

## **Transcript: Jonathan Dean**

What's in here?

My name is Jonathan Dean, I head the private market impact investing strategy at AXA Investment Managers.

I've been with the firm over 12 years and I'm based in London.

And when we're talking about impact investing, it's a new investment discipline where we're seeking to generate market rate financial returns, alongside materially positive benefits to society and the environment, which are measurable.

But at AXA investment managers, through the impact investing platform, again, this has its very roots in responsible investing.

But going beyond traditional disciplines of avoiding irresponsible companies.

But instead, going far beyond that and looking at companies that are making a materially positive difference, those that are going to make a change.

The team is empowered to bring innovative ideas, innovative solutions to the biggest challenges facing society today.

We see the importance not only of managing our clients' money for financial return, but doing it in the right way and building a better future.

So if I take climate change as an example, it's never out of the headline.

And so to know that we as a team are investing in solutions to the largest climate problems, it really instils this value amongst us as employees and certainly heightens this feeling that responsible investment is not just a nice-to-have today, but it is a must-have to be a successful investor.

The whole foundation of an investment strategy is looking at solutions which address climate change.

Whether that's a circular-economy, sustainable packaging business in Europe, or a smallholder forestry business in Kenya, we are taking a diversified global approach to building a better tomorrow through our investment strategy.

So it really is a very empowering exercise.

It's very rewarding for the team.

And it brings them a lot of satisfaction when we hit not only important milestones at the underlying company level, but when we deliver the ultimate outcomes for our client and how we're all contributing towards moving the ball forward.