# Topics and Presenters

**Topic 1: Sustainable Finance/ESG in Asia, Tue 26 Oct 2021**

**Definitions, Historical & International Context, and Current Evolution**
Ronald Wu, Head of ESG & Sustainability Research, APAC, UBS
- Origins of ESG investment and Sustainable Development
- What is “Sustainable Finance” and what is “ESG”? 
- Latest developments in Sustainable Finance and ESG

**ESG – A Buy Side Perspective**
Gabriel Wilson-Otto, Director, Sustainable Investing, Fidelity International
- Why a dramatic increase in investors in sustainability?
- How do Asset Managers invest sustainably?
- What are investor expectations?
- What are the challenges that investors face?

**Sustainable Finance – A Bank Perspective**
Helge Muenkel, Managing Director, Head of Asia Pacific, Sustainable Finance & Global Capital Markets, ING
- What needs to happen to meet Paris agreement targets?
- Environmental risk management and climate-related stress testing
- What are the key challenges that banks face?

**Topic 2: Big Data Management and Analysis including AI, Tue 23 Nov 2021**

**Big Data Management - How to get your data right?**
Ewan McAllan, Head of Data Centre of Excellence Asia, Morgan Stanley
- Drivers in Data Management: Data Quality, Trust, Regulation
- Key components of Data Management
- Key Challenges: Embedding and Scaling

**How do you analyze your data? How do you use AI?**
Celine Le Cotonnec, Chief Data and Innovation Officer, Bank of Singapore
- Optimising internal processes, support risk and compliance
- Improve customer experience for a level of instant personalisation
- Create innovative products and offering

**Use Cases in Capital Markets**
David Hardoon, Senior Advisor for Data and Artificial Intelligence, UnionBank Philippines
- Examples of Potential AI/ML Applications in Capital Markets
- Implementation and Operationalisation Considerations
- Risk and Governance Considerations
Topic 3: China Financial Markets Explained, Tue 14 Dec 2021

Accessing China Markets – Inbound
Patrick Wong, Managing Director, Head of China Business Development and Client Management, Securities Services, HSBC
- Key milestones for market liberalization re inbound schemes
- Available access channels for China A and CIBM
- Which access channel should you choose?

Accessing Overseas Markets – Outbound
Vicky Tsai, Head of Securities Services, Citibank China
- The development of outbound investment schemes
- The features of various schemes
- Participants to each of the scheme

Operating in China
Thomas Fang, Head of China Global Markets, UBS
- China Regulatory & Markets Open Up roadmap
- Key Opportunities and Trends for Global Financial Institutions
- UBS : Operating in China
- Other Career considerations

Equity Markets
Christina Ma, Head of Greater China Equities, Goldman Sachs
- Investing in China
- Increased Foreign Investor Interest in China
- A Shares – Overview
- Different Channels for Investing in A Shares - QFII vs. Connect
- Recent Developments

Fixed Income Markets
Philippe Dirckx, Managing Director – Head of Fixed Income, ASIFMA
- Explore the key components of the Chinese Fixed Income Market
- Compare it with other large markets
- Understand the impediment for its domestic development
- Highlight the barriers to its internationalization
- Recommendations

FX
Liyuan Xiao, Head of Integrated Franchise Trading (Greater China), Deutsche Bank
- Reform of RMB exchange rate formation mechanism
- Onshore and offshore market correlations
- Outlook on RMB FX market

How have governments responded to the Pandemic globally and within Asia?
Steve Wilford, Partner, Head of Global Risk Analysis, Asia-Pacific, Control Risks
- The politics of pandemic
- Pandemic and governance
- Reputational risk and pandemic

How have regulators reacted to it?
Simon Hawkins, Partner, Latham & Watkins
- Regulators' flexible measures to help intermediaries comply with their obligations during the pandemic
- Evolving standards for operational resilience
- Regulators' accelerated use of regulatory and supervisory technology

How have firms changed, including dealing with clients, culture and conduct, and working from home?
Janine Canham, Chief Operating Officer, Sanford C. Bernstein
- Staff wellbeing and safety
- Regulatory compliance
- Creating a new norm

**Topic 5: Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs), Tue 15 Feb 2022**

Introduction to SPACs
Won Lee, Partner, Shearman & Sterling
- What is a SPAC?
- SPAC Features
- SPAC IPO
- De-SPAC

SPACs in the US
Sameer Kaul, Director, Asia Equities Sales, Cantor Fitzgerald
- Ecosystem of a SPAC – The Players & their motivation
- Investment Opportunities across the SPAC Lifecycle.
- Case Studies:
  i. Recent Overfunded Structures
  ii. Lifecycle of a SPAC to successful de-spac
  iii. Liquidation of a SPAC

SPACs in Asia - Hong Kong and Singapore
Jiaxing (Joe) Zhou, Joint Company Secretary, Chief Compliance Officer, Head of Legal and Compliance, CICC
- SPAC Regime under Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- SPAC Regime under Singapore Exchange
- SPAC Regime Comparison Study - Listing Requirement and De-SPAC Requirement
Topic 6: Tokenised Securities, Cryptocurrencies and CBDCs Explained, Thu 10 Mar 2022

Intro – Overview of Different Types of Virtual Assets
Natalie Curtis, Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills

Cryptocurrencies
Natalie Curtis, Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills
• Role of virtual asset service providers
• Regulatory framework: licensing, custody, AML, cybersecurity

Tokenised Securities
Angelina Kwan, Senior Advisor to the Board, HashKey
• Defining tokenised asset types and use case studies
• Blockchain unique value propositions
• The 2nd wave of tokenisation: leveraging real-time trusted data

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) Explained
Stewart Bell, Director, BNY Mellon
• CBDC characteristics and features
• Design, technology and potential use cases
• Different initiatives including BIS and central banks

Topic 7: Asset Management and Hedge Funds Explained, Thu 7 Apr 2022

Asset Management in Asia
Antoine De Saint Vaulry, Director, Regional Head of ETF Sales and Business Development, APAC, Citi
• Asset management overview, AM Actors
• Asia AM types and AUM figures
• AM Trends in Asia

Hedge Funds in Asia
Nick Taylor, Citadel International Equities, Citadel
• Hedge funds overview
• Difference from traditional funds / private equity funds
• The evolution of hedge funds in Asia

What Asset Owners Want?
Thijs Aaten, Chief Finance and Risk Officer, APG Asset Management Asia
• Is return the only thing that matters?
• Responsible investing
• Assets and liabilities
**Topic 8: Practical Applications of Blockchain and DLT in Capital Markets, Tue 24 May 2022**

**Introduction to Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)**
Saurabh Tripathi, Senior Partner and Leader FIG in Asia Pacific, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)
- Basics of the DLT and how additional tech like cryptography permits creation of digital assets
- How Web 3.0 differs from Web 2.0
- Possibilities of tokenization of real world assets

**Open Source DLT Platform for Regulated Entities**
Willy Lim, Global Advisory Lead - Digital Currencies and Capital Markets, R3
- What is open source software?
- Why open source has become the norm for the industry?
- What are the risks and considerations?
- Why is this relevant to DLT and to the regulated industries?
- What is the state of open source DLT in the regulated industries so far? Where is it being applied and who are the leaders?

**Securities Services**
Chirdeep Singh Chhabra, Director, Head of Distributed Ledger Technologies, Securities Services, Citi
- Asset Format Evolution
- Tokenization
- Securities Services – DLT, Strategy
- Case Studies

**Payments**
Danny Wong, Director, MSS Transformation, HSBC
- Using DLT to support real-time cross-border payments.
- Reduction of operational and settlement risk between counterparties, and improving capital efficiencies
- Technology that supports both internal affiliates and external clients

**Topic 9: Data, Privacy Policy and the Cloud, Tue 7 Jun 2022**

**The Role of Data in International Finance**
Douglas Arner, Kerry Holdings Professor in Law, The University of Hong Kong (HKU)
- Digitalization of finance
- Regulation of data in finance: standardization, disclosure, security
- Major trends and conflicts in financial data regulation: crossborder financial data and localization
- Federated storage and analytics

**International and Asian Data Protection Landscape**
Alex Roberts, Counsel, Linklaters
- General overview of objectives of data protection regimes
- Comparative analysis – EU (GDPR) v. US (CCPA/CPRA) v. China (PIPL)
- Data privacy developments in Asia: impact of GDPR, new and amended laws, key trends
- Data protection and cloud computing: key considerations

**Use of Cloud in Financial Services**
Chester Chua, Head of APAC Financial Services Policy, Google Cloud
- What is cloud?
- Why are financial institutions moving to the cloud?
- What are regulators concerned about the cloud?
- What are we doing to address these regulatory challenges?
**Topic 10: Operational Resilience and Cybersecurity, Thu 7 Jul 2022**

**Overview of Regulatory Landscape on Operational Resilience**  
Grace Chong, Head of Financial Regulatory, Gibson Dunn  
- Global and regional regulatory updates in relation to operational resilience and cybersecurity  
- Post-Covid 19 lessons and increased risks from digitalization  
- Material reporting and cross-border implications

**Industry’s Perspective on Operational Resilience**  
Vignesh Karthic, Regional Head of Business Resiliency, APAC, Global Risk Management, Northern Trust  
- Why Operational Resiliency Matters?  
- Building blocks for implementing Operational Resilience Program  
- Identification and Assessment of Business Services  
- Program Considerations including governance

**Cybersecurity - How to Prepare for and Respond to Threats?**  
Alvin Li, Regional Security Assurance Lead, Amazon Web Services  
- Understand the foundation of cybersecurity incident response  
- How to prepare for incidents by increasing “visibility”?  
- What is the role of “automation” in incident response?

**Topic 11: Compliance Tips for Staying on the Right Side of the Regulator, Thu 4 Aug 2022**

**Compliance Challenges and Solutions for Banks**  
Dr Rajeev Chib, CAO Financial Institutions Sales & Solutions, Asia Pacific, Citigroup Global Markets Asia Limited  
- Decision Making Frameworks for Responsible Finance  
- When to escalate misconduct  
- Ethical magnets illustrated with an example  
- Advanced analytics in monitoring conduct

**Key Compliance Processes and Controls**  
Alex Duperouzel, Managing Director, ComplianceAsia  
- Figuring out what you do and what the rules are  
- Ensuring that there is a compliance infrastructure  
- Working with your compliance department  
- Top tips: What if everybody else is doing it?

**Dealing with the Regulator**  
William Hallatt, Partner, Gibson Dunn  
- Inspections, Reporting, Enforcement

**Topic 12: Navigating ASEAN Markets, Thu 22 Sep 2022**

**ASEAN Economies – A Macroeconomic Bird’s Eye View**  
Louis Kuijs, Chief Economist, Asia Pacific, S&P Global Ratings  
- Level and trajectory of ASEAN countries’ economic development  
- Key characteristics in comparison to other emerging market economies  
- Why have ASEAN countries seen relatively robust growth?  
- Recent economic development and outlook

**Operations in ASEAN Markets (Custodian’s Perspective)**  
Vikas Agrawal, Director, Securities Services, Custody Product Head for ASEAN, Citi  
- ASEAN capital markets landscape  
- Market Access  
- Key post-trade considerations – ease of doing business