

## Press release

# SUSI Partners and South Pole Group launch 250-million-euro fund for energy transition infrastructure in Southeast Asia

**Luxembourg/Zurich/Bangkok/Singapore, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017:** SUSI Partners (SUSI) and South Pole Group (South Pole) are set to launch an infrastructure fund together. The Asian Energy Transition Fund (AETF) will combine SUSI's core competencies in the financing and structuring of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects with South Pole Group's track record of over 500 sustainable energy projects and a close-knit network of project developers in Asia. Edgare Kerkwijk, a veteran of the renewable energy investment industry in Southeast Asia, will act as Managing Director of the Fund.

The AETF marks SUSI's first investment vehicle for institutional investors, dedicated exclusively to the Southeast Asian energy transition market. The Fund will respond to the region's massive deployment of renewable energy infrastructure and the fast-growing demand for energy efficiency measures, bearing an investment potential comparable to the investment landscape in Europe a decade ago. As a partner, South Pole Group brings strong regional expertise and a solid track record in sustainability projects for both public and private organisations. The company is active in Asia for over ten years and currently holds four offices in the region. The fund will be attractive for forward-looking institutional investors, including Family Offices and Development Finance Institutions, who wish to combine stable financial returns with sustainability impact at scale.

The two companies have appointed Edgare Kerkwijk as the Fund's Managing Director. Mr Kerkwijk has held various senior positions in the financial sector at, among others, Rabobank and SSGA, and has been active in the renewable energy sector for more than 12 years. He has founded and served as board member in several renewable energy companies. He joins the Fund from his previous position as Managing Director of Asia Green Capital Partners.

The AETF is set out to have a volume of 250 million euro and a fund life of ten years. The target portfolio will include solar PV and wind farms, hydropower plants, behind-the-meter solar PV and energy efficiency retrofits on public and private large-scale infrastructure. The targeted project portfolio will be diversified across 10-15 renewable energy and 10-15 energy efficiency projects. Considering both power purchase agreements (PPA) at fixed prices per kWh and guaranteed savings from energy efficiency projects, the Fund will be able to generate stable annual distributions. The geographical focus will be on Southeast Asia, with a special focus on Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam. Given an attractive risk-return profile, the Fund will be able to realise lucrative investments in further Southeast Asian countries.

*"The clean energy landscape in emerging Asia represents an exceptionally interesting opportunity for institutional investors as well as impact-driven investors, such as family offices, to participate in the region's growing demand for renewable energy infrastructure", emphasises **Renat Heuberger, CEO of South Pole Group.** "We are excited to combine our unparalleled expertise in project development and our local presence in Asia with SUSI's track record of successfully managing large clean energy infrastructure funds."*

**Tobias Reichmuth, CEO and Founder of SUSI Partners,** continues: *"Institutional Investors can now engage in substantiated energy transition investing in renewable energy assets and energy efficiency retrofits with attractive risk-return profiles. With nearly a decade's experience in renewable energy infrastructure investment and a strong local partner with a unique project pipeline, we are ideally positioned to capture the investment*

*opportunities the Southeast Asian market offers.”*

**Edgare Kerkwijk, Managing Director of the Asian Energy Transition Fund**, adds: *“The renewable energy sector in Southeast Asia is still at an early stage with relatively low penetration of renewable energy in the power generation mix. The region will need significant investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency to meet the demands of the various countries in Southeast Asia – both to make their economies more sustainable and to align them with global sustainability targets. There’s no doubt that a great transition is on, and I look forward to being part of driving this change as Managing Director of the AETF.”*

**### ENDS ###**

### **About SUSI Partners AG**

SUSI Partners AG is a Swiss Investment Manager that focuses on financing the energy transition and sustainable energy infrastructure. SUSI supports institutional investors with investments in solar and wind parks, energy efficiency retrofits of existing infrastructure and grid-scale energy storage solutions. SUSI offers fund solutions that yield stable and low-correlated annual distributions, carry low risk and produce a measurable impact on climate change mitigation.

### **About South Pole Group**

South Pole Group is a leading provider of global sustainability financing solutions and services. With 200 experts in 15 global offices, the company has served a wide range of public, private and civil society organisations for over a decade. The Group’s expertise covers project and technology finance, data and advisory on sustainability risks and opportunities, as well as the development of environmental commodities such as carbon credits or renewable energy credits. South Pole Group has developed and provided climate-finance to over 500 projects in the realm of emission reductions, renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable land-use.

For more information, visit [www.thesouthpolegroup.com](http://www.thesouthpolegroup.com) or [@southpolegroup](https://twitter.com/southpolegroup).

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