



Corporate Engagement Update

Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing | Bailard

Bailard’s approach to corporate engagement focuses on both the shareholder process and supporting other stakeholders working to improve disclosures on important environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. Bailard’s Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing (SRI) group typically focuses its corporate engagement efforts on the following areas:

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Climate change
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Global water issues
- Biodiversity & habitat protection
- Sustainability reporting
- Renewable energy and decarbonization

SOCIAL

- Human rights
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Social justice
- Supply chain management
- Workplace practices
- Income inequality

GOVERNANCE

- Shareholder rights
- Board structure & independence
- Executive compensation
- Risk management
- Ethical standards
- Policies & procedures on corporate political giving

Recent Activity

Stakeholder Engagement

- The [Ceres Valuing Water Finance Initiative](#) Smucker engagement team (co-led by Bailard) met with **The J.M. Smucker Company** for the second time in December to hear the company’s responses to our engagement team’s letter, which outlined best practices and the potential for Smucker to set targets to use water more efficiently and reduce water quality impacts.
- As part of the 2023-2024 [CDP Science-Based Targets Campaign](#), which Bailard has participated in the last several years, letters were sent over 2,100 target companies requesting them to set science-based GHG emissions targets.

Thought Leadership

- *the 9:05*, Q3 2023 edition, Bailard’s quarterly newsletter: [Impact Investing and the Power of Intention](#)
- *the 9:05*, Q4 2023 edition, [Beyond Profits: The Rise of B Corps and Benefit Corporations](#)
- Quoted in *Pensions & Investments* on Bailard’s paid sabbatical program, [“Sabbaticals give employees chance to rest, recharge. Workers love the perk.”](#)

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Partner Organizations

As You Sow

The goal of As You Sow (AYS) is to create large-scale systemic change by establishing sustainable and equitable corporate practices. Bailard supports the corporate engagement work of AYS, and Bailard's Blaine Townsend (SRII Director) has been collaborating with AYS since 1997.

www.asyousow.org

Ceres

Ceres works with investors specifically to better manage carbon, water and supply chain risks, and to ramp up global investments in clean energy and sustainable food and water systems. Bailard is a member of the Ceres Investor Network.

www.ceres.org

CPA-Zicklin Index

Bailard is a sponsor of the CPA-Zicklin Index, which benchmarks the political disclosure and accountability policies and practices of leading U.S. public companies. It is produced by the Center for Political Accountability in conjunction with the Zicklin Center for Business Ethics Research.

www.politicalaccountability.net

CDP

CDP is a nonprofit that runs the global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts, with a focus on disclosure of carbon emissions, water use and deforestation. Bailard is a CDP Investor Signatory.

www.cdp.net

PRI

The PRI seeks to build a sustainable global financial system by encouraging adoption and implementation of the six Principles for Responsible Investment. Bailard is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment. The PRI is supported by, but not part of, the United Nations.

www.unpri.org

ICCR

Bailard is an affiliate member of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) - a membership organization of over 300 faith and values-based organizations, which engage hundreds of large multi-national corporations each year on social and environmental issues.

www.iccr.org

Moskowitz Prize

Bailard is a sponsor of the Moskowitz Prize, a premier global prize for research in sustainable and responsible finance. The prize is currently presented by Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/social-impact/academics/moskowitz-prize.aspx

“Disclosure on environmental and social performance is increasingly the expectation rather than the exception.”

– Ceres

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