## GREAT LAKES IMPACT INVESTMENT PLATFORM WEBINAR SERIES A New Tool to Support Water Projects in the Reg

#### August 14, 2:00 pm EDT

Learn about the Platform and its benefits, including the experience of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's green bond that is featured on the Platform.

Featured presenters include David Naftzger, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers and Karen Sands, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District.



## GREAT LAKES IMPACT INVESTMENT PLATFORM

Prosperity by nature.







## Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers

More than 30 years of collaboration among the region's chief executives:

Illinois Indiana Michigan Minnesota New York Ohio Ontario Pennsylvania Quebec Wisconsin

Growing the region's economy and protecting the world's greatest freshwater system.

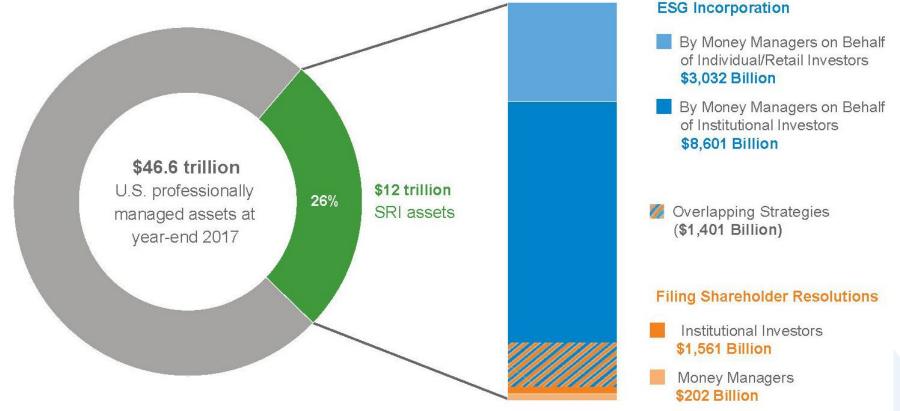
Tony Evers, Chair, Wisconsin Governor Mike DeWine Vice Chair, Ohio Governor



The waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River region are globally important sources of renewable natural capital which, through proper stewardship, can ensure continued economic growth and wealth generation in perpetuity.

# There are \$12 TRILLION in assets under management that are being directed to Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing in the U.S.

Global sustainable investment now tops \$30 TRILLION up 68 percent since 2014 and tenfold since 2004



Source: Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment

**One in four dollars** of total assets under professional management in the United States are now invested using sustainable investing practices—up **38 percent** since 2016<sup>1</sup>.

Investing sustainably can improve returns or doesn't harm them. Investors expect **sustainable investing will be the norm by 2023<sup>1</sup>.** 

**Over 1340 organizations** currently manage **over \$500 billion** in impact investment assets worldwide<sup>2</sup>.

**Impact investments** are those made with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return.

<sup>1</sup> Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment.

<sup>2</sup> Global Impact Investment Network.

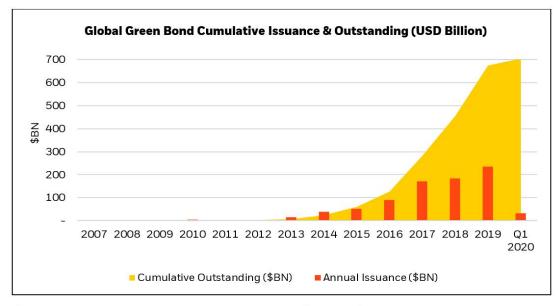
#### Who is investing sustainably?

39% of investors globally

56% Ages 18-34

54% \$50m+ in assets

Source: ESG and financial performance: aggregated evidence from more than 2000 empirical studies', *Journal of Sustainable Finance and Investment*, Gunnar Friede, Timo Busch, Alexander Bassen, 2015.



#### Who is making impact investments?

Impact investment has attracted a wide variety of investors, both individual and institutional, including:

- Fund Managers
- Development finance institutions
- Diversified financial institutions/banks
- Private foundations
- Pension funds and insurance companies
- Family Offices
- Individual investors
- NGOs
- Religious institutions

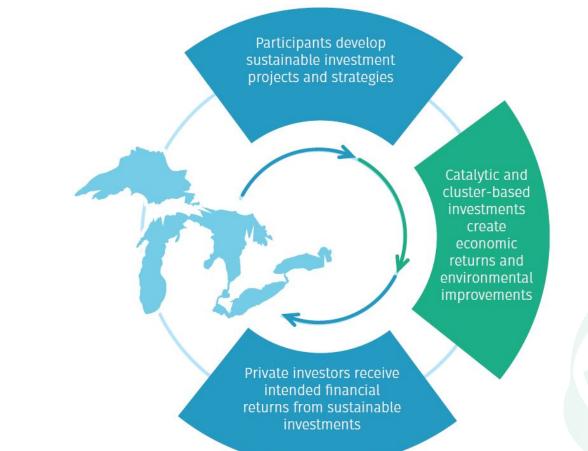
Source: Global Impact Investment Network.

Figure 1. Global Green Bond Cumulative Issuance & Outstanding (USD Billion). Sources: Blackrock, Bloomberg, Environmental Finance, Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), Fannie Mae, as of April 1, 2020.

Harnessing impact investing to foster the long-term, sustainable management of our region's waters.

Projects and strategies intended to deliver:

- Demonstrable impact and revitalize the region's waters;
- Aimed to generate competitive, marketbased financial returns.



# Great Lakes Impact Investment Platform <u>Team</u>















#### **Development Supporters**







Initial work was funded under a grant by the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service as part of on-going support to cross-border engagement via the U.S./Canada Forest Health & Innovation Summits. Development of the Platform is also supported by grants from the Fund for Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

Great Lakes Impact Investment Platform **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Goals 20% reduction** of nutrient inputs to sensitive watersheds **10% increase** in energy efficiency Water-Related Socio-economic Impacts **10-15% reduction** in emissions resulting from less energy use, sustainable forestry and nutrient management

Water Quality (20% nutrient reduction) Water Quantity Management

Energy Efficiency

(10% improvement)



Diverse investment opportunities exist in each theme, and they will be integrated into investment strategies focused on the Great Lakes St. Lawrence region.

## Platform Participation Requirements

- Develop project or plan for use of proceeds.
- Determine alignment with the Platform's themes and ESG goals.
- Identify anticipated environmental outcomes.
- Commit to annually reporting environmental performance against metrics developed by The Nature Conservancy.





## **Environmental Metrics**

- Gallons of Water Saved
- Kilowatts of Energy Saved
- Tons of Carbon Reduced/Stored
- Tons of Nutrients Reduced
- Forest and Farm Land— Certified Acres



## **Initial Platform Strategies**

#### **Real Assets**

Example: Lyme St. Croix and Lyme Solon Springs

Developer: Lyme Timber in collaboration with The Conservation Fund



#### **Green Lending**

Example: Lake Erie Stormwater Improvements

Developer: Northeast Ohio Regional Sewage District





## **Initial Platform Strategies**

#### **Environmental Impact Bonds**

Pilot: Baileys Mountain Biking Trail System (Ohio)

Collaboration with Quantified Ventures



#### **Green Bonds**

Pilot: Milwaukee Stormwater Management

Collaboration with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District







Participation in the Platform is **free and voluntary.** 

To enroll your project or for more information:

www.greatlakesimpactinvestmentplatform.org



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