

MEDIA RELEASE

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Foresters and InterFinancial join forces to make impact on socially-focused investments

Socially-focused financier and fund manager, Foresters Community Finance Ltd (Foresters), and leading Australian mid-market corporate advisory firm, InterFinancial Corporate Finance Limited (InterFinancial) have announced a strategic partnership aimed at enhancing the management and development of an innovative range of impact investment products for the Australian market.

Impact investment products are part of a growing global market trend delivering wholesale investors with an opportunity to use their capital to generate social, environmental or cultural outcomes, while generating an investment return.

Foresters Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Drew, said the partnership with InterFinancial was the first phase in a broader capital strategy to expand the scope and scale of Foresters mission and vision of helping people and communities to help themselves.

Ms Drew said Foresters had created a unique niche as a financier and fund manager and the partnership with InterFinancial positioned the firm for further growth.

“Foresters achievements in the emerging impact investment sector are growing strongly with close to \$1m of micro-credit loans, and \$5.3m in enterprise loans to 26 non-profit organisations and social enterprises in Australia. It is now time to leverage what we know with a partner that brings skills and knowledge in the corporate finance and investment space,” Ms Drew said.

InterFinancial has acquired shares in Foresters’ funds management subsidiary, Social Investment Australia, and its Managing Director, Sharon Doyle, said the relationship with Forester was a step towards furthering a strategic objective for InterFinancial.

“We believe impact investing provides InterFinancial with an opportunity to deploy the core skills and experience of our team into a sector that aligns with our core values. We believe that Foresters is an inspiring business partner in this sector,” Ms Doyle said.

“The real test for us is our ability to work in a way which makes a genuine difference – creating wealth for our clients and giving something back to the community in which we live and do business.”

Together, Foresters and InterFinancial are committed to developing a strong impact investment market and will continue to seek further partnerships in order to achieve this goal.

Foresters and InterFinancial will also establish a joint venture strategic advisory service to assist non-profits and social enterprises who want to embark on merger or acquisition strategies.



About Foresters

Foresters is a non-profit organisation that has been delivering community finance and social investment products in Australia for the past 20 years. These products range from micro-credit for people who are financially excluded as well as access to finance for underserved markets such as non-profit organisations and social enterprises.

About Social Investment Australia

Social Investment Australia, a division of Foresters, aims to develop and manage innovative social investment products for wholesale social investors seeking to invest for worthwhile social, environmental or cultural outcomes.

About InterFinancial

InterFinancial is a leading Australian mid-market corporate advisory firm. InterFinancial works with enterprises of all sizes and has an affiliation with international merger and acquisition advisors, Clairfield International.

InterFinancial works with integrity, providing honest and independent advice to develop creative solutions, and build long term value for our clients. The firm's advisory services include: mergers and acquisitions, private equity and strategic financial advice.



For further media enquiries, please contact

Belinda Drew
Chief Executive Officer
Foresters

07 3851 8000

Sharon Doyle
Managing Director
InterFinancial

07 3218 9100

