



Mapping Sustainable Finance in Switzerland

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Executive summary

Switzerland occupies a leading place in the global ecosystem of sustainable finance activity. A recent onValues analysis benchmarking major financial centres on their positioning in the field has confirmed this. In this report, we look in more detail at the structure of the Swiss sustainable finance market and at the types of actors involved. We present this as a preliminary analysis that will need to be refined and constantly updated in the future.

Our research points to at least 220 organisations regularly active in the Swiss sustainable finance market. This includes organisations active in asset management, pension funds, organizations active in banking, financial research, insurance, academia, think tanks and applied research, philanthropy advisers and foundations, and governmental organizations. As one would expect, asset managers (73 organisations) and pension funds (approximately 60 organisations) represent the two largest categories of actors.

We also identified 26 associations and platforms active in sustainable finance in Switzerland (of which 3 are internationally based), which is indicative of a good level of interaction and collaboration between market actors. The fact that many actors are members of more than one association or platform also reflects the market's interconnection. What Switzerland lacks, however, is a platform that covers all aspects of sustainable finance (not just investment) and can therefore speak for the market as a whole.

This report should be seen as a preliminary map of the Swiss sustainable finance market and of its key actors. We hope that this assessment will be a first step toward enhanced coordination and will support the strategic positioning of sustainability within the broader Swiss financial sector.

1. Methodology

For the purpose of this report “sustainable finance” refers to those activities that seek to integrate considerations of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues in financial sector activities, including asset management, banking, insurance, financial research, and other financial services.

In our mapping exercise, we included only those organizations and associations that have publicly shown a commitment to sustainable finance and have regular activities in the space. In a first step we included most of the organisations that are members of the associations/platforms detailed later in this report. In a second step, we complemented this with additional organisations based on publicly available information (e.g. industry reports, media, etc.) and our own proprietary databases. For organizations that are not financial sector actors per se (e.g. a university institute), we required a dedicated and substantial focus on sustainability in the financial sector.

The resulting map, we believe, is indicative of the size of the market. Nevertheless, we recognize that there will always be sustainable finance activity that does not fall under the public eye and have attempted to reflect this uncertainty in the report.

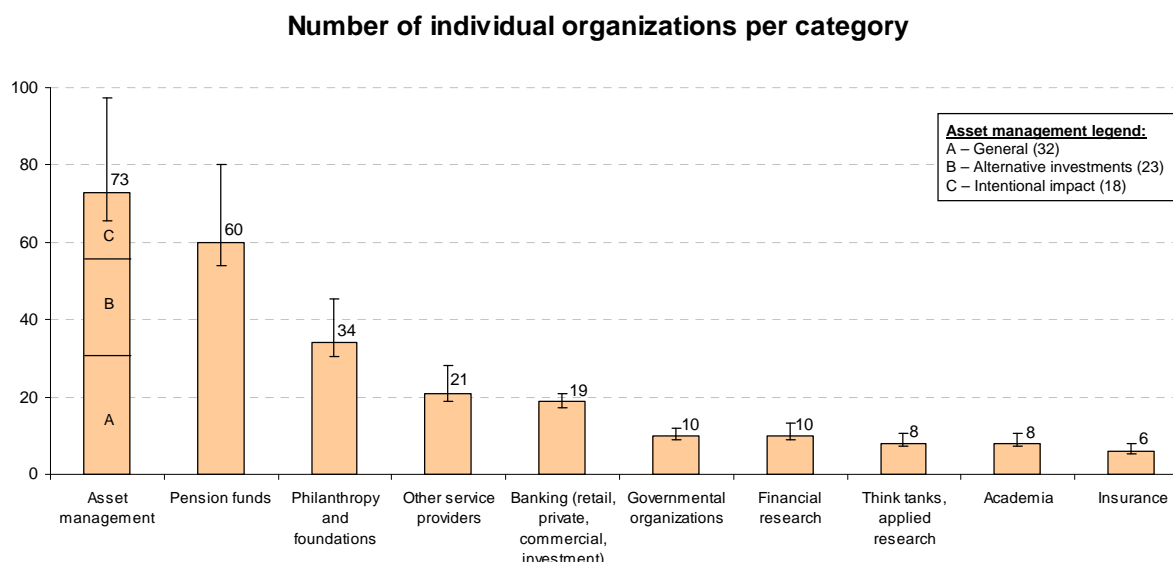
2. Sustainable finance organizations in Switzerland

According to our research, there are roughly 220 individual Swiss organizations active in sustainable finance. To organize this list of actors into a map, we sorted them into the following categories:

- **Asset management**
 - General – Investment managers active in traditional asset classes such as public equities and fixed income, or with a broad range of asset class activities including both traditional and alternative assets
 - Alternative investments – In the context of sustainable investing, this can refer to cleantech private equity, infrastructure, sustainable agriculture or forestry, carbon finance, and other non-traditional asset classes with a sustainability element
 - Intentional impact – Investments intentionally directed at achieving defined social goals, besides providing a financial return to investors. Examples include microfinance and other themes related to poverty alleviation or environmental protection. From an asset class perspective, intentional impact investments are often a subset of Alternative Investments.
- **Pension funds** – For the purpose of this study, we use this term to refer to pension funds that invest a meaningful proportion of their assets according to a sustainable investment approach (e.g. active ownership, screening, ESG integration)
- **Banking** – Includes retail, private, commercial and investment banking
- **Financial research** – Research used for financial decision-making and delivered in a standardized format, such as ratings and company research used in investment management
- **Insurance** – Insurance or reinsurance companies that have shown a commitment to integrating sustainability in their core business and/or in their asset management.
- **Academia** – University institutes or departments with a clear focus on sustainable finance
- **Think tanks and applied research** – Organizations that produce original thought-pieces and/or catalyze initiatives to advance sustainability in the financial sector. This also includes NGOs that regularly contribute thought-pieces in the space.
- **Philanthropy and foundations** – This group includes foundations that invest a meaningful proportion of their assets according to a sustainable investment approach or engage with the financial sector to promote sustainability. It also includes strategic philanthropy advisors that cater to the financial sector.
- **Governmental organizations** – Public bodies that have programs of activity on sustainable finance.

We intentionally did not include family offices, organisations active in the corporate social responsibility space (CSR), Swiss representative offices of foreign companies, and, as stated above, sustainability organizations with minimal connection to the financial sector or financial organizations with only ad-hoc sustainability activities. We also did not include the universe of non-financial sector companies active in the sustainability space, although Switzerland has a large community in this area (see, for example, the 96 Swiss signatories to the UN Global Compact, or the 400 members of Öbu, the Swiss think tank for environmental, social and management issues).

After allocating the identified organizations into categories¹, we developed the following “map” of Swiss sustainable finance actors.



The ranges in the graph reflect our best estimates of total active organizations, accounting for measurement uncertainty, while the bar heights (number indicated) reflect the actual counted number of organizations based on our research. Categories with proportionally narrower ranges reflect those areas where we believe our research has yielded a more-complete overview of sustainable finance activity than those with wider ranges.

Asset managers are the largest group of Swiss sustainable finance actors (ca. 73 organisations), reflecting the country’s historically leading position in sustainable asset management. While asset managers in the “**general**” category managing traditional asset classes are most strongly represented (32), an encouraging sign is that the emerging area of **impact investing** is also well-represented in Switzerland (18), as is the specialized area of **alternative investments** (23). The Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen has published detailed annual reviews of the volume of the Swiss sustainable investment market since 2006, and this data forms the basis for Switzerland’s inclusion in the Europe-wide Eurosif statistics on sustainable investing².

The second largest category of sustainable finance actors (55-80) is **pension funds**. This category is one of the most difficult to assess given that Swiss pension funds are usually very discrete about their sustainable investing activities. We have used a starting universe based on Ethos Engagement Pool members, UN PRI signatories, media reports and other sources and have then filtered for a minimal level of commitment and activity. As will be illustrated in the next chart on associations, there is no dedicated Swiss body that focuses on sustainability for pension funds such as FairPensions in the UK or Ceres in the US.

¹ Maximum 2 categories allowed per organization. The average organization was allocated to 1.2 categories.

² See www.forum-ng.org and www.eurosif.org

Switzerland is a large foundation centre in Europe and the 30+ organizations active in sustainable finance in the “**philanthropy and foundations**” category reflect this. Due to the strength of the Swiss private banking and foundation sector, there are also a number of specialist advisors that assist the financial sector in providing philanthropy services that have been included in this category.

The relatively large (20+) number of organizations classed as “**other service providers**” indicates the robustness of the Swiss sustainable finance ecosystem. These are diverse firms and institutions providing investment advice, custom research, and other consulting services. This category also includes carbon finance project developers, of which there are several based in Switzerland. This category is distinct however from the roughly 10 firms active in “**financial research**”, a category that refers to companies that produce standardized research products as a primary business focus. In the context of sustainable finance, this designation typically applies to companies that provide ESG ratings or risk ratings for publicly traded companies.

We identified nearly 20 organisations with a sustainability commitment and regular activities aimed at considering ESG factors in their **banking** business, including retail, private, commercial and/or investment banking. This category is difficult to assess given that for many of the smaller Raiffeisen, Cantonal or other regional banks little is known publicly about their consideration of ESG issues, even though several of them probably have relevant activities. In our report we only included three Cantonal banks and Raiffeisen Schweiz where we had enough information.

Governmental organizations (ca. 10) refer to federal, cantonal and intergovernmental bodies with head offices in Switzerland that have in the past provided resources and support for developing the sustainable investment industry³. This support may have taken the form of dedicated staff specialists interfacing with private sector stakeholders or regular funding for strategic research meant to drive the sustainable investing agenda. Here, Switzerland benefits not only from a number of public domestic institutions with an interest in sustainable finance but also from Geneva serving as the second largest office of the United Nations and its related intergovernmental bodies.

“**Academia**” and “**think tanks and applied research**” are two categories each with roughly ten individual actors within them. Both of these categories are responsible for generating new, applicable knowledge on the cutting edge of sustainable finance on a regular basis. With no overlap between the categories, academia contains institutions within a university system that offer dedicated teaching and research programs on sustainable finance, while the think tanks category contains mostly non-governmental, non-profit organizations that support independent research and advocacy on the topic. Our impression is that the level of academic and think tank activity on sustainable finance in Switzerland is good, and is a strong element in distinguishing the country internationally.

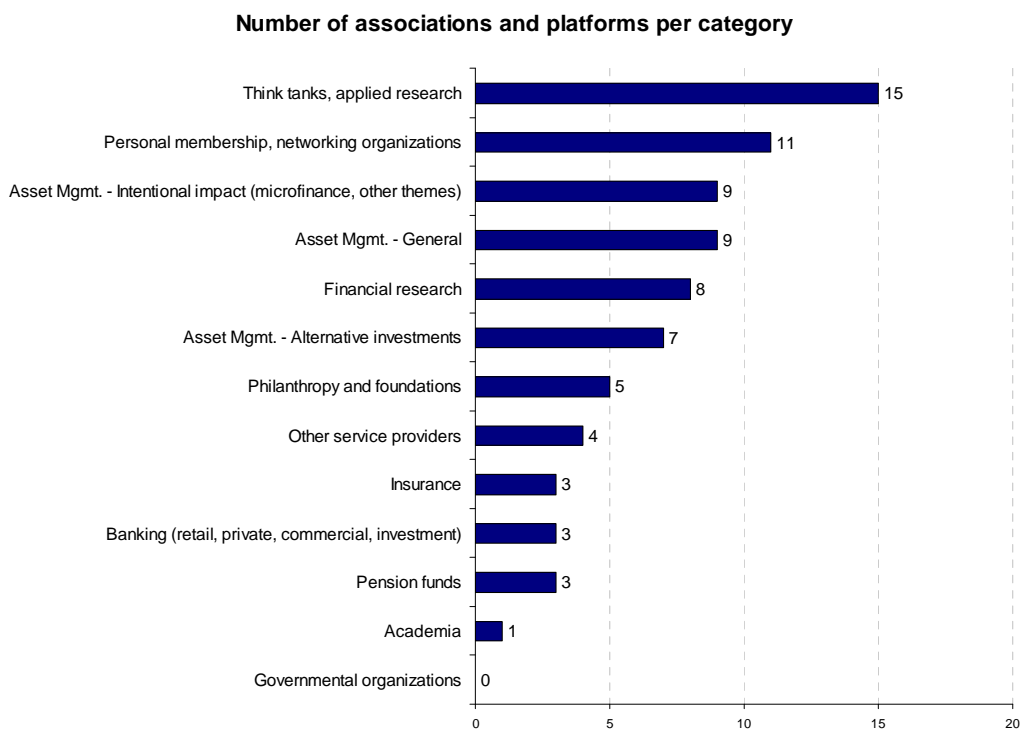
The least populous category is “**insurance**” with only half a dozen individual organizations. As the next graph on associations will illustrate, there is also minimal association activity organized around insurance companies.

³ Most prominent ones being the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, the ILO, UNCTAD, the UNEP Finance Initiative etc. (the latter one is counted as an association/platform in this report).

3. Sustainable finance associations and platforms in Switzerland

Groups of organizations play an equally important role in the Swiss landscape of sustainable finance. These associations and platforms provide higher visibility for sustainable finance within the larger financial sector, coordinate critical activities such as market research, and provide a venue for organizations and the individuals that compose them to meet and exchange information. Policy advocacy, both directly and through the media, is an important function of associations. Associations also play a key role in setting standards and ensuring quality in sustainable financial services and products.

In total, we identified 26 associations based in Switzerland⁴ with a dedicated focus on certain aspects of sustainable finance. These associations and platforms can be characterized by the focus of their activity in the same categories as the individual associations that compose them (i.e. asset management, financial research, pension funds, etc.). Additionally, we reserved a category for associations that allow individuals to become members, entitled “personal membership, networking organizations”, as coordination between individuals rather than firms or institutions is an important aspect of the Swiss sustainable finance ecosystem.



As in the previous section on organizations, we allocated associations to different areas of focus, except here we permitted more overlap. Each association could be allocated to an unlimited

⁴ In addition, we also included three international associations, the UN PRI, Eurosif and GIIN, which are globally among the most important associations active in sustainable finance and which have substantial Swiss membership. The Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) is headquartered in New York, but has appointed a European liaison based in Switzerland in December 2012.

number of activity areas.⁵ The results are shown below followed by a table listing identified associations in each category.

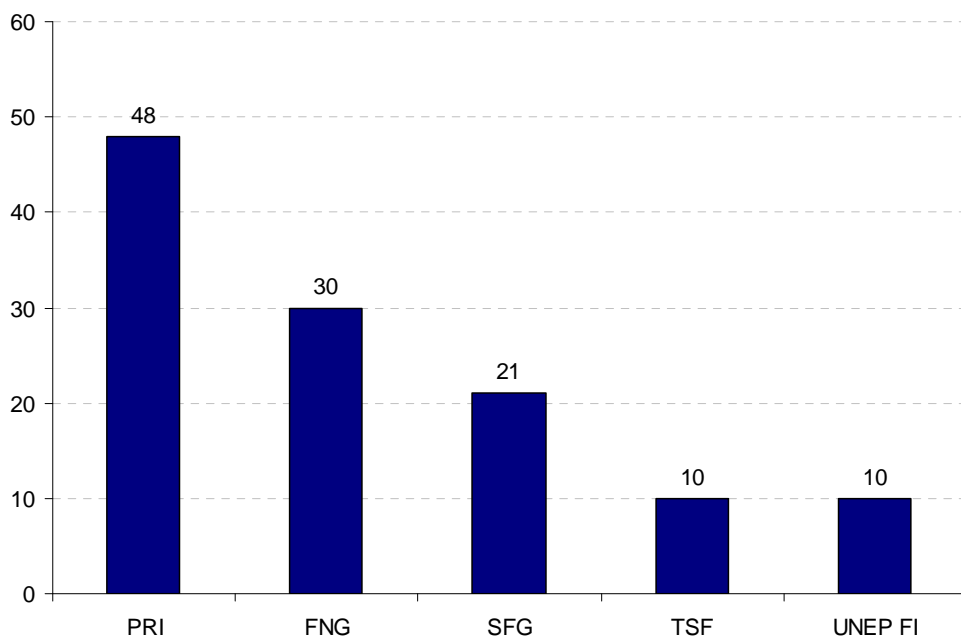
Swiss sustainable finance associations and platforms classed by activity area		
Think tanks, applied research	Personal membership, networking organizations	Financial research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club of Rome • Ethos Académie • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) • Öbu • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • Swiss CFA Society • swisscleantech • The Geneva Association • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) • UN Global Compact Switzerland • World Microfinance Forum Geneva (WMFG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSR Geneva • Ethos Académie • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Green Buzz • Green Drinks • HUB Zurich • oikos international • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • Swiss CFA Society • Swiss Financial Analysts Association (SFAA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • Swiss CFA Society • Swiss Financial Analysts Association (SFAA) • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)
Asset Mgmt. - General	Asset Mgmt. - Intentional impact	Asset Mgmt. - Alternative investments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Öbu • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • Swiss Financial Analysts Association (SFAA) • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) • UN Global Compact Switzerland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashoka Switzerland • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) • HUB Zurich • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • World Microfinance Forum Geneva (WMFG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • swisscleantech • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)
Philanthropy and foundations	Other service providers	Pension funds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashoka Switzerland • proFonds • Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) • SwissFoundations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurosif • Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • UN Global Compact Switzerland
Banking	Insurance	Academia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Öbu • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Geneva Association • The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) • The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oikos international
		Governmental organizations
		None

⁵ The average association was allocated to three activity areas and allocations ranged from a high of 8 to a low of 1.

The chart and table above indicate the areas where associations have a good degree of activity and where they do not. Notable gaps in association coverage occur in academia and government. Additionally, insurance, banking, and pension funds are weakly represented in association activities, which is disappointing given the country's historical strength in these areas.

The organizations with the broadest range of activities (ranging from 6 to 8 category allocations) were Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG), the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG), The Sustainability Forum Zurich (TSF), and the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI). The number of members of these organizations that are active in the sustainable finance area are shown below.

Number of sustainable finance members at key associations



4. Conclusion: Interconnection and coordination in the Swiss sustainable finance sector

While it is difficult to assess in more detail, there is certainly a high degree of interconnection between individual organizations in the Swiss sustainable finance sector. The average organization identified in our mapping exercise held membership in more than one association, and several organizations held up to four memberships in the associations we examined in detail.

The interlinkage that characterizes the market reflects a culture of collaboration and openness that we believe is typical of Swiss sustainable finance despite the competitive nature of the sector. Through the development of the sector, different organizations and associations have arisen to serve specific needs. Those institutions have often evolved beyond their original scope such that, today, the country's sustainable finance sector has high degrees of overlap even as new organizations and associations emerge in previously unexplored areas of activity. The high degree of connectivity between actors enables this development to proceed without excessive duplication or misdirection of efforts, but still greater coordination could increase the overall effectiveness of the Swiss sustainable finance sector.

With this brief report we hope to support discussions that will increase the rationalization and degree of organization of this growing market.

Appendix: Descriptions of sustainable finance associations and platforms

The following short descriptions were taken, whenever possible, directly from the websites of the associations and platforms.

Ashoka Switzerland

Ashoka strives to shape a global, entrepreneurial, competitive citizen sector: one that allows social entrepreneurs to thrive and enables the world's citizens to think and act as changemakers. Since 2009, Ashoka Switzerland has been active naming Fellows, and building bridges between social entrepreneurs, investors, foundations, businesses and society at large.

<http://switzerland.ashoka.org>

CSR Geneva

CSR Geneva is a social network for Geneva-based people interested in corporate responsibility, accountability, sustainability, social enterprise, and responsible finance. The group shares information on relevant events, reports, jobs and opinions, and gathers for social events.

<http://csrgeneva.wordpress.com/>

Ethos Académie

Ethos Académie is a non-profit membership association pursuing public utility goals. Its aim is to promote a stable and prosperous socio-economic environment for the benefit of civil society as a whole and that protects the interests of future generations. To that end, Ethos Académie raises awareness of all participants in the economy, by organizing public events, carrying out studies and lending support to proxy voting activities.

<http://www.ethosacademie.ch>

Eurosif (the European Sustainable Investment Forum)

Eurosif (the European Sustainable Investment Forum) is a pan-European network and think-tank whose mission is to develop sustainability through European financial markets. Current member affiliates of Eurosif include institutional investors, financial service providers, academic institutes, research associations, trade unions and NGO's. The association is a not-for-profit entity that represents assets totalling over €1 trillion through its affiliate membership. Switzerland is represented in Eurosif through the Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG) and through Swiss organizations that are directly members.

<http://www.eurosif.org>

Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG)

Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG), founded in 2001, is the industry association promoting sustainable investment in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. It has over 140 corporate members, including banks, investment management companies, insurance companies, rating

agencies, investment companies, asset managers, financial advisers and NGOs, and around 20 individual members.

FNG-CH is the Swiss arm of Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG). FNG-CH aims to promote the widespread distribution and improve the quality of sustainable investments in Switzerland in both the institutional client and private client markets. At the same time, it aims to reinforce investors' perception of Switzerland as an important market for sustainable investments. Its promotion of sustainable investment is also intended to anchor sustainability principles more securely in place within Switzerland's financial sector.

<http://www.forum-ng.org/en/fng-group-switzerland/ch-brief-portrait.html>

Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN)

The Global Impact Investing Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the scale and effectiveness of impact investing. Impact investments are investments made into companies, organizations, and funds with the intention to generate measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return. They can be made in both emerging and developed markets, and target a range of returns from below market to market rate, depending upon the circumstances. The GIIN addresses systemic barriers to effective impact investing by building critical infrastructure and developing activities, education, and research that attract more investment capital to poverty alleviation and environmental solutions. In 2012 the GIIN announced the appointment of European liaisons, one of whom is based in Zurich, Switzerland, with responsibility for developing GIIN activities and membership in German-speaking Europe.

<http://www.thegiin.org>

Green Buzz

Green Buzz is the sustainability network of Zurich, Switzerland. It is a perpetual series of gatherings launched early 2010, which has grown from 20 to over 700 individual members based on peer-to-peer referrals. Green Buzz is driven from within the sustainability scene, for the sustainability scene, to provide a sector-overarching platform for those interested in advancing the sustainability agenda. Every two months, Green Buzz brings 70-200 professionals from banks, consultancies, NGOs, industry, academia, etc., together for networking events, talks, dinners and excursions in a collaborative atmosphere. Events are hosted by, or organized in collaboration with various sustainability-related firms, NGOs or academic institutions.

<http://greenbuzz.ch>

Green Drinks

Green Drinks is a worldwide meet-up group of people working in environmental fields. In Zürich, the Global Environmental Society - a social network which has committed itself to the topics of environment, sustainable use of resources and innovation – organizes and hosts Green Drinks gatherings on a monthly basis.

<http://www.greendrinks.org/Zuerich>

HUB Zürich

The HUB is a trusted community, innovation lab, and business incubator supporting innovative ventures with social impact. The HUB Zürich opened in 2011, and globally there are 25 open HUBs and many more in the making, from London to San Francisco, Johannesburg, Melbourne, and Sao Paulo. At the HUB, people from every profession, background and culture are being united by one thing: the imagination and drive to pursue enterprising ideas for the world. These are the people who see and do things differently, driven by their entrepreneurial passion to create sustainable impact.

<http://zurich.the-hub.net>

Öbu

Öbu is a sustainability think tank and membership organization, which runs projects related to both public and private sector activities and promotes knowledge exchanges among its members. A key theme for the organization over the years has been sustainability in the finance sector, covering topics ranging from sustainable investments by Swiss pension funds to microfinance as a poverty alleviation strategy.

<http://www.oebu.ch/de/themen/nachhaltigkeitsmanagement/finanzen/>

oikos International

oikos is the international student organization for sustainable economics and management and a leading reference point for the promotion of sustainability change agents. Headquartered in St. Gallen, Switzerland, oikos International currently has 39 Local Chapters in 20 countries around the world. oikos leads several programs related to sustainable finance.

<http://www.oikos-international.org>

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

The UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) convenes over 1000 asset owners, asset managers and sustainable finance service providers with collective assets under management exceeding \$30 trillion. Its goal is to understand the implications of sustainability for investors and support signatories to incorporate these issues into their investment decision making and ownership practices. In implementing the Principles, signatories contribute to the development of a more sustainable global financial system. The Initiative has quickly become the leading global network for investors to learn about responsible investment and collaborate with their peers, companies and policymakers to generate sustainable, long-term investment returns for their clients and beneficiaries. There are over 50 Swiss signatories to the PRI.

<http://unpri.org/signatories/signatories/?country=Switzerland>

proFonds

proFonds is the national association of public benefit foundations, charities and associations in Switzerland. The organization represents the interests of operating foundations, grantmaking foundations, local associations, charities and other public benefit groups in policy advocacy and facilitates knowledge exchange between its members and society at large. In recent years, proFonds has developed activities related to venture philanthropy and mission investing.

<http://www.profonds.org>

Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)

The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) is the professional body for the trust and estate profession worldwide and currently has over 14'000 members and students. STEP Switzerland has in past years held events and working groups on the topic of sustainability in finance.

<http://www.step-ch-fl.com>

Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG)

Sustainable Finance Geneva is an association of Geneva-based professionals and investors with a common interest in promoting sustainable finance and responsible investment. SFG was founded by a diverse group of practitioners that are at the forefront of sustainable finance in Geneva and around the world.

SFG members are involved in a wide range of activities such as Socially Responsible Investing (SRI), Environment, Social & Governance (ESG) research, data and ratings, microfinance, philanthropy, corporate social responsibility and social entrepreneurship. Everyone interested in the realization of SFG's goals can become a member. SFG is looking to attract practitioners with a common interest in actively learning, sharing and promoting sustainability and responsible investment.

<http://www.sfgeneva.org>

Swiss CFA Society

CFA Institute is the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence. The Swiss CFA Society boasts over 2'400 members in Switzerland, against barely 100 in 1996 at inception. It is the largest CFA Institute society in continental Europe. It was the first society of CFA charterholders in the EMEA region to be directly affiliated with the prestigious CFA Institute, which includes more than 110'000 members in 139 countries. The vision of the Swiss CFA Society is to be a leader in fostering the highest level of knowledge, professionalism, and integrity in the investment business. In past years, the Swiss CFA Society has held events focused on integrating sustainability considerations in investment analysis.

<http://www.cfasociety.org/switzerland>

Swiss Financial Analysts Association (SFAA)

The Swiss Financial Analysts Association (SFAA) is the association for financial and investment fund analysts, asset managers, investment advisors, portfolio managers, wealth and relationship managers. The association was set up in 1962 and now has more than 2500 members. The SFAA awards federal diplomas for financial analyst and portfolio manager/Certified International Investment Analyst (CIIA) and for expert in finance and investments/Certified International Wealth Manager (CIWM). The organization has covered sustainable investments in its events, publications and best practice manuals.

<http://www.sfaa.ch>

swisscleantech

swisscleantech represents the interests of the Swiss and Liechtenstein cleantech sector in policy and public life and works to build Switzerland's image as a global leader in cleantech. Members currently number over 300. The organization runs focus groups on the topics of cleantech finance and carbon finance, among others.

<http://www.swisscleantech.ch>

SwissFoundations

SwissFoundations is the national association of grantmaking foundations in Switzerland. In March 2012, SwissFoundations launched the Sustainable and Impact Investor Group. The group focuses on developing resources for stimulating and supporting trustee discussion of mission investing and has recently issued a SwissFoundations position paper on the topic. The Swiss working group has also begun exploring options for foundations to pool resources for common use of services such as proxy voting. SwissFoundations has also hosted events and produced literature of aligning a foundation's investments to its mission.

<http://www.swissfoundations.ch/de/publikationen/nachhaltige-und-zweckgerichtete-investitionen-f%C3%BCr-stiftungen-eine-themeneinf%C3%BChrung>

Swiss Water Partnership

The idea of the Swiss Water Partnership is to create an independent, value-based platform that brings together members from the Swiss academic, civil society, public and private spheres. It builds on the understanding that stakeholders from all sectors must work together in order to address current water challenges. The platform aims to harness Swiss capacities in all these spheres and contribute to the broader international water dialogue.

<http://www.swisswaterpartnership.ch>

The Club of Rome

The Club of Rome was founded in 1968 as an informal association of independent leading personalities from politics, business and science, men and women who are long-term thinkers interested in contributing in a systemic interdisciplinary and holistic manner to a better world. The Club of Rome members share a common concern for the future of humanity and the planet.

Headquartered in Winterthur, the Club of Rome is focusing in its new programme on the root causes of the systemic crisis by defining and communicating the need for, the vision and the elements of a new economy, which produces real wealth and wellbeing; which does not degrade our natural resources and provides meaningful jobs and sufficient income for all people. The new programme will also address underlying values, beliefs and paradigms. The Club of Rome publishes its findings in reports and, since its founding, has released 33 reports concerning the future of humanity.

<http://www.clubofrome.org>

The Geneva Association

The Geneva Association is the leading international insurance think tank for strategically important insurance and risk management issues. The Geneva Association identifies fundamental trends and strategic issues where insurance plays a substantial role or which influence the insurance sector. Through the development of research programs, regular publications and the organization of international meetings, The Geneva Association serves as a catalyst for progress in the understanding of risk and insurance matters and acts as an information creator and disseminator. It is the leading voice of the largest insurance groups worldwide in the dialogue with international institutions. In parallel, it advances—in economic and cultural terms—the development and application of risk management and the understanding of uncertainty in the modern economy.

Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, The Geneva Association membership comprises a statutory maximum of 90 Chief Executive Officers from the world's top (re)insurance companies. It organizes international expert networks and manages discussion platforms for senior insurance executives and specialists as well as policymakers, regulators and multilateral organizations. The Geneva Association's annual General Assembly is the most prestigious gathering of leading insurance CEOs worldwide.

The Geneva Association has research programs related to sustainability considerations in the insurance industry, such as its work stream on climate risk.

<http://www.genevaassociation.org>

The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF)

The Sustainability Forum Zürich (TSF) is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan association that was founded in Zurich by leading representatives from the fields of business, science and the public authorities. It focuses on sustainability topics relevant to the financial market. The purpose of the association, as laid down in its statutes, is to organise and stage the annual International Sustainability Leadership Symposium and other dialogue events as well as to conduct relevant research and projects.

<http://www.sustainability-zurich.org>

United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)

Headquartered in Geneva, the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) is a unique global partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the global financial sector. UNEP FI works closely with over 200 financial institutions who are Signatories to the UNEP FI Statements, and a range of partner organisations to develop and promote linkages between sustainability and financial performance. Through peer-to-peer networks, research and training, UNEP FI carries out its mission to identify, promote, and realise the adoption of best environmental and sustainability practice at all levels of financial institution operations.

<http://www.unepfi.org>

UN Global Compact Switzerland

The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. By doing so, business, as a primary driver of globalization, can help ensure that markets, commerce, technology and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere.

The Switzerland Local Network of the UN Global Compact is the official platform bringing together Swiss Signatories of the UN Global Compact Initiative. Established in 2011, the Local Network serves as an intermediary between its members and the UN Global Compact Office in New York. In past years, the Global Compact has been highly active in the field of sustainable finance, launching programs such as the Principles for Responsible Investment.

<http://www.unglobalcompact.ch>

World Microfinance Forum Geneva (WMFG)

The World Microfinance Forum Geneva (WMFG) is an international association that assists high-level stakeholders in their decisions regarding responsible investment in inclusive finance. WMFG manages Working Groups on relatively unexplored themes relevant to long-term investors. Working Groups produce high quality research and bring this to the attention of decision-makers via publications, debates and the media. WMFG's Partners and Members oversee the research agenda and provide the necessary resources.

<http://www.microfinanceforum.org>