## Kia maia 35TH ANNUAL ILANZ CONFERENCE 2023 Kia tū ngātahi Stand Tall Together

# Can lawyers save the world?

Part A: ESG, climate governance and climate-aligned contracting



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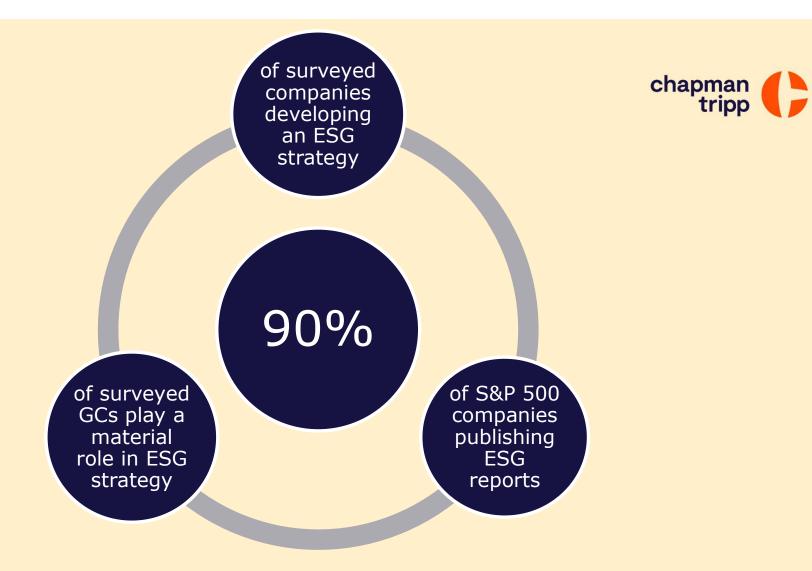
Lucie Drummond GM Sustainability Mercury

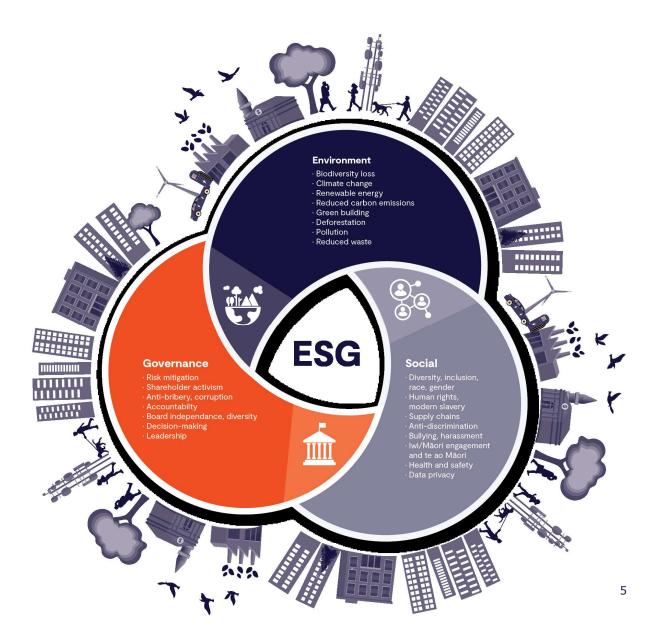




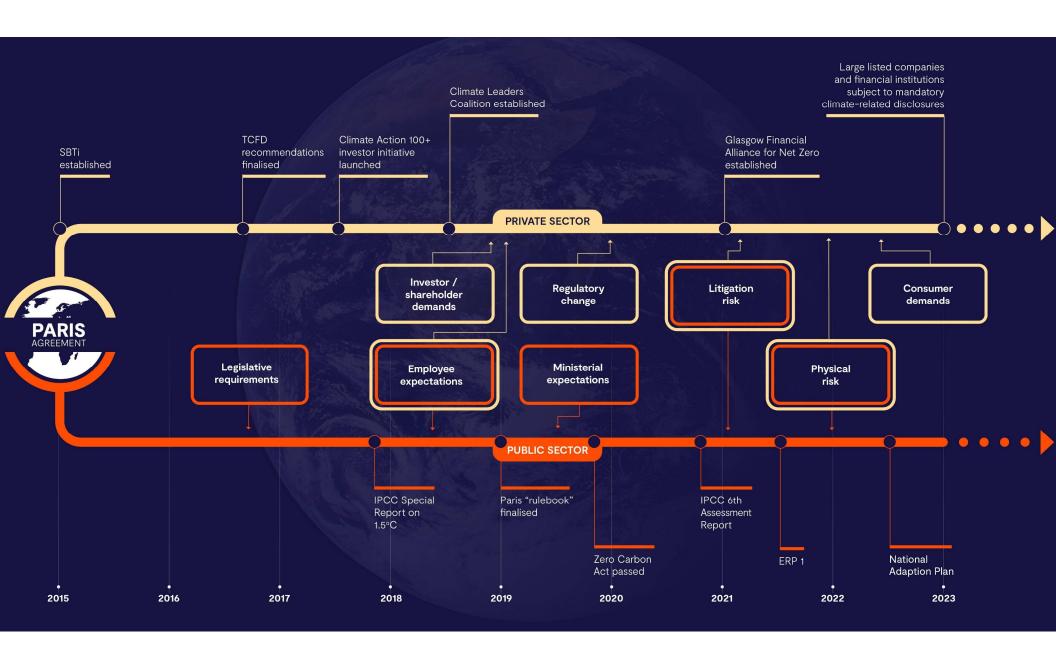
The human project as a whole is experiencing a great metamorphosis. The collapse of the old paradigm is symptomatic of the demise of the old rules and norms, as it makes way for the emergence of new systems.

- Dr Nafeez Ahmed

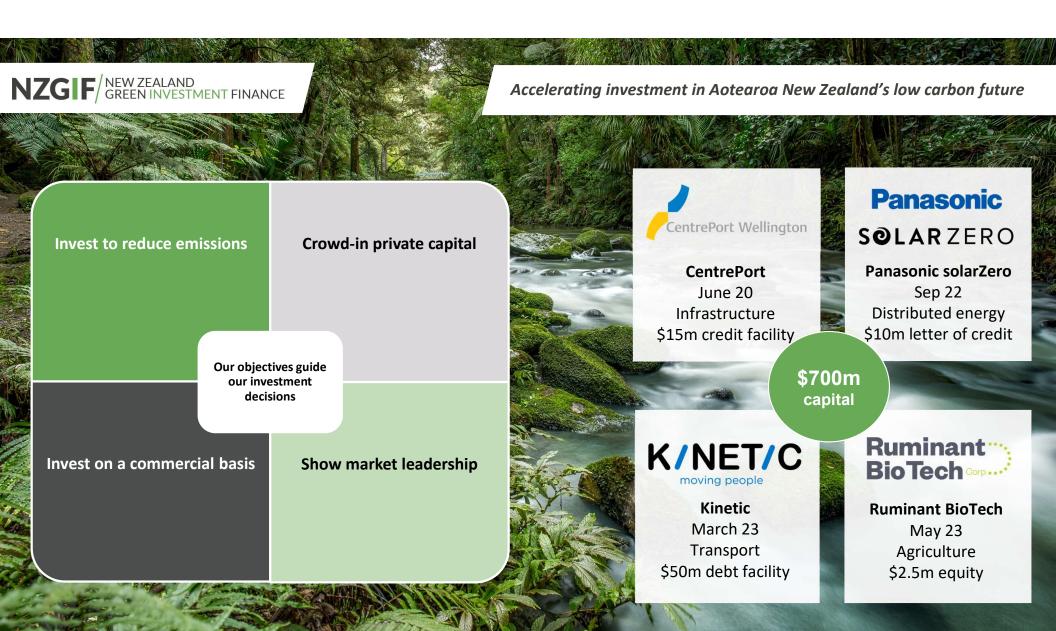












#### NZGIF/NEW ZEALAND GREEN INVESTMENT FINANCE





### NEW ZEALAND CLIMATE CLAUSE BANK





#### Boilerplate clauses (for all relevant documents)

Clause 1 - green dispute resolution (adapted from Toby's Clause)

#### Why you might use it

This clause can be used in any commercial agreement. It provides certainty that any dispute must be handled in a manner that minimises travel and reduces the use of paper. The clause also includes a commitment by both parties to offset emissions arising from any dispute and to consider how such dispute may be handled in a way that minimises greenhouse gas emissions.

#### The climate issue

Litigation and arbitration create considerable and unnecessary amounts of physical paperwork and printing. Paper is energy intensive and has a significant carbon and water footprint. Litigation and arbitration can also require significant travel commitments, for parties, lawyers, witnesses and experts (generally by air). Short-haul aviation is one of the most emissions intensive means of travel.

#### The clause

#### I. GREEN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- (a) In the event of any dispute arising out of, or in any way connected to, this document:
  - (i) [all notices and communications between the parties will be sent by electronic means;]  $^{\rm I}$
  - (ii) the parties will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that meetings and dispute resolution processes (such as mediation and arbitration) relating to the dispute will, where reasonably practicable, be held virtually;
  - (iii) subject to paragraph (iv) below, where reasonably practicable, electronic documents will be used in negotiations, meetings and dispute resolution processes (such as mediation and arbitration) in preference to printed documents; and



#### The clauses

- Green Dispute Resolution
- Electronic Notices
- Further Climate Assurances
- Electronic Execution
- Virtual Board Meeting Requirements
- Simple Carbon Neutrality

- Carbon Footprint Management
- Termination for Greener Supplier
- Supply Chain Carbon Footprint Monitoring
- Environmental Lease

The New Zealand Climate Clause Bank is available to download for free at: https://nzgif.co.nz/investing/new-zealand-climate-clause-bank/

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# Discussion



# You are all climate lawyers now.

- John Kerry