2024 White Paper Series | Paper 3 April 2024

The Green Transition and Private Equity Opportunities



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The Green Transition and Private Equity Opportunities

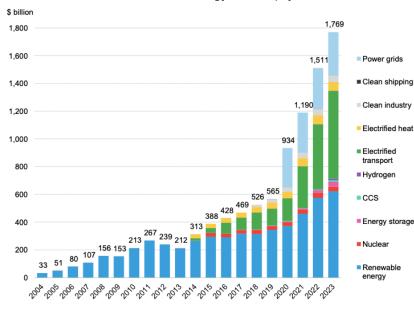
### Turning environmental challenges into private equity opportunities

• Climate change is emerging as one of the greatest challenges of this century, as rising temperatures and other weather extremes threaten life on earth as we know it. Green investment and innovation are essential to overcoming these challenges, and can give rise to new economic opportunities and ensure a sustainable green transition. Private equity firms are in a unique position to capitalize on the growing interest in green technology ("green tech") and its potential for responsible, impactful investments. As governments worldwide commit to decarbonization targets and the urgency of addressing environmental challenges continues to grow, private equity firms can support the growth of green tech companies and accelerate the development and commercialization of innovative products and services, capitalizing on the largest investment opportunity of this generation and generating above-market returns for investors.

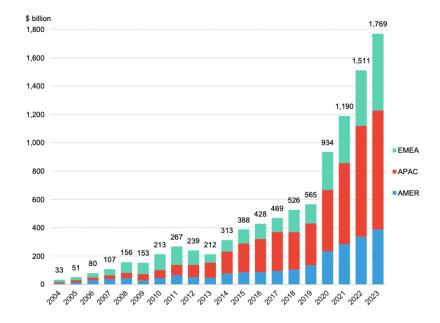
#### Why Private Equity?

- In recent years green tech has grown from a niche category to a prominent investment asset class with countless opportunities across various sectors that are benefiting from strong growth, tax advantages and clean energy tailwinds. Private equity is attracted to businesses in this stage of development where there is the opportunity for exponential growth without a high level of risk. Private equity helps green tech companies fill in the funding gap between venture capital and public equity by providing growth funding to scale operations at a time when these businesses are too small to tap the public equity markets, but still require significant capital to scale operations to get to the next level.
- Private equity's business model also provides clear advantages over other types of investors when it comes to implementing a sustainability agenda. Private equity firms have a high degree of control over their portfolio companies from an ownership and governance perspective, and have an interest in ensuring they are efficiently managed and adapt to market changes faster than their competitors. This is critical in a rapidly evolving market like green tech. Private equity investors also provide industry-specific experience and expertise that these companies desperately need. Many firms have the expertise in funding and managing large-scale projects that these companies lack, which helps them to stay on budget and on schedule.
- Private equity firms have an arsenal of strategies to choose from when it comes to growing the green tech companies in their portfolio. They can fund research and development to drive the evolution of new and exciting technologies that can increase a company's future valuation. They can facilitate collaboration with government, academia and other businesses to further advance the adoption of these technologies. They can support policy frameworks that benefit green investments such as carbon pricing, renewable energy mandates and tax incentives and encourage portfolio companies to partner with the public sector to develop and deploy clean technologies at scale. Finally, they can foster international collaboration with clean tech companies worldwide to share new advances and access opportunities in the international arena. These are all areas where companies lack the connections, capabilities and capital required, and private equity firms can provide this.

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#### Global investment in energy transition, by sector



#### Global investment in energy transition, by region

\$1.77 trillion

Global energy transition investment in 2023

\$135 billion

Global clean energy supply chain investment in 2023

\$84 billion

Global climate-tech equity finance raised in 2023

#### Why Seafort Advisors?

The race to develop new alternative energy sources and other low carbon solutions is shaping up to be a generational opportunity to put money to work. Companies supplying the technology, products and services that will drive the shift away from carbon are looking for private equity investments that offer more than just capital. Seafort Advisors is attracting a steady flow of deals in this sector because we have a proven history of steering green tech companies through rapid performance improvement and growth. We also have a clear strategy for creating value in green tech companies that is focused on finding attractive new markets through our extensive domestic and international networks, and providing expertise and guidance on company and project management. We are excited to capitalize on this meaningful investment opportunity and create value for our companies and our investors.



#### About the Author: Patrick Hennings-Huep

- Seafort Founding Partner
- Supervisory board member of Deskcenter, Apex, Pessl and DJM
- Previously: Carlyle Europe Technology Partners, Gemini Consulting Education: Business Studies in Hamburg, Paris, Oxford and Berlin (EAP), Dipl.Kfm

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