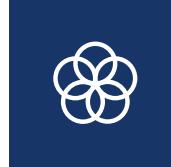




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**28-29 May,
Tbilisi, Georgia**



2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Tbilisi Implementation Conference

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Tbilisi Implementation Conference is organized by the Parliament of Georgia in cooperation with Administration of Government of Georgia and International partners such as GIZ and UN. The aim of the conference is to explore challenges and lessons learnt for the next level of ambitious implementation. This event will serve as a good platform for participants from various countries and stakeholder backgrounds to share their experience in implementing 2030 Agenda and discuss the current state, challenges and advancements related to the implementation process.



Mr. Irakli KOBAKHIDZE

Mr. Irakli Kobakhidze, Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia

Irakli Kobakhidze holds a doctoral degree and a master's degree in law from Düsseldorf University, and a master's degree in law from Tbilisi State University. He is a distinguished constitutionalist and an author of numerous academic papers and manuals in the sphere of constitutional law.

In 2000-2001, Irakli Kobakhidze was a USAID Public Education Project Regional Coordinator. In 2006-2014, he was a UNDP Local Self-Governments and Regional Development Project Expert and Project Manager. In 2011-2012, he was a member of the Open Society Georgia Foundation Human Rights Committee and the Committee of Experts of the Program on Rule of Law. Since 2014, Irakli Kobakhidze is Executive Secretary of the "Georgian Dream" political party.

Since 2005, Irakli Kobakhidze has been teaching at the Tbilisi State University and the Caucasus University, delivering lectures on constitutional law, human rights, law on political parties, municipal law and other legal disciplines at various levels of higher education. Mr. Kobakhidze is a professor at TSU.

"With the overall theme 'Country Experiences of Implementing the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda', the conference serves as a platform for the participants from various countries to discuss current situation, challenges and advancements related to the implementation process of the Sustainable Development Goals. Particularly, the conference focuses on the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide, providing an opportunity for the high-level participants to present their views and national experiences for the strengthening of specific areas of human rights work. We are honoured to host high-level speakers and participants to discuss the linkage between Sustainable Development Goals, democracy, rule of law and human rights. I believe that it is time to reflect on our progress, and embark on building joint successes with more enthusiasm, courage and resolve".



Mr. Martin CHUNGONG

Mr. Martin Chungong made double history in 2014 by becoming the first African and first non-European to be elected as Inter - Parliamentary Union's Secretary General.

He has more than three decades of experience and knowledge of parliaments at national and international levels. He has dedicated his professional life to promoting and building democracy worldwide.

After 14 years working in the Cameroonian Parliament, he spent more than 20 distinguished years within our organization before being elected IPU Secretary General—the eighth person to hold the position. He had previously served as Deputy Secretary General and Director of Programmes.

He has become a leader in his field through his work on developing programmes to help parliaments become more transparent, accountable, representative and effective democratic institutions.

Martin Chungong has further contributed to establishing governance benchmarks to strengthen democracy, as chair of the Management Committee on Accountability of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Governance Network.

He has also built an impressive portfolio in the promotion of dialogue and conflict resolution, issues that remain at the heart of our global work. His focus on helping countries emerge from conflict or in transition has been widely acknowledged by our membership and partners globally.

Since 2012, Martin Chungong has made a push to strengthen parliamentary engagement on sustainable development and accountability through his role as Parliamentary Representative on the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, an international group which helps nations, business and organizations work better together to end poverty.

As part of IPU's commitment to gender parity, Martin Chungong is an International Gender Champion, part of a network of decision makers, male and female, who have committed to breaking down gender barriers.

He is also leading IPU's work to dramatically reduce maternal and child mortality rates through effective legislation and its implementation, as well as ensuring governments' accountability to international commitments in this area.

A linguist by training, Martin Chungong speaks English, French and Spanish. He holds degrees from both the University of Yaoundé and the University of Ottawa. He has been made a Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Plénitude, an honour awarded by what is now known as the International Organisation of La Francophonie to people who have distinguished themselves in the service of its ideals of cooperation and friendship.

"IPU Member Parliaments have committed to taking the necessary action to carry forward the vision of the SDGs. Under the auspices of the IPU, parliaments have pledged to translate the goals into enforceable domestic laws, to hold governments to account and to align budgets with national sustainable development plans. They have highlighted the need for parliaments and decision-making processes to be strengthened so they are fit for purpose in realizing this commitment."

The IPU promotes parliamentary exchanges on the SDGs and supports parliaments through capacity building activities. In cooperation with UNDP it published a SDG self-assessment toolkit that helps parliaments mainstream the SDGs in their work. The 2030 International Conference is evidence of the Georgian Parliament's commitments to the SDGs and an important complement to IPU's efforts. The IPU will continue to count on Georgian Parliament's leadership in this area and looks forward to working together to advance the SDGs."



Ms. Sophie KILADZE



Ms. Sophie Kiladze is a chairperson of Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee of Parliament of Georgia.

Ms. Sophie Kiladze started her career in Georgia in 2011 as a lecturer for Master program LLM zu Köln at Tbilisi State University. She was also giving lectures at Grigol Robakidze University. In 2012 Ms. Kiladze became a Head of International Legal Cooperation Division at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. In 2014 she was appointed as the Deputy Rector of MIA Police Academy. Since 2016 Ms. Sophie Kiladze is a member of Parliament of Georgia and holds a position of Chairperson of the Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee.

Ms. Sophie Kiladze has a prominent experience of working in Germany. After graduating from Ruprecht-Carls University of Heidelberg she continued her occupation at Max-Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. Her work experience includes internships at SAP AG, Global Legal and Law Firm Bau, Becky & Collegen.

“I strongly believe that tight cooperation between state and non-state stakeholders in the process of implementing 2030 Agenda will ensure more effective human rights protection in Georgia and all over the world.”



Mr. Niels SCOTT

Mr. Niels Scott is the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative and UNFPA Representative in Georgia.

Prior to his current assignment, Niels served as Chief of the Humanitarian Coordination Support Section for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and previously as OCHA's Chief of the Disaster and Vulnerability Policy Section. During his time with OCHA, Niels was interim Head of Office in Haiti during the 2010 earthquake response and Head of Office in Côte d'Ivoire during the 2011 internal conflict. Niels also served with the UN Mission in Sudan as Head of their Regional Office for Darfur and as Head of the OCHA Darfur Cell. Niels worked with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies for 15 years as Operations Coordinator; Representative for Haiti; Head of the Regional Delegation for West and Central Africa; Head of Delegation in Georgia; Deputy Head of the Regional Delegation for Central Asia, Relief Coordinator in FYROM and Logistics Officer in Croatia; Niels also served with ICRC as Programme Coordinator in Vukovar.

Niels previously held positions in the non-governmental and private sectors.

"The conference is a great opportunity to prepare the future generations for making the Sustainable Development Goals a reality in Georgia". Niels Scott, UN Resident Coordinator in Georgia.



Prof. Levan IZORIA



Prof. Levan Izoria is a Minister of Defence of Georgia.

Mr. Levan Izoria was born in Georgia on 5 February 1974. Mr. Izoria has been serving as the Minister of Defence of Georgia since August 2016. Mr. Izoria holds a PhD degree in Law from the Georg-August University Göttingen, Germany (with honors). After graduating in 1996 from the Law Faculty of the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (with honors), he completed a Master's Degree at the Law Faculty of the Georg-August University Göttingen, Germany (with honors) between 1998-1999.

Between 2015 and 2016 he has acted as the Deputy Head of State Security Service of Georgia. Previously, between 2012 and 2015 he held a position of a Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia. Mr. Izoria has been a full Professor at the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia since 2014 and was a full Professor at Grigol Robakidze University between 2011 and 2014. Both in 2010 and 2011 Mr. Izoria undertook academic research at Heidelberg Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. He has also held a position of an associated professor at Georgian-American University (2009-2011) and Caucasus Law School (2009-2010). Previous to that he has acted as a Scientist-Researcher at German University of Administrative Sciences - Speyer (Scholarship of Humboldt Foundation) (2007-2009) and as a professor Dean of the Law Faculty at Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (2006-2007).

Between 2004 and 2006, Mr. Izoria held a position of the Rector of the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia and was a Representative of the German Konrad-Adenauer Political Foundation in the South Caucasus (2003-2004).

"In order to fight against injustice and inequality and stop climate change, the implementation of the 2030 schedule is crucial where no one should be left behind.

The issues discussed at the conference require consolidated work and experience sharing to overcome challenges in human rights and environmental protection, as defined by the agenda."



Mr. Kakha KUCHAVA

Mr. Kakha Kuchava is a member of the Parliament of Georgia.

Mr. Kakha Kuchava was elected a chairman of the Environment Protection and Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament in 2016.

Kakha comes with the corporate law background of more than 18 years of experience. His career started as a lawyer at Georgian law firm, and then he became part of Chemonics International (USAID project – Business Climate Reform) as a legal expert in corporate law helping reform Georgian legislation on business sector, securities law and law on the public registry. Later Kakha worked for International Finance Corporation (IFC) as a Corporate Lawyer. Before entering the Parliament Kakha was involved in private sector investment activities (company reorganizations, start-ups and NewCo's).

Kakha is a founder of Georgian Institute of Directors and founder of Georgian Professional Football Players Association.

“Environmental agenda is fundamental for Georgia’s progress in many areas, including economic growth and international relations. The country has undertaken very real environmental commitments under the Association Agreement with the European Union and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Parliament, through its law-making and oversight work, and communication with the citizens, will contribute to the successful fulfilment of these obligations,”



Prof. John THWAITES



Mr. John Thwaites is a Professorial Fellow, Monash University, and Chair of ClimateWorks Australia and the Monash Sustainable Development Institute.

Mr. John Thwaites is the Chair of Melbourne Water and the Peter Cullen Water and Environment Trust. He has previously been Chair of the Australian Building Codes Board, President of the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) and a director of the Australian Green Building Council.

John is a Co-Chair of the Leadership Council of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (“SDSN”) launched by the Secretary General of the United Nations to provide expert advice and support to the development and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2013, John was named as one of the 100 Global Sustainability Leaders by ABC Carbon Express.

John Thwaites was Deputy Premier of Victoria from 1999 until his retirement in 2007 and held a number of Ministerial portfolios including, Health, Planning, Environment Water and Climate Change. Prior to being elected to Parliament he was a barrister and Mayor of South Melbourne.

“I am very excited to be coming from Australia to join you in this important conference on the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals. All countries have committed to the SDGs, but all countries face big challenges in achieving them by 2030. Business as usual will not be sufficient. Universities and research institutes have a key role in providing the new knowledge and solutions that will be required across the SDG challenges. I look forward to sharing the experience of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), which brings together more than 700 universities and knowledge institutions from around the world in support of the SDGs.”



Mr. Alexandre BARAMIDZE

Mr. Alexandre Baramidze is a First Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia

Mr. Aleksandre Baramidze has been holding the Office of the First Deputy Minister of Justice since November 2013. From October 2012 to November 2013 he was a Deputy Minister of Justice.

In the Ministry of Justice he supervises the Administrative Department, Analytical Department, and Departments for Legal Drafting, Public International Law, EU law, and Expertise of International Agreements and State Representation in Domestic Courts. He is also a Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Justice. In most important cases, he represents the Government of Georgia in the European Court of Human Rights.

Under his leadership and direct involvement were prepared the reform packages in substantive and procedural criminal law, anticorruption law, domestic violence law, juvenile justice, labour law, corporate law, anti-discrimination law, alternative dispute resolution, etc. Many of those legislative packages have been adopted by the Parliament and have become law. Some others are in the pipeline.

He assists the Minister of Justice in running the secretariats of a number of inter-agency councils, including the Criminal Law Reform Council, Private Law Reform Council, Anti-Drugs Inter-Agency Council, Anti-Corruption Inter-Agency Council and the Anti-Trafficking Inter-Agency Council.

He is a Substitute Member of the Venice Commission from Georgia.

Before joining public service, he was a bar member and practiced law in both criminal and civil matters. He represented his clients before the European Court of Human Rights, winning a number of cases. He was also a civil society activist, expert in media law, and a certified ABA/ROLI trainer of trial advocacy and criminal procedure. He taught media law in several universi-

ties in Tbilisi. And he is an author of numerous published works in the fields of fundamental rights, criminal procedure, and media law.

He has two academic degrees in Law and Oriental Studies from the Tbilisi State University. He has received in-depth training in American and International Law at the Center for American and International Law in Plano, Texas, and Trial Advocacy in the National Institute of Trial Advocacy in Louisville, Colorado.

He is fluent in Georgian, English and Russian and has a basic knowledge of French.

“Georgia has come a long way in growing from a post-Soviet state into a modern rule-of-law-based democracy. Much of this job was done by making good laws. Good law is one whose impact on political, economic, social, fiscal, environmental and other relevant factors is predictable and which meets the expectations of relevant target groups. It is one which was developed by means of involving those target groups in public consultations. Only such laws may ensure the successful implementation of Agenda 2030. That’s how we understand the phrase ‘anchoring sustainable development in law-making’.”



Ms. Rebecca SCHULTZ



Ms. Rebecca Schultz is a Policy Analyst at the Regulatory Policy Division of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Ms. Rebecca Schultz' work focuses on the measurement of regulatory performance, with a particular emphasis on the institutional setup for regulatory policy and oversight, stakeholder engagement and inclusiveness. She has extensive experience in the area of governance indicators and co-developed the OECD's Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance (iREG). Rebecca has co-authored several OECD flagship publications on public governance, such as the Regulatory Policy Outlook series and Government at a Glance 2017.

“Regulation is one of the key government instruments to promote sustainable development. As outlined in the OECD’s Recommendation on Regulatory Policy and Governance, Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) is a crucial element of regulatory policy. It helps to identify the best solution to address a policy problem, assesses the likely costs and benefits of regulation and who will face them, and points to trade-offs between economic, social and environmental effects of regulatory interventions. RIA facilitates the development of regulations that are grounded in evidence and fit-for-purpose, and increases the accountability of policy decisions. While OECD analysis has shown that challenges remain in the implementation of RIA in OECD countries and beyond, high-level political support coupled with capacity building, quality assurance mechanisms and involvement of stakeholders help ensure that RIA contributes to anchoring sustainable development in law-making.”



Mr. Felix HETT

Mr. Felix Hett is a Director of FES South Caucasus

Felix Hett has been the director of the FES South Caucasus Office since January 2017. He has been with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung since 2009, working first in the Moscow Office, and then - since 2011 - as desk officer for Belarus, Russia and Ukraine in the Berlin Head Office. Felix Hett studied Politics, Business and Economics in Leipzig, Vilnius and Minsk.

“Leaving no one behind is the core imperative not only for achieving sustainable economic growth, but also for the resilience of democracies in the face of global authoritarian trends.”



Ms. Salome GELASHVILI

Ms. Salome Gelashvili is a Deputy Head of the Agricultural Policy Research Center at ISET Policy Institute.

Ms. Salome Gelashvili has extensive experience of working in the field of agricultural economics and policy research. As a project manager and/or lead researcher she has implemented more than 15 research projects as part of ISET team. Mrs. Gelashvili serves as an expert on Agricultural Value Chains, Cost-Benefit Analysis, and Regulatory Impact Assessment. She is an experienced trainer and presenter who worked with various types of stakeholders in all the regions of Georgia.

“For developing countries like Georgia, where economic growth and development are frequently associated with trade-offs, commitment to the principles of Agenda 2030 and SDGs is critically important. While Georgia is dedicated to the implementation of Agenda 2030, limited resources might not allow the country to focus equally on all the goals, particularly in the short-run, but development of a nationalized SDG matrix is a significant step towards acknowledging and addressing the three dimensions of sustainable development.”



Ms. Verena TAYLOR

Ms. Verena Taylor, Director of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, Council of Europe

Ms. Taylor holds a PhD in political science and, after working with civil society organisations in Vienna and London, she joined the Council of Europe in 1989, at a time when the Organisation was rapidly expanding with new member states and new conventions. As the Director of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, she is responsible for the strategic programming, resource mobilisation and 17-office field presence for Council of Europe's development co-operation activities. Verena's previous duties include working in the Private Office of the Secretary General, acting as his Special Envoy to Serbia and Montenegro and heading the Council of Europe Liaison Office with the European Union in Brussels.

"I strongly believe that the Organisation's standards and work on human rights, the rule of law and democracy are as relevant today, for all the 47 member states, as they were when the Council of Europe was founded in 1949. "The 2030 International Conference will offer an opportunity to highlight the Council of Europe contribution to national SDG implementation. I will present some practical examples specifically relating to "the Human Rights Factor": Goal 5 and Goal 16 and also introduce how the Council of Europe is moving towards a human rights approach in its management processes."



Mr. Kakha SHENGELIA



Mr. Kakha Shengelia is President of International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) and President of Caucasus University.

Mr. Kakha Shengelia holds MA degree from Tbilisi State; MBA degree in Management from the University of Hartford (Hartford, USA) and PhD Degree from Georgian Technical University (Georgia) Apart from his administrative responsibilities he teaches courses in Management Concept and History of Georgia. Kakha Shengelia was a Member of Parliament of Georgia, Deputy Chairman of Committee of Education, Science, Sport and Culture and Committee of Foreign Affairs. He has been a Vice-Mayor of Tbilisi in Social Affairs. Dr. Shengelia is awarded the Presidential Order of Excellence by the President of Georgia and the Ring of Honor by the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria. Dr. Shengelia is a Honorable Doctor of Tallinn University of Technology and University of Guadalajara, Mexico. Dr. Shengelia is a Member of Board of Directors of World University Consortium (WUC) and European Public Law Organisation (EPLO). Hi is also a Member of Council of Representatives of European Law and Governance School (ELGS). He is fluent in English, French, Russian and Turkish. He is married and has three children.

“In the changing political and social climate of new millennium it is of utmost importance to discuss the matters of global and national importance and be able to resent and unified and educated front to the challenges of tomorrow. Sustainable development goals and objectives for the 2030 Agenda requires debate and cooperation from both the governmental and scientific perspectives.

As we are entering the new stage of the development in Georgia, the vital and sustainable development are of key importance and have to be communicated and agreed upon, thus I think this conference is of utmost importance and would be honoured to attend it. I would also like to thank Parliament of Georgia and Chairperson of Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee for considering my expertise and participation.”

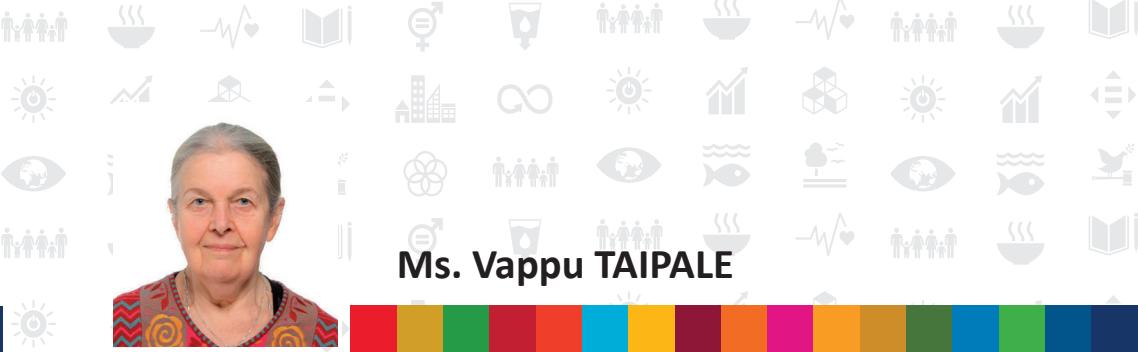


Prof. Dr. Jan ZIEKOW

Prof. Jan Ziekow, born in Berlin (Germany), is the Director (CEO) of the German Research Institute for Public Administration (since 2001). He was also Member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration and is now official observer at this Committee, which has focussed its current work on the Agenda 2030 process.

Prof. Ziekow is Past President and currently Vice-President of the German Section of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences, Head of the Institute for Regulatory Impact Assessment and Evaluation and Member of various parliamentary and Government-Commissions and Committees. As a Consultant for EU Commission, EU Parliament and various German and foreign governments Prof. Ziekow works in the fields of constitutional and administrative law, transformations of the state, modernization of the Public Sector, reform of local and ministerial administration, new forms of governance, sustainable development, better regulation, impact assessment and evaluation, e-Government, citizen participation, civil service and others. He is Editor-in-Chief and member of the editorial board of various journals. Prof. Ziekow has co-organized conferences on SDG issues in Ulaan Baatar (Mongolia) and Brasilia (Brazil), was rapporteur on institutional arrangements for the SDGs in 16th session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration, is author of publications on matters related to the SDGs and with his team responsible for the tools “electronic sustainability assessment” and “youth impact assessment”.

“I think it is important that the 2030 International Conference in Tblisi is addressing comprehensively the complex issues, which individual States and the international community are facing when it comes to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. As different as the conditions in the different states are, the more important is the discourse on the central parameters. I am happy to share my experience gained from my advisory duties for the United Nations and national Governments, as well as the scientific perspective.”



Ms. Vappu TAIPALE

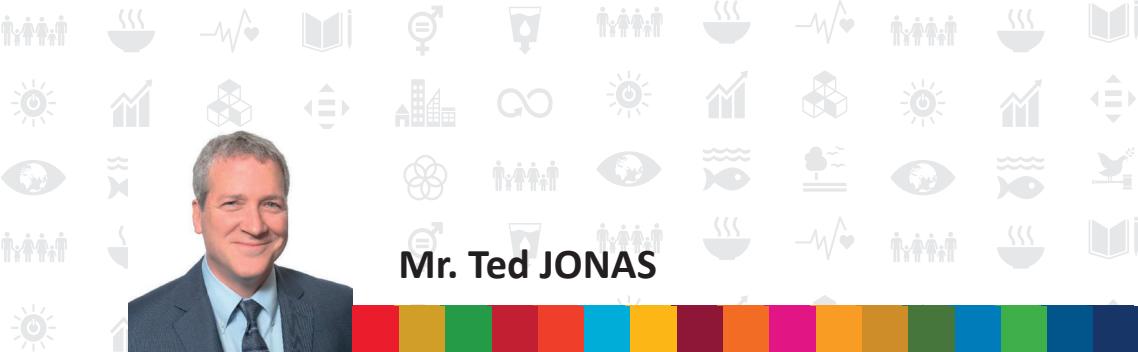


Ms. Vappu Taipale is a Honorary President ISG and Board Member, HelpAge International.

Ms. Vappu Taipale holds a specialty in child and adolescent psychiatry. She served as Finland's minister of health and then minister of social affairs. Dr. Taipale has been director general of Stakes, National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health in Finland and has held chairmanships of academic and technological research bodies nationally and within the European Union. She was a member and chair of the United Nations University Council 1999-2007 .After retirement she is involved in the WHO Collaborating Centre for Mental Health Promotion, Prevention and Policies. She was co-president of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) 2008 – 2012. She is currently Member of the Board of Trustees, HelpAge International 2016 -Vappu Taipale was a founding member of International Society for Gerontechnology and its first president. She is Honorary President of ISG and Grandmaster of Gerontechnology.

The Taipale Family has 4 children and 7 grandchildren

"Leaving no one behind means also older people. Old women and men are many times marginalized in their countries although they/we are a big resource and we produce social capital. When striving for Agenda 2030 old women and men are willing to contribute!"

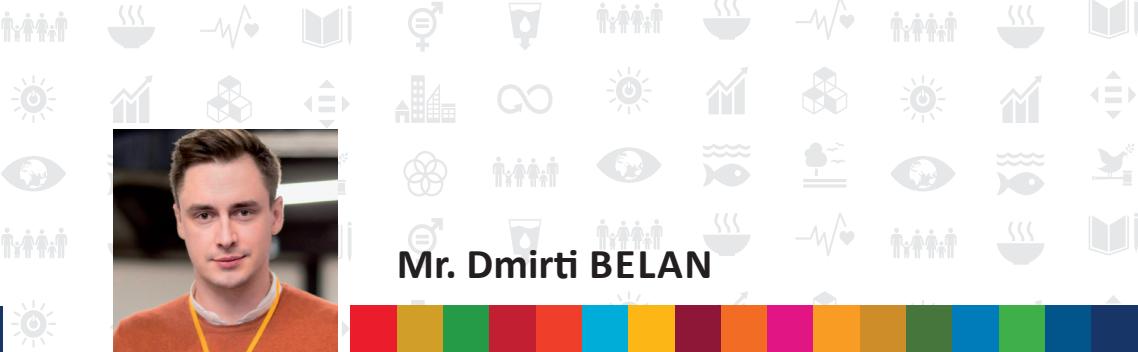


Mr. Ted JONAS

Ted Jonas is a member of the Board of Directors of the Caucasus Nature Fund, an international conservation trust fund that supports the protected areas of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

A US-trained and educated lawyer licensed in Washington DC, he is Senior Counsel with the international law firm Dentons and an independent member of the Supervisory Board of JSC Silknet, a Georgian telecoms provider. Ted first came to Georgia in 1994 with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) to work with the Georgian Parliament on adoption of the 1995 Constitution, as well as the founding of a nationwide citizen election monitoring program and helping to organize the work of the first Parliament seated after adoption of the Constitution. In 1996, Ted was one of the founders of GCG Law Office, from which point he played a significant role in the development of the Georgian legal profession, especially in relation to business law and modern, Western, lawyering practices. He was back in the United States for five years at Baker Botts in Washington, D.C. 2000-2005, working on international business transactions, disputes, and natural resource projects. Ted returned to Georgia as Managing Partner of the Tbilisi office of DLA Piper in 2005 (till 2014). In addition to 25 years of private law practice experience, Ted worked for two members of the U.S. Congress (1985-88), and clerked for a U.S. federal appellate judge (1991-92). Ted received his B.A. degree in History from Cornell University in 1984 and his J.D. with honors from Cornell Law School in 1991. He is a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident of Georgia and lives in Tbilisi with his family.

“Environmental protection is at the core of sustainable development. Human activity is “sustainable” only if it does not exhaust the natural resources – including clean air and water – that we depend on for survival. Therefore economic planning and projects should always take into account environmental impacts -- not just short-term, which is too often how so-called Environmental Impact Assessments are written in Georgia -- but strategically and long term as well.”



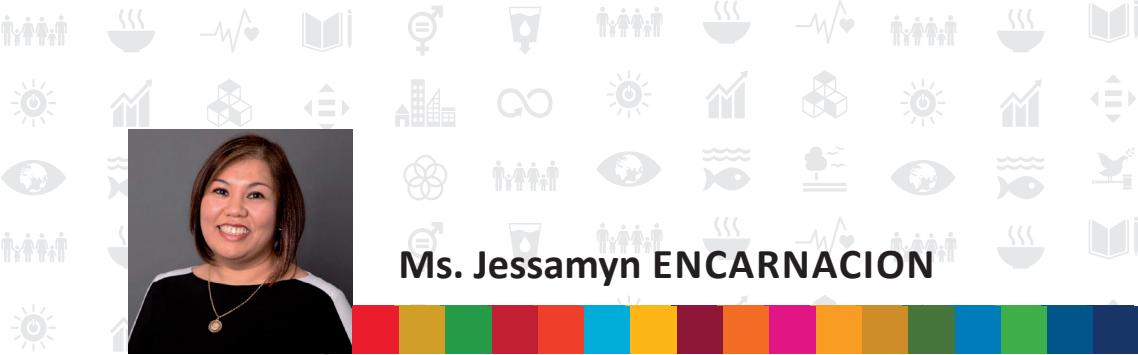
Mr. Dmirti BELAN



Mr. Dmitri Belan works for UNDP Istanbul hub.

Mr. Dmitri Belan is currently supporting UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub on innovation and governance work. Regularly, he works as Research Officer and Service Designer at Moldova Innovation Lab, a common project of UNDP Moldova and State Chancellery of Moldova. Dmitri works on public sector innovation, via applying human-centered design for the reengineering of public services and institutional redesign. He supports the initiatives on the applying behavioral insights for the increase of tax compliance, use of crowdsourcing platforms to inform public policy-making, as well as use of alternative data for better evaluation of public services. Dmitri is promoting systems thinking as an alternative tool for more efficient planning and impact analysis in public sector and development work. Before joining UNDP in 2013, Dmitri worked for Moldova Policy Think-Tank “Institute for Public Policies (IPP)” where he dealt with Transnistrian settlement and development issues. He also conducted several consultancies on development issues in Central Asia. Dmitri holds MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge (UK).

“Ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda creates a new development framework addressing complex development challenges and proposing solutions to a wide range of wicked development problems – from tackling the root causes of poverty to development of accountable and people-centred institutions. SDG Agenda contains a detailed and all-encompassing targets and indicators. For all states, including for Georgia, it is crucial to measure the progress on the SDGs achievement as it can bring more quality data and evidences to decision-making process, making Government policies more efficient, accountable and responsive to genuine expectations of citizens”



Ms. Jessamyn ENCARNACION

Ms. Jessamyn Encarnacion works with UN Women.

Ms. Jessamyn Encarnacion joins us at this conference from UN Women's Policy Division in New York. She currently is the Statistics Specialist who is instrumental in implementing the technical and substantive work of UN Women's global programme on gender statistics, Making Every Woman and Girl Count. Prior to this, she led the data analysis work for the 8th Edition of the UN Women flagship publication "Progress of the World's Women".

For Jessa, counting the uncounted is how she started her career as a government statistician. In the span of 15 plus years with the Philippines National Statistical Coordination Board, Jessa rose from the ranks: from an under-study in the gender statistics sector in 1997 to Director of the Social Statistics Office (think: gender, poverty, MDGs) in 2013 and capped her national portfolio as interim Assistant National Statistician of the Philippine Statistics Authority during its formative period in 2014-15.

Jessa brought her strong grounding in national statistical coordination and technical methods to regional statistical development initiatives: as Regional Advisor on Statistics of the United Nations regional commission for Asia and the Pacific and as lecturer on disparity analysis and data use and communication at the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific.

She holds a bachelor's degree in statistics from the University of the Philippines Los Baños and a masteral degree in Economics from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, Japan.

“The 2030 Agenda is clear: there can be no sustainable development without gender equality. If we achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, gender inequality will be a thing of the past. Gaps in gender data, however, make it difficult to assess and monitor the direction and pace of progress for women and girls. Globally, less than one third of the data needed for monitoring the gender-specific indicators are currently available. The mismatch between data availability and data is a shared concern for rich and poor countries alike. To make women and girls visible, we need a gender data revolution. We need more and better data to monitor progress for women and girls in a meaningful way. Let’s turn promises into action and gender equality into a lived reality for all women and girls. The journey has started. The Agenda is our roadmap. There is no Plan B.”



Ms. Khatuna GOGALADZE

Ms. Khatuna Gogaladze is a Founder of the organization - Georgia's Environmental Outlook (GEO).

Ms. Khatuna Gogaladze is an environmental professional with about 20 year work experience with governmental entities, non-governmental and international organizations. She supports institutions in formulating and implementing environmental policies through providing leadership, policy analysis and recommendations. She has an extensive experience in strategic planning, supporting the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, guiding multidisciplinary teams, managing large scale projects/programmes as well as supporting EU-Georgia approximation process.

Ms. Gogaladze was a Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia in 2012-2014.

She has an academic background in biological sciences as well as Master's Degrees in Environmental Sciences and Policy (Hungary) and Public Administration (USA).

"There is no doubt in the modern world that caring about environment is a must rather than luxury for the sustainability of countries' development. SDGs create a solid foundation for fostering better environmental policies at national level. World's readiness to promote and support the implementation of SDGs, is an opportunity for Georgia to take the right route of development for the sake of people's welfare."



Ms. Nino ZAMBAKHIDZE

Ms. Nino Zambakhidze is the founder of L.T.D. "LBN Line Distribution Company", an official representative of Coffee Vergnano and Tea Ronnefeldt in Georgia.

Having started farming in 2008 she founded L.T.D. "Georgian Business Zone" (Milk Processing Farm, cattle farm, apple orchard and Food Production Farm) in the village Tsnisi, Akhalkalaki Region where she also acts as an Executive Director. In 2010 Nino founded "Regional Development Association" in Akhalkalaki and since then has been leading execution of various rural development projects. She became a prize winner for "Woman Entrepreneur of the Year" at the first annual Business-Award "Mercury 2011" ceremony, and was also the first woman leader becoming an honorary coordinator of the organization "Invest for the Future" from 2012, the organization functioning under the patronage of Hilary Clinton. While actively being an entrepreneur, Nino founded "Georgian Farmers' Association" with her partners in 2012, where she serves as a chairwoman of the organization. She overall manages all donor funded projects for GFA, (EU, USAID, FAO, UNWOMAN, ADA, SDC) she is an active advocate of the farmers' rights and the key driving force for the success of the organization. From 2014, Nino became the founder of Georgian Entrepreneurs' Network supporting both beginners and experienced entrepreneurs in business development. Being a proactive person by nature, Nino is a member of almost all key governmental or non-governmental boards and committees active in agriculture and not only. Since 2013 she's also been an advisor in agro-directions at the State Partnership Fund. Nino is an MBA with Distinction in Global Management (GGSB) & International Executive MBA (CSB) at Grenoble Graduate School of Business (France) and Caucasus School of Business (CSB). From 2017 Nino is YGL (Young Global Leader) nominated and selected by World Economic forum.

"With its aspiration to comply and develop, Georgia joined other countries around the world in approving 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Multi-stakeholder cooperation at the international level to support the immediate implementation of SDGs is crucial in achieving positive results and this conference to me is a proof of how seriously this issue is taken by Georgia"



Ms. Ana KHURTSIDZE

Ms. Ana Khurtsidze is the Dean of Law School of University of Georgia since 2013.

Ms. Ana Khurtsidze has been a practicing lawyer in both public and private sectors since 2003. From 2005, she has been working in high education sector and has taught at universities in various positions. She has been and still is involved in legal and judicial reforms of civil and commercial law and delivers trainings with 12 years of experience.

Since 2008 she is a legal consultant of the Georgian Employer Association and engaged in the GEA projects and programs implementation at various stages. Ms. Khurtsidze coach student teams for internal and international moot courts and commercial mediation competitions. Her field of research is development of commercial law and mediation in Georgia. Since 2018 she is the member of Ethics Committee of the Georgian Bar Association.

Ms. Khurtsidze is currently actively involved in development and promotion of regulatory impact assessment module in university. She is the member of the team, that (with the contribution of GIZ) works for establishing the academic platform. The platform will bring professionals together to work on regulatory impact assessment and promote implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Mr. Giorgi KLDIASHVILI

Mr. Giorgi Kldiashvili is a founding member and Executive Director of the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI).

Mr. Giorgi Kldiashvili has over nine years of experience working on openness and transparency issues in Georgia and internationally. He has been carrying out projects, studies, assessments and trainings for different international organizations and foundations. Giorgi Kldiashvili is an author of a number of publications related to access to information, anticorruption policy and good governance, accountability and transparency, e-Governance and e-Democracy, open data, civil service and public administration, media and internet.

In addition to his work in applied policy research with IDFI, as a historian by specialty, he has academic credentials as a researcher, undertaking studies in American and Soviet Studies. He is professional archive researcher, working in the history archives of Georgia and abroad for more than a decade. Giorgi holds graduate degrees in Contemporary History and worked as a professor of American Studies at the Institute of American Studies at Tbilisi State University.

Giorgi Kldiashvili is a CSO Steering Committee Member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP). He is fluent in Russian and English languages.

“Since 2016 the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) is supporting the Administration of Government of Georgia in nationalization and implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Georgia. The support from IDFI is with financial assistance from United Nations Development Program (UNDP) – Governance Reform Fund (GRF) through SIDA – Swedish International Development Agency.

There are numerous possibilities for multi-stakeholder cooperation in SDGs – both nationally and internationally. Nationally, the coordination mechanism for Sustainable Development Goals is already established and functioning: SDG Council is established in the Administration of Government of Georgia (AoG) with its four Working Groups (on Social Inclusion, Economic Development, Sustainable Energy and Environment, Democratic Governance). Integration of SDGs into Policy Documents is also underway, along with improving nationalized indicators and nationalizing new Global targets.”



Dr. Gerald Reisinger is a President of Upper Austrian University of Applied Sciences.

Dr. Gerald Reisinger has the title of honorary Professor conferred by the Kharkiv National University of Economics and title of honorary Doctor conferred by the Caucasus University. He is the member of IAUP. From 1998 till 2004 Dr. Reisinger was a partner and a member of supervisory board at Consulting Company "Neumann International AG". Previously he was Chief Executive Officer of Orlando Holding , business manager at H. Neumann Management Beratung. Dr. Gerald Reisinger served as a Head of Studies and a regular officer at Ministry of National Defence from 1977 to 1987yy.

Dr. Reisinger studied in military academy from 1977 to 1980. In 1986 Dr. Reisinger graduated from JK Universität Linz where he obtained law degree.

"International partnerships and cooperation are the foundation in order to reach the goals of Agenda 2030. Especially higher education institutions have the responsibility to establish networks and increase cross-cultural understanding. This conference is a great opportunity to discuss the challenges of tomorrow and strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation."



Ms. Maia GUNTSADZE

Ms. Maia Guntsadze is Deputy Director of National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat)

Ms. Maia Guntsadze is the Deputy Executive Director of National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT). Prior, Ms. Maia was project manager at Millennium Challenge Georgia Fund (MCG) and was leading Impact Evaluation Project. Earlier, she was leading Taxpayers Service Department at Tbilisi Tax Inspectorate of Revenue Service of Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

She holds PHD in Economics and Business Administration and MA degree in Public Administration from Georgian Technical University. Ms. Maia passed an online learning initiative of University of Oxford, in Economics & Finances and holds verified certificate.

Along with Her progressing leadership career and practical experience of managing different teams in different sectors (public, private, international) last years she dedicated to a thorough research on Public Administration and Management strategies. Ms. Maia is Assistant Professor and teaches courses in Management, Finances and Economics in Tbilisi Open University.

“National Statistical System has been given a hugely important yet challenging role in supporting the data needs of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, those challenges coming from SDGs are providing grasping opportunity to accelerate development of statistics. No country can report on 100% of the indicators, not even the most developed ones. Thus, the value of official statistics for decision-makers and users has been increased dramatically. For NSS it’s an opportunity to bring all stakeholders, producers and users together and without anyone left behind.”

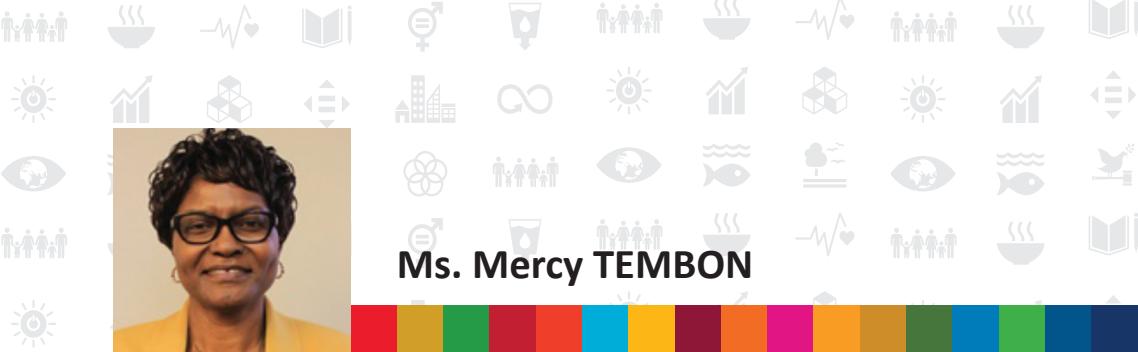


Mr. Nikolaus SCHERAK

Mr. Nikolaus Scherak is Member of the Austrian Parliament and a Chairperson of the Human Rights Committee.

Dr. Nikolaus Scherak received his Doctorate in Law from the University of Vienna and holds a MA in Human Rights from Danube University Krems. He is a Member of the Austrian Parliament, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Faction “NEOS” and Chairman of the Human Rights Committee. The main focus of his political work is human rights, civil liberty and generational equity. Since 2018 Dr. Nikolaus Scherak is Chairman of the Bilateral Parliamentary Group Austria-Georgia.

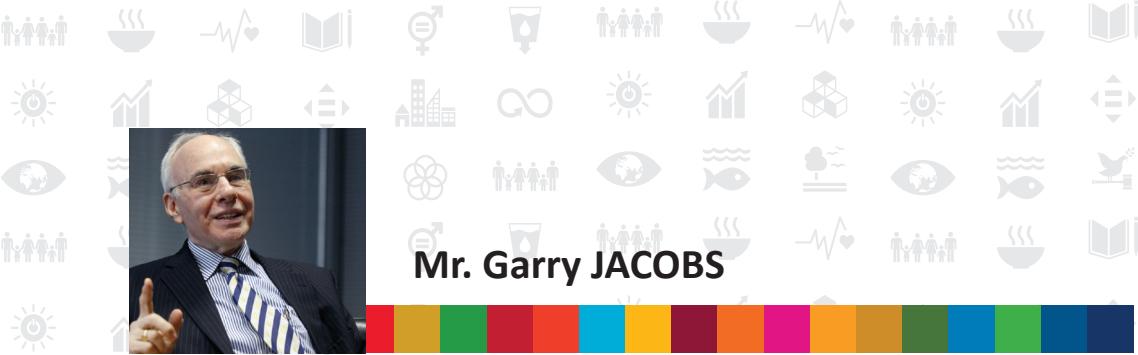
“The 2030 International Conference provides an ideal platform for international partnerships and dialog, which are needed to unleash the transformative potential of the 2030 Agenda. 2018 also marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; this offers an excellent opportunity to closely examine the interdependence of sustainable development and human rights. For the first time, the 2030 Agenda effectively links these two fields and puts a strong focus on combating discrimination and inequality.”



Ms. Mercy TEMBON

Dr. Mercy Tembon is the World Bank Regional Director for the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia) since October 2015.

She is responsible for leading the dialogue on economic reforms, developing the World Bank's Country strategies, managing the portfolio of projects and technical assistance, coordinating with development partners and engaging with other key stakeholders on economic growth and poverty reduction in the South Caucasus. Dr. Tembon joined the World Bank in 2000 as an Education Specialist, and has a track record in promoting economic growth and social development in several countries, including fragile and conflict afflicted states. Prior to her current position, she served as World Bank Country Manager for Burundi and for Burkina Faso. She has published widely on education, gender and economic growth issues. Dr Tembon holds a Ph. D in the Economics of Education from the University of London, a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) and an Executive Education Certificate from Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.



Mr. Garry JACOBS

Mr. Garry Jacobs is CEO of World Academy of Art and Science.

Mr. Garry Jacobs is an American-born inter-national consultant on management and eco-nomic development. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of Executive Committee of the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS), and former Chairman of the Board. He heads the Academy's initiative to evolve comprehensive innovative, socially-viable, strategies for effective coordinated implementation of Agenda 2030, formulation of human-centered economic theory and policies, a new paradigm for student-centered education, and full employment.

Jacobs is also Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer of World University Consortium (WUC); Managing Editor of Cadmus Journal; Vice-President of The Mother's Service Society (MSS), a social science research institute in India; Full Member of the Club of Rome; and Distinguished Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Person-Centered Approach Institute, Italy. In 1989 he founded the International Commission on Peace and Food, served for five years as its Member-Secretary, coordinated the research team that evolved a strategy to generate 100 million new jobs in India, and authored the Commission's report to the UN entitled Uncommon Opportunities: Agenda for Peace and Equitable Development.

He is also a management consultant and partner since 1987 in Mira International, USA, providing guidance to small, medium and multinational corporations in the USA, Europe and Asia on growth strategies aligned to meet human needs and social accelerate evolution.

Jacobs is co-author of two business books on the process of corporate growth. He has also authored a book on Indian development, a novel on spirituality and business and hundreds of articles on economic, education, business and global affairs.

“Implementation of Agenda 2030 is the most comprehensive global initiative every undertaken to accelerate peace, prosperity and human development on a global scale. Achieving a global consensus on the 17 SDGs and their implementation targets is a remarkable achievement, but it is only the first step in a very challenging endeavor. This international conference marks a very important initiative to move from goal-setting to strategies, policies and practical implementation. It addresses issues essential to promote social initiative, national policy formulation and global coordination. By organizing this conference Georgia places itself among countries taking a leadership role on Agenda 2030.”



Mr. Solomon PAVLIASHVILI

Mr. Solomon Pavliashvili is the Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.

Mr. Solomon Pavliashvili has a prominent educational background as he obtained bachelors, masters and PhD degrees after having graduated from five different universities.

His professional career started in Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University as a Faculty assistant. Since 1986 till now he is a Professor at Georgian Technical University. Mr. Pavliashvili has experience of working as a Deputy General Director of the United State Fund of Social Insurance of Georgia. From 1999 till 2001 he was a Member of the Parliament of Georgia and First Deputy Head of the Budget Committee. In 2001 Mr. Pavliashvili was appointed as a Minister of State Property Management of Georgia. Afterwards he became a Deputy Minister of Economy, Industry and Trade of Georgia. His occupation in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia started in 2016 as a Chief Adviser. From 2016 till 2017 Mr. Pavliashvili had the position of the First Deputy Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia. Later he became a Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia. In December 2017 Mr. Pavliashvili was appointed as a Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.

“Sustainable environmental development as an integral part of SDG, contributes to economic growth and supports to maintain, develop and manage natural resources and provide environmental services to all. One of the top priorities of our government is to restore the balance between growth and social justice, seek equilibrium between supporting economic development and protecting our environment, restoring security while ensuring the state acts in frames of law.”



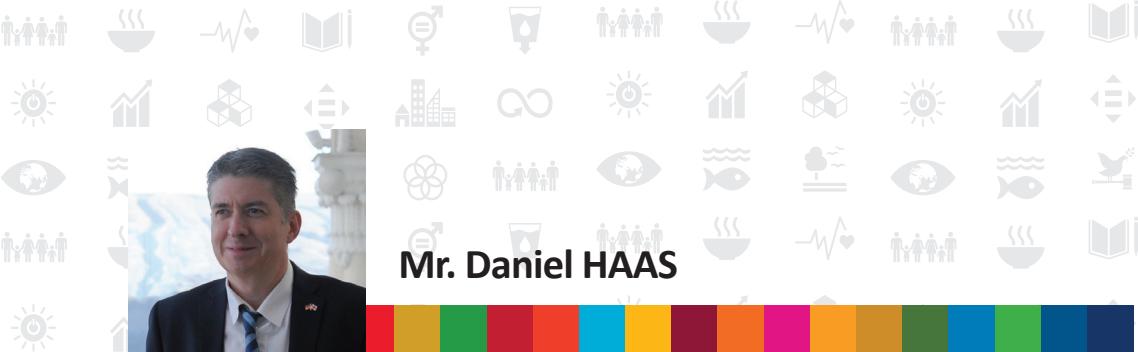
Ms. Munkhtuya (Tuya) ALTANGEREL

Ms. Munkhtuya Altangerel is Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP Georgia since April 2018.

Ms. Altangerel served as Deputy Resident Representative for Programmes and Operations of UNDP Kazakhstan during 2014-2018. She is a seasoned international development practitioner with more than fifteen years of experience and has a wide range of multi-disciplinary expertise. She has managed complex development initiatives in various country settings, and has published policy research papers and reports on economic resilience, local development, scaling up development successes, and the Millennium Development Goals implementation. During 2007-2014, Ms. Altangerel served as a policy advisor/specialist on MDGs, local and urban development, and poverty reduction at the Bureau of Development Policy at UNDP HQ, covering mainly Eastern European and Central Asian countries. During 2004-2007, Tuya served as the Assistant Resident Representative at UNDP in Kyrgyzstan, and as a team leader at UNDP Tajikistan.

Prior to joining UNDP, she managed policy research and advocacy projects at the World Bank and CIVICUS-World Alliance for Citizen Participation, and worked as a consultant on social and economic assessments at the consulting company, Environmental Resources Management. Tuya's specialization is in sustainable livelihoods and environmental and social impact analyses. Tuya obtained her Master of Science in International Development Management from the London School of Economics, and a BA in International Relations and Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. Tuya is a national of Mongolia.

“Georgia has a great start on the sustainable development agenda as one of the first countries that have nationalized the SDGs and included the Global Goals in the national development strategies. As the country moves forward on the sustainable development path, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will remain committed to support national efforts in all key areas, particularly in advancing open, transparent and climate-savvy governance, addressing economic and social inequalities, and promoting sustainable growth that leaves no one behind.”



Mr. Daniel HAAS

Mr. Daniel Haas is the Head of Development Cooperation Section at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Georgia.

Mr. Daniel Haas holds a master's degree in political science from Free University in Berlin and is a graduate from the German Development Institute's Post Graduate Program on Development Cooperation. Since 1999 he held different positions in the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). As a former Deputy Head of BMZ's Division for Environment and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources he was responsible for Germany's forest-related Development Cooperation on a global scale with a special focus on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). For some years Daniel served as the Head of Development Cooperation in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and was involved in activities with the Mekong River Commission.

“Mutual exchange and peer learning on experiences regarding the 2030 Agenda are the key to aligning policies and strengthening capacities. Therefore, Germany supports 18 countries and 3 regional organizations which are early movers in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through the ‘2030 Implementation Initiative’. Georgia is among these front-running countries with an important role in the South Caucasus. We look forward to joining efforts and successfully mobilizing stakeholders for an ambitious implementation.”

