ILPA STEPS INTO EXPANDED ROLE AS SECRETARIAT TO THE ESG DATA CONVERGENCE INITIATIVE

July 6, 2022 (Washington, D.C.) The Institutional Limited Partners Association (ILPA) has announced an expanded role as Secretariat to the ESG Data Convergence Initiative (EDCI), an industry-wide effort to streamline how environmental, social and governance (ESG) data is collected and reported.

“Limited Partners and General Partners alike are increasingly elevating and dedicating resources to ESG, and we believe this initiative is a critical step to equip investors with more quality, comparable data,” said Jennifer Choi, ILPA Acting CEO. “This expanded role of Secretariat to the initiative signals our proud support of an initiative that, as it continues to grow, stands to provide great benefit to the private markets industry.”

As Secretariat to the initiative, ILPA will facilitate the annual EDCI Steering Committee sprint meetings, working closely with Boston Consulting Group (BCG), which has been supporting the GP-LP led effort; ILPA will also support Steering Committee governance and elections.

Since its launch in September 2021, the EDCI, formerly known as the ESG Data Convergence Project (EDCP), has grown rapidly into an industry collaboration of 195 LP and GP participants from around the world, collectively representing $22 trillion in Assets Under Management (AUM) and over 1,800 underlying portfolio companies.

“We’re thrilled with this initiative’s initial success since its public announcement nine months ago,” said Matt Schey, ILPA Senior Director for Sustainable Investing. “Everyone wins when the whole industry works together to standardize ESG information and embrace the need for comparative reporting. ILPA is excited to grow its involvement with this effort.”

To date, the initiative has converged around six ESG categories and 15 core metrics, drawn from existing frameworks, for GPs to track and report on their underlying portfolio companies on an annual basis. The categories include greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy, board diversity, work-related injuries, net new hires and employee engagement. The data will be aggregated into an anonymized benchmark by BCG in the initial years.

“ILPA plays a critical role in convening industry participants, so we are fortunate to leverage their experience as the official Secretariat for the project,” said Greg Ruiz, Managing Investment Director of Private Equity at CalPERS. “ILPA brings the credibility and expertise that comes with representing nearly 600 limited partners across the world.”

“From the beginning of this collaboration, we’ve recognized the need to build trust and continue facilitating direct dialogue between LPs and GPs. ILPA has been at the forefront of industry conversations engaging LPs and GPs to advance ESG best practices,” said Meg Starr, Global Head of Impact at Carlyle. “ILPA’s increased involvement in the project will strengthen our efforts.”

The EDCI is open to any institutional investors that agree to support the principles of the work. Additional resources can be found on ILPA’s website.
About ILPA

With more than 590 member institutions representing over 2 trillion USD of private equity assets under management, the Institutional Limited Partners Association (ILPA) is the only global organization dedicated exclusively to advancing the interests of LPs and their beneficiaries. Our members include public and private pensions, insurers, endowments and foundations, family offices, development finance institutions, and sovereign wealth funds. Our policy agenda is focused on strengthening the private equity asset class through strong governance, alignment of interests, and transparency.