Today, the need for infrastructure debt remains always significant in all geographies and all sectors: renewables, transport, social, telecoms, etc. Trillions of US-Dollars are needed for new and existing infrastructure projects over the next years or just simply for maintenance. The need for financing is in constant growth, counting for approximately 100 of billions US-Dollars worth of transactions per year and private debt is actually lacking in Emerging Markets to cover such needs alongside traditional banks, development institutions (multi or bilateral) and export credit agencies.

In this webinar, we will show that debt represents the lion’s share of the infrastructure assets capital structure. We do not think it is a question of cycles, but of being able to capture the right opportunities and market trends at any point in time. Moreover, since infrastructure debt is uncorrelated to the financial markets (or at least in a very limited way), the impact of a systemic risk will not directly affect the value and the return of an infrastructure debt fund.
This creates a huge opportunity for institutional investors. In this webinar, we would also like to highlight the possibilities in geographies offering significant value in the short medium term. These are Central and Eastern Asia, MENA (excluding Gulf countries), Eastern Europe and Latin America investment grade countries where the current margins pricings are in the range of 250-350 bps spread.

Due to the collateralization and the contractual covenants, we would also like to show that infrastructure debt offers in the current Covid-19 context significantly higher protection against credit risks than comparable publicly issued bonds and plain vanilla corporate debt, the latter not benefiting from extra layers of structuring and security package and hence significantly decreases the cumulated default rate.

AGENDA

Opening words:
Annette Olschinka-Rettig, Managing Director, BAI e.V.

Speaker:
Jean-Francis Dusch, CEO Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management UK, CIO BRIDGE, Infrastructure & Managing Director of Infrastructure, Real Assets and Structured Finance
Remarks:
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BAI Webinar – the speakers

**Annette Olschinka-Rettig** has been Managing Director of the Bundesverband Alternative Investments e.V., Bonn, since 2019. She is responsible for the topics of the market (including cooperation with members and investors) as well as public relations, science and events. She has many years of experience in investment and financing matters. From 2014-2019, she was active in the Mergers & Acquisitions division of BASF SE in Ludwigshafen on both the sell side and the buy side and previously held the position of Head of Asset Management, responsible for the assets of BASF Pensionskasse VVaG and BASF Pensionstrauhand e.V. Until her transfer to asset management, she was responsible for a variety of financing issues at BASF’s Treasury department, as well as providing support for German and international subsidiaries, including project financing. From 2001, Ms. Olschinka-Rettig worked in the Corporate Finance department of Wintershall Holding AG, which at the time was a subsidiary of BASF in the oil and gas business. After completing a banking apprenticeship and studying business administration at the University of Würzburg, she began her career with Deutsche Bank in Berlin.

**Jean-Francis Dusch** – CEO Edmond de Rothschild Asset Management UK, CIO BRIDGE, Infrastructure & Managing Director of Infrastructure, Real Assets and Structured Finance.

Jean-Francis Dusch brings over 26 years of international project and structured finance experience to the team. He joined the Edmond de Rothschild Group in 2004, as co-head of the Project Finance department before taking charge of the group’s structuring advisory services. He contributed to the successful development of the Project Finance advisory and Private Equity structuring activities. In 2013, as part of the group’s globalisation, Jean-Francis headed the group’s Infrastructure, Real Assets and Structured Finance department. Infrastructure financing is an important part of the Edmond de Rothschild history and Group’s commitment to sustainable development, real economy and societal values.