

2025 Ministerial Conference

# Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reforms: Navigating Green and Digital Agendas

March 18, 2025, Vienna, Austria



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# FINANCIAL AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING REFORMS: NAVIGATING GREEN AND DIGITAL AGENDAS

March 18, 2025 • Imperial Riding School Hotel, Vienna, Austria

The Ministerial Conference “Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reforms: Navigating Green and Digital Agendas” is organized by the World Bank Centre for Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reform (CFRR) in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Finance.

The objective of the Conference is to raise awareness of and mobilize political support for financial and sustainability reporting reforms aligned with international and regional standards in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region. It aims to enhance decision-making, accountability, transparency, and achievement of development goals. The event will consider climate-related trends impacting accountants and auditors and highlight recent advances in digitalization which can help achieve reliable and transparent financial and non-financial information in the public and private sectors.

It comes at a critical time when national authorities are assessing the implications of the new sustainability reporting standards for the private and public sector and how best to respond. This presents additional challenges given that many governments in the region have yet to complete the transition to accrual accounting and have made limited progress in consolidating financial information across the public sector.

Digital technologies will facilitate financial and sustainability reporting, but further work is needed to strengthen data governance and develop staffing capacity and analytical tools appropriate for corporate and public sector stakeholders. Implementation of sustainability reporting will require high level political commitment for regulatory reform and significant investments in capacity building across regulators, public, private, and state-owned enterprises which the Conference seeks to encourage.

Over 250 high-level delegates are expected, including Ministers of Finance from partner countries, senior government officials, international development partners, senior representatives from the public and private sectors, professional and academic communities, and experts from key international and EU institutions.

The Conference is an opportunity for participants to interact with international experts and regional peers on key topics and challenges related to sustainability and financial reporting in both corporate and public sectors, digital transformation, the use of artificial intelligence, and how these may impact the accounting profession.

The Ministerial Conference will be accompanied by other events for professionals and senior officials to complement and further expand on the Ministerial Conference themes:

- March 17 - Accounting and Auditing Reform Momentum Forum
- March 17 - Climate Change Action by State-Owned Enterprises Workshop
- March 17 - 9th Executive IFRS Forum for Regulators – IFRS and Sustainability Update
- March 19 – Sustainability Reporting Workshop

The language of the conference is English with simultaneous interpretation into Albanian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian and Russian.

The Ministerial Conference is financed by three CFRR-implemented programs: the Public Sector Accounting and Reporting program (PULSAR); the Road to Europe: Program of Accounting Reform and Institutional Strengthening for Small and Medium Enterprises (REPARIS for SMEs), and the Enhancing Accounting, Auditing, and Sustainability Reporting Program (EAASURE). CFRR supports country reporting reform in the public sector, corporate sector and state-owned enterprises.

Participating countries of the CFRR Programs: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

## AGENDA

**08:30** — **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

**09:00** — **Setting the Scene**

This session will provide housekeeping remarks and introduce the first round of speakers.

**Speaker**

**Iwona Warzecha**

Senior Financial Management Specialist, The World Bank

**09:05** — **Welcome Remarks**

Key messages:

- Sustainability is central to the development challenge and the World Bank's mission.
- Financial and sustainability reporting standards will drive changes in reporting practice across the public and private sector.
- The Centre for Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reform supports country reporting reform strategies for the public sector, corporate sector and state-owned enterprises across ECA thanks to generous support from EU, Austria and Switzerland.

**Speakers**

**Antonella Bassani**

Vice President, Europe and Central Asia Region, The World Bank

**Harald Waiglein**

Director General for Economic Policy and Financial Markets, Austrian Ministry of Finance, Austria

**Speaker**

**Manuel Irman**

Deputy Chief of Mission to Austria, Embassy of the Swiss Confederation in Austria

09:25

### Keynote Address: EU Green Policy for Corporate Sector

Objective is to promote adoption of corporate sustainability reporting standards, to draw the lessons from the first year of ESRS implementation and recent developments in the EU and wider to examine trends in sustainability policies and reporting.

Key messages:

- The EU has implemented world leading sustainability reporting and supply chain standards and climate based import duties - impacting businesses that trade with the European Union.
- Sustainability reporting in the private and public sector is a driver for businesses and governments to achieve their environmental goals and international obligations.
- Business should focus on their material sustainability impacts.
- Sustainability reporting must be data driven and automated to the highest degree.
- Effective assurance is essential to avoid greenwashing.
- We are learning by doing – the EU is already looking to reform some key legislation.
- Regulators are encouraged to consider the needs and capabilities of private sector entities and to support and legislate appropriately.

#### Speaker

**Paul Gisby**

Senior Director, Accountancy Europe

09:45

### Ministerial Panel: Meeting the Challenges and Opportunities of Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reform

Objective is to express commitment for financial and sustainability reporting reform, and highlight priorities, opportunities and challenges in the country context.

Key messages:

- High quality financial and sustainability reporting is critical for investment - including green finance - trade and sustainable growth.
- Express commitment to the implementation of country financial and sustainability reporting frameworks aligned with international or EU standards.
- Governments can follow a phased approach to facilitate and reduce the cost of introducing sustainability reporting.
- Governments can support the development of technical capacity to implement sustainability reporting.
- Governments will need to guide support from the World Bank and other international partners in implementing reforms.

#### Panelists

**Victoria Belous**

Minister of Finance, Republic of Moldova

**Novica Vuković**

Minister of Finance, Montenegro

**Arman Poghosyan**

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Armenia

**Svitlana Vorobey**

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Ukraine

#### Moderator

**Xiaoqing Yu**

Division Director, Western Balkans Country Management Unit, The World Bank

10:45

— Coffee Break – Opportunity for Networking

11:15

## Sustainability Reporting Across the Public and Corporate Sector

Objective is to demonstrate how regulators, the accounting profession and businesses can successfully implement sustainability reporting in line with international standards.

Key messages:

- Regulators will need to provide guidance for businesses on how they should implement sustainability reporting.
- Governments and professional bodies will need to provide implementation support and appropriate tools.
- Governments can draw on international experience.
- Sustainability should be integrated into companies' business strategies as a guide for all decision making.
- The cost of non-compliance will be higher than the cost of reporting.
- Universities and professional accounting bodies must be one step ahead, integrating sustainability reporting into their curricula.
- Greenwashing and unethical behavior will undermine the credibility of businesses in an economy.

### Panelists

#### Saskia Slomp

Chief Executive Officer, EFRAG

#### Gernot Netinger

Head of ÖBB-Group's Corporate Finance Department,  
Austrian Railways Group, ÖBB-Holding AG, Austria

#### Lee White

Chief Executive Officer, International Federation of  
Accountants (IFAC)

### Panelist

#### Dritan Fino

General Director, General Directorate for Management of  
European Union Funds, Ministry of Finance, Chairman of  
Public Oversight Board, Albania

### Moderator

#### Arturo Herrera Gutierrez

Director, Institutions Global Department, The World Bank

12:45

## Lunch Break

14:00

## Artificial Intelligence – Risk and Opportunities for Accounting and Auditing

Objective is to promote application of AI in accounting, auditing and sustainability reporting for the public and private sector.

Key messages:

- Don't be afraid, embrace it and manage the risks.
- New EU regulation for the safe application of AI can provide an appropriate framework for other ECA countries.
- AI improves efficiency of accounting and auditing - early lessons learned from the industry.
- Ensure an inclusive application to support Small and Medium Sized Audit Practices.

### Speakers

#### Eleonora Laurenza

Assistant Professor of Artificial Intelligence, Faculty of  
Informatics, TU Wien; Innovation Manager, Central Bank,  
Italy

#### Sandro Fuchs

Professor for Public Financial Management, Zurich University  
of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

### Moderator

#### João Ricardo Vasconcelos

Senior Governance Specialist, GovTech & Public Sector  
Innovation, Institutions Department, The World Bank



**15:15** — **Coffee Break**

**15:45** | **Sustainability Reporting and Climate Action of State-owned Enterprises**

Objective is to promote the role of SOEs as leaders in sustainability reporting and climate action.

Key messages:

- SOEs are critical for government's climate adaptation and mitigation objectives.
- Shareholders, investors and bond holders demand quality information on sustainability risks and impact.
- International and European Sustainability Reporting Standards, provide a credible framework for integrated financial and sustainability reporting.
- Sustainability has to be integrated in SOE ownership policies, corporate governance and strategies.

**Panelists**

**Minas Trubljanin**

Director General, Directorate for Central Harmonization  
Development of Internal Controls, Ministry of Finance,  
Montenegro

**Emmeline Stein**

Head of Shareholder Policy, Agence des participations de  
l'Etat (APE), France

**Ida Krabek**

Head of Global Sustainability, Global Sustainability  
Commercial, Ørsted, Denmark

**Panelist**

**Christopher Sheldon**

Country Manager, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro,  
The World Bank

**Moderator**

**Fabian Seiderer**

Manager, Institutions, Europe and Central Asia, The World  
Bank

**17:00** | **Closing Remarks**

**Speaker**

**Arturo Herrera Gutierrez**

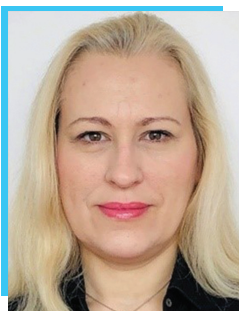
Global Director, Institutions Department, The World Bank

**17:15** — **End of the Conference**

**17:30** — **Cocktail Reception**

**18:30** — **End of the Cocktail Reception**

## BIOS OF THE SPEAKERS



**IWONA WARZECHA**

Senior Financial Management Specialist, The World Bank

Iwona Warzecha is a Senior Financial Management Specialist at the World Bank's Governance Global Practice and team leader of REPARIS for SMEs. She has vast experience in the implementation of country level diagnostic & advisory services in the area of public and private sector accounting and auditing in European countries; promoting IFRS Accounting Standards, International Public Sector Accounting Standards, and International Standards on Auditing to strengthen financial accountability, governance, and transparency. She provides advice and technical assistance to complex World Bank lending projects to enhance institutional capacity in financial management and corporate governance including for state owned enterprises (SOEs). Prior to joining the World Bank, she worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers performing audits and due diligence of banks and other financial institutions. She has led and contributed to many technical assistance projects and papers related to corporate financial reporting and auditing, public financial management, including tax administration, public sector accounting, and public financial accountability assessments. She has a master's degree in finance and banking from the University of Economics in Katowice and ACCA professional qualifications.



**ANTONELLA BASSANI**

Vice President, Europe and Central Asia Region, The World Bank

Antonella Bassani is Vice President of the Europe and Central Asia Region at the World Bank. In this position, Antonella leads the World Bank's strategic, financing and knowledge work for this region. Antonella has over 30 years of experience with a blend of operational knowledge and financial expertise working in development, economic management and poverty reduction in East Asia and Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, and Middle East and North Africa regions overseeing large and complex projects and multi-disciplinary teams. Antonella joined the World Bank through the Young Professional Program in 1993. Before joining the Bank, she worked at the OECD in Paris. She holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in International Economics from the Johns Hopkins University.



**HARALD WAIGLEIN**

Director General for Economic Policy and Financial Markets, Austrian Ministry of Finance, Austria

Harald Waiglein is Director General for Economic Policy and Financial Markets at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance. He joined the Ministry in 2007 and, after having worked in various areas including taxes and the political offices of two Ministers of Finance, was appointed Director General in 2012. His current responsibilities include Ecofin and Eurogroup affairs, international financial institutions, export credit agencies, development assistance, macroeconomic analysis and advice, and financial markets regulation. His numerous international functions include the position of Executive Director for Austria at the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), where he

also serves as a member of the Board Risk Committee. Before joining the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Waiglein worked as a financial journalist and professional interpreter and translator. He obtained a master's degree in finance and financial law from the University of London, and a master's degree in interpretation and translation from the University of Vienna.



#### MANUEL IRMAN

Deputy Chief of Mission to Austria, Embassy of the Swiss Confederation in Austria

Senior diplomat with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration industry and the private sector. Skilled in Intercultural Communication, Foreign Affairs, Politics, International Relations, and Aviation. Strong public and private services professional with a Master of Arts (M.A.) from the University of Zurich focused in Political Science, Military History, and Public Law.



#### PAUL GISBY

Senior Director, Accountancy Europe

Paul Gisby is Senior Director at Accountancy Europe - an international organization representing nearly 1 million professional accountants through its 50 member bodies, in all sectors of the profession. His primary focus is on tax, and he is a frequent speaker on tax policy and VAT issues. He represents Accountancy Europe at the European Commission's VAT Expert Group and the EU Platform for Tax Good Governance. He leads

Accountancy Europe's SME related activities, which are focused on the value that accountants can provide to their SME clients in mitigating key business risks and maximizing business opportunities in the new economy. He is a member of EFRAG's SME Forum on sustainability reporting. He also leads Accountancy Europe's work on public sector accounting standards and was a member of the Consultative Advisory Group of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board. After studying psychology at Manchester University, Mr. Gisby qualified as a chartered accountant and chartered tax adviser and spent 20 years in the North West of England working in private practice. As a general practice partner, he gained a wide experience of accounting, auditing, and providing financial advice to his SME clients.





#### **VICTORIA BELOUS**

Minister of Finance, Republic of Moldova

Victoria Belous, was appointed in 2024 as the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Moldova by Presidential Decree. She holds a Master of Public Administration from the Academy of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Law from the State University of Moldova. Victoria has extensive experience in the State Tax Service, where she served as Deputy Director, Head of the General Anti-Fraud Department, and Head of the Legal Department.

Her career also includes roles such as Deputy Head of the Legal Assistance Department and Head of Appeals and Court Representation Section at the Main State Tax Inspectorate. She began her career as a State Tax Inspector in both the Legal and Direct Taxes Departments. Victoria is fluent in Romanian and speaks English, French, and Russian well.



#### **NOVICA VUKOVIĆ**

Minister of Finance, Montenegro

Vuković was appointed as member of 44. Government of Montenegro on 31. October 2023. covering position of Minister of finance. He leads a team of more than 300 employees, whose main responsibilities are preparing the proposal of the current economic policy of Montenegro and monitoring its implementation, as well as preparing and executing the budget of Montenegro. Also, the Ministry is responsible for managing the

Treasury general ledger, budget accounting system and financial control. Vuković has significant experience in public finance, bank assets and liabilities, financial market and treasury operations. Prior to his current position, Vuković was valuable member of NLB bank team for many years and was appointed as Director General of the State Treasury Directorate of the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare from October 2021 to October 2022. He is also a certified state auditor, court expert of the economic and financial profession, investment advisor and project manager, and has attended numerous trainings and professional seminars in the country and abroad. Currently he is on Postgraduate studies in economics at the University of Montenegro.



#### **ARMAN POGHOSYAN**

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Armenia

Arman Poghosyan has over 15 years of public sector experience in the fields of taxation, accounting and auditing. In 2018 he became the Deputy Minister of Finance of Armenia and is coordinating development of government's tax policy as well as regulatory issues in accounting and auditing spheres. Before appointment as a Deputy Minister he has held various positions in State Revenue Committee and Ministry of Finance of Armenia. Arman

Poghosyan holds PhD degree in economics and is lecturing in different educational institutions of Armenia. He has written several articles on taxation, accounting and audit which have been published in different scientific collection.



#### SVITLANA VOROBEY

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Ukraine

Svitlana Vorobey was appointed as Deputy Minister of Finance of Ukraine in March 2020. She is responsible for the formation of tax policy and issues relating to international taxation, as well as for the formation of policy in the field of accounting and regulatory support of auditing activities. She has 42 years of experience, 19 of which in the civil service. In the 1980s, she worked as a trade services inspector. In the 1990s, she was the deputy director of a number of commercial enterprises. In 1999- 2010 she progressed from State Tax Inspector to the Director of the Payments Administration. Monitoring Department of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine. In 2014-2015, she headed the Department of Information Exchange and Analysis of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine. She became Deputy Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on Tax and Customs Policy of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine in 2017. She graduated from the Kyiv National Trade and Economic Institute and the Classical Private University. She has a Master's degree in Law.



#### XIAOQING YU

Division Director, Western Balkans Country Management Unit, The World Bank

Ms. Xiaoqing Yu is the World Bank's Director for Western Balkans, based in Vienna, Austria. She is responsible for the World Bank's overall program of support in the Western Balkans. Ms. Yu joined the World Bank in 1996. Prior to her current assignment, she has worked in various technical and managerial positions in the Bank, with her most recent assignments being the Director of Strategy and Operations for the Europe and Central Asia Region, the East Asia and Pacific Region, and the Human Development vice presidency. Ms. Yu has a PhD in Economics from Cornell University.



#### SASKIA SLOMP

Chief Executive Officer, EFRAG

Saskia Slomp has been EFRAG CEO since April 2019. She was previously Governance and Admin Director at EFRAG from January 2010 until March 2019. In this role, she supported the various governance bodies of EFRAG and was responsible for relationships, user activities, and outreach events, in addition to her responsibilities for human resources and finance. Until the end of 2009, she was Technical Director at FEE (now Accountancy Europe), one of the founding member organizations of EFRAG. She has been involved in EFRAG since its establishment. Within Accountancy Europe, she was responsible for financial reporting, company law, corporate governance, capital markets, SMEs, sustainability reporting and assurance and the public sector. At the beginning of her career, she worked with KPMG in The Netherlands. She is a member of the Dutch NBA.



#### **GERNOT NETINGER**

Head of ÖBB-Group's Corporate Finance Department, Austrian Railways Group, ÖBB-Holding AG, Austria

Gernot Netinger is Head of Group Corporate Finance at ÖBB-Holding AG dealing with strategic financing, treasury, structured financing, investor relations, and restructuring. He has more than 30 years of experience in various financing matters in one of the largest mobility service providers in Europe. He is also a managing director of ÖBB-Financial Services GmbH and OmegaTelos GmbH and a member of the board of directors of Eurofima. He graduated from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.



#### **LEE WHITE**

Chief Executive Officer, International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)

Lee White, FCA became IFAC's Chief Executive Officer in March 2024. IFAC is the global organization for the accountancy profession, comprising 180 member and associate organizations in 135 jurisdictions, representing millions of professional accountants. Lee is a professional accountant and a member of ACCA and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ). During his career, he has worked as an assurance practitioner in both the private (PWC) and public sectors (Auditor-General of NSW), a securities and audit inspector regulator, leader of a professional accounting body, and as a leader of an international public interest organization supporting both global financial reporting and sustainability standards. He has predominately been dedicated in his career to serving the public interest. He served the IFRS Foundation from 2018 to 2024, as the Managing Director and during his tenure there was the transformational creation of the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) within the IFRS Foundation, and the launch of the ISSB's first two sustainability standards in June 2023. Before joining the IFRS Foundation, Lee spent nine years leading Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand or its predecessor body, including six years as its inaugural Chief Executive Officer (2012-2017). CAANZ was created from the unique combination of chartered accounting institutes in Australia and New Zealand which Lee fulfilled a pivotal role in securing successful member votes (super majorities) in both countries. He also worked as the Chief Accountant at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission for six years, during which time he represented Australia at the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and was directly involved in the creation and initial years of operation of the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR). Lee is a proud graduate of Executive Leadership from INSEAD.



#### **DRITAN FINO**

General Director, General Directorate for Management of European Union Funds, Ministry of Finance, Chairman of Public Oversight Board, Albania

Mr. Dritan Fino, PhD, is currently the Chairman of Public Oversight Board of statutory auditors in Albania. At the same time, he is currently General Director of General Directorate for Management of EU Funds at the Ministry of Finance of Albania. He has joined the Ministry since November 2013, as advisor at the Cabinet of the Minister. During this period his main responsibilities are related to issues of auditing, accounting and financial management and internal control. Mr. Fino has been lecturing since 2007 in different institutions in Japan, Slovenia, Switzerland, Albania, such as, Kyushu Sangyo University, Center of Excellence in Finance, Swiss School of Economics, University of Tirana, etc. As part of academic engagement he has, also,

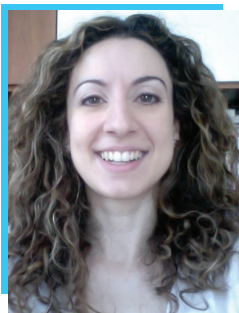
published several papers. His teaching and research areas relate to financial and management accounting, national and international standards of accounting, public finances, etc. Other professional experiences include the engagements as deputy chair of National Accounting Council, head of the Qualification and Certification Commission of Public Internal Auditors in Albania, member of Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR), created by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), member of Internal Control and Audit in Practice working groups (PEMPAL-the World Bank), member of the Registration Authority at the Institute of Authorized Chartered Auditors of Albania, member of Civil Servant Recruitment Committee, etc. In 2002, he earned the bachelor degree in Finance and Accounting from the University of Tirana. Since 2004, he followed graduate studies in Japan on a scholarship from the prestigious Monbukagakusho Program, and he earned the Master of Art's degree in 2007, and a Ph.D. in Finance and Accounting in 2010.



#### **ARTURO HERRERA GUTIERREZ**

Director, Institutions Global Department, The World Bank

Arturo Herrera is Global Director for Governance Global Practice since July 2022. He has extensive experience in governance, as a practitioner and from the development and academic perspectives. His priorities as Global Director include leading the formulation of strategy and engagement of the Bank's work on public institutions and country-level governance, especially in fragile, conflict, and violent settings; maximizing the effectiveness of operational support for public financial management and public procurement; and fostering excellence in the Governance Practice's work on public sector administration and operational support for legal and judicial reforms. He first joined the World Bank in 2010 as Senior Public Sector Management Specialist in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region. He held various positions in the Bank, including as Sector Manager in LAC and as Practice Manager in the Governance Global Practice for the LAC and East Asia and Pacific regions in the Global Unit, before leaving the World Bank Group in 2018. Between 2018 and 2021 he held leadership positions in the Government of Mexico, as Co-Head of the Finance Team in the Presidential Transition Team, Deputy Finance Minister, and as Minister of Finance and Public Credit. He has also taught in the areas of Monetary and Banking and Macro and Micro Economics at both El Colegio de Mexico and New York University where he completed his doctoral studies in Economics.



#### **ELEONORA LAURENZA**

Assistant Professor of Artificial Intelligence, Faculty of Informatics, TU Wien; Innovation Manager, Central Bank, Italy

Eleonora Laurenza is an Innovation Manager at the Central Bank of Italy and an Assistant Professor at TU Wien in the DBAI—the Databases and Artificial Intelligence group. Her research lies at the intersection of deductive and inductive Artificial Intelligence, the so-called Bilateral AI, which aims to make the most of symbolic and subsymbolic methods to achieve intelligent decisions. She is especially focused on Knowledge Graphs, Knowledge Representation and Reasoning, data modeling, and data management, with an interest in intelligent data integration. As a manager, she is particularly keen on putting research into action in applied settings, enabling digital transformation in large organizations. In this respect, she is experienced in the area of Innovability, where innovation is the means and sustainability is the aim for organizations to contribute to a better-caring world. On the applied side, she specializes on Financial Intelligence and Data Strategy. She is a computer scientist by training, holds a Ph.D. in Statistics, an MBA in Management and High Technology Entrepreneurship, a Master's in Computer Science and a Master's in Data Intelligence and Decision Sciences.





#### SANDRO FUCHS

Professor for Public Financial Management, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

Sandro is Professor for Public Management at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Switzerland, where he also acts as the Head of Center for Public Financial Management. Sandro has more than 15 years of international experience in public finance and has worked in more than 30 countries around the world. He has an international track record with all major donor agencies, including IMF, World Bank, UNDP, OECD, ADB, SECO and SDC. Sandro is a member of the PULSAR technical advisory board of the World Bank and part of the UNDP RSCA Expert Pool for Governance and Peace Building Mission. He was a Visiting Fellow at the External Reporting Board (XRB) in New Zealand and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the Philippines. Sandro holds a PhD from the University of Zaragoza and a Master of Science from the Zurich University of Applied Sciences. He was visiting scholar at the University of Cape Town and the London School of Economics.



#### JOÃO RICARDO VASCONCELOS

Senior Governance Specialist, GovTech & Public Sector Innovation, Institutions Department, The World Bank

João Ricardo Vasconcelos is a Senior Governance Specialist in the Governance Global Practice of the World Bank, developing cross-cutting GovTech Global work and building communities on critical digital government workstreams. João is responsible for the World Bank's GovTech Global Partnership, leading flagship activities such as the GovTech Maturity Index, the GovTech Global Forum and the GovTech Working Groups. His areas of expertise include: whole-of-government approaches for public sector digitalization; Green GovTech, CivicTech, AI in the public sector, data governance and interoperability, inclusive GovTech, digital competences and culture, as well as service delivery. Before joining the World Bank, João was a Digital Government Policy Analyst at the OECD, being the lead coordinator of several transversal activities in the Digital Government and Data unit, such as the Working Party of Senior Digital Government Officials (E-Leaders). João also worked in the Portuguese public sector for several years heading various digital innovation and international cooperation initiatives.



#### MINAS TRUBLJANIN

Director General, Directorate for Central Harmonization Development of Internal Controls, Ministry of Finance, Montenegro

Mr. Minas Trubljanin is Director General of the Directorate for Central Harmonization and Development of Internal Controls in the Ministry of Finance of Montenegro since January 2023. He has a wide range of areas under his jurisdiction, including: harmonization and development of management and development of internal controls in the public sector, harmonization and development of internal audit in the public sector, accounting and auditing, and supervision of auditing companies as well as assessment, monitoring, and reporting on fiscal risks of public companies and companies in majority state ownership. Mr. Trubljanin is also the president of the Audit Council, which as an independent government body plays a significant role



in monitoring and improving audit practice in Montenegro. He is also the head of the negotiation team for Montenegro's pre-accession negotiations with the European Union within the framework of negotiation chapter 32 - Financial supervision. Before assuming the position of general director, he worked as an internal auditor in the State Property Administration and then in the Ministry of Finance. Mr. Trubljanin worked for more than 7 years as an authorized auditor in the Auditing Body of Montenegro, during which time he managed the Department for Auditing the Employment, Education, Social Policy and Gender Equality Promotion Program. Mr. Trubljanin holds a national and international certificate of authorized internal auditor in the public sector, as well as a state auditor's certificate. He has participated in numerous regional and international conferences on various topics that have been the focus of his interest during his career.



#### EMMELINE STEIN

Head of Shareholder Policy, Agence des participations de l'Etat (APE), France

Emmeline Stein joined the French State Shareholdings Agency (APE) in December 2022, initially managing CSR and later APE's shareholder policy. She supports the investment departments (industry, energy, transportation, services) in implementing APE's shareholder policy in corporates' governance and bilateral engagement. Emmeline and her team also coordinate three director communities from APE's portfolio, focusing on Procurement, CSR, and HR, along with a community of board members. These communities foster collaboration on key issues like employer branding, decarbonization, and supplier engagement. Additionally, she is responsible for CSR reporting within APE's portfolio. Prior to APE, Emmeline worked in ESG investments at Allianz France, focusing on climate issues. She holds a Master's in Finance from NEOMA Business School.



#### IDA KRABEK

Head of Global Sustainability, Global Sustainability Commercial, Ørsted, Denmark

Ida Krabek is the Head of Global Sustainability at Ørsted, a world leading renewable energy company and recognized leader in sustainability. Since joining in 2012, she has played a key role in building Ørsted's strategic and systematic approach to sustainability. Krabek serves on several boards and committees including the European Investment Bank's (EIB) Women Climate Leaders Network, the Danish Confederation of Industries' Sustainability Policy Committee, and the Advisory Boards for the Capital Coalition and the Danish Technical University's Center for Absolute Sustainability. She holds a master's degree in Global Governance & Ethics from University College London (UCL) and a master's degree in political science from the University of Copenhagen.



#### CHRISTOPHER SHELDON

Country Manager, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro, The World Bank

Mr. Christopher Sheldon has been Country Manager since July 2021, responsible for the overall World Bank program in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro covering diverse sectors including financial, business climate, health, water, transport, energy, environment, governance, agriculture, forestry, and employment. His previous position was Practice

Manager with the Energy and Extractives Global Practice, in the Infrastructure Practice Group of the World Bank. He had responsibility for the Extractives unit's operations in all six regions of the Bank and the global trust funded programs. Mr. Sheldon joined the Bank in 1999 and has worked on diverse sector issues including legal and fiscal policy, private sector investment, environmental sustainability, community development, and transparency and governance. Before joining the World Bank, he had a 10-year career in the private sector working for an international mining company in Papua New Guinea and the Philippines and as a Chartered Accountant in his home of Sydney, Australia. He holds an MBA from the University of Newcastle, is an Australian Chartered Accountant and holds a bachelor of economics (in accountancy and legal studies) from Macquarie University.



#### FABIAN SEIDERER

Manager, Institutions, Europe and Central Asia, The World Bank

Fabian Seiderer is the Practice Manager for Governance, Public Sector and Financial Management in the Europe and Central Asia region of the World Bank. Mr. Seiderer, a German national, joined the Bank in 2010 as a Senior Public Sector Specialist in the Middle East and North Africa Region. He has since held various positions including Lead Public Sector Specialist for the South Asia region, based in Sri Lanka and Lead Public Sector Specialist for the East Asia and Pacific region, based in Thailand. In these capacities, he has led policy dialogues, teams, and programs in middle income countries on a broad range of issues, including public financial management, fiscal and performance budgeting reforms, state-owned enterprises reforms, operational financial management, and monitoring and evaluation. He graduated in economics at the Sorbonne University in Paris, completed a master's in development economics in Paris and a master's in european integration in Bonn, Germany.

The CFRR programs are co-funded by



European Union



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO



Federal Ministry  
Republic of Austria  
Finance



Austrian  
Development  
Cooperation