



## RBC Global Asset Management launches a sustainable investment research programme with the University of Exeter

### Press release

**9 November 2022 (London):** Royal Bank of Canada's Global Asset Management business (RBC GAM) will collaborate with the Exeter Sustainable Finance Centre within the University of Exeter Business School to support an innovative new research programme.

Led by Professor Chendi Zhang, Director of the Exeter Sustainable Finance Centre, the RBC Global Asset Management Sustainable Investment Research Programme will look at how climate risk exposure and sustainable finance more generally affect the risk-return trade-off of assets.

RBC Global Asset Management's funding is matched by support from the University of Exeter Business School and the two-year research programme has allowed the University to recruit a new Postdoctoral Research Fellow to commence the research, under Professor Zhang's supervision. It will also include collaborations with experienced research leads in other departments across the University. The programme will provide academic leadership, as well as a credible and visible evidence base for the development of new initiatives to enhance understanding of the ways in which climate risk and sustainability affect investment returns.

Professor Zhang said: "We have seen a remarkable growth in sustainable investing in the past decade. Climate change and its implications for financial markets have drawn increasing attention from investors and policy makers but an important question still to be addressed is how climate risk and sustainability affects asset returns.

"This research programme will provide insights into what impact these sustainability factors are expected to have in the future, and whether climate change can be used as a distinct investment factor."

Melanie Adams, VP & Head, Corporate Governance & Responsible Investment at RBC Global Asset Management said: "We are excited to take part in this programme. RBC Global Asset Management is committed to responsible investing, to assess ESG risks and opportunities and help our clients meet their investment objectives. In an increasingly complex economic landscape, where environmental and social factors may have a greater potential impact on alpha, this programme will help to understand these risk exposures and the opportunities for more sustainable investment decisions in the future."

### Notes to Editors

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RBC BlueBay Asset Management has deep-rooted expertise across equity sub-asset classes, designed to provide investors with optimal active investment strategies specific to the asset class opportunities and which incorporate responsible investing approaches as part of their investment strategies.

It also has a specialist fixed income investment platform – BlueBay – structured to deliver outcomes tailored for investors seeking to enhance the returns of their portfolios, investing globally for clients across corporate and sovereign debt, rates and FX. This platform incorporates ESG into the investment process for applicable investment strategies, ensuring investors are well positioned to benefit from investment opportunities across all sub-asset classes and geographic regions.

RBC Global Asset Management manages approximately US\$486 billion in assets and has approximately 1,500 employees.

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