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# L&G launches digital infrastructure fund to drive growth in digital economy

The UK & Europe-focused fund hits c.€600m first close amid strong investor demand, as L&G turns its Asset Management ambition into action

- Fund invests primarily in European and UK infrastructure essential to the digital economy, focusing on data centres, fibre, wireless connectivity and cloud services – with selective global exposure, expected mainly in the US
- Demonstrates momentum behind L&G's strategy to scale its private markets platform to £85bn by 2028, expanding investment opportunities for institutional investors
- Builds on infrastructure fundraising success, following final €607m close of L&G NTR Clean Power (Europe) Fund

L&G today has announced the first close of its L&G Digital Infrastructure Fund ("LDIF" or "the fund"), totalling c.€600 million in commitments and associated co-investments, with a second close expected later this year. The launch is a key milestone in L&G's Asset Management strategy to expand its private markets proposition.

LDIF exemplifies L&G's ability to combine deep sector expertise and client relationships with the strength of its balance sheet to incubate solutions aligned to long-term macroeconomic trends. The fund enables L&G to capitalise on the \$2.5 trillion gap in funding needed by 2030 to meet accelerating demand for digital infrastructure. Targeting a gross IRR of 15%, LDIF aims to invest in high-quality, productive and fast-growing businesses and assets that advance digital transformation, enhance connectivity and deliver long-term economic benefits. The fund invests primarily in Europe and the UK with a smaller, selective global allocation, expected to be focused mainly on the US.

Structured as an Article 8<sup>2</sup> Luxembourg-domiciled fund, LDIF has attracted a diverse mix of institutional capital. Investors include third-party commitments from local government pension schemes, specialist infrastructure funds and global asset managers, with L&G investing alongside clients via its balance sheet.

LDIF builds on L&G's infrastructure fundraising momentum following the final close earlier this year of the L&G NTR Clean Power (Europe) Fund, in partnership with leading renewable energy specialist NTR, which raised over €600 million³ to invest in renewable energy assets. Together, these funds underline L&G's ability to develop and scale institutional-grade strategies across digital transformation and energy transition – two of the most powerful long-term themes shaping global economies.

**Eric Adler, CEO, Asset Management, L&G:** "Infrastructure is rapidly becoming a cornerstone of global private markets, with digital infrastructure leading the charge. The successful first close of our Digital Infrastructure Fund highlights continued momentum behind our strategy to expand our private markets capabilities and reflects growing institutional appetite for essential, yield-generating assets. It is also a further step toward fulfilling our

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>L&G estimate as at August 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>As an Article 8 fund, it integrates sustainability and/or ESG factors into its investment process, which may limit exposure to certain sectors, affect performance relative to other funds, and differ from individual investor criteria.

³€607m raised from investors, which includes €584m of commitments to the Fund and €23m in deployed and allocated co-investment capital alongside the Fund.



ambition to be a leading global investor, innovating to solve complex challenges for our clients using the power of L&G."

As an early mover in digital infrastructure, first investing in 2018, L&G has built an established team of specialists averaging 15 years' experience. In 2019, it made a strategic investment in Kao Data, a leading UK-headquartered developer and operator of high-performance data centres, which has since expanded to seven facilities across four locations and continues to grow. Other significant investments include a £750 million hyperscale data centre development in Newham, London, expected to contribute £88 million to local gross value added (GVA), create over a thousand jobs during the construction and operational phases,<sup>4</sup> and has the potential to be a heat source for thousands of homes in the area.

To further build the team and meet growing demand for the fund, L&G has appointed Jack Colbourne as a non-executive director on LDIF's investment committee. Jack was previously a Partner and Investment Committee Chair at c.€10 billion AUM European mid-market Arcus Infrastructure Partners. L&G has also hired Achal Arora as Managing Director – Digital Infrastructure Investments. He joins from Macquarie Asset Management, where he was Managing Director in the European digital infrastructure team.

Matteo Colombo, Head of Digital Infrastructure Investments, Asset Management, L&G: "The launch of our Digital Infrastructure Fund marks a significant next step in our commitment to invest in the infrastructure that underpins the digital economy. From Al and cloud computing, to data sovereignty and connectivity, the demand for robust digital infrastructure is accelerating across Europe. We're leveraging our deep sector expertise, further enhanced with the recruitment of Jack and Achal, and strategic partnerships to identify and scale investments that offer strong long-term value for investors while supporting innovation, inclusion and economic resilience."

-ENDS-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Employment during construction is temporary and measured in job years (one job year is one worker employed for one year), while operational employment is permanent and measured in jobs.



### Notes to editors

#### **About L&G**

Established in 1836, L&G is one of the UK's leading financial services groups and a major global investor, with £1.1 trillion in total assets under management (as at HY25) of which c. 43% (c. £0.5 trillion) is international. We have a highly synergistic business model, which continues to drive strong returns. We are a leading player in Institutional Retirement, in Retail Savings and Protection, and in Asset Management through both public and private markets. Across the Group, we are committed to responsible investing and dedicated to serving the long-term savings and investment needs of customers and society.

#### **About our Asset Management business**

L&G's Asset Management business is a major global investor across public and private markets, with £1.1 trillion in total assets under management (as at HY25) of which c. 43% (c. £0.5 trillion) is international. Our clients include individual savers, pension scheme members and global institutions.

We provide investment solutions from index-tracking and active funds to liquidity and liability-based risk management strategies.

Our investment philosophy and processes are focused on creating value over the long term. We believe that incorporating financially material sustainability criteria, when relevant to our clients, can create value and drive positive change. This reflects L&G's purpose: 'Investing for the long term. Our futures depend on it'.

## Further information

Name: Eleanor Pinnegar

**Role:** Communications Manager **Business:** Asset Management

Tel: +44 7539 173639

Email: eleanor.pinnegar@group.landg.com

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A summary in English of investor rights associated with an investment in the fund is available from www.lqim.com/investor rights.

The risks associated with each fund or investment strategy are set out in the key investor information document and prospectus or investment management agreement (as applicable). These documents should be reviewed



before making any investment decisions. A copy of the English version of the prospectus and the key investor information document for each fund is available at https://fundcentres.landg.com/ and may also be obtained from your Client Relationship Manager.

A decision may be taken at any time to terminate the arrangements made for the marketing of the fund in any EEA Member State in which it is currently marketed. In such circumstances, shareholders in the affected EEA Member State will be notified of this decision and will be provided with the opportunity to redeem their shareholding in the fund free of any charges or deductions for at least 30 working days from the date of such notification. Where required under national rules, the key investor information document will also be available in the local language of the relevant EEA Member State.

Information on sustainability-related aspects on the funds is available on https://fundcentres.landg.com/ The decision to invest in the funds should take into account all the characteristics or objectives of the fund as described in its prospectus and in the key investor information document relating to the fund.

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