

# Contributing Solutions to Global ESG Challenges

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## Why does Corporate Social Responsibility matter to BNY Mellon clients?

**James Maitland:** I think there are 3 primary drivers that are really affecting the focus on Corporate Social Responsibility, or CSR, with our clients.

- 1- Is a much deeper awareness and appreciation of global challenges. Whether it be: environmental concerns to global warming to the general recognition of the deepening income inequality across the globe.
- 2- Hand in hand with that, is increased investor demand - a lot of Institutional investors are now looking to diversify their portfolios and maintain a certain threshold or percentage of Socially Responsible Investments in their portfolios.
- 3- And I think finally one thing that has been increasingly recognized is that recruitment firms are now coming forward acknowledging that their top talent are looking at Corporate Social Responsibility as a critical criteria as they evaluate their career paths

## How has CSR influenced BNY Mellon?

**Jim Buckley:** As an investment services firm, we firmly believe in transparency. As part of that, we publish our own Corporate Social Responsibility Report each year. Recently, we became a member of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index which is where the top firms are recognized for comprehensive programs. We also over the years have progressed in the Carbon Disclosure Project, which is the measure of how a firm is doing on the environmental side, and we are the top financial services company in the world when it comes to transparency and performance in this space.

## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) products

**Caroline Cruickshank:** We support our clients' ESG financing objectives by providing them with core trustee and agency services. For instance:

- We support Environmental Carbon Credits in the EU Emission Trading Scheme. Carbon Credits help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- We also support Social Housing Bonds and Low Income Housing Bonds. They issue these bonds to finance affordable housing infrastructure that will make a difference for low income families and vulnerable people. These financings ultimately help to mobilize investment capital that will help to create environmental benefits, drive social progress and lead strong governance practices.



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### **How we help administer an ESG financing**

**Sonia Chaliha:** Project Finance is really attracting investment both at an international and local level. We can provide bank accounts ready to take in distributions, take in funds and securities, make payments out and draw down on any loan arrangements. And coupled with that, the reporting and monitoring functions over its lifetime.

### **Future ESG opportunity**

**Sonia Chaliha:** Looking to the future, BNY Mellon Corporate Trust is really going to become increasingly involved in Climate Bond initiatives, specifically green bonds. We anticipate that this market though small now will grow exponentially over the next few years as issuers and countries catch-up and do more to combat and mitigate the effects of global warming by adopting and promoting key climate initiatives.

### **How will CSR impact the way you do business?**

**Caroline Cruickshank:** The value of our service offering helps us to contribute solutions to global challenges, and this in turn helps us to create new opportunities not just for the company but for our clients

**James Maitland:** You're going to see a great differentiation between what are good companies and what are great companies. The great companies are the ones that are leading the way in terms of focusing on collaboration, leadership and partnership.

We can help you to meet your CSR goals and ESG financing objectives. Visit

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