



Paris, June 2nd, 2021

Waterland secures €500m ESG Equity Bridge Facility for its eighth Fund

Waterland Private Equity Investments and a group of three banks comprising Natixis, ABN Amro and Rabobank closed a €500m Equity Bridge Facility linked to ESG targets for Waterland Private Equity Fund VIII ('WPEF VIII'), the latest fund closed by Waterland with €2.5bn in commitments from world class institutional investors.

This is Waterland's first ESG Equity Bridge Facility, evidencing its desire to positively contribute to a sustainable future for businesses, society, and the environment.

This Equity Bridge Facility provides WPEF VIII with the flexibility to efficiently manage its investments while matching investors' capital calls frequency thus ensuring sound management of working capital and liquidity.

The facility is governed by a set of ESG KPIs, one tied to the management company and others reflecting Waterland's strategy to have portfolio companies strive to have a positive impact on Environment, Social performance, and Governance. In return, WPEF VIII benefits from a reduction in margin on the facility upon meeting those KPIs, reflecting the lenders' own ESG support and commitment.

"We are delighted to be working again with our partners at Natixis, ABN Amro and Rabobank on an innovative equity bridge with clear ESG KPIs. Sustainability is one of our four investment themes which we introduced in 2008 and with this new facility we aim to make a positive contribution to a sustainable future" said Marc Lutgen, Head of Investor Relations at Waterland.

Marc Denjean, Head of Global Structured Credit & Solutions Europe and Head of Credit Trading Europe at Natixis added: "As a worldwide leader in fund financing solutions, Natixis is delighted to reunite with Waterland for this third collaboration. With this transaction, we are proud to support their engagement to make a positive impact on ESG issues through this fund."

Julien Duquenne, Co-Head of Green & Sustainable Finance, Origination & Advisory, EMEA, Corporate & Investment Banking at Natixis added: "This initiative is a clear demonstration of how funds finance can leverage well-established standards such as the LMA Sustainability Loan Principles to incentivize improvements of their underlying portfolio companies' ESG profiles and ultimately their positive environmental and social impact."

Daphne de Kluis, CEO Commercial Banking at ABN AMRO Bank added: "Waterland is one of the largest private equity firms in The Netherlands, and a longstanding client relationship of ABN AMRO for their banking needs across various funds and in portfolio transactions. We are happy to continue our existing cooperation into Waterland's latest investment fund, and to see the introduction of ESG as a key topic in their performance KPIs. This is an increasingly common feature of our new subscription finance transactions and we warmly welcome this trend, as ESG and sustainability are core to ABN AMRO's strategy. We look forward to work with Waterland across all current and future funds, its portfolio companies and to remain one of their key relationship banks going forward."

Maarten Biermans, Head Sustainable Capital Markets at Rabobank said: “We are rapidly moving towards a world wherein all finance is linked to sustainability in one way or another. When it comes to the integration of ESG in private equity most are unaware that many players in this sector have already actively been involved in precisely doing that for some time. Waterland has a long track record of ESG integration and continues to contribute to the development of the field of responsible investing in private equity. By linking ESG related KPIs to the bridge facility Waterland is taken this another step further. Rabobank was honored to take on the role of structuring and coordinating the ESG KPIs linked to this facility”

About Waterland:

Waterland is an independent private equity investment group that supports entrepreneurs in realizing their growth ambitions. With substantial financial resources and committed industry expertise, Waterland enables its portfolio companies to achieve accelerated growth both organically and through acquisitions.

Waterland acts as an active shareholder in its portfolio companies, playing a key role in their strategic and operational development, growth and performance. With its experienced, entrepreneurial investment team, Waterland aims to help ambitious entrepreneurs obtain a strong market position in today's increasingly competitive business environment. To date, Waterland has made investments in over 700 companies.

Waterland Private Equity Investments B.V. is registered as a fund manager in the register maintained by the Dutch regulator, the AFM (Autoriteit Financiële Markten).

About Natixis

Natixis is a French multinational financial services firm specialized in asset & wealth management, corporate & investment banking, insurance and payments. A subsidiary of Groupe BPCE, the second-largest banking group in France through its two retail banking networks, Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Epargne, Natixis counts over 16,000 employees across 36 countries. Its clients include corporations, financial institutions, sovereign and supranational organizations, as well as the customers of Groupe BPCE's networks. Listed on the Paris stock exchange, Natixis has a solid financial base with a CET1 capital under Basel 3⁽¹⁾ of €12.3 billion, a Basel 3 CET1 Ratio⁽¹⁾ of 11.6% and quality long-term ratings (Standard & Poor's: A+ / Moody's: A1 / Fitch Ratings: A+).

⁽¹⁾ Based on CRR-CRD4 rules as reported on June 26, 2013, including the Danish compromise - without phase-in. Figures as at 31 March 2021

About ABN AMRO

ABN AMRO is an all-round Dutch financial institution headquartered in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Active in 13 countries, with a focus on Northwest Europe, we offer a full range of financial products and solutions for clients in:

- Retail Banking (around 5 million clients)
- Private Banking (around 100,000 clients)
- Commercial Banking (around 365,000 SME clients)
- Corporate & Institutional Banking (more than 30,000 clients worldwide)

We have a clear purpose: Banking for better, for generations to come. The shift towards sustainability is one of the most important challenges of our time. Supporting our clients and the community at moments that matter has always been our role and responsibility.

ABN AMRO ranked among the top 10% of most sustainable banks worldwide in 2019 and is included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI). For more information, visit our website www.abnamro.com.

About Rabobank Group

Rabobank is an international financial services provider operating on the basis of cooperative principles. It offers retail banking, wholesale banking, private banking, leasing and real estate services. As a cooperative bank, Rabobank puts customers' interests first in its services. Rabobank is committed to being a leading customer-focused cooperative bank in the Netherlands and a leading food and agri bank worldwide. Rabobank employed 43,272 staff per 31 December 2020. Rabobank Group is active in 38 countries. Rabobank has the best ESG rating from Sustainalytics for all diversified banks in the world. For more information about the Rabobank Group go to www.rabobank.com.

Press Contacts

Waterland Private Equity Investments

Marc Lutgen
lutgen@waterland.nu
www.waterland.nu

ABN Amro

Arien Bikker
arien.bikker@nl.abnamro.com
+31 (0)20 6285719
www.abnamro.com



Natixis

Vanessa Stephan
vanessa.stephan@natixis.com
+33 1 58 19 34 16

www.natixis.com



Rabobank

Maarten Biernans
maarten.biernans@rabobank.com
+31(0)6 22 52 40 30
www.rabobank.com

