

## Social impact investment & sustainability 2022 ended with record-high online views

The two-day SIIS 2022 conference, focusing on 4 topics of social impact investment, ESG, carbon neutrality and Metaverse & NFT, ended with a record-high of over 4 million viewership from over 30 countries.

Discussing and highlighting actions and solutions from business and industry, globally renowned capital management institutions, private investment, NGOs and the high-end technology community in more than 12 panel discussion, over 60 percentage registered viewers are professionals from over 30 industries.

“From the UN's COP26 climate summit to the Chinese government's dual-carbon goal setting 3060, the challenges for emerging economies are often associated on the Three Shortages, lack of funds, lack of technology, and lack of talents in addition to their ambition and planning. How will these be resolved in terms of pathways design, financing, technological innovation, and rule of law? How will innovative ideas be applied to leverage resources, improve efficiency and empower these initiatives productively?” said Dr. Luo Xiang, Co-chairman, social impact investment & procurement foundation (SIIP), former country director of the United Nations Office for Project Services-China.

These questions set the stage for heavy-weight key note speakers and panelists from international political circle, business, industry, NGO and even artists. Through global streaming centre based in Singapore, **BAN Ki-moon**, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations, **Yukio HATOTYAMA**, 93rd Prime Minister of Japan, and **YANG Yuanqing**, Chairman and CEO, Lenovo Group; **MA Weihua**, Member of UNDP SDG Impact Steering Group, Chairman of China Global Philanthropy Institute, Chairman of SusallWave Digital Technology (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. and **WANG Shi**, Chairman of Vanke Foundation, just to name a few, are making speeches directly to millions of online viewers.

### Carbon Neutrality: only 4% companies set supply chain targets

**YANG Yuanqing**, Chairman and CEO, Lenovo Group, took the stage and illustrated how technology manufacturing enterprises could lead in the realization of the dual-carbon goal of 3060.

Firstly, technology manufacturing companies can create a green manufacturing and green supply chain system through carefully designed digitalisation to drive the entire industry chain for a zero carbon transition.

Generally carbon emissions generated by a company's supply chain are often 5.5 times greater

than the company itself, but only 4% of companies have set supply chain targets.

Secondly, technology manufacturing companies can actively empower other industries to achieve low carbon development. According to the Global e-Sustainability Initiative, the ICT industry has the potential to help reduce global carbon emissions by 20%. Take the steel industry for example, the refined management of energy and raw materials, automation of processes and improved efficiency of collaboration of the industry chain are the most direct and effective ways to reduce carbon.

Finally, by increasing investment in R&D of zero-carbon technologies, technology manufacturing companies are able to expand from the manufacturing system including zero-carbon products, zero-carbon factories, zero-carbon supply chains and zero-carbon industrial parks to revolutionizing the whole manufacturing industry, making it zero-carbon.

“In Lenovo, we have set a new target, which is to achieve a 50% reduction in the company's operational direct and indirect carbon emissions and a 25% reduction in the carbon intensity of some value chains by 2030, with our long-term vision of achieving net zero emissions by the end of 2050,” announced Yang.

### **Both action and inaction have impacts**

“All investments and business practices have impact and must be considered very carefully from the perspective of people and planet. Ask the simple question: Does the investment work for or against the SDGs?” said **Dr. Jan MATTSSON**, Former Under-Secretary- General of the United Nations, Chief Strategic Advisor of Social Impact Investing and Procurement Fund.

“A recent study of companies on the NYSE and NASDAQ exchanges showed that those who had strong ESG records before the pandemic outperformed those with low ratings. In these times of uncertainty and risks, investors in many countries are flocking to companies which behave responsibly. This is very good news for planet and people.” added Mattsson. He recommended the [World Benchmarking Alliance](#) for inspiration from business practices which contribute to sustainability.

“Action, and even inaction, can make a difference not only for yourself but also for many others, whether you are a country, a company or an individual. Actions in one corner of the world can influence people far away. For example, CO2 emissions in the industrialized world or the war in Ukraine can create hunger and human suffering for innocent people far away, such as in a poor community in Africa, or for that matter, contribute to increased food prices in Hong Kong,” Mattsson called out for solidarity and action not only from the panelists but also the viewers.

We remember not long ago, a plan of action containing 17 goals for people, planet and prosperity is announced in the UN headquarter.

We can be the first generation to succeed in ending poverty; just as we may be the last to have a

chance of saving the planet. The world will be a better place in 2030 if we succeed in our objectives. Said the plan dated 2015.

With more and more industries and countries, the organizers hope that the conference could inspire more and more actions taken for a sustainable future.

- About the SIIS 2002:

The conference consisted of one main forum and three high-end roundtable dialogues, covering ten topics including ESG, carbon neutral and metaverse related to government management, environment, social responsibility, investment and finance, manufacturing and production, research and technology, certification and trading, green consumption, sustainable procurement and global collaboration.

Time: 9:00-18:00 23-24 April 2022 Saturday & Sunday (UTC+8)

Format: Live Global Online Conference + Hong Kong On-site (subject to Social Distancing Measures)

For a full list of events, [click here](#)

- About the organizer:

The Social Impact Investment and Procurement Foundation (SIIP) is dedicated to providing special purpose fund-raising, social impact investment, sustainable public procurement and technical support with experience, knowledge, management expertise to support the United Nations, international organizations and other partners in achieving the 17 global sustainable development goals within the framework of the United Nations sustainable development agenda.