Sustainable finance in sustainable agriculture

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Sustainable agriculture – an oxymoron?

• Agriculture contribution to global GHGs - more than 1/4\textsuperscript{th} of total GHG emissions
• No global understanding of ESG
• Differences based on culture, historic responsibility, levels of development and food security
• Sustainable agriculture OR sustainability in food systems
Examples of legal contours of Sustainable Ag

The term “sustainable agriculture” means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long-term—

• satisfy human food and fiber needs
• enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agriculture economy depends;
• make the most efficient use of non-renewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;
• sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and
• enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.
• The Technical Screening Criteria - used to determine whether economic activities “contribute substantially” to each environmental objective, and therefore can be considered sustainable

• TSC for Agriculture and Forestry - *Substantial contribution to climate change mitigation*

  ➢ reduced emissions from ongoing land and animal management;

  ➢ increased removals of carbon from the atmosphere and storage in above and below ground biomass through ongoing land and animal management, up to the limit of saturation levels; and

  ➢ the agricultural activity is not being carried out on land that was previously deemed to be ‘of high carbon stock’.
Asian perspectives

• Rise in consumer demand plant-based alternatives
• Cell-based meat – Eat Just
• Resource Sustainability Act, Singapore (Food waste)
• TK, sustainable agriculture practices (complete ban versus just transitions) – rubber, palm oil