# EVLI EVLI PRIVATE EQUITY III ESG REPORT 2023 04/2024 **EVLI FUND MANAGEMENT COMPANY LTD**

This ESG report is not periodic report as required by EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) but complementary ESG reporting. SFDR periodic reports will be provided separately to the fund's investors.

## Evli Private Equity is committed to responsible investment



Evli Private Equity believes that integrating environmental, social and governance factors into investment and decision—making processes is important for the long—term success of the portfolio and essential to better understand the risks and opportunities associated with investments.



Responsibility is integrated into all areas of Evli Private Equity's investment operations and the funds are managed in accordance with Evli's Principles for Responsible Investment. Evli Private Equity engages actively with fund managers to promote responsible investing. Evli Private Equity believes that there is a positive connection between strong ESG¹ performance and strong financial performance.

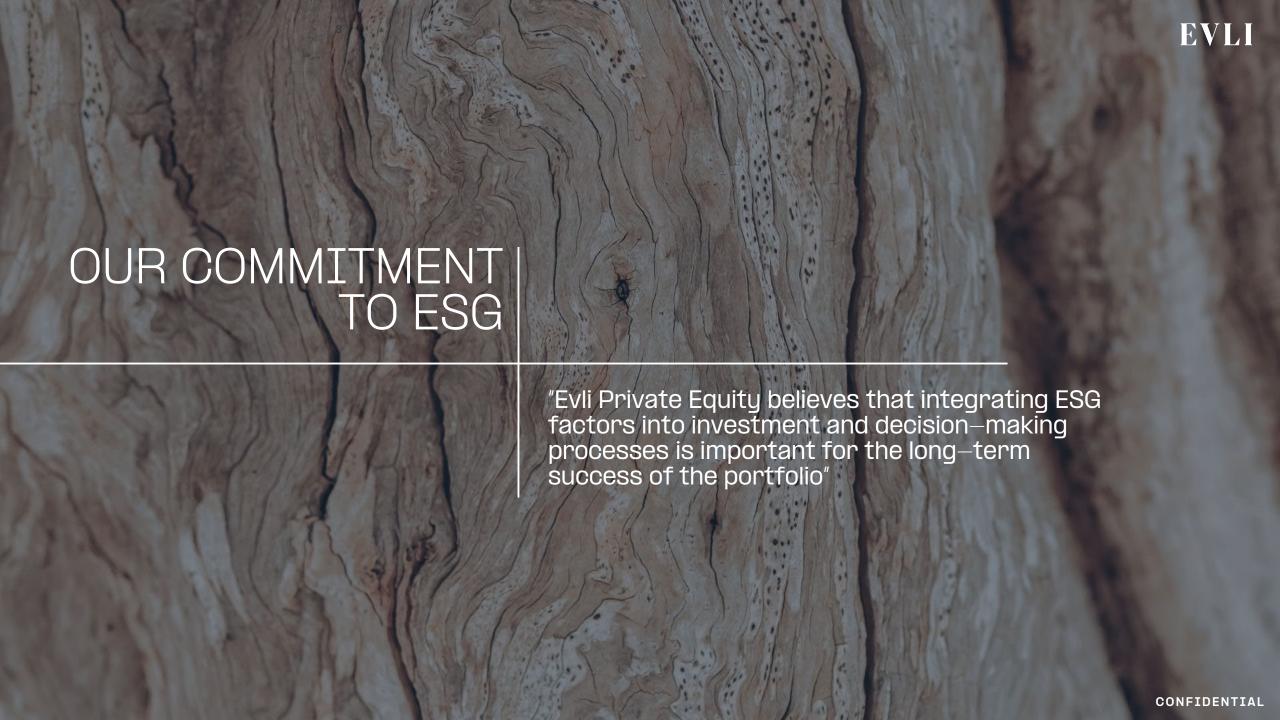
#### RESPONSIBILITY AT EVLI PLC LEVEL:



Responsibility is an important area of strategic priority for Evli Plc, and the ESG factors have been integrated into all investment activities at Evli. Evli has a Responsible Investment Executive Group, which is accountable for the principles and practical guidelines for Evli's responsible investing.



Evli Plc has been a PRI² signatory since 2010 and is following the PRI's guidelines for responsible investing. Evli has been an investor member of the CDP (former Carbon Disclosure Project) since 2007 and a member of Finsif (Finland's Sustainable Investment Forum) since 2010. In 2022 Evli strengthened its climate commitment by signing the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative. In addition to the analysis and monitoring of responsibility factors, Evli regards engaging with investment targets as being of significant importance. Evli is involved in several collaborative engagement projects, such as the CDP's investor letters, the Climate Action 100+ project, CDP's collaborative engagement related to setting Science—Based Targets (SBTs) and Nature Action 100.





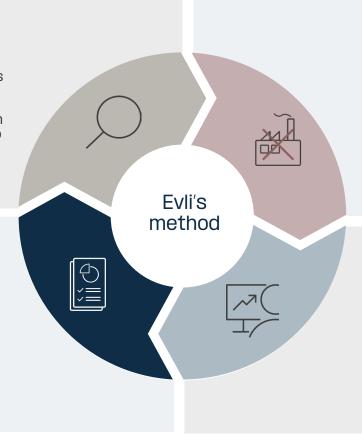
## Evli Private Equity's Principles for Responsible Investment

#### 1. ESG analysis and ESG rating

Analysis of factors related to ESG is a systematic part of the investment process. Evli Private Equity's approach to ESG integration is driven by the need to understand the fund managers' commitment to ESG, how they integrate ESG factors in different stages of the investment process, and how the fund managers report on their progress in ESG. Based on Evli Private Equity team's assessment each target fund receives an ESG rating reflecting how well the fund manager has taken into consideration the risks and opportunities associated with responsibility.

#### 4. Reporting

Evli's responsible investing is based on transparency and openness, which is why ESG factors are reported comprehensively to clients. Evli Private Equity ESG reporting consists of an annual ESG report, ESG scores as part of the quarterly reporting and reporting to the PRI as part of Evli's annual PRI reporting. In addition, information in accordance with the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) is reported from Evli Private Equity funds.



#### 2. Exclusion

Evli Private Equity will not make new commitments into funds managed by companies which do not have their own ESG policies and are not committed to responsible investment practices. When deciding on new investments, Evli Private Equity evaluates the fund's exclusion policies and avoids investments into sectors excluded by Evli¹. As a fund of fund manager, Evli Private Equity may, in certain circumstances, deviate from Evli's exclusion criteria.

#### 3. Monitoring & engagement

Evli Private Equity monitors and evaluates the fund managers' ESG practices and performance regularly through Evli's annual ESG questionnaire and fund managers own ESG reporting, as well as through active dialogue with fund managers on ESG. Evli's ESG questionnaire is send out to all fund managers each year and through the questionnaire Evli Private Equity team assesses fund managers' ESG performance and practices. The annual ESG assessment facilitates the engagement with fund managers by highlighting excellence and flagging areas for improvement in the field of ESG.

<sup>1</sup>In accordance with Evli's general exclusion principles, manufacturers of controversial weapons with a 0% revenue threshold, and tobacco manufacturers, adult entertainment producers and controversial lending companies (including so—called 'payday loan' companies) with a 5% revenue threshold are excluded. In addition, Russia is excluded as a region where investments can be made. The exclusion covers both Russian companies and the Russian state. In addition, investing in companies with more than 10% of their revenue coming from thermal coal mining, its use in energy production, or oil sand extraction is avoided and companies producing peat for energy production are excluded. Evli does not finance new coal—fired power plants, coal mines or oil sands projects that are in the planning or construction stages.



## ESG assessment of fund managers

ESG due diligence and analysis is an essential part of our investment process. Before making a commitment to a target fund, the team assesses fund managers' commitment to ESG, and how they consider ESG factors in their investment, ownership and reporting practices. In connection with the assessment the target fund receives an ESG rating. In case of low ESG score, Evli Private Equity engages with the fund manager to discuss the areas for improvement. In addition, Evli Private Equity aims to correct any shortcomings, for example in the fund's exclusion or reporting policy, in the side letter negotiations.

Evli Private Equity will not invest in funds that are managed by companies which are not committed to responsible investment practices. The fund managers need to have an ESG policy and ESG reporting in place, and they are expected to take into account ESG factors in their investment processes.

#### AREAS COVERED IN THE ESG ASSESSMENT OF FUND MANAGERS:

#### Commitment & policies

- What is the fund's ESG policy
- Is the manager a PRI signatory or committed to any other international ESG standards or guidelines
- How is the ESG incorporation implemented and how are ESG responsibilities structured in the manager's organization
- Does the fund have an exclusion policy
- Does the fund have climate policy and climate targets

#### Investment process

- How is ESG analysis for potential investments and due diligence on potential ESG risks and opportunities conducted
- How do ESG risks and opportunities affect the selection of investments
- Are ESG-related considerations integrated into deal documentation such as Shareholders' Agreements during deal structuring

#### Ownership phase

- Are ESG issues incorporated in value creation plans
- How is it ensured that adequate ESG competences and resources exist at the portfolio company level
- How does the manager contribute to the management of ESG risks and opportunities of the investments
- Which ESG KPIs¹ are tracked and how the KPIs are used
- Are ESG considerations part of the exit preparations

#### Reporting

- How does the fund communicate and report to its investors on ESG matters
- Does the manager report progress on ESG performance including data and targets
- Are GHG<sup>2</sup> emissions associated with the investments reported
- Is ESG a topic at investor meetings and advisory board meetings
- How are possible ESG incidents reported to investors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Key performance indicators

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Greenhouse gas

#### EVLI

## Evli's ESG rating system for target funds

As part of the ESG due diligence and analysis every target fund is assigned an ESG rating. The ESG rating is based on the Evli Private Equity team's assessment of the target funds and their fund managers' ESG commitment and processes. During the due diligence phase all target funds are asked to fill out Evli's comprehensive ESG Due Diligence Questionnaire. In 2022, Evli Private Equity renewed and improved its ESG Due Diligence Questionnaire and rating system to meet the latest ESG standards.

The ESG rating consists of four main areas (share of total points):

- 1) ESG commitment and policies (20%)
- 2) ESG in investment process (20%)
- 3) ESG in ownership phase (30%)
- 4) ESG reporting and disclosure (15%)
- 5) In addition, Evli has raised climate, biodiversity, and diversity  $\vartheta$  inclusion as separate themes in the evaluation (15%)

After the investment is made the investment team continues to monitor the ESG performance and development of the target funds. As part of the monitoring the ESG assessment is repeated yearly by sending out Evli's Annual ESG Questionnaire to the target fund managers. If there are significant changes in the fund managers ESG approach or practices, the ESG rating of the target fund can be adjusted.

### THE FUNDS ARE GRADED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING POINT SCALE:

≥90 %	Excellent
80-90%	Very Good
65-80%	Good
50-65%	Adequate
35–50%	Poor
<35%	Not acceptable

The maximum score from the ESG assessment is 100%.



## Evli Private Equity III — ESG overview

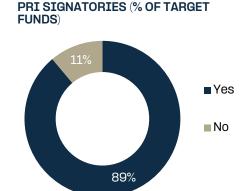
Evli Private Equity III Ky is a 2022 vintage fund. By the end of 2023, 70% of the total fund capital<sup>1</sup> had been committed to 9 target funds. Based on Evli Private Equity's 2023 ESG assessment:

100% of the target funds are rated Excellent, Very Good or Good In Evli's ESG assessment, three (33%) of the target funds received an ESG rating of 'Excellent', two (22%) of the target funds received an ESG rating of 'Very Good', and four received an ESG rating of 'Good'. None of the target funds received lower ratings.

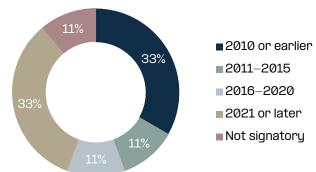
89% of the target fund managers are PRI<sup>2</sup> signatories Eight out of nine target fund managers are PRI signatories. One of the fund managers is committed to AIC<sup>3</sup> guidelines for responsible investment and is considering becoming PRI signatory in the future.

### Evli Private Equity III target funds' ESG ratings and commitment to PRI









Note: During 2023 the fund made four new commitments that where not included in previous year's (2022) ESG report. <sup>1</sup>Total fund capital of Evli Private Equity III is EUR 168 millions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> PRI stands for Principles for Responsible Investment and is a responsible investment umbrella organization supported by the UN.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> American Investment Council.



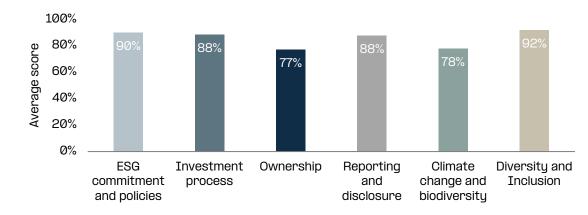
## Evli Private Equity III — ESG overview

All Evli Private Equity III target fund managers are committed to ESG, have integrated ESG in their investment processes and have ESG reporting in place. However, there are still significant differences in the level of ESG integration between fund managers.

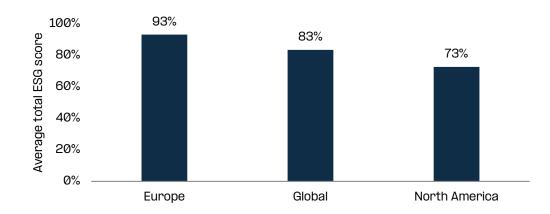
#### Areas of excellence Areas for improvement Only 5/9 of the fund managers link ESG in their + All of the fund managers have their own ESG policy and are committed to some employee performance reviews international ESG standards For a few investment exclusions have to be Oversight and implementation included in side letters due to missing formal responsibilities for ESG incorporation exclusion policies are well structured for all of the funds Investment process All fund managers have integrated ESG Only about half of the fund managers integrate ESG-related considerations into deal in their investment process and ESG is part of the investment decisions documentation such as Shareholders' Agreements during the deal structuring phase. During the ownership phase all fund Most of the managers do not seek to managers contribute to the determine how their ESG approach has Ownership management of ESG risks and affected the investments' financial opportunities in the portfolio companies performance ESG objectives rarely linked to compensation + ESG-related KPI:s are monitored and tracked for all target funds mechanisms at the portfolio company level. Climate and biodiversity are becoming more + All fund managers have integrated ESG as a part of their reporting. Most fund and more important topics for all fund Other managers provide an annual ESG report managers, but the measuring and monitoring of climate and biodiversity metrics are still at a including ESG data and progress + All managers consider climate, and very early stage and needs a lot of work. diversitu and inclusion, factors

No major ESG incidents have been reported in any of the Evli Private Equity III target funds during the last 12 months.

#### TARGET FUNDS' AVERAGE SCORES ON DIFFERENT AREAS OF EVLI'S ESG ASSESSMENT (MAX. 100% / TOPIC)



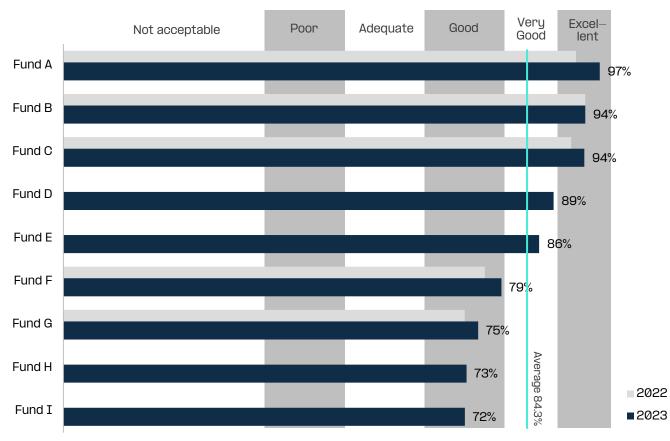
#### AVERAGE ESG RATINGS BY TARGET FUND'S GEOGRAPHY





## Evli Private Equity III — ESG overview

#### TARGET FUNDS' ESG RATINGS BASED ON EVLI'S ESG ASSESSMENT

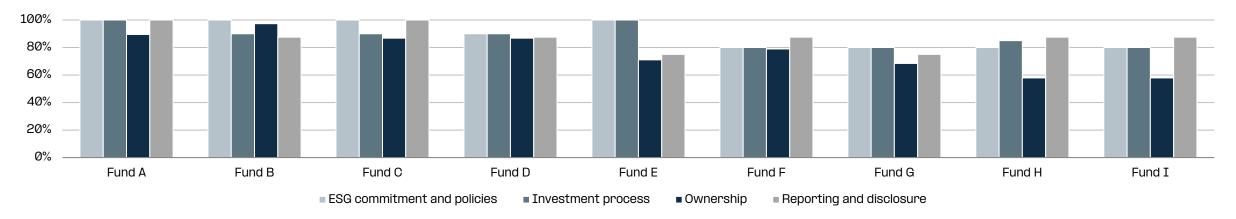


The average total ESG score of Evli Private Equity III target funds is 84.3%.

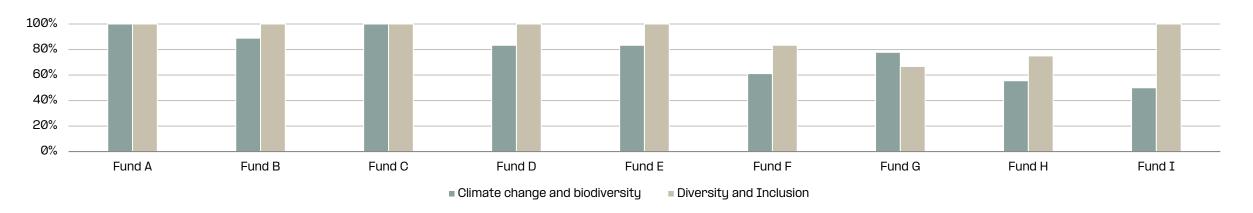


## Evli Private Equity III — ESG scores by target funds

#### TARGET FUNDS' ESG SCORES ON FOUR MAIN ESG ASSESSMENT AREAS



#### TARGET FUNDS' ESG SCORES ON CLIMATE AND DIVERSITY 8 INCLUSION



### Focus on climate

In June 2021 Evli set its own climate targets. Evli aims to be a net zero asset manager at the latest by 2050 and has set an interim target to halve the carbon emissions of its investments by 2030. Read more about Evli's Climate Target here: Evli's Climate Targets. In 2022 Evli strengthened its climate commitment by signing the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative.

Climate is taken into consideration in the different phases of Evli Private Equity's ESG process:

#### Pre-investment

Before committing to a target fund Evli Private Equity evaluates:

- Fund managers' strategy and capacity to address climate related risks and opportunities (incl. frameworks and tools used)
- Fund managers' commitments and targets relating to climate
- Scope of fund managers reporting on climate (incl. reporting on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy consumption)

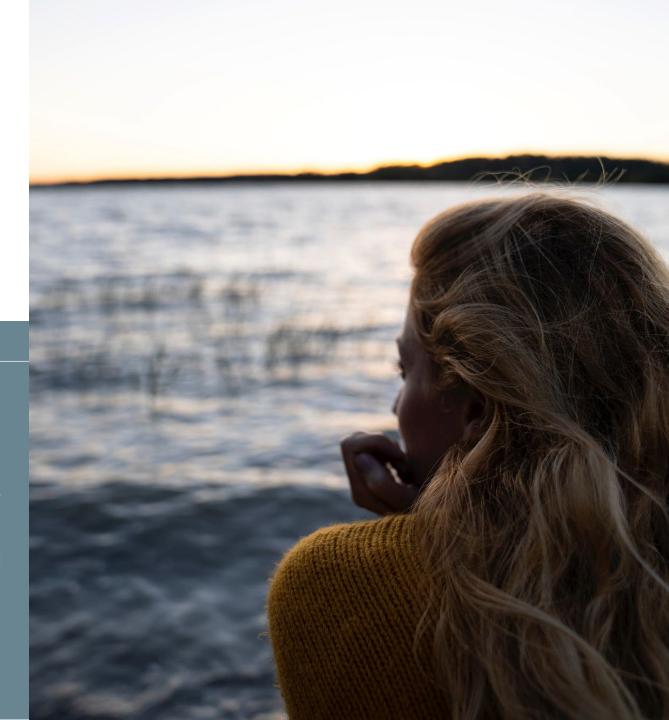
In addition, Evli aims to include climate—related considerations in side letters negotiated with fund managers. In line with Evli's exclusion policy, carbon intensive sectors will be excluded.

#### Post-investment

After committing to a fund Evli Private Equity:

- Monitors fund managers'
  development and performance
  related to climate work and climate
  targets through Evli's ESG
  Questionnaire, fund managers' own
  reporting, annual meetings and one—
  to—one meetings with managers
- Annually asks climate related data from fund managers including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the share of renewable energy consumption on target fund level

With data collected and if necessary by using estimates Evli Private Equity aims to monitor the development of GHG intensity over years on both target fund level and on fund—of—funds level.





### Climate work on target fund level

- In 2023, 56% of Evli Private Equity III target funds' fund managers had a net-zero or carbon neutrality target with clear timeframe. In addition, 22% of the fund managers have already started their climate work. This means that the fund manager acknowledges the importance of climate action and has started to look for ways to contribute to climate targets. These fund managers support the transition to low-carbon or net zero economy but has not yet set official climate targets.
- 89% of the target funds' fund managers report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with their investments for 2023. The fund managers are expected to report emission data to fund investors during Q2—Q3 2024. The rest of the fund managers are also planning to start reporting on GHG emissions in the future, but don t have the right tools to do it at this point.
- 78% of the target funds' fund managers measure the share of renewable energy consumption as a percentage of total energy consumption in their portfolio. Similarly, as to the GHG emissions, the fund managers will gather this data from the portfolio companies during Q1 and report it to the fund investors during Q2-Q3 2024.

#### 56%

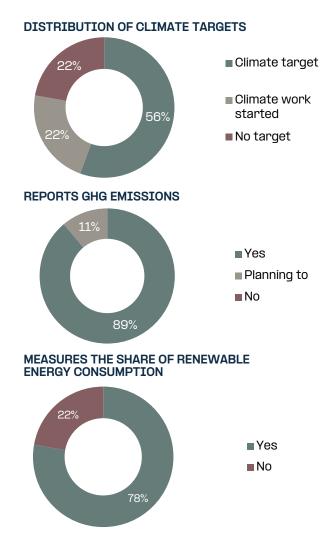
of the target funds' fund managers have a net-zero or carbon neutrality target.

#### 89%

of the target funds' fund managers report GHG emissions associated with their investments

#### 78%

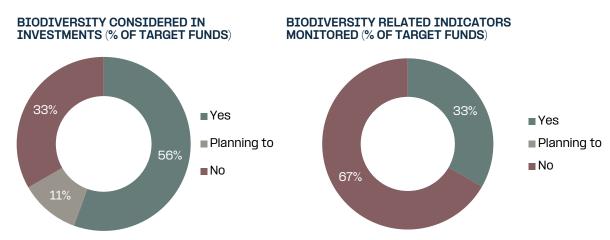
of the target funds' fund managers measure the share of renewable energy consumption in their portfolio.



### Biodiversity

In the past years, the main focus of responsible investment has been on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. However, biodiversity¹ is gaining more and more importance in the investment arena. Businesses and investors have a major role to play in biodiversity conservation. Thus, Evli Private Equity has also raised biodiversity as a separate topic in its ESG questionnaire to survey fund managers current attitude towards biodiversity and simultaneously raise the awareness of the importance of the topic among the managers.

67% of Evli Private Equity III target funds' managers either take biodiversity into consideration, or are planning to do so, when making and managing investments, but only 33% measure biodiversity related indicators.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Biodiversity or biological diversity is the variety and variability of life on Earth. Biodiversity is a measure of variation at the genetic, species, and ecosystem level.

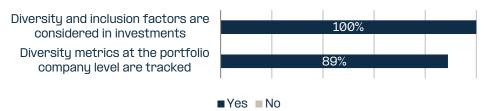


### Diversity and inclusion

A just, equitable and fair society where everyone can participate and reach their full potential is essential for businesses to prosper. Thus, Evli Private Equity considers diversity<sup>1</sup> and inclusion<sup>2</sup> in the organizations as an important topic under ESG.

All Evli Private Equity III fund managers take diversity and inclusion factors into consideration when making and managing investments, and most of them track diversity metrics at the portfolio company level.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ON THE PORTFOLIO COMPANY LEVEL (% OF TARGET FUNDS)



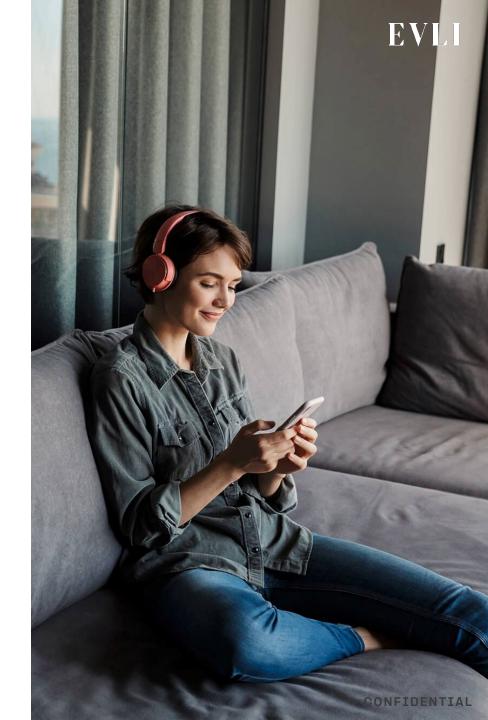
When considering the management companies of the target funds all respondents both consider and measure diversity and inclusion metrics in their own organizations.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ON THE TARGET FUNDS' MANAGEMENT COMPANY LEVEL (% OF TARGET FUNDS)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Diversity can be defined as the presence of difference within a given context, such as an organization. The term can refer to a diversity of identities, or characteristics, such as gender, race and sexual orientation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Inclusion can be described as the actions taken to understand, embrace and leverage the unique strengths and facets of identity for all individuals so that they feel welcomed, valued and supported.





### SFDR

In accordance with the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), Evli's funds are classified into three categories with respect to sustainability factors: Article 6 funds do not address sustainability factors, article 8 funds promote sustainability factors among other features, and article 9 funds have a sustainable investment objective.

#### EVLI PRIVATE EQUITY III SFDR CLASSIFICATION:

#### Article 8

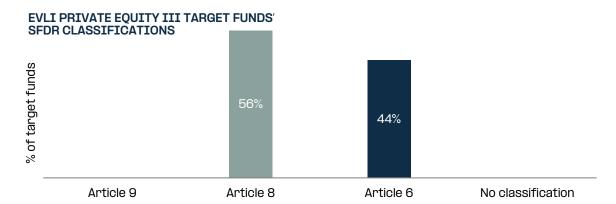
Evli Private Equity III promotes sustainability factors as part of its investment activities by integrating sustainability factors into the due diligence process carried out prior to investment, assessing fund managers during the investment period, excluding certain industries, and engaging with fund managers through active dialogue.

The fund encourages the fund managers of target funds to incorporate sustainability factors into the various areas of their operations. Evli Private Equity monitors and assesses regularly the fund managers' ESG practices and performance through Evli's annual ESG survey to fund managers and the target funds' own ESG reporting and engages in active cooperation with the aim of reducing the likelihood of sustainability risks materializing. In addition, the fund encourages management companies to report climate data and set their own climate targets.

The fund uses the following metrics to measure the implementation of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the fund:

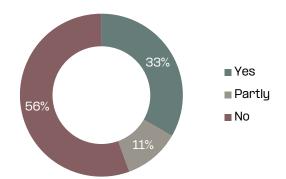
- The proportion of target funds whose management companies report on their funds' carbon intensity
- the proportion of management companies that have climate targets,
- the proportion of management companies that take account of and report on the principal adverse impacts on the environment and society (PAI indicators) of their investment decisions

Evli Private Equity III reports separately on the achievement of the promotion of sustainability factors in accordance with the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.



56% of the Evli Private Equity III target funds are classified as Article 8 and 44% of the target funds are classified as Article 6 funds.

#### FUND MANAGERS THAT CONSIDERS AND REPORTS PAI¹ INDICATORS (% OF TARGET FUNDS)



33% of the target funds consider and report Principal Adverse Impact (PAI) indicators. 56% of the target funds do not currently consider and report PAI indicators at all.

Fund managers that track and report PAI indicators will publish their PAI statements later in 2024. Despite asking the target fund managers to provide data on PAI indicators, Evli Private Equity will not be able to provide an accumulated PAI statement on a fund—of—funds level due to limited availability of the data.

¹Principal Adverse Impact



## Evli fund of funds management team



Ben Wärn

HEAD OF PRIVATE ASSET



Richard Wanamo

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR



Ville Toivakainen

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR



Roger Naylor

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

The investment team is in charge of the ESG integration.

Evli also has a six-person responsible investment team that supports the investment teams in their ESG work.



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INVESTMENT MANAGER



Oskar Karlsson

INVESTMENT MANAGER



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ANALYST



Nina Skogster

ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST



Vilma Nuutinen

LEGAL COUNSEL

# More information on Evli's Responsible Investing practices

Responsible Investing website →

Principles for Responsible Investment →

Principles for Evli Private Equity, Evli Infrastructure and Evli Private Debt →

Climate Change Principles →

Engagement policy →

Climate targets →

Biodiversity Roadmap →

More info: Alternative Investment Funds & SFDR →

Blogs and articles – Evli Funds Hub →

Responsible Investment Annual Report — 2022 →

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