

iM Global Partner signs UN PRI and announces proactive ESG strategy

Paris - March 17, 2022. iM Global Partner today announced it became a signatory of PRI, the Principles for Responsible Investment, promoted by the United Nations on the 28th of February. This commitment is part of an ambitious global ESG strategy for 2022.

iM Global Partner is actively incorporating sustainable development into its business through a proactive ESG (environment, social, governance) strategy. Sustainable investment has always been at the heart of iMGP's investment philosophy. They believe that finance should play an active role as an agent of change and meet today's major challenges linked to climate change. As an investment management company, iMGP wants to play a major role in realizing this vision.

Beyond taking ESG criteria into account in the investment decision processes, the ESG strategy is structured around the following pillars:

Strong ambitions in SFDR regulation

The European SFDR (**Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation**) celebrated its first anniversary on March 10th this year. SFDR has transformed the landscape of sustainable finance in Europe in just one year. iM Global Partner is committed to the new regulations, which aim to bring more transparency to end-investors and to present the ESG characteristics of financial products in a consistent manner. **To date, 44% of iMGP funds are classified article 8 or 9 under SFDR.** In line with iM Global Partner's ESG strategy, **they plan to significantly accelerate the scope of products categorized under articles 8 & 9 and target 83% by the end of 2022.** Therefore continuing to transform funds and upgrade investment strategies to meet the most stringent ESG standards.

Reach carbon net neutrality by 2040 at least

iM Global Partner has measured its impact on the climate, the largest activities contributing to this impact, and developed a carbon reduction strategy **to reach net-zero carbon emissions across its business by 2040**. To reflect its international presence, the company has chosen to measure its carbon footprint following the GHG protocol. **These emissions are broken into three categories: Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions**. In this context, iM Global Partner has conducted a carbon footprint to **identify the main sources** (emission items) of Greenhouse Gases; **set up a reduction strategy** and is piloting an effective action plan with the results **communicated to internal and external stakeholders**.

Support our partners on ESG as part of their business strategy

Europe's edge regarding ESG regulation is substantial compared to the US, as institutional and regulatory structures in Europe have largely contributed to accelerate the development of responsible finance. **iM Global Partner has taken on the role of encouraging and supporting its US Partners to embrace best practices**. After Zadig Asset Management (in 2015) and Polen Capital (in 2018), Scharf Investments, based in California, also became a signatory of the UN PRI this month and received article 8 for the iMGP US Value fund. A fourth partner, Dynamic Beta investments, is currently in the process of applying for UN PRI.

Promote a more inclusive economy

iM Global Partner Group strives to combine economic growth with social progress. Diversity and inclusion across all staff irrespective of role, gender, race, age, religious belief or sexual orientation is of utmost importance. iM Global Partner's equal opportunities commitment applies to all people initiatives, including recruitment, personal and career development, promotion and retention. The recruitment process follows an evidence-based objective approach.

Philippe Couvrecelle, Founder and CEO commented: *"In many ways our fund managers have been integrating sustainable practices for a long time, on one hand because risk control is at the heart of their philosophy and on the other hand because sustainability is part of any business strategy with clear investment opportunities.*

"The unprecedented crisis we experienced in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, has more than ever put sustainability at the center of the economy. All of our managers are concerned with sustainability, which is reflected in low portfolio turnover rates and the absence of credit defaults for bond managers.

"Partnering with US fund managers, we are keen to share with them best practices and work with them to formalize their ESG processes for our clients."

About iM Global Partner

iM Global Partner is a worldwide asset management network. It selects and builds long-term partnerships with talented and independent asset management companies through direct capital ownership. iM Global Partner is present in 16 locations across Europe and the United States and provides its clients with access to the best management strategies of its Partners. It represents over US\$38 billion of assets under management as of end December 2021.

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