



GARI Group Expands Team to Globalize Climate Resilience Investment Activity

Global Adaptation and Resilience Investment (GARI) Group announced that Sara Shoff and Lori Collins have been appointed to build a global community of practice for investment in climate adaptation and resilience.

New York, New York. September 23, 2024 – Global Adaptation and Resilience Investment (GARI) Group, a global non-profit focused on investment in climate resilience and adaptation, announced that Sara Shoff has been appointed as Program Manager and that Lori Collins has been re-appointed as Strategic Advisor at the start of New York Climate Week. Ms. Shoff will lead development of a global community of practice for investors in climate resilience and adaptation and work with Ms. Collins in supporting GARI’s mission to scale up climate resilience investment knowledge.

GARI will lead development of a new [Investment Funds Community of Practice](#) under the Climate Adaptation Innovation Learning (CAIL) project, which has multi-million dollar funding from UNIDO and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). GARI will build on its global network of investors and other stakeholders to identify, analyze, and share best practices and lessons learned with investment fund managers and others interested in adaptation and climate resilience, particularly in developing countries. Ms. Shoff will lead GARI’s role in the CAIL program and grow GARI’s network globally through a series of virtual and in-person convenings, webinars and blog posts, culminating in the publication of a white paper.

Ms. Shoff has ten years’ experience in international development, development finance, ESG impact metrics and monitoring, and nonprofit management. She previously held roles at the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, now known as DFC) and Oikocredit US, and started her career as a US Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal. Ms. Shoff holds an MBA from the Yale School of Management and a BS in Environmental Management from California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo. “I’m so excited to kick off my work at GARI at New York Climate Week by engaging with global investors in adaptation and climate resilience,” Ms. Shoff stated. “GARI can bring its expertise, network, and history to expand the community of investors to developing countries and around the world to address the impacts of climate change.”

GARI has re-appointed Ms. Collins as Strategic Advisor to guide continued growth and impact. Ms. Collins has served as a working group member and advisor to GARI since 2017, and most recently as lead-author of GARI-produced paper “*The Unavoidable Opportunity: Investing in the Growing Market for Climate Resilience Solutions.*” Ms. Collins brings deep experience through senior roles at LendingTree, Bank of America and Fidelity Investments as well as over 15 years in the energy sector. Ms. Collins holds a Master of Science in Carbon Management from the University of Edinburgh, an MBA from Kellogg at Northwestern University, and a BS in Business Administration from UNC-Chapel Hill. “Capital markets have a critical role to play in



furthering innovation and investment in climate resilience,” Ms. Collins stated. “GARI is well-positioned to reach these private sector actors with a compelling message for engagement.”

“Climate resilience investment is an ‘unavoidable opportunity’ for investors around the world. GARI’s mission is to build a community of practice for climate resilience investment and to help transform it into a community of action,” stated Jay Koh, founder and Chair of GARI. “We are delighted to welcome Sara Shoff to the GARI team to advance our progress on engaging private investors, particularly in developing countries.”

About GARI

The Global Adaptation and Resilience Investment Working Group (GARI) is a private sector, private investor-led initiative that was announced in 2015 at Paris COP21 in conjunction with the UN Secretary General’s Climate Resilience Initiative. The working group brings together private and public sector investors, bankers, lenders and other stakeholders to discuss critical issues at the intersection of climate adaptation and resilience and investment with the objective of helping to assess, mobilize and catalyze action and investment. Since 2016, GARI has convened over 50 convenings in New York, Washington DC, San Francisco, and London, bringing together over 400 private sector investors and other stakeholders from pension funds, endowments and foundations, insurance companies, banks and investment managers to corporations, start-ups, think tanks, advisory firms and development finance institutions. For more information on GARI, please see: garigroup.com

About Global Environment Facility

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a multilateral family of funds dedicated to confronting biodiversity loss, climate change, and pollution, and supporting land and ocean health. Its financing enables developing countries to address complex challenges and work towards international environmental goals. The partnership includes 186 member governments as well as civil society, Indigenous Peoples, women, and youth, with a focus on integration and inclusivity. Over the past three decades, the GEF has provided more than \$25 billion in financing and mobilized \$145 billion for country-driven priority projects.

About UNIDO

UNIDO is a specialized agency of the United Nations with a unique mandate to promote, dynamize and accelerate sustainable economic and industrial development. Our mandate is reflected in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9: “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”, but UNIDO’s activities contribute to all the SDGs. UNIDO’s vision is a world without poverty and hunger, where industry drives low-emission economies, improves living standards, and preserves the livable environment for present and future generations, leaving no one behind.

UNIDO provides support to its Member States through four mandated functions: technical cooperation; action-oriented research and policy-advisory services; normative standards-related activities; and fostering partnerships for knowledge and technology transfer. UNIDO’s work is



concentrated on three focus areas: ending hunger by supporting sustainable food systems with modern agri-tech and agribusinesses; tackling climate change by using renewable energy and energy efficiency to reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions; and supporting sustainable supply chains so that developing country producers get a fair deal and scarce resources are preserved.

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