

New  
Private Markets

# Impact & Transition Investor Summit North America 2024

12-13 November | The Westin Times Square, New York

*The leading event series for impact investing in private markets*

Event website: [www.peievents.com/en/event/impact-investor-summit-north-america](http://www.peievents.com/en/event/impact-investor-summit-north-america)

**Confirmed 2024 speakers include:**

- Ron Gonen, Founder and CEO, **Closed Loop Partners**
- Jennifer Kenning, CEO & Co-Founder, **Align Impact**
- Daniel Pianko, Managing Director, **Achieve Partners**
- Roraj Pradhananga, Co-Chief Investment Officer, **Veris Wealth Partners**
- Mark Berryman, Managing Director, **Caprock**
- Mark Hays, Managing Director, Director of Sustainable and Impact Investing, **Glenmede**
- Marieke Spence, Executive Director, **Impact Capital Managers**
- Jennifer Pryce, President and CEO, **Calvert Impact**
- Jonathan Hirschtritt, Managing Director, Sustainability, **GCM Grosvenor**
- Fran Seegull, President, **U.S. Impact Investing Alliance**
- Alexandra Farmer, Partner, ESG & Impact, **Kirkland & Ellis**
- Andrew Siwo, Director of Sustainable Investments and Climate Solutions, **New York State Common Retirement Fund**
- Jed Emerson, Chief Impact Officer, **ALTi Tiedemann Global**
- Mike McCreless, Founder and Executive Director, **Impact Frontiers**
- Jyoti Aggarwala, Senior ESG Consultant & Private Markets Business Development Professional, **Private Capital Raise**

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- Holland Davis, Principal, **HarbourVest**
- Jessie Duncan, Program Director, **Tipping Point Fund on Impact Investing**
- Daniel Firger, Advisor, Sustainable Finance, **Bezos Earth Fund**
- Régine Clément, President and Chief Executive Officer, **CREO Syndicate**
- Edmund Piro, CIO, **McConnell Foundation**
- Laurie Lane-Zucker, Founder and CEO, **Impact Entrepreneur**
- Bhavika Vyas, Managing Director, Impact Investing, **Stepstone Group**
- Diane Damskey, Secretariat Emeritus, **Operating Principles for Impact Management**
- Priya Parrish, Partner and Chief Investment Officer, **Impact Engine**
- Bill Orum, Partner, **Capricorn Investment Group**
- Jessica Pan, Principal, Private Equity, **APG**
- Joohee Rand, Head of Secretariat / Director, Impact Principles, **GIIN**
- Chavon Sutton, Senior Investment Director, Sustainable & Impact Investing Research, **Cambridge Associates**
- Micah Kotch, Partner, **Blackhorn Ventures**
- Amanda Feldman, Managing Director & Head of Impact Engagement, **Sonen Capital**
- Liz Roberts, Head of Impact Investing, **MassMutual**
- Kate Huntington, Head of Advisory Solutions Group and Managing Director, **Fiduciary Trust International**
- Jack Moriarty, Executive Director, **Lafayette Square Institute**
- Avantika Saisekar, Managing Director of Sustainable Investing, **Wafra**
- Danielle Joseph, Managing Director, **Closed Loop Partners**
- Kelly Gauthier, President, **Rally Assets**
- Sheena Strawter-Anthony, Director of Impact Investment Strategy, **William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund**
- Daniel Firger, Advisor, Sustainable Finance, **Bezos Earth Fund**
- Pooja Yadav, Principal, **Azarine**
- Marie-Celine Damnon, Investment Associate, **Capricorn Investment Group**
- Nick Dilks, Managing Partner, **Ecosystem Investment Partners**
- Mark Canavan, Head of Real Assets, **New Mexico Educational Retirement Board**

## Draft agenda

### Day one - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

8.00 *Networking breakfast and registration*

9.00 *PEI welcome*

9.05 *Chair's opening remarks*

#### 9.20 **Plenary #1: The state of the impact market**

- What are the trends in system-level investing and how can they complement impact investing efforts?
- How are corporates' sustainability efforts driving opportunities in the impact market for exits and allocations?
- What is the incentive to being an impact investor currently?
- How is impact driving alpha?

- Jed Emerson, Chief Impact Officer, **ALTi Tiedemann Global**  
Bill Orum, Partner, **Capricorn Investment Group**

#### 10.00 **Plenary #2: Policy, regulations, and politics: the US election result and the implications for impact investing**

- With over a third of countries globally going to the ballot in 2024, what sort of future political environment are we seeing take shape?
- What will be the long-term impact of the assaults on ESG and DE&I investing?
- What is the future of climate change action in US government policy?
- What are the issues that have bipartisan agreement within the scope of impact investing?

Fran Seegull, President, **U.S. Impact Investing Alliance**

Jack Moriarty, Executive Director, **Lafayette Square Institute**

10.45 *Break*

#### 11.15 **Plenary #3: Allocator outlook: what is driving investment to impact funds for different types of LPs?**

- How have asset owners reacted to the new regulatory landscape vis a vis SFDR and SEC guidance (fund naming rules)?

- What investment themes resonate most and where do challenges exist?
- What factors have driven challenges in fundraising?
- How has the sentiment for investments in climate-oriented strategies evolved, particularly across regions?

Moderated by Alexandra Farmer, Partner, ESG & Impact, **Kirkland & Ellis**

Andrew Siwo, Director of Sustainable Investments and Climate Solutions, **New York State Common Retirement Fund**

Mark Berryman, Managing Director, **Caprock**

Jessica Pan, Principal, Private Equity, **APG**

12.00 **Day one keynote**

12.20 **Plenary #4: Deep dive into transition investing: scalability, returns prospects and impact**

- How are the transition-labelled funds in the market deploying their capital?
- Where is the alpha in transition investing?
- Have 'tourist' investors had a damaging effect on the impact ecosystem in terms of valuations or investor sentiment?
- How is the impact market digesting the opportunities flowing out of the Inflation Reduction Act?

Moderated by Daniel Pianko, Managing Director, **Achieve Partners**

13.00 Lunch

After lunch the conference splits into three streams, the streamed sessions are designed for you to hear from best-in-theme managers and get detailed insights on the innovations, trends and investment opportunities on the horizon.

	Social impact	Transition investing	Nature & environment
14.00-14.45	<p><b>Addressing growing inequality and social justice: what models have scale potential?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social impact funds resonate most with their locally based investors, what can be done to increase their appeal to other types of investors?</li> <li>• What models provide the most promise in scaling impact on inequality?</li> <li>• Is it possible to both provide above market returns and deliver genuine impact on the ground in a social context?</li> <li>• Does social <i>private</i> capital have a contradiction at the heart of the concept?</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by Joohee Rand, Head of Secretariat, Director, <b>Impact Principles, GIIN</b></p> <p>Jessie Duncan, Program Director, <b>Tipping Point Fund on Impact Investing</b></p> <p>Liz Roberts, Head of Impact Investing, <b>MassMutual</b></p> <p>Sheena Strawter-Anthony, Director of Impact Investment Strategy, <b>William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund</b></p>	<p><b>Climate and energy transition in the US: understanding the investment opportunities in light of the IRA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which aspect of the energy transition is underfunded?</li> <li>• How is the IRA funding being digested by the market?</li> <li>• What is the next wave of energy transition opportunities and how does it intersect with impact investing?</li> <li>• How much price inflation are we seeing for “grade-A” climate assets?</li> </ul> <p>Jonathan Hirschtritt, Managing Director, Sustainability, <b>GCM Grosvenor</b></p> <p>Holland Davis, Principal, <b>HarbourVest</b></p>	<p><b>Nature impact investing: how to make money off carbon and nature?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How dependant are nature investments on the carbon markets, and to what extent is this a strategic risk?</li> <li>• What are the fundamentals driving viability of natural capital as investments?</li> <li>• How are managers active in the market deploying their capital?</li> <li>• What are the environmental objectives and impact goals of nature funds?</li> </ul> <p>Pooja Yadav, Principal, <b>Azarine</b></p> <p>Nick Dilks, Managing Partner, <b>Ecosystem Investment Partners</b></p> <p>Mark Canavan, Head of Real Assets, <b>New Mexico Educational Retirement Board</b></p>

14.45-14.50	<i>Changeover break</i>		
14.50-15.35	<p><b>Deep dive into the future of work, education and skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the risks of the growing skills gap and labor shortage problem being felt by fast-growing industries?</li> <li>• What is the future of education and reskilling: universities, online courses, intensive bootcamps?</li> <li>• How are funds active in the workforce development and education market faring in the current market, in terms of deployment?</li> <li>• Where is the alpha opportunity for investors active in the scape?</li> </ul>	<p><b>How to invest in industrial decarbonisation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are corporates looking to decarbonise their operations and supply chains?</li> <li>• Which technologies are being used to decarbonise?</li> <li>• How capital intensive are industrial decarbonisation solutions?</li> <li>• What are some examples of good brown-to-green investment stories?</li> </ul> <p>Micah Kotch, Partner, <b>Blackhorn Ventures</b></p>	<p><b>Climate resilience &amp; adaptation: going beyond mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is climate adaption largely an infrastructure investment story (e.g. reinforced river banks and flood prevention?)</li> <li>• How is funding for climate adaptation taking place currently across public and private investing?</li> <li>• What are some of the best examples of climate adaptation around the world?</li> <li>• What is the landscape of investors that are exploring climate resilience theme?</li> </ul> <p>Avantika Saisekar, Managing Director of Sustainable Investing, <b>Wafra</b></p>
15.35-16.00	<i>Networking break</i>		
16.00-16.45	<p><b>DE&amp;I: what does the future of DE&amp;I investing hold?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the best practices in building diverse manager portfolios?</li> <li>• What is the state of diverse investment targets in the wake of SCOTUS rulings and the Fearless Fund litigation?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Artificial intelligence deep dive: how to approach this seismic investment opportunity (and risk)?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can impact funds get exposure to AI?</li> <li>• How is AI being applied to address social and environmental issues right now?</li> <li>• What can funds and investors do to get ahead of the disruption curve?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ocean health and blue economy: a growing asset class</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which types of assets are ocean funds targeting?</li> <li>• Ocean and blue funds are a relative recent development, what are the fundamentals and basics of the sector?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is the future of DE&amp;I likely to evolve?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can AI be leveraged for bettering impact management and measurement?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the return and impact potential of ocean funds?</li> <li>• What are the challenges of allocating toward ocean impact from an LP perspective?</li> </ul> <p>Diane Damskey, Secretariat Emeritus, <b>Operating Principles for Impact Management</b></p>
16.45-16.50	Changeover break		
16.50-17.35	<p><b>Blended finance: a new dawn for an old idea</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can blended finance be used to scale capital flows to impact?</li> <li>• Is the blended finance model being applied to non-emerging-market-related investments?</li> <li>• What case studies are there of genuine innovation in the impact market in terms of structures?</li> <li>• Why hasn't blended finance been a bigger thing to date?</li> </ul> <p>Laurie Lane-Zucker, Founder and CEO, <b>Impact Entrepreneur</b></p> <p>Daniel Firger, Advisor, Sustainable Finance, <b>Bezos Earth Fund</b></p>	<p><b>Climate justice: what's the investment case?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What types of assets are included in a climate justice thesis?</li> <li>• Is climate justice a concessionary strategy?</li> <li>• Is this just a new fad in the way of an investment theme, what's the case for its long-term relevance to investors?</li> <li>• Who are the funds and LPs already active in this theme in North America?</li> </ul> <p>Roraj Pradhananga, Co-Chief Investment Officer, <b>Veris Wealth Partners</b></p>	<p><b>Future of sustainable materials and metals: mining vs circularity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can mining metals (for the energy transition) be an impact investment?</li> <li>• What investment opportunities are there in transition metals mining?</li> <li>• Is circularity a better route to sustainable materials supply for consumption?</li> <li>• What are the material requirements needed to actualise a systemic transition to an 'electrified economy'?</li> </ul>

17.35 Evening networking reception

## Day two - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

7.30 Networking breakfast and registration

Morning workshops			
8.00-9.30	<p><b>Developing an impact contract toolkit</b></p> <p>Contracts facilitate collection of impact data from third parties and achievement of impact goals that relate to sponsors' investment portfolios or operations. In this session, we'll explore some of the drivers for impact contract uplift (e.g., commitments, regulation, risk mitigation), and provide an overview of different contract tools (e.g., reps and warranties, covenants, indemnities, information rights).</p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to share their experiences integrating impact into different types of contracts, including challenges and strategies for overcoming those challenges.</p> <p>K&amp;E will provide tips for how sponsors can identify key contracts with respect to both investments and portfolio companies, and then develop a set of tools that can be deployed by sponsor and portfolio company personnel.</p>	<p><b>GP workshop: the measurement &amp; metrics of impact performance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is reporting being done for reporting's sake?</li> <li>• How are advances and innovation in impact benchmarking being felt in the reporting sphere?</li> <li>• What can be done to ease the cost burden (both monetary and time) of doing impact reporting well?</li> <li>• What are the best practice norms that are emerging?</li> </ul> <p>Mike McCreless, Founder and Executive Director, <b>Impact Frontiers</b></p> <p>Daniel Firger, Advisor, Sustainable Finance, <b>Bezos Earth Fund</b></p>	<p><b>LP workshop: Impact allocator working group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What filters are investors using to screen bad impact investments?</li> <li>• What are the best practices for engaging with impact fund managers?</li> <li>• How are different investors doing due diligence?</li> <li>• How are LPs using impact data?</li> </ul> <p>Bhavika Vyas, Managing Director, Impact Investing, <b>Stepstone Group</b></p> <p>Keren Raz, Senior RI Manager - Global Private Equity, <b>APG</b></p>



		Kelly Gauthier, President, <b>Rally Assets</b>	
09.30-9.45	Short morning break		
9.45-10.30	<p><b>Buyout, secondaries, GP-stakes and beyond: which impact strategies and products are gaining traction?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact buyout playbook: how different is it to a mainstream strategy?</li> <li>• Are we seeing more impact buyout strategies being launched?</li> <li>• What does the future of impact secondaries hold?</li> <li>• Are new product launches reflecting the impact potential of these products (or is it to meet investor demand)?</li> </ul> <p>Priya Parrish, Partner and Chief Investment Officer, <b>Impact Engine</b></p> <p>Marie-Celine Damnon, Investment Associate, <b>Capricorn Investment Group</b></p>	<p><b>LP-GP speed networking</b></p> <p>In this session we'll have speed networking between funds and allocators. A great way to meet 10 new people with 4-minute per meeting.</p> <p>Please note, places are limited. Apply here if you are an allocator (LP) and here if you are a fund manager (GP). PEI will confirm the week before the event to those that have been accepted and more details on the format.</p>	
10.30-11.00	Networking break		
11.00-11.45	<p><b>Differentiating an impact fund in a crowd: what's the secret sauce to impact fundraising success?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's been the secret of the funds that have really outperformed in fundraising (e.g. Ara Partners)?</li> <li>• How to differentiate fundraising efforts when going after market-rate LP (such as pensions) and impact-orientated investors (such as family offices, foundations or endowments)?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Elevator pitches: The best up-and-coming managers across impact investment themes</b></p> <p>In this new format session, you'll be hearing from some of the most innovative and exciting emerging managers in the North America impact market. We'll hear a set of 5-minute pitches from five of the most exciting managers we've found in the</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to fundraise in the US in the wake of the ESG backlash?</li> <li>• Where are the new pools capital that are more inclined towards impact or sustainable funds?</li> </ul> <p>Jyoti Aggarwala, Senior ESG Consultant &amp; Private Markets Business Development Professional, <b>Private Capital Raise</b></p>	<p>impact market, followed by an open Q+A with the speakers facilitated by the chair.</p> <p>We are committed to providing a platform for new managers that are doing exceptional work.</p>
<p>11.45-12.30</p>	<p><b>Going all in: Operationalising a 100% impact portfolio commitment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are foundations that have committed to 100% impact portfolio going about implementing the target?</li> <li>• How are 100% impact investors filtering opportunities?</li> <li>• What are the key differences in terms of the investment process relative to a standard market-rate investor?</li> <li>• How is the collective pool of impact-orientated capital likely to grow?</li> </ul> <p>Edmund Piro, CIO, <b>McConnell Foundation</b>  Mark Hays, Managing Director, Director of Sustainable and Impact Investing, <b>Glenmede</b>  Amanda Feldman, Managing Director &amp; Head of Impact Engagement, <b>Sonen Capital</b>  Kate Huntington, Head of Advisory Solutions Group and Managing Director, <b>Fiduciary Trust International</b></p>	<p><b>Interactive session: the leading impact companies in the market</b></p> <p>Stories make investing exciting, relatable and tangible. In this session we'll be hearing from leaders and founders of companies that have powerful impact stories. We'll explore what are the issues and societal challenges that they are trying to solve, how do they balance impact with the commercial imperative to make a profit, and more. The session will be a series of 4 presentations from each company, followed by Q+A.</p> <p>To give the session a bit of excitement, we'll be asking the audience to vote of which company they would hypothetically like to invest in, and then reveal the results to conclude the session.</p>

12.30 Lunch

13:30 **Presentation: Impact fundraising over the past year**

- Who are the biggest funds and allocators in impact investing?
- What are the most significant trends in allocation to impact investing?
- Which strategies and themes are gaining the most capital?

## 13.45 **Plenary #5: Debate: Impact delivers market rate returns**

*This is an Oxford-style debate in which we'll have two speakers for the proposition and two speakers against, with audience voting on their views at the start and at the end of the session. This session will be an off-the-record discussion.*

The substance of the debate is whether impact funds can deliver market rate returns – a questions that still seems to plague the market. This is a question that goes to the heart of what impact investing means to LPs and to the funds that label themselves as such. In the debate we'll explore questions including: what is market rate exactly, whether the claim of always being able to deliver market rate returns is disingenuous, and if impact funds can deliver the exact same returns as a mainstream PE funds, what sort of assets are they buying for their portfolios?

14:45 Short afternoon break

## 15.00 **Day two keynote: The Waste Free World - the proof and the potential of transitioning to a circular economy**

Ron Gonen, Founder and CEO, **Closed Loop Partners**

## 15:15 **Closing plenary #6: Deep tech, AI and more: what technologies give us a shot at a sustainable world?**

- What is the landscape of technologies and innovations that we should get excited about from an impact perspective?
- How are megatrends and tech progress resulting in deployment opportunities?
- Where are the moonshots and the low-hanging-fruit of the transition investment world?
- What is the role of impact investors in fostering and financing the next wave of tech-enabled sustainability?

Danielle Joseph, Managing Director, **Closed Loop Partners**

16.00 Closing remarks

16.10 End of conference



# Impact & Transition Investor Summit 2024

12-13 November  
The Westin Times Square, New York City