

# Responsible Investment Forum: Asia 2024 Agenda

Day one: October 29

08:00

**Networking breakfast and registration** 

09:00

Chair's opening remarks & Keynote: how the upcoming U.S. election will impact sustainability

Steven Okun, Southeast Asia Senior Advisor, Global Private Capital Association

09:25

The evolution of sustainability in Asian private equity

- The increasing prominence of locally based heads of ESG within Asia.
- Navigating talent acquisition in an evolving landscape
- How are local funds approaching sustainability vs. international funds with a foothold in Asia?
- Global perspectives on sustainability in Asian private equity

Priya Gopalan, Head of ESG, Northstar Group Adam Black, Partner, Head of ESG and Sustainability, Coller Capital Lisa Marie Djeng, ESG Lead- Asia Pacific Region, Ares Management Adrian Mucalov, Partner, Head of Long-Life Infrastructure, Actis

10.05

Working with investment teams and portfolio companies across multiple jurisdictions on ESG initiatives

- Strategies for fostering alignment and collaboration among investment teams and portfolio companies
- Communicating effectively to bridge the gap with the investment team
- Integrating ESG considerations into due diligence and throughout the investment cycle
- Strategies for navigating the diverse regulatory environments across Asian markets

Moderator: **Emma Bickerstaffe**, Managing Director - London, **Holtara**, **powered by Apex Group Erika Rodriguez**, Head of Sustainable Investing, APAC, **KKR** 



Jaclyn Seow, Director, Head of ESG & Impact and Head of Portfolio Success, Openspace Menno Veeneklaas, Strategy & ESG Operating Partner, Allegro Wong Dan Chi, Head of ESG Advisory and Integration, Asia Pacific, Schroders

10:45

**Networking Break** 

11:15

## **ESG Data Convergence Initiative Update**

- Update on progress in Asia compared with North America and Europe
- To what extent is the initiative helping LPs and GPs to solve the data challenge?
- How are firms leveraging data to gain new insights and drive value creation?
- Highlighting potential collaborative opportunities and outlining the roadmap for further advancing the initiative

Moderator: Daniel Oehling, Managing Director & Partner, BCG
Co-Facilitator: Ben Morley, Partner and Associate Director, BCG
Alex Forster, Principal, Primary Fund Investments, Alpinvest Partners
Lincoln Pan, Partner, Co-Head Private Equity, PAG
Bence Szegedi, Senior Director, Navis Capital Partners
Sarah Pang, Executive Director, Head of ESG & Sustainability, Affinity Equity Partners

12:00

## GP/LP data dialogue: making data useful for investing

- How sophisticated our Asian LPs data requests vs. European and US counterparts?
- Considering regional distinctions between LPs in different regions
- Overcoming issues with sharing portfolio company data
- Strategies for reducing the workload for GPs

Natasha Buckley, Principal, ESG, HarbourVest Partners
Charis Goh, Principal, Head of Directs Asia Pacific, Unigestion
Mervin Teo, Managing Director, Alternatives, Fullerton Fund Management
Kyle Flick, Director, ESG Services, Novata

## 12:40

## Strategically embedding ESG into value creation plans

- Insights into the collaborative approaches adopted by ESG leaders in working alongside value creation and investment teams
- Exploring the extent to which the implementation of sustainability practices enhances resilience within private equity investments

New Private Markets

Responsible Investment Forum Asia 2024

- Strategies for effectively measuring the impact of ESG integration on value creation outcomes
- Case studies from real PE investments in Asia

Moderator: **Saurabh Dhingra**, EY-Parthenon Asean Financial Services Strategy Leader, **Ernst & Young Solutions** 

Nana Li, Head of Sustainability & Stewardship, Asia Pacific, Impax Asset Management Jo Saleeba, Global Head of Sustainability & Impact, New Forests Rebekah Earp, ESG Director, CVC

13:15

Lunch

14:00

## The state of the Asian impact investing market

- What is the appetite from local LPs interested in impact funds?
- What are the main investment themes which are taking off in Asia's impact market?
- How are existing funds deploying their capital?
- To what extent is the impact label necessary, does it just add a reporting burden?

**Thomas Walenta**, Fund of Funds Co-Head for Asia-Pacific and Europe, **responsAbility Investments** 

Fernanda Lima, Partner, LeapFrog Investments

Maud Savary-Mornet, Senior Advisor for Asia, Global Impact Investing Network Julien Mialaret, Operating Partner, Eurazeo

Edris Boey, Enterprise Risk Management (ESG), Eastspring Investments

14:40

## Managing complex supply chains in Asian private equity

- What questions are investors asking managers on supply chains?
- Which issues and risks are most concerning for investors?
- Strategies for enhancing transparency and accountability across the supply chain
- How should global managers be communicating with their investors on supply chain issues?

Lisa Genasci, Managing Director, Sustainable Finance, ADM Capital

Dennis Wan, Head of Capital Markets (APAC), CDP

15:20

**Coffee & Networking** 



### 15:50

## Navigating regulatory landscapes: strategies for Asian PE firms

- To what extent are regulations in Europe and the US having an impact?
- What should PE firms be focusing on?
- Identifying key Areas of convergence and divergence across different jurisdictions regionally and globally
- Strategies for staying agile and adaptable in the face of evolving regulatory standards and expectations

## Adrian Yeo, General Counsel, Growtheum Capital

16:30

## Portfolio company insights on sustainability and ESG enhancement in Asia

- To what extent has ESG risen up the agenda of portfolio companies?
- Navigating the balance between PE owners and different stakeholders
- Exploring collaborative strategies employed by portfolio companies, taking into account regional dynamics
- What are the key ESG focus areas to improve performance and create real business value?

## Souvanane Keothammavong, Head of Sustainability, Mekong Timber Plantations

17:15

**Cocktail & Networking Reception** 

## Day 2: October 30

08:30

**Registration & Networking** 

09:00

## Investor perspectives on the significance of how managers approach sustainability

- To what extent is ESG impacting allocations in Asia?
- Considering differences between investor expectations in different countries in Asia
- How are the regions investors integrating the EDCI within their wider data requests?
- What are the new areas LPs are asking questions of managers from?

**Suzanne Tavill**, Partner & Head of Responsible Investment, **StepStone Group Matthew Johns**, Principal, ESG, **IH International Advisors** 



09:40

## Case Study: the competitive advantage for GPs to collaborate with the operating principles for impact management

- Why and how a leading Japanese fund became a signatory to the Operating Principles for Impact Management
- How impact principles have led to the Empowering of Women, driving better business results and financial outcomes
- Other ESG benchmarks tied to value creation
- How to work with the impact principles to design your ESG strategy and drive impact within your organization
- A review of the impact principles and how to work with the Secretariat and the GIIN

**Jun Tsusaka**, CEO, CIO, Chairman of ESG Committee and Management Committee Member, **NSSK** 

Joohee Rand, Head of Impact Principles Secretariat, The Global Impact Investing Network

10:15

## Driving action on climate in Asian private equity

- Update on latest initiatives and take-up in Asia
- Practical strategies for effectively managing and reducing Scope 3 emissions
- Exploring the role of technology and digital innovation in advancing climate goals
- Case studies highlighting successful efforts by Asian firms to drive tangible and transformative change

Sarah Pang, Executive Director, Head of ESG & Sustainability, Affinity Equity Partners

Lauren Blasco, Partner, Capital Design, The Radical Fund

From Lang, Climate Specialist, Parmire

Euan Long, Climate Specialist, Permira

**Prerna Divecha**, Global Head of Market Development for ESG & Climate Credit Risk, **S&P Global Market Intelligence** 

10:50

## Fireside chat: how a leading GP is developing its climate strategy

- Measurement to management Why tracking the right KPIs is critical for climate success
- Advancing on the climate journey while keeping the final destination flexible
- Building a cohesive climate vision for a complex portfolio

Tang Zongzhong, Head of Sustainability, Private Capital Asia, EQT



#### 11:15

## **Coffee & Networking**

## 11:45

## To what extent is ESG a useful fundraising tool in the region?

- Considering how to tailor investor conversations in different countries
- Identifying effective strategies for measuring and communicating ESG performance to attract investors in the region
- Exploring how ESG considerations influence investor decisions
- Is there any sign of the ESG backlash impacting ESG in Asia?

Susli Lie, Partner, Monk's Hill Ventures
Yvonne Voon, Partner, Fifth Wall
Ganesh Rengaswamy, Managing Partner, Quona Capital

12:20

## Practical tips to avoid greenwashing in private equity

- Examples of greenwashing in PE investing and learnings from experiences
- Practical methodologies and tools for investors to effectively discern genuine ESG commitments from superficial claims
- What specific and verifiable data points should LPs use to gauge veracity of ESG claims?
- To what extent is 'greenhushing' a growing phenomenon?

Rosalind Bazany, Partner, Head of ESG and Impact, Antler
Amie Shuttleworth, Principal – Head of Sustainable Investment, Undivided Ventures

13:00 Lunch

13:45

Interactive workshops

15:45

**Closing of conference**