

## **F** **S** FinTech and sustainable finance library

ICMA has compiled a non-exhaustive list of recent publications on FinTech and sustainable finance, with a focus on bond markets. The library aims to highlight the current views from academic, market, and official sector studies on the potential of FinTech to further sustainable debt capital markets. Its purpose is to complement ICMA members' resources and help inform broader discussions on this topic.

According to the G20 Sustainable Finance Study Group, access to large amounts of data at high speed and low cost is the foundation of increasing opportunities for investments in sustainable assets.<sup>1</sup> Usable ESG data is essential to allow the buy side and the sell side to comply with new regulatory requirements (eg the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, the Taxonomy regulation, and the Benchmark Regulation in the EU). Use cases identified by the International Platform on Sustainable Finance (IPSF)<sup>2</sup> include enhancement of environmental risk management and investment screening; enablement of real-time tracking and verification of sustainable investment outcomes; increased credibility of green finance products; increased traceability of supply chains; and greater access to sustainable investment opportunities.

Technologies used to achieve these opportunities facilitate the gathering, processing, analysis, or distribution of data. Large quantities of data from various sources and at increasing volumes (ie Big Data) enhance both ESG and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) analytics and reporting capabilities using Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms, including Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML).<sup>3</sup> Internet of Things (IoT) remote-sensing capabilities and satellite technology provide new, real-time data feeds, which can improve tracking and verification of sustainable projects.<sup>4</sup> Distributed ledger technology (DLT) is considered a key technology in fostering the growth of sustainable bond markets, for example, to develop green bond issuance architectures and tracking platforms where immutable data is shared between multiple parties.

The list of publications will be updated on an ongoing basis as the debate on the role of FinTech in sustainable bond markets evolve. The library is available on the [ICMA website](#) and includes ICMA's recent publication on [FinTech and sustainable bond markets](#) under the market studies tab.

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 **Contact: Rowan Varrall**  
[rowan.varrall@icmagroup.org](mailto:rowan.varrall@icmagroup.org)

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1. G20 Sustainable Finance Study Group, 2020: [Sustainable Finance Synthesis Report](#).
  2. International Platform on Sustainable Finance (IPSF), 2020: [IPSF Annual Report](#).
  3. Antoncic, Madelyn and Bekaert, Geert and Rothenberg, Richard V and Noguer, Miquel. 2020: [Sustainable Investment - Exploring the Linkage between Alpha, ESG, and SDGs](#).
  4. IPSF, 2020. See note above.