

Impact Case Study:

Green Supply Chains: Financing Sustainable Steel Products

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CHANNEL

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About Channel

Channel Capital Advisors **LLP** is the FCA authorised and regulated unit Channel Digital Holdings Ltd. a London based firm using technology to fund the specialty finance and innovation sectors.

Founded: 2007 Location: London, UK **Funds**: Open pooled funds, SMAs and co-investment

Share class: Traditional and Sharia compliant certificates Volume: \$25 billion of

financina Website:

www.channelcapital.io

1. At a glance (source: Symbia)

90% of environmental impact is related directly to supply chains

71% of all new ships comply with the Paris climate accords

The Gig Economy for Freelancers and the Financing Gap

"Green Supply Chains" as well as re-shoring of the supply chain have both received a big boost since the COVID-19 pandemic and the outbreak of war in Ukraine in 2022. However, these initiatives require funding - including new balance sheet financing for trade.



One sector, the metals and mining industries, require significant investment. Recent research indicates that metals & mining companies represent a further \$130 billion of Green Capex re-investment starting from 2023 onwards. Channel has a long-standing focus on ESG and Impact activities, including selectively considering the "green metals" market relating to lowcarbon economy firms and re-cycling. Channel selectively originates lending opportunities that embrace circular economy practices, or firms that increasingly focusing on re-purposing their inputs and processes that would otherwise be more energy intensive to produce as primary goods.

2. The Challenge

The process of refining primary metals is an energy intensive process, with aluminium and steel estimated to contribute between 2% to 7%2 alone of all global CO2 emissions. But can finance team up with players in the circular economy (and green metals in particular) to offer promise for a better more sustainable green supply chain?

1. Goldman Sachs, 2022

2. White & Case, 2022

3. EU, 2022

3. Outcome and Impact

Outcome - Green steel production typically uses significantly less energy than primary metal refining. Smelting scrap metal for recycling requires less energy than the initial process of refining raw minerals into metals, thus lowering emissions Further, with the re-scoping of supply chains since the COVID pandemic, countries and firms both are looking for alternative sources of metal, including re-cycled goods. Green steel goods are in high demand supporting growing needs in the automation, data centers/semi-conductor, cyber, electricity, construction and automotive industries. Regulatory authorities have encouraged buyers of refined products to switch to green metals. The European Circular Aluminium Action Plan has established a 50 percent target for re-cycled aluminium by 2030.3 Beyond regulation, there have been a series of marketbased incentives for firms to consider re-cycling measures, including demand-side pressure from consumers.

Impact - Our borrowers have increasingly focused on reducing direct emissions from their production facility processes. White & Case 2022 reports that up to 20% of global metal market output is now produced from green metals and scrap, notably in the US and the EU. Channel maps ESG data across its portfolio in order to contribute risk-based indicators. It also considers impact as well, that is impact upon stakeholders including our investee firms. Channel focuses on Sustainable Development Goal 8 and 9, as noted below.

Sustainable Development Goal 9 is to Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. As we continue the journey and continue to make new investments while evaluating impact, we will begin to incorporate further impact frameworks, including Theory of Change across the relevant investment portfolios. Our funding of selective players in the green metals space since 2021 demonstrate our continuation on this journey. Channel is proud to provide well structured funding facilities in support of quality borrowers in this sector.





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