

Civil Society Programme at the Annual Meeting 2017



Civil Society and Green Cities Roundtable discussion

Wednesday, 10 May, 14.30 – 16.00

CSO Meeting Room 1

Cities are at the heart of transition to sustainable market economies. While successful urbanisation represents an opportunity for climate-resilient, resource-efficient and inclusive development, there are many challenges related to poorly realised urban growth, such as air pollution, congestion, inefficient energy use, pressure on water resources and municipal solid waste generation. The UN Sustainable Development Goals call to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”.

In response to the sustainability challenges and in recognition of the window of opportunity for utilising green cities’ potential, the EBRD has launched in 2016 its Green Cities Programme, which combines strategic planning, technical assistance and donor support with EBRD finance to help cities invest in priority environmental infrastructure projects. Examples of projects include the creation of more efficient public transport systems, better waste and water management, improved district heating supplies, energy efficiency in residential and public buildings.

At the same time, the performance of green city parameters is positively linked to an active civil society in cities. Local civil society organisations, particularly membership-based and service-providing groups, which have the most direct link to the general population, can contribute to successful green city development by linking economic, societal and environmental dimensions, facilitating community-based management systems, and contributing to increased community welfare. The discussion will therefore focus on the role of civil society in promoting green economy practices in urban areas to overcome the challenges of low energy and resource efficiency and climate-change issues. The panel will explore partnerships between municipalities, local businesses and CSOs to foster good governance, participatory urban agenda setting, and stakeholder monitoring of green performance and resource management.

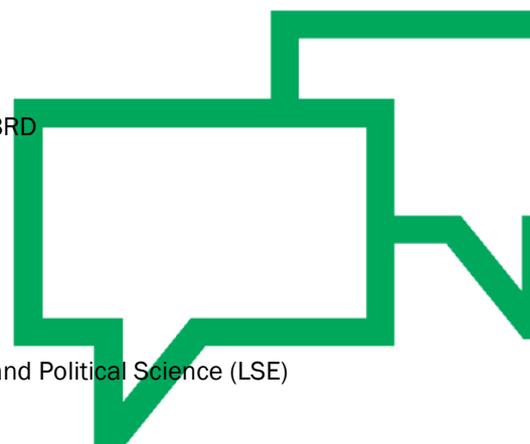
The event will be open to all participants of the Annual Meeting and Business Forum.

Moderator

- ▶ Marianna Wiedenbeck, Associate Manager, Civil Society Engagement, EBRD

Speakers

- ▶ Nigel Jollands, Associate Director, Policy & Climate Finance, EBRD
- ▶ Sorin Ionita, Director, Expert Forum
- ▶ Nicholas Stancioff, Co-founder, Latvian Baltic Energy Efficiency Fund
- ▶ Dimitri Zenghelis, Co-Head Climate Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)



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Nigel Jollands, Associate Director, Policy & Climate Finance, EBRD

Dr Nigel Jollands has worked on sustainable energy and environmental policy for 23 years and joined the EBRD in March 2011, where he works at the interface between policy and finance. This role includes supporting the Bank's Green Economy investment programme through policy dialogue with governments. Nigel was the Head of the Energy Efficiency Unit at the International Energy Agency in the 5 years prior to joining the Bank, where he led the Agency's energy efficiency policy analysis and co-ordinated the Agency's engagement with multi-lateral energy efficiency initiatives. Nigel's previous positions include Principal Ecological

Economist in the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics (NZCEE), Senior Lecturer at Massey University, and senior policy analyst in New Zealand's capital at various Ministries.



Sorin Ioniță, Director, Expert Forum (EFOR)

Sorin Ioniță's main areas of expertise include regional development, administrative reform as well as transport, energy and environmental policies in the European Union under the Lisbon and 2020 Agendas. Besides his role at the Expert Forum (EFOR), a Bucharest based think tank the mission of which is to promote responsible government, transparency in public budgets and a more open and predictable policy process, Sorin is also working as an independent expert for several international organisations. In 2010-15 Sorin was a Romanian representative in the European Economic and Social Committee. Over the

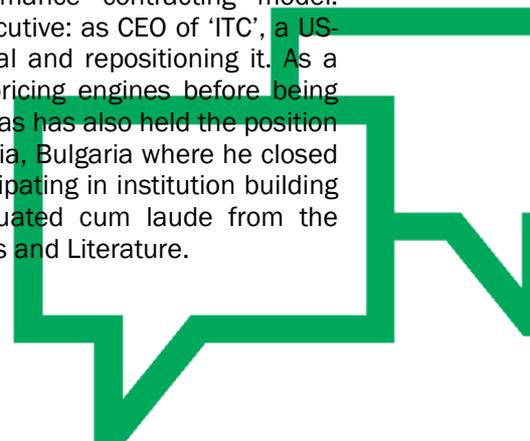
last years he has participated in a number of cross-country research and advocacy programs. Sorin held the position of Associate Lecturer at the National School of Government (SNSPA), Bucharest (1999-2005), and at the Maastricht School of Management (since 2011). He graduated from the Bucharest Polytechnic Institute (IPB); Bucharest University and holds a Master from Central European University (CEU), Budapest.



Nicholas Stancioff, Co-founder, Latvian Baltic Energy Efficiency Fund (LABEFF)

Nicholas Stancioff is Managing Director of 'Funding for Future' (F3), an alternative investment management fund that invests in long-term renovations of multi-family dwellings in the Baltics. He is also Managing Director and Co-founder of F3's first facility: LABEFF in Riga. In 2012 Nicholas created the 'Building and Energy Conservation Bureau' (ESEB) that is advocating for the deep renovation of panel buildings introducing a long term energy performance contracting model. Nicholas has worked as a turn-around executive: as CEO of 'ITC', a US-

based telecom firm with operations in Brazil, raising venture capital and repositioning it. As a physicals and futures commodities trader, he pioneered options pricing engines before being tasked with M&A responsibilities in the US and the Caribbean. Nicholas has also held the position of Principal Banker and Deputy Representative with the EBRD in Sofia, Bulgaria where he closed private sector transactions in the nascent private sector while participating in institution building efforts. Nicholas holds an MBA, University of Virginia; and graduated cum laude from the American University in Washington, DC, concentrating in Mathematics and Literature.



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Dimitri Zenghelis, Co-Head Climate Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Dimitri Zenghelis is Joint-Head Climate Policy at the Grantham Research Institute at the LSE. In 2014 he was Acting Chief Economist for the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. He was recently Senior Economic Advisor to Cisco's long term innovation group and an Associate Fellow at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House. Previously, he headed the Stern Review Team at the Office of Climate Change, London, and was a senior economist on the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change, commissioned by the then Chancellor Gordon Brown. Before working on climate change, Dimitri was Head of Economic Forecasting at HM Treasury. He has provided regular briefings to the Chancellor Gordon Brown and Prime Minister Tony Blair. He has also worked at Oxford Economics, the Institute of International Finance, Washington DC, and Tokai Bank Europe, London.



Marianna Wiedenbeck, Associate Manager, Civil Society Engagement Unit, EBRD

Marianna Wiedenbeck is an Associate Manager at the EBRD's Civil Society Engagement Unit where she coordinates the Bank's institutional engagement with civil society organisations in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, Central Asia, Russia and the Baltic States. Marianna also manages technical cooperation projects aimed at enhancing the capacity of civil society organisations in the areas of sustainable energy and resources and climate change. Before joining the EBRD in her current position in November 2015, Marianna was part of an international programme with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, worked for the International Diplomats' Training of the German Federal Foreign Ministry and gained work experience at the International Labour Organisation in Moscow and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva. Marianna holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva, and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the Freie Universitaet Berlin.

