

Thomson Reuters Foundation joins forces with Deutsche Bank to launch news coverage of social enterprise sector

London (Sept. 27, 2017) – The <u>Thomson Reuters Foundation</u> – the philanthropic arm the world's biggest news and information provider – is partnering with Deutsche Bank to provide dedicated editorial coverage of the social enterprise sector, a fast-growing industry where returns are generated by products and solutions that have a social impact.

Announced today, the initiative will see Thomson Reuters Foundation journalists report on the latest industry developments, start-ups, innovative solutions and the challenges faced - on a global and local scale - by the entrepreneurs representing this rapidly-emerging sector.

The stories will appear on the 'social innovation' section of the Thomson Reuters Foundation's news website news.trust.org, and will be distributed via the Reuters news agency which powers a network of publications reaching an estimated one billion readers daily. The new pool of journalists will be working under the direction of Lee Mannion, former editor of Pioneers Post, and the first Social Enterprise Correspondent to be appointed to a mainstream organisation.

The partnership will also involve a repeat of the successful Thomson Reuters Foundation/Deutsche Bank poll of 2016 that ranked the best and worst countries in the world to be a social entrepreneur. The survey, the first of its kind, received international attention and prompted the Dutch parliament to adopt a resolution for the Netherlands to aim to be in the top 10 best countries in the next poll.

"This partnership is all about impact. We have seen, with the results of last year's poll, how effective news can be in amplifying the work of social entrepreneurs, and how it can kick-start a meaningful conversation. Social entrepreneurs use innovation, creativity and disruption to solve some of the world's most pressing social and environmental issues. Social innovation is no charity: it's a new model of business affecting – for the better - the lives of millions of people globally. We need to tell that under-reported story," said Monique Villa, CEO of the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Lareena Hilton, global CSR and brand communications director of Deutsche Bank, said the partnership was in line with the bank's Made For Good programme that works with small and early-stage ventures that combine business with social good in over 33 countries and with entrepreneurs offering new solutions to challenges in society.

"Social entrepreneurs contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals to unlock solutions to address poverty and stimulate local economies, and yet 80% of impact investors alongside public funders disregard start-ups that pursue the double bottom line. Our partnership with Thomson Reuters Foundation enables us to shine a light on the great work being done around the world by these innovative pioneers and change perceptions of what 'good' business models look like. It also enables us to find new ways



of engagement to improve the market conditions and opportunities for the sector," Hilton said.

To access the social innovation news content produced by the Thomson Reuters Foundation, click <u>here</u>.

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