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As SAVP, Group Director, Sustainability & Impact, Mark Watson leads the Group's sustainability and impact function, leveraging 30 years of expertise in the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) fields. He is responsible for the development and steering of the Group's core sustainability strategy and initiatives, financial governance, formal reporting, as well as communication and partnerships efforts.

Prior to joining Banyan Group, Mark served as Senior Managing Director and Head of ESG Advisory for APAC at Teneo, a US-headquartered CEO advisory firm. In this role, he provided strategic sustainability counsel to leadership teams of major regional corporations.

Previously, he was the Global Head of Sustainability for John Swire & Sons Ltd., the holding company of the Swire Group, a global conglomerate with operations in aviation, shipping, real estate, industrials, and clean-tech. At Swire, he was Head of Environmental Affairs for Cathay Pacific Airways from 2008 to 2016, where he led the airline's decarbonisation strategy and played a key role in developing the United Nations' carbon offset scheme for international aviation.

Mark spent his early career advising the UK government on responsible tourism and ecotourism initiatives. He has also worked extensively in the Global South, advising governments, corporations, and international aid organisations on diverse ESG challenges. Notably, he led a major environmental poverty reduction programme in Yunnan Province for the Government of the People's Republic of China in the early 2000s.

Mark holds a Doctorate in Geography from the University of London, earned in 1996 after three years working with the Government of Barbados on environmental, housing, and social inclusion projects. His thesis was published as "Housing in Barbados: Evolution or Revolution?" by the University of the West Indies Press in 1996.