion: Stefan Beiner, Head AM Publica; Urs Berger, Chairman Mobiliar; Rajna Gibson Brandon, Prof. of Finance at Uni GE; Alexander Karrer, Deputy State Secretary SIF; Patrick Odier, Head of Swiss Bankers Association; Cecilia Reyes, CIO Zurich.

Around 150 people attended the symposium to which representatives from the Swiss Team for the UNEP Inquiry, the Swiss Bankers’ Association as well as from SSF were invited.

#### **25 November 2014: Networking lunch sustainability performance of banks**

PRI and SSF jointly organised a networking lunch, discussing the sustainability progress made at banks globally. After the welcome notes, Dustin Neuneyer, PRI representative Europe, presented an update outlining PRI's achievements over the last 12 months, a synopsis of the PRI in Person 2014 in Montreal, and the PRI governance framework developments.

Claudia Volk, Analyst at Sustainalytics outlined some of their findings with regard to sustainability in the banking sector with resilience and business ethics identified as the highest impact issues banks should be concerned with from an ESG perspective in the current atmosphere of a changing regulatory environment.

Around 70 professionals, most of them PRI signatories or SSF members, took part in the event.

### **15 October 2014: Reception at UNCTAD World Investment Forum**

Jointly with UNEP FI and SFG, SSF gave a reception at the World Investment Forum in the United Nations in Geneva. Charles Anderson, CEO of UNEP FI, expressed his joy about the first joint event of the three organisations working towards sustainable finance, all of them based in Switzerland. Ambassador Remigi Winzap stressed the importance of anchoring sustainability principles in the Swiss financial centre and gave examples, on how the Swiss confederation supports this trend. Bertrand Gacon, President of SFG, gave examples of innovations created in the special Geneva ecosystem of sustainable finance. To round up, Sabine Döbeli, CEO of SSF illustrated the importance of joining forces to accelerate the integration of sustainability aspects in financing decisions.

Over 150 participants from many different countries visited the joint reception.

#### **3.1.6 SSF present at other events**

SSF representatives are regularly invited to third party events and give presentations on either SSF's objectives and activities or specific sustainable finance topics. Since its launched SSF had an active role at the following events:

- 4 June 2015: Geneva Forum for Sustainable Investments, Geneva
- 11/12 May 2015: UNEP – Swiss Re Roundtable on "Insurance 2030: Policies and partnerships for sustainable development", Zurich
- 20 April 2015: Finance Circle of ZHAW, Zurich
- 23 March 2015: UNECE Regional consultation on Financing for Development, Geneva
- 20 March 2015: respACT Branchenfrühstück „Responsible Finance – Due Diligence in der Finanzwirtschaft“, Vienna
- 29 January 2015: SECO/WE Partners' Event, Bern
- 5 December 2014: Novethic Annual Event, Paris

- 3 December 2014: CleanTech Investing Seminar (CTI), Lausanne
- 26 November 2014: DEZA Event: Auf dem Weg in eine nachhaltige Zukunft: Die Post-2015 Agenda und die Schweiz, Bern
- 19 November 2014: UNEP FI / VfU Roundtable: License to Operate: Sustainability in Finance - Between Opportunity and Responsibility, Frankfurt
- 18 November 2014: Inrate Sustainability Breakfast: Europäischer SRI-Markt – Status und Ausblick im Schweizerischen Kontext, Zurich
- 2 October 2014: 3rd CSSP Impact Forum, Zurich
- 21 September 2014: Business-for-Society Forum hosted by Business School Lausanne, Lausanne
- 5 September 2014: Conference on Ethics, University of Zurich, Zurich
- 15 September 2014: Regional Ministerial Consultation UNECE, Monitoring and Accountability for the Post-2015-Development Agenda – The Regional Dimension, Geneva

### 3.2 Market Intelligence

SSF aims to gain encompassing insights into the Swiss sustainable finance market. Such information forms the basis for defining strategic next steps but also for communication activities.

As planned early in 2014, Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) carried out the survey on sustainable investments in 2015. SSF is currently in dialogue with FNG about cooperation for future sustainable investment surveys.

SSF was invited by Novethic to contribute to the institutional asset owner survey in 2015. Details of the cooperation are currently being discussed.

In its workgroup "Development Investments", SSF members identified better market intelligence in the field of development investments as crucial. The workgroup is currently defining the way and method for such a survey on Swiss development investments.

### 3.3 Capacity Building

The objective of the capacity building workstream is to increase sustainable finance education. SSF will therefore cooperate with universities and business schools to integrate knowledge of sustainable finance into both pre- and postgraduate courses. SSF also aims to develop training modules for its members.

### 3.3.1 Workgroup SF Pro

The workgroup SF Pro (Sustainable Finance professional education) has the objective to provide high-quality standard training material on sustainable finance that can be used by SSF members to train finance experts ranging from analysts to asset managers, relationship managers, marketing, communication and product specialists, as well as business development experts.

Achievements so far:

- The workgroup has finalised an online questionnaire, which aims to provide insights into the training needs of finance professionals. The questionnaire will soon be sent to SSF members and the group expects to collect around 200 answers to this survey.
- The workgroup has drafted the story line of the education module and is currently working on collecting quality material for integration in the education material.

Workgroup Champion: Kate Cacciatore, Edmond de Rothschild.

### 3.3.2 Cooperation with finance education institutions

**AZEK/CFPI:** SSF is cooperating with AZEK/CFPI to prepare a one day AZEK/CFPI programme in autumn 2015. The course will be dedicated to long term investing and integration of sustainability in asset management. The event will be open to all members of both organisations for free.

**University of Zurich, Centre for Microfinance:** SSF developed a module for the course “Hot Topics in Socially Responsible Investments (SRI)”, that is offered on an annual basis at University of Zurich.

**University of Zurich, Master in Business Studies:** SSF contributes a lesson on sustainable finance to the course “Business and Society”, offered to master students of business studies at University of Zurich. The course is offered annually.

**University of St. Gallen:** SSF contributes a module to the course “Sustainable Investment” that is offered to Bachelor students at University of St. Gallen.

### 3.3.3 Overview on sustainable finance education and training

On its website, SSF offers an encompassing overview on sustainable finance education and training. Both individual courses as well as sustainable finance training institutions are listed. The list will be expanded to additional courses.

### 3.4 Institutional Asset Owners

Swiss institutional asset owners (pension funds, insurance companies, foundations) have so far been hesitant to adopt encompassing sustainable investment strategies. This workstream offers institutional asset owners a platform to discuss the main barriers and potential first steps for a long-term sustainable investment policy. SSF aims to develop guidance documents for this segment to make the transition to more sustainable investment strategies more efficient.

#### 3.4.1 Workgroup Institutional Asset Owners

The workgroup unites institutional asset owner members of SSF and provides a platform to develop support for institutions aiming to adopt sustainable investment strategies. The workgroup has discussed its needs and prioritised different possible activities.

SSF aims to prepare a guide on sustainable investments explaining different approaches, giving concrete tips on first steps in sustainable investments. The concept for this publication will be discussed in the next workgroup meeting.

The workgroup further acts as an experience sharing platform. Different experts are invited for presentations on sustainable finance topics. Furthermore, best-practice talks with experienced institutions are organised.

### 3.5 Private Wealth Management

Switzerland is one of the major global centres for private wealth management. In addition, Switzerland is home to thousands of charitable foundations and is also very active in responsible investments as well as micro-finance and impact investing. Strong offerings in responsible and impact investing can become a new USP for Swiss private banking. The workstream looks for ways to promote such offerings.

#### 3.5.1 Workgroup Private Wealth Management

The workgroup has met twice since its setup and has discussed and prioritised activities. The following activities were ranked highest by the workgroup participants:

1. 10 main arguments for RMs
2. Advisory process: tools for RMs (know your customer), typology of SRI-Inv., process integration, potential market
3. Practical Tools: glossary, definitions, Q&A, fact sheet for RM
4. Guide for private Investors

The group is currently working on point 1 and 3 while point 2 was considered to need more discussion to define the role of SSF in this.



Main arguments and supporting facts are being collected. A glossary is being prepared and a Q&A related to client questions will be developed. It is the objective to group these findings into a publication providing guidance on how to promote sustainable investments in private banking.

### 3.6 Investments for Development

A clearer and more prominent positioning of existing forms of investments for development will foster growth in this field. SSF further aims to promote the right frameworks and foster the setup of innovative financing solutions for development.

#### 3.6.1 Workgroup Investments for Development

This workgroup has met twice since its setup. The following activities were ranked highest by the workgroup participants:

1. Market Data on Development Investments in Switzerland
2. Identifying legislative and regulatory barriers and working towards more beneficial frameworks
3. Brochure / Informative document highlighting Swiss strengths in the field
4. Public Private Partnership (PPP) promotion to (improve risk/return of products)

The group first discussed the scope of the workgroup and what SSF means by development investments. Also it was debated if the term development investments was suitable to describe the products, SSF aims to cover in this workstream.

The workgroup is now preparing a market survey on development investments by defining the relevant KPIs and coordinating the data collection.

Workgroup Champion: Frédéric Berney, BlueOrchard

### 3.7 Other activities

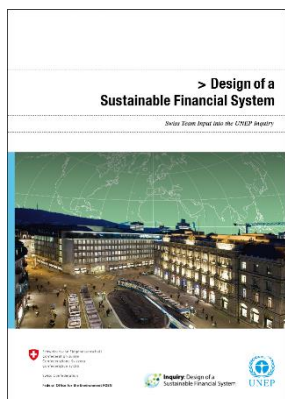
#### 3.7.1 SSF in Swiss Team for the UNEP Inquiry

SSF was invited by FOEN to become a member of the Swiss Team for the UNEP Inquiry. This workgroup unites sustainable finance specialists with varied backgrounds with the objective of interacting with the UNEP Inquiry into the design of a sustainable financial system project.

The workgroup has/had three tasks:

1. Prepare a Swiss Input on the main questions raised by UNEP Inquiry
2. Organise a Swiss conference on the UNEP Inquiry

3. Develop recommendations for concrete next Swiss steps to improve the sustainability of its financial system



The first point was completed in April, 2015. The Swiss Team prepared an input on the main questions of the UNEP Inquiry and collected Swiss best practice examples. SSF collected input from its members on the different questions and delivered an encompassing report to the Swiss team. Both, SSF's Input and the full Swiss Team report are available on SSF's website.

The report was officially handed over to the UNEP Inquiry at the Symposium on 6 May.

The second task was to organise a symposium in the aftermath of the UNEP Inquiry Advisory council meeting that took place in Switzerland in early May. SSF was part of the workgroup preparing this symposium and had several active roles at the event: presenting the Swiss Team answer, moderating a session and informing the press about the Swiss team answer. The symposium attracted a broad range of participants from federal institutions as well as from the private sector.

The third task, to develop concrete next steps for Switzerland, will be tackled in the next months. SSF is in the workgroup responsible to coordinate this input.

#### 3.7.2 Contribution to ProClim IPCC Switzerland report

SSF provided input for the finance Chapter of the ProClim-IPCC Switzerland report, a report of the Swiss Forum for Climate and Global Change of the Swiss Academy of Sciences SCNAT. The report will be published in autumn 2015 and will come up with recommendations for Swiss politics and the economy, based on the most recent IPCC climate change report.

## 4 Additional member services

In addition to the services SSF provides its members and partners through the various activities in our workstreams as described in chapter 3, SSF provides various other services to its members and partners.

#### 4.1 Members' section on SSF Website

The members' section of the SSF website offers the latest information on different workstreams and activities as well as background information on events. Through this platform, our members and partners can stay informed on the activities of SSF and find activities to get involved in that relate to their business.

#### 4.2 Visibility on the SSF platform

Members and partners have the opportunity to gain visibility through the SSF platform (<http://www.sustainablefinance.ch/en/membersandpartners.html>). As we anticipate increasing traffic to the SSF website, members benefit from posting their corporate profiles which can be accessed by interested individuals interested in products and services.

#### 4.3 Job listings

SSF posts job offerings from its members on the website. This service aims to support members in finding qualified sustainable finance professionals for their vacancies.

#### 4.4 Discounts

SSF members receive discounts/free entries for different events. Members had preferential conditions (or were able to join free of charge) at the following events:

- Unternehmerische Nachhaltigkeitsberichterstattung, VfU, 8 June 2015
- Global Infrastructure Basel Symposium, 27/28 May 2015
- Swiss Finance in a changing world, UNEP/FOEN/SECO, 6 May 2015
- SSF Networking lunch, 12 March 2015
- Natural Assets Event, 26 March

## 5 Appendix

### 5.1 SSF Board member biographies

#### **Philipp Aeby, CEO, RepRisk**

Philipp Aeby was appointed Chief Executive Officer of RepRisk AG in July 2010. Prior to this, he served as Chief Operating Officer from June 2008 after joining the company in May 2006.

From 2002 to 2006, Philipp worked for Amgen International where he was a member of the Regional European Management Team based in Brussels and was in charge of budgeting, planning, and sales and marketing effectiveness for Benelux, Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, and the UK. He also served as a member of the European Sales Leadership Council.

Before joining the pharmaceutical industry, Philipp worked for Boston Consulting Group (BCG) where he carried out a number of international assignments in Berlin, London, Madrid, New York and Zurich. Prior to BCG, Philipp was engaged as a Project Manager with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), as a Visiting Researcher at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Cali, Colombia, and as a student research assistant at Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia in Manaus, Brazil. He is a member of the UNICEF Advisory Board on children's rights and author of business thriller "Kolumbianische Scheidung". Philipp Aeby holds a PhD in environmental physics and a M.Sc. in Climatology and Hydrology from ETH Zurich.

#### **Nicola Battalora, Head of Asset Management and Capital Markets, BSI**

Since January 2014 Nicola Battalora is CEO Group Investment Solution & Capital Markets of the BSI Group. Nicola Battalora joined the BSI Group in 1989 and started working in the Off-shore Banking Operations unit at the Lugano head office.

Nicola Battalora subsequently worked in the Control of Overseas Subsidiaries unit until 1992, gaining considerable experience in international banking. He obtained the Securities & Financial Derivatives Representative Certification in London and held various positions in the offices of Guernsey and Nassau, where he spent a long period as Senior Vice President. Before taking over his present position, Nicola Battalora filled the role of CEO at BSI Bank Ltd. Singapore from 2005 to 2010, Head of BSI Luxembourg from 2010 and, at the same time, CEO of BSI Europe from July 2012. He began his professional career as General Manager Assistant at the Ente Ticinese per il Turismo. Nicola Battalora has graduated in Business & Administration from the University of St. Gallen.

### **Eric Borremans, Sustainability Specialist, Pictet Asset Management**

Eric Borremans is Sustainability Expert responsible for the development and implementation of sustainable investment strategies at Pictet Asset Management.

Before joining Pictet Asset Management in 2013, he spent eleven years with BNP Paribas Investment Partners in Paris where he was successively in charge of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) research and proxy voting, SRI product development, and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). He was previously Head of Research Services with Sustainable Asset Management (Zurich) until 2002.

He started his career in corporate sustainability in 1992 and worked during eight years for Environmental Resources Management (ERM) as Consultant in Brussels and Technical Director in Oxford advising multinational companies and public sector entities on environmental, health and safety issues.

Eric holds a degree in Finance from Solvay Business School (Brussels University) and an MBA in environmental management from Columbia Business School (New York). He is also Vice-Chairman of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), member of the FTSE Environmental Markets Advisory Committee, and sits on the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) Standards Board.

### **David Bresch, Global Head Sustainability, Swiss Re**

David Bresch has headed the Sustainability & Political Risk Management unit at Swiss Re since 2008. He has also been a member of the official Swiss delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) fifteenth Conference of the Parties in 2009 (COP15), COP16 (2010), COP17 (2011) and COP18 in Doha in 2012. He currently serves as member of the adaptation board of the global network for climate solutions of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, as steering committee member of ProClim, and member of the Switzerland's federal Advisory Body on Climate. David is also a member of the UN Environmental Program Finance Initiative's Climate Change Advisory Group, a Global Agenda Council of the World Economic Forum, and board member of the World Wildlife Fund in Switzerland. He earned a Masters degree in physics from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich (ETH), and a PhD at the Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science at ETH in 1998.

**Ladina Caduff, Head Sustainability, Raiffeisen**

Ladina Caduff has been Head of CSR Management at Raiffeisen Switzerland since March 2012.

Before joining Raiffeisen she worked at Ernst & Young in the area of Climate Change and Sustainability Services. She supported companies with regard to positioning, internal implementation and performance measurement as well as reporting on sustainability.

Ladina Caduff serves as member of Klimastiftung Schweiz and Greenbuilding. She has a doctorate in Political Economy from the University of Zurich on the theme of sustainability and has held various positions in the academic world. She was senior research associate at ETH Zurich and has worked on the topic of sustainability at the London School of Economics and at MIT in Boston.

**Jean-Philipp de Schrevel, CEO, Bamboo Finance**

Jean-Philippe de Schrevel is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Bamboo Finance. He provides overall leadership, management and vision for the firm.

Previously, he co-founded BlueOrchard Finance in 2001 and remained a part of its management team until 2011. He joined Dexia Asset Management in 2000 as the Dexia Micro-Credit Fund Manager. Prior to that, he was Junior team economist in Romania for a EU PHARE technical assistance program, Field Consultant in Microfinance for a Belgian NGO, an Associate with McKinsey & Co, the Operations Director of a private Microfinance Foundation in Argentina, and a Consultant for the UNCTAD Microfinance Unit in Geneva.

Jean-Philippe holds a MA in Economics from Université Notre-dame de la Paix in Namur, Belgium, and a MBA from the Wharton School of Business.

**Angela de Wolff, Founding Partner, Conser Invest and Co-Founder, Sustainable Finance Geneva**

Angela de Wolff is co-founder of Sustainable Finance Geneva ([www.sfgeneva.org](http://www.sfgeneva.org)), a non-profit association which aims to promote responsibility and sustainability in finance. She held the Presidency from 2008 to 2011 and is still active in the executive committee.

Angela de Wolff has been involved in the financial sector for 20 years, 12 of which in the field of sustainable investment. Angela is a founding partner of Conser Invest, an independent advisory and asset management firm ([www.conser.ch](http://www.conser.ch)) dedicated to sustainable investment solutions for private and institutional clients since 2007.



She began her career as a consultant with Andersen Consulting. In 1994, she was taken on as a senior financial analyst in the Research Department at Darier Hentsch & Cie. From 2002 to 2006, she was Head of the SRI team at Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch.

In 2010 she has been elected as Board Director of "Banque Cantonale de Genève" (BCGE).

Ms. Angela de Wolff obtained a Master in economics from the Lausanne University in 1989 and a Master's in international management from IFOR-Bocconi (Milan) in 1990. She became a Certified European Financial Analyst (CEFA) in 2000.

### **Hubert Niggli, Head of Finance Department, Suva**

Hubert Niggli is heading the Finance Department of Suva since 2006 and is responsible for the asset management, securities administration and reporting and accounting.

Since 2003 he was responsible for risk management and established the quantitative analysis team. He previously worked for the Zurich Insurance Group and held positions as risk analyst and underwriter for non-traditional reinsurance.

Hubert Niggli holds a PhD from the ETH in particle physics and did research in Hamburg and Berkeley. He is a CFA and FRM charter holder.

### **Klaus Tischhauser, CEO, ResponsAbility**

Klaus Tischhauser is the co-founder and CEO of ResponsAbility Investments AG, one of the world's leading independent asset managers specializing in the development-related sectors of emerging economies such as finance, agriculture, health, education and energy.

Prior to founding ResponsAbility in 2003, Klaus Tischhauser spent several years at SAM Sustainable Asset Management, where he was instrumental in building and developing the company. This included the execution of the first IPO of an investment firm focusing on SRI and the launch of the first sustainability index in conjunction with Dow Jones Indexes. Parallel to this, Klaus Tischhauser established a consulting company specializing in the provision of strategic advice on environmental issues to the corporate sector. He began his career at Credit Suisse, where he held a variety of senior positions in the institutional and private clients business, as well as in the areas of forex and money markets.

Klaus Tischhauser holds a degree in Business Administration from the University of Applied Sciences in Zurich and a postgraduate degree in Ecology.

**Daniel Wild, Head of Sustainability Investing Research and Development, RobecoSAM**

Daniel Wild is the Head of Sustainability Investing R&D and a Member of the Executive Committee at RobecoSAM, the investment manager exclusively focused on Sustainability Investing. In 2006, he joined RobecoSAM and is currently responsible for the Sustainability Investing research applied in investment products exceeding EUR 120 billion throughout Robeco group and the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices

Following postdoctoral research studies at Stanford University (USA) from 1997 to 1999, he headed the Environmental Technology Department at Ernst Basler and Partners, a Swiss engineering and consulting firm. From 2004 to 2006, Mr. Wild led infrastructure investment programs in Southeastern Europe and Asia for the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco).

He holds a MSc in Chemical Engineering from ETH Zurich and a PhD in Environmental Engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG).

**Beatrice Zwicky, Board member and member of the investment committee, Nest Collective Foundation**

Beatrice Zwicky is on the board of Nest, an ecological and ethical pension company and in the investment committee of Nest and PK-Rück, as well as on the board of the Alumni Association of the SFI.

Beatrice Zwicky started her career with Zürcher Kantonalbank working on economic research and forecasts and building up marketing research. She then acquired her know how in Private Banking with Bank Leu as relationship manager for HNWIs, holding a position in senior management. With the Schweizerischen Verband der Raiffeisenbanken she was head of product management, always keeping a focus on sustainability. She then successfully founded and built up a company for sustainable asset management together with partners.

Beatrice Zwicky has graduated in economics from the University of Zurich.