

## Editor's Note

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# EDITOR'S NOTE

The *Sustainable Development Law & Policy Brief* strives to confront and analyze legal and political issues entailed in achieving economic and environmentally friendly goals during a period of rapid industrialization. The private sector, while often scrutinized for its role in environmental degradation, has a significant part to play in sustainable development. This participation has been envisioned through market based approaches, such as sustainable supply chains, corporate social responsibility, investment in green technology, and green finance. However, challenges and criticism still remain as the private sector begins to participate in sustainable development initiatives.

This issue features three articles that broadly address how the private sector can both contribute to and hinder sustainable development initiatives. Mr. Luke Trompeter's article, *Green is Good: How Green Bonds Cultivated in Wall Street's Environmental Paradox*, explores the creation and purpose of green bonds and posits that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") are best suited to provide clear definitions and disclosure laws for green bond projects. This helps ensure the investments using green bonds are actually used for "green" projects as these bonds enter mainstream investment. Ms. Kate Nancy Taylor's article, *Appraising the Role of the IFC and its Independent Accountability Mechanism: Community Experiences in Haiti's Mining Sector*, scrutinizes the role played by the International Financial Corporation ("IFC") during the 2010 Eurasian Minerals Inc. mining investment exploration in Northern Haiti. Ms. Taylor looks to the extent at which the IFC was able to enhance environmental and social outcomes as well as public accountability of the project. Lastly, Lindsay Breslau, Michael Croweak, & Alan Witt's article, *Batteries Included: Incentivizing Energy Storage*, explores how certain U.S. states are incentivizing the access and use of Distributed Energy Storage (DES) technologies, which allow households and businesses to store substantial amounts of electricity on site. This article offers suggestions for improving

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upon them to better incentivize DES development and clear the way for these important technologies to revolutionize electricity generation and distribution in the twenty-first century.

On behalf of the *Sustainable Development Law & Policy Brief*, we would like to thank this issue's authors for their time and effort to make this publication possible. These insights offer a unique approach to complex and increasingly vital issues that we face as global citizens. We would also like to thank our hard working staff members for the time they committed to ensure this publication is of the highest quality. Finally, we would like to thank our readers for their continuing interest and support over the past several years.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Reynolds  
Co-Editor in Chief



Ryan Schmidt  
Co-Editor in Chief