

Dean Hand is the Chief Research Officer for the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) the global champion of impact investing, dedicated to increasing its scale and effectiveness around the world. She is responsible for developing and guiding the [GIIN's research agenda](#), a thought-provoking cornerstone of the GIIN's work to showcase impact investment as a viable strategy so more investors allocate capital to fund solutions for the world's most pressing challenges. She also leads the [GIIN's Impact Lab](#) – a groundbreaking research and development environment where new tools and infrastructure on the frontiers of impact performance, such as impact performance benchmarks, are designed and brought to market.

Dean joined the GIIN with well over a decade of specific impact investing experience within emerging market asset management focusing on originating investment opportunities, development of catalytic finance tools, impact fund development, impact performance strategies, and advising endowed philanthropic foundations aligning their investing strategies to mission. Additionally, Dean has taught at Gordon's Institute of Business Science for the University of Pretoria, the theory and practice of impact investing. Over the span of her career, she has been at the forefront of the impact investing eco system development through her work on standardized measurement systems, network-based industry support, and published research.

Dean holds a Masters in Philosophy (Inclusive Innovation) from the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business which was awarded with distinction. She is a Bertha Scholar – a merit-based award for her work in impact investing and innovative finance.