



# ILX launches new emerging markets SDG-focused private credit fund; Dutch pension provider APG invests USD 750 mln

- ILX launches new emerging markets SDG-focused private credit fund.
- ILX's investment process identifies direct-impact, SDG-targeted private-sector loans in emerging markets, arranged by the leading international development banks.
- ILX will co-invest with the leading Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and other Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), enabling them to mobilise institutional capital in support of the SDGs and their Climate Finance commitments.
- Dutch pension provider APG invests USD 750 million on behalf of its pension fund clients ABP and bpfBOUW, thus strengthening its financial commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in emerging markets.

17 January 2022, AMSTERDAM – ILX introduces new emerging markets SDG-focused private credit fund; Dutch pension provider APG, on behalf of its pension fund clients ABP and bpfBOUW, invests USD 750 mln. This new private credit fund invests in private-sector loans arranged by the leading Multilateral Development Banks and other DFIs, such as the ADB, AfDB, EBRD, IDB-Invest, IFC and FMO\*.

Amsterdam-based ILX offers the opportunity to benefit from the DFIs' long-standing track record of successfully investing in key economic sectors across the emerging markets and contributes directly to its SDG and climate-related commitments, whilst offering attractive risk-adjusted returns, combined with robust ESG safeguarding. Furthermore, the fund's investment strategy of selectively co-investing with a broad range of leading DFIs provides investors with both the desired diversification and scale. Following the USD 750 million first-close commitment from APG, ILX targets USD 1 Billion in total fund size for ILX Fund I.

Through this scalable ILX fund allocation, DFIs are provided with increased investment capacity for future sustainable projects in key economic sectors and the critical greening of the emerging market economies.

ILX focuses on four key investment themes, to directly address SDG targets and the key objectives of climate mitigation and adaptation: (I) Energy Access and Clean Energy, (II) Sustainable Industry and Infrastructure, (III) Inclusive Finance, and (IV) Food Security.

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<sup>\*</sup> Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Inter-American Development Bank, International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group) and the Netherlands Development Finance Company





ILX Management B.V., initiated by Cardano Development, received important grant funding for its development phase from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (KfW) on behalf of the German Ministry for Development Cooperation (BMZ), the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office. They support the catalytic role that ILX will play in mobilising significant institutional private capital for the leading MDBs and other DFIs in support of their SDG and climate-finance related investments in emerging markets.

Manfred Schepers, co-founder and CEO of ILX: "We are delighted that APG has made this strategic commitment as the fund's cornerstone investor, demonstrating its strong support for this SDG-focussed emerging market private credit asset class that matches both APG's return and sustainability objectives. We look forward to our long-term partnership with APG and to working closely with the global MDB and DFI community, which are recognised leaders in direct SDG and climate-finance investments across emerging markets. We anticipate that other pension fund investors will increasingly look into this development finance asset class as a means to directly support their SDGs and their climate commitments with strong SDI alignment."

**Peter Branner, CIO and member of the Board of APG Asset Management:** "APG and its pension fund clients have the ambition to allocate an increasing share of their pension fund assets to investments that contribute to the SDGs. ILX helps us to deliver on this ambition and to grow and diversify our Sustainable Development Investments (SDIs) within emerging-market debt. We are excited to invest together with leading MDBs and other DFIs in order to further enhance sustainable investment opportunities in emerging markets."

**Joost Zuidberg, CEO of Cardano Development:** "We anticipate that during the coming decade, global institutional investors will make significant allocations to emerging markets to directly support the SDGs and our joint climate commitments. We expect ILX to play a key bridging role between institutional investors and the development finance institutions to enable this market expansion. We are thankful for the critical donor support that has enabled the establishment of ILX."

**ENDS** 





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### **About APG**

As the largest pension provider in the Netherlands APG looks after the pensions of 4.7 million participants. APG provides executive consultancy, asset management, pension administration, pension communication and employer services. We work for pension funds and employers in the sectors of education, government, construction, cleaning, housing associations, sheltered employment organizations, medical specialists, and architects. APG manages approximately €627 billion (Nov. 2022) in pension assets. With approximately 3,000 employees we work from Heerlen, Amsterdam, Brussels, New York, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing. www.apg.nl

### **About ILX Management**

ILX Management B.V. is the Amsterdam-based manager of ILX Fund I, an emerging market focused private credit fund that invests in loan participations originated and structured by Multilateral Development Banks and other Development Finance Institutions (DFI). ILX aims to create large scale investment opportunities in global development finance that directly contribute to sustainable development across emerging markets. ILX was created with the grant support from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (KfW) on behalf of the German Ministry for Development Cooperation (BMZ), the Netherland's Directorate General for International Cooperation and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. More information: www.ilxfund.com

### **About Cardano Development**

Cardano Development (CD) is an incubator and fund manager established in 2007. Through careful risk-management analysis in data-poor settings, CD identifies scalable solutions that help make frontier financial markets more inclusive, investible, and sustainable to unlock lasting economic value. CD creates solutions for local currency, credit, and liquidity risks in these markets. With over USD 6 billion assets and USD 1.5 billion capital under management, CD supports its scale-up funds and a number of start-ups with ongoing management services, financial support and corporate governance oversight. Cardano Development works with key partners, including foundations, governments, impact investors, institutional investors and commercial partners. More information: <a href="https://www.cardanodevelopment.com">www.cardanodevelopment.com</a>