



Call for Contributions

Transition Finance: Designing Credible Pathways to Net-Zero Emissions

An edited collection to be published by Palgrave Macmillan

The John Molson School of Business, the Emerging Risks Information Center (ERIC), the Jacques Ménard - BMO Center for Capital Markets at Concordia University, Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University, and the Institute for Sustainable Finance kindly invite contributions to the edited book collection *Transition Finance: Designing Credible Pathways to Net-Zero Emissions* to be published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Co-edited by

Thomas Walker, PhD

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ABOUT THE BOOK

Transition Finance: Designing Credible Pathways to Net-Zero Emissions will offer a pioneering exploration of the opportunities and challenges presented by an emerging subfield of sustainable finance: transition finance. While green finance generally supports activities that are environmentally beneficial, it neglects the financial needs for innovation and emission reduction in carbon-intensive industries. These industries account for a significant share of global emissions and are often key components of economic development plans in certain countries and regions. Consequently, facilitating their transition to low- or zero-carbon emissions (decarbonization) is vital to meeting global sustainability goals while continuing to promote economic development.

To address financing gaps related to decarbonization, transition finance aims to facilitate whole-of-economy transition by providing access to funding for carbon-intensive industries based on credible decarbonization pathways. Although some view this as controversial, transition finance has the potential to aid in significantly reducing carbon emissions worldwide. This book will offer comprehensive coverage of developments in the emerging field of transition finance, an exploration of avenues for further innovation, and case studies to examine the real-world application of transition finance. By combining its comprehensive coverage, real-world relevance, strategic organization, educational features, and ability to meet diverse needs, *Transition Finance* aims to be an indispensable resource for those committed to fostering financial and environmental sustainability in an increasingly interconnected world.

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR CHAPTERS

Transition Finance will include chapters on theory and practice, a combination of conceptual and applied models. It will begin with defining and understanding the fundamentals of transition finance and then moves to exploring its specific mechanics, identifying investment opportunities and potential economic benefits, navigating policy landscapes, and learning from case studies. The chapters will incorporate clear explanations, illustrative examples, data-driven analyses, and actionable recommendations, making the content accessible and relevant to a diverse audience including students, educators, researchers, and policymakers. We envision the following structure:

1. Introduction

- Introduction to the book (background, objectives, and contributions)
- Defining transition finance
 - Evolution of the history of transition finance and its importance
 - A literature review on transition finance
 - Current trends and projections

2. The mechanisms of transition finance

- A framework of transition economics
- Overview of transition finance instruments currently available
- Primary transition finance approaches:
 - Market-driven, state-led

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- Macro- and micro-level transition policies
- International bodies spearheading transition finance efforts (ex. OECD)
 - Strategies and action plans
 - Regulatory frameworks and national strategies

3. Transition finance opportunities

- The economic benefits of transition finance
 - For investors
 - For governments/national economies
 - For industry
- Benefits for high-emission industry/brown firms
 - Mining
 - Manufacturing
 - Fossil fuels
 - Aviation
- Corporate sustainability initiatives
 - Sustainable finance
 - Sustainable innovation

4. Transition finance challenges

- Policy, regulation
 - Transition risk
 - Effects on competitiveness
- Reporting and disclosure frameworks
 - Transition complexity
 - Greenwashing or meaningful transition?
- Corporate responsibility

5. Transition finance case studies

- Related to companies (industries)
- Related to regions (Europe, The Americas, Asia, Africa, Oceania)
- Related to funding, measuring, reporting

Submitted chapters must be original and exclusively prepared for the book, with no part of the article having been published elsewhere.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract and CV submission deadline: **November 30th, 2025**
- Selection of abstracts and notification to successful contributors: **December 31st, 2025**
- Full chapter submission – **March 31st, 2026**
- Feedback to authors no later than – **April 30th, 2026**
- Revised chapter submission – **June 30th, 2026**
- Manuscript delivery – **August 31st, 2026**
- Publication – **Fall 2026** (tentative)

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 500 words, a bibliography for their proposed chapter, and a CV. Abstract Submissions should be sent via email to: transition.finance@concordia.ca by **November 30th, 2025**.

Submissions should be written in English using a non-technical writing style. The contributions may include diagrams/illustrations to present data, or photographs/figures (all in black & white) to better illustrate the topic of discussion. Submitted chapters should be original and exclusively prepared for the present book. No part of the article should be published elsewhere. Chapters must not exceed 7,000 words (including all references, appendices, biographies, etc.), must use 1.5-line spacing and 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and must use the APA 7th edition reference style.

To conform to the policies of Palgrave Macmillan on AI use (which you can read in full here: <https://www.springernature.com/it/authors/publish-a-book/manuscript-guidelines>) we do not accept AI models as authors of content, we require any use of large language models (LLMs) to be documented in an acknowledgement section, and we do not accept figures created by generative AI. Please note that all chapters will be checked for plagiarism and AI use.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For inquiries, please email transition.finance@concordia.ca

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Thomas Walker

Thomas Walker is a full professor in the Department of Finance at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, and serves as executive director of the Institute for Sustainable Finance (ISF). Prior to his academic career, he worked for several years in the German consulting and industrial sector at such firms as Mercedes Benz, Utility Consultants International, Lahmeyer International, Telenet, and KPMG. His research interests are in sustainable finance, banking, emerging risk management, and fintech, and he has published over eighty journal articles and twenty books in these areas. Since 2021, he is the director for the Jacques M nard - BMO Centre for Capital Markets at Concordia University and the Concordia University Research Chair in Emerging Risk Management (Tier 1).

Dieter Gramlich

Dieter Gramlich is a Professor of Banking & Finance at DHBW - Baden-W rttemberg Cooperative State University Heidenheim, where he serves as the head of the banking department. He received his PhD from the University of Mannheim and his Habilitation degree from the University of Halle. His main research focuses on financial risk and return management, systemic financial stability, and sustainable finance. He has published widely in these areas and has co-edited several books on the subject. He was the deputy chair of banking and finance at the University of Halle, a visiting professor at Cleveland State University and the Cleveland Federal Reserve Bank and is a recurring visiting scholar at Concordia University, Montreal, where he recently co-founded the Emerging Risks Information Center.

Hanna Murray

Hanna Murray is a third-year PhD student in the Department of History at Concordia University. Her research interests focus primarily on twentieth century U.S. history, the American empire in the Philippines, and the early twentieth century conservation movement. She supports the team at the Emerging Risks Information Centre (ERIC) as both an editor and research associate.

Raheleh Sarraf

Raheleh Sarraf holds an MSc in Finance from Concordia University, where she specialized in asset pricing, financial data analytics, and econometrics. She also earned an MSc in Financial Engineering and a BSc in Textile Engineering. Her background in engineering and industry—spanning roles in sales, data analysis, and industrial operations—shapes her data-driven approach to finance. She has received multiple academic honors, including Concordia’s Strategic Merit Scholarship, a national top-five graduate ranking, and several fellowships for excellence. At Concordia, she was a Teaching Assistant for finance courses and a Specialist at the Formula Growth Investment Lab. In 2025, she joined the Emerging Risks Information Center (ERIC) as a Research Assistant, where she contributes to projects on environmental, technological, and societal risks in global finance. Her research interests focus on sustainable and transition finance,

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econometrics, and risk management, with an emphasis on how finance can support low-carbon economies.