

Geneva, 08 March 2024

AlphaMundi celebrates International Women's Day

On this day that celebrates women worldwide, AlphaMundi takes stock of its 2023 contributions to Gender Equality as Sustainable Development Goal 5 and presents its outlook for 2024 activities related to women empowerment and gender lens investing.

Walking the talk

In 2023, we updated our Gender Lens policy to reflect our compliance with social impact requirements of the European SFDR's article 9, 2X Global criteria, certified B-Corp best practices, and insights deriving from our own gender lens investing experience. The policy update also benefited from the AlphaMundi Foundation's seminal work on Gender Smart technical assistance delivered in partnership with Values for Women and DEG Impulse across more than 20 portfolio and pipeline companies.

AMG continued to have gender parity at board level for the SocialAlpha debt fund and across our staff, and gender diversity across our investment committees for the SocialAlpha and AlphaJiri funds.

By December 2023, close to 40% of our portfolio companies' 600,000 clients, 50% of their 6,500 staff and 25% of their senior management were women.

Advocacy

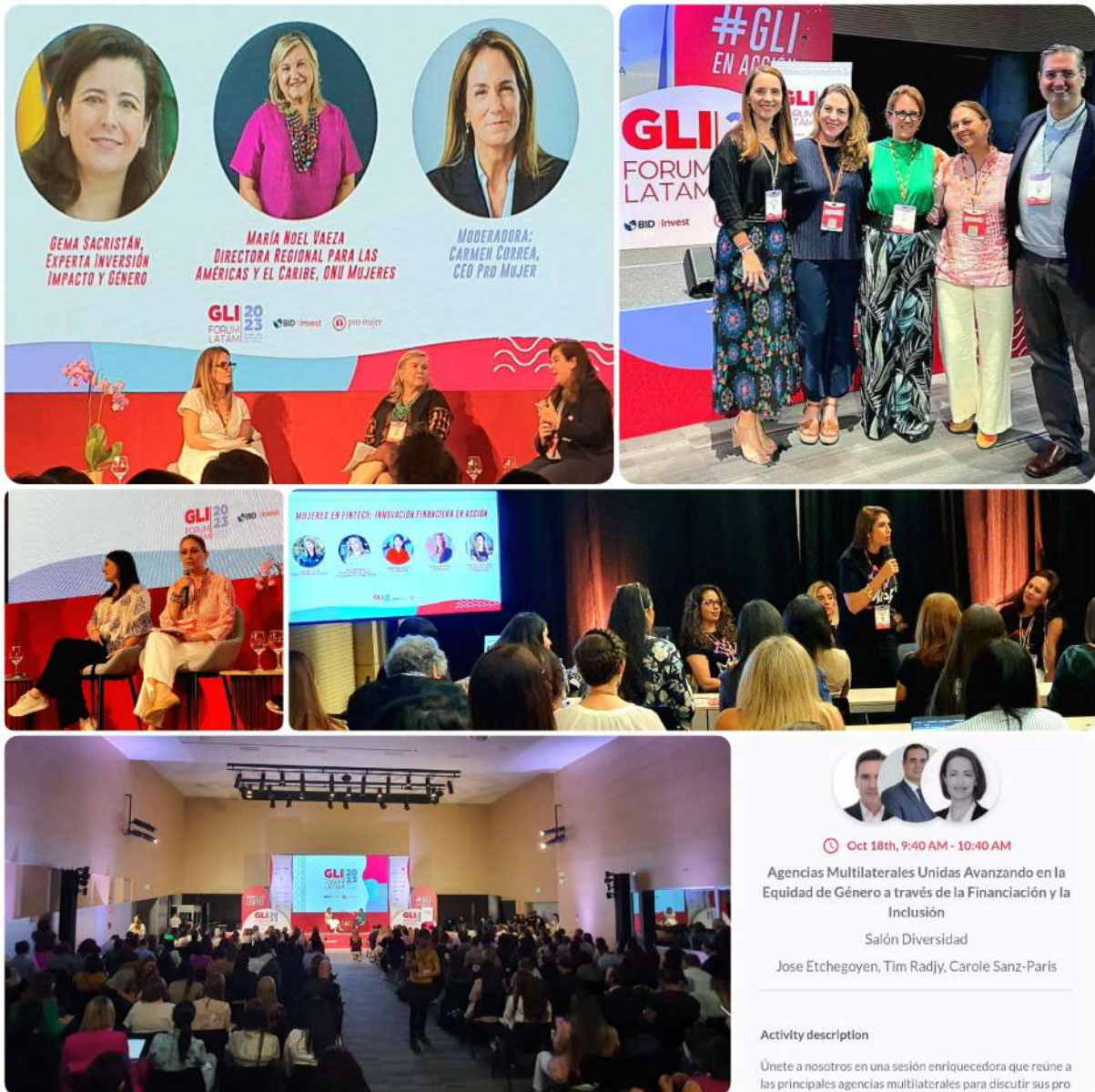
As for market building contributions, 2023 marked the last year of AMG's 3-year sponsoring of the Gender Lens Initiative for Switzerland. A transfer of GLIS leadership was completed in spring by its host association, Sustainable Finance Geneva, with board member @Kim-AndréePotvin taking the helm and Gender being confirmed as one of the association's three key themes. Since 2021, the GLIS published comprehensive industry reports, organized in-person and online events to promote SDG5 and showcase industry standards and sample investment products across various asset classes, and engaged with Swiss Sustainable Finance to feature the Swiss commitment to SDG5 in its annual market survey. According to SFG's [Gender Finance Hub](#) launched in 2023, "Switzerland continues to fall short in advancing gender equality and faces persistent challenges in key areas. Female representation in executive roles remains stagnant at 14% from 2021 to 2022, contrasting sharply with Sweden's 27%. In addition, and worryingly, Switzerland fell from the top 10 on the Global Gender Gap Index in 2020 to 21st place in 2022. This is why SFG continues to pursue Gender Equality as one of our key impact themes." SFG's managing director Kali Taylor chaired the Gender working group of Financial Centers for Sustainability (FC4S) in 2023 and secured signatures from half the FC4S membership for a Gender Charter, with an implementation guide published in collaboration with UN Women.

We are very thankful to SFG, SSF and more that 30 institutional partners for their support of GLIS over the last 3 years and hope our initial efforts will continue to bear fruit and foster a broader awareness of gender lens considerations across the (Swiss) financial industry.

In Latin America, AMG hosted a first breakfast on SDG5 funding in Bogota in June, with 20 institutional partners in attendance, to shine a spotlight on the efforts of companies, multilaterals, banks and NGOs to empower women, identify the movers and shakers of the national gender lens ecosystem, and mobilize leading financial institutions for the gender equality cause. In addition, AMG moderated sessions at the GLI Forum convened by ProMujer in Medellin in the fall. We plan to reinforce our SDG5 footprint in the region by 2025 with new investment activities and hires.



AMG's regional team hosted a breakfast in Bogota, Colombia, on 22 June 2023 dedicated to the funding of SDG5, in collaboration with a dozen local institutional partners including Fundación WWB, Latimacto, Citi Bank and many of the leading advocates for gender equality in the region.



The Gender Lens Investing (GLI) Forum was convened by Pro Mujer in Medellín, Colombia, on 17-19 October 2023. AMG’s managing partner Tim Radjy moderated a session on DFI contributions to gender equality and SocialAlpha portfolio company Bankamoda saw its founder Maria del Mar speak at a panel on Women in Fintech. The Forum gathered hundreds of regional leaders of SDG5 advocacy such as Maria Vaeza, UN Women Latin America Director, who declared at a plenary panel: “We are half of the population, we deserve half of everything. Feminism isn’t a dirty word, it’s about enforcing women’s rights to political representation, economic opportunity, and individual safety. We’ve been waiting for 2,000 years so I welcome quotas and parity policies.”

2024 Outlook

AlphaMundi will remain an active advocate of SDG5. Our foundation welcomed a new member to its board, Carolina Suarez in Bogota, and a new Executive Director at its helm, Sawa Nagakawa in Nairobi, both of whom bring a huge amount of talent and experience to our foundation's agenda, notably on

matters related to Gender Equality. As for the investment group, it will seek to reinforce gender diversity at senior management level.

AMG also launched a private-access impact portal allowing its clients to customize their impact reports by portfolio company, geography, sector, or theme, and we are keen to use this greater granularity to push our portfolio companies to the next level, namely by helping them get their Gender policies and impact certified by a third party over the next couple of years.

Redefining the Notion of Success

For the final word, here's a few quotes from women of note sharing their perspective on success:

- 1) from actress Audrey Hepburn: "I believe in being strong when everything is going wrong".
- 2) from musical artist Rihanna: "It takes a certain grace, strength, intelligence, fearlessness and the nerve to never take no for an answer."

The list of notable women and good quotes is endless, of course, so we encourage you to find your own source of inspiration to do better in 2024 than you did in 2023, to commit more capital than ever to Gender Lens Investing, and to persevere in the relentless pursuit of the mother of all goals, Gender Equality.

After all, to empower women is to empower humanity in all its most marvelous dimensions, and SDG5 is an indispensable catalyst to help us achieve most of the other sustainable development goals. With the SDGs and the rising share of global financial assets that are held by women, the financial industry is presented with a golden opportunity that's economically profitable and socially responsible. Let us not squander it.

About AlphaMundi Group Ltd

[AlphaMundi Group Ltd \(AMG\)](#) is a commercial entity based in Geneva, Switzerland, with a mission to finance the growth of privately-held impact ventures in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa and to contribute to the mainstreaming of impact investing. AMG manages two investment funds, the SocialAlpha Investment Fund (SAIF) and the AlphaJiri Investment Fund (AJIF), through which it provides financing to scalable impact ventures across sectors, including financial inclusion, sustainable food and renewable energy. Since 2009, AMG has invested more than USD 120M in over 60 impact ventures, across 270 debt and equity transactions. By December 2023, a majority of AMG portfolio companies were aligned with the Gender Lens criteria of 2X Global, and SocialAlpha portfolio companies had grown their annual revenues by 30% and accounted for 25% of female managers, 46% of female employees and 38% of female clients, out of 6,500 employees, and 595,000 consumers served.