

## **Karl “Charly” Kleissner, Ph.D.**

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Affiliation: Charly Kleissner, PhD; Co-Founder Toniic, Twist, and KL Felicitas Foundation; full member of the Club of Rome

Charly Kleissner is an impact investor. He believes that the real meaning of wealth is to make a positive contribution to humanity and the planet. He is a leader of the deep impact movement, advocating for systemic change and for treating the root causes of our failing economic system, not just the symptoms - with a level of awareness and consciousness that is non-anthropocentric, acknowledging that humanity is part of the evolutionary process, not outside of it. He sees impact investing not as an intellectual exercise, but as an expression of who he really is.

Dr. Kleissner co-founded [KL Felicitas Foundation](#), [Twist](#), [Social-Impact International](#), the [Central European Investment Ready Program](#), [pioneer:impact](#), and [Hawai'i Investment Ready](#), which help social entrepreneurs worldwide accelerate and increase their impact. Dr. Kleissner co-founded the [Impact Hub Tirol](#), [Toniic](#), a global network for impact investors and Toniic's [100% Network](#), a global group of asset owners dedicated to 100% impact, currently representing over \$10 billion in assets that are actively moving into impact.

Dr. Kleissner serves as a full member of [The Club of Rome](#), as the chair of the supervisory board of [Alia](#), on the Board of the [Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship](#) and [Proof](#), on the Advisory Board of [Chi Impact Capital](#), [Industree Foundation](#), [MCI Business School](#), [Commonland](#), and [Rainfall](#), and as the chair of the ethical committee of [tree.ly](#). Dr. Kleissner is board chair emeritus of [ImpactAssets](#).

Dr. Kleissner has over twenty years of experience as a senior technology executive in Silicon Valley. He held executive and senior engineering management positions at Ariba Inc., RightPoint, NeXT Software Inc., Digital Equipment Corp. and Hewlett-Packard Company.

Dr. Kleissner has given dozens of keynotes about deep impact, systemic change; and modern technology, consciousness & impact. He has been teaching workshops and seminars about social entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial leadership, deep impact investing, and other related topics.

Dr. Kleissner earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Technology, Vienna. He authored two software patents and published numerous articles. Dr. Kleissner is co-author of 'Solutions for Impact Investors: From Strategy to Implementation', published in 2009. He contributed to 'Evolution of an Impact Portfolio: From Implementation to Results', published in 2013. In 2004, Dr. Kleissner received the 'Distinguished Alumnus' award from the University of Technology, Vienna. In 2012, he received the 'Make A Difference Award' from Brainswork, Austria. In 2014, Lisa and Charly received the BNP Paribas Grand Prix in Philanthropy. And in 2023, Charly received the 'Smart Capitalism Award' from the Social Impact Investors Association in Budapest/Hungary.