



ICSF



**Vision &
Mission**

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Securities lending has gained prominence within financial organisations and is playing an increasingly important role in global financial markets. However, as a distinct finance dynamic, securities lending has yet to adopt a consistent ESG mechanism in the same way as, for example, project finance, bond finance or responsible banking.

The global sustainable finance market will only progress and mature when the burgeoning securities lending industry stands firm and expresses a positive relationship with sustainability. Inspired by the vision of the founding working group, ICSF aims to become a global authority on sustainable securities lending.

ICSF will be appreciated by the global community for shifting the entire securities lending market onto a sustainable pathway through a strong and evolving implementation programme within the next five to ten years.

The Council will serve as an evolving and open forum for beneficial owners and other stakeholders. It will strive to gain a reputation as a knowledge centre, enjoying the trust and respect of both the securities lending sector and regulatory bodies. ICSF will engage with the public, media and international organisations to strengthen the collective understanding of the securities lending markets, and their connections with sustainable finance.

ICSF will build a strong track record of clear, dedicated and innovative solutions for sustainable securities lending. Aligned with the unanimous desire of the founding working group, the Council will establish its leading global position through flexible and strategic collaboration with ISLA. Such a partnership will enable ICSF to achieve its long-term vision and strategic objectives.

ICSF will promote and embed Environmental, Social and Governance [ESG] factors, Sustainable Development Goals [SDG] and long-term thinking into securities lending activities, through a holistic approach that will balance strategic policies with serious reporting and research activities. The Principles for Sustainable Securities Lending (PSSL), developed by the founding working group, constitute the key outward-facing strategic policy that will be taken forward by the member organisations. The Council will work with ISLA on developing a Corporate Social Responsibility strategy that will be the prime inward-facing sustainable finance policy for the Association. The Council will feedback on the progress of these policies and their interaction with the global securities lending activities and broader sustainable finance markets through the 'Annual Report on the State of Sustainable Securities Lending'.

The Council will be ready to respond rapidly to various consultations and emergencies requiring measured expert advice through 'ICSF Briefs' and 'ICSF-ISLA Position Papers'.

ICSF will pay particular attention to developing partnerships and associations with organisations that align with the Council's vision and mission.

The Council will contribute to achieving these global outcomes:

- Liquid and efficient capital markets;
- Capital shifted to sustainable markets/industries/companies;
- Moving from billions to trillions in the sustainability agenda;
- Active ownership and stewardship;
- Foster cooperation within industry to align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
- Sustainable future for all.