



For Immediate Release

GLOBAL IMPACT INVESTING NETWORK APPOINTS MARIA HÅKANSSON AS NEW BOARD MEMBER

SWEDFUND CEO BRINGS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE EXPERTISE TO THE GIIN

NEW YORK, October 30, 2019 – The [Global Impact Investing Network \(GIIN\)](#) today announced the appointment of Maria Håkansson as its newest Board member. Håkansson is Chief Executive Officer of Swedfund, Sweden’s Development Finance Institution, which aims to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and fight poverty through the creation of sustainable businesses in developing countries. Håkansson has a strong track record in building sustainable businesses and extensive experience leading global multi-cultural teams.

“Maria is an exceptional addition to our Board,” said **Amit Bouri, CEO and Co-Founder of the GIIN**. “She brings invaluable global expertise and leadership in advancing investments in sustainable development and technology to our community. Her perspective will enhance our work to grow the impact investing market, drive more capital towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and engage our network to achieve greater impact.”

Prior to joining Swedfund, Håkansson served as Vice President, Internet of Things (IoT) at communication and technology giant, Ericsson. She has also held several leadership roles within Ericsson, including Vice President Commercial Management & Sourcing in Northern Europe and Central Asia, CFO Market Unit Nordic & Baltics, and Director of Strategic Business Investments (M&A). Previously, she also worked in the Philippines in the shipping industry with Frontline. Håkansson serves on the boards of EDFI (Institutions Association of European Development Finance Institutions) and The Stockholm Sustainable Finance Centre, which is an initiative by the Government of Sweden, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), and Stockholm School of Economics (SSE) that aims to accelerate and promote the shift in capital investments required to deliver the SDGs and climate targets.

“I am so honored and delighted to be elected to the Board of the GIIN. The interest around impact investing is only growing, which emphasizes the importance of building credibility and quality for impact investments. I believe the GIIN plays an instrumental role in driving integrity and harmonization in the industry, which are crucial enablers to bring scale and effectiveness to global impact efforts and focus investments where real impact can be realized. Swedfund has over forty years of experience from impact investing and I believe that we can contribute with our knowledge on how to analyze and measure impact in developing markets,” **said Maria Håkansson**.

About the Global Impact Investing Network

The Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) is the global champion of impact investing, dedicated to increasing the scale and effectiveness of impact investing around the world. Impact investments are investments made into companies, organizations, and funds with the intention to generate positive, measurable, social and environmental impact alongside a financial return. Impact investments can be made in both emerging and developed markets and target a range of returns from below market to market rate, depending upon investors' objectives. The GIIN builds critical infrastructure and supports activities, education, and research that help accelerate the development of a coherent impact investing industry. For more information, please visit www.thegiin.org.

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