



### **Ashley Lewis (United States)**

**Location:** Thailand

**ICats role:** Accelerator Manager

**ICats duration:** Feb 2013 – Mar 2014 (full-time)

**Degree:** B.S. Finance (Morgan State University, United States)

**Professional experience:** 5 years of professional experience in institutional investment management with Goldman Sachs and later as a Social Enterprise Consultant in Togo, West Africa.

## Summary

**Ashley worked with three early stage social enterprises in the areas of healthcare, agriculture, and environmental protection who received investment support from LGT Venture Philanthropy’s Accelerator Program (AP). She provided specialized consulting support to help them increase their impact and financial sustainability.**

### **The problem the AP aims to tackle**

- Early stage social organizations struggle to scale-up due to a lack of clear plans / strategies, unproven business models, and weak / inexperienced management teams
- Incubators / contests exist, but management know-how / experience to support impact-first companies is limited



### **LGT VP’s AP solution**

Provides hands-on business consulting through dedicated ICat Fellows on the ground, and financial support of USD 50’000 on average to promising early-stage social enterprises

### **Key challenges for the Accelerator in 2013**

- Strengthen the AP infrastructure and partnerships with incubators and social enterprise supporters
- Attract promising social organizations



### **Opportunity for an ICats Fellow**

Strengthen LGT VP’s presence in the country and the capacity for social enterprises to achieve their organizations with the business consulting experience

“ When I joined LGT Venture Philanthropy as an ICat Fellow I knew that I would be in a unique position to create long term, sustainable change by supporting early stage social ventures in achieving their goals.”

“Exploring a new region and broadening my understanding of the impact investing space have helped shape my long term career ambitions.”

- Ashley

# ICats Fellowship 2013 – Impact Report

## LGT Venture Philanthropy



### Ashley's achievements ...



### ...contributing to LGT VP's impact on the Thailand



- Intensive business consulting support for Pensook, Grassroots Innovation Company, and New Heaven Reef Conservation Program, LGT VP portfolio Investees
  - Established, assessed and revised financial and social impact targets
  - Analyzed operational processes and efficiencies
  - In-depth financial analysis for portfolio organizations
- Conducted due diligence on two organizations in the agriculture sector to be considered for LGT VP's AP
- Guest speaker and panelist for various industry related events sharing expertise on impact investing in Thailand and the region.



- Completed the second round of LGT VP's Accelerator Program and completed the investment process (application launch, evaluation, due diligence, and investment recommendation) for a number of organizations working in agriculture, ICT, women's empowerment, and education.
- Continued to build the relationship with local partnership with ChangeFusion (Bangkok) to facilitate the Accelerator Program and support them in their growth as a premier incubator and support for social enterprises in the region.
- Engaged with a number of stakeholders such as the Stock Exchange of Thailand, Ashoka, DOME for Society, and Kiva, to further strengthen the social enterprise ecosystem in Thailand

### Ashley's next challenge

Ashley continues her career path in impact investing and social enterprise consulting in East and Southern Africa. She will begin her MBA studies at HEC Paris in fall 2014.