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Investeco Announces Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, LP. becomes a GIIRS Pioneer Fund

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Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P. announces its fund commitment to be rated by the Global Impact Investing Rating System (GIIRS, pronounced “gears”), joining 14 other investment funds today declaring their GIIRS Fund Rating commitment. Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P. will be one of the first 40 funds around the world to be GIIRS Rated and is thus recognized as a GIIRS Pioneer Fund (<http://www.giirs.org/for-funds/pioneer>).

A key obstacle for entrepreneurs seeking capital to grow businesses that address social or environmental problems is to rigorously demonstrate their impact in a way that moves beyond anecdotes and inspires investor confidence. GIIRS Impact Ratings make available for the first time a comprehensive, comparable, and third party verified assessment of companies’ and funds’ social and environmental impact. GIIRS Ratings & Analytics was launched in September at the Clinton Global Initiative, following a successful global beta test with the first 25 GIIRS Pioneer Funds. More than 200 companies from these leading impact investing funds across 30 countries tested the GIIRS rating platform during the beta test.

Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P. is one of the 15 new GIIRS Pioneer Funds announced today, representing \$550 million impact assets under management and a diverse range of investment vehicles that address the critical financing needs of entrepreneurs globally, ranging from early-stage equity to long-term debt funding. They include: [Adobe Social Mezzanine Fund I LP](#), [Bellwether Microfinance Fund](#), [Catalyst Microfinance Investors](#), [Greenmont Capital II](#), [IIP India Health Fund I](#), [India Financial Inclusion Fund](#), [InReturn I](#), [Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P.](#), [Mergence I](#), [Paradox Fund](#), [Próspero Microfinanzas Fund](#), [SJF III](#), [SocialAlpha-Bastion](#), [Vox Impact Investing Fund I](#), and [WillowTree Fund](#). Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P. recognizes that scaling the impact investing industry requires improved capital markets infrastructure, including generally accepted standards for defining, measuring, and comparing positive social and environmental impact. GIIRS will announce additional GIIRS Pioneer Funds in the coming months.

“GIIRS Ratings & Analytics is inspired by a chorus of voices calling for capitalism to create long term value for both society and shareholders,” said Andrew Kassoy, co-founder with Jay Coen Gilbert and Bart Houlahan of B Lab, the non-profit organization developing GIIRS. “By providing greater market transparency, GIIRS will help to unlock hundreds of billions of dollars of sidelined investment capital to flow to the world’s most innovative entrepreneurs, who are addressing social and environmental challenges using the power of business.”

With the support of the GIIRS Pioneers, in five years GIIRS aims to provide Impact Ratings for more than 2,500 companies and over 350 funds, and to provide over 150 institutional and high net worth investors with the ability to benchmark social and

environmental impact for the first time the same way financial performance is benchmarked today. By providing credible, comparable and verified impact ratings and creating a powerful analytics platform, GIIRS provides the needed capital markets infrastructure to drive \$1 trillion toward impact investments in 10 years.

About Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P.

Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P. is a unique private equity fund managed by Investeco that focuses on acquiring material interests in exceptional small to medium-sized private companies in the rapidly growing North American market for natural and healthy food and related products (the “Sustainable Food” sector). With the Sustainable Food Fund, Investeco aims to produce above market returns by investing in companies that produce environmentally superior food and agricultural products or services.

About B Lab and GIIRS

B Lab is a US-based nonprofit dedicated to building a new sector of the economy that uses the power of business to solve social and environmental problems. In pursuit of this vision, B Lab focuses on (i) developing the Global Impact Investing Rating System (GIIRS), a rating system that links private investment capital with for-profit social enterprises, (ii) establishing social and environmental performance standards for certifying B Corporations, and (iii) promoting a new corporate form for profit-based companies providing a public benefit. As of September 2011, there are over 450 Certified B Corporations from over 50 industries, representing a diverse multi-billion marketplace. For more information, visit <http://www.bcorporation.net>.

GIIRS is a comprehensive and transparent system for assessing the social and environmental impact of developed and emerging market companies and funds with a ratings and analytics approach analogous to Morningstar investment rankings and Capital IQ financial analytics. It seeks to spark the impact investment movement by providing a tool that is intended to change investor behavior and unlock the potential of this new asset class. GIIRS Ratings & Analytics will allow entrepreneurs, companies, and fund managers to better serve their customers, workers, and communities by raising capital from mission-aligned investors based on the social and environmental impact of their underlying businesses or portfolio companies. For more information, visit <http://www.giirs.org/>.

GIIRS Pioneer Funds

Below is a list of all new Pioneer Funds and Fund Managers

Adobe Social Mezzanine Fund I, LP	Adobe Capital
Bellwether Microfinance Fund	Caspian Capital Partners
Catalyst Microfinance Investors	Catalyst Microfinance Investors
Greenmont Capital II	Greenmont Capital
IIP India Health Fund I	Impact Investment Partners
India Financial Inclusion Fund	Caspian Capital Partners

InReturn I

Investeco Sustainable Food Fund, L.P.

Mergence I

Paradox Fund

Próspero Microfinanzas Fund

Management (BIM)

SJF III

SocialAlpha-Bastion

Vox Impact Investing Fund I

WillowTree Fund

InReturn Capital

Investeco Capital

Mergence

Vox Capital

Grassroots Capital and Bolivian Investment

SJF Ventures

AlphaMundi

Vox Capital

WillowTree Impact Investors