



Steve Ford, Head of sustainability at GPT group

Presentation Title

TNFD Adoption in the property sector

Abstract

GPT recently released its first integrated Climate and Nature Disclosure Statement with the aim to transparently report GPT's processes to identify and manage risks and opportunities associated with climate change and other nature related matters. Disclosure is an important element of GPT's Nature Plan with a long term plan of achieving nature positive outcomes and being resilient to impacts of climate change, loss of biodiversity, water scarcity and flooding. Steve will share learnings from GPT's Nature Plan and TNFD disclosure development.

Biography

Steve Ford is the Head of Sustainability at The GPT Group. He has worked in sustainability in the property industry for the past 18 years and in that time been at the forefront of delivering improved environmental outcomes in retail, commercial office and logistics properties.

Steve joined the property industry after a successful decade working in scientific communications including being instrumental in the establishment of National Science Week and delivering insightful environmental sustainability programs at the Australian Museum. Initially the move to property provided Steve the opportunity to expand into social sustainability, working with literally hundreds of community groups and developing strategies to maximise the value returned to communities by shopping

centres. The highlight of this period of Steve's career was marked as an international shopping centre awards finalist with a program that engaged more men in children's education.

Once established in the industry, his sustainability remit quickly expanded to again include a focus of environmental sustainability. Since joining GPT, Steve has led efforts to improve circular economy process driven by more transparent and accurate data and reporting with his work being instrumental in the establishment the NABERS Waste ratings.

His work on biodiversity has been utilised in the GBCA's Greenstar Performance tools and has resulted in a large uplift in GPT nature-related risk review and disclosure process with GPT being the early adopter of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure reporting framework.

Over much of the 6 years, Steve has also driven GPT to become international leader in climate response, with additional contributions to the property industry. He led and delivered GPT's Net Zero Plan which was acknowledged achieved the first Carbon Neutral certified prime property portfolio internationally by the World Green Building Council in 2020. To prepare for this, Steve worked with NABERS and Climate Active to align with the GHG Protocols and develop pathways for many property types for independent certification of net zero outcomes. In 2022, he pushed the boundaries further with Australia's first Upfront Embodied Carbon Neutral Climate Active certified development.

In tandem with decarbonisation, Steve has driven GPT's climate adaptation planning and uplift in climate risk reviews and disclosures. He has contributed to the improved disclosures standards through the TCFD Knowledge Hub, sharing learnings in industry conferences and recent consultation with the International Sustainability Standards Board.

Most recently Steve led the delivery of GPT's first Climate and Nature Disclosure Statement which attempts to provide an integrated disclosure aligning with the TCFD, TNFD and ISSB.

Steve is known for being passionate about evidence-led decision making, and educating and engagement with broad audience on all things sustainability.