



New York Minute

March 2021

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Green Shoots

The first crocuses aren't the only sign of green these days. This month, the European Union's new Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) went into effect, requiring banks and asset managers to disclose sustainability information on their portfolios – and the companies within them.

The rules come amid a huge boom in ESG investing worldwide. According to Morningstar, assets in European sustainable funds rose by 55% in 2020 compared to the previous year, [hitting €1.1 trillion by December](#). But as the importance of sustainability grows in the investing world, so is greenwashing. Without common ESG standards, it can be challenging to determine whether an investment vehicle really is green.

The SFDR rules are intended distinguish genuinely sustainable investments. Asset managers and other providers of capital are scrambling to comply, including by seeking ESG information from portfolio companies. Even US issuers are bracing themselves for these domino disclosure demands from any asset manager with a European presence.

It will be interesting to see whether the SEC follows Europe's lead and implements similar disclosure

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Half-Day Event
Friday, May 14, 2021 at
9:00 AM ET
Registration details to follow

NIRI NY Coffee Chat
Friday, April 23 at 12:00
PM ET
Click [here](#) to register

[See entire calendar](#)

NextGen Corner



NIRI NY hosted a successful virtual event to wrap up the fourth quarter and full year 2020 earnings

requirements for asset managers. One thing is for certain: the clamor on Wall Street for all things green isn't going away anytime soon.

Here at NIRI New York, we are continuing to focus on providing our members with relevant programming, connections and resources. It's been almost two years since we had an in-person spring event at the NYSE, and we're still not back to that point yet. But we hope you can join us for a virtual half-day event on Friday, May 14, featuring three sessions:

- Session 1: A Conversation with "Downtown" Josh Brown, hosted by Theresa Molloy
- Session 2: Becoming a Trusted Advisor to the C-Suite, hosted by Beth Noymer Levine
- Session 3: SPACs – Wall Street Trends, What They Are and What They Mean for IR

Registration details will follow in short order. We hope you can join us!

There is still time to sign-up for the NIRI New York Mentorship Initiative, with the deadline for applications extended to **March 31, 2021**. Mentor/mentee pairings will be established shortly after and communicated by April 9, 2021. The program will run through the end of the 2021-2022 season in June 2022. If you are interested in getting involved and becoming a mentor or a mentee, please complete the brief questionnaire [here](#), and email to mentorships@niriny.org.

Are you proud of an up-and-coming colleague in the IR community? NIRI's "40 Under 40" program recognizes rising stars. Give someone's career a boost by [nominating them today!](#) The deadline is **April 9, 2021**

As always, I encourage you to stay connected with the NIRI NY chapter by following us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and checking out the latest information on our [website](#).



season, "Water Cooler Talk: Topical NextGen Conversations," on March 3. Looking ahead, NextGen is excited to kick off the NIRI NY Mentorship Initiative in the coming months. If interested in participating, please complete the brief questionnaire [here](#), and email the form to Mentorships@niriny.org.

WELCOME NEW

MEMBERS!

Paul Cardillo, Popular, Inc.
Diana Moore, Amicus
Therapeutics

PARTNER PERSPECTIVE



In partnership with the Society of Corporate Governance and the Council of Institutional Investors, Broadridge recently published a comprehensive [Virtual Shareholder Meeting Best Practices Study](#), outlining expectations as well as evolving practices for implementing virtual shareholder meetings. As you look to prepare for this season's upcoming shareholder meetings, we invite you to check out this report that focuses on best practices surrounding the following key areas of focus: disclosure, meeting

Warm regards,
Neil Stewart
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preparation, technology
support, event proceedings
and post-meeting
takeaways with the goal of
exceeding expectations
across all stakeholders.

Find us here: [NIRI NY Board](#) and [NextGen Committee](#)



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