

Speaker bios

FutureBoards Cross Border Dialogue - Women on boards and in top management teams
EXPO2020 Dubai – Women’s Pavilion 10 March 2022



H. E. Ambassador Sten Arne Rosnes, The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Abu Dhabi

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H.E. Shamsa Saleh, Secretary General UAE Gender Balance Council

H.E. Shamsa Saleh began her career with Dubai Women Establishment (DWE) in 2008, rising to the position of Director of Strategic Development & Corporate Development, followed by Chief Executive Officer in 2011.

HE is also Secretary-General of the UAE Gender Balance Council, which was established to support the UAE’s vision of becoming a regional and international leader in gender equality. Under her leadership, DWE has grown from strength-to-strength, launching several key projects and initiatives which support the Establishment's mission to enhance the crucial role of UAE women as contributors to their society.

These include Global Women’s Forum Dubai, the first Women’s Forum for the Economy & Society event to be held in the MENA region, the Arab Women Leadership Forum, Women in Boards Initiative, Women Leadership Exchange Program, Emirates Leaders Gathering and the National Child Care Centers Project, amongst many more.

Prior to joining DWE, HE Shamsa Saleh served as Head of Corporate Planning & Projects Management – Vice President Corporate Strategy at Dubai International Financial Exchange (DIFX) from 2006 to 2008. HE also worked as Strategy and Special Project Senior Analyst, as well as Acting Manager in the strategy department at TECOM, from 2002 to 2006

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Turid Elisabeth Solvang
Founder and CEO FutureBoards

Turid Elisabeth Solvang is an international corporate governance expert, working with investors, board directors and top managers, as well as academics, politicians and regulators in the Nordics, in Europe, Middle East and North Africa and in the South-East Asia region. Ms Solvang is founder and CEO of [FutureBoards AS](#), a project-driven company and a global network of corporate governance experts and practitioners.

Ms. Solvang co-founded the Norwegian Institute of Directors (www.styreinstitutt.no) in 2009, and she headed the organisation until October 2016. She has also held the position as chair of the European Confederation of Directors’ Associations (www.ecoda.org), which represents 55,000 board directors from 20 European countries. As Chair, she represented ecoDa on the board of the Global Network of Director Institutes (www.gndi.org).

Ms. Solvang co-founded and is currently a member of the Advisory Board of European Women on Boards (www.europeanwomenonboards.eu), where she served as vice co-chair until April 2017. In 2021 she initiated and co-founded [Women in Finance Charter](#) in Norway.

Ms Solvang is a seasoned international speaker and writer on corporate governance topics, including women on boards.

The event is supported by:



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Fianna Jurdant, Senior Advisor,
Global Relations, MEA, OECD

Fianna Jurdant is a Senior Advisor in the OECD Global Relations Secretariat focused on the Middle East and Africa. In this role, she provides strategic guidance on policy reforms and capacity-building projects as well as promotes the dissemination of the Organisation's standards and analytical work in the region, increasing its impact and relevance.

Prior, Ms. Jurdant was a Senior Policy Analyst in the OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, advocating sound corporate governance policies and practices globally. Over the course of 20 years, she developed coalitions for reform and policy advice to support implementation of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance in the Middle East and Africa as well as Asia. Ms. Jurdant also steered OECD's work on gender balance on corporate boards.

Ms. Jurdant holds an MA from Boston University in International Relations with a focus on law and economics. She is an American and French citizen, married and a mother to two teen sons.

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Marie-Estelle Rey, Senior Policy Analyst in the Corporate Governance Division, OECD

Marie-Estelle Rey is Senior Policy Analyst in the Corporate Governance Division (Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs) in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

She joined the OECD in 1999 and has been Senior Counsellor for the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) OECD Competitiveness Programme where she coordinated research and policy dialogue on inclusive economic development, investment, trade and regional integration policies. She has also been Senior Policy Analyst in the OECD Investment Division.

Previously, she has been working for 10 years in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva as project officer on entrepreneurship development and then as a legal expert on investment.

She holds a PhD in public law on WTO from the University René Descartes (Paris V) France and graduated in international relations and development law

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Samia El Kadiri, Advisor & Head of research, Hawkamah institute for Corporate Governance

Samia El Kadiri is CG Advisor and Head of research at Hawkamah, working closely with clients in assessment and development, advisory and succession planning across multiple industries. She has conducted and published research reports, surveys and white papers on a variety of topics of importance locally and globally - to identify policy issues and recommend leading practices.

In parallel with her role at Hawkamah she is a lead auditor with Anti-Bribery and AntiCorruption (ABAC) Center of excellence.

She is a Certified Train the Trainer - Institute of Leadership and Management (UK) and IRCA (The International Register of Certificated Auditors) Lead Auditor ISO 9001:2015 QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM and ISO 37001:2016 ANTI-BRIBERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

Samia, has successfully proven positive impact and lead business transformation.. Her prime objective is to help companies to develop sound and globally recognized corporate governance frameworks and support sustainable development.



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Alexandra Morris, Investment Director Skagen Funds, Chair Women in Finance Charter Norway

Alexandra Morris has been Investment Director at SKAGEN Funds since September 2016 and leads a 22-person strong investment team. Within this role, she has ultimate responsibility for all SKAGEN’s fund teams’ investment decisions and results.

Alexandra has over 20 years’ experience within the investment industry from all sides of the investment table – as portfolio manager, broker, investor relations director as well as investment director. Alexandra previously worked at DNB Asset Management where she was the CIO. From 2004-2015, she was senior portfolio manager of two of Odin’s European mutual funds.

She has served on several boards, including Nordic Nanovector, a listed biotech company and as chairman of the nomination committee of Kongsberg Gruppen, a large defence company.

Alexandra is chair of Women in Front Finance (Kvinner i Front Finans) as well as initiator, co-founder and chair of Women in Finance Charter Norway.

Alexandra is a Certified Financial Analyst and has a business degree from the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland. She also attended Nycomed’s International Management School.



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Siri Sundal Shield, Senior Ship Broker at Odfjell Tankers, and WISTA Norway President

Siri Sundal Shield, Senior Ship Broker at Odfjell Tankers, was elected WISTA Norway President in February 2021. Siri holds an MSc in International Transport from Cardiff Business School, and she has spent close to 20 years in commercial roles within the shipping industry.

She has extensive broking and business development experience from ship broking majors Clarksons, Howe Robinson and Simpson Spence Young, both in London and in Bergen.

Siri is an active member of the shipping community and also serves as Treasurer to the board of the Bergen Shipbroker Association. Siri takes a keen interest in current affairs and the interface between national and organisational cultures.

She would like to hear Diversity mentioned by shipping leaders as often as Decarbonisation and Digitalisation “because we need the brightest minds from across the population – how else is the maritime sector to face and represent the future?”

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Kjetil Urheim, General Manager
Jotun U.A.E. Ltd (L.L.C.)

Kjetil Urheim, is General Manager of Jotun UAE (Paints) since January 2021, and has worked in Jotun for over 20 years.

He holds a Master of International Business from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (NHH). He has fathered two girls, now grown up women.

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Marwan Mubarak, Mubarak Marine, President YoungShip UAE (TBC)

Marwan Mubarak, Marwan Mubarak, is responsible for Chartering and Business Development at Mubarak Marine Group, which includes Dubai Shipbuilding and are one of the oldest leading providers of marine and offshore services throughout the Middle East. Marwan comes from a family with a tradition in maritime, joining the business from a very young age and playing a vital role in its evolution.

With an academic background in Business Management and a Master of Laws, Marwan has extensive knowledge in a diverse range of maritime operations, with a particular focus on business development strategies, chartering, salvage and shipbuilding.

Furthermore, Marwan is also the President of YoungShip UAE, a non-profit organisation which is part of wider international network, devoted to empowering, mentoring and training young maritime professionals and students. Passionate about the maritime sector and in particular youth empowerment initiatives, as President of YoungShip UAE, Marwan is active in reshaping the maritime industry, making it more attractive to youth within the region and beyond.

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Tom Kleppesto, Management
Consultant, Associate
FutureBoards

Tom Kleppesto is a management consultant, working with several prestigious programmes, such as women in boards, women in finance as well as with attracting young talents to the maritime industry. He also developed a top executive programme, Marex for the maritime industry.

Through his consultancy firm Tom also holds the part-time positions as General Manager for Shipping & Offshore Network since 2008, Secretary to the Board of Oslo Shipowners' Association since 2010, and General Manager of Ocean Industry Forum Oslofjord since 2018. In 2018 these three associations formed the Maritime Oslofjord Alliance with Tom as General Manager.

Tom holds an MSc in Economics and Business Administration from the Norwegian School of Economics (NHH).



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Sabinije von Gaffke, Speaker,
Entrepreneur and Impact Diplomat

Sabinije von Gaffke is born in Sweden and raised in London. With several years of living abroad she lends her international perspective and presence to any arena. She has interviewed everyone from game changers, top politicians, CEOs, tech profiles, artists, spiritual leaders, successful entrepreneurs to philanthropists.

Combining her strong commitment to her subject with a passion for communication, storytelling, rhetoric and the art of facilitating dynamic dialogues on stage and in front of the camera, together with a natural curiosity for a range of subject areas, Sabinije has established an impressive career in the Nordics as well as internationally.

Founder of IMPACTFULNESS Ventures, a global and collaborative platform designated for purpose driven content and storytelling. Her global talk show ‘It’s Time’ is a fruition of this, creating impact through storytelling.

Passionate advocate and strategic advisor on social impact & sustainability driven ideas and actions contributing to making the world a better, healthier and more sustainable place.



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