



U.S. Asset Manager WaterEquity launches USD150 million impact investment fund to accelerate access to safe water and sanitation for all

Fund to provide debt capital to high-performing financial institutions in emerging markets to address USD18 billion market demand for microloans from people living in poverty to meet their water and sanitation needs

PRESS RELEASE

Kansas City, November 13, 2019

U.S. based asset manager WaterEquity today announced the launch of the WaterEquity Global Access Fund, a USD150 million impact investment fund.

The fund will provide debt capital to high-performing financial institutions in emerging markets to enable them to scale their water and sanitation microfinance portfolios. The size of this undercapitalized market is large, with an estimated USD18 billion of demand from families living in poverty for microloans to meet their water and sanitation needs.

The fund projects reaching 5 to 8 million people living in poverty with safe water or sanitation over its seven-year term, while offering an attractive risk-return profile to investors. The impact of the fund's investments can be viewed from a number of perspectives, including **water and sanitation financing**; **gender-lens investing** (60% of loan borrowers will be women); **financial inclusion** (100% of portfolio allocated to financial institutions with a focus on serving families living in poverty); **ESG**; as well as alignment with all of the **UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Gary White, Co-founder and CEO at WaterEquity, said: "In a world where the debate is so often set up as a competition between economic growth and saving the planet, water and sanitation investments, like the WaterEquity Global Access Fund allow investors to do both." White continued, "Additionally, this fund provides investors with a strong opportunity for diversification, as its investments have a low correlation with traditional asset classes."

WaterEquity's latest fund builds on the success of its first two impact investment funds, which have raised more than USD60 million and impacted one million people throughout India, Indonesia, and Cambodia. Investors in these funds include: [Bank of America](#), [the Overseas Private Investment Corporation \(OPIC\)](#), Ceniarth LLC, Niagra Cares, as well as the Conrad N. Hilton, Skoll, and Osprey Foundations.

Designed for foundations, family offices, institutional investors, as well as high-net-worth investors and their advisors, WaterEquity's new fund aims to mitigate risk and maximize impact by spreading assets over multiple geographies, currencies, and market segments. Target countries for investment are low- and middle-income countries with sizeable populations living without access to safely managed sources of water supply and sanitation. This may include countries in the following regions: Latin America and the Caribbean; Sub-Saharan Africa; Middle East and North Africa; Eastern Europe and Central Asia; South Asia; and East Asia and the Pacific.

By supporting the sustainable growth of water and sanitation microfinance in emerging markets, WaterEquity's funds are accelerating an end to the global water crisis for millions of women, children, and men.

Matt Damon, Co-founder at WaterEquity, said, "When you see the difference that water can make in a community, that feeling of pure joy — there's nothing really that can compete with that in my day job."

About WaterEquity

WaterEquity is the first-ever asset manager exclusively focused on solving the global water crisis. Founded through the vision of social entrepreneurs Gary White and Matt Damon of Water.org, WaterEquity builds on 20+ years of experience in water and sanitation microfinance in emerging markets. WaterEquity's funds invest in a portfolio of high-performing financial institutions and enterprises in emerging markets to deliver access to water supply and sanitation to families living in poverty. Learn more at <https://waterequity.org/>.

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