

# Responsible Investment Forum: West Palo Alto 2024

## Responsible Investment Forum: West 2024 Agenda

### Day one – September 4

08:00

#### **Developing an ESG Contract Toolkit – Breakfast Workshop**

- Explore some of the drivers for ESG 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)
- Share experiences on integrating ESG into different types of contracts, including challenges and strategies for overcoming those challenges
- Discover 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

**Moderator: Kirkland & Ellis**

09:00

#### **Chairperson's opening remarks**

09:05

#### **Allocators Panel: To what extent are sustainability considerations impacting investor allocations**

- Investigating emerging areas LPs are focusing on when evaluating fund managers
- Are investors concerned that the weight of data requests are impossible for smaller funds to handle?
- LP views on the effectiveness of ESG strategies in driving long-term value and mitigating risks
- Engaging with third party data providers on data requests

#### **Speakers:**

- **Katie Fackler**, Associate Portfolio Manager, **CalSTRS**
- **Mandira Reddy**, Director, **Capricorn Investment Group**
- **Bruce Hao**, Managing Director, **Builders Vision**
- **Kunal Doshi**, Chief Investment Officer, **Accelerate Investment Group**

# Responsible Investment Forum: West Palo Alto 2024

09:45

## **Fireside chat: Why the integration of sustainability is crucial from an investment standpoint**

### **Speakers:**

**Anna Foller**, Head of Sustainability, **AP6**

**Karl Eidmem**, Head of Buyout, **AP6**

10:10

## **The evolution of US private funds in addressing sustainability within their portfolios**

- Feast or famine – does impact / sustainability intentionality drive or constrain investible opportunity set?
- How do large investors view the sustainable investing across asset classes?
- Has the ESG ‘backlash’ had any impact on private funds’ approach to sustainability?
- How do current policies such as the IRA enhance or constrain technology risk appetite within sustainability-focused portfolios?

### **Speakers:**

- **Rhys Marsh**, Portfolio Manager, **LOIM Sustainable Private Credit**
- **Brook Porter**, Partner, **G2 Venture Partners**
- **Matt Kaczmarek**, Managing Director, **Blackrock**
- **Jeff Cohen**, Managing Director, Head of ESG & Sustainability, **Oak Hill Advisors**

10:50

## **Coffee & Networking**

11:05

## **Scope 3 & California State – Strategies for reduction and compliance**

- Exploring the current policies and regulations and how they drive positive change towards a more sustainable future
- How portcos are effectively measuring, managing and reducing their Scope 3 emissions
- Exploring methods to implement transparency and accountability in disclosing Scope 3 emissions
- What the Scope 3 Emissions California Law means for the rest of the US

### **Speaker:**

- **Teresa Yu**, ESG Product and Research, **Novata**

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11:40

## The integration of ESG into value creation plans

- How tech-driven solutions can drive value creation
- Balancing the long-term positive impact from sustainability initiatives when the benefits may be realised by subsequent owners
- Employing data-driven methodologies to move beyond anecdotal evidence, effectively demonstrating value and measuring outcomes of ESG initiatives
- Exploring the collaboration between the sustainability function, fund stakeholders and portfolio companies

Moderator: **Michael Littenberg**, Partner, **Ropes & Gray**

Speakers:

- **Johan Nordenson**, ESG Operating Partner, **Altamont Capital Partners**
- **Jessica Huang**, Private Equity, ESG, **Ares**
- **Jennifer Flood**, Sustainability, Head of North America, **Investindustrial**
- **Angela Jhanji**, Managing Director, Sustainability - Private Capital, **EQT Partners**

12:20

## Portfolio company perspectives on sustainability and ESG performance improvement

- How are portfolio companies balancing the expectations of their PE sponsors with their other stakeholders?
- Investigating the collaborative strategies employed by portfolio companies in partnership with their investors.
- What are the key ESG focus areas to improve performance and create real business value?
- Case studies of PE firms working effectively with portfolio companies

Speakers:

- **Elizabeth Crowe**, Vice President, Operations, **Angeles Equity Partners**
- **Amy Bevilacqua**, Managing Partner, **Green Street Impact Partners**
- **Laurel Peacock**, Head of ESG, **NGP Energy Capital Management**

13:00

Lunch

<b>Stream A:</b> <b>Sustainability and Impact</b>	<b>Stream B</b> <b>Emerging Investment Opportunities</b>
<b>14:00</b> <b>A deep dive into impact investing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As 'impact hushing' becomes a wider phenomenon, is the impact label a good thing for fundraising at present?</li></ul>	<b>14:00</b> <b>Adjusting to growing interest in climate adaptation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Where are investment opportunities in climate adaptation?</li></ul>

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- Is the age of the generalist impact investor over, and the future in thematic and specialist managers?
- What is the breakdown of venture, growth and buyout strategies from impact-orientated managers?

**Speakers:**

- **Christina Anzel**, Director, **Generation Investment Management**
- **Amy Francetic**, Managing General Partner, Co-Founder, **Buoyant Ventures**
- **Deborah La Franchi**, President, **SDS Capital Group**
- **Danielle Reed**, Managing Director, **Builders Vision**

- Examining the technologies capturing investor interest in climate adaptation
- To what extent do climate adaptation measures address the evolving challenges posed to the environment

**14:40**

**Transition investing and technology: marrying returns, impact and scale**

- What are the megatrends in sustainability investing that are prudent to align investments with?
- Which technologies and innovations will be driving the creation of financial value and returns in the coming decade?
- How are investors in decarbonisation and climate thinking about scalability of their impact?

**Speakers:**

- **Daryl Kennedy**, Sustainability & Investor Relations Manager, **Piva Capital**
- **Brian Wayne**, Managing Partner and Co-Founder, **CurvePoint Capital**

**2:40**

**The Grid's role in having a sustainable energy balance**

- How strategies to balance the grid meet fluctuating energy demands
- The role energy storage technologies (such as batteries and pumped hydro storage) play to store renewable energy during periods of low demand and improve grid reliability
- Evaluating risk and return profiles associated with Grid investments

**15:15**

**Coffee & networking**

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**15:45**

## **Addressing the G in ESG**

- Highlighting governance practises that focus on ethical decision making, transparency and accountability
- Examining the integration of governance principles to ensure responsible management of environmental and social risks
- The importance of board oversight in setting and implementing ethical guidelines, risk management strategies and accountability frameworks related to data governance and privacy

**15:45**

## **Exploring the changing landscape of investment opportunities in EV charging infrastructure**

- Analysing the increasing demand for EVs globally and the potential for market growth
- Exploring investment opportunities in the EV supply chain and assessing their sustainability
- How are investment considerations and business models changing and evolving?

**16:30**

## **Interactive Workshop**

### **Navigating the maze of ESG regulations**

- Exploring the methodologies and criteria used to evaluate sustainability labelling and ESG risks
- Discussing the implications for investors and how to incorporate sustainable regulations into their investment strategies
- Comparing the challenges and opportunities of the different reporting frameworks and standards and how they contribute to market transparency, investor confidence and risk management

Speakers:

- **Isela Rosales**, Managing Director, Global Head of Sustainability & Responsibility, **Bridge Investment Group**
- **Mark Green**, Senior Relationships Manager – US, **UNPRI**

**16:30**

## **Tech & Innovations Showcase**

*This unique session will highlight innovations with the potential to accelerate global decarbonization and halt climate change. Former winners of the prestigious BNEF Pioneers program will present on how their technology can be part of the solution. The audience will have the chance to quiz the presenters, and vote on which technology they would be most like to invest in.*

**17:15**

**Close of conference & cocktail reception**

# Responsible Investment Forum: West Palo Alto 2024

## Day 2: September 5

08:00-08:50

Invitation only **Breakfast Briefings** for LPs and GPs

09:00

### **Sustainability excellence presentations**

*Three fund managers will present innovative strategies that they use within their portfolios to address sustainability and drive value creation*

09:45

### **Ethical AI – Navigating the intersection of technology and morality**

- What do tech ethics look like from an AI perspective?
- Navigating the regulatory landscape on how to integrate AI into ESG monitoring processes
- Mitigating the social risks of integrating AI and the importance of “responsible information”
- Establishing the need for frameworks and common standards on AI ethics to ensure responsible development, deployment and use of artificial intelligence technologies

Speakers:

- **Zomo Fisher**, Head of Sustainability & ESG, **Hellman & Freidman**
- **Mohammad Rasouli**, AI Expert for Investment, **Stanford University**
- **Peter Dunbar**, Principal, Responsible Investment, **StepStone Group**

10:20

### **Navigating the Future: Understanding the impact of the US SEC Climate Rules**

- A deep dive into the US Securities and Exchange Commission’s proposed climate-related disclosure requirements
- Analysing the importance of transparency and accountability in addressing climate risks
- Dissecting the implications of the SEC regulations on investors in relation to climate reporting
- Practical guidance for ensuring compliance with the SEC’s rules on climate disclosures

Moderator: **Abbey Raish**, Partner, ESG & Impact, **Kirkland & Ellis**

11:00

**Networking break**

# Responsible Investment Forum: West Palo Alto 2024

11:30

## **Maximising value: ESG integration in exit strategies**

- Evaluating ESG performance and alignment with investor expectations prior to exit
- Navigating the increasing complexity of balancing goals: growth, environmental sustainability, operational efficiency and social impact
- Success stories: ESG metrics and reporting within an exit plan that demonstrated long-term sustainability and value creation

Moderator: **Ashim Paun**, Head of Sustainable Investing, **Triton Partners**

Speakers:

- **Lindsay Gibson**, ESG Lead, North America, **Permira**
- **Andy Caine**, COO & Partner, **Frazier Healthcare Partners**

12:10

## **Oxford style debate – This house believes ESG boosts returns in private equity**

12:50

## **Short break**

13.00

## **Interactive roundtable discussions over Lunch**

*A seated lunch enabling you to join a table of market participants with similar interests and expertise. Attendees will have a mix of tables to choose from, each table having a host to steer discussions.*

- Building a coherent plan for biodiversity
- Using ESG in fundraising
- Working with portfolio companies
- ESG in due diligence
- The role of AI in responsible investing and value creation