

TRANSFORMING >>> TRANSPORTATION™

Climate Finance in Transport Roundtable: Pooling and Scaling Funding and Financing

March 18, 2024, 10:30 am to 1 pm
MC13-121

TT24 Side Event:

Organized by the World Bank, WRI, and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

BACKGROUND ON TT24 OVERARCHING THEME, CONCEPT AND STRUCTURE

The challenge of meeting the financing needs for decarbonizing the transport sector and making it more resilient is intricate and ever evolving. Particularly, the transport sector in many low and middle-income countries (LMICs) grapples with issues stemming from population growth and rapid urbanization. This dynamic presents a pressing need for support to facilitate the transition towards a low-carbon pathway. Significant investments are needed to promote sustainable transport rather than "locking in" carbon-intensive travel. However, investment gaps in transport infrastructure are expected to be significant by 2040, with an estimated \$0.8 trillion for Africa, \$1.6 trillion for Asia, and \$6.0 trillion for the Americas (including North America). Furthermore, the transport infrastructure stands to lose the most from the physical risks posed by climate change. Global Infrastructure Hub estimates that, under the current policy scenario, the transport sector can experience a near total (97.8%) infrastructure loss by 2050, the most severe compared to any other sector.

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Mobilizing climate finance for transport is more crucial than ever. Thus, the World Bank, WRI, and WBCSD jointly propose a roundtable to kickstart the discussions as part of this year's Transforming Transportation (TT) conference. Both the roundtable and the conference can serve as a platform where international financial institutions (IFIs), private sector actors (financiers and manufacturers), philanthropies, and development non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can exchange knowledge and collaborate, beyond organizational and project silos. The roundtable will allow these diverse stakeholders to survey the current practices in financing electric mobility and broader systems change in transport. Additionally, it provides an opportunity to explore innovative funding models, review legal frameworks, and improve project eligibility for financing. Such a roundtable can also facilitate discussions on how to replicate successful financing models from one region to another and streamline access to climate finance across the globe. At the end of the roundtable, stakeholders can come together and strategize on the next collective step, ultimately contributing to a more effective allocation of funds to decarbonize transport and combat climate change.

SESSION FORMAT/TIMING

Discussion format:

Time	Agenda	Details
10:00 AM	Welcome and Light Breakfast and Coffee	
10:30 AM	Welcome Remarks	Rogier van den Berg <i>Global Director for WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities</i>
	Opening Remarks	Mohamed Gouled <i>Vice President of Industries, IFC</i> Guangzhe Chen <i>Vice President Infrastructure, The World Bank</i>
Investment opportunities in EVs and how Climate Finance can be leveraged to bring Private Investment Moderator -- Binyam Reja <i>Global Practice Manager, World Bank</i>		
10:45 AM	Framing Presentation 1	Hania Dawood <i>Climate Change Group Manager at The World Bank</i>
10:55 AM	Investment opportunities in EV Transition in emerging and developing economies.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thomas Deloison <i>Director, Transport & Mobility at WBCSD</i> 2. Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat <i>Member of NITI Aayog, Government of India</i> 3. Ana Waksberg Guerrini <i>Senior Transport Economist at The World Bank – E-buses in Brazil</i> 4. Daniel Benitez & Satheesh Kumar Sundararajan <i>the World Bank -- (National and Regional Investment Facilities – An institutional mechanism to finance and fund EV transition at scale)</i>
Roundtable Discussion 1: Financing the transition to electric mobility		
11:15 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Admassu Tadesse <i>TDB Group President and Managing Director</i> 2. Andrew Herscowitz <i>Executive Director at ODI Global Washington, DC</i> 3. Vikram Kumar <i>IFC Manager at The World Bank Group</i> 4. Vinay Chawla <i>Senior Advisor, Partnership for Global Infrastructure Investment at U.S. Department of State</i> 5. Christopher Aidun <i>Co-Founder and Partner at Persistent Energy Capital</i> 6. James Leather <i>Director, Transport Sector Office at Asian Development Bank</i> 7. Esteban Diez-Roux <i>Operations Senior Advisor, Transport Division at Inter-American Development Bank</i> 8. Jean-Francois Marteau <i>Practice Manager, Africa West, World Bank</i> 9. Cristina Albuquerque <i>Global Director for Electric Mobility, WRI</i> 10. Ben Eijbergen <i>Practice Manager, East Asia and Pacific, World Bank</i> 11. Paul Bodnar <i>Director of Sustainable Finance, Industry, and Diplomacy, Bezos Earth Fund</i> 	
Roundtable Discussion 2: Financing infrastructure systems and “hard-to-abate” modes <i>(Moderator – Ben Welle, WRI)</i>		
12:00 PM	Framing Presentation 2	Felipe Ramirez <i>Urban Mobility Dir. of WRI</i>

12:05 PM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christoph Wolff <i>CEO at Smart Freight Centre</i> 2. Lindsay Fitzgerald <i>Vice President - Government Relations at GEVO</i> 3. François Davenne <i>Director General at UIC</i> 4. Morteza Farajian <i>Executive Director at U.S. Department of Transportation</i> 5. Frannie Leautier <i>CEO at SouthBridge Investment</i> 6. Astrid Manroth, <i>Head, G20 Global Infrastructure Facility at World Bank</i> 7. Marco Yamaguchi <i>Manager, Transport and Logistics Division at African Development Bank</i> 8. Kader Hassane <i>Senior Director at Africa 50</i> 9. Mahua Acharya <i>CEO, International Energy Transition Platform and Former CEO, CESL, Govt. of India</i> 	
12:50 PM	<p>Closing Remarks (10 min) (Daphne Groß-Jansen will introduce the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in October.)</p>	<p>Maruxa Cardama, Secretary General at SLOCAT will conclude, and share her thoughts on today’s roundtable and give closing remarks</p>
1:00 PM	<p>Roundtable concludes and lunch</p>	<p>Participants debrief over light lunch.</p>

Guiding Questions

Segment 1: Financing the transition to electric mobility

- What are some successful examples of financing electric mobility? Consider different modes of transportation, such as buses, two-and-three wheelers, freight vehicles, etc.
- What makes these examples investment-ready? Describe the criteria, pipeline, and, if possible, monitoring and evaluation for these projects.
- From these projects or beyond, what are some interesting financing practices and methods that have the potential to ramp up electric mobility?

Segment 2: Financing infrastructure systems and “hard-to-abate” modes

- How do we prioritize or guide investments to make the broader transportation system more sustainable so that more public transportation, walking and cycling, rail, and inland water transport projects can be funded?
- What does invest in hard-to-abate sectors, such as roads and ports, look like?
- How can we scale up adaptation financing for transport, for example, through investing in sustainable urban infrastructure and integrating with mitigation?
- What are the most viable entry points for all stakeholders to collaborate? And what are the most challenging issues to collaborate on?

SPEAKER BIOS/PHOTOS

Opening Remarks Speakers



Name: Rogier van den Berg | **Email:**

Title and Organization: Global Director, WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Bio: Rogier van den Berg is Global Director for WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, leading WRI's program focused on more accessible, equitable, healthy and resilient cities.

Rogier is an urban planning and development expert, an architect and academic with more than two decades of experience. He served as Acting Global Director from 2021 to 2022, working with a transition team of senior directors to coordinate and guide key decisions for the WRI Ross Center. He joined as Director for Urban Development in January 2020, focusing on global programming for urban land use, climate change adaptation, equitable development, urban data analytics and more.

Previously, he led UN-Habitat's Urban Lab program, which he set up in 2014. It was created to respond to urban planning demand in cities, and rapidly expanded its scope to become a multidisciplinary urban project and integrated planning facility working in 80 cities globally. Van den Berg led global teams working at the intersection of infrastructure, urban planning, urban resilience, climate change adaptation, technology, recovery and reconstruction, and public space. He has established and implemented development projects and programs together with cities and partners in Europe, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia. He was also a founding partner of the architecture and urban planning firm Zandbelt&vandenBerg and served as head of the Amsterdam Academy of Architecture's Master of Urbanism program.

Van den Berg holds an Executive Master's Degree in International Negotiation and Policymaking from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and a Master of Science in Architecture from Delft University of Technology.

Van den Berg lives in Rotterdam with his wife, two sons and daughter.



Name: Mohamed Gouled | **Email:**

Title and Organization: Vice President of Industries at IFC

Bio: Mohamed Gouled is IFC's Vice President of Industries. In this capacity, he's responsible for (i) managing IFC's global sector communities of practice and ensuring that lessons of experience from IFC operations contribute to the WBG's global knowledge bank and thought leadership; (ii) leading business development with global clients; (iii) fostering close collaboration across WBG to align sector strategies, implement the Cascade approach, enhance client delivery, and support policy/sector reforms in WBG countries of operation; and (iv) supporting operational process simplification.

A Djiboutian national, Mr. Gouled was previously VP of Risk and Finance from 2017.

He joined IFC in 1999 as an Investment Officer in what was then the Financial Markets Division of IFC's Sub-Saharan Africa Department. In this role, Mr. Gouled was instrumental in IFC's re-engagement in Nigeria, helping to build its Financial Markets portfolio after many years of absence from the country.

In 2002, Mr. Gouled joined the Global Financial Markets Department where he worked on a number of high-profile and groundbreaking transactions including the first residential mortgage-backed securitization to come out of Eastern and Central Europe, the first tier II instrument in the Tunisian banking sector, and the first residential mortgage-backed securitization in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.

Previously, Mr. Gouled was Manager for the Financial Markets Group for Sub-Saharan Africa based in Johannesburg, where he helped build and manage a diverse and high-performing Financial Markets team, significantly increasing the portfolio and reach of IFC's investments in the region. He moved back to Washington at the end of 2009 as Chief Credit Officer in a heightened risk environment where his experience helped guide the EMENA regional investment and portfolio teams as they managed IFC's risks. He was then Director of the Special Operations Department.

Prior to joining IFC, Mr. Gouled worked for the Treasury and the Industry and Infrastructure Departments at the African Development Bank based in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire.



Name: Guangzhe Chen | **Email:**

Title and Organization: Vice President for Infrastructure at The World Bank

Bio: Guangzhe Chen, a Chinese national, is the Vice President for Infrastructure at the World Bank as of February 1, 2023. In this position he leads the Bank's global efforts to build sustainable infrastructure in developing and emerging economies and supports the World Bank Group's strategic priorities such as the climate change action plan and the private capital mobilization and enabling efforts. He oversees the Bank's work across energy and transport sectors, digital development, and efforts to provide access to renewable energy, low-carbon transportation, digital connectivity, and quality infrastructure services to communities through public-private partnerships. Infrastructure represents around \$72 billion of the Bank's portfolio.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Chen served as the Regional Director for Infrastructure in the South Asia Region at the World Bank. He provided leadership and oversaw the formulation and implementation of the knowledge and financing programs across energy, transport and digital development in the region covering Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The regional department has a portfolio of over 60 projects amounting to approximately \$17 billion.

He was the World Bank's Global Director for the Transport Global Practice from 2018 to 2020 and prior to that was Senior Director for the World Bank's Water Global Practice. He has also served as World Bank Country Director for Ethiopia, in Addis Ababa, and subsequently for Southern Africa, covering Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, based in Pretoria. His earlier career positions at the World Bank include roles as team lead and manager in the transport and urban, water and disaster risk management units.

An economist by training, Mr. Chen has over 25 years of international experience in the field of sustainable development, infrastructure finance and management with the World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank.

Mr. Chen holds a graduate degree in Economics from Harvard University, USA, and B.A. in Economics from Zhongshan (Sun Yat-Sen) University, Guangzhou, China.

Moderators



Name: Ben Welle | **Email:** benjamin.welle@wri.org

Title and Organization: Director, Integrated Transport & Innovation, WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Bio: Ben Welle is a Director of Integrated Transport & Innovation at WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities.

Ben's work includes leading global research and projects, particularly in the areas of public transport, minibuses, mobility planning, access to opportunities, new mobility and innovation, traffic safety, walking & cycling, and public space. Prior to this role, Ben was Senior Associate for Urban Mobility at WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, working on many of the same issues. Prior to working at WRI, he was assistant director of the Center for City Park Excellence at the Trust for Public Land in Washington, D.C., researching and consulting on city parks, public space, green infrastructure, transport planning, and related economic impact.

He has additional background in finance and positions in state government in the State of Minnesota, USA. Ben has a Master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree from Hamline University, St. Paul, USA.



Name: Binyam Reja | **Email:** breja@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Global Practice Manager at The World Bank

Bio: Binyam (Ben) Reja is the Global Practice Manager for the Transport Practice in the Infrastructure Vice Presidency of the World Bank. Mr. Reja oversees the Global Unit's knowledge program, technical support to operational units, partnerships, and corporate mandates. He directs wide-ranging analytical and operational work on transport decarbonization and resilience, green mobility and logistics, and innovative funding and financing. He leads a team of technical professionals and experts and directs technical support to operational units in developing innovative and high-impact lending programs and policy dialogue with client countries. Prior to being selected to this position in September 2020, Mr. Reja was the Regional Practice Manager for China, Mongolia, and Central Asia

where he oversaw a lending program totaling US\$8 billion in these countries and helped in developing new lending programs and policy reforms to support regional connectivity, innovative infrastructure financing, and addressing the impact of climate change on transport in these countries. Mr. Reja holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Irvine; B.A. in Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He also attended the Executive Education program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Speakers



Name: Thomas Deloison | **Email:** deloison@wbcSD.org

Title and Organization: Director, Mobility & Member of the Extended Leadership Group

Bio: Thomas Deloison has been leading the transport & mobility Pathway at WBCSD since 2018 Initially focusing on urban Mobility and Transport Planning to now extending beyond Automotive and re-focused on the climate imperative, putting members into action to invest in Zero Emission Vehicles adoption or to act on the automotive supply chain. This is completed by a recent focus on the intersection of Sustainable mobility and inequality. Thomas uses nearly 20 years of professional experience gained mainly in the automotive sector to apply a passion for strategy, design thinking, and

operational excellence to advance WBCSD's strategy.

His exposure to Product Strategy, Marketing Strategy, Executive Office, Corporate Planning, and Program Management provides a wide array of skills that helps to act across the organization.

Thomas has a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering, completed with a master's in Business and Administration with a specialization in Marketing he lives in Switzerland since 2008.



Name: Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat | **Email:** vk.saraswat@gov.in

Title and Organization: member of NITI Aayog, India

Bio: Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat is an Indian scientist who served as Secretary, Dept. of Defense R&D, Director General of Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri. Dr. Saraswat is the Chief Designer of missiles like Prithvi, DHANUSH and Interceptors of Ballistic Missile Defense and their induction to the Indian Armed Forces. He is recipient of numerous awards that includes Padma Shri (1998) and Padmabhushan (2013)

from the Government of India. Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat is presently working as permanent member of NITI (National Institute of Transforming India) Aayog.



Name: Ana Waksberg Guerrini | **Email:** aguerrini@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Senior Transport Economist at The World Bank

Bio: Ana is a Senior Transport Economist at the World Bank, responsible for urban transport projects, transport decarbonization and smart mobility agendas, and policy reform and modernization of the transport sector in LAC. Before joining the Bank, Ana was the Director of Public Policy for ride-hailing company DiDi Chuxing based in Brazil, where she led policy work with national and local governments, and throughout Latin America, developing new mobility regulatory frameworks, payment integration with public transport, and smart traffic lights with ride-hailing data and technology.

Before she worked in the public sector and also as a consultant in planning, economic analysis, and implementation of large-scale projects in state and municipal governments in Brazil, mostly in transport, health, service delivery, and digital citizen engagement. Ana holds a PhD in Information, Knowledge and Public Sector Management from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya in Barcelona, an MSc in Latin American Studies from the University of Oxford, and avBA in Economics from the University of São Paulo.



Name: Daniel Benitez

Title and Organization: Senior Transport Economist at The World Bank

Email: dbenitez@worldbank.org

Bio: Daniel Benitez is Senior Transport Economist with the Transport Funding and Financing Group in the Transport Global Knowledge Unit of the World Bank. His work involves both analytical and advisory services on infrastructure economics, policy and financing since 2006. Daniel also worked on computable general equilibrium analysis and utility regulation as researcher at Center for Economic Regulation in Argentina. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the

University of Toulouse.



Name: Satheesh Sundararajan

Title and Organization: Lead Climate Finance Specialist at The World Bank

Email: ssundararajan@worldbank.org

Bio: Satheesh is a Lead Climate Finance Specialist with the World Bank's Transport Funding and Financing Group. He has worked on different World Bank operations across the Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, and South Asian regions in the energy, transport and water sectors in public and private projects. A significant part of his experience includes providing technical assistance and

financial structuring to governments on public-private partnerships, formulating enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, designing transactions, and structuring credit enhancements including with World Bank guarantees.

Prior to joining the Bank, Satheesh worked with a Big 4 professional services firm in London advising public sectors, infrastructure funds, private equities and sponsors across Europe in energy, transport and utility investments. He has worked on some of the most complex projects of that time including London Underground PPPs, Thames Tunnel Tideway and Greater Manchester Waste to Energy PFIs. He holds a PhD in Project Management in Engineering from the University of Maryland and has published a number of papers in international journals.



Name: Hania Dawood | **Email:** hdawood@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Manager, Climate Business Development and Strategy, IFC

Bio: Hania is Manager for Climate Strategy and Business Development at the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group. Prior to this role, Hania was Assistant to World Bank Group President David Malpass, where she advised the President on a range of strategic and policy matters, including infrastructure, energy, and climate. Before joining the Office of the President, Hania spent 12 years as an investment professional at IFC's Infrastructure Department, where she structured debt and equity investments in energy sector projects, including renewables and gas-to-power. She also worked in the energy practice at Morgan Stanley and at the

International Monetary Fund. Hania holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.



Name: Admassu Tadesse | **Email:** admassu.tadesse@tdbgroup.org

Title and Organization: President and Managing Director of the Trade and Development Bank Group (TDB)

Bio: Admassu Tadesse has been serving as Trade and Development Bank Group President and Managing Director since 2022. Prior, he led PTA Bank, and its evolution into TDB, and previously served as Executive Vice President for International Finance and Corporate Strategy with the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Under his leadership, TDB Group has expanded into several new and under-served markets, with new strategic business units and subsidiaries, achieved investment grade credit ratings, with total assets growing about 10-fold reaching the USD 10 billion mark in December 2023. Its equity capital has also multiplied manifold, with its investor base more than doubling to 46 shareholders.

He is a recipient of several distinctions and awards, including African Banker of the Year, African Business Leader of the Year and Development Banker of the Year. He is an alumnus of the London School of Economics, Western University, Wits Business School, and Harvard Business School.



Name: Andrew Herscowitz | **Email:** a.herscowitz@odi.org

Title and Organization: Executive Director, ODI North America Leadership Team

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

Africa gain access to electricity.

Most recently, he served as the first Chief Development Officer at the US International Development Finance Corporation, where he devised and oversaw a \$75 billion development strategy and served on the Investment Committee. Early in his career, he served as part of the U.S. Government legal team that helped develop the original framework for The Global Fund.

He has received two Lifetime Achievement Awards for his work in advancing the African power sector. In 2018, Herscowitz was awarded the "Service to Americas" medal, given to the U.S. Government officials who have provided the greatest benefit to the American people. In 2005, the Federal Bar Association recognised Herscowitz as one of the five most outstanding lawyers under the age of 35 in the U.S. Government. He also has been named as an MIT/Rockefeller "Global Commissioner for Ending Energy Poverty" and has served on three different World Economic Forum Global Future Councils since 2013.

He brings his USAID experience in deploying grants and contracts, as well as his DFC experience in deploying financing, to advance development. Andy will work closely with our US and Canada partners – governments, think tanks, foundations, development finance institutions, and look after our relationships in Silicon Valley.



Name: Vikram Kumar | **Email:** vkumar3@ifc.org

Title and Organization: International Finance Corporation

Bio: Vikram Kumar is the Global Transport Manager at the International Finance Corporation, based in Washington, DC. Under his leadership, the IFC has tripled its investments in the transport sector from \$472 mn in FY22 to \$1.44 bn in FY23.

Prior to this assignment, Vikram was the IFC's New Business Manager, Infrastructure & Natural Resources – Asia Pacific and former Country Manager for Thailand and Myanmar based in Bangkok. IFC's infrastructure program in South and Southeast Asia grew significantly during this time.

While consolidating IFC's presence in key markets like India and Bangladesh, IFC delivered on many first-time innovative projects in small IDA markets like Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Lao PDR and in the Kingdom of Cambodia. Since he took over the Thailand program in July 2018, IFC has pushed forward to engage with Thai financial institutions and corporates to drive the sustainability and inclusion agenda which culminated in IFC being recognized as the most Sustainable Financial Institution in Thailand. The IFC investment program in Thailand exceeded \$1 Bn during his tenure.

Previously, while based in Yangon for 4.5 years, he established IFC's presence in Myanmar as the largest foreign financial investor in Myanmar with a cumulative investment program of approximately \$1.3 bn. Vikram was also a key contributor to advisory work focused on regulatory reform and capacity building that promoted private sector development in Myanmar.

Vikram also worked as Special Advisor for the IFC Vice President, Asia Pacific in Washington, DC for two years. He spent 3 years in Nairobi, Kenya and 2.5 in New Delhi, India focusing primarily on developing upstream infrastructure investments in Africa and South Asia regions respectively.

Prior to joining IFC, Vikram worked in corporate investment banking and in credit risk and portfolio management in India and the UK.

Vikram holds a Bachelor's degree (Gold Medalist) in Civil Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology and a Master's Degree in Management with specialization in Operations and Finance from the Indian Institute of Management.



Name: Vinay Chawla | **Email:** chawlav@state.gov

Title and Organization: Senior Advisor, Partnership for Global Infrastructure Investment at U.S. Department of State

Bio: Vinay Chawla is a seasoned US diplomat with close to twenty years of experience across the Middle East and South Asia. His work focuses on the intersection of foreign and economic policy in global growth markets. With the State Department, he has a proven track record of developing economic growth initiatives in war-torn areas and difficult markets. He successfully negotiated strategic partnerships with both public and private sector stakeholders to advance American interests.

His assignments included Islamabad, Dubai, Baghdad, Amman, and Delhi.

Prior to and after the Foreign Service, Mr. Chawla has worked in private equity, management consulting and microfinance.

Mr. Chawla holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honors from Northwestern University.



Name: Christopher Aidun | **Email:** chris@persistent.energy

Title and Organization: Co-Founder and Partner of Persistent Energy Capital LLC

Bio: Chris Aidun is a co-founder and Partner at Persistent. Chris has over 30 years of experience in venture capital, private equity and finance law. Prior to founding Persistent Energy, he was Managing Director of E+Co, a non-profit clean energy impact investor where he led a financial restructuring that returned significantly more than expected to E+Co creditors. Prior to E+Co, Chris was a senior private equity partner at the international law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. Chris manages corporate structure, legal and tax matters for Persistent and its partner companies. Chris is a US trained lawyer with a JD from New York University School of Law and a BS in Economics from the

University at Albany.



Name: James Leather | **Email:** jleather@adb.org

Title and Organization: Director, ADB Transport Sector Office, Sectors Group

Bio: Mr. Leather leads ADB's Sustainable Transport Initiative, providing support to ADB's transport operations across Asia and the Pacific and acts as the transport focal point for ADB with international organizations. He is also a Committee member of the transport community of practice and urban community of practice within ADB.

James Leather has 30 years of experience in transport, working internationally with development organizations, governments, the private sector, and research institutions. Mr. Leather leads ADB's transport sector operations and oversees the strategic direction of ADB's knowledge, technical and financial support to its developing member countries, private sector clients, and partners. Mr. Leather obtained his Master of Science in transport planning and engineering from the Institute of Transport Studies, Leeds University (UK).



Name: Esteban Diez-Roux | **Email:** esteband@iadb.org

Title and Organization: Operations Senior Advisor, Transport Division at Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

Bio: Esteban Diez Roux is a Operational Senior Advisor in the Transport Division at the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) in Washington DC with over 30 years' experience in the transport sector. He leads multidisciplinary project teams in the promotion, development and execution of transportation projects in Latin America and provides technical and policy advice to IADB member countries. Diez Roux has specialized in the areas of ports and freight logistics, air transport, road safety and transport economics. He presently coordinates all knowledge and research activities of the Transport Division of the IADB. A native of Argentina, He has worked in the public and private sectors in Argentina and

the US. Prior to joining the IDB, he worked as an international transport consultant for a large US consulting firm and as an international commodity trader for a large multinational trading firm. He holds a civil engineering degree with a specialization in transport and completed graduate studies in port engineering in the Universidad de Buenos Aires in Argentina and received a MS and PhD in Transportation Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.



Name: Jean-François Marteau | **Email:** jmarteau@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Practice Manager at the World Bank

Bio: Jean-François Marteau is the Practice Manager and the former Country Manager of the World Bank for Kazakhstan in the Europe and Central Asia Region. Before this assignment, he was the Global Lead for transport infrastructure management and financing in the Transport Practice of the World Bank.

Prior to that position, Mr. Marteau was coordinating all World Bank's activities related to sustainable development in the European Union's member states.

These included advisor services to the European Commission and several EU member states in transport policy, water sector reform, regional development and urban development, as well as investment in all infrastructure and environment sectors. He has also managed numerous large investment programs in Africa, Europe and Central Asia dealing with corridor management, urban transport, as well as road, rail and aviation sectors reforms, and managed the Sub-Saharan Transport Policy Program.



Name: Cristina Albuquerque | **Email:** cristina.albuquerque@wri.org

Title and Organization: Director, Global Electric Mobility, WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Bio: Cristina is Director of Global Electric Mobility for WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities and WRI Brasil. She works to manage and expand WRI's portfolio of work on electrifying public transportation globally.

Previously, Cristina was Senior Urban Mobility Manager for WRI Brasil, working to transform the transport system in Brazil's cities to cleaner and more efficient means. This increases the quality of public service and reduces environmental

impacts.

Cristina provides advice and support to cities designing and implementing low-carbon, high efficient transport solutions and policies, including electrification of the transport sector, transport demand management, new sustainable mobility, among others. Cristina is also one of the WRI representatives in the BRT Center of Excellence.

Cristina holds a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and a Master's degree in Transportation Systems from the same university. She also holds a Project Management Specialization at UFRGS.



Name: Benedict L.J. Eijbergen | **Email:** beijbergen@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Practice Manager at the World Bank

Bio: Mr. Ben Eijbergen is the World Bank's Practice Manager for Transport in East Asia and Pacific and was Practice Manager for Transport in East Africa. Before that Mr. Eijbergen was the World Bank's Program Leader for Economic Integration in India (2014-17) and coordinated the Transport & ICT, Urban Development, Social Development, Energy and PPP programs in India. He was also the Task Team Leader for the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Project series in India. Mr. Eijbergen joined the World Bank in 2000 as Senior Transport Specialist. He was the Transport Program Team leader for Russia and Ukraine and managed projects in road, railways and urban transport sectors. He assumed

position as Infrastructure Sector Coordinator for the World Bank's Philippines country office in 2005 where he coordinated the transport, energy, urban/water programs of the Bank in the Philippines.

Prior to joining the World Bank, he worked for the Government of Netherlands' Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water as Senior Policy Advisor for Infrastructure. Mr. Eijbergen helped shape the restructuring of the Dutch Railways in 1994-1995 and managed transport infrastructure projects in the metropolitan area of Rotterdam and The Hague. In early 1996, Mr. Eijbergen was appointed Transportation Attaché for the Netherlands' Government in Washington DC covering aviation, maritime/intermodalism/ports, telecom and water management.

Mr. Eijbergen has a Master degree in Business Economics/ Corporate Finance from Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands.



Name: Paul Badnar | **Email:**

Title and Organization: Director of Sustainable Finance, Industry, and Diplomacy at the Bezos Earth Fund

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

Prior to joining BlackRock, Paul held a variety of leadership positions in finance, government, and civil society. He was Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Council member at RMI (formerly Rocky Mountain Institute), where he founded the Center for Climate-Aligned Finance. Paul served in the Obama White House as

Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Energy and Climate Change at the National Security Council. Prior to that, Paul served at the State Department as U.S. lead negotiator for climate finance.

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



Name: Felipe Ramirez | **Email:** felipe.ramirez@wri.org

Title and Organization: Urban Mobility Director, WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Bio: Felipe is the Urban Mobility Director for WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, with more than 13 years of experience in structuring, developing and implementing projects in different fields such as infrastructure, public policies, urban planning, transport policies and logistics. Felipe is an urban and transport expert with experience in urban mobility projects, planning infrastructure and managing operations in all transport modes.

Felipe is passionate about working on sustainable, equitable and inclusive cities, obtaining disruptive results such as bringing Bogotá to be the city with the largest 100% electric bus fleet in the world outside China in 2022. He also worked on implementing the city's shared bikes program, the more inclusive in Latam, leading the biggest program for road safety in Bogotá schools. He led the biggest revolution in terms of infrastructure in the city in the last 20 years and led a program for women within the care system to work on the public transport system among others. During the pandemic of Covid-19, he successfully lead the public transport system at the same time the biggest riots in the history of the city occurred, becoming a crisis management expert.

MSc. Regional and Urban Planning Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), MSc. Master's Degree in Engineering: Construction Engineering and Management at Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), BSc. Civil Engineering and BSc. Industrial Engineering at Universidad de los Andes (Colombia).



Name: Christoph Wolff | **Email:** christoph.wolff@smartfreightcentre.org

Title and Organization: CEO of Smart Freight Centre

Bio: Christoph became the CEO of the Smart Freight Centre in Mai 2022. Until the end of 2021, Christoph was a Member of the Executive Committee for the World Economic Forum, heading the Global Mobility platform that includes the Forum's initiatives around sustainability and digitization in the supply chain, automotive, aviation and aerospace industry. Before, he was Managing Director of the European Climate Foundation 2014-18, following 16 years at McKinsey as a Senior Partner heading the global travel, logistics and infrastructure practice. As Board member of DB Schenker, he was responsible for the international growth and operations of the company's rail division. He has been the CEO of companies in the renewable energy sector. A chemical engineer by

training from Universities of Aachen and Zurich, Christoph is on the Board of several energy start-ups and Honorary Professor in Energy and Resource Economics at the University of Cologne and Visiting Professor at the HSG St. Gallen, teaching in Mobility and Sustainability.



Name: Lindsay Fitzgerald | **Email:** lfitzgerald@gevo.com

Title and Organization: Vice President - Government Relations at Gevo

Bio: Lindsay Fitzgerald has served as Vice President of Government Relations at Gevo since May of 2021. Before joining the Company, from 2015 to 2021, Mrs. Fitzgerald operated as Senior Manager then Director of Government Affairs at Renewable Energy Group, a leading provider of biodiesel and renewable biodiesel, where she was responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive regulatory policy strategy at the state, local, federal, and international level.

Previously, from 2013 to 2015, Mrs. Fitzgerald was Director of Regulatory Affairs at the National Biodiesel Board, and from 2007 to 2013, she was part of a consulting then government team responsible for implementation of the Renewable Fuel Standard at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

Since 2007, Mrs. Fitzgerald has fought to ensure the intended application and creation of policy with the goal of growing and advancing the renewable fuel industry. She is a seasoned government affairs professional with a special aptitude for strategy, collaboration, and big-picture, actionable planning and execution.



Name: François Davenne | **Email:** davenne@uic.org

Title and Organization: Director General, International Union of Railways

Bio: Mr. François Davenne graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications d'Evry in 1988 and from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) in 1999. Throughout his career, he has consistently promoted interdisciplinarity as a key factor for success. Having gained experience in international satellite telecommunications, he initially held various roles in the housing sector, making use of his strong financial and legal skills. He was involved in policy and regulation of the sector and managed key operational programmes, most notably for the city of Paris. After three years with the French Ministry of Transport, working on railway safety and regulation, with an emphasis on European regulations, he was elected in 2012 as Secretary General of OTIF, the

Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail. From early 2013 to the end of 2018, he promoted interdisciplinarity and partnership building in order to expand and develop the uniform regulations for international carriage by rail.



Name: Morteza Farajian | **Email:** morteza.farajian@dot.gov

Title and Organization: Executive Director at Build America Bureau of US Department of Transportation

Bio: Dr. Morteza Farajian has served as a senior executive leading the Build America Bureau at USDOT (the Bureau) since April 2019. He is responsible for credit programs and loan guarantees with \$29 billion in the existing portfolio and more than \$22 billion allocated, issued or pending in private activity bonds that support development of large-scale and multimodal transportation infrastructure. The Bureau also promotes innovative project financing solutions and helps state and local governments develop and finance Public-Private Partnership (P3) transactions for transportation facilities.

Prior to this position, Dr. Farajian served as acting Deputy Secretary of Transportation and Director of Public-Private Partnerships (P3) Office in Virginia. Over a period of seven years, he led procurement, financing and contract negotiation of multiple multi-modal transportation projects totaling \$10 billion in value. Under his leadership, the P3 program in Virginia was reformed to promote competition, engage stakeholders and increase accountability. He established the first strategic program to manage a portfolio of P3 contracts post-procurement totaling \$14 billion in project value.

Dr. Farajian is also an entrepreneur who co-founded a crowd-financing platform that provides local and small investors the opportunity to invest in infrastructure projects as equity or subordinate debt. He has proven experience in successfully leading multi-disciplinary teams and diverse expertise in P3 transaction structuring and negotiation, organizational transformation, business development, public policy, stakeholder management and project planning/finance.

He received his Ph.D. and M.Sc. degrees in Project Management from the University of Maryland. He also has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering.



Name: Frannie Leautier | **Email:** frannie.leautier@southbgroup.com

Title and Organization: CEO of SouthBridge Investment

Bio: Frannie leads the investment activities of the firm. She has experience in Asset Management, Development Finance, and Risk Management.

Prior to joining SouthBridge Frannie held senior leadership roles in prestigious international organizations.

She was Chief of Staff to the President and Vice President at the World Bank Group and Senior Vice President at the AfDB. She held various roles at The Trade and Development Bank (TDB) Group, including Vice Chair of the Board, Special Advisor to the President before becoming TDB's first Chief Operating Officer.

She also led the Asset Management business of TDB, including the recent launch of a unique product for trade finance in Africa. Frannie has extensive governance experience holding advisory and governance roles on several boards, including the UN Foundation, Orca Explorations, AZA Finance, and ARC (African Risk Capacity) Ltd.

She is also a member of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Regional Advisory Group for Africa and has previously served as co-Chair for the Global Agenda Councils of the WEF. Other advisory and board roles held include with MIT, OCP Group, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Institute for Security Studies (ISS), King Badouin Foundation US (KBFUS), and Nelson Mandela Institute for Science and Technology (NM-AIST).

She has authored several books and articles and lectured at Sciences Po, MIT, Harvard, and University of Tokyo.



Name: Astrid Manroth | **Email:** amanroth@worldbank.org

Title and Organization: Head, Global Infrastructure Facility

Bio: Astrid brings 25 years of experience in development finance and sustainable investments in the public and private sectors with a focus on infrastructure and climate finance, including through public-private partnerships. During her 11 years at the World Bank (2003-2014), she led the upstream preparation of infrastructure sector strategies, reform dialogues and project pipelines and the downstream financing of complex projects in the energy sector in Africa, Europe and Central Asia (ECA), and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) regions, including based in Cameroon and Ukraine. She also served as Director of Energy Partnerships and Director of Operations at the African Development Bank, based in Abidjan. In the private sector, Astrid held roles as Managing Director for

Sustainable Investments in Europe and Africa at Deutsche Bank Asset Management and as Vice President of Emerging Markets Power at Shell Renewable Energy Services. In addition, she served as Director of Climate Finance at the European Climate Foundation in Brussels.

Astrid has extensive background in interacting with governments, regulators, donors, development partners, project developers, private investors, civil society, philanthropy and academia and in managing teams for high performance. She is a recognized expert in public-private 'blended' partnership finance, having structured and managed several blended finance investment vehicles. Astrid holds an MBA from the WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management in Germany and an MSc in Political Economy of Transition from the London School of Economics in the UK.



Name: Marco Yamaguchi | **Email:** m.yamaguchi@afdb.org

Title and Organization: Manager, Transport and Logistics Division

Bio: Marco is a Transport and Logistics Division manager since 2023, and was a Non-Sovereign Infrastructure Finance Division Manager at the African Development Bank based in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. His main mission was to lead to originate non-sovereign infrastructure projects across the region.

Prior to joining AfDB, Marco spent 20 years in infrastructure/climate finance both at public and private sectors such as Sustainable Energy Finance program development in Latin America and the Caribbean at International Finance Corporation, Green investment project development with Green Climate Fund (GCF) at Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Energy efficiency/Renewable energy financing in Asia at Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (Leasing), Asia Clean-

tech Infrastructure Private Equity fund management at Asuka Asset Management (Beijing), and Infrastructure and Renewable energy project finance at Mitsubishi Corporation.

Marco holds an MBA in entrepreneurial management and international studies with a Latin America focus by The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (Fulbright Scholar) with exchange programs at INSEAD (France) and Fundação Getulio Vargas (Brazil).



Name: Kader Hasanne | **Email:** k.hassane@africa50.com

Title and Organization: , Senior Director, Africa50

Bio: Mr. Hassane joined Africa50 as Senior Investment Director in 2018. he was previously Director of Investments for Greenwish Partners (Denham Capital) for 02 years, leading infrastructure projects in West and Central Africa. Prior to that he worked for six years for the World Bank Global Infrastructure facility as an Infrastructure Finance Specialist and at the African Development Bank as a Principal Investment Officer in the Infrastructure Finance division within the private sector department.

Kader holds a degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and an MBA from George Washington University. He is a citizen

of Niger.



Name: Mahua Acharya | **Email:** mahua.acharya@gmail.com

Title and Organization: CEO, International Energy Transition Platform and Former CEO, CESL, Govt. of India

Bio: Mahua Acharya is the Chief of Staff at C-Quest Capital. She play a crucial role in managing the organization alongside the CEO. She focuses on expanding CQC's engagement in countries worldwide, strengthening relationships with policy and regulatory communities, particularly in the context of carbon markets. With her deep knowledge and extensive network, Mahua is poised to drive CQC's mission of transforming the lives through access to clean energy technologies and sustainable land-use solutions.

Prior to joining C-Quest Capital, Mahua Acharya served as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Convergence Energy Services Limited, a state-owned energy transition company of the Government of India. During her tenure, she spearheaded electric mobility initiatives in India, created and led the world's largest electric bus program, which achieved record prices lower than diesel alternatives making the program massively oversubscribed. Her ground-breaking work in the sector has earned her international recognition and acclaim.

With over two decades of experience, Mahua Acharya has made significant contributions to green finance, renewable energy, and carbon markets across multiple countries. She previously held the position of Assistant Director-General at the Global Green Growth Institute, an intergovernmental agency comprising 29 countries, where she worked on green investment schemes in 16 nations. Additionally, Mahua served as the Managing Director of a \$50 million carbon credit-based impact investment business and established herself as an early pioneer in the carbon market while working at the World Bank in Washington D.C.

In addition to her impressive career accomplishments, Mahua Acharya holds the distinction of being a co-founder faculty member of an executive education program at the prestigious Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. She also serves on the boards of multiple international entities and has been recognized in various listings of women in leadership. In 2021 alone, Mahua received five prestigious awards that highlight her exceptional achievements and contributions to her field. She obtained her Masters' degree from Yale University, further solidifying her expertise in the energy and environmental sectors.



Name: Maruxa Cardama | **Email:** maruxa.cardama@slocatpartnership.org

Title and Organization: Secretary General, SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport

Bio: Driven by socio-economic and environmental justice; Maruxa has worked 20+ years in the design and delivery of wide-impact strategies, public policy solutions and multi-stakeholder partnerships for equitable prosperity, sustainability and climate action. From executive and advisory positions in NGOs, international organisations and civil service, Maruxa has worked with leaders in multilateral organisations, government, civil society, philanthropy and business across multiple countries and contexts.

Before becoming Secretary General of the SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport; Maruxa founded the multi-stakeholder coalition *Communitas*, which pioneered knowledge-based advocacy for the Sustainable Development Goal on Cities. Former roles also include Secretary General of Regions for Sustainable Development, where she facilitated the engagement of sub-national governments in the UN Rio +20 Conference; Senior Policy Specialist in Cities Alliance-UNOPS; as well as in local and regional civil service in the UK and Spain. In 2004-2010, as Deputy Director of the Representation of the South West of England to the EU in Brussels she led the sustainability portfolio for a partnership of regional authorities, academia and the private sector. She started her career at the Representation of the Spanish region of Galicia to the EU and at the EU Committee of the Regions.

Prolific public speaker and analyst, Maruxa served in 2021-2023 as Champion of the Lancet Pathfinder Initiative for Healthy Zero-Carbon Futures. In 2019 she was selected to Chair the 68th UN Civil Society Conference. She has also served as expert in the Future Earth community; the Urban Expert Panel by UCL and Nature Sustainability; the interdisciplinary journal of Nature Research, and the Conference of European Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR).