

# Financing Smart Sustainable Cities Forum Liechtenstein

7-8 November 2016, Ruggell, Liechtenstein

## Speakers

7 November 2016

### Opening session



#### **H.E. Adrian Hasler**

Prime Minister of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Adrian Hasler (born 11 February 1964) is the current Prime Minister of Liechtenstein. Hasler is a trained economist and was head of the Liechtenstein National Police Force. Adrian Hasler started studying business administration with an area of expertise in finance and accounting at the University of St. Gallen, where he graduated in 1991. After that he was head of controlling in the business division Thin Films of the Balzers AG. From 1996 until 2004 he was head of Group Finance and deputy-director of the Verwaltungs- und Privat-Bank AG in Vaduz. He was elected in 2001 as a Member of Parliament for the Progressive Citizens' Party (FBP).

In March 2004, he resigned to become the new chief of the National police of Liechtenstein. In 2012, he was selected as the FBP candidate for Prime Minister for the general elections in 2013. The party then won the 2013 parliamentary election.



#### **Ivonne Higuero**

Director, Forests, Land and Housing Division United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Ms. Ivonne Higuero is the Director of the Division of Forests, Land and Housing of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). She was previously the Chief of the Operational Activities and Review Section of the Environment Division of UNECE and also was assigned temporarily to the post of Chief of the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section of the Division of Forests, Land and Housing in 2015. Before her move to UNECE in 2014, Ms. Higuero worked with UNEP for 20 years on a broad range of natural resource management and environmental economics issues focusing in particular on ecosystems management, biodiversity, natural resource valuation and the green economy. She holds a Master of Natural Resource Economics and Policy from the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (now Nicholas School of the Environment) at Duke University (USA) and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Missouri (USA).



**Kari Aina Eik**

Secretary General, Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER)

Kari Aina Eik is Norwegian and the Secretary General of the OiER – Organization for International Economic Relations, based in Vienna, Austria. OiER is a global business platform facilitating cooperation between enterprises, investors, governments, international organizations and funding institutions, [www.oier.pro](http://www.oier.pro). Focus of the work is also to initiate business partnerships for development, especially in frontier markets. Kari Aina Eik has 15 years of experience working for UN agencies as Senior Management Advisor to advice and plan multi-national and multi-stakeholder program development, fundraising and strategic communication initiatives.

**Keynote presentations**



**Prof. Dr. Peter Droege**

CEO, Liechtenstein Institute for Strategic Development

Peter Droege directs the Liechtenstein Institute for Strategic Development, providing urban sustainability expertise and support in design, planning, policy, management and finance. Professor Droege is President of the European Association for Renewable Energy, EUROSOLAR, and developed close working relations with a number of international organisations on smart and sustainable urban design and infrastructure, including the IEA, IPCC, UNDP and UN Habitat. Peter Droege produced many influential publications, including two seminal Elsevier Science handbooks 'Intelligent Environments' and 'Urban Energy Transitions'. He introduced and developed the Chair for Sustainable Spatial Development at the University of Liechtenstein; his academic career includes the Technical University Munich (TUM) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). At the University of Tokyo's Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology he held the Urban Development Engineering Endowed Chair, and the Lend Lease Chair and Professorship of Urban Design at the University of Sydney in Australia. Here he also is a Conjoint Professor at the University of Newcastle.



**Domenica Carriero**

Smart Cities Program Coordinator, Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER)

Domenica Carriero is coordinating the Smart Cities Program activities at OiER. Previously she was managing the “United Smart Cities” project and the “United for Smart Sustainable Cities” initiative at Housing and Land Management Unit in the Forests, Land and Housing Division of UNECE. She was also coordinating the UNECE project on energy efficiency standards in buildings. She holds a MBA in Sustainable Business, a Masters’ Degree in Foreign Languages and joined a PhD in English Philology. She has several years of experience in teaching, capacity building, communication, coordinating inter-governmental meetings and has served as a consultant for private sector and start-ups. She has several years of experience in teaching, capacity building, communication, and has served as a consultant for the private sector and start-ups. Domenica is specialized in corporate social responsibility, sustainability strategy and sustainable performance assessment. Her professional interests include sustainable development, energy efficiency in buildings, housing finance and disaster risk reduction.

**Session 1: Setting a roadmap for smart sustainable city monitoring**



**Barbara Kolm (keynote speaker and moderator)**

Director, Austria Economic Centre (AEC)

President of the Friedrich A. v. Hayek Institute in Vienna, Austria and Director of the Austrian Economics Center. Being a worldwide networker she uses these abilities to promote free market policies; in addition she is a frequent speaker on public policy related issues, especially on deregulation and competition topics, the Future of Europe and Austrian Economics. Barbara Kolm is an Associate Professor of Austrian Economics at the University of Donja Gorica, Montenegro and a member of the Board of Business Consultants of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and a Member of the Mont Pélerin Society. She is President of the European Center for Economic Growth.



**John Smicklas**

Director, Energy and Environment, Building Owners and Managers Association of Canada (BOMA Canada)

John Smicklas is the Director, Energy and Environment for BOMA Canada. In that position John leads the BOMA BEST existing building environmental certification program, Canada's largest green certification program for existing buildings. John brings 30 years of varied business experience to the field of sustainability including prior roles as Consultant, (UN Development Program and International Telecommunication Union) ; Principal, Sustainability (MJRD Assessment); Director, Corporate Responsibility Programs (BlackBerry); Manager, Sustainable Business Solutions (PricewaterhouseCoopers) and Lead Auditor / Consultant (KPMG Management System Registrar). John holds a B.A.Sc., Engineering (University of Toronto), and has completed the Business & Sustainability and Climate Change executive programs (University of Cambridge, UK) In addition, John is a member of the Canadian ISO committees for ISO 9001, ISO 37120 and climate change and is a qualified ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 auditor.



**Andreas Littkopf**

European Topic Center on Urban, Land and Soil Systems Manager, Environment Agency Austria

Andreas Littkopf holds a degree in agriculture (terrestrial ecology) and a degree in business administration. After working in a local administration, he acted as Pre-Accession Adviser and Residential Twinning Adviser in Poland and Slovenia implementing environment related EU directives. Since 2007 he has led the European Topic Centre for Land Use and Spatial Information and from 2011-2012 the European Topic Centre for Spatial Information and Analysis. He also coordinated research activities of the University teams and was task manager in several EU funded research projects. In July 2012 he started working at the Environment Agency Austria (EAA), where he was responsible for project development with European and international financial institutions. Since 2015 he is coordinating the ETC/Urban, Land and Soil systems.



**Tomás Llorente**

Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism, Spain

Architect for Local Administration in the Region of Murcia. More than 11 years of experience as department head. He holds the representation of this Municipality with Public Administration "Covenant of Mayors", "Spanish Network of Smart Cities", "Housing Rehabilitation Planning", etc. Professor in Entrepreneurship, Humanism and technology and social innovation at the School of Industrial Organization (EOI) Professor at Planning and Sustainable Planning Course. (Degree from the University of Alcalá); Member of the Technical Committee of Standardization for Smart Cities in AENOR, working as metrics coordinator. Vocal in the working group Architecture and Children of the Official College of Architects of Madrid (COAM); Promoter at "Pulsecurity" autonomous system of tele-assistance for the elderly (prize "Elevator Pitch Contest, Singularity University, and Pasión> ie, IE Business School and Accenture).

## Session 2: Finance options for city infrastructure



### **Marko van Waveren (keynote speaker and moderator)**

Senior advisor - impact investing and asset management

Senior financial expert and team manager, having worked 20 years at the asset management organisations of the financial institutions ABN AMRO, Fortis and BNP Paribas. During those 20 years he has gained extensive experience working with public sector institutions like Development Banks, SWFs and Central Banks as well as private sector institutional investors. He has built-up a successful track record in fund raising, setting-up sustainable client relationships, and developing and managing profitable new businesses and/or strategies in developed and developing countries. Most recently, he has specialized himself in impact investing and developed a consultancy business with well-established international organizations in Vienna, acting as a senior advisor on impact investing and asset management.



### **Alf Henryk Wulf**

CEO of the German country unit, GE Power

Alf Henryk Wulf (\*1962) is a graduate of the Technical University of Munich (Technische Universität München) and holds an MBA from EM Lyon Business School. He joined Alcatel in 1991. He was appointed Sales Director for Germany, North and West regions in 1996, and became Key Account Manager of Deutsche Telekom AG in 1997. In 2002, he served as Executive Vice President for Sales and Marketing for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and India. In 2003, he became a member of the board of Alcatel SEL AG and was made Executive Vice President Marketing and Sales responsible for Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Central and Eastern Europe, and Russia. He became Deputy Chairman in 2006 and Chairman of the Management Board of Alcatel-Lucent Deutschland AG in 2009. As of 1 April 2012, Alf Henryk Wulf joined former Alstom Power AG (now GE Power AG) as CEO of the German country unit.



### **Michel Frommé**

Head, Philips Lighting Capital

Michel Frommé is a Dutch citizen and the global Head of Philips Lighting Capital. Philips Lighting is the global market leader with recognized expertise in the development, manufacturing and application of innovative (LED) lighting solutions. Philips Lighting Capital is the customer financing arm of the company and supports the growth of Philips Lighting by actively offering financing solutions for our customers. Before his current position Michel Frommé held various Treasury positions at Philips. He is a member of the Dutch State Commission for Export and he holds a Master degree of Law at the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands.



**Mithat Kulur**

Board Member and Program Director, Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER)

He has 30 years of experience with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) where, as Chief of the Investment and Technology Branch, he formulated the organization’s strategy for promoting private sector investments in developing countries. In this capacity, he provided advisory services to governments on policy, assisted in developing national institutions and provided advice to international investors on strategy including assistance with the structuring and assessment of individual investment projects and facilitating/mediating business partnerships in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. Mithat has authored training material for investors, trained users of UNIDO’s feasibility study methodology and conducted research on private sector firms in Africa. He teaches MBA courses in International Economics, Investment Promotion and Project Appraisal at the Modul University in Vienna, Austria. His formal education includes a BSc in Mechanical Engineering, Leeds University; a MSc in Operations Research/Mechanical Engineering, Cornell University; and a MPhil in Industrial Engineering and Economics, Columbia University.

**Session 3: Case studies of financing innovation**



**Kenza Khabra (keynote speaker and moderator)**

President and Co-Founder, Smart City Initiative for Africa

Kenza Khabra is President and Co-Founder of Smart Cities Initiative for Africa. In 2012, Kenza joined the Institute for Information Technologies and Societies, a unique research structure within Université Laval, Canada in order to coordinate with its director the Smart Cities project. She contributed in researching the subject matter and to the organization of various events, including the first International Symposium on Smart Cities in Quebec City. Passionate about the socio-economic development of Africa and being inspired by the successful initiatives in North America and beyond, Kenza decided to pursue her passion for the socio-economic development of Africa by organizing the first International Summit for Smart Cities in Africa held in Morocco in 2014. Since the resounding success of this inaugural edition, she has decided to persevere in this direction and ended up launching what is now known as Smart Cities Initiative for Africa, a non-profit organization whose mission is to help public and private institutions collaborate in order to implement innovative, citizen-centric smart initiatives for sustainable economic and social development.



**Karen Vancluysen**  
Secretary General, Polis

Karen was appointed as Secretary General of Polis in September 2014, after having been the network's Research Director for 8 years. Prior to joining POLIS as senior research coordinator in 2004, she was Network Manager at ACCESS-EUROCITIES for a New Mobility Culture and project manager at Langzaam Verkeer, a Belgian centre for mobility management. Since 1998, she has been involved in urban transport networking and policy activities, and many EU transport and urban mobility projects.



**Petr Suska**  
Senior Project Manager, Urban Governance Innovation, Fraunhofer

Mr. Suska is a Senior Project manager at the Fraunhofer IAO in Stuttgart. The main focus of his work is smart city and sustainable urban development. Previously he was the head of strategic planning department at the City of Prague, where he was responsible for drafting and delivering a new strategic plan for the city. Currently, he supports two H2020 projects and Morgenstadt City Insights, while representing his team at international events. His main areas of expertise is project management, urban economics and policy analysis.



**Oksana Remiga**  
Local governance specialist, DA, Istanbul Regional Hub, UNDP

Currently, Oksana Remiga is with UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub, in her capacity of Local Governance Specialist. She is responsible for providing substantive policy and programme advisory services to the Country Offices and applying the products and tools relevant to the thematic area of Local Governance and Decentralization, including issues of local development and urbanization. As a Senior Programme Manager of Local Development/Human Security Cluster of UNDP Ukraine, Oksana Remiga led the development and implementation of the largest community-based programme in the region. For more than 10 years she is leading UNDP Ukraine decentralization practice area providing legal and policy advice to the Government of Ukraine. Currently she was working for Recovery and Peacebuilding programme of UNDP Ukraine, dealing with the recovery and development challenges of conflict-affected regions. Prior to joining UNDP in 2006, Ms. Remiga was Deputy Director of the International Centre for Policy Studies. In that role, Ms. Remiga headed the research unit and also provided policy advice and advocacy in local governance and economic development. She was involved in the design and implementation of numerous international programmes for state and local governments, NGO in public administration reform domain. Ms. Remiga obtained her PhD. in Economics from the Institute of Economics in the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, where she later worked as a research fellow for seven years.

## Session 4: Identifying the financing sources



### **John Smiciklas (moderator)**

Director, Energy and Environment, Building Owners and Managers Association of Canada (BOMA Canada)

John Smiciklas is the Director, Energy and Environment for BOMA Canada. In that position John leads the BOMA BEST existing building environmental certification program, Canada's largest green certification program for existing buildings. John brings 30 years of varied business experience to the field of sustainability including prior roles as Consultant, (UN Development Program and International Telecommunication Union) ; Principal, Sustainability (MJRD Assessment); Director, Corporate Responsibility Programs (BlackBerry); Manager, Sustainable Business Solutions (PricewaterhouseCoopers) and Lead Auditor / Consultant (KPMG Management System Registrar). John holds a B.A.Sc., Engineering (University of Toronto), and has completed the Business & Sustainability and Climate Change executive programs (University of Cambridge, UK) In addition, John is a member of the Canadian ISO committees for ISO 9001, ISO 37120 and climate change and is a qualified ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 auditor.



### **Carlos Carrasco-Farré**

Researcher, IESE Business School, and Research Fellow, UNECE Center of Excellence on PPP for Cities, Spain

Carlos Carrasco-Farré is a researcher at IESE Business School and Research Fellow of PPP for Cities. Previously, he carried out a Msc. in Public and Social Policy at Pompeu Fabra University and Johns Hopkins University. Additionally, he studied government performance at Harvard University (Harvard Kennedy School of Government), urban policy at The Johns Hopkins University and public finance at the London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE). He has worked in public sector consulting and for the Barcelona Provincial Council (Economic Development Area). Furthermore, he is Chief Data Scientist at EIXOS, a company dedicated to the creation of urban economic observatories based on Open Data and Smart Geo. He has also contributed to various academic and non-academic publications and books on economics, management and urban strategy.



### **Martin Stadelman**

Practice Leader on Green Finance and Cities at the South Pole Group

Martin is a leading climate finance expert and coordinates all activities on cities and green finance at South Pole Group, including projects on green bonds and matchmaking with investors under the EU-financed Low Carbon City Lab. He wrote his PhD on the effectiveness of international climate finance and contributed to the finance chapters of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report and the UNEP Adaptation Gap report 2014. He also led major climate finance projects, including the "Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2014" and renewable energy projects for the Climate Investment Funds. Until 2009, he managed low-carbon energy projects in developing countries at myclimate. During his time at the University of Zurich and Climate Policy Initiative (2009-2015), he worked at the World Bank, contributed to the Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance, and consulted

several European governments on domestic policies and international climate finance. He also represented the Swiss government at international climate negotiations.



**Alexander Auböck**

Senior Financial Advisor, European Investment Bank

Currently, Alexander Auböck works for JASPERS/EIB advising on financing matters related to projects eligible for EU Structural Funds. He is a former member of the Senior Management of the EBRD with over 25 years of experience in investment and commercial banking, gained in a multi-cultural environment with a focus on CEE and the former Soviet Union. As Non-Executive Director Alex has been on the Board of banks, corporates, private equity funds and project finance companies. He holds a PhD in development economics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration.

**Tuesday - 8 November**

**Session 5: Case Studies Financing Innovation at City levels**



**Prof. Dr. Peter Droege (keynote speaker and moderator)**

CEO, Liechtenstein Institute for Strategic Development

Peter Droege directs the Liechtenstein Institute for Strategic Development, providing urban sustainability expertise and support in design, planning, policy, management and finance. Professor Droege is President of the European Association for Renewable Energy, EUROSOLAR, and developed close working relations with a number of international organisations on smart and sustainable urban design and infrastructure, including the IEA, IPCC, UNDP and UN Habitat. Peter Droege produced many influential publications, including two seminal Elsevier Science handbooks 'Intelligent Environments' and 'Urban Energy Transitions'. He introduced and developed the Chair for Sustainable Spatial Development at the University of Liechtenstein; his academic career includes the Technical University Munich (TUM) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). At the University of Tokyo's Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology he held the Urban Development Engineering Endowed Chair, and the Lend Lease Chair and Professorship of Urban Design at the University of Sydney in Australia. Here he also is a Conjoint Professor at the University of Newcastle.



**Igor Kos**

Investment Projects Coordinator, Mayor’s Office, Maribor, Slovenia

Igor was born in Maribor on 20.03.1970. In 1996 he started working in private sector in real estate. In 2003 he started to work as project manager for building company; from 2004 to 2008 he was in LIDL Slovenia as project manager, developing shops network and building distribution center. From 2008 he entered public office and in 2014 he started to work as project manager for different projects – public and private investors (schools, commercial buildings, housing projects, hotels). Now together with his colleagues, he is working on future projects for Municipality of Maribor, in particular in 2015 he prepared the sustainable urban mobility plan and integrated urban development strategy. The main goals identified for the next years are: reduction of traffic in the old city center and the development of a circular economy model for the Municipality of Maribor.



**Thomas Schubert**

Manager, Urban Ropeway Projects, Leitner Ropeways

Thomas Schubert is responsible for export markets at LEITNER ropeways facing increasing demand on urban projects. Urban ropeways provide social integration, overcome obstacles and create added value for tourism. References of the Group also produce relief on highly congested cities in an economical and sustainable manner. LEITNER together with its sister company POMA are now exclusive partners with UNIDO promoting Smart Cities. For cities in developing countries ropeways are an immediate solution provider, for Western municipalities ropeways are in need to be marketed to the public. Thomas graduated in Civil Engineering and Business Administration, has experience as Managing Director for subsidiaries of global leaders within the construction industry. His focus has been on strategic marketing of equipment for infrastructure-projects that are in particular subject to economic cycles of the public sector.



**Charlotte Riché**

Project Finance Manager, Poma Vorappe

Charlotte Riché is Project Finance Manager for POMA, (sister company of Leitner Ropeways) where she manages structuring and financing of climate-friendly urban transport concessions and PPPs. Prior to that, she was an Investment Officer for International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank. While at IFC she focused on infrastructure PPPs in the EMENA region and participated in the financial closing of project finance transactions in excess of EUR 2 billion.



**Ilker Cumbul,**  
CEO of Halatlı Taşımacılık and Bursa Teleferik

Born in Bursa on 26 May 1969, graduated from Bursa Anatolian High School and Boğaziçi University Computer Engineering Department. Almost 20 years of professional experience in management, sales, international trade, the cable car systems and mountain tourism. He has started his career at General Motors and continued in Delphi, Bosch and Seger as quality and sales management. His working life has continued as entrepreneur and Turkey representatives of SMI, Technoalpın and LEITNER Ropeways Company. By the year 2012 he is Executive Board Chairman of Halatlı Tasimacilik LTD. Halatli Tasimacilik incorporates with Bursa Teleferik Inc. which is operator of world's largest monocable with 8.8 kilometers length, also Alanya Teleferik Inc. and Karbeyaz Company. Halatlı Tasimacilik provides operating cable car systems and other rope transport systems installation, contracting, construction, mountain and tourism development. He is also partner and distributor of LEITNER Group in Turkey, which is manufacturer of world's largest cable car and rope handling systems. He is expert in sales, international trade, ropeways systems, mountain development and tourism, he knows English and German. He is married and father of two.



**Stephan Weissenbacher**  
Export Manager, Waste Management and Recycling, SSI Schäfer

Stephan Weissenbacher, born in Altenkirchen/Westerwald, Germany on 14th of January 1962, has been with SSI Schäfer GmbH, Germany, since 2001. SSI Schäfer was founded in 1937 and is a 100% family owned company group employing more than 8,500 persons worldwide. The product line consists of material handling, warehousing, workshop and office equipment as well as collection systems for waste management and recycling. Stephan Weissenbacher is the Export Manager for the Waste Management & Recycling Division of Fritz Schäfer GmbH. He has been dealing with environmental matters worldwide, especially with regard to waste reduction, waste separation and recycling for a sustainable and environmentally friendly waste management.

## Session 6: Incentivizing private investment



### **Lawrence Walters (keynote speaker and moderator)**

Emeritus Professor of Public Management, Brigham Young University

Dr. Walters is an Emeritus Professor of Public Management at the Romney Institute of Public Management, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA. He continues to teach courses on land and real estate taxation at the International Institute of Urban Management (IHS), Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands. His research has received national awards for excellence. He has served as an advisor to a number of governments at all levels. He recently completed a co-edited volume on property tax policy and administration and a UN-Habitat property tax policy guide for developing countries. His most recent work is focused on developing land-based financing tools and training materials for developing countries. Dr. Walters received his PhD from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



### **Nicole Wirz Schneider**

dipl. Architect Urban Planner ETH; owner of raumplan wirz gmbh and National Delegate of Switzerland for ISOCARP

Nicole Wirz Schneider, dipl. Architect Urban Planner ETH, owner of raumplan wirz, Urban Design and Planning Consultancy, Expert Smart Cities, National Delegate of Switzerland (ISOCARP). She studied architecture (diploma 1997) as well as spatial planning (master thesis 2005) at the ETH. By her professional career in the private and public sector she has acquired a profound knowledge in building and planning processes and urban design. One of her principal interests is developing sustainable urban design. She is Bureau Member of the Swiss National Delegation of ISOCARP (International Society of City and Regional Planners) and expert for the Smart Cities Initiative of ISOCARP.



### **Amitabh Mehta**

Director, Innovative Finance, Fundraising Strategy & Corporate Partnerships, Indus Blue Consulting

Mr. Mehta is an innovative finance specialist with over 20 year of experience at investment banks such as Deutsche Bank, development banks and UN linked health organisations such as the WHO. Utilising the best of his Public Sector, Private Sector and PPP experiences globally, as the former Deputy Director and Head of Asia-Pacific for the GAVI Alliance in Geneva, he continues to advise the UN, WHO, Corporates, Pharmaceuticals, Development Banks, African Union on innovative financing techniques and solutions, with a focus on sustainability, self-sufficiency, corporate partnerships and CSR from alternative and diversified funding sources. With traditional Donor (DACs) ODA falling, he has been working with new donors, designing Islamic financing models, revolving Funds, domestic Bond platforms including Social Impact bonds and capital markets financing structures to meet these demands. His experience spans the healthcare, infrastructure, vaccines, pharmaceuticals, financial and Funds sectors and is based in Geneva.



**Peter Pongratz**

Head of projects, Triple-A

Peter Pongratz graduated in 1993 in Business administration at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU). He worked as product, marketing and sales management executive (VP) in large international corporations (such as Nestlé, L'Oréal, Red Bull) and in the oil industry (OMV, MOL). His fields of expertise are change and innovation management and entrepreneurship. Since 2013 he is advisor to SMEs and large corporations.



**Andrei Muntean**

Head of the Economic Governance Unit, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Born in the Republic of Moldova, Andrei has completed the Chinese language studies at the Fudan University in Shanghai, China in 1994. Following few years of studies at the State University of Moldova, he graduated from Drexel University in Philadelphia, USA in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Magna Cum Laude degree in History and Politics. Following few years of working at the Survey Research Center as a project manager, he pursued and completed a Master of Science with Merit degree at the London School of Economics and Political Science in the Great Britain. Shortly after, in 2000, he had begun his teaching career as an Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Drexel and St. Joseph's Universities in the U.S. that lasted until 2009. Since 2002 to 2004, Andrei worked as an Assistant on Foreign Affairs to the United States Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania serving in Philadelphia and Washington D.C. on various foreign affairs, international development, transport, immigration and aid policies. From 2004 to 2009, he served as a certified federal lobbyist/government relations professional managing numerous projects as an Executive Director for Federal Affairs at Drexel University. In 2009, Andrei joined the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) as a Field Officer at the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, shortly after being promoted to the post of a Senior Economic and Environmental Officer that has rapidly become a post of a Head of Economic and Environmental Affairs. In 2011, Andrei transferred to the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat as a Political Officer where he worked until September 2013. As of 1st October 2013, Andrei Muntean has joined the OSCE Secretariat in his capacity as Senior Economic Officer/Head of Economic Governance Unit at the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEAA) in charge of good governance, anti-corruption, labour migration and transport security portfolios. He is married, has two sons, 6 and 4.5 years of age and now resides in Vienna, Austria.

## Session 7: The way after Quito



### **Ivonne Higuero (keynote speaker and moderator)**

Director, Forests, Land and Housing Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Ms. Ivonne Higuero is the Director of the Division of Forests, Land and Housing of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). She was previously the Chief of the Operational Activities and Review Section of the Environment Division of UNECE and also was assigned temporarily to the post of Chief of the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section of the Division of Forests, Land and Housing in 2015. Before her move to UNECE in 2014, Ms. Higuero worked with UNEP for 20 years on a broad range of natural resource management and environmental economics issues focusing in particular on ecosystems management, biodiversity, natural resource valuation and the green economy. She holds a Master of Natural Resource Economics and Policy from the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (now Nicholas School of the Environment) at Duke University (USA) and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Missouri (USA).



### **Natallia Hubsckaya**

Project Manager, UNDP/GEF Project "Supporting Green Urban Development in Small and Medium-Sized Cities in Belarus"

Ms. Hubsckaya worked for the UNDP in Belarus as a Project Manager of "Linking Environment and Security in Belarus" Project (2013-2016), national consultant for the joint UNDP/EC Project "Support to the development of a comprehensive framework for international environmental cooperation in the Republic of Belarus" (2011-2013). From 2008 till 2012 she was Senior Research Associate at the National Centre of Legislation and Legal Research of Republic of Belarus. Ms Hubsckaya holds a Ph.D. in Law (2009) and worked as Associate Professor at State Institute of Management and Social Technologies, Belarusian State University (2008-2014). Author of publications on environmental related issues (e.g. sustainable development, environmental policy, public participation), main - Public Participation in Environmental Decision-Making (Legal Issues). Minsk, 2009. - P. 207. (Monography).



**Maria-Lluisa Marsal**

Future Cities Catapult, UK

Maria-Luisa Marsal Llacuna holds two Doctorates, in Urban Planning and Intelligent Systems (2008, 2013). She is a Dipl. Architect (2001) and has Masters degrees in Urbanism and Applied Informatics (2004, 2011). She has been teaching urban planning to ungraduated students in Spanish Universities for the past fifteen years, and more recently smart cities at master's level. She created the first official scientific master's program in smart cities back in 2012, and she has lead several competitive research projects in the domain. She holds a US patent on a smarter urban planning technology and has published fourteen papers in top indexed journals. Dr. Marsal currently works at Future Cities Catapult, UK's agency of urban innovation within the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and has a position as Cities Standards Programme Manager to deliver innovation on city standards in the UK and abroad.