



Walden Asset Management
Advancing sustainable business practices since 1975

Walden Joins GISC to Address Global Poverty

Boston, MA (October 15, 2018) – Walden Asset Management has joined the Global Impact Sourcing Coalition (GISC), a BSR initiative supported by the Rockefeller Foundation that promotes a new practice called “Impact Sourcing.” Impact Sourcing aims to increase the number of individuals employed within companies’ direct operations or supply chains who are long-term unemployed or living under the national poverty line in their country. Walden is the first investment firm to become a member of GISC.

Global poverty continues to be one of the largest humanitarian challenges of our time. According to World Bank estimates, in 2015 approximately 750 million people lived below the extreme poverty line of \$1.90 a day.

Recognizing that corporations should be part of the solution, Impact Sourcing provides corporations an opportunity to reduce poverty while simultaneously experiencing benefits associated with stable supply chain partners and positive community relations. To date, GISC has 47 members including major global organizations such as Bloomberg, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and Nielsen.

As an affiliate member, Walden intends to encourage additional companies to partner with GISC and adopt Impact Sourcing practices. Walden also seeks to expand GISC’s impact by encouraging other investors to join the Coalition and engage with their portfolio companies.

“The practices championed by the GISC are a direct way for companies to have an impact on global poverty and are broadly applicable to a cross-section of industries and capitalizations. Our involvement with GISC also complements Walden’s commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals—especially SDG#1 on eliminating poverty and SDG#8 on decent work,” explained Carly Greenberg, Walden’s Senior ESG Analyst.

“The Global Impact Sourcing Coalition is excited to welcome Walden Asset Management as a member. Through Impact Sourcing, companies can contribute towards reducing poverty and inequality in the communities they source from, while receiving the same level and quality of service that they would from other suppliers. We hope increasing awareness of this business practice among investors will increase the number of Impact Sourcing jobs across corporate supply chains, creating more opportunities for workers who have the aptitude and motivation to succeed in the workplace, but who due to their economic or social backgrounds don’t have access to jobs in the formal sector,” said Sara Enright, Associate Director at BSR and Project Director at the Global Impact Sourcing Coalition.

About Walden Asset Management

Walden is the sustainable, responsible, and impact (SRI) investment practice of Boston Trust & Investment Management Company, a PRI signatory. Since 1975, Walden has specialized in managing portfolios for institutional and individual clients with a dual investment mandate: competitive financial returns and positive social and environmental impact. Walden is an industry leader in integrating ESG analysis into investment decision-making and company engagement to strengthen ESG performance, transparency, and accountability.

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