

## **REYL INTESA SANPAOLO LAUNCHES NEW PUBLICATION, *FORWARD*, FOCUSED ON THE CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL EDUCATION**

*Geneva, 18 October 2022* - **REYL Intesa Sanpaolo, the Swiss banking group majority-owned by Fideuram – Intesa Sanpaolo Private Banking, is reinforcing its social impact strategy by initiating a new publication, *FORWARD*, which highlights the challenge of educating the next generation in a digital world and lays down the possible solutions.**

The [report](#) explores how the world of global education has evolved from the pre-pandemic environment before the rapid shift to e-learning, analysing radical changes that are long overdue in the sector, as well as the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on those in poorer communities.

Estimates from a joint report by the World Bank-UNESCO-UNICEF found that more than two years into the pandemic, fewer than half of countries are implementing learning recovery strategies at scale to help children catch-up, despite 2 trillion hours of in-person school having been lost globally due to school closures since March 2020.

*FORWARD* analyses how the pandemic has taken the role of catalyst, crystallising a communications and content delivery revolution in education, which had been in the making for decades. It notes that the traditional classroom has been irrevocably changed, with technology being used to translate and re-translate languages, and education being delayed and distributed at the student's convenience.

Yet despite the fact that education can increasingly be accessed anytime, anywhere by the few; the report warns that advantages as a result of technological advancements could still remain inaccessible to many. The project underlies REYL's belief that the allocation of private and institutional capital is an essential factor in a radical shift towards greater sustainability and inclusion.

It is precisely with this perspective that the Bank's strategic initiatives fit in, whether in the area of digital banking for a wealthy clientele with Alpiant, a company which has raised more than CHF 50 million in private capital and which just launched its products and services on the Swiss market, or of impact investing with Asteria & Obviam, its asset management affiliate exclusively dedicated to social and environmental impact investing.

François Reyl, CEO of REYL Intesa Sanpaolo, says: *"The pandemic forced all segments of society to accelerate a transition towards utilising technology to unforeseen levels, and education was no exception. This report seeks to examine and evaluate the challenges that these advancements provide in order to better understand how we can mitigate the impact of lost learning hours and better prepare children for the future."*

Jérôme Koechlin, Head of Communications at REYL Intesa Sanpaolo, adds: *"REYL Intesa Sanpaolo recognises the importance of the use of digital technologies in education as a key strategic priority to fuel sustainable development and equality of access in education in Europe and worldwide. We hope that this report will bring further attention to the need to do more to*

help the next generation thrive.”

### **About REYL Intesa Sanpaolo**

[www.reyl.com](http://www.reyl.com)

Founded in 1973, REYL & Cie is a diversified banking group with offices in Switzerland (Geneva, Zurich, Lugano), Europe (London, Luxembourg, Malta) and the rest of the world (Singapore, Dubai). It manages assets in excess of CHF 25 billion (CHF 38.7 billion including minority interests) and employs over 400 professionals. In 2021, it entered into a strategic partnership with Fideuram - Intesa Sanpaolo Private Banking, a leading European banking player, pursuant to which Fideuram ISP acquired a 69% stake in REYL & Cie.

Developing an innovative approach to banking, REYL & Cie serves a clientele of international entrepreneurs and institutional investors through its *Wealth Management, Entrepreneur & Family Office Services, Corporate Finance, Asset Services* and *Asset Management* business lines. It has further diversified its activities in the areas of impact investing, through the launch of pure-play impact asset management firm Asteria and Obviam, and of digital banking for mass affluent clients via the incubation of Alpien, an app-based aspiring Swiss bank. In December 2021, REYL & Cie acquired a 40% stake in 1875 Finance, a Geneva-based multi-family office and independent asset manager with over CHF 13 billion of assets under management for private clients.

REYL & Cie Ltd is licensed as a bank in Switzerland and performs its activities under the direct control of the Swiss Financial Market regulator (FINMA). Its subsidiaries are also regulated by the FCA in the UK, the CSSF in Luxembourg, the MFSA in Malta, the MAS in Singapore, the DFSA in Dubai and the SEC in the United States.

### **About FORWARD**

[www.reyl.com/forward](http://www.reyl.com/forward)

FORWARD is a new platform, conceptualised by REYL Intesa Sanpaolo, which seeks to foster insight and dialogue on some of the key socio-economic issues of the day. The platform incorporates academic research, video and podcasts with renowned and leading international figures.

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