



## INAUGURAL SIRI BLENDED FINANCE CONFERENCE

**Date:** September 25, 2024

**Location:** Columbia University

The mitigation of climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty, and other grand societal challenges has historically been primarily financed through public funding and private philanthropic giving. Yet, a large financing gap remains, especially in the Global South. The question: how can we crowd in more private capital to finance innovative solutions in climate tech, renewable energy, nature-based solutions, social inclusion, and others, especially in the Global South? To better understand the challenges and opportunities in mobilizing more private capital investments, the Sustainable Investing Research Initiative (SIRI) is bringing together a carefully curated set of key leaders in the public and private sectors, policymakers, and academia.

### Sponsoring Partners



### Knowledge Partner



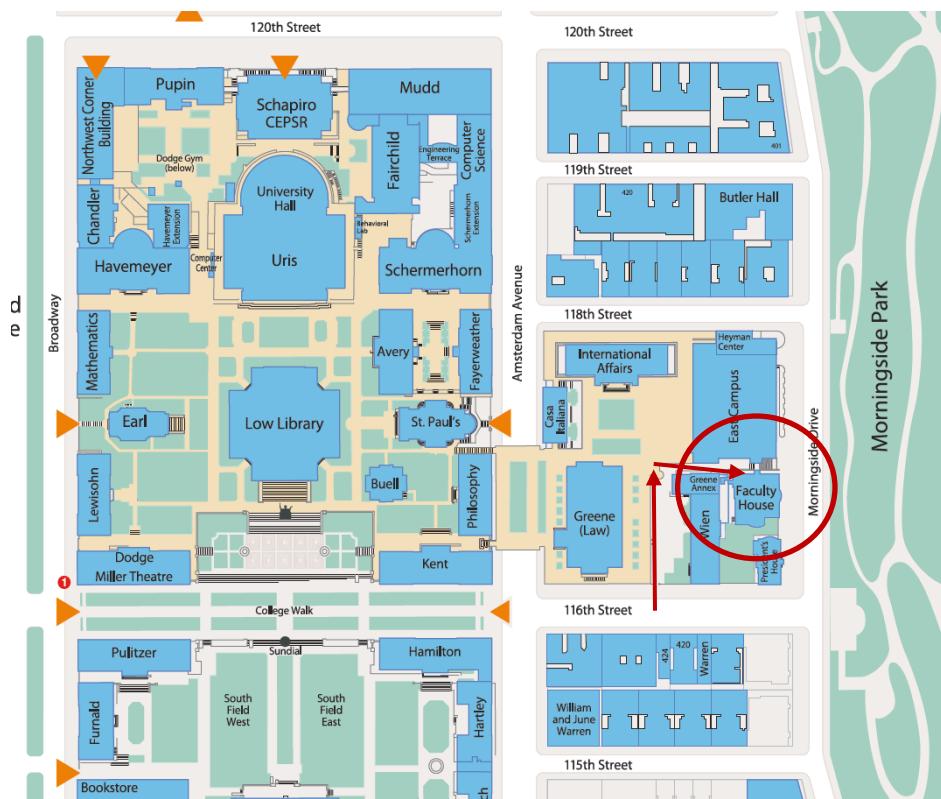
Questions? Contact [siri@columbia.edu](mailto:siri@columbia.edu)

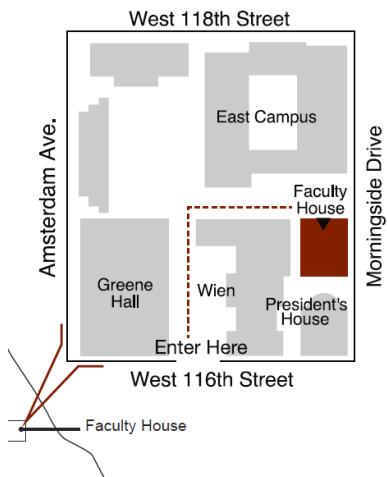
## LOGISTICS

The Inaugural SIRI Blended Finance Conference will take place on September 25, 2024 in the “Faculty House” (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Presidential Ballroom) on Columbia University’s East Campus at 64 Morningside Dr., north of 116<sup>th</sup> Street.

Please know that the university still has increased security and visitors to the campus must be pre-registered. Therefore, in case any of your colleagues are joining us, please share their first name, last name, and email address three days prior to the event so that we can add their details in time for them to be approved. Please bring your ID for entry to campus. You will receive a QR code via email. Upon arrival, please show the QR code and your government-issued ID to security at the gate.

Direction: The best way to access the Faculty House is via 116<sup>th</sup> Street between Amsterdam and Morningside Drive. (Note, the gate on Morningside Drive is locked.) Enter through the Wien gates on 116<sup>th</sup> Street. See the map below:





#### DIRECTIONS

- Follow College Walk (116<sup>th</sup> St.) across Amsterdam Ave towards Morningside Dr.
- After passing Jerome Greene Hall on the left, enter Wien courtyard through gates.
- Follow courtyard around to the right.
- Faculty House will be the last building on the right.



For disability access, follow directions above.



#### SUBWAY

Take #1 train to 116<sup>th</sup> St. (Columbia University) stop.



#### BUS

Four bus lines (M4, M11, M5 and M104) serve the Columbia/Morningside Heights area.

### CHATHAM HOUSE RULES

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The SIRI Blended Finance Conference is under Chatham House rules and will not be recorded. The insights of this discussion will inform each participating organization as well as SIRI's plan for future actions and research to help scale up the global marketplace for blended finance and catalytic capital. We will have notetakers summarize the discussion and we will share summaries of key insights (no person or organization will be named by name) with all participants after the conference.

### THANK YOUS

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A big thank you to everyone for joining the Inaugural SIRI Blended Finance Conference. Your insights will be invaluable to the conversation and to making progress in developing and scaling up the global marketplace for blended finance.

A special thank you goes to our Sponsoring Partners Mirova and SIMFO, Knowledge Partner Origination, as well as Chandana Yelkur (SIRI), Osvald Bjelland (Origination), Erich Cripton (CDPQ), Sébastien Duquet (Mirova), and Thomas Giroux (Mirova) for their advice and help in organizing and bringing you all together.



# COLUMBIA | SIPA

## Sustainable Investing Research Initiative

**SIRI BLENDED FINANCE CONFERENCE (September 25, 2024)**

### **FINAL AGENDA**

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**9:00 – 9:30    Registration & Welcome**

**9:30-10:30    Opening Session**

Context setting: Globally there is a gap of over \$4-5T of development financing (UN 2023). Although this gap comprises just about 3% of \$140T of Global Assets Under Management and about 4% of Global GDP, it is difficult to crowd-in this capital into the markets and countries that are most in need of it. Additionally, if ODA is used as a surrogate for capital available to crowd-in this investment through blended finance, it is only around 4% of the need at \$224B in 2023 (OECD 2023). With this context, this conference is bringing in stakeholders that represent a broad group of key experts and leaders to discuss how we can all work together to solve this massive challenge in service of future generations.

- What are the key challenges of the high-risk countries/markets/situations?
- Is Blended Finance the key solution for addressing these problems?
- What are the key issues within Blended Finance to address? – Focus of today's workstreams
  
- **Speakers:**
  - [Susan M. Lund \(IFC, World Bank Group\)](#)
  - [Mathilde Mesnard \(OECD\)](#)
  - [Pradeep Kurukulasuriya \(UN Capital Development Fund\)](#)
  - [Alexia Latortue \(U.S. Treasury Department\)](#)
  - [Luciana Ribeiro \(eB Capital; B20 Brazil\)](#)
  - [Amy Hepburn \(Investor Leadership Network\)](#)
  - [Marc Andre Blanchard \(CDPQ\)](#)
  
- **Moderator:** [Caroline Flammer \(Columbia U\)](#)

*Break out into 2 parallel workstreams.*

### **10:45 - 11:30 Workstream Session 1 – Investors' expectations and risks**

Track A: *Fund's structure – Creating alignment of objectives amongst all participating stakeholders with a clear definition of "problem to be solved". Impact first approach to investments? Returns waterfall split between tranches?*

- Moderator: **Caroline Flammer** (Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speakers: **Gautier Queru** (Mirova), **Steen Byskov** (IBRD)

Track B: *The MDBs, their shareholders, and credit ratings – perceptions of the reform agenda and how can the MDBs, their shareholders, and rating agencies play a critical role in facilitating the flow of private capital?*

- Moderator: **Abhishek Dhawan** (UN CDF)
- Kick-off Speakers: **Mari Elka Pangestu** (G20 Bali GBFA Secretariat), **Robert Kopech** (Columbia U)

### **11:45 - 12:30 Workstream Session 2 – Assessing and Mitigating Risks**

Track A: *Ratings agencies and how can their assessment of credit risks in BF deals be improved?*

- Moderator: **Caroline Flammer** (Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speaker: **Gregg Lemos-Stein** (S&P Global)

Track B: *How can blended finance be supported with an enabling financial regulatory and political environment locally and globally? How to mitigate/manage foreign currency risks?*

- Moderator: **Merit Janow** (Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speakers: **Sabine Mauderer** (NGFS), **Hubert Danso** (Africa Investor (Ai) Group)

### **12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break**

## 13:30 - 14:15 Workstream Session 3 – Target Setting, Financial and Impact Additionality

Track A: *Determining impact target and measurement. How to improve ex-ante impact assessment to match realized impact? A focus on carbon credits.*

- Moderator: [David Wood](#) (Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speakers: [Lord John Browne of Madingley](#) (BeyondNetZero), [Timothee Jaulin](#) (Amundi)

Track B: *How can MDBs and DFIs go beyond the private co-financing ratio?*

- Moderator: [Matthieu Pagon](#) (IDB)
- Kick-off Speaker: [Kavita Sinha, Daniel Farchy](#) (Green Climate Fund)

## 14:30 - 15:15 Workstream Session 4 – Concessionality & Catalytic Capital

Track A: *Additionality, capital efficiency, and degree of concessionality – What are the barriers toward a shared formula for concessionality assessment?*

- a. Moderator: [Vito Dellerba](#) (CDPQ)
- b. Kick-off Speaker: [Marat Zapparov](#) (Pentagreen), [Matthieu Pagon](#) (IDB)

Track B: *How can MDBs & DFIs provide more catalytic capital: shareholders structure, credit ratings, country exclusion or capital ratios, guarantees, etc. How can development finance be better bridged with foundations, family offices and impact investors?*

- Moderator: [Frederic de Mariz](#) (UBS, Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speakers: [Stella Tansengco-Schapero](#) (ADB); [Vincent Shen](#) (SIMFO)

**15:30 - 16:15 Workstream Session 5 – Increasing Supply of Investable Projects & Attracting Institutional Investors**

Track A: *Developing the pipeline of investable projects – Can common criteria be defined for institutions to share “pipelines” for maximum impact? Are there examples/learnings from “deal sharing” platforms?*

- Moderator: [Thomas Giroux](#) (Mirova)
- Kick-off Speaker: [Andrew Herscowitz](#) (ODI), [Christian Deseglise](#) (HSBC)

Track B: *How can institutional asset owners/managers be attracted to increase their engagements in blended finance and investments in the Global South (e.g., by decreasing perceived political risks)? How to better train institutional investors teams?*

- Moderator: [Caroline Flammer](#) (Columbia U)
- Kick-off Speakers: [Anne Laurence Roucher](#) (Mirova)

**16:15 - 17:00 Closing Remarks, Networking & Happy Hour**



# COLUMBIA | SIPA

## Sustainable Investing Research Initiative

### SIRI BLENDED FINANCE CONFERENCE (September 25, 2024)

#### FINAL PARTICIPANT LIST

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##### *Ministers of Finance / Economy, Ambassadors, and Others*

- Sergio Cappuccio – Senior Financial Advisor, Innovate Finance Division at Global Affairs, Government of Canada
- Mauricio Cardenas – Professor of Professional Practice in Global Leadership at SIPA, Columbia U; former Minister of Finance of Colombia
- Alexandra Chau – Economic Research Analyst, Office of Sustainable Infrastructure, U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Giulia Christianson – Senior Advisor, Climate Finance, Office of the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate
- Joschka Gerigk – Head of Office, Deutsche Bundesbank
- Ilmi Granoff – Climate-related Financial Risk Advisory Committee (CFRAC), Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC), U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Martin Guzman – William S. Beinecke Visiting Professor of Public Policy at SIPA, Columbia U; former Minister of Economy of the Republic of Argentina
- Takatoshi Ito – Professor of International and Public Affairs at SIPA, Columbia U; former Deputy Vice Minister for International Affairs at the Ministry of Finance of Japan; former Member of the Japanese Prime Minister's Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy
- Simon Keller – Head of Representative Office, Deutsche Bundesbank
- Dasol Kim – Research Principal, Office of Financial Research, U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Alexia Latortue – Assistant Secretary International Trade and Development, U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Sze Liang Lee – Director & Specialist Leader (Infrastructure & Blended Finance), Financial Markets Development Department, Monetary Authority of Singapore
- Sabine Mauderer – President, Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS); Member of the Board, Deutsche Bundesbank
- Mathilde Mesnard – Deputy Director for the Environment Directorate, OECD
- Mari Elka Pangestu – presidential special envoy for the Global Blended Finance Alliance (GBFA), G20 Bali GBFA Secretariat
- John Podesta – United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate ~

- Florence Screve-Szeles – Deputy Director Generale, Banque de France
- Jo Tyndall – Director for the Environment Directorate, OECD
- Qi Zhang – Deputy Representative, People's Bank of China

*Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), United Nations (UN), and World Bank Group*

- Erin Elizabeth Baldwin – Senior Communications Consultant, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Steen Byskov – Senior Financial Officer, World Bank Treasury (IBRD)
- Nestan Devidze – Project Officer, Private Sector Facility Division, Green Climate Fund
- Abhishek Dhawan – Sustainable Finance and Partnerships Specialist, UN Capital Development Fund (UN CDF)
- Daniel Farchy – Climate Investment Manager, Nature & Ecosystems, Green Climate Fund
- Arturo Franco – Special Advisor, Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank
- Charlotte Gardes-Landolfini – Financial Sector Expert, Monetary and Capital Markets Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Pranab Ghosh – Principal Investment Officer – Blended Finance, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Agathe Gouot – Senior Advisor to the CIO, FinDev Canada
- Tim Hilger – Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Finance, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- Keiko Honda – Adjunct Professor at SIPA, Columbia U; former Executive Vice President and CEO of MIGA, World Bank
- Anna Irmisch – Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance Transition Financing Track Manager, UN-convened Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA), UNEP Finance Initiative
- Robert Kopech – Adjunct Associate Professor at SIPA, Columbia U; former Vice President and Group Chief Risk Officer, World Bank
- Pradeep Kurukulasuriya – Executive Secretary, UN Capital Development Fund
- Susan M. Lund – Vice President, Economics and Private Sector Development, International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group
- Meaghan McGrath – IFC Senior Manager for Partnerships, International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group
- Maria Caterina Migliorero – Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Finance, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- Matthieu Pegon – Head of Blended Finance, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Maria Charlotte Velardi Portes – International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group
- Huib-Jan de Ruijter – Co-Chief Investment Officer, Management Board, FMO

- Niraj Shah – Program Manager, Private Sector Window (PrSW) of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Stella Tansengco-Schapero – Senior Financing Partnerships Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Kavita Sinha – Director, Division of Private Sector Facility, Green Climate Fund

*Impact investors, VC, Private Equity, Family Offices and Foundations*

- Bunmi Adekore – General Partner, DawnBox Ventures
- Girish Aivalli – Chief Executive Officer, Impact Investor Council ~
- John Balbach – Director, Impact Investments, MacArthur Foundation
- Anjali Bansal – Founding Partner, Avaana Climate and Sustainability Fund
- Paul Bodnar – Director of Sustainable Finance, Industry, and Diplomacy, Bezos Earth Fund ~
- Guillaume Bonnel – CEO, SDG Impact Finance Initiative
- Harry Brekelmans – Advisor, Partner and Board Member, Azimuth Capital Management
- Lord John Browne – Founder and Chairman, BeyondNetZero
- Catherine Cax – Managing Director, Soros Economic Development Fund, Open Society Foundations
- Jason Dou – Assistant to Rey-Sheng Her, Tzu Chi Foundation
- Nathan Eskender – Senior Investment Analyst, Soros Economic Development Fund, Open Society Foundations
- Anita Fiori – Investment Principal, Soros Economic Development Fund, Open Society Foundations
- CD Glin – President, PepsiCo Foundation & Global Head of Social Impact, PepsiCo Inc.
- Harry Guinness – Co-founder, New Leaf Climate Partners
- Rey-Sheng Her – Deputy CEO, Tzu Chi Foundation
- Sanjay Kadaveru – Founder and Chairman, Action for India
- Ashish Kumar – former Director, Climate & Innovation, Shell Foundation ~
- Sami Lahoud – Co-founder and CEO, EMPact
- Greg Levin – Co-founder, New Leaf Climate Partners
- Steve Lydenberg – Partner, Strategic Vision for Domini Impact Investments LLC; Founder and Chairman, The Investment Integration Project (TIIP)
- Gillian Marcelle – CEO and Founder, Resilience Capital Ventures
- Jérôme Nicolaï – Associate, Omidyar Network
- Eric Pelofsky – Vice President & Senior Advisor to the President, The Rockefeller Foundation
- Eliza Prendzov – Founder and CEO, Prend Capital

- Peter Psaras – Founder, Chios Capital
- Vineet Rai – CEO and Chairman, Aavishkaar Group
- Luciana Ribeiro – Founder and Managing partner, eB Capital; Co-Lead of B20 Brazil
- Komal Sahu – Chief of Sustainable Finance, AVPN
- Vincent Shen – Executive Chairman, Systems Impact Multi-Family Office (SIMFO)
- Prateek Shrivastava – Co-founder and COO, EMPact
- Ayush Shukla – Associate, Sustainable Finance, AVPN
- Jim Sorenson – Founder and Chairman, Sorenson Impact Foundation
- Cecilie Sørhus – Chief of Staff and Head of Communications, Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG)
- Jeff van Steenbergen – Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Azimuth Capital Management
- Tim Streeter – Global Head of Investor Relations, Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG)
- Jennifer Wang – Director of Financial Innovation, New Energy Nexus
- Ben Weisman – Executive Director, Capital Mobilization at GFANZ | Bloomberg LP Climate Finance
- Eric Wilburn – Program Officer, Nature Finance, Bezos Earth Fund ~
- Michael Youtsos – Partner, Leon Capital
- Wayne Wu – Assistant to Rey-Sheng Her, Tzu Chi Foundation

### *Asset Managers*

- Benjamin Attia – Principal, Allied Climate Partners
- Annika Brouwer – Sustainability Specialist, Ninety One
- Carolina O'Campo – Head of ESG, Patria Investments
- Patrick O'Connell – Director of Responsible Investing Research, Fixed Income, Alliance Bernstein
- Thomas Giroux – PhD Researcher, blended finance, ENSAE; Co-head of Mirova Research Center, Mirova
- Matt Goldklang – Climate Scientist, Man Numeric
- Timothée Jaulin – Head of ESG Development & Advocacy, Amundi
- Laura Kaliszewski – Head of Sustainable Investment Solutions, ILN Co-chair, Natixis
- Garima Kapoor – Director Sustainable and Transition Solutions, BlackRock
- Dylan Minor – Founder and Chief Strategist, Argos Global/Omega Financial Group
- Nazmeera Moola – Chief Sustainability Officer, Ninety One
- Nadia Nikolova – Director, Allianz Global Investors
- Gautier Quéré – Managing Director Natural Capital, Mirova

- Anne-Laurence Roucher – Deputy CEO, Head of Private Equity and Natural Capital, Mirova
- Clara Sheets – Managing Director, Global Strategy for Sustainable and Transition Solutions, BlackRock
- Francis Verpoucke – EVP Institutional Business North America, Mirova

*Institutional asset owners: Pension Funds, Insurances and other large Asset Owners*

- Nick Autiello – Senior Advisor, Investor Leadership Network (ILN)
- Marc André Blanchard – Executive Vice-President and Head of CDPQ Global and Global Head of Sustainability, CDPQ; Co-Lead of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance’s Task Force on Multilateral Development Banks; Co-Chair of the Investor Leadership Network (ILN); Co-Chair of B20 Indonesia Finance & Infrastructure Task Force
- Erich Cripton – Director of Business Relations, CDPQ Global
- Hubert Danso – CEO and Chairman, Africa investor (Ai) Group
- Vito Dellerba – Managing Director, Sustainable Investing, CDPQ
- Rapheal Erasmus – Managing Director, Strategy and Capital Formation, Pentagreen
- Amy Hepburn – CEO, Investor Leadership Network (ILN)
- Jennifer Jordan-Saifi – CEO, Sustainable Markets Initiative
- Michael Kelly – Chief Legal and Sustainability Officer, OMERS
- Ben Lemire, Vice President Responsible Investing, Mubadala
- Clément Morelli-Valiquette – Associate, CDPQ Global
- Sarah Oliver Scemla – Chief Sustainable Finance Officer, Sustainable Markets Initiative Secretariat
- Radhika Shroff – Managing Director, Impact Investing Private Equity, Nuveen
- Leah Waterhouse – Sustainable Investment Director, Sustainable Markets Initiative
- Marat Zapparov – CEO, Pentagreen

*Banks*

- Ben Barry – Executive Director, Solutions, Macquarie Asset Management
- Michael J. Bellantoni – Sustainable Finance Capital Markets Americas Vice President, BNP Paribas
- Monia Bianco – Vice President, J.P. Morgan Development Finance Institution, J.P. Morgan
- Christian Déséglise – Group Head of Sustainable Infrastructure and Innovation, HSBC
- Frédéric De Mariz – Head of ESG, UBS Latin America

- Andreas Maerki – Director, Structured Debt Project Finance, BBVA
- Christopher Marks – Managing Director, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG)
- Anoushka Mehta – Managing Director, Head of ESG Banking Americas, HSBC
- Isabelle Millat – Head of Sustainable Finance Global Markets & Barclays Europe, Barclays
- Amira Nahhal – Associate, Official Institutions Coverage, Americas, BNP Paribas
- Pablo Perez – Sustainable Capital Markets Structurer, BNP Paribas
- Brooks Preston – Managing Director, Macquarie Asset Management
- Julia Samson – Sustainable Finance Capital Markets Associate, BNP Paribas
- Lauren Willington – VP, Sustainability and Impact Partnerships, State Street

#### *Rating Agencies, Financial Information, and Others*

- Marion Amiot – Head of Climate Economics and European Economist, S&P Global
- Alexandra Dimitrijevic – Global Head of Analytical Research and Development, S&P Global
- Paul Gruenwald – Global Chief Economist, S&P Global Ratings
- Andrew Herscowitz – Executive Director, ODI Global Washington~
- Diana Hui – Regulatory Advisor, S&P Global
- Nnamdi Igobokwe – Director, Convergence Blended Finance
- David Knutson – Senior Director, Strategic Outreach, S&P Global
- Gregg Lemos-Stein – Chief Analytical Officer, Corporate Ratings, S&P Global
- Carolyn McLean – Global Chair of the Project Finance Analytical Oversight and Consistency Council, S&P Global
- Frédéric Samama – Adjunct Professor at SIPA, Columbia U; Head of Strategic Development, Sustainable, S&P Global
- Roberto H. Sifon Arevalo – Managing Director, Global Head of Sovereign & MLI Ratings, S&P Global
- Sylvie Skene – Executive Assistant, Carbon Direct

#### *Corporates and Others*

- Firuz Barbaros Bağlıkaya – Chairman, TURSAB
- Osvald Bjelland – Founder and Chairman, Origination
- Mary Cline – Senior Policy Advisor, Ernst & Young
- John Colas – Partner and Vice Chairman, Oliver Wyman
- Kartikeya Desai – Founder and Managing Partner, Desai & Associates
- Jessica T. Donohue – Egg Rock Consulting, LLC
- Rachel Fox Smotherman – Senior Associate, Milken Institute

- Jean-François Gagnon – EY Canada Financial Services Sustainable Finance Leader, Ernst & Young
- Franck Gbaguidi – Director, Global Sustainability, Eurasia Group
- Jonathan Granoff – President, Global Security Institute
- Rachel Halfaker – Associate Director, 10,000 Communities Initiative, Milken Institute
- Lyndsay Howard – Foreign Policy Advisor to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Senior Analyst for Foreign Policy, Bloomberg
- Tom Einar Jensen – CEO and Director of the Board, Freyr Battery
- Henrik Johansson – CEO, Spowdi
- Jakob Kiefer – Senior Advisor, Origination
- Rasmus Lundsgaard Nielsen – CEO, Xynteo
- Joyita Mukherejee – Senior Advisor and Board Member, CLASP
- Cherie Nursalim – Vice Chairman, GITI Group; Special Advisor to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia ~
- Cristina Paslar – Chief Marketing & Communications Officer for Latin America, IBM
- Maria Persson Gulda – CTO/CPO, Stegra (formerly H2 Green Steel)
- Srinivas Ramanujam – CEO, Villgro
- Simon Rebbechi – Aspen Institute's Finance Leaders Fellows, Aspen Institute
- Shravan Shankar – Co-Founder, Climate
- Varun Sivaram – Senior Fellow for Energy and Climate, Council on Foreign Relations
- Minh-Huy Tran – CEO, Origination
- Andrea Webster – Head of Finance System Transformation, World Benchmarking Alliance
- Ardhi Wardhana – Assistant to Prof. Mari Elka Pangestu, Researcher at the Department of Economics, Centre for Strategic and International Studies

### *Academics*

- Douglas Almond – Professor of International and Public Affairs and Economics, Columbia U
- Caroline Flammer – Vice Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs; A. Barton Hepburn Professor of Economics, and Director of SIRI, Columbia U
- Geoff Heal – Donald C. Waite III Professor Emeritus of Social Enterprise in the Faculty of Business, Columbia U
- Merit Janow – Dean Emerita, School of International and Public Affairs; Professor of Practice in International Economic Law and International Affairs, Columbia U
- Patricia Mosser – Senior Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia U

- Lisa Sachs – Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia U
- David Wood – Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs and the Brandmeyer Fellow for Impact and Sustainable Investing, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia U

*SIRI and SIPA Team*

- Parkhi Agarwal – MPA Student, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University
- Neha Arora – MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University
- Eduardo Ayala Fuentes – Major Gift Officer, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University
- Katie Day Benvenuto – Associate Dean, Development and Alumni Relations, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University
- Ganis Bustami – MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University
- Astrid Giraud – MPA in Environmental Science and Policy Student, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University
- Noveena Padala – MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University
- Chandana Yelkur – Managing Director, Sustainable Investing Research Initiative (SIRI), School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University

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~ tentatively confirmed / invited



# COLUMBIA | SIPA

## Sustainable Investing Research Initiative

### Inaugural SIRI Blended Finance Conference

#### PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

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#### Ministers of Finance / Economy, Ambassadors, and Others



#### **Sergio Cappuccio**

*Senior Financial Advisor, Innovate Finance Division at Global Affairs, Government of Canada*

Sergio Cappuccio is the Senior Financial Advisor, Climate and Blended Finance at Global Affairs Canada. He was previously Corporate Accounting Supervisor at Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). He has also worked at organizations like National Research Council Canada, and Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.



#### **Mauricio Cárdenas**

*Professor of Professional Practice in Global Leadership; Director, MPA in Global Leadership, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Dr. Cárdenas is a recognized expert on Latin America and an economist with vast academic and policymaking experience. As Colombia's finance minister between 2012 and 2018 he led a series of fiscal reforms that cut payroll taxes, triggering an unprecedented increase in formal jobs, while also discouraging the use of tax heavens and criminalizing tax evasion for the first time. He was chosen by Euromoney as finance minister of the year in 2015. In addition to Finance, has been a minister in four other portfolios in Colombia: Economic Development, Transport, Planning (DNP), Mines and Energy.

He has been twice executive director of Fedesarrollo, Colombia's leading policy research center, and Senior Fellow and Director of the Latin America Initiative at the Brookings Institution. He is also a Distinguished Fellow at the Center for Global Development in Washington D.C. He has been a member

of The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response mandated by the World Health Assembly, 2020-2021. Co-chair of the Taskforce on Carbon Pricing and Net Zero (2021) and Chair of the ‘Doing Business’ External Review Panel (2021). Dr. Mauricio Cárdenas is Professor of Professional Practice in Global Leadership in the Faculty of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, and Director of the MPA in Global Leadership.



### **Alexandra Chau**

*Economic Research Analyst, Office of Sustainable Infrastructure, U.S. Department of the Treasury*

Alexandra Chau is an Economic Research Analyst for the Office of Sustainable Infrastructure at the U.S. Department of Treasury. In this position, she supports the mobilization of private investment into sustainable infrastructure in developing markets. She holds a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from Stanford University.



### **Giulia Christianson**

*Senior Advisor, Climate Finance, Office of the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate*

Giulia Christianson works at the U.S. Department of State as Senior Advisor, Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate.

### **Joschka Gerigk**

*Head of Office, Deutsche Bundesbank*

Joschka Gerigk is the Head of Office and Counsellor to Vice-President Sabine Mauderer at Deutsche Bundesbank.



## Ilmi Granoff

*Senior Fellow, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law;  
Member, Climate-Related Financial Risk Advisory  
Committee, U.S. Department of the Treasury*

Ilmi Granoff is an attorney and climate and sustainable finance expert with over two decades of experience—spanning public, private, and third-sector institutions—working on the policy and financing of the transition to a net-zero greenhouse gas, sustainable economy. Ilmi is currently a partner at the

strategic advisory firm Climate Technology Group and a senior fellow at the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. He is also a member of the Climate-related Financial Risk Advisory Committee (CFRAC) of the Financial Stability Oversight Council at the US Department of the Treasury, and a visiting senior fellow at the Grantham Research Institute at the London School of Economics. Ilmi is a non-executive director of Carbon Tracker Initiative, Inc. and a member of the Advisory Board of InfluenceMap.



## Martin Guzman

*William S. Beinecke Visiting Professor of Public Policy at  
SIPA, Columbia University; former Minister of Economy of  
the Republic of Argentina*

Martín Guzmán served as Minister of Economy of the Republic of Argentina (December 2019- July 2022). As Minister of Economy of Argentina, he led the management of a sovereign debt crises that included the second largest sovereign debt restructuring in history (2020), the

economic policy to manage the Covid-19 pandemic in the context of the debt and inflation crises, the policies for the fast economic and employment recovery in 2021, the debt restructuring negotiations with the Paris Club, and the negotiations with the International Monetary Fund towards a deal achieved in January 2022 for refinancing the largest loan in the history of the institution that had been agreed in 2018.

He is the co-President of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD), an academic center at Columbia University Business School established in 2000 by Nobel Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz, which works to broaden dialogue and explore trade-offs in development policy by bringing the best ideas in development to policymakers facing globalization's complex challenges and opportunities, and that strives to contribute to a more equitably governed world by democratizing the production and use of knowledge. At IPD, he is also the Director of the Sovereign Debt Management and Restructuring Program.



### **Takatoshi Ito**

*Professor of International and Public Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Takatoshi Ito joined the faculty of SIPA as a Professor of International and Public Affairs in January 2015. An internationally renowned economist, Ito is an expert on international finance, macroeconomics, and the Japanese economy who served from 2006 to 2008 as a member of the Prime

Minister's Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy. He also held senior positions in the Japanese Ministry of Finance and at the International Monetary Fund. Ito served as Dean of the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Public Policy for the past two years and as professor at Japan's National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies. He has served as a visiting professor at both Columbia and Harvard and taught at other institutions. He earned his PhD in economics at Harvard University.

Ito has had distinguished academic and research appointments such as President of the Japanese Economic Association in 2004; fellow of the Econometric Society since 1992; research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research since 1985; and faculty fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research since 2006. He was awarded the National Medal with Purple Ribbon in June 2011 for his excellent academic achievement.



### **Simon Keller**

*Head of Representative Office, Deutsche Bundesbank*

Simon Keller is the Head of the Representative Office, New York at Deutsche Bundesbank. He has been Counsellor to an Executive Board Member at the Deutsche Bundesbank since November 2019. His topics of Interest include diversity and gender equality, euro area monetary policy and other central bank tasks, climate policies and the roles of different actors, changes in the international environment, the European project.



### **Dasol Kim**

*Research Principal, Office of Financial Research, U.S. Treasury Department*

Dasol Kim joined the OFR in 2016. His work centers on the banking sector, financial intermediation, and behavioral finance. He holds a doctorate in financial economics from the Yale School of Management, a master's degree in statistics from Columbia University, and a bachelor's degree in mathematics and economics from the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to earning his doctorate, he served as a research and teaching fellow at Stanford Law School.



### **Alexia Latortue**

*Assistant Secretary International Trade and Development, U.S. Treasury Department*

Alexia Latortue serves as Assistant Secretary for International Trade and Development. Latortue has 20 years of experience in international development and financial systems development. She previously served as Deputy CEO at Millennium Challenge Corporation and Managing Director of Corporate Strategy at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Latortue served at the Treasury Department from 2013-2017 as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Development Policy. Prior to that she spent 10 years with the World Bank as Deputy CEO at the Consultive Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP). Latortue is a graduate of Georgetown University and The Fletcher School at Tufts University.



### **Sze Liang Lee**

*Director & Specialist Leader (Infrastructure & Blended Finance), Financial Markets Development Department, Monetary Authority of Singapore*

Sze Liang is a Director & Specialist Leader (Infrastructure & Blended Finance) in Financial Markets Development Department of the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). MAS is Singapore's central bank and integrated financial sector supervisor. MAS works closely with other government agencies and financial institutions to develop and promote Singapore as a regional and international financial centre. The

Financial Markets Development Department aims to promote a vibrant financial market in Singapore, bringing together sell-side capital market solutions and non-market-based financing such as infrastructure and trade finance with buy-side asset management and insurance companies. In MAS, Sze Liang works on strategizing and developing initiatives to grow and strengthen Singapore as an infrastructure financing hub. Sze Liang started his career in loan syndications in Asia and subsequently as a management consultant in United Kingdom. He holds an MBA from London Business School and a Bachelor of Accountancy with 2nd Upper Class Honours from the Nanyang Technological University.



### **Sabine Mauderer**

*President, Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS); Member of the Board, Deutsche Bundesbank*

Dr. Sabine Mauderer has been Member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank since September 2018. She is responsible for the Directorates Markets, which includes the implementation of monetary policy, as well as Sustainability, Human Resources and Procurement. In this capacity, she is currently Vice-Chair of the "Central banks and Supervisors

Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS)", before becoming Chair of the network in the beginning of 2024. Additionally, she is a member of the Exchange Experts Commission.

Prior to her current responsibilities, she held several senior positions at the KfW Banking group and worked as a senior adviser at the Federal Ministry of Finance and at the German Embassy in Washington. Sabine Mauderer was born in Schleswig in 1970. She studied law in Germany and Spain, holds a PhD by the Osnabuck University and an Executive MBA by the ESSEC Mannheim Business School.



### **Mathilde Mesnard**

*Deputy Director for the Environment Directorate, OECD*

Mathilde Mesnard is Deputy Director for the Environment Directorate and OECD Co-ordinator for Climate and Green Finance. She supervises work on climate and green finance and investment, as well as on environment and economic integration. From 2021 to 2022, she was the OECD Deputy Deputy Finance for the G7 and G20 and acting Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs. From 2016 to 2022, she was Deputy Director of the

OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, responsible for the policy areas of financial markets, corporate governance and corporate finance, anti-bribery, as well as the Centre for Responsible Business Conduct. From 2013 to 2016, she was Co-ordinator of the New Approaches to Economic Challenges (NAEC) Initiative where she supported the development of multiple innovative projects across the Organisation, promoting new approaches with an impact on OECD analytical work, data collection and publications. From 2009 to 2013, Mathilde was Senior Advisor to the Secretary-General

and Counsellor in his Office, where she supported the delivery of his Strategic Agenda, including in the preparation of the Ministerial Council Meetings, advancement of the relationships with Key Partners and the OECD Accession Process. She also supported the development of the CleanGovBiz Project, a strategic horizontal initiative on anti-corruption and integrity.



### **Mari Elka Pangestu**

*Presidential special envoy for the Global Blended Finance Alliance (GBFA), G20 Bali GBFA Secretariat*

Mari Pangestu was the World Bank Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, March 2020-2023. Prior to joining the Bank Mari Pangestu served as Indonesia's Minister of Trade from 2004 to 2011 and as Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy from 2011 to 2014. She has had vast experience of over 30 years in academia, second track processes, international organizations and government working in areas related to international trade, investment and development in multilateral, regional and national setting. Ms Pangestu is highly regarded as an international expert on a range of global issues and sustainability, and has served on a number of boards and task forces such as, the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), an executive board member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and is currently on the Global and Indonesian Board of World Resources Institute (WRI). She is also currently providing advice to the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Investment on sustainability, energy transition, climate and blended finance issues. She has also served on the board of a number of private sector companies and is currently senior adviser to the Nuri Group in Singapore, an independent Non-executive director on the AIA Group, Systemiq and MUFG. Currently, she is a Professor of International Economics at the University of Indonesia and a Board Member of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta. She is also a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, Center for Global Energy Policy, Columbia University and Honorary Professor at the Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University. She obtained her bachelor's and master's degree in economics from the Australian National University, and her doctorate in economics from the University of California at Davis.



### **John Podesta**

*United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate*

John Podesta is the United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate. Podesta served the Biden Administration as the Senior Adviser on Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation. He previously served the Obama Administration as Counselor and the Clinton Administration as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Staff Secretary. He also served as a member of the U.N. Secretary General's High-Level Panel of Eminent

Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. He is also the founder of the Center for American Progress.

He is the former president, and now chair and counselor, of the Center for American Progress (CAP), a think tank in Washington, D.C., as well as a visiting professor of law at the Georgetown University Law Center and was chairman of Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign. Additionally, he was a co-chairman of the Obama-Biden transition team.



### **Florence Szeles**

*Deputy Director Generale, Banque de France*

Florence is the Deputy Director Generale at Banque de France. From September 2020, I am Chief representative for Americas in New York. Since 2016, I have been sponsoring Talentu'elles: Banque de France's social network promoting diversity, equality and work-life balance. Previously, she was a Financial Counsellor at the French Treasury, at the French Embassy based in Mexico D.F. She has a PhD in Economics, Currency Finance Banking at the University of Paris I: Panthéon-Sorbonne.



### **Jo Tyndall**

*Director of the Environment Directorate, OECD*

Jo Tyndall joined the OECD Environment Directorate on 15 September 2022. Previously, she was New Zealand High Commissioner (Ambassador) to Singapore from February 2019 to September 2022. Prior to that, Jo served as New Zealand's Climate Change Ambassador, commencing this role in June 2010. From 2016 to December 2018, she also co-chaired the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) Ad Hoc

Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA). As Climate Change Ambassador, she was head of delegation to the United Nations climate negotiations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Prior to her role as Climate Change Ambassador, Jo Tyndall was Director of the Broadcasting Unit in the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. From 1999 to 2006, she was Chief Executive of the public broadcasting funding body, NZ On Air. She has also served as Chief Executive of two screen industry organizations - the Screen Production and Development Association (SPADA) and Project Blue Sky (1994 to 1999). Jo Tyndall began her career as a multilateral trade policy specialist with the then Department of Trade and Industry and subsequently the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



**Qi Zhang**

*Deputy Representative, People's Bank of China*

Qi Zhang is the Deputy Representative and Country Analyst at People's Bank of China. She was Director of Program Management at The International Fund for China's Environment (IFCE). She has an MPA from University of Pittsburgh and Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and English from China Foreign Affairs University.

## **Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), United Nations (UN), and World Bank Group**



**Erin Elizabeth Baldwin**

*Senior Communications Consultant, International Finance Corporation*

Erin is a Senior Communications Consultant at the International Finance Corporation. She was a Communications Consultant at the World Bank before joining IFC. She has held multiple positions within TD Bank Group including Senior Manager, Corporate and Public Affairs. She has a Master's degree in Communication from University of Ottawa and a BA (Hons.) in International Relations from University of Toronto.



**Steen Byskov**

*Senior Financial Officer, World Bank Treasury (IBRD)*

Steen is a senior financial economist with experience spanning World Bank financial solutions, financial risk management, financial stability and financial sector policy, and World Bank operations. Steen leads Treasury's offering in local currencies and coordinates work in the Latin America and South Asia regions. He previously led both development policy and investment operations in the areas of financial stability and development in the Latin America and the Europe and Central Asia regions. In addition, he led or participated in the joint IMF-World Bank Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) country evaluations. Since joining the World Bank Thailand team in 1998 to work on the Asian crisis, he also spent two years at the IMF

working on financial stability. Steen holds a Master of Science in Economics from the University of Copenhagen and an MBA from the University of Maryland.



### **Nestan Devidze**

*Chief Investment Officer, Private Sector Facility Division,  
Green Climate Fund*

Nestan is the Climate Investment Officer, Nature & Ecosystems, Private Sector Facility at the Green Climate Fund. He was the Investment Manager at Kiva in Thailand. He has also worked at BlueOrchard Finance Ltd in Cambodia, at Credo Bank in Tbilisi and at JSC m2 Real Estate.



### **Abhishek Dhawan**

*Sustainable Finance and Partnerships Specialist, UN Capital Development Fund (UN CDF)*

Abhishek Dhawan is currently working as Sustainable Finance and Partnerships Specialist with UNCDF. In this role, he is responsible for creating innovative blended finance vehicles as well as lead partnerships efforts for UNCDF at a corporate level. As part of his efforts on creating innovative blended finance vehicles, he has led the creation of Climate Insurance Linked Resilient Infrastructure Finance (CILRIF) multi-stakeholder working group over the last 36 months. Prior to joining UNCDF, he worked as Director, Cleantech Practice at Business Development Bank of Canada. With 20+ years of experience in international markets and financial services, he has worked with banks and technology companies, including start-ups, in India and the United States, engaging with clients across continents. Over the last eight years, he has shifted focus to sustainable development. Abhishek started his banking career of over a decade with IDBI Bank at Bangalore, India's tech capital, with a focus on the IT industry. Subsequently, he worked as Director at Standard Chartered Bank covering middle market and large corporate clients. Abhishek has completed an MPA with a concentration on Economic and Energy Policy and Finance from Columbia University in New York. He also holds an MBA in Finance from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM Kozhikode), CFA-Level II and a B.Tech. in Mining Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (ISM-Dhanbad).



## **Daniel Farchy**

*Climate Investment Manager, Nature & Ecosystems, Green Climate Fund*

Daniel is the Climate Investment Manager, Private Sector Facility at the Green Climate Fund. He was previously the Director at the Renewable Energy Performance Platform. Daniel was a Senior Investment Officer at the European Investment Bank (EIB) and a Sustainable Finance Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the International Finance Corporation (IFC). He has a rich experience by working as a CFO at

EcoZoom, Vice President at C-Quest Capital, Financial Consultant at Gold Standard and as an Investment Professional at RNK Capital. Daniel was also a Renewable Energy Specialist at the World Bank. He has an MA in International Energy and Environmental Economics from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and an MA and BA in Biological Sciences from University of Oxford.



## **Arturo Franco**

*Special Advisor, Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank*

Arturo Franco is a development economist and strategy consultant. He is the Special Advisor to the Senior Managing Director for Development Policy and Partnerships (SMDPP), responsible for the World Bank's core development work, captured by the Bank's Global Practice groups: People, Prosperity, Planet, Infrastructure and Digital. His career combines high-

level positions in Fortune 500 corporations and global organizations, with public policy and international development experience. He was the Senior Vice President for the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth at Mastercard before joining the World Bank. Before joining Mastercard, Arturo was a senior advisor for McKinsey & Company's global public and social policy practice and executive director of the Planning Council of the State of Nuevo Leon, where he also served as Undersecretary. Over the past years, Arturo has been Global Leadership Fellow for Latin America at the World Economic Forum, economics research fellow at Harvard University's Center for International Development, nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council and is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Arturo holds economics degrees from Monterrey Tec in Mexico and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, where he was also vice chair of the Alumni Board. His essays and books have been published by the Brookings Institution, the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, the Atlantic Council, and the Policy Network.



## **Charlotte Gardes-Landolfini**

*Financial Sector Expert, Monetary and Capital Markets Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)*

Ms. Charlotte Gardes-Landolfini works in the Climate Finance Policy Unit, in the Monetary and Capital Markets Department of the International Monetary Fund. She engages in policy, research, and surveillance work, focusing on emerging markets and developing economies. She is particularly involved in policy and technical assistance work on the climate information architecture and climate-related financial regulation, in contributing to the operationalization of the Resilience and Sustainability Facility in program countries, and in climate risk analysis and scenario design.

Prior to joining the Fund, Charlotte worked in the French Treasury Department as a Deputy Head of Unit in charge of sustainable finance and climate risk, where she negotiated and drafted numerous European Union and French regulations in this area and participated to France's first climate stress-test exercise. She started her career in the International Regulatory Policy Department of the French Securities Markets Authority. Charlotte has published a variety of articles on climate finance, and has held various teaching positions in Master's programs in Paris, France, and the United States, including in environmental and development economics. She holds a M.Sc. in International Macroeconomics from Sciences Po Paris, a MA in financial and corporate law from the Sorbonne Law School, and a M.Sc. in Law and Economics from Université Paris II Pantheon-Assas.



## **Pranab Ghosh**

*Principal Investment Officer, Blended Finance, International Finance Corporation (IFC)*

Pranab Ghosh works as a Principal Investment Officer in the Blended Finance department of the International Finance Corporation with a focus on climate smart projects across sectors and geographies. In this role, he has leveraged blended finance and concessional capital from donors to successfully implement challenging projects. By de-risking innovative, first-of-a-kind projects or new business models across MICs as well as IDA and FCS countries, IFC has successfully mobilized private sector capital for climate finance. This approach has been instrumental in unlocking financing for projects that may have otherwise faced barriers due to their unique nature or challenging operating environments. Before working at IFC, he gained valuable experience as a banker at Rabobank, specializing in the areas of Food & Agribusiness and Renewable Energy.



## Agathe Gouot

*Senior Advisor to the CIO, FinDev Canada*

Agathe Gouot is a highly experienced professional with a background in general management and engineering. She serves as a Senior Advisor to the CIO at FinDev Canada in Canada, specializing in engineering and technical departments. Prior to FinDev Canada, she worked at KfW IPEX-Bank in Germany as the Director of the Andean Region, where she focused on banking and financial services.



## Tim Hilger

*Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Finance, UN  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)*

Tim Hilger is the Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Finance, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). Prior to this role, he was a Consultant with various organizations such as the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UN DESA, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, German Corporation for International Cooperation and the Asian Development Bank. He has a

Master's degree in Public Policy from the National University of Singapore and a BA in Economics and Political Science from the University of Erfurt.



## Keiko Honda

*Adjunct Professor, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University; former Executive Vice President and CEO of MIGA, World Bank*

Honda was appointed as a board member of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group in June 2020 and AGC (ex Asahi Glass) in March 2020. Until the end of October 2019, Honda was the Chief Executive Officer of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), the political risk

insurance and credit enhancement arm of the World Bank Group. MIGA supports cross-border equity investors and lenders by providing coverage against currency inconvertibility and transfer restriction, expropriation, war and civil disturbance, breach of contract, and non-honoring of financial obligations. Before joining MIGA, Honda was the first woman Senior Partner in Asia at McKinsey & Company, where she advised financial institutions on corporate finance and strategy and business development for 24 years.

She received the Joseph Wharton Social Award from the Wharton New York Club in 2020. Honda holds a bachelor's degree in consumer economics from Ochanomizu University and an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, where she was selected as a Fulbright Scholar. Keiko Honda is Adjunct Professor and Adjunct Senior Research Scholar of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



### **Anna Irmisch**

*Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance Transition Financing Track Manager, UNEP Finance Initiative*

Anna Irmisch manages the Transition Financing Track of the UN-convened Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance. Before joining UNEP FI, Anna was a member of the Stewardship Advisory Committee of the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment and served the European Climate Foundation as Private Financial Sector Program Manager. Prior to that, as

Engagement Manager, she has led shareholder dialogues worldwide, aimed at climate change mitigation, on behalf of institutional investors. Anna's experience has also spanned roles in the global software industry with a focus on innovation, civil society and academia on sustainability benchmarks. The Fulbright alumna holds a PhD from Freie Universität Berlin, where her research focus was sustainable investing.



### **Robert Kopech**

*Adjunct Associate Professor, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia U; former Vice President and Group Chief Risk Officer, World Bank*

Bob Kopech served as Vice President and Group Chief Risk Officer (GCRO) at the World Bank Group (WBG). The GCRO provides overall direction to the WBG's risk management. He is responsible for: (i) assessing risks across the WBG, including possible interactions among various risks; (ii) benchmarking existing risk management practices against major financial institutions; (iii) ensuring consistency of WBG risk management activities with best practice; and (iv) considering unique risks that are specific to MDBs and IFIs.

Before joining the World Bank he spent 16 years with Oliver Wyman, where he was a Vice Chairman and Managing Director and a lead developer of the Corporate Risk Practice. He also founded and led, for ten years, the firm's Global Emerging Markets Practice. Prior to that, he spent 19 years at J.P. Morgan in a variety of senior positions in Emerging Markets ranging from portfolio management to sovereign debt trading to corporate finance and risk management. Since 2007, he has been an Adjunct Associate Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs on whose Advisory Board

he also sits. He graduated from Drew University, where he majored in Russian Studies, and holds MIA and MBA degrees from Columbia University.



## Pradeep Kurukulasuriya

*Executive Secretary, UN Capital Development Fund (CDF)*

Pradeep Kurukulasuriya is the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund. He is a Sri Lankan economist with a PhD from Yale University in the United States. Prior to joining UNCDF, Pradeep was the Executive Coordinator of Environment Finance at UNDP where he oversaw a US\$ 5 billion environment, climate and energy portfolio across 140 countries and provided strategic leadership of partnerships with the multilateral environment and climate funds, as well as with the private sector, development banks, and private equity funds related to climate finance.

From 2019-2023, Pradeep led UNDP's Nature, Climate, and Energy Practice, with 300+ personnel across headquarters and 5 Regional Hubs. Previously, he led the development and oversight of UNDP's Climate Change Adaptation portfolio, and as the senior technical lead in the Global Environmental Finance team from 2010-2018, he played a key role in the trebling of UNDP's resource mobilization efforts for nature, climate and energy. Prior to joining UNDP in 2006, he worked with the World Bank and an NGO in Sri Lanka.



## Susan Lund

*Vice President, Economics and Private Sector Development, International Finance Corporation (IFC)*

Susan M. Lund is IFC's Vice President for Economics and Private Sector Development. She leads a global team that provides economic and analytical support to IFC investments and private capital mobilization. Specific responsibilities of her vice presidency include assessing the development impact of IFC investments, conducting economic research on issues related to private sector development, deploying blended concessional finance to de-risk private sector investments, and leading IFC efforts to build strategic relationships with public and private sector entities, including governments, international organizations, civil society, foundations, and other key development partners. Prior to joining IFC, Ms. Lund was a partner at McKinsey & Company and leader of the McKinsey Global Institute. In that role, she served as an active research economist and an advisor to companies and policymakers around the world. Her published research has focused on the evolution of global value chains and trade, technology and its impact on the future of work, and global financial market development. Ms. Lund, a U.S. national, holds a PhD in Applied Economics from Stanford University and a BA in Economics from Northwestern University. She is a member of the Council on

Foreign Relations, the National Association of Business Economists, and the Conference of Business Economists.



### **Meaghan McGrath**

*IFC Senior Manager for Partnerships, International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group*

Meaghan McGrath has established herself as one of the leaders in a complex and evolving sector. She is an award-winning lawyer with 25 years of experience in international financing and is currently Global Head of Partnerships for the International Finance Corporation (IFC). She was formerly Global Head, Syndications and before that Chief Counsel, Debt Mobilization. Her work on debt mobilization and investment projects in emerging markets around the world has been a benefit to investors and developing countries alike. After graduating from Georgetown University Law Center, Meaghan McGrath took a position in project finance at law firm Chadbourne & Parke (now Norton Rose Fulbright), representing international investments in large infrastructure projects. She spent two years in India, implementing and expanding a foreign office and representing independent developers in energy projects, becoming the first US trained, female lawyer to practice in the region. She returned to the US and in 2001 began working for IFC, one of the largest private sector investment groups and member of the World Bank. She has since led teams that have raised over \$ 20 billion from institutional and commercial investors to finance projects in emerging markets.



### **Maria Caterina Migliorero**

*Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Finance, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)*

Maria is an Economic Affairs Officer at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). Prior to joining UN DESA, she was an ESG and Impact Manager, Gender-Lead at Mirova SunFunder. Maria has also worked at PwC and interned at the European Commission. She has a Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and a Bachelor's degree from Sciences Po.



## **Matthieu Pegon**

*Head of Blended Finance, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)*

Matthieu leads the Blended Finance Team at IDB Invest, which he joined in 2017. He is responsible for managing concessional resources that are invested in transformational projects where risks are too high for commercial finance alone. He is the IDB Group's focal point for blended finance issues.

Before joining the IDB Group, Matthieu worked as Structured Finance Senior Specialist for the Green Climate Fund, the largest multilateral climate finance fund. He also worked at BNP Paribas as Vice President in Structured Debt Capital Markets with a focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. Matthieu earned a master's degree and a bachelor's degree in finance from Grenoble École de Management (France).



## **Huib-Jan de Ruijter**

*Co-Chief Investment Officer, Management Board, FMO*

Huib-Jan de Ruijter joined FMO's Management Board as interim Chief Investment Officer in October 2020. Since 2015, Huib-Jan was Director Financial Institutions, responsible for the sector department which works closely with banks, microfinance institutions and fintechs to advance access to finance for entrepreneurs. He started within FMO as Investment Officer in the Financial Markets department in 2008. He was promoted to Director of this department in 2011 and in this capacity responsible for FMO's treasury as well as loan syndications.

Before joining FMO, he was an Executive Director in the Financing Group of Goldman Sachs based in London. He started his career at ABN AMRO for which he worked in various roles in Amsterdam, London and Lisbon. Huib-Jan studied in Groningen where he completed Masters in both Business Administration and Law. He is a CFA Charterholder and attended Summerschool at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) where he took courses on International Development.



## **Niraj Shah**

*Program Manager, Private Sector Window (PrSW) of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), International Finance Corporation (IFC)*

Niraj H. Shah is the program manager of the Private Sector Window (PrSW) of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), a US\$390 million multi-donor trust fund supported by the governments of Australia, Canada, Japan, Netherlands, UK, and USA, and managed by IFC as a blended finance program. The PrSW co-invests alongside IFC, directly or indirectly, in agribusiness and agrifinance projects impacting smallholders in the agriculture value chain.



## **Stella Tansengco-Schapero**

*Senior Financing Partnerships Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)*

Stella Tansengco-Schapero is a Senior Financing Partnership Specialist, Partner Funds Division in Asian Development Bank's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department. Since 2018, she is supporting the resource mobilization initiatives of ADB's sector and thematic groups (currently clean energy and energy transition, oceans,

urban, education and health teams). In addition to supporting outreach to more traditional donors, she is developing new relationships with philanthropies. From 2011-2018, she was a project officer and regional finance specialist in ADB's Southeast Asia Urban and Water Division and worked on a range of sovereign projects including water and sanitation, solid waste management, and other urban improvements. She was a team lead for several water and sanitation and solid waste management projects in the Philippines, and relevant pilots such as fecal sludge management and sanitation planning. As a finance specialist, promoted capacity development for sustainability, enabling sub-sovereign investments and private sector engagement. Prior to joining ADB, for over 20 years, Stella was a structured finance and securitization banker with Credit Suisse and UBS, in New York, London and Hong Kong.



## **Kavita Sinha**

*Director, Department of the Private Sector Facility, Green Climate Fund (GCF)*

Kavita was the programme director for energy transition in Asia with the European Climate Foundation (ECF). While there, she helped set up the Southeast Asia Clean Energy Facility and was the interim director for Southeast Asia Energy Transition Partnership. Prior to ECF, she spent more

than 15 years in leadership roles in the corporate world from start-ups to multinational corporations across multiple sectors. She co-founded and successfully exited start-ups in clean energy and infrastructure services. Kavita also worked for nearly a decade with the US Agency for International Development where she held several programme management roles, including in climate impact. She has an MBA from Rutgers Business School, an honours degree in chemical engineering and completed her graduate studies in energy systems from leading engineering schools in India.

## **Impact Investors, VC, Private Equity, Family Offices, and Foundations**



### **Bunmi Adekore**

*General Partner, DawnBox Ventures*

Bunmi Adekore, received his Ph.D in Materials Science and Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2003, specializing in the field of wide band gap semiconductors, devices and electronic systems. In his present role as General Partner at DawnBox Ventures, Bunmi leads investing in enterprises transitioning mature technology-advantaged solutions to the global south especially to major economies in Africa. Previously, in his role as a Partner in Bill Gate's Climate Fund Breakthrough Energy Ventures, Bunmi invested in climate technologies around electricity, manufacturing and transportation including in emerging economies. Bunmi deeply values thematic investing and brings a depth of technical and operational experience to climate investing. He has led, co-led or has founded ten portfolio companies at BEV. In his other previous undertakings, Bunmi's work has spanned technology entrepreneurship with the founding of four startups in semiconductor engineering, industrial chemistry and biotechnology; and in private equity in his work on captive power solutions in emerging economies.



### **Girish Aivalli**

*Chief Executive Officer, Impact Investors Council (IIC)*

Girish is a well recognized professional in the AgriBusiness industry with an excellent mix of operational, consulting and policy experience – and relationships within the industry and government. A competent professional having exceptional credentials and focus on delivering growth as well as enhancing the competitive industry positioning of organizations, Girish has worked with reputed companies like Cargill, ADM, Olam & Dabur in operational roles and with the Yes Bank Group in agri-advisory and private equity role, in his two decades of work experience. Girish has been in leadership roles heading Cargill's

India Supply Chain and ADM's Indian Grains business, as well as being the Founding Group MD & CEO for a Yes Bank Family Office Company, focused on New Age Businesses of Solar, Logistics and Feed.

Girish was an active Member of the CII's National Council on Agriculture, and member of sub-committees on Food Processing, Dairy, Cold Chain and Indo-Israeli Forum. He was also a Jury Member of CII's NAVI ( a platform to accelerate agri-start-ups ) and Ag-Hackathon as well as of IIM-Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship for Agribusiness.

He has authored five books – Yes Sir, Mehek, Courage to Continue, Char Chinar and The Spy Who Went Into The Cold. Girish also hosts a YouTube video series – Tata Katha – a series on the Tata Group, as a loving contribution to his admiration for the Tata Group. Girish has an MBA from Management Development Institute, Gurgaon.



### **John Balbach**

*Director, Impact Investments, MacArthur Foundation*

John is responsible for the operational management of Impact Investments, including playing leadership roles with major initiatives such as Benefit Chicago and the Catalytic Capital Consortium. He also leads impact investing efforts to advance the Foundation's Climate Solutions Big Bet.

Prior to MacArthur, John worked with Silicon Valley Bank and JPMorgan Chase. He has also served on a National Science Foundation commercialization review committee, managed and raised capital for an Impact Investing Fund focused on developing the Michigan life sciences sector, advised industry-leading corporations on infusing cleantech solutions into their supply chains, provided consulting services to leading nonprofit organizations with the Nonprofit Finance Fund, and served as a strategic advisor to hundreds of founders of technology-based startup ventures through a Michigan economic development program. He holds a BS in Finance from Miami (Ohio) University, an MA from St. John's College, and an MPA from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.



### **Anjali Bansal**

*Founding Partner, Avaana Climate and Sustainability Fund*

Anjali Bansal is the Founding Partner of Avaana Capital which manages Avaana Climate and Sustainability Fund, investing in technology and innovation-led start-ups catalysing climate solutions and sustainability and delivering exponential returns. Previously, Anjali has been the Non-Executive Chairperson of Dena Bank, appointed by the Government of India to steer the resolution of the stressed bank, eventually leading to a merger with the Bank of Baroda. Prior to that, Anjali was a Global Partner and Managing Director with

TPG Growth PE, responsible for India, SE Asia, Africa and the Middle East. She started her career as a strategy consultant with McKinsey and Co. in New York.

Anjali has invested in and mentored various successful start-ups including Delhivery, Urban Company, Darwinbox, Nykaa, Lenskart and Coverstack. She also serves as an independent non-executive director on several leading boards including Tata Power (Chair, Sustainability Committee), Nestle (Member, CSR and Sustainability Committee), and Piramal Enterprises, and chairs the “Climate Special Interest Group” within Indian Venture Capital Association. She has previously chaired the India board of Women’s World Banking, a leading global livelihood-promoting institution, been a board member at GSK Pharma, Siemens, Voltas and Bata. Anjali is a Member of the Niti Aayog Evolution Review Committee, India’s premier policy think tank chaired by the Hon’ble Prime Minister. She has been appointed on the Expert Advisory Committee for the Start Up India Seed Fund Scheme announced by the Honourable Prime Minister.



### **Paul Bodnar**

*Director of Sustainable Finance, Industry, and Diplomacy,  
Bezos Earth Fund*

Paul Bodnar is the Director of Sustainable Finance, Industry, and Diplomacy at the Bezos Earth Fund. He most recently served as Global Head of Sustainable Investing at BlackRock, where he helped build the firm's \$500 billion sustainable funds business, and also served as Head of Sustainability Policy and Engagement. Prior to joining BlackRock, Paul

held a variety of leadership positions in finance, government, and civil society. He was Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Council member at RMI (formerly Rocky Mountain Institute), where he founded the Center for Climate-Aligned Finance. Paul served in the Obama White House as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Energy and Climate Change at the National Security Council. Prior to that, Paul served at the State Department as U.S. lead negotiator for climate finance.

Earlier in his career, Paul was Director for Carbon Finance at Climate Change Capital's \$1.2 billion carbon fund, where he structured the fund's largest investments. He was also co-founder and partner at Vertis Environmental Finance, a leading European environmental commodity brokerage. Paul holds a BA from Stanford and an MA from Harvard.



## Guillaume Bonnel

*CEO, SDG Impact Finance Initiative*

Guillaume Bonnel is the Chief Executive Officer of the SDG Impact Finance Initiative, based in Switzerland. Established in 2021, the organization aims to mobilize CHF 1 billion in private investment to help deliver the SDGs by catalyzing investment, facilitating public-private collaboration, and building a thriving ecosystem to deliver measurable, sustainable impact in developing countries at scale.<sup>[11]</sup>

Guillaume has dedicated his professional life to the sustainable and impact investing space. Prior to joining the Initiative, Guillaume led the Sustainable and Impact Solutions team at Credit Suisse, designed and managed impact investment funds at Lombard Odier, and audited microfinance institutions for an asset manager dedicated to financial inclusion.<sup>[12]</sup> Guillaume began his career completing missions in developing countries, including Nicaragua and Mexico, before establishing and managing a range of sustainable and impact products at BNP Paribas Wealth Management. He later joined Médecins Sans Frontières in Cameroon for a one-year humanitarian mission, to lead the finance and HR department, and ran different health-related projects.



## Harry Brekelmans

*Working Equity Partner, Director - MVCE, Azimuth*

Harry Brekelmans is a Working Equity Partner with Azimuth and a highly accomplished senior executive with over 30+ years of experience in technical, operational, and strategic roles across various segments at Shell plc. Harry is also a board member of Azimuth portfolio company, Mountain View Clean Energy (MVCE), a platform designed to produce decarbonized hydrogen and hydrogen carriers.

Prior to joining Azimuth, Harry worked at Shell plc. from 1990 – 2023, most recently as the Projects & Technology Director and a Member of the Executive Committee, in which capacity he was accountable for the delivery of Shell's major oil and gas projects, driving technological and commercial innovation, and providing functional leadership in Engineering, Contracts and Procurement, IT, and Safety and Environment. Harry also served as Executive Committee member for the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and Exco member for the Xynteo 'Vikaasa' coalition, a business lead effort to help accelerate India's progress towards the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development goals.



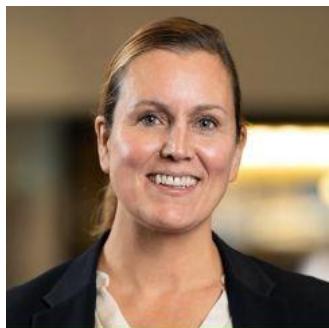
## **Lord John Browne**

*Founder and Chairman, BeyondNetZero*

Lord John Browne serves as Chairman of BeyondNetZero and Managing Director at General Atlantic, providing strategic support and advice to the firm's investment teams and portfolio companies. In both roles, he advises the firm on environmental, social and governance considerations, with a particular focus on climate solutions and the path to Net Zero emissions.

Lord Browne served as Group Chief Executive of international energy

company BP from 1995 to 2007, after having joined the company in 1966 as a university apprentice. He led the company through a period of significant growth and transformation, including BP's merger with Amoco in 1998. His landmark speech at Stanford University in 1997 established BP as a global leader in the way it thought about and sought to address climate change. In 2007, Lord Browne joined Riverstone, where he was co-head of the world's largest renewable energy private equity fund until 2015. He is also a former Chairman of Wintershall Dea, Europe's largest independent oil and gas company. Lord Browne is Co-Chair of the Prime Minister's Council on Science and Technology. From 2010 to 2015, he was the UK Government's Lead Non-Executive Board Member. He was knighted in 1998 and made a life peer in 2001. Lord Browne is the Chairman of the Francis Crick Institute, Chairman of the Courtauld Institute of Art, Fellow of the Royal Society, Fellow and Past President of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. He previously served on the boards of DaimlerChrysler, Goldman Sachs, Intel and SmithKline Beecham.



## **Catherine Cax**

*Managing Director, Soros Economic Development Fund*

As Managing Director, Investments at the Soros Economic Development Fund (SEDF) - the impact investment arm of Open Society Foundations, Cax leads the investment team and oversees the deployment of capital and the management of SEDF's active portfolio. Catherine joined SEDF in 2018 and has served as the Director of Investments and in 2022 led the organization through many critical transitions as interim CEO. She has

twenty years of experience investing into emerging markets, including in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Prior to SEDF, she served in various leadership roles at IFU, the Danish Development Finance Institution. Cax holds a Master degree in economics from Copenhagen University.



## **Nathan Eskender**

*Senior Investment Analyst, Soros Economic Development Fund, Open Society Foundations*

Nathan is the Senior Investment Analyst at Open Society Foundations. Prior to joining Open Society Foundations, Nathan worked at the Ford Foundation and as a Leveraged Finance / Corporate Client Banking Analyst at JP Morgan Chase. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



## **Anita Fiori**

*Investment Principal, Soros Economic Development Fund, Open Society Foundations*

Anita is a Principal at Soros Economic Development Fund/ Open Society Foundations. She is a Former Board member representing Brazil and Suriname at Inter-American Development Bank, IDB Invest, and IDB Lab. She is a Former Lead Investment Officer at IDB. Anita is an Investment expert focused on venture capital, climate finance (energy efficiency, renewables, biotech, circular economy, biodiversity, with a diversity lens investing in emerging markets. She is an expert in structuring funds, equity, and semi-equity investments, grants, loans, blended finance operations. She has a Master's in Finance from Johns Hopkins University and a Masters in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.



## **CD Glin**

*President, PepsiCo Foundation & Global Head of Social Impact, PepsiCo Inc.*

C.D. Glin is a Senior Executive, strategist, and thought leader known for expertise at the intersection of philanthropic, government, non-profit and private sectors. Currently, he is President, PepsiCo Foundation and Global Head of Social Impact, PepsiCo Inc. In this role, Glin is responsible for the daily management of the PepsiCo Foundation. He oversees the Foundation's strategic direction and continued focus on driving progress towards a more sustainable food system, leading global internal and external engagement around The PepsiCo Foundation's three global focus areas to create equitable access to: Food and Nutritional Security, Safe Water, and Economic Opportunity.

Prior to PepsiCo, Glin served as the President and CEO of the U.S. African Development Foundation, a philanthropic organization established by Congress as a federal government corporation. He managed, deployed, and leveraged philanthropic resources to create pathways to prosperity for underserved and agricultural dependent populations throughout Africa. During his tenure, \$150+M in grants has been awarded to more than 1,500 organizations resulting in the creation of 1.3 million jobs directly impacting 5+ million people. Previously, he was an Associate Director of The Rockefeller Foundation as well an appointee, in the Obama Administration he served as the first Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Global Partnerships for the Peace Corps. Earlier Glin served as Vice President for Business Development at PYXERA Global, a global non-profit, and consulted for the State Department, USAID and the World Bank while living in Ghana and Nigeria. Glin served on the 2008 Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team and in 2011 was honored as a Champion of Change in Civic Engagement and International Service by the White House.



### **Harry Guinness**

*Co-founder, New Leaf Climate Partners*

Harry Guinness leads New Leaf Climate Partners' fund design and investment activities, working to get thoughtful, flexible capital to companies, projects and landowners for land restoration and reforestation. Before setting up New Leaf, Harry spent a decade at Lion's Head Global Partners, creating impact investment products for governments, foundations, and private investors, primarily in climate finance, but also covering financial inclusion, education, health, real estate, and job creation. Harry built teams in London, Lagos, Nairobi, and New York. He was the lead fund manager for the Off-Grid Energy Access Fund and remains on the fund's Investment Committee. Before Lion's Head, Harry combined entrepreneurship, impact investment and sustainable infrastructure, with organizations including UNEP, DWM and CCI. Harry has a BA from Yale University and an MIA from SIPA.



### **Rey-Sheng Her**

*Deputy CEO, Tzu Chi Foundation*

Dr. Rey-Sheng Her is currently Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Tzu Chi Foundation, Convener of Tzu Chi Academic Committee and an Associate Scholar of Harvard University, Faculty of Art and Science, CAMLab and Senior Advisor of the University of California, Berkely, the Garwood Center for Corporate Innovation at Haas School of Business. He was also a visiting scholar at Harvard Kennedy School, Columbia University, Oxford University and Cambridge University, from 2018 to 2020, where he

extended his researches on the philosophy of altruism and its application to organizational governance and economic life. For decades, He served as the Spokesman and Director of Humanity Development of

Tzu Chi Foundation, which is based in Taiwan and runs the largest, faith-based INGO in the world, now in over 136 countries and regions. He is an Associate Professor and teaches Philanthropy and philosophy-related subjects at National Chengchi University (NCCU), Tzu Chi University, and National Taiwan Art University. Dr. Her has delivered speeches on NGO Management at Harvard University and the Modernity of Chinese Buddhism subjects at Oxford University, Peking University, Renmin University of China, Beijing Normal University, and the University of Hong Kong, and many international symposiums. Dr. Her has devoted to the research on the fields of Buddhist philosophy, especially Contemporary Humanistic Buddhism, both on theoretical and empirical perspectives, and the Management and Operations of Faith-Based NGO. He received his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Peking University. Master of Art on Communication Management, the Annenberg School for Communication of the University of Southern California.



### **Sanjay Kadaveru**

*Founder and Chairman, Action for India*

Sanjay has over two decades of international experience spanning the domains of investments, management consulting and business development. He has extensive business and personal relationships with leading executives, investors, and institutions in the US-India corridor, including a significant concentration of high-net-worth individuals, family offices, and venture capital/private equity firms. Sanjay is the Founder & President of Action For

India (AFI), an initiative to help social innovators in India overcome barriers to scale and achieve greater impact at the Bottom of the Pyramid. AFI connects social innovators with impact investors, mentors, technology resources, government contacts and local partners. AFI is headquartered in New Delhi, India and has a chapter in Silicon Valley, California. Launched in 2012, AFI is inspired and guided by Sam Pitroda, Adviser to the Prime Minister of India and Chairman of India's National Innovation Council. Sanjay is also a co-founder of the Center for Healthcare Innovation, a best-in-class US based research center and thought-leadership institution focusing on the life sciences. Previously, Sanjay served as a Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives at Hetero Drugs, India's largest privately held pharmaceutical company. Sanjay was also with The Seven Hills Group, a US based family office making investments in the US-India corridor. Sanjay is a Charter Member of The Indus Entrepreneurs, the world's largest network of entrepreneurs, and served as a Co-Chair for TiECon East, one of the largest innovation focused conferences in the US. Sanjay founded the AP Technology Leadership Council, a non-profit networking organization created to provide pro-bono business consulting services to civic and governmental causes in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. In an earlier role, Sanjay served as the Chairman of the Editorial Board of IIT Maanas, the alumni magazine of IIT Madras. Sanjay is a graduate of the Indian Institute of Technology at Madras and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.



## Ashish Kumar

*Advisor, Advaita Capital; former Director, Shell Foundation*

Ashish is currently an Advisor at Advaita Capital and Mati Carbon. He is on the investment and strategy team at Acumen. He was formerly a Director of Climate Investments at Shell Foundation. Prior to joining Shell Foundation, Ashish had several years of experience in consulting and in-house roles in the private, public and development sector including at leading business and policy advisory firm Dalberg. There he advised several multilateral, DFI and private sector clients on bottom-up innovation work (by applying Human Centred Design etc) across Sub-Saharan Africa and India in the areas of financial inclusion, healthcare delivery, employment and education among others. He has an MBA from University of Oxford and a Bachelor's degree in Technology from IIT Roorkee.



## Sami Lahoud

*Co-Founder and CEO, EMPact*

Sami Lahoud is a global business leader across emerging markets, with a deep communications background. He retired from Mastercard in Nov 2022 after 10 years in senior roles in Communications, Merchant Acceptance, and Public Private Partnerships. He deeply focuses on financial inclusion and the development of equitable payments ecosystems. Sami had Senior Communications roles with Barclays Bank and Boeing in Emerging Markets, preceded by consultancy roles with Hill & Knowlton and Weber Shandwick. He is a native of Lebanon, has Master of Banking & Finance, lived and worked in Beirut, Bahrain, Jeddah, Dubai, New York. He is relocating with family to Côte d'Ivoire in July 2023 to get closer to frontier markets and agriculture supply chains.

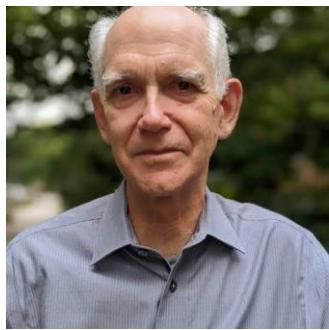


## Greg Levin

*Co-founder, New Leaf Climate Partners*

Greg Levin works to leverage mission-first capital for social benefit at New Leaf Climate Partners, a climate finance firm he co-founded to specialize in natural capital solutions. Greg was privileged to previously do this work at both foundations and social enterprises. At Pursuit, Greg raised and leveraged innovative blended finance models to increase life-changing employment opportunities for high need and high potential low income adults. At BlackRock, Greg was a Director and founding member of the Social Impact team, where he built the firm's first philanthropic strategy and national initiative. At The

Robin Hood Foundation, Greg served as Chief of Staff to the President of New York City's largest poverty fighting organization. Greg's early career work included renewable energy enterprises in Haiti and India, and private sector work in South Africa and Germany. Greg has an MPA from Columbia University, a BS from the University of Oregon and is a proud board member of The Hebrew Free Loan Society and Neta Foundation, founding advisory board member of Project Healthy Minds, and previously served on Kiva's Leadership Council.



### **Steve Lydenberg**

*Partner, Strategic Vision, Domini Impact Investments LLC*

Steve Lydenberg is Partner, Strategic Vision for Domini Impact Investments LLC, Founder and Chairman of The Investment Integration Project (TIIP), and Founding Director of the Initiative for Responsible Investment. For over four decades he has been active in responsible investment with the Council on Economic Priorities, Trillium Asset Management and KLD Research & Analytics. He is author of numerous articles on responsible investment including, "Reason, Rationality and Fiduciary Duty" and "On Materiality and Sustainability: The Value of Disclosure in the Capital Markets". He is also author of several books on responsible investment including 21 st Century Investing: Redirecting Financial Strategies to Drive Systems Change (Berrett-Koehler, co-author William Burckart); Corporations and the Public Interest (Berrett-Koehler) and Dilemmas in Responsible Investment (Greenleaf, co-author Céline Louche). He holds a BA from Columbia College and an MFA in Theater from Cornell University and CFA Charter designation.



### **Gillian Marcelle**

*CEO and Founder, Resilience Capital Ventures*

Gillian Marcelle, PhD leads Resilience Capital Ventures LLC (RCV), a boutique capital advisory practice specializing in blended finance. Dr Marcelle developed the Triple B Framework to improve flows and allocation of capital in its multiple forms; this provides a platform for engaging in the finance and investment world, where her contributions and perspectives on diversity, inclusion, accountability and alignment with the SDGs are becoming influential. Most recently, she was recognized by earning inclusion in the fourth annual Forbes Fifty Over Fifty: Investment list.

Her decades long track record includes attracting investment and structuring deals. Her sectors of focus are telecoms, fintech, renewable energy, regenerative agriculture and health systems. Her specialty is the design and implementation of blended finance strategies that involve partnerships, ecosystem strengthening and architectures to facilitate transformational change. Dr Marcelle includes among her clients and partners: The Bahamas; Open Society Foundations; MPC Energy Solutions, PolicyLink,

Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT), AfricaBio and the Clinton Foundation. She serves on the Advisory Board of New Majority Capital and has guided numerous ventures in the role of Senior Advisor. She is also an LP in Outside Ventures. Prior to founding RCV, she was the Executive Director of the UVI RTPark and previously held staff roles in development finance with the International Finance Corporation, equity capital markets at JP Morgan Chase and M&A with British Telecom. Her earlier Board roles include serving as non-Executive Director with South African fintech Tafari Capital and on the UN ICT Task Force.



### **Jérôme Nicolai**

*Associate, Omidyar Network*

Jerome serves as an associate on the Programs team at Omidyar Network in Washington, D.C. In this role, he conducts research and analysis to inform the programmatic portfolio and actively engages across the organization's investment and stakeholder network to contribute to the mission of bending the arc of the digital revolution toward shared power, prosperity, and possibility.

Prior to joining Omidyar Network, Jerome worked as an associate at Techstars, where he supported early-stage startups and innovation ecosystems. Previously, he served as the digital economy attaché at the Embassy of France to the US, managing tech policy and contributing to the Embassy's overall mission of fostering transatlantic partnerships. Earlier in his career, Jerome was a cloud policy coordinator for the Microsoft European Government Affairs team, where he helped the company navigate the complex EU regulatory environment for cloud computing, and advocated for policy solutions. Jerome holds a joint Master's degree in Transatlantic Affairs from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the College of Europe, obtained as a Fulbright Scholar. He also holds a Master's in Economic Law from the Sciences Po Law School in Paris.



### **Eric Pelofsky**

*Vice President & Senior Advisor to the President, The Rockefeller Foundation*

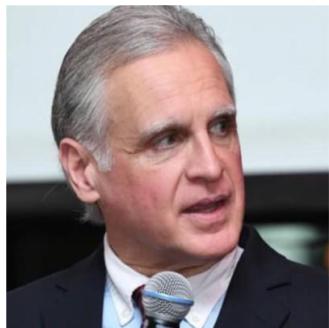
Eric Pelofsky joined The Rockefeller Foundation in 2021 as Deputy Chief of Staff and Vice President in the President's Office. Previously, Eric served as Senior Director of International Affairs for Shell in the United States, based in its Washington office. A veteran of over sixteen years of government service across three administrations, he has held senior postings in Washington and Baghdad, dealing with numerous Middle East, South Asia, economics, non-proliferation, United Nations, and international law issues. Before leaving the government in January 2017, Eric was a Special Assistant to President Barack Obama and Senior Director for North Africa and Yemen at the White House (National Security Council), where he focused, in part, on the war in Yemen and our key Gulf Arab partners, the conflict in Libya, and the political and economic transition in Tunisia. Before joining the National Security Council staff, Eric served as a senior

advisor to two U.S. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations (Ambassador Susan Rice and Ambassador Samantha Power); and a member of the Intelligence Agency Review Team for the Obama-Biden Transition. Prior to the Obama-Biden Administration, he served as a professional staff member on the Select Senate Intelligence Committee; an attorney-adviser in the State Department's Office of the Legal Adviser; and a deputy general counsel for the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq. Before joining the State Department in 2000, Eric worked at the law firm White & Case LLP in its corporate and financial services practice. A graduate of Haverford College, Eric received his masters of public policy from Georgetown University and his law degree from Cornell Law School. He has received several awards, including the U.S. Department of State Distinguished Honor Award, the U.S. Department of State Superior Honor Award, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service.



**Eliza Prendzov**  
*Founder and CEO, Prend Capital*

Eliza has 27+ years in Investing and Government relations institutions. She is the Founder of Prend Capital, a financial institution and investment firm based out of New York, USA. She is a senior expert in Sustainable Finance, ESG and Impact Investing and has a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



**Peter Psaras**  
*Founder and Chief Investment Officer, Chios Capital*

Peter Psaras is an international business executive with over two decades of global technology, software and business experience with the IBM Corporation. During his career with IBM, Mr. Psaras was a member of the corporate technology and then also the corporate strategy staffs for two consecutive Chairman, President & CEOs of IBM focused on IBM's business transformation from a hardware product sales history into a cloud software and services consulting driven e-business corporation. In addition, he served as a global brand leader for IBM technology IoT businesses that grew from \$100 million to over \$1 billion in revenue world-wide. Later, Mr. Psaras had a similar role for one of IBM's global enterprise software portfolios generating revenues in excess of \$1B annually driving forward the business and technology transformation of best of breed Fortune 50 corporations and G20 governments around the world. He has received both US and international patents for his inventions while carrying out research as a member of IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center. Mr. Psaras was named a Fellow of the National Academy of Engineering, the first in IBM's 100 year history to receive this honor. While assigned to the National Academy of Sciences Headquarters in Washington D.C. he focused on national strategic

technology issues facing the United States. Mr. Psaras is a published scientist and author, including editor of the National Academy of Engineering/National Academy of Sciences book, “Advancing Materials Research”, and over two dozen international peer-reviewed journal articles.



### **Vineet Rai**

*CEO and Chairman, Aavishkaar Group*

Vineet Rai is the Founder of Aavishkaar group and chairs its Group Executive Council. Aavishkaar Group is an Impact Investment Platform impacting millions of people in Asia and Africa using entrepreneurship based development approach. He is the Co-founder & Chairman of the Intellegap Group of companies. Additionally, Vineet chairs the Board of Villgro, an Incubating and Funding Platform and Intellegrow, an Intellegap subsidiary providing venture debt services to Impact enterprises. He holds a

Post Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management from the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal and is an Honorary Member of XLRI Alumni Association. He was awarded the Outstanding Social Change Agent by TiE Mumbai in January 2020 and also featured on the cover of Forbes India (January 2018 issue). He participated in the ‘Champions of Change’ event in August 2017 organized by the National Institution for Transforming India. Further, he was also appointed by SEBI as a member of the ‘Working Group on Social Stock Exchanges’ in India. He has also served as a commission member at the Global Commission on Business and Sustainable Development and is in the Executive Committee of Indian Venture Capital Association.



### **Luciana Ribeiro**

*Founder and Managing partner, eB Capital; Co-Lead of B20 Brazil*

Luciana Antonini Ribeiro is a Brazilian investor and a leading voice in climate-related investments. She is a co-founder of eB Capital, a Brazilian investment firm focused on private equity and infrastructure opportunities. She was recognized as one of the 20 Most Powerful Women in Brazil by Forbes magazine and named one of the 100 most innovative women in

Brazil by Época Negócios magazine. For six consecutive years, she has been nominated as one of the leading women investing in Latin America by Lavca (Association for Private Capital Investment in Latin America). Additionally, in 2019, she received the Sabiá Laranjeira Prize from the Sustainable Leadership Platform in recognition of her leadership as an activist. Luciana is also part of the technical advisory board of the Climate Hub, launched by the Columbia Global Center, in Rio de Janeiro. Luciana is the chairwoman of Brazil Climate Summit (BCS), an initiative of Brazilian business leaders, students, and alumni of Columbia University, and the Columbia Global Center - RJ. Luciana is a prominent speaker on the agenda of climate investments for the media. She has a Law degree from the Federal University of

Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), a master's in law from University of São Paulo (USP), and an MBA at Columbia Business School.



## Komal Sahu

*Chief of Sustainable Finance, AVPN*

Komal serves as Chief of Sustainable Finance at AVPN. She leads AVPN's engagement with family offices, HNWIs, private wealth holders, corporations and financial institutions across Asia. In this capacity, she helps these stakeholders achieve their objectives of investing within a framework of impact and sustainability. Komal brings over two decades of diverse work experience in Europe and Asia to her role. She began her career as an investigator with the British Civil Service and was focused on the SME sector in London. She subsequently worked for KPMG where she specialized in the fund management industry. Komal has completed numerous assignments at top tier banks and insurance companies in the UK. She has tax expertise in structuring entities and funds and taking companies and funds to listing on the London Stock Exchange. Over the last decade, Komal has provided support to a number of social enterprises and charities across Asia. She is an angel investor and an LP in early and late stage funds. Many of her investments have focused on generating societal good. Komal has served as a mentor at a number of incubators and accelerators and has worked with startups including at A Star, a Singapore government led accelerator for science and technology companies that are improving lives through innovation and discoveries. Komal is a Fellow of the Institute of Certified Accountants and Associate of the Institute of Taxation. She has an FT certification as a Non-Executive Independent Director and has an advanced certificate from WMI as a family office advisor. She has a BA Honors in Economics.



## Vincent Shen

*Executive Chairman, Systems Impact Multi-Family Office (SIMFO)*

Vincent leads the Systems Impact Multi-Family Office, SIMFO, and chairs the SZU CHI Angel Private Equity Fund, continuing his legacy as a systems thinker and market maker, tackling the root causes of environmental challenges in collaboration with Oxford, MIT, Harvard, Berkeley, and Columbia University, along with global impact families such as Jeff Bezos,

Michael Bloomberg, and Bill Gates partnering with the Environmental Defense Fund, EDF. He has previously worked at Citi Bank and Merrill Lynch. Starting with the management of a mere USD 250,000 account in Taiwan, Vincent's assets under management soared to an astounding USD 4 billion within a few short years. His remarkable success led to his promotion to the regional headquarters in Singapore and subsequently to Hong Kong. Vincent, as chair of Harvard University's Cognitive Art Multimedia Lab (CAMLab) advisory board, introduced cutting-edge immersive theater technology integrated with 5G to a

local social enterprise to revitalize Taipei's oldest town. Transforming it into a vibrant cultural economy zone, this project received backing from Taiwan's central government and sovereign wealth fund, invigorated local businesses, created thousands of jobs, and attracted investment from globally influential families.



### **Prateek Shrivastava**

*Co-Founder and COO, EMPact*

Prateek Shrivastava is driving innovation across financial services for economic development and has over 30 years of experience in delivering technology led innovation in over 40 countries across the world in the field of supply chain, field automation, financial services, foodtech. He has built startups, designed a PE investment fund, sits on boards of banks, fintechs and non profits. Prateek holds Co-founder/MD/VP roles at Monitise plc, BeyondBranches, Accion. He is an Advisor at Accion Impact Funds, World Bank, IFC, FinTech mentor, and a board member for multiple companies and has mentored startups through Techstars, StartupBootcamp Fintech, and Level39.



### **Ayush Shukla**

*Associate, Sustainable Finance, AVPN*



### **Jim Sorenson**

*Founder and Chairman, Sorenson Impact Foundation*

Jim is a world-renowned entrepreneur, business leader, innovator, and impact investor. He has built highly successful companies in industries ranging from technology and life sciences to real estate and private equity investment. He is celebrated as a pioneer in the impact investing sector. As CEO of Sorenson Media, Jim built a team that developed the world's leading digital compression software, which played a crucial role in the emergence and prominence of video compression technology in Apple QuickTime, Macromedia (now

Adobe) Flash, and YouTube. Jim also co-founded Sorenson Capital, Utah's leading mid-market private equity firm, which has raised more than a billion dollars to invest in U.S. companies. In addition, Jim served as chairman of the board of MediConnect Global, a leader in medical record retrieval that sold to Verisk Analytics in 2012 for over \$377 million. Early in his real estate experience, Jim developed the 120-acre Sorenson Research Park. Today, he leads an investment group developing market-leading commercial and residential projects, including Rosecrest Communities, The Herriman Towne Center, and The Pointe, a mixed-use business park in Draper, Utah.



### **Cecilie Sørhus**

*Chief of Staff and Head of Communications, Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG)*

Cecilie Sørhus, Chief of Staff and Global Head of Communications, joined PIDG from Xynteo, a consultancy firm advising on and specialising in leadership and sustainability issues. She was Head of Communications and led the firm's global communications and brand-building work. Cecilie played an important role in delivering flagship events for Xynteo, leading and developing a global team. Prior to her role at Xynteo, she worked for the

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where she drove communications for the UK, the Nordics, and the Middle East, as well as managed Government and partner relations in the Nordics. She has worked for a range of UK Government departments, including the Department for International Development (DFID), where, amongst other priorities, she led communications for the private sector department.



### **Jeff van Steenbergen**

*Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Azimuth Capital Management*

Jeff van Steenbergen is the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Azimuth Capital Management. Azimuth is advancing a differentiated impact energy transition investment strategy focused on low carbon fuels, resources to support electrification, and low carbon electricity production and storage.

The Azimuth V Energy Evolution fund program targets opportunities in North America, Europe and Japan. The Firm has principal offices in Mountain View, California and Calgary, Alberta. Azimuth achieved peak AUM of \$5.8 billion and currently manages three funds and an active LP co invest program for leading university endowments, industrial / strategics, pension funds, insurance companies and certain European families. As well, Azimuth has established an in-house development company platform to advance unique energy transition strategies with its team and create new companies. Prior to jointly establishing the Firm, he was co-head of North American Energy with JP Morgan. Jeff currently represents Azimuth on the boards of Mountain View Clean Energy, H Cycle, Enoflex, Monolith, Steelhead LNG and ACM LNG. He is an experienced corporate director and over

time has served on over 20 US, European and Canadian public and private company boards and five investment committees. Jeff has specific experience with complex corporate restructurings and working through a range of challenging corporate governance situations.



### **Tim Streeter**

*Global Head of Investor Relations, Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG)*

Tim Streeter joined PIDG in September 2019 from Deutsche Pfandbriefbank AG (ppb) London, where he was Head of Loan Markets in the bank's Public Investment Finance Team. He led the bank's syndication activities and successfully established and maintained relationships with both banks and institutional investors, as the bank built a portfolio of infrastructure-related and export credit agency-backed assets. He was also a member of the bank's new deal committee for Public Investment Finance business and of the London branch's operating committee. Prior to joining pbb, Tim held various positions in investment banks in the field of debt capital markets in UBS (in both London and Tokyo), Commerzbank (in the field of Emerging Markets) and Mizuho Bank.



### **Jennifer Wang**

*Director, Financial Innovation, New Energy Nexus*

As the Director of Financial Innovation for New Energy Nexus, Jennifer seeks to leverage her double-decade career in investment banking, start-up operations, and corporate strategy to get funding to the people on the ground moving forward our energy transition and caring for our planet. She is on a mission to learn and grow in community, bridging local action with global movement, through a lens of justice, inclusion, mindfulness and interconnectedness.



### **Ben Weisman**

*Executive Director, Capital Mobilization at GFANZ / Bloomberg LP Climate Finance*

Mr. Ben Weisman is Director of Global Public Policy in the Secretariat of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ), the largest coalition of financial institutions committed to supporting the decarbonization of the global economy. His work focuses on public policy issues around net-zero transition planning and mobilizing transition finance, and he helped lead the

development of the GFANZ transition plan framework. Previously, he led work on innovation, sustainability, and inclusion in financial services at the World Economic Forum and was a management consultant at the Boston Consulting Group (BCG). He began his career on the international strategy and policy team at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Ben holds an MBA from Harvard Business School, a master's in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School, and a BA in Public & International Affairs and Environmental Studies from Princeton University.

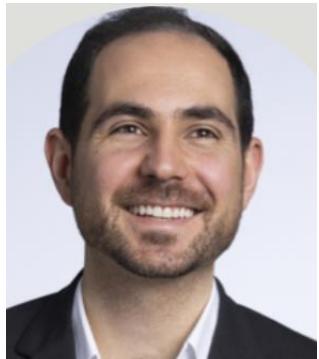


### **Eric Wilburn**

*Program Officer, Nature Finance, Bezos Earth Fund*

Grounded in an early career delivering community based conservation and social enterprises in Sub-Saharan Africa, the last ~5 years Eric worked to unlock finance for NBS projects across the global south via carbon markets. Eric is now focused on creating the enabling environment via market and non-market mechanisms to scale finance/funding to reverse climate change and driving forward emerging private and public sector nature positive mechanisms to enable communities and governments to protect and restore nature.

He works at the intersection of policy entrepreneurship, technology, private sector leadership and innovative finance to (1) ensure climate solutions play a high-integrity role in corporate and public climate mitigation action and (2) design and implement new mechanisms to catalyze finance into public and private sector nature positive initiatives that lead to biodiversity, water and other ecosystem service outcomes. Eric has worked with a diverse set of clients such as the World Bank Group, World Resources Institute, Rabobank and FSD Africa among others and writes on the topics of finance and policy at the intersection of nature and climate on his Substack - Where Nature Meets Climate.



### **Michael Youtsos**

*Partner, Leon Capital*

Michael is a Partner and part of the co-founding team of Leon Capital. He leads the Firm's Energy Transition strategy and also serves as an Operating Partner. He previously was a Partner at McKinsey & Company. He co-led the European Sustainable Investing service line and was the global lead for McKinsey's Sustainability Alliances & Acquisitions. Prior to that he worked at Booz & Company in London and National Oil Shale Holdings in Houston. Michael holds a PhD in Oil & Gas Engineering, and a MEng in Aerospace Engineering, both from the University of Cambridge.

## Asset Managers



### Benjamin Attia

*Principal, Allied Climate Partners*

Benjamin Attia is a Principal at Allied Climate Partners, a philanthropic blended finance fund-of-funds investor focused on climate infrastructure projects in emerging markets, where he leads fund allocation strategy across the broad emerging markets climate finance landscape and contributes to ACP's new fund development, dealflow and strategic partnerships. He was formerly the Research Lead for Energy, Climate, and Sustainability at

BlackRock, where he led the development and implementation of the firm's in-house transition scenario, supported investment research and diligence for BlackRock's private climate infrastructure equity platform, and provided insights and advisory on topics related to energy systems, climate change, blended finance, and the just transition to internal and external clients. Before BlackRock, Ben was a Principal Analyst in the Energy Transition practice at Wood Mackenzie, where he built and led the firm's coverage of power sector transitions and energy access in emerging markets, primarily focused in Africa and the Middle East. Ben is currently a part-time doctoral researcher focused on climate finance flows to the Global South and novel climate finance instruments at the Smith School for Enterprise and the Environment at the University of Oxford. He conducts affiliated research with various partners as a Non-Resident Fellow at the Energy for Growth Hub, The Payne Institute for Public Policy, and the James E. Rogers Energy Access Project at Duke University. Ben holds a Masters of Energy & Environmental Policy and a B.S. in Economics and Energy & Environmental Policy from the Biden School of Public Policy & Administration at the University of Delaware.



### Annika Brouwer

*Sustainability Specialist, Ninety One*

Annika is an analyst within Ninety One's Sustainability team. Her focus is on climate transition within and beyond Ninety One's portfolio; including advocacy initiatives, supporting the development of a Transition Plan assessment framework for the investment teams. Annika joined Ninety One from SYSTEMIQ, a consultancy that specializes in advising companies, industries and governments on sustainable systems change. Annika has 7

years' experience advising corporates and governments on transitioning their business models, portfolios and policies to be more inclusive of both people and planet. Her last role was providing global energy and transition finance advice to key policy makers and practitioners engaged in South Africa's Just Energy Transition. Annika graduated from Stellenbosch University with a Bachelor (Hons) degree in Sustainable Development. She also gained a Master's degree in Engineering for Sustainable Development from Cambridge University.



**Carolina Ocampo-Maya**  
*Head, ESG, Patria Investments*

Carolina is passionate about business sustainability and for almost 20 years she has worked in industries as diverse as agrobusiness, mining, food and beverages, banking, oil and gas, and energy. Carolina's robust international experience and global long-term vision provides her with deep understanding of sustainability and ESG conversations and trends, global regulatory frameworks, disclosure instruments (IFRS, TCFD, GRI, SASB, CDP, WBA, among others), ranking agencies, human rights, stakeholder engagement, and other key aspects of sustainable development.



**Patrick O'Connell**  
*Director, Responsible Investing Research, Fixed Income,  
Alliance Bernstein*

Patrick O'Connell is a Senior Vice President and Director of Fixed Income Responsible Investing Research. In this role, he is part of the leadership team that develops responsible investment strategy across AB's Fixed Income business, particularly related to integrating environmental, social and governance considerations throughout the team's research and engagement. Previously, O'Connell served as a corporate credit research analyst, focusing on emerging-market corporates in Latin American and African countries. He joined the Emerging Markets research team in 2013 after working as a credit analyst covering US high-yield energy credits at AB. Prior to joining the firm in 2012, O'Connell was a desk analyst at UBS Investment Bank, where he helped to allocate capital on the trading desk. He holds a BS in accounting and finance (magna cum laude) from Villanova University and is a CFA charterholder.



**Thomas Giroux**  
*PhD Researcher, Blended Finance, ENSAE; Co-head of  
Mirova Research Center, Mirova*

Thomas is an Equity Portfolio Manager, Sustainable Finance and Impact Investing at Mirova. As a quantitative analyst and portfolio manager, he is directly engaged into the much needed capital (re)allocation process. His research focuses on both sides of the ESG materiality. He answers empirical issues regarding the effect of climate and social risks on financial returns, while also concentrating his efforts to better understand the impact of shareholders and capital flows on firms' behavior and adaptation toward a more sustainable world.



## **Matt Goldklang**

*Climate Scientist and Advisor, Man Numeric*

Matt Goldklang is a climate scientist at Man Numeric. Matt joined Man Numeric in 2021. Prior to Man Numeric, he worked in climate risk analytics at Rhodium Group, where he gained experience working with climate impact modeling. Matt received a bachelor's degree in geology and geophysics and a certificate in energy studies from Yale University. He later received a master's degree in climate change from the University of Copenhagen, where he worked on climate change impacts and machine

learning research.



## **Timothée Jaulin**

*Head of ESG Development & Advocacy, Amundi*

Timothée Jaulin oversees ESG Development & Advocacy for Amundi and Special Operations for the Institutional Clients Division. Having joined Amundi in 2012 as a Research Associate, he contributed to setting-up and developing the Investment Solutions team before taking the lead client coverage of supranational entities globally.

In both capacities, he has been closely involved in the development of some of Amundi's most innovative investment solutions. Timothée was notably involved in the launch of flagship green finance public-private partnerships including the Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition with the United Nations Environment Program, green bond development programs with the International Finance Corporation and the European Investment Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank's Climate Change Investment Framework. Prior to working at Amundi's Paris headquarters, Timothée worked for Amundi in London and New York and before that for the French Treasury in Washington D.C. Timothée is a graduate of the Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay and holds a Master in Theoretical and Applied Economics from the Paris School of Economics.



## **Laura Kaliszewski**

*Global Head, Client Sustainable Investing , ILN Co-Chair,  
Natixis Investment Managers*

Laura Kaliszewski is Global Head of Client Sustainable Investing at Natixis Investment Managers. She also leads Natixis IM's industry-wide thought leadership initiatives on sustainability topics such as blended finance. Laura previously served as Head of Sustainable Investment Solutions, responsible for strengthening the firm's sustainability capabilities and developing its range of innovative sustainable solutions. She has more than 15 years of experience in sustainable and impact investing, portfolio management, credit, and risk with firms including Moody's, BlueOrchard, Deutsche Bank and JPMorgan, as well as within international development organizations such as the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation.

As part of her function, Laura also has several advisory roles on blended finance topics, such as co-head of the advisory committee on private capital mobilization within the Investor Leadership Network, a G7 initiative, and member of the working group of the French Institute of Sustainable Finance (IFD) to participate in a better reorientation of capital flows towards the financing of climate transition projects in emerging countries.



## **Garima Kapoor**

*Director, Sustainable and Transition Solutions, Blackrock*

Garima is the Director of Sustainable and Transition Solutions at Blackrock. She is also the 2023-25 Corporate Leader at the Council on Foreign Relations. She is a sustainability expert with extensive international experience in business strategy, growth initiatives, and cross-functional leadership. Formerly in chief of staff roles, she made a pivot to sustainable investing and climate in the last five years with experience building businesses in New York, London, Hong Kong, and Riyadh. She has a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Economics from New York University.



## Dylan Minor

*Founder and Chief Strategist, Argos Global/Omega Financial Group*

Dylan Minor is the founder and Chief Strategist at Argos Global as well as Omega Financial Group. He has researched, taught, and practiced finance for over twenty years. He started in private wealth at Morgan Stanley where he began integrating strategic wealth plans with sustainability goals. He later founded his own private firm, Omega Financial Group, to pursue integrating private wealth with non-financial considerations. To further help in this pursuit, he obtained his PhD and Master of Science in Business Administration from UC Berkeley (Haas School of Business). After this, he also created a financial laboratory and hedge fund, Argos Global Advisors, to pursue the application of frontier research that integrates financial, political, and sustainability factors. In addition to practice, Dylan Minor has held professorships at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in Chicago, Harvard Business School in Boston, and the Anderson School of Management at UCLA in Los Angeles. He has extensively researched and taught how to integrate social and philanthropic considerations into investing and overall financial management. One manifestation of this work is his creation of the Argos AlphaESG Index™ that pursues alpha through integrating financial and sustainability factors. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).



## Nazmeera Moola

*Chief Sustainability Officer, Ninety One*

Nazmeera is the Chief Sustainability Officer at Ninety One. In this role, she oversees our firm-wide initiatives, including our commercial imperatives, investment integration, and our inhabit and advocacy work. Prior to this she was Head of SA Investments, where she worked across our public and private strategies in Africa. Before that she was co-Head of SA & Africa Fixed Income. Nazmeera has covered the macro-economy in South Africa and other emerging markets since 2000. She is passionate about making financial markets work to support development. Her remit has included the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund, which provides debt financing for infrastructure projects across Africa. She joined the firm in 2013 from Macquarie First South where she was Head of Macro Strategy. She began her career as an economist at Merrill Lynch in South Africa and London. Nazmeera graduated from the University of Cape Town with a Bachelor of Business Science degree and is a CFA® Charterholder.



## Nadia Nikolova

*Director, Allianz Global Investors*

Nadia Nikolova heads the Development Finance & Impact Credit strategies at Allianz Global Investors, currently managing over \$ 3.5 bn of commitments. Nadia joined AllianzGI ten years ago originally as a portfolio manager in the Infrastructure Debt team and from 2016 has been focused on expanding AllianzGI's presence in sustainable investments including the infrastructure debt partnership with IFC (2017 & 2022), Emerging Africa

Infrastructure Fund investment (2018), the introduction of Allianz Asia Private Credit strategy (2019) and the MIGA COVID – 19 Response Program (2020), Emerging Markets Credit Insured Strategies and Export Credit Agencies (2021), \$1.1 bn SDG Loan Fund (2023). Most recently, under Nadia's leadership the team launched a European focused Impact Private Credit fund, which achieved € 560m first close (2024). Prior to joining AllianzGI, Nadia worked at the Structured Infrastructure Finance team at Citigroup based out of London where she advised clients on debt raising and restructuring in the context of acquisitions, and recapitalizations. Notable transactions involved restructuring of inflation linked swaps; unitranche financings; mezzanine and convertible debt. Nadia started her career in credit and remedial management in Citi where she was involved in performing and non-performing credits across corporates and shipping. Nadia holds a BSc in Economics from the University of Essex and has graduated from Harvard Business School Executive Program for Leadership and Development. In 2016, Financial News awarded Nadia one of 40 under 40 professionals in Asset Management.



## Gautier Quéru

*Managing Director Natural Capital, Mirova*

Gautier Quéru is a pioneer in the field of green finance. He is the Managing Director of Natural Capital at Mirova, a leading sustainable investment company based in Paris and London. Gautier started his career at the Ministry of Finance and in the Caisse des Dépôts group, where he developed carbon markets and funds. Between 2005 and 2013, he worked at Natixis for the European Carbon Fund (€140m), the first private fund dedicated to projects to reduce CO2 emissions worldwide. At just 30, he

was appointed director of the fund, responsible for a portfolio of more than 15 major projects in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

After joining Mirova's renewable energy department, in 2016 he created the firm's natural capital investment activities with the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, launched in partnership with the United Nations, and praised at the One Planet Summit in 2017. Blending financing from public and private investors, the LDN Fund has raised \$150m to finance ecosystem restoration and agroforestry in

developing countries. Since 2017, he has led the natural capital and biodiversity group of ‘Finance for Tomorrow’, the sustainable finance initiative in Paris.



### **Anne-Laurence Roucher**

*Deputy CEO, Head of Private Equity and Natural Capital, Mirova*

Anne-Laurence Roucher is a graduate of the French business school ESCP (École supérieure de commerce de Paris). She began her career in 1999 as a Project Manager for a company aiming to help get people out of work for a long period back into employment in the catering industry, thereby reconciling social and economic performance. In 2000, Anne-Laurence joined the management consulting firm AT Kearney as a Business Analyst and then as a Senior Associate with financial institutions. In this role she worked on a wide array of strategic, development and restructuring projects for asset managers, insurers, private equity firms and merchant and investment banks. Anne-Laurence joined Natixis in 2005 before becoming Head of Strategic Planning at Natixis Asset Management in 2007. While in this position Anne-Laurence played a pivotal role in highlighting the importance of responsible financing. This strategic priority led to the creation of a business unit within Natixis Asset Management dedicated to responsible investment, which later developed into Mirova. In 2021, she became Head of Private Equity and Natural Capital, a business unit bringing together Mirova’s investment activities in natural capital and private equity, with the aim of building a coherent platform in Europe and in emerging countries.

### **Clara Sheets**

*Managing Director, Global Strategy for Sustainable and Transition Solutions, Blackrock*

Clara is the Managing Director, Global Strategy for Sustainable and Transition Solutions at Blackrock. Earlier, she was the Managing Director of Corporate Strategy. Before joining Blackrock, she was a Principal at the Boston Consulting Group. In the past, she has worked as an Assistant Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and as an Analyst at Ipreo. She has an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BA in Economics and Mathematics from Haverford College.



## Francis Verpoucke

*EVP Institutional Business North America, Mirova*

Francis is EVP Institutional Business North America at Mirova. He has 20+ years of Fundraising & Investor Relations working with the most sophisticated institutions in North America and Europe covering multiple asset classes including emerging markets, global equities, corporate credit, alternatives such as cryptocurrencies/blockchain, fund of hedge funds and global macro strategies.

### **Institutional asset owners: Pension Funds, Insurances and other large Asset Owners**



## Nick Autiello

*Senior Advisor, Investor Leadership Network (ILN)*

Nick is a Senior Advisor at the Investor Leadership Network (ILN). He was previously Head of Sustainable Finance at the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI), launched by His Majesty King Charles III, where he led the work of SMI's financial Task Forces and served as interim co-Chief Operating Officer earlier this year. Nick was Vice President, ESG Strategy prior to joining the SMI. Before joining State Street, Nick served as a Special Advisor to former Rhode Island Governor and current United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo. Additionally he serves on the boards of Teach for Italy and the LGBTQ Victory Fund, and served as a foreign policy and economic policy advisor to Pete Buttigieg's 2020 presidential campaign. Nick holds a master's degree from The London School of Economics and Political Science and received his bachelor's degree from Florida International University.



## **Marc Andre Blanchard**

*Executive Vice-President and Head of CDPQ Global and Global Head of Sustainability, CDPQ; Co-Lead of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance's Task Force on Multilateral Development Banks; Co-Chair of the Investor Leadership Network (ILN); Co-Chair of B20 Indonesia Finance & Infrastructure Task Force*

As Executive Vice-President and Head of CDPQ Global and Global Head of Sustainability, Mr. Blanchard is responsible for coordinating CDPQ's international operations. He oversees CDPQ's international offices, ensuring the organization's positioning as an investment partner of choice. He also supports the international growth and development of Québec companies. In addition, he oversees the organization's sustainability orientations and activities, supports engagement and value creation within portfolio companies and leads CDPQ's strategy to integrate ESG factors into all investment activities. He sits on the Executive and Investment-Risk Committees. Before joining CDPQ in September 2020, he was Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York from 2016 to 2020. From 2017 to 2020, he sat on Canada's North American Free Trade Agreement Council. Prior to that, he was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of McCarthy Tétrault, one of Canada's leading law firms. In addition to a Bachelor of Laws from Université de Montréal, Mr. Blanchard holds an LLM in Public International Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He also holds a Master's in Public Administration and a Master's in International Affairs, both from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.



## **Erich Cripton**

*Director, Business Relations, CDPQ Global*

Erich serves as ILN's Co-Chair of the Private Capital Mobilization Advisory Committee and Director of Business Relations at CDPQ Global. Erich joined CDPQ in 2022 and relocated to the New York office in 2023. In New York, Erich is responsible for CDPQ's US government relations across the federal, state and municipal level as well as managing US regulatory affairs on behalf of CDPQ's family of asset classes. In addition,

Erich represents CDPQ in a number of investor-led initiatives focussed on sustainability and blended finance. These include: Co-Director of the Investor Leadership Network's (ILN) Private Capital Mobilization Consortium; Director of the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) Task Force on Blended Finance; Member of the Policy Track and Blended Finance Track of the Net Zero Asset Owner's Alliance; Member of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero's (GFANZ) Energy and Real Economy Transition Workstream; Member of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Strategy Group; Member of the Institute of International Finance (IIF) Blended Finance Task Force.

In 2023, he accepted an invitation to serve as a Fellow of the Canada-US-Mexico North Capital Forum. Prior to joining CDPQ, Erich served as a diplomat for the Government of Canada from 2010 to 2022. During this time he served twice at Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York where he was extensively involved in negotiating the major international agreements related to climate change and sustainability, including Rio+20, the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Prior to joining the foreign service, Erich held a number of positions in both the private and philanthropic sectors in South Korea, Indonesia and Germany and completed a number of short-term assignments with the United Nations in New York, Thailand and Central African Republic. He joined the public service following the conclusion of his graduate studies as an economist with Industry Canada. Erich holds a Master's degree from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia University.



### **Hubert Danso**

*CEO and Chairman, Africa investor (Ai) Group*

Hubert is Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of Africa Investor (Ai) Group. He is responsible for advising institutional investors, governments and development finance institutions on major infrastructure and private equity investments in Africa. He is also the Managing Editor of Africa investor magazine. Hubert established Africa investor in 2002, after leaving the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris, where he was the Senior Adviser for African Affairs, responsible for advising the world's largest corporations and institutional investors on investments in Africa. Hubert was instrumental in establishing the NEPAD Business Group and is a member of the OECD-NEPAD Investment Initiative Steering Committee, the African Development Bank-NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Fund Oversight Committee, the UNEP Finance Initiative African Task Force, the UN Business Committee on Financing for Development and a Reviewer of The Africa Competitiveness Report published by The World Bank, World Economic Forum and the African Development Bank. Hubert is also a member of the Junior Achievement Worldwide Board. He holds an LLB in Business Law and an LL.M Masters in International Commercial Law from the University of Sussex in England.



## Vito Dellerba

*Managing Director, Sustainable Investing, CDPQ Global*

In his current role, Vito is responsible for examining sustainability issues as potential business opportunities. His primary task is to assist CDPQ asset classes in formulating business cases for specific sustainability interventions. His focus will be on four strategic pillars: thematic strategies, company-centric value creation, blended finance, and network collaboration. Earlier, he was a Managing Director at Otéra, at the intersection of strategy, sustainability, and real estate investment. He led dedicated teams in strategy, portfolio construction, research, and sustainability, constantly exploring innovative approaches to align investments with sustainable investing. Prior to this, he worked for CDPQ, where he ventured into pioneering territory, crafting a forward-thinking blended finance platform with an innovative twist focusing on climate risk adaptation and mitigation.

## Rapheal Erasmus

*Managing Director, Strategy and Capital Formation, Pentagreen*



## Amy Hepburn

*CEO, Investor Leadership Network (ILN)*

As CEO of the Investor Leadership Network Secretariat since 2020, Amy Hepburn is charged with designing and delivery the long-term strategy of the ILN and representing the Network in collaboration with global stakeholders. Amy is a recognized impact investing expert and social entrepreneur with deep expertise on gender lens social investments and the care of children in crises. In this capacity, she has spent 20 years driving social change globally in the private, non-profit and public sectors through the creation of unique public/private partnerships and investing for high impact social returns. Her partners consist of visionary leaders and influencers, governments, social entrepreneurs, non-profits, forward thinking companies, foundations and venture philanthropists seeking innovative solutions to persistent social issues.

Amy was a Delegate on the first G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council created by Prime Minister Trudeau, and an active member of the NationSwell Council and The Global Women's Forum on Economy and Society. She has Faculty appointments at Duke University and George Washington University where she teaches on social impact, gender equality, the care of children in crises, human rights and humanitarian action.



## **Jennifer Jordan-Saifi**

*CEO, Sustainable Markets Initiative*

Jennifer is the CEO at the Sustainable Markets Initiative. She is the Founder of Awesome Eh, a social enterprise connecting thought leaders for transformative global progress. She was the Assistant Private Secretary to The King Senior Advisor on The Commonwealth, Sustainability and The Sustainable Markets Initiative in the Royal Household. Prior to this, she held a number of positions at Global Affairs Canada. She has an MBA from Telfer School of Management at the University of Ottawa and a BA in Psychology from Queen's University.



## **Michael Kelly**

*Chief Legal and Sustainability Officer, OMERS*

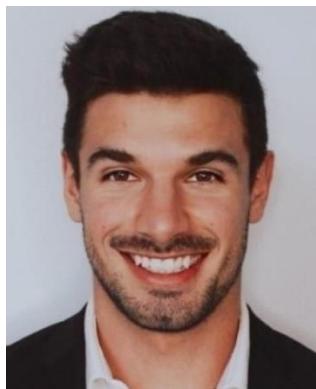
Michael Kelly oversees OMERS Legal Division and is involved in various matters relating to investment and pension law, regulatory affairs and corporate governance, including working closely with the Board of Directors. Michael leads OMERS approach to sustainable investing and ESG, having developed OMERS Sustainable Investing Framework in 2019, and is Chair of the Sustainable Investing Committee. Michael also represents OMERS on various domestic and international organizations focused on governance and sustainable investing, including Canada's Sustainable Finance Action Council, the Canadian Coalition for Good Governance and the Investor Leadership Network. Prior to assuming his current role in 2014, Michael served as Executive Vice President & General Counsel at Borealis Infrastructure (now OMERS Infrastructure), which he joined in 2006. Prior to joining OMERS, he practiced corporate, commercial and regulatory law, both in-house and with firms in Toronto, London, England and Ottawa.



## **Ben Lemire**

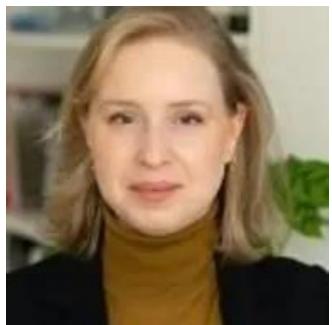
*Vice President Responsible Investing, Mubadala*

Ben has over 15 years' experience in responsible investing, corporate sustainability, and ESG-related reporting within investment management. Alongside the responsible investing team at Mubadala, Ben is currently responsible for ESG integration and engagement across the investment lifecycle for the sovereign wealth fund's \$300B+ USD global portfolio. Ben holds a B.Sc. with Honours from Queen's University, a Master's in Sustainability Leadership from the University of Cambridge, and several professional designations in responsible investment and sustainability reporting.



## **Clément Morelli-Valiquette**

*Associate, CDPQ Global*



## **Sarah Oliver Scemla**

*Chief Sustainable Finance Officer, Sustainable Markets Initiative; Director, ESG and Global Sustainable Finance Legal at Bank of America*

Sarah is a Director and Assistant General Counsel at Bank of America, where she advises on ESG finance, Brexit planning and other regulatory matters. She has a keen interest in pro bono and community engagement, with more than 15 years experience of board positions with NGOs. She

leads community engagement for BofA's Legal team in the UK and as part of this, she has set up a pro bono programme for EMEA. She serves as co-Head of BofA's EMEA Pro Bono Committee and Head of Community Engagement for the EMEA legal department. She is also part of the Sustainable Markets Initiative's strategic leadership team, and Chief Country Engagement Officer from Jan 2023 to July 2024.



## **Radhika Shroff**

*Managing Director, Impact Investing Private Equity, Nuveen*

Radhika is a managing director on the Private Equity Impact Team at Nuveen and is responsible for identifying, executing and managing direct private equity investments in key thematic impact sectors in both developed and developing markets. Prior to joining the firm in January 2020, Radhika was the Deputy Chief Investment Officer of Accion Global Investments, responsible for leading global equity investments and managing a portfolio of

equity investments in over 20 financial institutions and innovative financial services providers that support underserved populations in emerging markets. Before Accion, she spent 15 years in various investment, advisory and operational roles including Latin America investment banking, global consumer and commercial banking and microfinance principal investing at financial services institutions including UBS, Citi, Wells Fargo and Peruvian Development Group.



## **Leah Waterhouse**

*Sustainable Investment Director, The Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI)*

Leah is the Sustainable Investment Director at The Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI). She is also a Climate and Enterprise Manager at the Natwest Group. She has previously held positions of Director at Lombard, and Assistant Director at the Royal Bank of Scotland Business. Leah has a Master's degree in Economics and Geography from the University of Edinburgh.



## **Marat Zapparov**

*CEO, Pentagreen*

Marat brings close to two decades of experience including over 15 years in infrastructure, energy and real assets investments and financing. Prior to Pentagreen, Marat was head of the Asia “Upstream” unit at International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group) within the manufacturing, agribusiness and services industry group, tasked with developing bankable projects across sustainable mobility, decarbonisation, waste and circular economy and other climate-smart real assets in Asia. Previously Marat was Senior Director of Infrastructure at Clifford Capital in Singapore and held roles in the HSBC Resources and Energy project finance group in Hong Kong and the KPMG Global Infrastructure group in London. Marat holds a BSc in Mathematics and Philosophy from the University of Southampton in the UK and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales.

**Ben Barry**

*Executive Director, Solutions, Macquarie Asset Management*

Ben Barry is the Executive Director, Solutions at Macquarie Asset Management. He has previously worked at KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers. He has a Bachelor of Commerce degree in Accounting and Finance from University of Newcastle.

**Michael J. Bellantoni**

*Sustainable Finance Capital Markets Americas Vice President, BNP Paribas*

Michael is a Vice President on the BNP Paribas Sustainable Finance Capital Markets team where he helps financial, corporate, sovereign and supranational issuers in Latin America raise sustainability-labeled capital. Michael has led over \$35 billion in sustainable finance capital markets issuance over his career. At BNP Paribas, Michael has led a number of impactful transactions including Uruguay's Inaugural Sustainability-Linked

Sovereign Bond, CEMEX's Inaugural Green Hybrid Bond, the Republic of Chile's Inaugural Sustainability-Linked Sovereign Bond and the Republic of Peru's Inaugural Sustainable and Social Sovereign Bond transactions.

Prior to BNP Paribas, Michael was a member of Credit Agricole's Latin America debt capital markets team where he was a leader in expanding the sustainable debt product throughout the region. In this capacity, Michael led a number high-profile transactions including the Republic of Chile's Inaugural Green, Social, and Sustainable Bond transactions, United Mexican States' Inaugural SDG Bond, and Suzano's Inaugural Sustainability-Linked Bond. Michael started his career consulting at Deloitte before graduating from Columbia with a dual masters degree in Journalism and International Affairs. Michael holds a double major in Economics and Spanish from Lafayette College, graduating cum laude and with honors distinction in both fields of study. Michael speaks Spanish and Italian, holding dual citizenship with Italy.



## Monia Bianco

*Vice President, J.P. Morgan Development Finance  
Institution, J.P. Morgan*

Monia Bianco is a Vice President within J.P. Morgan Development Finance Institution, where she focuses on deal origination, advising clients on impact disclosure, and investor marketing. Prior to joining J.P. Morgan, Monia was an ESG research analyst under the portfolio management team at PIMCO, responsible for ESG integration and engagement with a focus on sovereigns and emerging markets. Before that, she held positions as a sales executive at the London Stock Exchange and in portfolio analytics at Bloomberg. Monia holds a bachelor's degree in international economics and finance from Bocconi University and she is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Sustainability Management at Columbia University.



## Christian Déséglise

*Group Head of Sustainable Infrastructure and Innovation,  
HSBC*

Christian Déséglise is Group Head of Sustainable Infrastructure and Innovation at HSBC. Previously, he held various positions within HSBC, including Head of Sustainable Finance and Investments, Global Head of Central Banks and Sovereign Wealth Funds at HSBC Global Banking and Markets, and Global Head of Emerging Markets at HSBC Global Asset Management. Christian is also a Non-Executive Director of HSBC Bank (Egypt). Mr. Déséglise is a member of the One Planet Lab, a high level advisory group set up by President Macron to address challenges related to climate change. He leads the FAST-Infra initiative, aiming to mobilize private investment to finance sustainable infrastructure. He is also the co-Chair of the WEF Global Future Council on SDG Investments, the co-Chair of the Sustainable Infrastructure Working Group of HRH the Prince of Wales' Sustainable Markets Initiative, and the co-lead of working groups of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero. Christian is also a member of the Climate Council of the Bloomberg New Economy Forum. Christian is also an Adjunct-Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, where he has been teaching on Emerging Markets and Sustainable Finance since 2009. He is also the co-founder and co-director of Columbia University's BRIC-Lab, which was set up to study the rise of Emerging countries. Christian is a Graduate from Sciences Po (Paris). He holds a Master's degree from La Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris) and a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University in New York.



## Frederic De Mariz

*Head of ESG, UBS Latin America*

Frederic de Mariz, PhD is Head of Sustainability at UBS for Latin America. In his capacity as investment banker, he advises corporate clients on best practices in sustainability and develops innovative financial instruments to direct capital for climate transition and other development targets. His team reached the #1 position for labeled bonds in Brazil in 2023 and he participates actively in industry forums. Prior to that, he was head of

Financial Institutions coverage in Latin America, having participated in several key IPOs in the Fintech sector. Frederic has 20 years of experience in investment banking in London, New York, Mexico City and São Paulo. Prior to UBS, he worked at JPMorgan and Goldman Sachs. His team has been consistently ranked among the top 3, including Deal of the Year (2023) and #1 in Impact Investing by Euromoney (2017). His areas of expertise include sustainable finance, FinTech and impact investing. Frederic graduated from Columbia University – SIPA (MIA, 2005), La Sorbonne (MA in History, 2003), Sciences Po., Paris, (MPA, 2004), ESSEC, Paris (MBA, 2004). He completed his PhD in Finance at University of São Paulo (FEA-USP, 2017) with a thesis on Payments and Financial Inclusion. He has authored or co-authored three books on sustainable finance and published more than 20 academic articles. He is an Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs and The Brandmeyer Fellow for Impact and Sustainable Investing at SIPA. He is a member of the Brazilian Banking Association (FEBRABAN), the Sustainability committee of a food company in Brazil and was an advisor to several microfinance institutions in Brazil.



## Andreas Maerki

*Director, Structured Debt Project Finance, BBVA*

Andreas Maerki is the Director of Structured Debt Project Finance at BBVA. Previously, he was Vice President of Structured Project Finance at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC). He has also worked at ABN AMRO Bank N.V., Citi, and UBS and has interned at JP Morgan and the U.S. Department of the Treasury. He has an MPA from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and a BS in Finance and Business Administration from Concord University.



## Christopher Marks

*Managing Director, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG)*

Christopher is the Managing Director at Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Bank (MUFG), leading its global growth markets and blended finance initiatives. Prior to his current role Christopher has also managed corporate and investment banking in developing markets, spearheading innovative finance for sustainable development goals and climate projects, and

overseeing risk management of a €60 billion portfolio. Before joining MUFG, Christopher was a senior advisor at the African Development Bank and consulted on sovereign debt management for the IMF; and was Global Head of Debt Capital Markets for BNP Paribas. Christopher holds degrees from Colgate University, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Sciences Po de Paris, and Princeton University.



## Anoushka Mehta

*Managing Director - Head of ESG Banking, Americas at HSBC*

Anoushka Mehta is the Managing Director and Head of ESG Banking, Americas at HSBC. She founded and leads Gender Lens Finance, HSBC's business group which leverages HSBC's position and products to support women and women-led businesses. She is a Global Board Member at Women for Women International. She has a BSc in Economics from

University of Warwick.



## Isabelle Millat

*Head of Sustainable Finance Global Markets & Barclays Europe, Barclays*

Isabelle Millat is the Head of Sustainable Finance for Global Markets and Barclays Europe. A critical element of Barclays' Investment Bank strategy and net zero ambition is support for clients as they navigate the transition to a low-carbon economy. Isabelle is a sustainable finance specialist, with 17-year career in the financial services industry. She joined from Société

Générale where she held several senior positions, most recently as Head of Sustainability for Global Markets. Prior to this, she worked for Capgemini Consulting.



**Amira Nahhal**

*Associate, Official Institutions Coverage, Americas, BNP Paribas*



**Pablo Perez**

*Sustainable Capital Markets Structurer, BNP Paribas*



**Brooks Preston**

*Managing Director, Macquarie Asset Management*

Brooks Preston is a managing director in Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets with responsibilities for sustainable asset management, product development, and emerging markets strategy. Brooks has been an advising Macquarie on sustainability, emerging markets and impact since December 2017. He is an Advisory Board Member of Lok Capital and Vestd. Prior to working with Macquarie, Brooks served as Vice President and Head of

Investment Funds for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation from 2014 to 2017 where he was Chair of the investment committee for Investment Funds Department, a member of the Investment Committee for OPIC, and on the Executive Management Committee of OPIC. Prior to OPIC, Brooks was the co-managing partner and founder of the Virgin Green Fund Emerging Markets and a member of its Investment Committee. Brooks has a BA from Dartmouth College (geography & environmental studies) and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business and studied abroad in Nairobi, Kenya.



### **Julia Samson**

*Sustainable Finance Capital Markets Associate, BNP Paribas*

Julia Samson currently works as a Sustainable Finance Capital Markets Associate at BNP Paribas, helping clients finance impactful projects. She is passionate about the private sector's role in financing climate solutions and social impact initiatives. She is a graduate from Columbia University with a Bachelor's degree in Sustainable Development, while also studying Mandarin, Korean, and French. During her time at Columbia, Julia was captain of the NCAA D1 Women's Swim Team, in addition to a 2018-2019 Executive Board member of Columbia's LIGA Filipina. She was a Zhi-Xing US-China Young Leaders Fellow in Summer 2018 where she participated in geopolitical and economic development programming.



### **Lauren Willington**

*VP, Sustainability and Impact Partnerships, State Street*

Lauren is the VP of ESG Partnerships at State Street. She has held multiple positions within the company like PR Manager, ESG Project Analyst and Assistant Vice President. Prior to joining State Street, she has had experience working in companies such as Citigate Dewe Rogerson, and Greentarget Global Group. She has a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from University of the Arts London.

## **Rating Agencies, Financial Information, and Others**



### **Marion Amiot**

*Head, Climate Economics and European Economist, S&P Global*

Marion Amiot is Head of Climate Economics & European Economist at S&P Global Ratings, based in London. In this position, she develops the Eurozone economic forecasts, provides insight into the economic outlook and conducts in-depth research on key macroeconomic developments and policies.



## Alexandra Dimitrijevic

*Managing Director, Global Head of Analytical Research and Development, S&P Global*

As Global Head of Research, Alexandra leads the credit research across regions and industries for S&P Global Ratings. She also chairs the Credit Conditions Committee, which is a global credit risk monitoring platform that brings together economists and ratings experts across industries to assess global macro-credit trends, key risks and their potential impact on ratings. Prior to that, she was the Head of Corporate Ratings in EMEA, managing a team of 140 analysts spanning 10 offices and covering over 1,000 credit ratings on corporate issuers in the region. In her previous role as Head of Methodology for Sovereigns and Public Finance Ratings, she developed the methodology for the rating of sovereign governments, multilateral lending institutions, local and regional governments and public enterprises. She started at S&P Global Ratings in 1995 as a public finance credit analyst and moved into leadership roles, developing an extensive experience in credit analysis across multiple sectors. Alexandra also chairs the S&P Global Diversity Research Lab and coordinate thematic research across S&P Global. Alexandra started her career with the consulting firm Arthur Andersen. She holds a master from Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) in Economy and Finance.



## Paul Gruenwald

*Global Chief Economist, S&P Global Ratings*

Dr. Paul Gruenwald is the Chief Economist at S&P Global Ratings, leading the economic forecasting and research effort and serving as the primary spokesperson on macro-economic matters for the company. Before joining S&P Global, Paul spent five years at ANZ bank as the Asia-Pacific Chief Economist, where he was responsible for helping set and direct the economic research agenda as well as building the bank's profile in the region. Prior to that, Paul worked at the International Monetary Fund for nearly 16 years where he led the team producing their Asia-Pacific regional outlook, represented the Fund in Hong Kong SAR and Korea, was the Deputy Chief of the China division, and worked on an array of sovereign debt restructuring issues. Paul has a Ph.D. in Economics from Columbia University in New York and a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Texas at Austin.



## **Andrew Herscowitz**

*CEO, Former Executive Director, ODI Global Washington*

Andy is a globally-recognised leader and organization builder, with huge global credibility. He spent more than 20 years as one of the US Government's most senior development diplomats, having lived and worked on four continents. He brings extensive expertise in international finance and energy access. He has an exceptional track record in devising imaginative solutions to global challenges, including building and leading the U.S. Government's Power Africa initiative, which grew to become the largest public-private partnership for development in the world that has helped more than 170 million people in Africa gain access to electricity.

Most recently, he served as the first Chief Development Officer at the US International Development Finance Corporation, where he devised and oversaw a \$75 billion development strategy and served on the Investment Committee. Early in his career, he served as part of the U.S. Government legal team that helped develop the original framework for The Global Fund. He has received two Lifetime Achievement Awards for his work in advancing the African power sector. In 2018, Herscowitz was awarded the "Service to Americas" medal, given to the U.S. Government officials who have provided the greatest benefit to the American people. In 2005, the Federal Bar Association recognised Herscowitz as one of the five most outstanding lawyers under the age of 35 in the U.S. Government. He also has been named as an MIT/Rockefeller "Global Commissioner for Ending Energy Poverty" and has served on three different World Economic Forum Global Future Councils since 2013.



## **Diana Hui**

*Regulatory Advisor, S&P Global*

Diana is the Regulatory Advisor at S&P Global, where she provides guidance on policy and procedural changes, the applicability of local regulations, and internal and external examinations. Previously, she was an Associate, Litigation & Regulatory Enforcement Group at Deutsche Bank. She has an Executive MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics and Law from Binghamton University.



## **Nnamdi Igbokwe**

*Director, Convergence Blended Finance*

As Director of Knowledge and Thought Leadership, Dr. Igbokwe leads the strategic guidance and enhancement of the overall content program at Convergence. He combines over 15 years of research experience in global capital markets, economic development policy, and development finance with more than a decade of private-sector financial advisory and institutional client management. Previously, Dr. Igbokwe served as the

Director of Investor Relations at a NY global macro hedge fund where he created knowledge products and managed the ecosystem of content to support and mobilize investments. He has also worked as a sustainable development advisor for multilateral investment initiatives sponsored by the World Bank and the African Development Bank. Prior to joining Convergence, Dr. Igbokwe was Senior Vice President leading strategic initiatives for the Data Analytics Reporting and Technology Market Risk team at Citigroup. He began his career working as a management consultant at Boston Consulting Group where he serviced financial institutions in regulatory compliance and risk management. Dr. Igbokwe has been awarded a doctoral research fellowship at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and was selected for the inaugural ACLS Emerging Voices post-doctoral fellowship class of 2020. He holds a BA in Political Science from Northwestern University, an interdisciplinary MA in International Relations from The Johns Hopkins University (SAIS), and a Masters and Ph.D. in International Political Economy from The Johns Hopkins University.



## **David Knutson**

*Senior Director, Strategic Outreach, S&P Global*

David Knutson is a Senior Director of Strategic Outreach for S&P Global. David joined S&P Global from Schroders where he most recently worked as the Head of US Fixed Income Product Management after joining the firm as Head of Integrated Credit Research. Before moving to New York, he helped establish the US asset management business and led the research initiatives for global financials and emerging markets for Legal and General in Chicago. Prior to that David was responsible for financials research at

Mason Street Advisors, the investment adviser to Northwestern Mutual. Before joining the buy side, he worked at UBS in risk management, debt capital markets and liability management and earlier started his career at Bank of America as a credit analyst and later as the research manager for Latin America. He is active with the CFA Society of New York and the Fixed Income Analyst Society. Before leaving the buy side, David was Chair of the Credit Roundtable, a member of the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board's Standards Advisory Group and participated on the advisory councils of several rating agencies.



## Gregg Lemos-Stein

*Chief Analytical Officer, Corporate Ratings, S&P Global*

Gregg is a Managing Director and Chief Analytical Officer for Corporate Ratings at S&P Global Ratings. He is also head of Analytics & Research for the global ratings practices. In these roles, he is responsible for analytical excellence and ratings consistency, the quality and timeliness of credit publications, and the creation and coordination of cross-sector and thematic research. Gregg joined S&P Global Ratings in 2002 and has had a wide range of analytical and managerial roles in New York and London. Prior to his current position, Gregg was head of Analytics & Research for Corporate Ratings. He was previously Analytical Manager for the EMEA real estate sector and also led a team of analysts covering a diversified group of sectors in Israel. Prior to that, he was analytical manager for the U.S. Telecommunications and Cable ratings team. He was a senior analyst in the U.S. autos and auto suppliers team from 2006 to 2010. Before joining S&P Global Ratings, Gregg worked for The Dreyfus Corporation and its parent Mellon Financial Corp. Gregg was also a business reporter for The Associated Press for several years. Gregg holds a Masters of Business Administration from Columbia University in New York and a bachelor of arts from The University of Chicago. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst.



## Carolyn McLean

*Global Chair of the Project Finance Analytical Oversight and Consistency Council, S&P Global*

Carolyn is the Managing Director, Project Finance at S&P Global Ratings. She was previously the Managing Director of Government Methodologies. She has worked across multiple divisions within the company like Like Government Ratings, USPF Education and Public Finance Ratings. She has an MBA from Yale School of Management and a BA in Art History and Mathematics from Hamilton College.



## Frédéric Samama

*Adjunct Professor at School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University; Head of Strategic Development, Sustainable1, S&P Global*

Frederic Samama is Head of Strategic Development at Sustainable1. Mr. Samama started his career at JP Morgan in Paris. He then oversaw Corporate Equity Derivatives at Crédit Agricole Corporate Investment

Banking in Paris and in New York. There, he developed and implemented the first international leveraged employee share purchase program, a system now widely used by French companies. He then joined leading European asset manager, Amundi. There, he reorganized and developed the institutional clients coverage. He built Amundi's green finance franchise by pioneering the first mainstream equity low-carbon indexes. He also launched the largest green bond fund of its time to finance green infrastructures in Emerging Markets. Mr. Samama also co-launched the first coalition of institutional investors committed to decarbonizing their portfolios, which was selected to represent the entire finance industry during the COP21 Action Day. Mr. Samama founded the Sovereign Wealth Fund Research Initiative in 2009, a pioneer academic center dedicated to SWFs and sustainability. He co-edited a book on long-term investing with Nobel Prize Laureate Joseph Stiglitz and Professor Patrick Bolton and has published numerous papers on green finance (e.g., "The Green Swan, central banking and financial stability in the age of climate change", "Hedging Climate Risk"). He is currently a visiting professor at Sciences Po, Paris and an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). Mr. Samama is regularly invited to comment publicly on ESG and climate change including before the US Senate. Mr. Samama is a member of the Scientific Committee of the French Prudential Supervision and Resolution Authority (ACPR). He has been appointed to the Independent High-Level Expert Group on Climate Finance managed by Lord Stern. He is a member of the One Planet Lab and has advised the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).



### **Roberto H. Sifon Arevalo**

*Managing Director, Global Head of Sovereign & MLI Ratings, S&P Global*

Roberto Sifon-Arevalo, Managing Director Global Head of Analytics and Research Sovereign & International Public Finance Ratings (IPF) at S&P Global. In this role, he leads a team of senior specialists based in New York, London, Madrid, Stockholm, Mexico City, & Singapore that monitors ratings on sovereigns, subsovereigns and multilateral and development financial institutions throughout the world. Prior to that, he was the head of the Sovereign and IPF ratings group for the Americas and the Caribbean managing the teams analytical efforts in the region. Roberto's work experience, before joining S&P in 2003 as a sovereign ratings analyst, includes several analytical positions at Banco Santander and Banco Sudameris in Argentina. He holds a degree in Business Administration from the Universidad de Belgrano, in Argentina, and a Masters Degree in International Affairs, specializing in International Economic Policy, from Columbia University in New York.



## **Sylvie Skene**

*Executive Assistant, Carbon Direct*

Sylvie Skene is the Executive Assistant at Carbon Direct. Prior to joining Carbon Direct, she was a Business Development Associate at UGE. She was previously the Director of Education and Sustainability at SWAP (Sharing with a Purpose). She has a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Earth Science and Studio Art from Washington University in St. Louis.

## **Corporates and Others**



## **Firuz Baglikaya**

*President, TÜRSAB*

Firuz B. Bağlıkaya, who also served as an Executive Board Member for a certain period in the Turkish Basketball Federation, participated in important international organizations in Turkey and Europe such as FIBA World Basketball Championship, World Golf Championship and Final Four European Basketball Championship. Detur is currently the only authorized travel agency for the Final Four and the Euroleague. He served as the Vice President of TÜRSAB between 2011 – 2014 and since March 2018 he is the President of TÜRSAB, the Association of Turkish Travel Agencies. Besides being the President of International Congress and Exhibition Center Facilities Operation Trading Inc. (UKTAŞ), Mr. Baglıkaya is Istanbul Congress and Visitors Bureau (ICVB) Deputy Chairman of the Executive Board, Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK) Board Member, Tourism and Travel Agencies Foundation (TURSAV) President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Vice Chairman of the Board of Tourism Development and Education Foundation (TUGEV) and Council President of Travel Agents and Guides Council at the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB).



## **Osvald Bjelland**

*Founder and Chairman, Origination*

Osvald Bjelland is a Norwegian entrepreneur and investor, whose long record of founding organizations that espouse ecologically and civically responsible mandates. Bjelland currently serves as chairman of Origination LTD, a London -based company he founded that mobilizes originators and other exceptional leaders worldwide to invest in service of people and the planet with long-term strategic foresight.

In 2000, after selling The Performance Group in the wake of the dot-com bubble, he traded commerce for academia, earning a PhD from the University of Leeds (UK) in 2008. Later, he would return to academia as a visiting business fellow at the University of Oxford's Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment and as a visiting scholar at Stanford University. Several purpose-driven ventures followed, notably the 2001 launch of his advisory firm Xynteo, dedicated to among others guiding energy transition in frontier markets such as India. He served as CEO, president and chairman. In 2023, Bjelland sold a majority share of Xynteo to Leon Capital and retained a 20 percent stake along with an employee ownership arrangement. Bjelland's legacy is also stamped on partnerships and business consortiums such as the Tata Xynteo Exchange, a joint venture helmed by Bjelland and the chairman of Tata Sons. Other partnerships include Vikaasa and Europe Delivers. Under Bjelland's stewardship, Xynteo also built The Leadership Vanguard, working with global CEOs, heads of state, Nobel laureates and scientists to promote "good growth" in service of people and the planet. Together, the companies and collaborative entities have delivered over five hundred projects in the U.S., China, India, Europe, and Brazil.



## **Mary Cline**

*Senior Policy Advisor, Ernst & Young*

With more than 20 years of experience across the private, public and academic sectors, Mary is a political risk leader, problem solver, writer and analyst who drives strategic initiatives in the Office of the EY Global Chairman. She is a team member with the EY Geostrategic Business Group. Her perspectives have been leveraged by presidential campaigns, including as a national security coordinator in 2016, as well as by top multinational companies and leading higher-education institutions spanning the globe. Mary shapes how we talk about crucial topics surrounding business and its social impact. She serves as a strategy officer for the World Economic Forum, bringing perspective to its initiatives on economic progress, gender parity and the future of education and work. In prior careers, she has worked in consulting, academia at Georgetown University and foreign policy for the US Department of State. Mary holds a PhD in political science and government from UCLA.



## John Colas

*Partner and Vice Chairman, Oliver Wyman*

John T. Colas has worked in each of the world's principal financial centers advising senior management in financial services and the public sector on critical matters of strategy, regulation, and risk and capital management. John also serves on Marsh & McLennan's Climate Risk & Sustainability Task Force as well as the Government Steering Committee.

John is currently leading our project team assisting the United Nations Environment Programme – Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) and a Working Group of 16 leading banks to develop a framework to assess and disclose climate-related risk factors. Prior to being named Vice Chairman, John held a number of key leadership positions within Oliver Wyman. He has led the Retail and Business Banking Practice, the Corporate Strategy Practice, and served on the Management Committee. He is a member of The Economic Club of New York, The Foreign Policy Association, the AFS-USA President's Circle and an Advisory Board member at the Huntsman Program at the University of Pennsylvania. John graduated magna cum laude from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He also studied at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (SciencesPo) as a Rotary Foundation Scholar.



## Karthikeya Desai

*Founder and Managing Partner, Desai & Associates*

Kartikeya N Desai is the Founder and CEO of Desai & Associates, a mission-based innovative finance advisory and market building firm. Mr. Desai is Visiting Faculty at Ashoka University and other varsities and was selected as one of the Indian PM's 'Champions of Change' in 2017 having played a key role in the development of social finance in India through his leadership of pioneering impact investing firms since 2005. Previously Mr.

Desai helped found and led Asha Impact, a multi-family office and think tank for UHNIs and business leaders in India, was Partner in charge of Asia for Kois, a global innovative finance advisory firm, and Vice President at pioneering impact investment firms Aavishkaar and Lok Capital. He has served three terms on the Executive Committee of the IIC, an industry association of 50+ impact funds, and on the boards of several well known startups where he led Series-A VC investments including Vastu, Janadhar, Nepra, Gramophone, Adda 24/7, Avanti and Greenway.

He is a member of Living My Promise, angel investor and mentor to startups and NGOs working in the Himalayan region. He has founded not profits working on social issues including What's Up Bharat, QNA, and the Happiness Collective and been a judge on India's first reality show on social investment, The Real Deal on NDTV Profit. Mr. Desai started his career in investment banking and private equity with DSP Merrill Lynch and ML Global Private Equity after graduating from the Wharton School and

then Columbia University and working with the Rockefeller Foundation and BTS Group in New York and with the United Nations Development Program in West Africa.

## **Jessica T. Donohue**

*Egg Rock Consulting, LLC*



## **Cristina Paslar**

*Chief Marketing & Communications Officer for Latin America, IBM*

Cristina Paslar is the Chief Marketing & Communications Officer for Latin America, IBM. Cristina Paslar is a dynamic leader with over two decades of experience in the financial services industry. With a passion for technology and innovation, Cristina has held key leadership roles, including Executive Vice President at Mastercard's Global Products & Engineering Area. She has expertise in strategic leadership and a strong track record of driving transformative initiatives. She has 20+ years of expertise in brand-building and marketing strategies that modernized brand marketing and elevated businesses to the next level. She has led Financial Inclusion and Sustainability strategies and solutions at scale. Currently, she is serving as an Advisory Board Member at organizations like EMpact and Verestro.



## **Rachel Fox Smotherman**

*Senior Associate, Milken Institute Finance*

Rachel Fox Smotherman is a senior associate at the Milken Institute and a member of the Geo-Economics Initiative. Her role includes work on supply-chain resilience focusing on the nexus of human rights and environmental impacts, as well as navigating the future of emerging technology and AI. In previous roles, she has focused on international human rights at the U.S. Department of State through managing grants and research to combat international human trafficking and has held multiple roles in public policy research. She earned an MPhil in international development studies from the University of Cambridge.



## Jean-François Gagnon

*EY Canada Financial Services Sustainable Finance Leader,  
Ernst & Young*

Jean-François serves as the EY Canada Financial Services Sustainable Finance Leader. Drawing on more than 20 years of experience, Jean-François has worked for leading financial institutions in Canada, the United States and Europe, developing a broad base of expertise across different areas including asset management, insurance, credit and prepaid cards, mortgages and mortgage insurance, retail and corporate banking and real estate.

Prior to joining EY, Jean-François was a partner and co-founder of Pivot where he led various projects involving strategic positioning, organizational diagnosis, operations and risk management reviews for various types of financial services companies. Prior to launching Pivot, Jean-François worked at a top management consulting company within their Organizational Transformation and Financial Services practice. With this firm, Jean-François worked with various financial institutions on topics of strategy, organizational restructuring, business model design, performance management (definition of metrics and objectives), as well as top team alignment. Working within the financial services practice, he developed strong expertise in financial effectiveness, including the development and implementation of new methodologies allowing for the quantification and management of risks. Jean-François holds a Bachelor's degree Honor's in Actuarial Science from Concordia University. He is also a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries.



## Franck Gbaguidi

*Director, Global Sustainability, Eurasia Group*

As a director of sustainability at Eurasia Group, Franck helps public and private sector organizations understand evolving sustainability trends and supports them in the design of solutions that turn political risks into opportunities. He analyzes political risk across a range of sustainability issues, focusing on biodiversity policy, water resources, and environmental litigation. Before joining Eurasia Group, Franck held various energy- and climate-related positions at the World Bank Group. Most recently, he was

the climate adviser to the managing director of the International Finance Corporation. He has also done research and consultancy work on carbon risk management for the European Investment Bank, on clean and domestic energy solutions for the United Nations Capital Development Fund, on North American energy policy for the Centre on Global Energy Policy, and on environmental crimes in sub-Saharan Africa for the Earth Institute. Franck holds three bachelor's degrees and four master's degrees, including a master of public policy from Sciences Po Paris and a master of public administration from Columbia University. He has been quoted by various media outlets, including Bloomberg, the New York Times, Responsible Investor, and the Business Telegraph.



## **Jonathan Granoff**

*President, Global Security Institute*

Jonathan Granoff is the President of the Global Security Institute, a representative to United Nations of the World Summits of Nobel Peace Laureates, a former Adjunct Professor of International Law at Widener University School of Law, and Senior Advisor to the Committee on National Security American Bar Association International Law Section.

Governing and advisory boards include: Middle Powers Initiative, Jane Goodall Institute, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament, Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy, and Nonpartisan Security Group. Trustee and Fellow of World Academy of Art and Science. He has delivered expert testimony before the US Congress and Parliaments of the UK and Canada and United Nations Secretary General's Disarmament Advisory Board.

He was a Nobel Peace Prize Nominee in 2014. Jonathan has published more than 100 publications and received numerous awards, including Rutgers University Law School 2009 Arthur E. Armitage, Sr. Distinguished Alumni Award; Gwynedd-Mercy College 2006 Distinguished Service Award; American Bar Association Section of International Law Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020; International Film & TV Festival of New York 1990 Silver Medal for Our Constitution: The Document that Created a Nation. Jonathan is a graduate of Vassar College, BA Cum Laude, 1970 and Rutgers University School of Law, JD, 1976.



## **Rachel Halfaker**

*Associate Director, 10,000 Communities Initiative, Milken Institute*

Rachel Halfaker is an associate director at Milken Institute Finance. Halfaker works on the public finance and resilient infrastructure work which focuses on identifying innovative partnership and financing models for the public finance field and emerging investment strategies for resilient infrastructure. Halfaker launched the Institute's Community Infrastructure

Center, a platform connecting over 1,000 organizations to data, resources, and capital to advance critical infrastructure projects. She also co-leads the Milken Institute's Initiative for Inclusive Entrepreneurship Program, a collaborative partnership designed to mobilize \$10B in State Small Business Credit Initiative capital for socially and economically disadvantaged business owners. Prior to her work at the Milken Institute, Halfaker worked at the intersection of urban technology and economic development as an Urban Development Consultant in Deloitte's Smart Cities practice and led Market Launch for an urban mobility startup in Washington D.C. Halfaker holds a Masters in Urban Planning from Georgetown University and a BS in Information Systems from the University of Florida.



## Lyndsay Howard

*Foreign Policy Advisor to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg,  
Senior Analyst for Foreign Policy, Bloomberg*

Lyndsay C. Howard is senior foreign policy analyst at Bloomberg LP, serving the Management Committee; foreign policy advisor to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; a Distinguished Scholar at the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at Johns Hopkins SAIS; and the Executive Director of the Center's America and the Future of World Order Project.

Prior to Bloomberg, Ms. Howard worked for a decade in the U.S. Intelligence Community and was assigned to American Embassies in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, among others in Europe and Eurasia. During this period, she was a member of the Intelligence Community Working Group that traced Islamic terrorist activities in Central Asia, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. She also served on Secretary James A. Baker's staff; in the Office of the White House Legal Advisor; and on the Delegation of the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty negotiation in Vienna. One of two Western representatives who attended the decommissioning of the Semipalatinsk Soviet nuclear weapons test facility, Ms. Howard also led a research team on the UN/World Bank/USAID multibillion-dollar cleanup of the Aral Sea. While in government, she received several Superior Honor and Achievement awards.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). Ms. Howard graduated from Vassar College's Science, Technology, and Society program. She studied international relations, history and defense policy at Sciences Po and the Sorbonne in Paris; and at the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies in Geneva.



## Tom Einar Jensen

*Chief Executive Officer, Co-Founder and Director of the Board, Freyr*

Mr. Jensen currently serves as Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Board in FREYR Battery. Previously he held the position as Executive Chairperson in the Board of Directors in FREYR Battery. Prior to and concurrently with FREYR, Mr. Jensen has served as Co-Founder and Partner of EDGE Global LLC. Prior to EDGE Global LLC and FREYR, he served in multiple positions, most recently as Partner and Senior Advisor at SYSTEMIQ Ltd. Mr. Jensen has also held the position of Executive Vice President at Joule Unlimited and Chief Executive Officer at Agrinos AS. Prior to that, Mr. Jensen served in various executive positions in finance, strategy, and business development at Norsk Hydro. He holds an M.Sc. in Finance and Economics from the Norwegian School of Economics.



## **Henrik Johansson**

*CEO, Spowdi*

Henrik Johansson is an entrepreneur with a background within finance, marketing and engineering. He has been working within sales and distribution in several industries for over 25 years. Henrik Johansson founded Spowdi after serving as CEO of Artificial Solutions, an AI intelligence company servicing a variety of industries. He holds a business degree from the Dallas International School of Business.



## **Jakob Kiefer**

*Senior Advisor, Origination*

Jakob Kiefer is a Senior Advisor at Origination. He is also an Executive Board Member at Spowdi, a Senior Advisor at Kreab Worldwide, a Member of the Board of Advisors at Göteborgs Hamn AB, and a Board Member at the Institute for Security and Development Policy. He is a former career diplomat with 25 years of experience from three continents with focus on negotiations, economy, trade and security policy. Jakob Kiefer had leading

central functions and served as EU Foreign Affairs Council Sherpa, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Mission in China, Ambassador to Chile and Peru as well as Ambassador for Sustainable Business. He was the Group Head of Public Affairs, ABB Group. Jakob Kiefer has a Master's degree in International Relations and Political Science from Uppsala University including undergraduate studies from the USA and France. He is also a member of the Global Committee on Trade and investment of the International Chamber of Commerce, a Senior Advisor to the CEO Climate Leaders Alliance of World Economic Forum.



## **Rasmus Lundsgaard Nielsen**

*CEO, Xynteo*

Rasmus Lundsgaard Nielsen is the CEO of Xynteo. Xynteo is a purpose-driven business coalition, committed to co-creating new business models to deliver social and environmental impact. Previously he was a Partner in Energy and Utilities at PA Consulting. Rasmus brings a proven track record of executing strategic and commercial transformations for both private equity-backed and listed global companies. He has extensive experience in renewables and the broader energy transition and decarbonisation agenda. Before joining PA Consulting, Rasmus worked in both executive and advisory roles. Among others, Rasmus has been the Head of Corporate Strategy, M&A and Global Intelligence and part of the Executive Committee at Vestas Wind

Power, Board Member at Utopus Insights (a US-based Energy IoT business), Engagement Partner at QVARTZ/Bain & Company. Rasmus founded Lundsgaard Advisory, a boutique consultancy primarily advising private equity clients on strategy and transaction services in the power and renewables sector.



### **Joyita Mukherjee**

*Senior Advisor and Board Member, CLASP*

Joyita is a climate finance professional who, until recently, led Partner Engagement and Strategy for Climate Finance in the Blended Finance Department at the International Finance Corporation (IFC). She managed over \$700 million in concessional donor funds to invest in climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and support advisory services. She also advised on multilateral efforts to mobilize private capital for low carbon development in emerging markets. Prior to this role, Joyita led IFC's advisory services for sustainable business in the South Asia region that focused on clean energy access, energy efficiency, climate-smart agriculture, and renewable energy. Before joining IFC, Joyita worked on privatization, financial sector reform, and micro-finance at the World Bank. She also managed the World Bank's social entrepreneurship program, Development Marketplace, that funded innovative business models to deliver essential services to the bottom of the pyramid households. Joyita holds a Master of Science in Economics from the University of Delaware.



### **Cherie Nursalim**

*Vice Chairman, GITI Group; Special Advisor to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia*

Cherie Nursalim is an Indonesian businesswoman and philanthropist. She is the Vice Chairman of GITI Group and a Special Advisor to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia. She is the Vice Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and a board member of Publicis Groupe, IMAGINE, the Business and Sustainable Development Commission Global Blended Finance Taskforce, and Partnering for Green Growth (P4G). She chairs the Southeast Asia Chapter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and the Tsinghua University Southeast Asia Centre in Bali, where she is the developer of Kura Kura Bali, a project that aims to implement the Tri Hita Karana philosophy of happiness. She was a co-founder of United In Diversity (UID). Nursalim is on the Asia and International Advisory Boards for MIT Sloan School of Management, Columbia University and Geneva Tsinghua Initiative (GTI). She is a member of the advisory board of the Research Centre for Climate Change for University of Indonesia, and of the board of the Singapore Science Centre, the World Green Building Council, the Women's World Banking Southeast Asia Advisory Council, and the Global and Asia Philanthropy Circle.



## **Maria Persson Gulda**

*CTO/CPO, Stegra (formerly H2 Green Steel)*

Maria is Chief Technology Officer at H2 Green Steel. Maria has led the project from the start, from the idea of making green steel on a large scale, to where the company stands today. In her role as CTO, she is responsible for the plant design, including the production of green hydrogen, and the selection of the associated equipment and technology. Prior to joining H2GS, Maria was a partner at McKinsey and led digital transformations for the steel and paper industry. Maria is Doctor in Applied Physics from Harvard University. She wrote her dissertation on the topic of metallic structures and defects.



## **Srinivas Ramanujam**

*CEO, Villgro*

Srinivas Ramanujam is passionate about scaling up Small Growing Businesses (SGBs) that have the potential to create impact. He brings two decades of experience across multiple sectors and networks to solve ecosystem-level issues in the sectors of healthcare, climate action, agriculture and gender inclusion and serves as an Executive Steering Committee Member at Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs. He engages closely with the Govt. of India to nurture social entrepreneurship and advocates for greater participation by commercial capital providers in this space.



## **Simon Rebbechi**

*Aspen Institute's Finance Leaders Fellows, Aspen Institute*

Simon Rebbechi is currently working with the Aspen Institute's Finance Leaders Fellowship, Simon has over 25 years' experience as a leader in the Markets businesses of UBS, Merrill Lynch, and Macquarie Bank and is a graduate of Columbia's Master of Sustainability Management program.



## **Shravan Shankar**

*Co-Founder, Climake*

Shravan is a co-founder of Climake. He has over 13 years experience focused around mainstreaming sustainability, working with organizations across Asia and Europe, and developing national policies in India and Sri Lanka. He has previously co-founded AtWorks, an impact entrepreneurship ecosystem builder, that was recognised as a circular economy solution for India by the Ellen Macarthur Foundation and has been recognized with a National Award on Smart City Solutions by the Government of India.



## **Varun Sivaram**

*Senior Fellow for Energy and Climate, Council on Foreign Relations*

Dr. Varun Sivaram is senior fellow for energy and climate at the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Sivaram served as chief strategy and innovation officer at Ørsted, a \$25 billion Fortune Global 500 company that is the world's largest producer of offshore wind energy. Earlier in his career, he served as chief technology Officer at ReNew Power, a publicly listed multibillion-dollar company that is India's largest producer of renewable energy, and as a consultant at McKinsey & Co. Dr. Sivaram served for the first two years of President Joe Biden's administration in the White House and State Department as the managing director for clean energy and senior advisor to Secretary John Kerry, the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate. He created and led the First Movers Coalition, which President Biden called the flagship U.S. public-private partnership on climate. Dr. Sivaram has also served in state and local government as senior advisor to the mayor of Los Angeles and to the governor of New York.

TIME Magazine named Sivaram to its TIME 100 Next list of the next hundred most influential people in the world, MIT Technology Review named him one of the top 35 innovators under 35, and the World Economic Forum named him a Young Global Leader. His TED Talk on India's clean energy transition has been viewed more than one million times. Sivaram serves on the boards of the Atlantic Council, the Breakthrough Institute, and Aventurine Partners. A Rhodes and Truman Scholar, he holds a PhD in condensed matter physics from Oxford University, and undergraduate degrees from Stanford University.



**Minh-Huy Tran**  
*CEO, Origination*

Minh-Huy Tran is the CEO of Origination. a passionate leader with a superior drive for driving growth, innovation and value creation. He previously he was an SVP at Telenor. In Telenor he was chosen as a Telenor Global Accelerate leader. He has a Master of Arts in CRM from Oslo School of Management and University of Hertfordshire with distinction and a university prize for "outstanding academic performance".



**Andrea Webster**  
*Head of Finance System Transformation*

Andrea leads the Financial System Benchmark at WBA. She is passionate about the role of the finance sector in building a sustainable and just world, believing that by collaborating across the full finance eco-system, together we can achieve system level positive change. Before joining WBA in March 2022, Andrea had spent 15 years in the asset management industry working in Asia and Europe across a broad range of public and private market

strategies and investor groups, including banks, life assurance companies, institutional investors, wealth advisors and family offices. Prior to that she worked in the life assurance industry in product development and ecommerce. Andrea actively contributes to industry debate through the think tank SustainFinance.org, likes inspiring and mentoring young women who want a career in finance and is currently studying a Masters in Philanthropy at the University of Kent.



**Ardhi Wardhana**  
*Assistant to Prof. Mari Elka Pangestu, Researcher at the Department of Economics, Centre for Strategic and International Studies*

Ardhi Wardhana is an economic researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies Indonesia. Ardhi's research expertise and practical engagements focus on the energy transition, climate finance, green industry, and critical minerals. He has conducted research projects on energy transition pathways, energy subsidy reforms, and global climate finance cooperation, specifically in developing countries and emerging economies (EMDEs). Ardhi brings over five years of experience in the energy industry and sustainability. He was a research assistant at the Center on Global Energy Policy, working on energy transition and critical minerals in Latin America and Southeast Asia. During his tenure as a sustainable energy researcher in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in New York, he

was involved in the Energy Moonshot Project, which tracks the global energy transition and the impact of the UNDP's financial and technical assistance in EMDEs. He was also the Borneo Region Coordinator at the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific for the Climate Resilience & Inclusive Cities project. With support from the European Union, he analyzed the greenhouse gas inventory and climate impact and developed climate mitigation and adaptation action plans for several cities in Borneo, Indonesia. Ardhi holds a Master of Public Administration in Energy & Environment from Columbia University with a specialization in Data Analytics and Quantitative Analysis and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the Institute of Technology of Bandung.

## Academics



### Douglas Almond

*Professor of International and Public Affairs and Economics, Columbia University*

Douglas Almond is a Professor of International and Public Affairs and Economics at Columbia University. Professor Almond's primary research areas are health and applied microeconomics, with a particular interest in infant health and the environment. He co-directs SIPA's Center on Environmental Economics and Policy (CEEP) with Professor Wolfram Schlenker. Almond previously served as a staff economist at the Council of Economic Advisers during the Clinton administration and studied the health effects of air pollution in China as a Fulbright scholar.

Almond received his BA in Economics from Carleton College in Minnesota and PhD in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley.



### Caroline Flammer

*Vice Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA); A. Barton Hepburn Professor of Economics, and Director of SIRI, Columbia University*

Caroline Flammer is the A. Barton Hepburn Professor of Economics at Columbia University with joint appointments at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and the Climate School, and a secondary

appointment at Columbia Business School. She is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and a Research Member at the European Corporate Governance Institute

(ECGI). Caroline is an expert in sustainable investing and the recipient of numerous prestigious awards. Her research examines whether and how sustainable finance and impact investing can help finance a more sustainable world. Moreover, her research examines how, and under which conditions, firms can incorporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations into their activities to enhance their competitiveness while strengthening—instead of undermining—the very system in which they operate and hereby play a critical role in addressing climate change, inequality, global health, and other grand challenges related to society and the natural environment. The Web of Science ranked her among the top-100 Highly Cited Researchers in the economics and business profession in terms of impact over the past 10 years. At Columbia, she serves as the Director of SIPA's Sustainable Investing Research Initiative (SIRI) which aims to foster scholarship, education, and dialogue on system-level investing—the interplay and interdependencies between investment and major challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty, and social inequalities. Among other roles, Caroline serves as the President of the Alliance for Research on Corporate Sustainability (ARCS), as a Council Member of the World Economic Forum (WEF)'s Global Future Council on the future of responsible investing, and as a Trustee at Domini Impact Investments. She is an Associate Editor for both *Management Science* and the *Strategic Management Journal*.



### **Geoffrey Heal**

*Donald C. Waite III Professor Emeritus of Social Enterprise in the Faculty of Business and Professor Emeritus of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Geoffrey Heal, Donald C. Waite III Professor Emeritus of Social Enterprise and Professor Emeritus of International and Public Affairs, is noted for contributions to economic theory and resource and environmental

economics. Author of eighteen books and about two hundred articles, Professor Heal is a Fellow of the Econometric Society, past Managing Editor of the *Review of Economic Studies*, Past President of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, recipient of its prize for publications of enduring quality and a Life Fellow, and recipient of the 2013 Best Publication Prize of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.,

Professor Heal chaired a committee of the National Academy of Sciences on valuing ecosystem services, was a Commissioner of the Pew Oceans Commission, was a coordinating lead author of the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report, was a member of President Sarkozy's Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, was a member of the advisory board for the World Bank's 2010 World Development Report and the United Nations Environment Program's 2011 Human Development Report, and acts as an advisor to the World Bank on its Green Growth project. He is also a Director of Public Business, a foundation that promotes in-depth public interest journalism and a member of the Advisory Board of Green Seal. He has been a principal in two start-up companies, a consulting firm and a software

and telecommunications company, and until recently was a member of the Investment Committee of a green private equity group.



### **Merit E. Janow**

*Dean Emerita, School of International and Public Affairs;  
Professor of Practice in International Economic Law and  
International Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Merit E. Janow is an internationally recognized expert in international trade and investment. She has extensive experience in academia, government and business, and has been involved with the Asia-Pacific region for her entire life. Janow served as Dean of the faculty of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) from July 2013 through December 2021. For the past 27 years, Janow has been a professor at both SIPA and Columbia Law School. She teaches graduate courses in the digital economy, international trade and investment law and policy, comparative antitrust law and policy, and China in the global economy. She has held a number of leadership positions at the University.

Professor Janow has had three periods of government service. In December 2003, while at Columbia University, she was elected by the WTO Membership as one of the seven Members of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Appellate Body. She was the only North American member and the first female to serve on the Appellate Body. In the course of her four years of service, she reviewed more than 30 appeals covering a diverse range of trade disputes, including technology, subsidies, agriculture, investment and trade remedies. Janow has had extensive corporate and nonprofit board experience and currently serves on several corporate boards along with Japan Society and the National Committee on US China Relations. She was recently appointed in December 2021 as a member of a World Bank High Level Advisory Group on Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. Janow is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission.



### **Patricia C. Mosser**

*Senior Research Scholar, School of International and  
Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Patricia C. Mosser is Director of the MPA Program in Economic Policy Management at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and leads the School's Initiative on Central Banking and Financial Policy. Previously, she was head of Research and Analysis at the Office of Financial Research, U.S. Treasury. Mosser spent over 20 years at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York where she was senior manager at the New York Fed's open market desk overseeing financial market analysis, monetary policy implementation, crisis-related facilities, foreign exchange and investment operations, and analysis of financial stability and reform. In 2009, she

was SOMA manager for the FOMC. She previously served as an economist and manager in the New York Fed Research Department and as an assistant professor in the Economics Department at Columbia. Mosser has written on financial stability and monetary policy topics including financial reform, crisis policy tools, cyber risks to financial stability, and the monetary transmission mechanism. She was previously a consultant to the Bank of England, a member of the Deputies Committee of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, and a board member of the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession. Currently, she serves as an outside director of Nomura Holdings Incorporated and Nomura Holdings America and is a member of the Advisory Group to the Digital Dollar Project.



### **Lisa Sachs**

*Adjunct Professor at School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Lisa Sachs is an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). She is a globally recognized expert in the ways that laws, policies and business practices shape global investment flows and affect sustainable development. She works with governments around the world, regional and international development organizations, financial institutions, companies, civil society organizations and academic centers to understand the inter-relations of investment flows and sustainable development, and to influence investment policies and practices to promote the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. She has developed and teaches courses on Extractive Industries and Sustainable Development and on Investment Law and Policy at Columbia and lectures at Universities and other global institutions. She also serves as the Director of the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment. She has served on World Economic Forum Global Future Councils and currently serves on several advisory boards, including of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights and the SDG Academy. Before joining Columbia University, she worked at the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility and at Amnesty USA, in both cases on shareholder engagement. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Harvard University, a Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, and a Juris Doctor degree from Columbia Law School, where she was a James Kent Scholar and recipient of the Parker School Certificate in International and Comparative Law.



### **David Wood**

*Adjunct Professor at School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

David Wood is Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Public Policy and Senior Research Associate at the Social Innovation and Change Initiative at Harvard Kennedy School. He studies the theory and practice of

responsible/sustainable/impact investment broadly construed. Previous research projects have included work on the theory and practice of responsible investment across asset classes; public policy and responsible/impact investment; corporate reporting on ESG issues; and economic inequality and the just transition as topics in the field. He is currently working on a history of responsible investment from the 1970s to the present day.

## **SIRI and SIPA Team**



### **Parkhi Agarwal**

*MPA Student, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Parkhi holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Economics from the National University of Singapore and is currently a second-year graduate student pursuing her Masters in Public Administration at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Her expertise lies in climate finance for Southeast Asia. Prior to joining SIPA, Parkhi served as a Senior Sustainability Consultant at PwC Singapore, where she spearheaded the adoption of sustainable investing and finance across financial institutions. She was a key member of the Secretariat formed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore to develop Singapore's pioneering ESG fund labelling framework, designed to foster sustainable finance across Southeast Asia. Most recently, she was interning with the Asian Development Bank in Manila where she explored the special role of philanthropic capital in blended finance solutions, mobilizing private sector capital for climate change projects in Southeast Asia.



### **Neha Arora**

*MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University*

Neha Arora is an experienced sustainability professional with a strong background in finance and sustainability. She is currently pursuing MS Sustainability Management at Columbia University and holds a Ph.D. in Behavioral Finance. She has over a decade of experience in academia, where she had the privilege of both teaching and learning continuously. Her research has been published in reputed academic journals and she has presented it at international conferences. She is also experienced in consulting with non-profit organizations where her work has

focused on the intersection of finance, sustainability and impact, including projects on the impact of affordable housing, cost-benefit analysis of energy efficiency initiatives, among others. Her work has allowed her to engage with diverse communities, from tribal youth entrepreneurs to women artisans in rural and semi-urban parts of India. She has found these experiences incredibly enriching, providing her with unique insights into the role of finance in uplifting people in marginalized communities and improving their quality of life.



### **Eduardo Ayala Fuentes**

*Major Gift Officer, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Eduardo is the Major Gift Officer for Columbia SIPA. With over a decade of experience, he has fundraised for and advised arts and culture, civic, and educational organizations locally and internationally through periods of evolution and transition, creatively engaging diverse teams and stakeholders in support of mission-driven organizations. He recently received his

Executive MPA from Columbia SIPA and received a BA in International Affairs and Spanish from the Elliott School at GWU.



### **Katie Day Benvenuto**

*Associate Dean, Development and Alumni Relations, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Katie Benvenuto is the Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations for Columbia SIPA, overseeing all fundraising and engagement initiatives for the school. Her development career at Columbia began sixteen years ago, and in that time, she held leadership development and alumni relations roles with Athletics, Columbia College and the Arts & Sciences. Katie graduated from Columbia College in 2003 magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and captain of the women's basketball team. She completed her MBA at Columbia Business School in 2012, with honors.



### **Ganis Bustami**

*MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University*

A sustainability enthusiast having experience in energy, financing, and policy. Master Candidate in Sustainability Management at Columbia University, with a law degree from University of Indonesia. He worked in PT SMI, a Development Financial institution in Indonesia with a portfolio of work in structuring municipal financing policy, renewable energy financing policy, and the current energy transition agenda of Indonesia. During the last summer, he completed his internship as an investment analyst in Fundación Chile - ChileGlobal Venture, a Public-private Partnership platform that aim to structure a blended finance platform for de-risking Green Hydrogen development in Latin America Region. Currently he serves as a student research assistant in the Centre of Global Energy Policy – Columbia|SIPA, on the topic of Energy Transition Finance in Emerging Markets particularly South Africa, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Senegal.



### **Astrid Giraud**

*MPA in Environmental Science and Policy Student, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

Astrid is currently enrolled in the MPA Environmental Science and Policy program at SIPA. She has previous work experience as responsible investment analyst and as a sustainable finance consultant.



### **Noveena Padala**

*MS in Sustainability Management Student, School of Professional Studies, Columbia University*

Noveena Padala is a Chartered Accountant, Certified Fraud Examiner, and CFA-ESG investing certification holder with 7.8 years of professional experience. She began her career at 19 with a full-time internship at a boutique management consulting firm, specializing in governance, process management, operational advisory, business restructuring, and audit assurance services. Following this, she spent 4.8 years at EY in Forensics and Integrity Services as a Senior Consultant, advising multinational corporations on reducing risk and improving operations across the Environmental (emissions fraud, due diligence, wastewater discharge), Social (diversity compliance, human rights violations, sexual harassment, child labor), and Governance (money laundering, bribery, and corruption) spheres. Noveena's expertise in fact-finding and data analysis has proven vital in combating greenwashing, impact washing, and corporate misreporting. Deeply

passionate about ethics and long-term value creation, she is currently researching how to leverage blended finance and impact investing through a systemic approach to address negative externalities in business.



### **Chandana Yelkur**

*Managing Director, Sustainable Investing Research Initiative (SIRI), School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University*

The Managing Director of the Sustainable Investing Research Initiative is Chandana Yelkur. She is an alumna of SIPA's Master of Public Affairs program in Environmental Science and Policy. Chandana has deep expertise in sustainable investing and reporting. Besides serving as SIRI's Managing Director, she is also a Research Associate at SIRI and conducts research on systems-aligned metrics.