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Access Capital Partners awarded an ESG-focused Private Equity mandate from EnBW Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW)

European Private Assets specialist Access Capital Partners ("Access") has been awarded a substantial ESG-focused private equity mandate from EnBW Energie Baden-Württemberg AG ("EnBW"), one of the largest energy providers in Germany.

Leveraging on Access' 25 years dedication to the European smaller buy-out segment and its 16 years of ESG integration, the investment program aims to build a diversified portfolio of article 8 & 9 funds pursuing a dual objective of achieving attractive financial returns while creating lasting positive environmental and social impact.

Access intends to take advantage of a more mature and larger investment universe of funds addressing megatrends such as climate change, digitalisation or demographic shifts, and able to generate measurable positive impact alongside financial performance.

In addition to a robust investment due diligence focused on the managers' pricing and leverage discipline as well as ability to drive profitable growth, fund opportunities will be subject to an in-depth ESG assessment encompassing processes and sustainability KPIs for tracking progress.

Access designed a tailor-made evergreen structure allowing EnBW to achieve and maintain their desired investment level over time and enabling flexibility in the pacing and sizing of EnBW's additional future contributions.

Dirk Braun and Eberhard Haug, Directors Financial Asset Management EnBW: "We are pleased to take our long-standing and successful collaboration with ACCESS Capital to a new level. When implementing sustainability criteria, it was very important for us to work with an experienced and solution-oriented partner, to be able to precisely implement the SDG goals that are important for the entire EnBW Group. As the evergreen approach shows, our collaboration is designed for the long term. We are sure that together with Access Capital we will be able to develop a contemporary private equity portfolio that takes both economic and sustainable aspects into account."

Agnès Nahum and Philippe Poggioli, Access' Managing Partners add: "We are thankful for the trust that EnBW has placed in Access' consistent focus on smaller European buy-outs and in its mindset placing ESG factors at the core of its investment approach. We believe the small cap segment is well positioned to continue outperforming thanks to solid fundamentals and value creation levers based on organic and inorganic growth as well as on effective ESG programs."

Bernhard Fink and Thomas Kohlmeyer, Munich-based Partners of Access further comment: "Our relationship with EnBW dates back for more than a decade, with continuous investments by EnBW in our co-mingled products. We very much appreciate the fact that our trusting and long-standing cooperation is now being extended to the next ACCESS CAPITAL PARTNERS level with an evergreen mandate, tailor-made to EnBW's long term allocation needs and desire for systematic implementation of strong ESG criteria in their investments to the smaller end of the European buy-out market."

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>> ABOUT EnBW

EnBW is one of the largest energy suppliers in Germany and Europe. In the company's transformation from a traditional energy provider to a sustainable and innovative infrastructure group, the expansion of renewable energy sources and of the distribution and transportation grids for electricity and gas are cornerstones of EnBW's growth strategy and the focus of its investment spending. EnBW aims to become climate-neutral by 2035. It views sustainability as part of good corporate governance and has a holistic understanding (ESG). The Financial Asset Management manages employee pension provisions and nuclear decommissioning and contributes to the Group's sustainability goals through carefully selected investments.

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>> ABOUT ACCESS CAPITAL PARTNERS

Established in December 1998, Access Capital Partners is an independent Private Assets manager, majority owned by its management. With offices in six European countries and aggregate investor commitments of €14 billion, Access' integrated expertise offers exposure to Smaller Buy-outs, Infrastructure, and Private Debt through funds of funds, direct & co-investment funds and customized client solutions. As an early signatory of the UN-PRI in 2008, the firm is fully committed to integrating Environmental, Social and Governance best practices into its investment strategies, acknowledging that a responsible investment approach partially mitigates investment risk and enhances long term returns.

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