

Inaugural Western Balkans and Ukraine Coal Regions in Transition Platform Meeting

Biographies



LINDA VAN GELDER is the World Bank's Regional Director for Western Balkans, joining the position in July 2017 and is based in Vienna, Austria. In this position, she is responsible for leading the dialogue on economic reform with the six countries of the Western Balkans, developing the World Bank's country strategies, managing the World Bank portfolio, coordinating with partners, and engaging in outreach on economic growth and poverty reduction in the Western Balkans. Prior to this position, Ms. Van Gelder was the Director of Strategy and Operations for Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions Practice Group, covering the Macroeconomic and Fiscal Management, Finance and Markets, Trade and

Competitiveness, Poverty and Equity, and Governance Global Practices. Ms. Van Gelder joined the World Bank in 1994. Her regional and country work has ranged across economic management, governance, and poverty reduction issues. She has also held several corporate positions, including leading the development of first World Bank Group strategy (2013) and as the Director for Operational Policy and Quality. Ms. Van Gelder has a PhD in Economics from Cornell University.



CATHARINA SIKOW-MAGNY joined the European Commission in 1997 and is currently the Director responsible for Internal Energy Market and the Acting Head of Unit in charge of retail markets, consumers and local initiatives in the Directorate General for Energy. Before that, she was the Head of Unit in charge of networks and regional initiatives. She has as well worked on international transport, trans-European network policy and financing, internalization of external costs, and strategic policy research. Before joining the Commission, Catharina Sikow-Magny was a team leader and chief economist in the private sector in Finland. She has also worked for the United Nations Development Programme in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She holds a

Master of Economics degree from the Aalto University, Finland.



CHRISTOPHER SHELDON is the World Bank's Practice Manager of Energy and Extractive Industries Global Practice. As Practice Manager for the World Bank's Infrastructure Energy and Extractive Industries Global Practice, Sheldon helps countries sustainably develop and manage their oil, gas, and mining industries for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction. He focuses on effective extractive industries governance, improving domestic resource mobilization and increasing transparency while ensuring local community needs are met and the environment protected. An Australian national, Sheldon joined the Bank in 1999 as a

Mining Specialist after working for an international mining company in Papua New Guinea and the Philippines. He became Practice Manager in 2012.



ANNA SOBCZAK has over 11 years' experience in policy making at the European Commission across various EU policies, involving energy, climate, industry, innovation, skills, regional and urban development as well as trade and external relations. Currently, she is responsible for policy coordination for coal regions in transition in the context of Just Transition Fund and EU Green Deal at Directorate- General for Energy. Her current responsibilities include coordinating and implementing policy actions related to the support of Coal Regions in Transition Initiative.

This facilitates structural changes to regions heavily reliant on coal related jobs with the ultimate aim of decarbonizing their energy production and diversifying local economy. As an EU Social Media Ambassador, she is actively involved in EU Dissemination and Awareness Raising Campaign followed by nearly 16.000 professionals on LinkedIn. In Anna's previous capacity at Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, she was responsible for policy initiatives that support and connect SMEs, ecosystems and clusters, focusing on industrial modernization, innovation and new industrial value chains. In addition to her experience in European institutions, Dr. Sobczak has practical experience in business consultancies and academic research across the world. She has a Doctorate Degree in Social and Political Sciences from the European University Institute (Italy) combined with Master in Economics in the context of International Economic and Political Relations. She is fluent in 6 languages (Polish, English, Italian, French, Serbian and Russian) with intermediate levels of German and Spanish.



ISABEL BLANCO is an environmental economist with over 20 years of experience in sustainable energy and climate change, mainly dealing with policy dialogue and regulatory analysis. At the EBRD, she manages the green economy team within the Economics, Policy and Governance group, engaged in the design and assessment of projects and policy dialogue in the environmental space. Isabel has led the design of a dedicated methodology to assess the merits of green projects funded by the EBRD, and to define the green quality –one of the transition objectives of the Bank. She also leads the Just Transition Initiative and the group in charge of conducting economic assessment

to projects with high carbon emissions. Other areas of work include green recovery and national decarbonisation plans and renewable energy policies. Prior to joining the Bank, she managed the department of regulation at a large international renewable energy company and taught macroeconomics and development. She holds a PhD in environmental economics.



DIRK BUSCHLE is Deputy Director of the Energy Community Secretariat since 2011 and has led its legal unit since 2007. In this position, he is in charge of ensuring implementation of European energy law in the countries of the Energy Community. He is also responsible for dispute resolution and negotiations and acts as mediator in high-profile investor-state conflicts in the energy sector. Prior to his current position, Dirk Buschle was Head of Cabinet of the President of the Court of Justice of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in Luxembourg. Dirk Buschle is also Professor and Chairholder of the European Energy Policy

Chair at the College of Europe in Bruges. He teaches the annual course "European Energy and Climate Governance".



ARTUR LORKOWSKI Deputy President of the Management Board, National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management, Poland. Artur Lorkowski was Special Envoy on climate at the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland in 2018-2019. Before that, he served as Polish Ambassador to Austria from 2013 to 2017 and Deputy Director for energy security and climate change in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2010

to 2013. He was also Deputy-Director for EU Sectoral Policies between 2003 and 2009. Lorkowski has been engaged in the climate agenda since 2006. And more recently, he has advised the President of COP24 in Katowice

and then worked for the UNSG Climate Action Summit in 2019. Artur Lorkowski graduated from the Warsaw School of Economics and the National School of Public Administration.



MAREK TABOR is the Head of Executive Education Office, College of Europe in Natolin. Previous professional experience position as Head of Development Service and Director of European policy coordination department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland. Marek also worked on EU assistance projects in Ukraine and the Western Balkans.



MICHAEL STANLEY is Lead – Extractives for the World Bank Group, in Washington D.C. Michael provides strong leadership on the policies and practices that guide the World Bank's lending operations in extractives worldwide; and mentoring staff on key sector development of issues. Michael has worked in resource development for more than thirty years within the commercial and public sectors across Latin America, Europe & Central Asia, Africa, South Asia, and East Asia / Pacific regions. Michael is widely recognized for his expertise in the formation of policy and lending operations that align commercial and public sector investments using the principles of achieving shared value. Responding to the challenges of climate change, Michael is leading the

World Bank's work on "Support to Energy Transition in Coal Regions", assisting a diverse group of stakeholders to establish the good-governance frameworks necessary to manage social impacts to workers and communities, while ensuring environmental mine reclamation and repurposing of land and assets. Michael has degrees in Geoscience (BSc. Western University), Geoscience (MSc. McGill University), and Mineral Resource Economics / Mining (Ph.D. University of Arizona). Additionally, Michael is co-editor of the Extractive Industries Source Book, both the online, open-source platform and first-edition print version (2018).



DR. ADMIR SOFTIC is an Assistant Minister for Sector of Energy in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Central government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in charge of the Sector of energy taking care of administrative settlement, normative and legal affairs, documentation and informational affairs in the field of energy, natural resources management and concessions. From February 2015 till July 2016 he served as Assistant Minister for Sector for natural resources, energy and environment protection. He has more

than 20 years of scientific and professional experience in the field of energy, energy policy, mining, power system modelling, simulation, analysis and planning. He has gained experience in solving complex energy problems, including energy strategies, studies and projects in energy efficiency, spatial planning, municipal energy, modelling and balancing energy-producing processes and promotion of renewables. He has intensive experience in knowledge management and networking in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans. He participated as a lead project manager or coordinator in several EU and other development projects. He is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Mining, Geology and Civil Engineering, University of Tuzla. He is the author of 3 university textbooks, as well as of more than 20 papers. He is Secretary-General of the Bosnian Herzegovinian WEC Member Committee, the focal point for energy and environment in the Union for the Mediterranean, Focal point in the IRENA and he is member of the Environmental Working group and Budget Committee in the Energy Community Secretariat.



DUNJA VUKOVIC - Graduated at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, subject on Power Systems and Renewable Energy. Experience at CEDIS (Montenegrin electricity distribution system) until 2018. Advisor at the Energy and Energy Efficiency department at the Ministry of Economy since 2019. Joined several conferences on climate change, river basins, smart cities, sustainable development and green energy across Europe.



ABDULLAH PIRÇE is currently work at Ministry of Economy and Environment, Kosovo serve as Climate Change and Ozone Layer Protection Officer. He has experienced in local, regional and international trainings and conferences (organized by the EC, UNDP, GTZ, TIKa, JICA, etc.) on management and environmental issues, especially in the field of climate change, where I presented our country regarding our problems and needs in these areas. Joined various local and international roundtables and debates on environmental issues as a representative of the institution of the Republic of Kosovo. Participated in drafting primary and secondary legislation (Strategies, Action Plans, Concept Papers, National Plans, Laws and Administrative Instructions, as a member of the working group and in most cases as chair of the working group) implementing the transposition of EU legislation into legislation of Kosovo.



JASMINA TRHULJ is a Diploma Electrical Engineer for Power Systems employed as Head of Electricity Unit at the Energy Community Secretariat in Vienna. She was also a manager of a recently finalised EU-funded project for regional energy market connectivity in the Western Balkans. She is part of the Secretariat's team involved in supporting Coal Regions in Transition at the Energy Community level. Her over 20-year professional career in the energy sector started as a research and development assistant on power system operation and control projects at Mihajlo Pupin Institute in Belgrade. She gained valuable regulatory experience in the development and monitoring of the electricity market during her seven-year tenure at the Energy Agency of the Republic of Serbia (AERS) as senior expert for electricity. She graduated from the School of Electrical Engineering of the University of Belgrade.



STEPHEN NDEGWA is a US citizen born in Kenya, is Operations Manager for the World Bank Office in Afghanistan. Prior to this position, he was Adviser with Operations Policy and Country Services (OPCS) based at the World Bank's Center on Conflict, Security and Development (now CCSA). In 2010, he was a member of the core team writing the 2011 World Development Report on conflict, security and development. He has served as a Lead Specialist in the Governance Global Practice and has worked on programs in the Africa, Latin America, Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia and Pacific regions. He joined the World Bank in 2002 as Young Professional. He holds a PhD in political science and public policy from Indiana University. Stephen's appointment is effective July 31, 2017.



MAFALDA DUARTE is Chief Executive Officer, Climate Investment Funds. Mafalda Duarte has spent most of her career living and working in more than 30 developing countries, where in partnership with Governments and other stakeholders she has led the design and implementation of policies, programs and projects that can make a real difference in people's lives. Under her leadership the \$8.3 billion Climate Investment Funds has doubled down on work to accelerate global action on climate change, from first of its kind investments and innovative, pilot approaches to a strong emphasis on learning and sharing of knowledge and technical expertise. She is currently leading the strategic and policy efforts to take the tried and tested CIF model to the next level, including through new mechanisms to mobilize finance from capital markets. Recognizing that developing countries are at risk of bearing the brunt of climate change-related impacts – from droughts to floods and the human suffering that comes with them – Mafalda Duarte has made helping countries build climate-smart, resilient economies the focus of her career. This mission has taken on a new level of significance in these challenging times caused by the global pandemic and Duarte is working hard to mobilize the CIF partnership to help ensure that public finance is channeled in ways that will help, not hinder, the transition to low-carbon economies, while equipping communities to better withstand future climate shocks.

Prior to taking the helm at the CIF in 2014, Duarte led policy and corporate work and managed climate-related portfolios at the African Development Bank and the World Bank



IRINA LAZZERINI is Sustainable Energy Expert at the Energy Community Secretariat (Austria) where she is supporting Contracting Parties in developing sustainable energy policy and legislation and integrating energy and climate planning. She has over 14 years of work and research experience in the field of international climate policies, with focus on Europe (Western Balkans, Eastern Countries) and Asia. Before joining the Energy Community, she was research fellow on sustainable development at Tsinghua University (Beijing), policy officer within the European Commission Environment Directorate General (Brussels) and senior energy analyst at Enel Foundation (Italy). She worked with UNIDO on green industry policy and co-authored several publications on energy transitions in cities with EURICUR (Rotterdam). She cooperated with the World Economic Forum on a number of projects evaluating the impact of renewable energy solutions on off-grid households in emerging economies and co-authored a chapter of 'Innovating Climate Governance', published by Cambridge University Press in March 2018. Ms. Lazzerini holds a Bachelor and Master degree in Economics, Languages and Juridical Institutions of Eastern Asia from Ca' Foscari University, Venice, a Postgraduate Master degree in European Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe, Natolin, Poland and she's finalizing her executive MBA degree on Renewables at Beuth University of Applied Sciences (Berlin). She is fluent in English, Mandarin Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian and German.



ALESSANDRA VIEZZER is Deputy Head of Unit (Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes) at the Directorate General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, was born and raised in Italy, where she studied political science and international relations at the University of Padua. She earned a master's degree in European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium. Ms. Viezzer has been working with the European Commission since 1997, holding a number of positions involving management of cooperation assistance working with both EU Member States and third countries. From 2007 to 2015, she was posted in Cyprus as Head of the Team responsible for EU support to the Turkish Cypriot Community. From September 2015 to August 2019, she was posted to the Office of the European Union Representative in Jerusalem as Head of Cooperation.



TORSTEN WÖLLERT, Energy Counsellor, Support Group for Ukraine, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine. Torsten is Energy Counsellor, Support Group for Ukraine, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine. Before joining the European Commission in 1995 he held positions in the European telecommunications industry. At the European Commission he extensively dealt with EU-Russia energy and climate relations, including a 5-year spell at the EU Delegation in Moscow. Currently he is coordinating the uptake of climate-related issues in the EU's research, innovation and demonstration programmes. Among his main professional interests are comprehensive approaches to innovation and how they can be implemented by the European Union.



DR. MATTHEW WEBB is Team Leader at International Coal Transitions Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy. Matt Webb leads the International Coal Transitions team within the International Climate and Energy directorate of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. Matt works in partnership with the Cabinet Office on the COP26 Energy Transition Campaign and has oversight of the Powering Past Coal Alliance launched by the UK and Canada in November 2017. Matt was previously seconded as a Senior Associate at E3G, leading international diplomacy on the transition from coal, encouraging progressive Governments to show greater leadership internationally. Matt has worked at a number of Government departments on a wide range of energy and climate policies since 2003, including: Department for Energy and Climate Change, on energy efficiency, heat policy and 2050 Pathways analysis; Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in support of the demonstration of Carbon Capture

and Storage; Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, implementing the Near Zero Emissions Coal collaboration on CCS with China, and the Department for Transport, working on cleaner fuels and vehicles and the environmental impact of aviation. Matt has a degree in Chemistry from Oxford University and a PhD in Physical Chemistry from Cambridge University.



SUMEET MANCHANDA is Associate Director, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). His unit works on financial product development, climate and environmental policy engagement and technical and industry partnerships in collaboration with EU institutions and other partners. Prior to joining the EBRD Sumeet was Director of Point Carbon Advisory Services at Thomson Reuters. Sumeet is a qualified architect and completed an MSc in Development Management from the London School of Economics.



IOANA CIUTA joined Bankwatch in 2014 as coordinator of the Balkans Beyond Coal campaign, preventing new coal capacities from being built in the Western Balkans region. She works closely with member groups and partner organisations from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia, offering support to the national campaigns, while also advocating for stricter environmental regional policies in the Energy Community. Having been on the ground in mining areas in the Western Balkans numerous times, documenting air pollution from existing coal power plants and associated facilities, and speaking to affected communities, she has learned firsthand how urgent a transition from the current unsustainable and health-damaging energy system is and is determined to give communities a voice in this process.



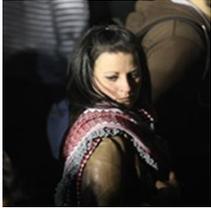
ELENA NIKOLOVSKA is the Communications manager of the Center for environmental research and information Eko-svest. She holds a bachelor's degree in law and has experience as an environmental and climate journalist, following and reporting from the UNFCCC processes and events. She has been in Eko-svest since 2017 where she coordinates the communication of the activities and achievements of the organization. She also works as a project coordinator within the energy and climate program and has been involved in recent national processes and developments in the climate and energy sectors



KOSTIANTYN KRYNYTSKYI is the Head of Energy Department, NGO Ecoaction. An Expert in coal industry and just transition of coal regions. Mr. Krynytskyi holds a Master's degree in Law and from 2018 to 2020 has been a Just Transition Campaign Coordinator at Ecoaction. He has also previously worked as an analyst for the Public Integrity Council, screening judge applicants during the Ukrainian judicial reform. He also joined NGO CrimeaSOS as a lawyer, helping internally displaced persons from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine. He is currently involved in a joint German-Ukrainian MAP project focused on just transition of coal mining towns with a special emphasis on Eastern Ukraine.



ALEKSANDAR MACURA is senior energy, climate and air policy analyst with long term experience in policy analysis, policy design, project and programme management in the Western Balkans. Mr. Macura is electrical engineer with postgraduate education in Law and Economy.



KATE JAMES – Senior Policy Advisor on the UK's the Powering Past Coal Alliance. Kate joined the UK's International Climate Policy team in the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) 2 years ago to lead on just transition. Prior to joining the PPCA team, Kate worked on the UK Government's domestic energy security policy also in BEIS and held various roles in energy and climate change, including the devolution of further powers to Welsh and Scottish Nations.



STEPHEN HAMMER serves as Advisor, Global Partnerships and Strategy, to the World Bank's Climate Change team. Dr. Hammer leads on the Bank's engagement on climate change issues with the United Nations/G7/G20 and other development partners and plays a key role in driving the Bank's current focus on "green" COVID recovery. He previously served as the Bank's Manager of Climate Policy, where his team had responsibility for shaping the WBG's global perspective on climate change policy, mainstreaming climate change into Bank Group operations, and delivering specialized technical advisory services to clients.



GRZEGORZ GROBICKI is Poland's Head of Delegation to the UNFCCC and National Focal Point. Working in the multilateral climate negotiations since 2013, member of the Polish Presidency Team for COP19 in Warsaw and COP24 in Katowice. Alternate member of the Art. 15 Committee under the Paris Agreement, experienced as a legal expert under the Kyoto Protocol and UNFCCC. Previously worked in academia and public administration. Holds M.A. Degree in Law, M.A. in International Relations, as well as M.A. in European Studies.



ROHIT KHANNA is Manager for Global Energy Programs at the World Bank, covering Climate Finance and the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP). Mr. Khanna, an Indian national, joined the World Bank in 2000. Prior to assuming his current position, Mr. Khanna worked on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Clean Technology Fund (CTF) at the World Bank. He has worked in Cambodia, Ghana, and South Africa, and was part of the team that developed the CTF investment program for Concentrating Solar Power in the Middle East and North Africa. Before joining the Bank, he was a Programme Officer in the United Nations Environment Program and worked for Save the Children Federation in its Bhutan Field Office. Mr. Khanna is a graduate of the University of Delhi and has a Master of Public Administration degree from American University in Washington, DC.



GUY LAND is a senior staffer in the office of the Federal Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), where he directs the agency's legislative work, serves as a policy advisor on economic development issues, and administers the agency's ethics program. He was instrumental in designing ARC's special program for coal-impacted communities. Land came to ARC in 1994 after five years in the private sector working on economic development and education issues and seven years on Capitol Hill. Active in his community in Arlington County, Virginia, he is president of a civic association that represents 7500 residents, and he heads a small neighborhood-focused nonprofit. For five years he has served on the county's aquatics advisory committee. Originally from rural Webster County, Mississippi, he has a master's degree in history from the University of Georgia and received his law degree from Harvard, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Journal on Legislation. He did his undergraduate work at Mississippi College.



MARY HUNT is the Program Director for Community and Economic Development for the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation based in Pittsburgh serving all of West Virginia and four counties in southwestern Pennsylvania. In her program areas Mary works with nonprofits, local, state and federal governments as well as educational institutions. Prior to joining the Benedum Foundation, she held community development and administrative management positions at the local and state government levels and a private corporation in West Virginia. She holds a BS in Sociology and MS in Public Administration. Mary's work at the Foundation focuses on Rural and Technology-Based Economic Development, Entrepreneurship, Community Capacity Building and Civic Engagement. She serves on several advisory councils and boards which advance the efforts supported by the Foundation.



BRANDON DENNISON is Ashley Dennison's husband and father to their boys: Owen and Will. Born and raised in West Virginia, he is Founder and CEO of Coalfield Development Corporation, which incubates social enterprises designed to diversify Appalachia's coal-based economy and cultivate opportunity for people facing barriers to employment. Dennison graduated from Shepherd University with a B.A. in History and a B.S. in Political Science. He holds a Master of Public Affairs degree from Indiana University. In 2017, Brandon was named West Virginian of the Year by WV Living Magazine. He is winner of the JMK Social Innovation Prize, is a DRK Entrepreneur, and is an Ashoka Fellow. In 2019, he was awarded the Heinz Award for Technology, the Economy, and Employment.



DR. RACHEL PERKS is a senior mining specialist in the Energy and Extractives Global Practice at the World Bank. Rachel joined the World Bank's Extractives unit in 2012 after over a decade of working and living in sub-Saharan Africa. Most of her work experience prior to joining the World Bank was in the mitigation of conflicts over natural resources –Sudan, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, northern Uganda. She worked exclusively on preventing violent escalations of conflict between large scale mining companies and artisanal miners during her tenure in the DRC. Since joining the unit, Rachel's work areas have expanded to include responsibilities on the portfolio concerning gender and co-leading the global initiative on Support to Energy Transition in Coal regions. She is currently managing two lending operations on ASM formalization: Niger and Central African Republic. She is also leading the work on Delve, the data initiative to improve understandings of ASM's contribution to the SDGs. She holds a PhD from Reading University, United Kingdom, and is on the editorial board of the Extractive Industries and Society journal. When not at work, Rachel enjoys spending time in the outdoors with her husband and son, cooking and riding.



STANISLAW TILLICH is a Former Prime Minister of Saxony, Germany (2008-2017) Head of the German Commission on Growth, Structural Change and Development ("Coal Commission"; 2018-2019). He is an expert in political planning and implementation of the coal transition in Germany. Structural change in the lignite mining regions of Eastern Germany (Lusatia, Central German region). He studied Construction and Drive Technology at Technical University Dresden. He had worked as an engineer and entrepreneur in East Germany and the reunited Germany. In 1987, he entered politics and served as Saxonian State Minister for Federal and European Affairs (1999-2002), Head of the Saxonian State Chancellery (2002-2004), Saxonian State Minister of Environment and Agriculture (2004-2007), Saxonian Minister of Finance (2007-2008) and as Saxonian Prime Minister (2008-2017) . Headed the German Commission on Growth, Structural Change and Development ("Coal Commission"; 2018-2019). Currently serve as a Chairman of the supervisory board of MIBRAG GmbH (the central German lignite mining company).



THOMAS SIEGL is Technical Officer, Department Structural Development at Saxon State Ministry for Regional Development. He is an expert in forestry, environment and agriculture – in practice and administration, state spatial planning including lignite mining areas, infrastructure etc. Structural change in the lignite mining regions of Eastern Germany (Lusatia region, Middle German region), implementation of funding measures to support structural development, and accompanying the transition process since its beginning in 2018 in Saxon State Chancellery and continuing 2020 in the newly founded Saxon State Ministry for Regional Development.



JULIA MAYER is a Program Manager Development of Resources at Central German Metropolitan Region. She has experience in green gases, green hydrogen and renewable energies. Julia studied Renewable Energy Management (B.Sc.) at the Applied Sciences University Weihenstephan-Triesdorf, Germany, and Energy and Resources Economy (MBA) at the Technical University Freiberg, Germany. Industry experience in several companies of the renewable energy sector, including project planning and financial auditing. She has been working for the Central German Metropolitan Region for the past 2 years.



DR. EDELTRAUD GUENTHER is a Director at Institute for Integrated Management of Matter Fluxes and of Resources, United Nations University (UNU-FLORES). Professor Guenther's areas of expertise include environmental management, accounting, and economics with a focus on corporate responsibility, corporate carbon and climate accounting, life cycle assessment, and sustainable corporate governance. Prior to her appointment at UNU-FLORES, Professor Guenther Chair was the Chair for Business Administration, Sustainability Management and Environmental Accounting at TU Dresden. She is also the Founder and Head of the Center for Sustainability Assessment and Policy (PRISMA) and has held Visiting Professorships at the Namibia University of Science and Technology, Kobe University (Japan), and at the University of Virginia (USA).



DANIEL KARTHE is the Head of Research Program Resource Nexus for Regions in Transformation at Institute for Integrated Management of Matter Fluxes and of Resources, United Nations University (UNU-FLORES). He is an expert in integrated approaches for environmental management (IWRM, Resource Nexus) and Environmental quality monitoring (water, soil, air). From 2017 to 2020, he served as a Professor and Vice Rector for Research, German-Mongolian Institute for Resources and Technology. And in 2010 to 2017: Scientist and project coordinator at Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research, Magdeburg, Germany. He obtained a PhD and habilitation (formal qualification for a professorship in Germany) in Physical Geography at Göttingen University, Göttingen Germany (2010 and 2017).



VIKTOR BERISHAJ is an economist with extensive experience in sustainable development issues in the civil society sector in Kosovo. He currently is the Southeast Europe Energy and Climate Policy Coordinator at Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe in Brussels, with focus on the Western Balkans Six energy transition issues.



DR. OLAF OSICA holds a position of a senior advisor to the College of Europe Natolin. He also chairs the advisory board of the Centre for Eastern Studies in Warsaw (www.osw.waw.pl) where he served as executive director in 2011-2016. He earned his PhD diploma from the European University Institute in Florence (Italy).