



საქართველოს ეროვნული ბანკი
National Bank of Georgia

Integrated ESG
Driving Sustainable Investment



International
Finance Corporation
WORLD BANK GROUP
Creating Markets, Creating Opportunities



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



Sustainable
Banking and
Finance
Network

Sustainable Finance Forum

Organized by the National Bank of Georgia, Sustainable Banking and Finance Network, and International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group, in partnership with the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 – 10:00 – 13:00 CET
Zoom Platform

SPEAKERS' PROFILES

Opening Remarks



Koba Gvenetadze, Chairman of the Board, Governor of the National Bank of Georgia

Koba Gvenetadze, Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia, Governor since 2016. He worked at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington D.C. as Senior Economist of the Middle East and Central Asia Department (2002-2015), including serving as the resident representative of the IMF in Azerbaijan and the Kyrgyz Republic. He held positions of Deputy State Minister (2001-2002) and Deputy Finance Minister of Georgia (2000-2001). In different years he worked for the National Bank of Georgia as a Senior Economist and for the local office of the International Monetary Fund as an Economist.

Mr. Gvenetadze is a graduate of Tbilisi State University, Department of Finances and Credit. He also graduated from American University, Washington DC, USA in 2000 with a Master of Arts degree in Economics.

Global Finance ranked Koba Gvenetadze among the Best Central Bankers in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.



Ivana Fernandes Duarte, IFC Regional Manager, South Caucasus

Ivana, a Slovak Republic national, joined the IFC in June 2021 after more than 20 years of experience in international finance in various positions at the EBRD (in London and Baku) and in Citigroup (London). During her career Ivana has been focusing in particular on the areas of private infrastructure development and financing as well as across the sectors country management. Prior to development finance she worked in investment banking with expertise in project finance and emerging markets. Ivana started her career in the Office of the Prime Minister of Slovakia.

In the current role, Ivana is focusing on further enhancing IFC business delivery in Caucasus with special emphasis on sustainable growth and climate change, digitalization and capital markets development, as well as developing the IFC Upstream activities in the region.

Ivana holds an MBA degree from IESE Business School in Barcelona, Spain and a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Economics in Slovakia. Ivana has been a CFA Charter holder since 2008. She is fluent in several languages, including Spanish, Slovak and Czech, as well as conversational Russian, Portuguese and French.



Danielle Meuwly, Regional Director, Swiss Cooperation Office for the South Caucasus, Embassy of Switzerland in Georgia

Danielle Meuwly has been Regional Director of the Swiss Cooperation for the South Caucasus, Embassy of Switzerland in Georgia, since 2019, managing and supervising the projects funded by the Swiss Government in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Before joining the South Caucasus team, Danielle Meuwly has been with Embassies of Switzerland in Kyrgyz Republic and Tunisia. She served as a Personal Advisor to the President of the General Assembly at the United Nations in New York between 2010 and 2011, and as Vice-Chair and Delegate to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) during 2009-2010. In 2005, she was appointed Senior Advisor to the Swiss Executive Director at the World Bank and Affiliates. Between 1997 and 2005, Danielle Meuwly held various high positions at the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

Danielle Meuwly holds a Master's Degree in International Trade/Economics and a PhD from the Fribourg University, as well as Master's Degree in European Studies from the College of Europe.

Keynote Speaker	
	<p>Rong Zhang, Global Coordinator of Sustainable Banking and Finance Network (SBFN), International Finance Corporation (IFC)</p> <p>Rong Zhang leads IFC's support to the Sustainable Banking and Finance Network (SBFN) which is an innovative community of financial regulators and banking associations from emerging markets committed to advancing the sustainable finance agenda. The Network was established in 2012 and is currently represented by 44 countries from the emerging markets.</p> <p>Since 2007, she has been leading the cooperation between IFC, governments and the broader financial sector on development and implementation of sustainable finance policy, technical tools, capacity building and south-south knowledge sharing and partnership.</p> <p>Ms. Zhang joined IFC in 2004 in Washington D. C. Prior to joining IFC, she spent over 10 years in Asia in various capacities, providing governments and companies with strategic counsel and project implementation across the full spectrum of sustainability issues.</p>
Panel 1: Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) - Indispensable Component of Sustainable Finance	
	<p>David Utiashvili, Head of Financial Stability Department, National Bank of Georgia</p> <p>David Utiashvili is the head of the Financial Stability Department and a member of the Financial Stability Committee at the National Bank of Georgia (NBG). His team is responsible for identifying systemic risks in the financial sector and designing and implementation of macroprudential policy.</p> <p>David has joined the NBG in 2011 and previously worked in various positions at banking supervision. He is passionate about sustainable finance and advocates for responsible financial intermediation in Georgia.</p> <p>David has earned an MA degree in economics at ISET and Boston University.</p>
	<p>Caroline Bright, IFC's Regional ESG Advisory Lead for Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Latin America, Middle East and Turkey</p> <p>Caroline oversees all ESG advisory work that IFC delivers in the region, providing quality assurance and alignment with IFC's ESG Standards: the Environmental and Social Performance Standards and Corporate Governance methodology. Caroline is responsible for rolling out IFC's integrated ESG advisory program, which is supported by SECO, the government of Switzerland. This focuses on building local capacity to promote better sustainability practices in financial institutions and the firms they work with in the region.</p>

	<p>Caroline has over 20 years of experience working with firms and financial institutions in emerging markets. Prior to IFC, Caroline worked with a variety of businesses and financial institutions in transition economies, with a focus on strategic development, small business banking, and improving the risk management of banks and microfinance institutions in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.</p> <p>Caroline has a BA from the University of London and an MBA from Henley Management College where she specialized in corporate responsibility, project management and corporate governance. She is a British national, fluent Russian speaker, and is now based in Belgrade, Serbia.</p>
	<p>Maksym Libanov, Commissioner, National Securities and Stock Market Commission of Ukraine</p> <p>Maksym Libanov started his career in the National Security and Stock Market of Ukraine in December 2002. In 2005-2018, he headed the Capital markets' development strategy subdivision. He was responsible for the adaptation of the Ukrainian legislation to the EU legislation under the Association Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine; implementation of Standards of IOSCO, IOPS, OECD and other international organizations; drafting, analysis, support of legislative initiative; development of program and strategic documents on capital markets development; he also coordinated work on training and certification of professionals in the stock market. Mr. Libanov was appointed the Commissioner of the NSSMC on February 28, 2018.</p> <p>In 2004, Maksym Libanov obtained master's degree in law at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and later, in 2006, a master's degree of finance at the Vadim Hetman Kyiv National Economic University. In 2010, he got the degree of Candidate of Legal Sciences, defended the dissertation on "The Regulation of Budgeting of Occupational Pension Schemes in Ukraine".</p>
	<p>Kiran Raj Pandit, Director of the Banks and Financial Institutions Regulation Department, Nepal Rastra Bank</p> <p>Mr. Pandit joined Nepal Rastra Bank, the Central Bank of Nepal, in 2006. He has worked mainly in Bank Supervision Department. He has also coordinated the process of implementing Risk Based Supervision, in Nepal. Since August 2019, Mr. Pandit has been working in Banks and Financial Institutions Regulation Department. In the past he had also worked as a Chief of Provincial office of the Bank.</p> <p>Mr. Pandit was actively involved in the process of drafting and issuing ESRM guideline.</p>



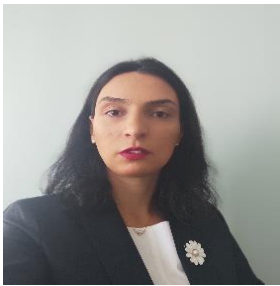
Boris Janjalia, Corporate Governance Officer, IFC/Regional Coordinator in Europe, SBFN

Boris Janjalia has been working with IFC since 2007. At present, Boris is responsible for the activities of IFC's integrated ESG advisory program in the South Caucasus and Kosovo. At different times, Boris also led the program activities in Moldova and Ukraine, and has experience of working in other countries, including Afghanistan, India, Kenya and Sri Lanka. Since 2018, Boris has been acting as SBFN Regional Coordinator in Europe.

Before joining IFC, in 2004-2006, Boris worked as Head of the Legal Department at Financial Monitoring Service of the National Bank of Georgia.

Boris has obtained LL.M in International Commercial Law from University of Aberdeen (with commendation) and LL.B from Tbilisi State University. He also holds an International Certificate in Risk Management from the Institute of Risk Management and completed an executive education course on Governance of Family Enterprises at Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University.



Panel 2: Sustainable Finance Flows and Opportunities






Salome Tvalodze, Head of Macrofinancial Modeling and Analysis Division, Financial Stability Department, National Bank of Georgia

Salome Tvalodze is the head of the Macro-financial Modeling and Analysis Division and a member of the Financial Stability Committee at the National Bank of Georgia (NBG). She has been leading the development of the NBG's Sustainable Finance Framework since 2017. Ms. Tvalodze is the NBG's representative at the NGFS and SBFN (Sustainable Banking and Finance Network). At SBFN, she is a Co-chair of the Data & Disclosure Working Group and a member of the Measurement Working Group.

Salome has obtained an MS degree in economics from ISET and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ms. Tvalodze is a Ph.D. candidate working on incorporating ESG considerations into macro-financial analysis. Salome is a Sustainability and Climate Risk (SCR) Certificate holder from the GARP. She has many years of teaching experience and currently, is a visiting lecturer at Tbilisi State University.

	<p>Garth Bedford, Advisory Lead, Financial Industry Group, IFC</p> <p>Garth Bedford joined IFC with 15 years of banking experience. He started his career in the USA as a regional manager for a commercial bank and subsequently has worked in Europe, Asia, and Africa to improve access to finance globally. Garth contributed to the financial market development worldwide working with Central Banks, Development Banks and microfinance institutions – including serving as Managing Director of financial institutions in Azerbaijan and Afghanistan, and as an expert supporting bank development globally.</p> <p>Garth holds MBA from McGill University in Canada.</p>
	<p>Pavel Afanasyev, Director of the Securities Market Department, the Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Regulation and Development of the Financial Market, Kazakhstan</p> <p>Pavel Afanasyev is the head of the Securities Market Department and started his career in Kazkommertsbank in November 2009. Then he held senior positions in Association of Financiers of Kazakhstan, Kazkommerts Securities and Kazakhstan Stock Exchange. Prior to joining the Agency, he held position of Deputy Chairman of Insurance Payments Guarantee Fund (2019-2021). In the current role, Mr. Afanasyev is focusing on further enhancing of securities market of Kazakhstan with special emphasis on sustainable growth and climate change, as well as promoting the principles of sustainable development in the financial sector, including in order to ensure its financial stability.</p> <p>Mr. Afanasyev is a graduate of KIMEP University, Department of Economics (BAE). He is fluent in English and Russian.</p>
	<p>Yasser Mounsif, Head of Corporate Finance and Financial Disclosure, Moroccan Capital Market Authority (AMMC), Morocco</p> <p>Yasser Mounsif as a Head of Corporate Finance and Financial Disclosure at the AMMC supervises the approval of issuer prospectuses as well as their compliance with ongoing information obligations. He is also actively involved in many regulatory projects and working groups aimed at market development, such as sustainable finance, where he had a significant contribution in drafting the Moroccan guidelines for Green, Social and Sustainability Bonds.</p> <p>Yasser joined the AMMC in 2008 where he held several positions before being appointed as Head of Corporate Finance and Financial Disclosure. Prior to joining the AMMC, he was responsible for internal auditing at a multinational company.</p>

	<p>Yasser holds a master's degree in corporate finance from Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (Morocco).</p>
	<p>Louise Gardiner, Coordinator, Working Groups Coordinator and Africa Regional Coordinator, SBFN</p> <p>Louise has been a sustainable finance and disclosure specialist with IFC, part of the World Bank Group, since 2005. Since 2012, she has been part of the Secretariat of the IFC-facilitated, Sustainable Banking and Finance Network (SBFN) a voluntary learning platform for financial sector regulators and industry associations from 43 emerging markets. She is currently Working Groups and Africa Coordinator and led development of SBFN's 2021 Global Progress and Country Reports, the most comprehensive benchmarking of national sustainable finance initiatives in emerging markets. She was previously Green Bond Working Group Coordinator and managed the 2018 SBFN report "Creating Green Bond Markets".</p> <p>Louise has worked closely with regulators in South Africa since 2016 to advance sustainable finance, including development of a national green finance taxonomy.</p>
Closing Remarks	
	<p>Papuna Lezhava, Deputy Governor, National Bank of Georgia</p> <p>Mr. Papuna Lezhava is a Deputy Governor and a Member of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia since December 2018. Prior to joining the National Bank of Georgia, Mr. Papuna Lezhava served as Financial Officer at International Finance Corporation since 2015 and was Advisor to Executive Director of the World Bank Group since 2013. In his earlier career, Mr. Lezhava held various positions in banking supervision at the National Bank of Georgia and the Financial Supervision Agency of Georgia.</p> <p>Mr. Lezhava is a CFA charter holder, holder of a Master's degree in Finance from IE Business School (Spain), and Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from American University in Bulgaria.</p>
Even Moderator	
	<p>Mariam Kharashvili, Macrofinancial Modeling and Analysis Division, Financial Stability Department, National Bank of Georgia</p> <p>Mariam Kharashvili is a chief specialist at Macrofinancial Modeling and Analysis Division at the National Bank of Georgia (NBG). Mariam has joined the NBG in 2017 and has been actively involved in the development of the Sustainable Finance Framework since then. Mariam holds a Ph.D. in economics from Southern Methodist University (SMU, 2017), Dallas, Texas, and MA degrees in Economics from ISET (2009) and Southern Methodist University (2011). During her time at SMU, she won the Melody Rice</p>

	Memorial Award for her academic achievements in Economics. Ms. Kharaishvili also remains active in academia, being a lecturer at ISET and an assistant professor, and a co-head of the Ph.D. program at Caucasus University. Mariam's main research interests include macroprudential policies, macro-financial modelling, and sustainable finance.
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