

UK Market Engagement Lead, Nature-related Financial Disclosures

Location: Hybrid – remote with travel across the UK and potential international travel

Start date: January 2024

Role: 18-month fixed-term contract

Reporting to: Programme Director, Nature Programmes

About the Green Finance Institute (GFI):

Founded in 2019 to accelerate the deployment of finance towards a net zero and resilient economy, the GFI is an independent, commercially focused and philanthropically-financed organisation, seed funded by the UK Government and the City of London Corporation.

The GFI has already established a leading and differentiated position based on a distinct strategy of identifying impactful interventions to unlock barriers to deploying capital at pace and scale towards sector specific, real-economy outcomes such as the energy efficiency of buildings, decarbonisation of road transport, nature-based financial solutions, international carbon markets and developing markets' climate smart infrastructure.

Through both creating and managing networks of dynamic decision makers across financial services, policy, business, academia and civil society, the GFI is renowned for its practical financial expertise, efficient project execution and generous collaboration, increasingly positioning the organisation as a partner of choice for both policy-makers and market participants to connect political ambition and industry objectives with well-designed solutions for the financial sector both in the UK and overseas.

What's the role?

This is an exciting and newly-created position with the opportunity to work with sustainable finance and business leaders across the UK. You will play a key role within the GFI's Nature programme, driving forward understanding and adoption of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) recommendations with businesses across the UK, identifying and unlocking barriers as they seek to report on nature-related risk by working closely with the TNFD team. The GFI and TNFD have a close working relationship, with the TNFD Secretariat administratively operated as a subsidiary of the GFI.

This role builds on work undertaken by the GFI through its role as convenor of the TNFD UK National Consultation Group, which this role would assume responsibility for coordinating on behalf of GFI and TNFD (as part of its global network of consultation group convenors). In addition to coordinating the activities of the UK consultation group, this role will also take the lead on encouraging voluntary market adoption of the TNFD recommendations by UK domiciled companies and financial institutions; a task that will involve outreach to industry associations and organisations directly across the UK and responding to their inbound inquiries about the TNFD.

On behalf of the TNFD, you will also play a cross-cutting role in supporting the TNFD Head of Market Engagement by providing high-level co-ordination of the TNFD's global network of consultation groups around the globe, bringing the international community of consultation group convenors from different markets together periodically to share insights and in-market experiences and share best practices. This provides an exciting international network-building dimension to this role.

As an indication, it is expected that 90% of this role will be focused on UK market engagement and 10% on supporting TNFD's coordination of the global network of consultation groups.

The TNFD UK National Consultation Group is made up of over 500 corporates and financial institutions across the UK which are at various stages of understanding, assessing and reporting on their nature-related issues. In this role you will identify new members, and work with new and current members individually and collectively to encourage engagement with the TNFD and ultimately drive voluntary adoption of its corporate reporting recommendations. This will also include engagement with market intermediaries based in the UK who can, through their product and service offerings, also support UK uptake of the TNFD recommendations. In short, the measure of success for this role will be the successful mobilisation of UK business leaders to implement the TNFD recommendations and supporting early adoption.

Your responsibilities will range from developing networks with the relevant contacts within UK corporates, financial institutions, industry associations and relevant market intermediaries; convening sectoral and regional groups to understand and respond to their challenges around nature-related corporate reporting; working with the TNFD Secretariat team to disseminate their content, promote UK based participation in TNFD events and feeding back learnings. This role will also involve some liaison with the UK government, and leading the bi-monthly convening of the international TNFD consultation groups to share learnings from the global community of Consultation Groups.

This role offers the opportunity to collaborate with a range of corporates committed to sustainability nationally, as well as internationally and we're looking for a team member who will thrive in a dynamic environment where communication, organisational and networking skills, and focus on delivery are essential. This role also provides the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues at the TNFD Secretariat (who are part of the broader GFI community) and their rapidly growing global network of nature experts and corporate engagement partners.

We'll trust you to:

- Develop strong relationships and networks with UK corporates and financial institutions to actively support them with nature-related reporting, identifying and unlocking any barriers.
- Host multiple sectoral and regional-specific events to gather and disseminate information and work with the TNFD team to get UK organisations started on TNFD reporting and support greater disclosure ambition over time (similar to the journey experienced by most UK organisations with TCFD reporting).
- Develop and drive an adoption plan, producing supporting UK market engagement materials, such as FAQs, in close consultation with the TNFD Secretariat to support

UK corporates in the TNFD journey to adoption, liaising with government on progress.

- Lead the bi-monthly convening of the international national consultation groups across the TNFD to facilitate knowledge sharing.
- Identify new opportunities to improve knowledge sharing across UK and international corporates, sharing ideas and outputs to drive adoption.
- Represent the GFI and TNFD at key industry events as appropriate.
- Coordinate with both the TNFD and GFI marketing and communications function on newsworthy announcements and events in relation to TNFD and Nature.

You need to have:

- Outstanding interpersonal and relationship building skills, particularly with senior executives within the corporate sector.
- A genuine and demonstrable interest in environmental sustainability, and at least a basic understanding of nature-related concepts (such as natural capital) and the linkages to corporate reporting, risk management and capital allocation decisions.
- Experience in chairing and convening meetings.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, with a proven ability to distil complex information into digestible materials and media.
- A strong independent work ethic and experience of working collaboratively as part of a dispersed team - in this case with colleagues from both GFI and the TNFD Secretariat.
- High attention to detail.
- Strong organisation skills and ability to handle multiple projects.
- An ability to meet and manage competing deadlines, logically tackle problems and set priorities.
- Adaptable and comfortable working in a fast-paced, agile, start-up environment.
- Have an aptitude for planning, co-ordinating and time management.

We'd love to see:

- Previous experience in a senior role at a financial institution or corporate.
- Green or sustainable finance qualification or experience.
- Previous line management experience.

- Demonstrated experience working in a collaborative, network-oriented context with colleagues across the UK and/or internationally.

If this sounds like you:

Apply if you think we're a good match and we'll get in touch to let you know the next steps.

Please submit your CV and a short cover letter (no more than two sides of A4) describing how you meet the specific requirements for the post.

The closing date for applications is **9am Tuesday 31st October 2023**. Please submit your application to recruitment@gfi.green

Please note:

- *If you do not already hold the right to work in the UK and/or require sponsorship in order to continue working here, you should think carefully before applying.*
- *The Green Finance Institute is an equal opportunity employer and we value diversity. If you are invited to interview and need any reasonable adjustments during the interview process, please let us know.*