



## Quarterly Engagement Report

January-March  
2022

Local  
Authority  
Pension  
Fund  
Forum

# Ukraine, UK Endorsement Board, Mining & Human Rights, AstraZeneca, Chipotle



# LAPFF Statement on Ukraine

LAPFF has expressed its profound sadness and solidarity with the people of Ukraine following the Russian invasion. On top of humanitarian and human rights concerns, the war is raising the prospect that Russia and Russian companies have become virtually uninvestable. LAPFF's approach to responsible investment and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) impacts is being put to the test as never before.

From a governance perspective, it is clear that the Russian government is incapable of ensuring a legal framework that respects the rule of law, destabilising incentives for Russian companies to operate in a certain, sustainable environment. The companies themselves face increasing sanctions, including a ban on the importation of Russian oil into the US. Foreign companies likewise face sanctions on investing in Russia and Belarus and challenges in determining when and how to withdraw from Russia. These challenges seem unlikely

to be resolved, even with an end to hostilities.

From an environmental perspective, the invasion of Ukraine has highlighted the problem with the world's reliance on fossil fuels. It is clear that an orderly fair and just transition to renewables, as quickly as possible, is critical not only for environmental, social, and financial reasons, but also for global security.

From a social perspective, as Russia is increasingly shut off from the rest of the world, both through sanctions and through the level of outrage expressed globally at the Russian invasion, it is expected that Russian firms will face increasing difficulties in operating effectively and in securing staff. It is also foreseeable that to the extent foreign companies are able to maintain their operations in Russia, notwithstanding sanctions, these companies will face increased social challenges, including maintaining staff levels and morale. This is apart from the reputational hit to any company associated with Russia due to humanitarian and

human rights abuses committed in the course of the war.

Alongside these unsettling developments, the proposed Jenrick Amendment poses an additional risk of uncertainty to LGPS investment opportunities in Russia. The war in Ukraine highlights concerns for responsible investors – and others – that the proposed amendment will create confusion for investors about how to undertake responsible investment in relation to ESG issues. This confusion pertains both to Russia and more broadly.

Other systemic contextual challenges include what we hope is the transition from Covid being pandemic to its being endemic sometime soon and an ever-shortening time frame to mitigate and adapt to the climate catastrophe.

LAPFF has sought to use its financial clout to improve the world for over 30 years now. This work cannot take place in isolation and will not always be successful, but we have learned that persistence, consistency, and determination do lead to positive outcomes.



## COMPANY ENGAGEMENTS

# UK Endorsement Board (IFRS17)

**Objective:** The UKEB is the new body to approve international accounting standards (IFRS) for use in the UK, post-Brexit. The prior arrangement under the EU had led to unsatisfactory outcomes, essentially due to Big 4 capture of the endorsement process obfuscating the law. The position regarding UK law should be clearer. The objective therefore is to ensure that the UKEB follows the law (UK law follows the drivers of going concern, in both the numbers and internal control). The international model under the auspices of the Big 4 incorporates defensive assertions that are contrary to UK law.

A problem is the composition of the UKEB, which contains people carried over from the prior FRC Accounting Standards Board's approval of IFRS, including Big 4 defence and lobbying interests. There is

no credible asset owner representation. The first standard up for endorsement is IFRS 17 and there are public concerns that the UKEB has pre-decided the outcome and that endorsement processes are a rubber-stamping exercise. The defects in IFRS are well known to LAPFF in the context of banking collapses, the insolvency of Carillion and the incidence of frauds, such as Patisserie Valerie. A recurring theme is dressing up the lack of prudence as a virtue, when the outcomes are numbers more flattering to the wishes of management.

**Achieved:** Baroness Bowles has tabled over a dozen Parliamentary Questions dealing with the governance of the UKEB, as technical matters. As also covered in the Times, her questions have included extracts from emails a journalist

obtained. They stated that the member of the UKEB, a solicitor, had sought to use a barrister with an acknowledged conflict to act "behind the scenes". The LAPFF Chair wrote to the Chief Executive of the Financial Reporting Council which has responsibility for oversight of the UKEB. As a result of that letter a meeting of the LAPFF chair was held with the civil servant responsible for the UKEB and FRC.

**In Progress:** The discussions with BEIS are likely to continue. The core issue is simple. The accounting and auditing framework is there for shareholder and creditor protection, and auditor liability settles on that basis, but the IFRS model doesn't fit that model. The problem is that the IFRS model lacks the crucial ingredients to determine whether a company is a going concern or not.

## Shell

**Objective:** Further to LAPFF's position on Shell, which is one of scepticism about Shell's climate change plans, the Forum has sought improvement in the plan and its delivery against targets. Shell does not have a 1.5°C plan, which would require both time dependent actions and a carbon budget (the total future emissions over time). Shell instead has vague aspirations of 'net zero' by 2050 which doesn't cover the necessary emissions reductions prior to 2050, and which is: i) dependent on customers, and ii) relies on vague offsets, such as Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and trees.

**Achieved:** A joint meeting with CA100+ members and the CEO of Shell was held in March 2021, which was the first meeting after the decision of the Dutch Court in May 2021 which also concluded that Shell's plans were not adequate. There was no discernable shift in either the strategy or the path to limiting global warming to 1.5°C. But there now appears to be more scepticism in line with the LAPFF position from asset managers and owners that had previously been supportive of the Shell plans in 2021.

**In Progress:** The war in Ukraine has highlighted that in addition to climate change problems oil and gas also carry problems with the security of supply, the ethics of supply and the volatile price (as opposed to cost) of oil and gas. These matters will be built into future LAPFF engagements. High fossil fuel costs also make already unviable CCS-type projects even less viable.



## Total

**Objective:** LAPFF noted during the quarter that Total decided to divest from Myanmar after a presence in the country of around thirty years. This decision was taken just before the war in Ukraine began, and Total has subsequently been criticised by Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth for its position on Russia. Therefore, LAPFF was interested to understand how Total had taken its decisions in relation to the two challenging situations.

**Achieved:** Total's representative helpfully set out a detailed account of the company's decision to withdraw from Myanmar and the set of challenges the company faced in relation to Russia and Ukraine. The specific complications related to geopolitics and balancing human rights considerations with legal and financial obligations was very clear. Whatever view one takes on the conduct of companies in this position, they are at the crux of the tensions and decision-making in a practical way that most societal actors are not. This position poses both risks and opportunities for the companies involved, and has significant implications for investors, civil society, and the environment.

## COMPANY ENGAGEMENTS

**In Progress:** It was agreed that LAPFF would engage further on this complicated topic.

### BHP

**Objective:** BHP offered to arrange a meeting for LAPFF with the Renova Foundation to discuss how to progress the remaining houses to be built after the Samarco tailings dam collapse at Mariana, Brazil in 2015. Both BHP and Renova representatives joined the call.

**Achieved:** LAPFF had been concerned at the lack of progress regarding the housebuilding with only three houses (to a total of 10) being built during 2021. However, by the time the meeting had taken place, 47 houses had been built. LAPFF Chair, Cllr Doug McMurdo, made clear that even this improved progress was inadequate. However, the improvement was welcomed.

**In Progress:** There continues to be political and operational obstacles to making progress with the housebuilding. For example, obtaining permits for the houses is clearly an issue. Affected communities are also concerned that a programme to provide those still waiting for homes with existing houses rather than having to wait for new ones is a cop out by the companies and Renova. In contrast, the companies and Renova are saying that the community members who have taken up this offer have been pleased to do so. Therefore, all sides have a lot of work to do, and LAPFF will continue to engage the companies, Renova, and the affected communities to have everyone's needs met as soon as possible.

### Freeport McMoran

**Objective:** Having met with a number of other mining companies, and extensively with BHP and Rio Tinto in relation to the Resolution Copper project in Arizona, LAPFF was keen to meet with Freeport McMoran, a mining company headquartered in Arizona. The aim was to better understand Freeport McMoran's approach to engaging with affected communities.

**Achieved:** As LAPFF had not met with the company before, the meeting was introductory to a large extent. However,

LAPFF was pleased that within the first 15 minutes of the conversation, the topic of free, prior and informed consent was raised in the context of how important relationships with Indigenous communities are. Given LAPFF's mining and human rights report and the fact that Freeport has faced recent accusations of problems in community relations at its Emma B operations in New Mexico, it was helpful to hear the company's approach to community engagement. There was also a discussion about corporate governance in light of a number of recent board changes.

**In Progress:** LAPFF is keen to engage further with Freeport McMoran on its approach to community engagement and to build an engagement relationship similar to those it has established with other major mining companies.

### Rio Tinto

**Objective:** Rio Tinto reached out to LAPFF to offer a meeting with the company's Chief Financial Officer, Peter Cunningham. LAPFF met with Mr. Cunningham last year when he was still interim CFO and was pleased to re-connect now that he has been permanently in office for nearly a year. LAPFF's aim was to assess the extent to which Rio Tinto is accounting for social and environmental factors in its financial considerations.

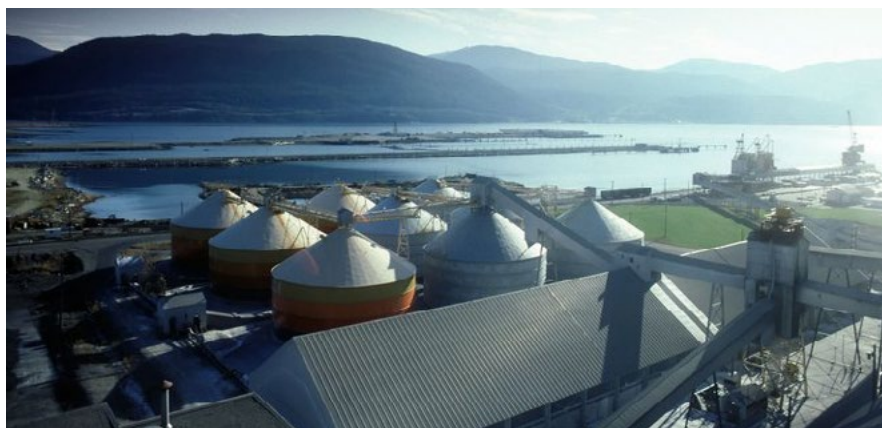
**Achieved:** This meeting came not long after Rio Tinto bravely released publicly an independent investigation into the company's workplace culture. The findings were not flattering. However, it is encouraging to LAPFF that Rio Tinto has

started to be more open about its social and environmental shortcomings as it is believed this openness will ultimately build a company that is financially resilient.

Sadly, the conversation turned to whether Rio Tinto has operations in Russia and Belarus as the war in Ukraine had just begun at the time of the meeting. Rio Tinto appears to be fairly resilient on this front, though it was noted that depending on how wide an impact the war ends up having, the company could be impacted indirectly.

LAPFF also heard about Rio Tinto's plans to hold a say on climate vote at the company's AGM, which will be held in person for the first time since the Covid pandemic began. After engaging with other company representatives, investors, and NGO commentators on the plan, LAPFF decided to advise members to oppose it on the basis that an appropriate timeframe for Scope 3 emissions reductions and a just transition were not adequately addressed in the transition plan.

**In Progress:** LAPFF considers that Rio Tinto has made good progress on practices to address carbon emissions, including engaging with business customers on technologies to decarbonise steel and aluminum production, and on human rights practices, but the company has more work to do in both areas. Furthermore, the company can still do more to link its financial performance to these social and environmental impacts. For example, over the course of the year, Rio Tinto has seen a 69-day strike in Canada, the loss of a mining permit due to community opposition in Serbia, and



Aluminium smelter, Kitimat, British Columbia, Canada

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continued operational delays in both the US and Australia, in part due to difficult community relations in both countries. Additionally, given the extent of Rio Tinto's Scope 3 emissions and the limited timeframe available to take action, LAPFF's view is that an effective energy transition can't take place without an effective fair and just transition. Therefore, it is LAPFF's view that the company still has some work to do to create a culture whereby its staff understands that social and environmental impacts are the basis for financial resilience.

### Vale

**Objective:** Vale invited LAPFF to participate in three investor roundtables regarding the company's progress on social issues. LAPFF's goal was to understand if there has been progress on this front and if so, the extent to which there has been progress. Any progress was deemed very welcome in particular because of the findings of the LAPFF mining and human rights report which flagged a number of concerns for Vale.

**Achieved:** One of the concerns LAPFF has raised in its mining and human rights report is that Vale (and other companies in the industry) appear to be too focused on human rights processes and not sufficiently focused on human rights outcomes. LAPFF was therefore pleased to note with the investor roundtables that the company reached out to investors beforehand to ask what concerns they would like addressed during the meetings.

That said, some meetings have continued to consist primarily of Vale staff providing slide presentations on their work with little audience interaction or time for questions. These presentations are highly technical and rarely, if ever, mention the needs of, or interaction with, affected communities.

**In Progress:** There is still concern that although Vale appears to be seeing investor input better than it has before, it is not yet hearing the voices of its affected community members. In LAPFF's view, this gap creates operational, reputational, legal, and financial risks to the company and to shareholders because the company is missing an important source of

information. LAPFF will continue to work with both Vale and affected community members on this communication.

### Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) Engagements

**Objective:** LAPFF continues to ask a number of companies to undertake human rights impact assessments on their operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT).

**Achieved:** LAPFF met with two companies this quarter: Motorola, alongside representatives for LGPS Central, and Bezeq. Both meetings were somewhat introductory and a starting point to continue dialogue going forward. Bezeq is the first company LAPFF has met on this topic that operates under Israeli state law, and provided an overview of its operations and what areas it operates in. LAPFF also met with the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights to discuss a letter that was sent to LGPS Funds, as well as further information on company positions on the list and the process for companies being removed from it.

**In Progress:** LAPFF will continue to engage with a number of companies it initially engaged with – a large number of whom do not appear to have sufficient human rights due diligence processes in place, or even a human rights policy. The Forum will consider voting recommendations on these, given that the OPT is definitively a conflict zone, and such zones require enhanced human rights due diligence.

### Chipotle

**Objective:** LAPFF has been engaging Chipotle for over two years, the primary objective being to encourage the company to undertake a full value chain water risk assessment as well as the disclosure of quantitative performance metrics and best practices for water management targeted to the areas of water stress. LAPFF argued that without this assessment, Chipotle would not be well placed to identify its total water risk exposure and prepare for water supply uncertainties associated with climate change moving forwards.

**Achieved:** After a period of heightened engagement with the company, LAPFF member fund Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF) filed a resolution ahead of Chipotle's 2022 AGM. The proposal requested the company undertake an assessment to identify, in light of the growing pressures on water supply quality and quantity posed by climate change, its total water risk exposure, and policies and practices to reduce this risk. Following discussions between LAPFF Executive member John Anzani, a GMPF representative and the company, an agreement was reached that would see the resolution withdrawn from the ballot. The withdrawal was conditional upon formal commitments being made which will see significant improvement to the company's approach to managing water risk throughout its entire value chain. The specific actions being taken by the company will be disclosed to the market upon publication of its sustainability report in April, at which time LAPFF can elaborate more on the specific actions Chipotle is taking in this space. The commitments represent significant progress in the company's sustainability practices, the direct result of LAPFF's active engagement.

**In Progress:** Part of the agreement with the company included a commitment to continuing engagement through 2022. LAPFF will monitor the company's performance against its commitments on an ongoing basis and meet with the company to discuss progress during the year.

### AstraZeneca

**Objective:** LAPFF Executive member, John Anzani, met with AstraZeneca Chair, Leif Johansson, to discuss the company's experience during the Covid pandemic and what learnings it has taken from this experience. There was also a question about whether AstraZeneca will change its business strategy or business model in light of its learnings.

**Achieved:** From the outset, Mr. Anzani expressed his thanks to AstraZeneca on behalf of LAPFF for the role the company has played in its vaccine development and rollout. In particular, it was appreciated that AstraZeneca had not sought to profit from its vaccine in the same



## COMPANY ENGAGEMENTS

way that Pfizer and Moderna have and sought instead to distribute the medication as widely as possible around the world. There was a discussion around the misunderstanding of the vaccine's risks as presented in the press that arguably compromised an even more effective rollout process.

Again, the developments surrounding the war in Ukraine were discussed, which prompted a discussion about supply chain security. Interestingly, the last time LAPFF met with Mr. Johansson, there was a similar discussion about supply chain security stemming from the impending impact of Brexit. The importance of diversity and inclusion in all aspects of the company's operations was also discussed.

**In Progress:** AstraZeneca faced significant operational problems as a result of the media reporting around the blood clots said to be associated with the company's Covid vaccine. It is hoped that the company will be able to reflect on this challenge over time to ensure that it can help as many people as possible and push back on any unwarranted reputational concerns in future.

### LyondellBasell

**Objective:** LyondellBasell is a chemicals company listed in the Netherlands. Following a call with company representatives at the end of 2021, as part of engagement with the CA100+ investor collaborative group, a meeting was sought with the chair, Jacques Aigrain, to discuss the company's climate transition plan and further progress to be made on setting targets for Scope 3 carbon emission reductions.

**Achieved:** At the meeting, Mr Aigrain was probed on the greatest challenges the company faces in moving to net zero. LAPFF asked for more detail around company plans for electrification using renewables and green hydrogen or green methanol technology and what lessons were being taken from other sectors to bring forward their implementation. Mr Aigrain agreed it had to be progressed through partnerships and gave the example of partnering with a utility to eliminate its use of coal in Germany.

**In Progress:** Subsequent correspondence with the chair set out various areas of investor expectations discussed during the meeting including on decarbonisation pathways, exploring partnerships to further technological advances, further disclosure on climate-related capex, accounting and auditing, and lobbying and policy stances. A further meeting is proposed after the company has issued its sustainability report later in 2022.

### ArcelorMittal

**Objective:** In a meeting at the end of 2021, LAPFF and the other lead CA100+ investors sought publication of a more granular report on lobbying with a trade association overview. Further correspondence in early January promoted engagement with InfluenceMap, whose assessment feeds into the CA100+ benchmarking process.

**Achieved:** In January 2022, ArcelorMittal issued a new Climate Advocacy Alignment Report. Continued engagement on lobbying disclosure and the shortly to be released new CA100+ benchmark results have helped the company, a year and a half on from their first 'lobbying' report, to update and improve it. In particular there is now disclosure on the action the company will take where misalignment is found between climate policy positions taken by membership associations, and ArcelorMittal's own policy priorities and the Paris agreement. Potential escalation measures include direct communication requesting further alignment with company policy priorities and the Paris agreement, ensuring ArcelorMittal's financial contribution is ringfenced for non-lobbying activities (e.g. towards standard setting only) and ArcelorMittal ceasing membership of the respective association.

**In Progress:** In January, as part of further collaborative engagement, a letter was sent to Karen Ovelmen, the audit committee chair, commending improvements in ArcelorMittal's accounting disclosure for Paris-aligned accounts, pressing for further relevant disclosure and seeking a meeting. The letter was copied to all audit committee members as well as the lead partner of the audit firm, Deloitte.



London, 2021. Rally calling for the end of Uyghur genocide in China

### Uyghur Engagements

**Objective:** The Uyghurs, a Turkic ethnic group native to Xinjiang in China, and other Muslim groups in the region, have reportedly been detained against their will for a number of years. There have been instances of evidence of Uyghurs being used for forced labour in the region, amongst other accusations of human rights violations. A large number of companies have been instigated in having instances of Uyghur forced labour in their supply chains, most notably by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) in February 2020. LAPFF initially reached out to eight companies to discuss supply chain due diligence and to ascertain whether these companies had found instances of Uyghur forced labour in their supply chain.

**Achieved:** To date, LAPFF has met with two of the eight companies, Dell and Cisco, and has had correspondence on the matter with a further two. Tesco has agreed to a meeting in May 2022, shortly after publishing the annual report and sustainability materials, whilst Microsoft also provided further details. Both Dell and Cisco provided similar responses during the meeting, noting that they had not found any instances of Uyghur forced labour in their due diligence processes. Both companies are members of the Responsible Business Alliance and conduct audits with its assistance. Given the complexity of technological supply chains, it was unclear how far down the audit process went for either company. Both Dell and Cisco appeared to take on board feedback from LAPFF, encouraging for better transparency around reporting, particularly on the topics of modern slavery, grievance mechanisms on whistleblowing, and more examples of precisely what serious findings they find in their audits, and how they remedy this.

## COMPANY ENGAGEMENTS

**In Progress:** LAPFF has joined around 60 investors in a working group, coordinated by the Investor Alliance for Human Rights. This provides the opportunity to collaborate going forward and corroborate notes and engagement strategies with a host of other investors. LAPFF will be seeking meetings with those companies that have yet to respond, alongside Microsoft who provided further detail.

### VOTING ALERTS

#### Apple

LAPFF issued a voting alert at Apple. The voting alert focused on shareholder proposals on human rights. The alert recommended that members vote in favour of improved transparency reporting on the removal of apps following concerns about freedom expression in China, reporting on policies and procedures to protect against forced labour, and undertaking a civil rights audit. The alert also recommended supporting shareholder proposals for clearer reporting on gender and ethnic pay gaps and assessing risks of workplace concealment clauses.

#### Rio Tinto

As mentioned above, LAPFF issued a voting alert for Rio Tinto. The alert recommended that LAPFF members oppose the annual report, the remuneration report implementation, the re-election of Megan Clark, and the company's climate action plan. There was a recommendation to abstain on the remuneration report. The recommendation to oppose the annual report was based on concerns that Rio Tinto had not adequately reported the risk of community relations considerations at its Resolution Copper joint venture in Arizona, had not adequately set out a just transition strategy, and had not adequately considered whether the company's auditors were taking account of climate risk in appointing the auditors.

## COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

### COLLABORATIVE INVESTOR MEETINGS

#### Say on Climate

Over the quarter, more responses have been received in response to joint correspondence with TCI and Sarasin late last year to FTSE companies. This asked companies to provide shareholders with the opportunity to support disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions and reduction plans by putting an appropriate resolution on their 2022 AGM agenda. Recent responses that show progress on addressing emission reductions have included Halma and GlaxoSmithKline, but most positive was the response from the London Stock Exchange chair, who has put a resolution on the company's 2022 AGM ballot.

#### Asia Collaborative Engagement Platform for Energy Transition

LAPFF continues to meet with other investors in progressing collaborative engagement on climate and energy transition with banks and power generation companies in Asia, organised and informed by Asia Research and Engagement (ARE). Assessments have been undertaken on decarbonisation policies and practices of 26 power companies in the region and shared with the companies. LAPFF has provided commentary on ARE's review of 32 banks in the region which will be issued as a publicly available report at the end of March.

#### Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change (IIGCC)

Participation in this weekly investor round-up provides updates on potential 2022 Say on Climate/transition plan resolutions to European companies. These plans are mapped against the Climate Action (CA100+) benchmarks, providing a measure of progress in the energy transition. There is also a focus on company lobbying, accounting, and auditor votes. Investors can 'flag' voting intentions at these companies, as well as any of the global companies covered by CA100+.

#### Investor Alliance on Human Rights (IAHR)

LAPFF joined the IAHR this quarter to connect to investors globally who are engaging with companies on human rights issues. IAHR has working groups on Uyghur labour in Xinjiang, Myanmar,

and the technology sector. LAPFF will participate in all of these groups. The IAHR is also a way for LAPFF to roll out its new human rights strategy, which covers these areas and stresses the need for collaborative engagement.

#### SHARE

Another organisation that has been working on a range of human rights issues is SHARE, an investor organisation in Canada focusing on environmental, social, and governance issues. LAPFF spoke with SHARE's human rights coordinator about collaborating on engagements, where possible. There appears to be significant overlap in engagements with SHARE also working on Uyghur forced labour, a fair and just transition, and tailings dams, among other issues.

#### PRI

LAPFF met with PRI this quarter to discuss the PRI's nascent engagement on human rights. As the initiative is not yet officially underway, it is not clear what role LAPFF will play. However, LAPFF will continue to liaise with PRI and others in the group to ensure that the respective work is complementary as both organisations increase their work in this area.

#### UNI Global

LAPFF met with UNI Global to discuss the global union's new initiative on social protection. There is now a binding document on social protection concluded in the wake of the Rana Plaza factory collapse and the subsequent Bangladesh Accord on fire safety. UNI Global is seeking to engage investors on social protection on the back of this new global agreement.

### COLLABORATIVE INVESTOR INITIATIVES

#### US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on climate disclosure

LAPFF joined other investors in writing to the SEC referencing its upcoming Climate Disclosure Rulemaking. Co-ordinated by the US 'As You Sow' organisation, correspondence underscored the importance of requiring verified Scope 1 through 3 value chain carbon emissions-reporting with an emphasis on Scope 3 verified reporting.

## COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

### Letter to French auditors on climate risk

LAPFF supported a collaborative letter to French auditors EY, PwC, KPMG and Deloitte, asking about disclosure on material climate-related risks. It raised the concern that if material climate risks are not properly examined, there may be questions over the reliability of auditor's opinions that these accounts meet the true and fair view standard as required under European Company Law.

### Amazon and Starbucks Freedom of Association Letters

After signing onto an initial collaborative letter to Amazon seeking improved practices on freedom of association and collective bargaining at the company's facility in Bessemer, Alabama, LAPFF signed a follow up letter on this topic. LAPFF signed a similar letter this quarter to Starbucks after reports of anti-union conduct by the company.

### Kellogg

LAPFF, alongside Mercy Investment Services and PIMCO, joined a collaborative effort under the Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI) in engaging with Kellogg on a number of issues related to nutrition. Representatives from the company were probed on the company's approach to addressing malnutrition, how it defines what is considered a healthy product and whether it intends to use a more globally recognised system, what reformulation strategies it has, how it intends to market healthy products through existing channels that it already has such as the use of value stores and whether there would be any targets around this. The Forum is looking to follow up with continued dialogue in Q2 on a number of issues not discussed in the meeting.

### Sainsbury and Share Action

During the pandemic, supermarket employees have been amongst a number of key workers on the frontline, providing an essential service in serving the nation. LAPFF joined ShareAction and the Good Work investor coalition in engaging with Sainsbury around the paying of a living wage. Before the meeting had taken place, Sainsbury announced its new pay deal in January. However, the resolution being put forward by ShareAction is seeking support by the company to accredit as a Living Wage employer in

the next few years. Sainsbury's pay rise in January was a welcome step but left some gaps that the engagement seeks to address, such as discrepancies between inner and outer London living wage rates and no commitment relating to any of its third-party staff. LAPFF raised questions of Union negotiation, as the company consults with Union, and Argos has a collective bargaining agreement with Unite. The wider workforce does not have such an agreement, whereas a number of the company's peers do.

### Care sector – UNI Global Union

LAPFF continued its involvement in the UNI Global Union collaborative initiative on employment standards and care quality at nursing homes. The investor expectations statement now includes support from over 100 institutions with combined assets of over \$3.3 trillion. Engagement with REITs within the care sector is commencing, with LAPFF the lead investor at Welltower and a supporting investor at others.



Slamon fish farm aquaculture

### FAIRR Initiative

After becoming a signatory to the FAIRR initiative in December 2021, an investor network focusing on ESG risks in the global food sector, LAPFF signed onto collaborative engagements. One looks at sustainable aquaculture, asking salmon companies to develop and disclose strategies for diversifying feed ingredients towards lower impact and more sustainable alternatives, and to implement better climate risk management. The other looks at working conditions in global meat supply chains. It seeks to address a number of human rights capital risks in the animal farming industry.

Collaborative Community Meetings

### Brazilian Communities & British Consul in Brazil

Prior to the pandemic, LAPFF promised to visit the communities affected by the tailings dam collapses in Mariana and Brumadinho, Brazil. LAPFF intends to keep its promise to visit these communities and, in preparation, held a discussion with the British Consulate in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, to discuss timings and information necessary to proceed with the trip.

## LAPFF EVENTS



### Say on Climate Event

LAPFF, together with Sarasin & Partners and TCI Fund Management wrote to FTSE All Share companies in 2021, urging them to submit a Climate Transition Action Plan to each AGM for shareholder approval. Having received a significant response to this, it was decided to hold an event at which companies, investors and other interested parties could discuss how best to formulate and disclose such plans and put them to shareholders for review. In February, a range of speakers in the investor, corporate, regulatory and advisory space gathered to discuss what are likely soon to be mandatory disclosures, with lively debate ensuing.

### APPG

The LAPFF-supported All-Party Parliamentary Group on Local Authority Pension Funds held a meeting in March. The meeting followed on from the launch of the APPG's report on responsible investment for a just transition, with presentations from Dr Alan Whitehead MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Net Zero, and Matt Toombs, Director of Campaigns and Engagement, Cop26 Unit, Cabinet Office. Tessa Younger, Head of Engagement at PIRC, also provided an overview of the Say on Climate initiative and LAPFF's involvement with it.

### Communities affected by Rio Tinto Operations

LAPFF Chair, Cllr Doug McMurdo, hosted a webinar with community members affected by Rio Tinto operations in Australia, Mongolia, and Papua New



## COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

Guinea. While there are still many areas that need progress, which Rio Tinto itself admits through its brave and helpful workplace culture report, there are also points of improvement. In general, it was felt that the culture at the executive level of the company has improved; it is hoped this improved culture will extend throughout the entire organisation. It was also noted that Rio Tinto has agreed to an independent assessment of its role at its legacy Panguna mine in Papua New Guinea. However, progress appears patchy globally with accounts from Mongolia – and through separate contact with LAPFF, Arizona - less positive.

### CONSULTATIONS

#### UN OHCHR Accountability and Remedy Project Consultation

One area of interest as LAPFF increases its work on human rights is the growing number of legislative initiatives on

human rights and environmental due diligence (mHREDD) emerging at both the domestic and international levels. To this end, LAPFF joined a consultation held by the United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights to discuss trends in mHREDD globally. Sessions included an overview of mHREDD initiatives, the role of courts, the role of administrative bodies, and the link between mHREDD and grievance mechanisms. This discussion is particularly relevant for LAPFF as the UK deliberates on its own mHREDD legislation. LAPFF also attended a UN Global Compact webinar on mHREDD that stressed the need to overcome the siloed approach to environmental and social issues in approaches to legislating for due diligence. This observation fits well with LAPFF's approach to engaging on a fair and just transition to a zero carbon economy.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

### DAM COLLAPSE

UK local govt pension scheme “dismayed” at lack of action over Brazil dam collapses  
<https://www.mining.com/web/uk-local-govt-pension-scheme-dismayed-at-lack-of-action-over-brazil-dam-collapses/>  
 The ESG Interview: Learn from the Past, Look to the Future  
 The ESG Interview: Learn from the Past, Look to the Future - ESG Investor

### UK ENDORSEMENT BOARD

Standards board ‘looks like a cabal’  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/standards-board-looks-like-a-cabal-hks5ch38b>

### ISRAEL PALESTINE

LGPS seeks UN clarity on investment comments  
<https://www.pensions-expert.com/DB-Derisking/LGPS-seeks-UN-clarity-on-Israel-investment-comments>

### UKRAINE

Lessons from Ukraine: are defence exclusions ‘responsible’?  
<https://www.room151.co.uk/blogs/lessons-from-ukraine-are-defence-exclusions-responsible/>

## CHAIR'S QUOTE

“I had hoped, with the promising trajectory of the Omicron variant, that 2022 would be a year of more positive developments. However, we now find ourselves with the prospect of another world war and less certain than ever about how to act on ESG issues as investors due to recent government initiatives in the UK. In this context, LAPFF's work takes on even greater significance as investors must step up to respect human rights, the environment, and good governance where governments and other actors fail to do so.”



## COMPANY PROGRESS REPORT

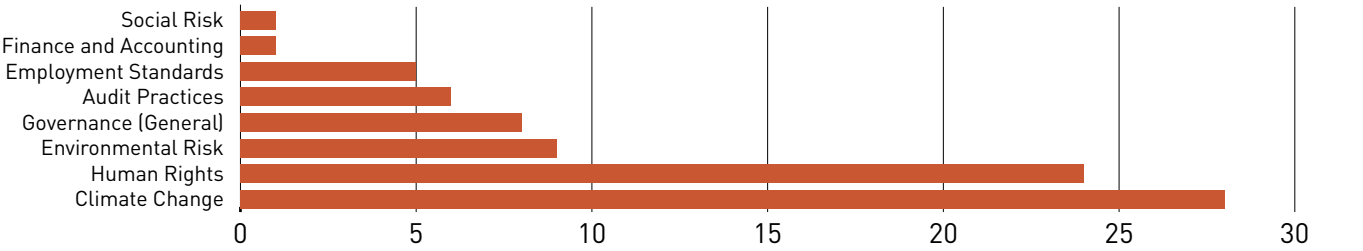
50 Companies engaged over the quarter

\*The table below is a consolidated representation of engagements so reflects the number of companies engaged, not the number of engagements

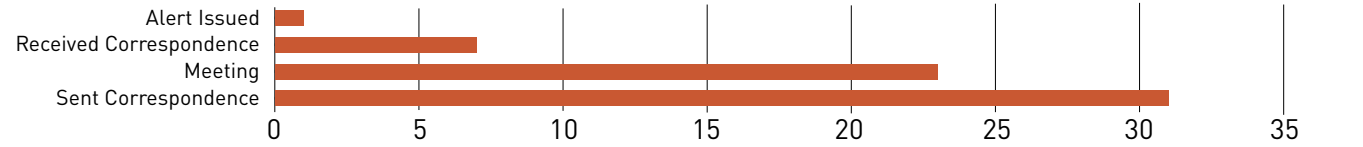
Company/Index	Activity	Topic	Outcome
AIR LIQUIDE SA	Sent Correspondence	Climate Change	Change in Process
ALSTOM SA	Meeting	Human Rights	Dialogue
AMAZON.COM INC.	Sent Correspondence	Employment Standards	Dialogue
ANGLO AMERICAN PLC	Sent Correspondence	Climate Change	Change in Process
APPLE INC	Alert Issued	Human Rights	Dialogue
ARCELOMITTAL SA	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Substantial Improvement
ASTRAZENECA PLC	Meeting	Governance (General)	Dialogue
BEZEQ THE ISRAELI TELECOMMUNICATION CORP LTD	Meeting	Human Rights	Dialogue
BHP GROUP LIMITED (AUS)	Meeting	Human Rights	No Improvement
BP PLC	Meeting	Climate Change	Change in Process
BRF - BRASIL FOODS SA	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
CHEVRON CORPORATION	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
CISCO SYSTEMS INC.	Meeting	Human Rights	Dialogue
CK HUTCHISON HOLDINGS LTD	Meeting	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
CRANSWICK PLC	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
CRH PLC	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Change in Process
DBS BANK LTD	AGM	Climate Change	Small Improvement
DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD	AGM	Climate Change	Substantial Improvement
DELL TECHNOLOGIES	Meeting	Audit Practices	Dialogue
FREEPORT-MCMORAN INC.	Meeting	Governance (General)	Change in Process
GLAXOSMITHKLINE PLC	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Moderate Improvement
HALMA PLC	Meeting	Finance and Accounting	Small Improvement
HALMA PLC	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Moderate Improvement
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS GROUP PLC	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Moderate Improvement
KELLOGG COMPANY	Meeting	Social Risk	Small Improvement
LEROY SEAFOOD GROUP ASA	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP PLC	Received Correspondence	Climate Change	Substantial Improvement
LYONDELLBASELL INDUSTRIES N.V.	Meeting	Climate Change	Change in Process
MARFRIG GLOBAL FOODS S.A	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
META PLATFORMS INC	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC.	Meeting	Human Rights	Dialogue
MOWI ASA	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
NESTLE SA	Meeting	Climate Change	Small Improvement
NEXTERA ENERGY INC	Sent Correspondence	Climate Change	Moderate Improvement
PENNON GROUP PLC	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
RENAULT SA	Sent Correspondence	Climate Change	Small Improvement
RIO TINTO PLC	Meeting	Climate Change	Moderate Improvement
SAINSBURY (J) PLC	Meeting	Employment Standards	Moderate Improvement
SALMAR ASA	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
SANDERSON FARMS INC	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
SEVERN TRENT PLC	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
SYNTHOMER PLC	Meeting	Human Rights	Small Improvement
TESCO PLC	Received Correspondence	Human Rights	Dialogue
THYSSENKRUPP AG	Meeting	Climate Change	Change in Process
TOTALENERGIES SE	Meeting	Human Rights	Dialogue
TYSON FOODS INC	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response
UNITED UTILITIES GROUP PLC	Sent Correspondence	Environmental Risk	Awaiting Response
VALE SA	Meeting	Governance (General)	Dialogue
WELLTOWER INC	Sent Correspondence	Employment Standards	Awaiting Response
WH GROUP LTD	Sent Correspondence	Human Rights	Awaiting Response

# ENGAGEMENT DATA

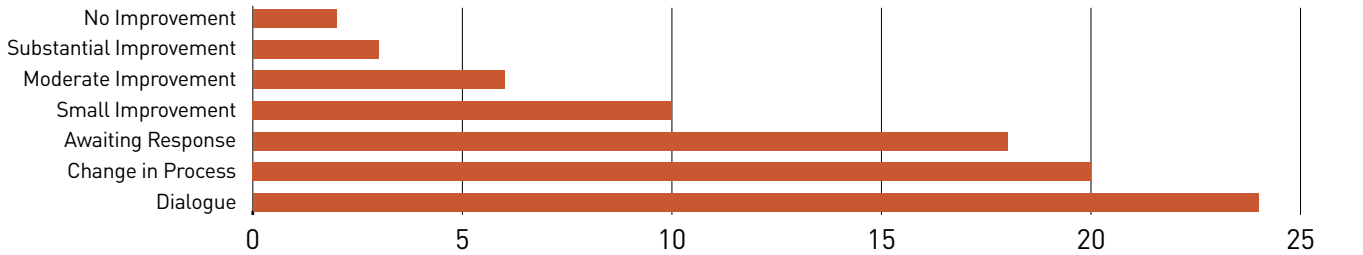
## ENGAGEMENT TOPICS



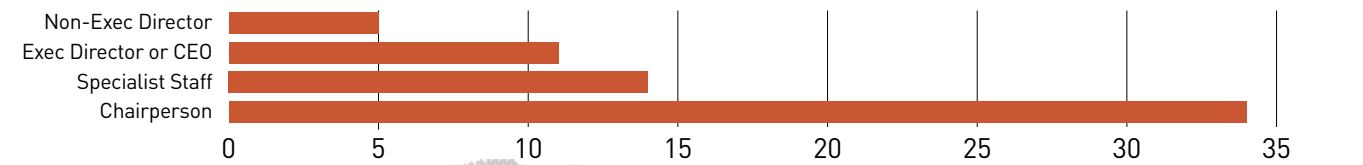
## ACTIVITY



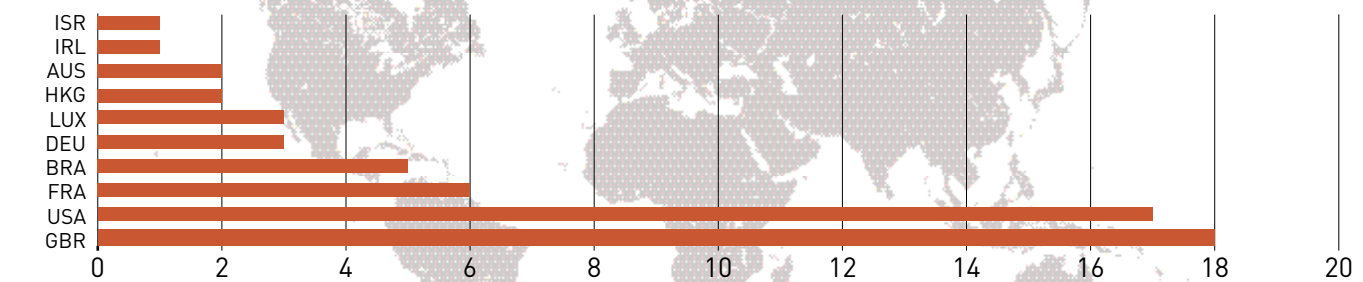
## MEETING ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES



## POSITION ENGAGED

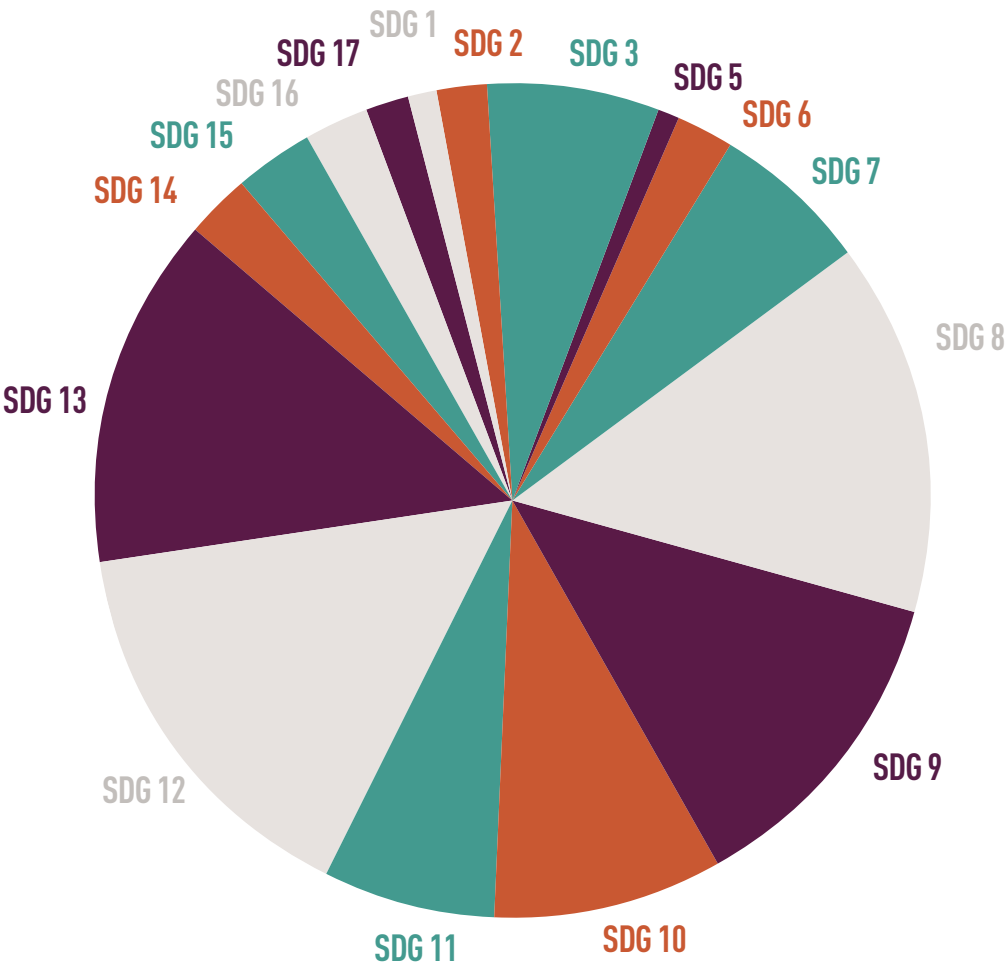


## COMPANY DOMICILES





ENGAGEMENT DATA



LAPFF SDG ENGAGEMENTS

SDG 1: No Poverty	3
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	5
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	16
SDG 4: Quality Education	0
SDG 5: Gender Equality	2
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	5
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	15
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	35
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	30
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	21
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16
SDG 12: Responsible Production and Consumption	37
SDG 13: Climate Action	33
SDG 14: Life Below Water	6
SDG 15: Life on Land	7
SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	6
SDG 17: Strengthen the Means of Implementation and Revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	4

## LOCAL AUTHORITY PENSION FUND FORUM MEMBERS

Avon Pension Fund	Enfield Pension Fund	London Pension Fund Authority	Teesside Pension Fund
Barking and Dagenham Pension Fund	Environment Agency Pension Fund	Lothian Pension Fund	Tower Hamlets Pension Fund
Barnet Pension Fund	Essex Pension Fund	Merseyside Pension Fund	Tyne and Wear Pension Fund
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	Falkirk Pension Fund	Merton Pension Fund	Waltham Forest Pension Fund
Berkshire Pension Fund	Gloucestershire Pension Fund	Newham Pension Fund	Wandsworth Borough Council Pension Fund
Bexley (London Borough of)	Greater Gwent Pension Fund	Norfolk Pension Fund	Warwickshire Pension Fund
Bromley Pension Fund	Greater Manchester Pension Fund	North East Scotland Pension Fund	West Midlands ITA Pension Fund
Cambridgeshire Pension Fund	Greenwich Pension Fund	North Yorkshire Pension Fund	West Midlands Pension Fund
Camden Pension Fund	Gwynedd Pension Fund	Northamptonshire Pension Fund	West Yorkshire Pension Fund
Cardiff & Glamorgan Pension Fund	Hackney Pension Fund	Nottinghamshire Pension Fund	Westminster Pension Fund
Cheshire Pension Fund	Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund	Oxfordshire Pension Fund	Wiltshire Pension Fund
City of London Corporation Pension Fund	Haringey Pension Fund	Powys Pension Fund	Worcestershire Pension Fund
Clwyd Pension Fund (Flintshire CC)	Harrow Pension Fund	Redbridge Pension Fund	
Cornwall Pension Fund	Havering Pension Fund	Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund	
Croydon Pension Fund	Hertfordshire Pension Fund	Shropshire Pension Fund	<b>Pool Company Members</b>
Cumbria Pension Fund	Hounslow Pension Fund	Somerset Pension Fund	Border to Coast Pensions Partnership
Derbyshire Pension Fund	Islington Pension Fund	South Yorkshire Pension Authority	Brunel Pensions Partnership
Devon Pension Fund	Kent Pension Fund	Southwark Pension Fund	LGPS Central
Dorset Pension Fund	Kingston upon Thames Pension Fund	Staffordshire Pension Fund	Local Pensions Partnership
Durham Pension Fund	Lambeth Pension Fund	Strathclyde Pension Fund	London CIV
Dyfed Pension Fund	Lancashire County Pension Fund	Suffolk Pension Fund	Northern LGPS
Ealing Pension Fund	Leicestershire Pension Fund	Surrey Pension Fund	Wales Pension Partnership
East Riding Pension Fund	Lewisham Pension Fund	Sutton Pension Fund	
East Sussex Pension Fund	Lincolnshire Pension Fund	Swansea Pension Fund	

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