

## **Educapital becomes the largest Edtech & Future of Work fund in Europe raising c.€150 million second fund**

After a first closing of €100 million in March 2022, the fund has continued its European expansion reaching the threshold of €150 Million, and thereby making Educapital the largest Edtech and Future of Work fund in Europe.

### **AN IMPACT-DRIVEN THESIS ON EDTECH & FUTURE OF WORK**

Educapital was launched by Marie-Christine Levet and Litzie Maarek in 2017, with the firm belief that innovation would play a key role in solving the many challenges facing Education and the world of work. These range from growing inequalities in the school system and teacher shortages, to a widening competency gap but also include a structural change in the way people think about and engage with their work.

Given the magnitude of these challenges, it will require a change in mindset and approach in order to solve them: education systems will have to adopt innovation, people will have to be upskilled and reskilled not only to the jobs of today but also to those of tomorrow; lifelong learning will have to become the norm as skills become obsolete; and organisations will have to rethink the way they recruit and manage their workforce.

It is with these major disruptions in mind that Educapital is proud to announce the final closing of Educapital II. Building off of Educapital I's success, this new fund will continue to operate with the mission to **find and nurture European leaders reshaping the way people learn and work.**

*"The variety of challenges facing education and the world of work calls for a major disruption. Innovation is one of the most powerful solutions. It will ensure that the best pedagogical approaches reach the largest number of learners. It will enable learning paths to be personalised to adapt to the diversity of learning styles. By making lifelong learning a reality, it will allow everyone to fully unlock their potential. It will give organisations the means to meet the expectations and needs of their workforce and of the younger generations entering the job market. In other words, we are only at the beginning of this revolution. Our market is expected to be worth \$500bn by 2025 and its potential has yet to be fully tapped. More than ever before, our investment thesis in Edtech and Future of Work makes sense. At a time when FAANG are becoming increasingly important, investing in European innovation is crucial to preserve European sovereignty." said Marie-Christine Levet.*

With this second fund, Educapital has become the **first Article 9 SFDR-compliant impact fund in its sector**. To reinforce its deeply rooted strategy to combine financial performance and social impact, Educapital has developed its proprietary methodology to measure the social impact of its investments.

One of the rare funds managed by two women, Educapital is also committed to promoting diversity: 40% of its portfolio companies have been (co-)founded by women, in comparison with the <10% market average.

## **PRESTIGIOUS INVESTORS AND A EUROPEAN FOOTPRINT**

This second fund is proud to be supported by the European Investment Fund (EIF), which – with support of the InvestEU programme – is investing EUR 25m from the Social Investments and Skills Window into the social impact fund, joining more than 80 other investors including historical investors, Bpifrance, France 2030, an investment vehicle of the French government, Hachette Livre, Education for the Many, Bayard, joined by Frojal, the family holding of Lefebvre Sarrut, the Jacobs Foundation, and institutional investors UMR, BNP, Arkea, Casden, Crédit Agricole, Sofiouest, as well as family offices and business angels.

*"Venture capital support is critical if we are to achieve greater penetration of innovation and digitalisation in the field of education technology in Europe. Human capital is our greatest resource and education is the driving force behind it. Educapital stands out among the leading funds on this topic with a solid portfolio, a genuine commitment to impact, and great leadership by two remarkable women. We are proud to support the emergence of new Edtech companies and to contribute to the development of a real European force in education," said Marjut Falkstedt, Chief Executive of the EIF.*

## **SIGNIFICANT RESULTS**

**Over the past six years**, Educapital has invested in over 30 companies disrupting education and work, including 360learning (leading corporate training platform), Labster (virtual laboratories for science learning), Preply (language learning marketplace), Chance (online career guidance platform), Knowunity (social learning application for students), among many others. Educapital's portfolio reflects the wide breadth of topics addressed by its Edtech and Future of Work investment thesis. Its impact-driven portfolio companies have demonstrated significant financial performance and have empowered more than 20 million learners and employees across the world.

*Background information*

### **About Educapital**

Founded in 2017 by Marie-Christine Levet, internet pioneer and Litzie Maarek, investment professional, Educapital is the first and largest European impact investment fund dedicated to Edtech and the Future of Work. With more than €200 million under management, Educapital invests from seed to series B, in European companies innovating in the education and future

or work sectors. Educapital is an impact labelled fund (Article 9) and has installed its own methodology to measure the impact of its companies.

Educapital ambition is to make European edtech and future of work champions emerge by providing financial support, expertise and know-how. Educapital has invested in 30 innovative companies among which Lunii, 360Learning, LiveMentor, Labster, Preply, Chance, Knowunity.

### **About the European Investment Fund (EIF)**

The European Investment Fund (EIF) is part of the European Investment Bank Group. Its central mission is to support Europe's micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by helping them to access finance. The EIF designs and develops venture and growth capital, guarantees and microfinance instruments that specifically target this market segment. In this role, the EIF contributes to the pursuit of key EU policy objectives such as competitiveness and growth, innovation and digitalisation, social impact, skills and human capital, climate action and environmental sustainability and more.

The InvestEU programme provides the European Union with crucial long-term financing by mobilising significant public and private funds to support a sustainable recovery. It helps generate additional investments in line with key European priorities, such as the European Green Deal, the digital transition and support for SMEs. The InvestEU programme brings together all EU financial tools to support investment by making project financing simpler, more efficient and more flexible. The programme has three components: the InvestEU Fund, the InvestEU Advisory Hub and the InvestEU Portal. The InvestEU Fund is implemented through financial partners who will invest in projects using the EU budget guarantee of €26.2 billion. The entire budgetary guarantee will back the investment projects of the implementing partners, increase their risk-bearing capacity and thus mobilise at least €372 billion in additional investment.

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