

# Responsible Investment Forum Asia 2024

## Responsible Investment Forum: Asia 2024

### Agenda

#### **Day one: October 29**

08:00

**Networking breakfast and registration**

09:00

**Chair's opening remarks & Keynote**

**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**

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**, General Operating Partner, **Allegro**

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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**, 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**

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**

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

**Nana Li**, Head of Sustainability & Stewardship, Asia Pacific, **Impax Asset Management**

**Jo Saleeba**, Global Head of Sustainability & Impact, **New Forests**

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**Rebekah Earp**, ESG Director, **CVC**  
**Adinah Shackelton**, Head of ESG, **Permira**

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**

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

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- 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: Signing up and aligning 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 Empowering Women Drives Better Business and Investment Results
- Other ESG benchmarks tied to Value Creation



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- How to work with the Impact Principles to design your ESG strategy and drive impact within your organization

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**, Head of ESG, **AC Ventures**

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**

12:20

## **Practical tips to avoid greenwashing in private equity**

- Examples of greenwashing in PE investing and learnings from experiences

New  
Private Markets

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- 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?

**13:00**

**Lunch**

13:45

**Interactive workshops**

15:45

**Closing of conference**