



KPMG at COP29

Accelerating the transformation

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Delegate biographies



Abhishek Kumar

Carbon Pricing and Power Regulation Professional Partner, KPMG in Malaysia

Abhishek is a seasoned policy advisor with extensive experience in carbon pricing and energy transition strategies. He is involved with policy makers on the development of the national arrangements, national MAC curve, identification of the carbon price — tax and ETS — options, socio-economic impacts assessment and capacity building.

He leads KPMG in Malaysia's services on optimal tariff design and pathways for achieving a Just Transition, supporting regulatory decision-making and encouraging renewable energy adoption.

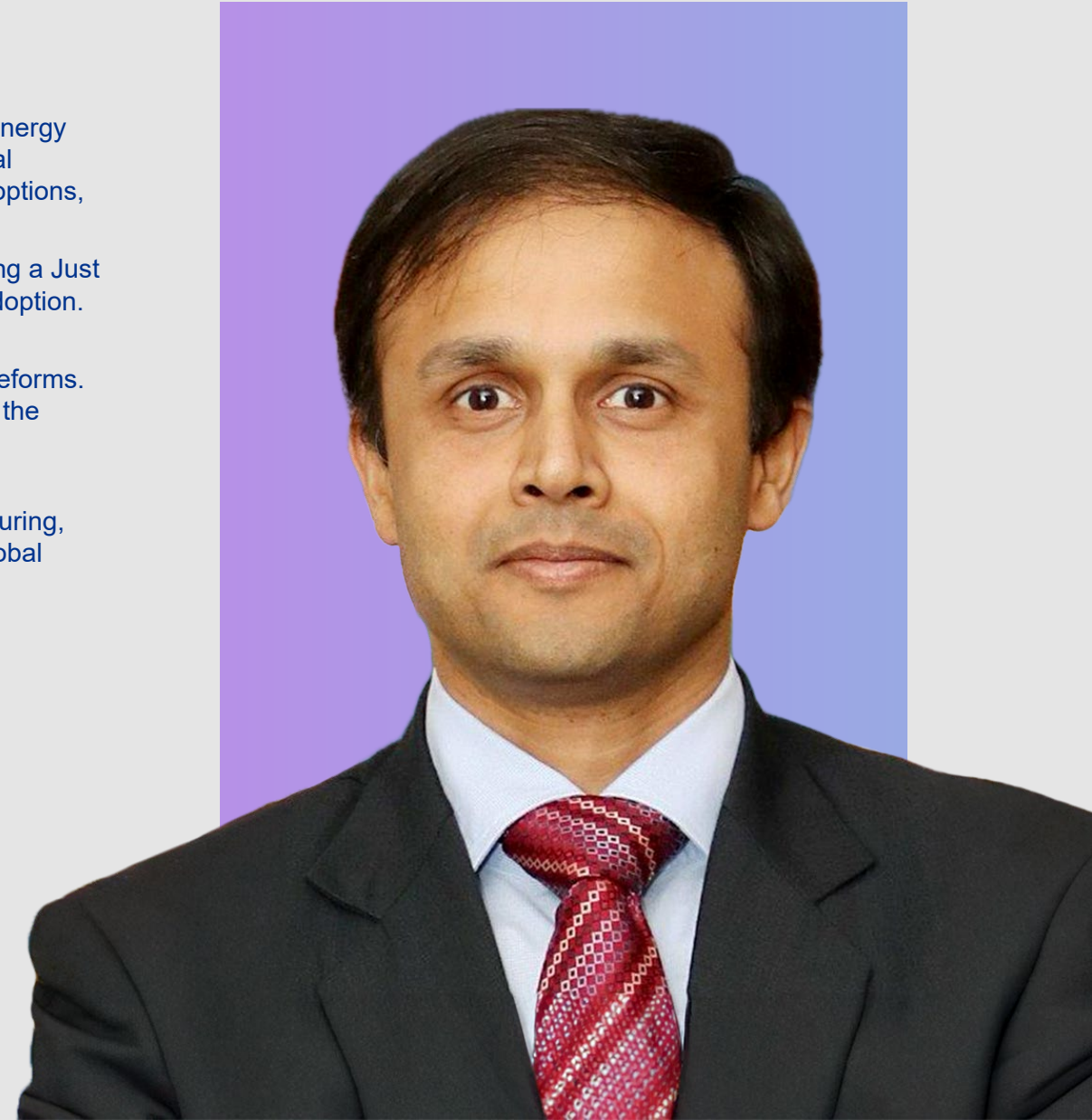
With nearly two decades of experience, Abhishek specializes in economic regulation, decarbonization, and strategizing for affordable and efficient public services and power reforms. His client base spans across Malaysia, Thailand, the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, the USA, and India.

He has led engagements in public transport decarbonization, carbon pricing, emission assessment, and energy sector transformations, covering economic regulations, restructuring, institutional capacity building, and smart grid implementation. His work aligns with the global imperative for sustainable and equitable energy systems.

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Adrian King

Partner in Charge, ESG Advisory & Assurance Services, KPMG Australia

Adrian is the Partner in Charge of KPMG's ESG Advisory & Assurance Services team in Australia. Adrian also led KPMG's global capability and thinking in ESG, Climate Change and Sustainability services from 2014 to 2021. Adrian has more than 30 years of experience working with public and private companies globally providing financial and non-financial advisory, reporting and assurance services. He has also held a number of senior internal roles, led several different practices and undertaken numerous lead partner roles.

Adrian advises clients on sustainability strategies, ESG risk methodologies, environmental risk assessments, preparedness to report, materiality assessments, gap analyses, supplier screening, climate resilience planning, developed Social Return on Investment (SROI) solutions, impact measurement, valuations of social and environmental capital, and developed future corporate reporting and communications strategies and KPI measurement.

He has driven client service teams to deliver business solutions to his clients. Adrian believes that building a more sustainable global economy is critical to everyone's future. He is passionate about the role of business in creating that future and in addressing the big issues of climate change, human rights and our unsustainable and inefficient demand for new resources. He believes that KPMG professionals can play an important part in building a sustainable future by combining finance skills and a broad understanding of business with deep specialist expertise in environmental and social change.

KPMG firms' ESG Advisory & Assurance Service practices assist clients in successfully managing their Environment, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) risks and works with governments and leading businesses to enhance the opportunities provided by the emerging ESG, responsible investment and impact investing markets.

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Alexey Abramov

Partner, Head of KPMG Law Caucasus and Central Asia

Alexey Abramov is a legal professional with over 20 years of experience in legal consulting. As the Partner and Head of KPMG Law for the Caucasus and Central Asia region, Alexey leads legal teams across five countries: Kazakhstan, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan. His expertise spans real estate, corporate litigation, bankruptcy, and restructuring.

Alexey's portfolio includes significant real estate transactions and M&A engagements, where he has been instrumental in legal due diligence and other critical aspects of these projects. Since joining KPMG Law in Caucasus and Central Asia in June 2022, Alexey has doubled the practice's revenue and increased the number of lawyers from 36 to 60, establishing KPMG Law as a major player in the region.

Before taking on his current role, Alexey was a partner at KPMG Law's Moscow office, where he led the Real Estate Practice and the Commercial Litigation Practice in the CIS. His deep understanding of the legal landscape in both New York and Russia, combined with his leadership in legal practices across multiple jurisdictions, positions him as a key figure in the region's legal sector.

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Ally Karmali

ESG Practice Partner and National Leader for ESG Data, Technology, and Banking, KPMG in Canada

As a partner in KPMG in Canada's ESG practice, Ally brings over 17 years of experience in risk management and sustainability. His career spans banking, management consulting, and regulatory supervision. He focuses on helping mid-to-large tier institutions in Canada, the United States, Asia, and the Caribbean navigate climate risks and solve sustainability challenges.

In his role as the Canadian national leader for ESG in banking, Ally has assisted various multinational banks in achieving their sustainability objectives. These include ESG reporting and disclosure, nature and biodiversity, financed emissions, transition planning, and sustainable finance.

As the Canadian national leader for ESG Data & Technology, Ally has helped clients across multiple sectors define and implement solutions to collect, manage, enhance, and report on their sustainability performance. This is achieved using platform-based technology and vendor partnerships. His work includes helping corporations define their ESG data strategy, select and implement technology solutions, and enable automated workflows for ESG disclosures, decarbonization, and business model transformation.

Over the past 8 years, Ally has advocated for sustainability and published several articles on climate change and technology. He has presented at major conferences and participated in expert panels on topics such as ESG reporting, Sustainable Technology, climate change policy, and ESG standards and regulation.

Prior to joining KPMG, Ally was the founder and national leader for Sustainability Consulting at IBM Canada. His consulting practice served various industries, focusing on developing innovative solutions to accelerate positive environmental and social impacts. This was achieved using exponential technologies such as blockchain, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, IoT, automation, cloud, and advanced analytics.

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Anish De

Global Head of Energy, Natural Resources and Chemicals, KPMG International, and Partner, KPMG in India

Anish De serves as KPMG International's Global Head for Energy, Natural Resources and Chemicals (ENRC). He has over 25 years of experience in energy sector consulting. As an acclaimed energy sector expert, Anish has undertaken pioneering work in sector reform and restructuring, designing sectorial policy and regulatory framework; strategic planning, economic analysis; investment frameworks; corporate strategies, turnaround plans, institutional strengthening, energy markets; smart grids and digital solutions.

Anish has been a regular contributor to the Economic Times, CNBC, Powerline and other business and trade publications, especially on matters related to the energy transition, climate mitigation and adaption and technology developments in the digital economy, energy storage, hydrogen and renewables. He has also been a member of several governmental task forces and committees on energy. In his current role Anish connects closely with UN Organizations and MDBs, IEA, IRENA and other key agencies on energy and climate matters.

Anish is a trusted advisor for corporates and governments. He founded the South Asia business of Mercados EMI in 2008, a boutique European energy consulting company. KPMG in India acquired the firm in 2014, whereafter he took over as the leader for the energy and infrastructure consulting practice. Since 2017 Anish has led the ENRC sector for KPMG in India and created a successful profile and market presence, and has led Global ENRC since August 2022. ENRich, KPMG in India's acclaimed energy and resources event, has pivoted to become a global conference of repute. He has also founded ENRich Labs as a quarterly innovation and co-creation platform with stakeholders. ENRich Labs is currently focused on accelerating the energy transition through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI as a priority theme.

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Apurba Mitra

Partner and Lead, Climate Change, KPMG in India

Apurba is a Partner with KPMG in India's ESG practice and leads Climate Change. She is also the global proposition lead for ESG-Government. As a climate, energy and ESG specialist, over the years, she has focused on solutions around deep decarbonization, ESG transformation, energy transitions, carbon markets, green finance, platform building, complexity economics, sustainability reporting and strategy, etc. While she has worked extensively with the corporate sector, she has also worked quite closely with the government on policy. She is currently the co-chair for IETA's India chapter, co-chair of Confederation of Indian Industry's ESG subcommittee for the Eastern Region and a member of the Technical Advisory Group of the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi).

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Avery Johnstone

Global Lead, Leaders 2050

Manager, Global Decarbonization Hub, KPMG in the UK

Avery is a Manager at KPMG's Global Decarbonization Hub, a center of expertise within the KPMG global organization. In her role, she specializes in gender and climate research, youth engagement and global policy. Avery leads the global coordination of KPMG's Just Transition work, supports the Alliance for Just Energy Transformation (AJET) with UNDP and WWF, and leads the global Leaders 2050 initiative, an external network for young professionals interested in ESG issues.

A seasoned researcher and storyteller, Avery has conducted extensive research and convened multistakeholder working groups, including private equity firms through Climat International (iCI) under the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment (UNPRI), convened multistakeholder working groups on gender and climate with The Women's Forum for the Economy and Society, and contributed to the development of a toolkit for corporate climate action and gender inclusion. Avery has also conducted primary research on gender-based violence and climate adaptation in collaboration with UNICEF and the Guyanese Ministry of Education.

With a decade of experience working in public and private sectors, Avery has dedicated her efforts to addressing gender and climate issues in both the Global North and South. She is actively engaged at the intersection of business and policy, participating in various COP convenings, the World Economic Forum in Davos and G7/G20 meetings.

Avery's commitment to youth engagement is exemplified by her role in creating and managing a bespoke youth program during COP26 on behalf of The New York Times. This program amplified the voices of leaders from the Global South, Indigenous communities and young women, focusing on climate journalism and storytelling.

Beyond KPMG, she sits on the Board of Directors for Youth Climate Lab, a global nonprofit that focuses on upskilling young leaders in climate action and finance, sits in the official UNFCCC Children & Youth Constituency (YOUNGO) working group on Finance & Markets, is a Young Leader with Women Deliver and serves as a Youth Advisor to Canadian Senator Marilou McPhedran.

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Aytan Teymurzada-Mammadova

Associate Legal Manager, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Aytan Teymurzada-Mammadova is an Associate Legal Manager at KPMG in Azerbaijan and a member of the Azerbaijan Bar Association. She leads on providing legal services in contracts, corporate matters, labor issues, and litigation. With over 12 years of experience, she advises clients on corporate law, compliance, and real estate, and has supported the COP29 Operating Company in revising state-level contracts and providing legal guidance on various matters.

Aytan's experience includes conducting legal audits for investment projects, offering litigation advice to companies in the oil and gas sector, and drafting procurement policies and internal documents. She has also played a key role in legal analysis on establishing a centralized internal financing mechanism for a major oil and gas company, auditing a large mining company, and providing on-site legal support to one of Azerbaijan's biggest winter and summer tourism complexes.

She has represented companies in court proceedings and provided legal services on corporate registrations, liquidations, and changes, positioning her as a strategic legal partner across industries.

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Dr. Benedikt Herles

EMEA Head of ESG Insights & Innovation Head of Country Practice Africa, KPMG in Germany

Benedikt is a seasoned advisor and former investor with over a decade of experience in sustainability strategy consulting and venture capital investing. His journey has taken him from founding a pioneering corporate tech investment fund in the HVAC industry to collaborating with C-level executives and asset managers on value-creating climate transformation strategies.

As the leader of KPMG's ESG Insights & Innovation team in the EMEA region, he spearheads strategic initiatives that transform climate and sustainability challenges into opportunities for growth and innovation for clients. In his additional role of establishing an Africa advisory practice for KPMG in Germany, he is committed to unlocking investment potentials in the Global South and building bridges for sustainable development. He has authored various leading publications from KPMG, providing deep analysis on topics ranging from renewable energy investments in Africa to the status of the climate transition in the German industrial sector.

Communicating transformation is Benedikt's passion. Recognized as a thought leader in climate politics and the long-term development of the global economy, Benedikt's insights regularly feature in live interviews in German television. His publications, including best-selling books on innovation culture and the economic and political implications of disruptive technologies, solidify his status as an influential voice in the market. His contributions as a thought leader, business builder, and advisor have earned him the recognition as one of Germany's "Top 40 under 40" by the country's leading business magazine, CAPITAL.

Benedikt studied Economics at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich and holds a doctorate in business administration from the European Business School in Oestrich-Winkel, Germany.

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Cathy Chen

Associate Director, Infrastructure & Climate Finance, Emerging Markets, KPMG in the UK

Cathy is an Associate Director in KPMG's Emerging Markets team with ten years of experience in designing award-winning climate finance and infrastructure policies and programs in advanced, emerging, and developing economies. She has mobilized and deployed international climate finance towards local projects, including the UK government's £7 million energy program in India. Her experience includes advising governments and multilateral development banks on infrastructure project opportunities in emerging markets. She has led global, interdisciplinary teams to design innovative financing mechanisms for hard-to-decarbonize sectors, including sustainable aviation fuels, zero-emission trucks, and electric buses. She has also designed and implemented a \$40 million CAD first-of-a-kind public-private financing program between the Government of Canada and Breakthrough Energy Ventures. As the former Senior Policy Advisor to the Canadian Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Cathy has reviewed and advised on highly sensitive Treasury submissions for multimillion dollar funding programs. Prior to that, she has advised on energy, sustainability and climate change issues at the United Nations, Barclays, and the New York City Mayor's Office.

Cathy is an industry-recognized thought leader in this space; she delivers talks on blended finance, energy transition, and sustainability, including at the 2019 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos.

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Chris Chung

Commercial Advisory and Transactions (Energy Advisory), Senior Consultant, KPMG Australia

Chris is a Senior Consultant in KPMG Australia's Energy Advisory team, leveraging his expertise in finance and international business to advise clients across the public and private energy sectors. His experience spans financial and commercial advisory on renewable energy, power, and infrastructure projects, with a strong focus on emerging industries such as offshore wind, grid-scale battery systems, and green hydrogen.

Chris played a key role in Ocean Winds' successful bid for a Feasibility Licence in Australia's first offshore wind zone (Gippsland), helping to shape the early development of the nation's offshore wind sector. He has also advised major utility companies and developers, including APA and Ark Energy, on feasibility studies and financial analysis for green hydrogen projects

In the public sector, Chris is currently advising the government on the commercial delivery of Australia's first Renewable Energy Zones, strategically designated areas for renewable generation, storage, and transmission infrastructure.

Before joining the Energy Advisory team, Chris worked as a Corporate Tax Consultant at KPMG Australia, where he prepared income tax returns for corporations, including multinationals, across a range of industries.

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Daisy Shen

Head of Climate Change and Sustainability, Advisory Head of Energy and Nature Resources, and Partner KPMG China

Daisy Shen has 24 years' experience with KPMG, including long term secondment to KPMG's Global Chairman's Office and the KPMG Energy Centre of Excellence based in London. She gained invaluable international experience in executive management and cross border M&A transactions, with a focus on global energy and natural resources and renewables investment.

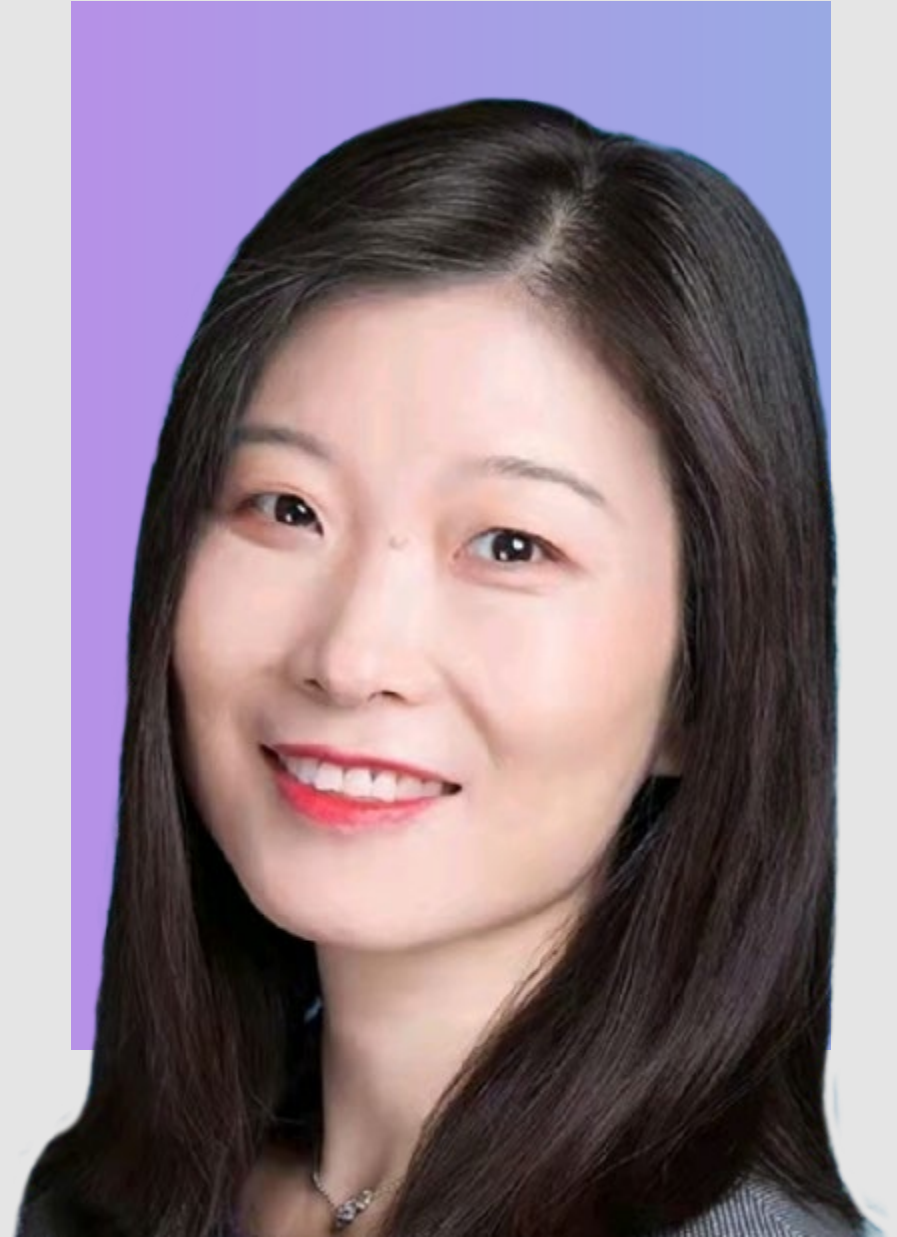
In the past six years, Daisy has been closely involved in Energy Transition, ESG and Decarbonization Strategy and Implementation and Sustainable Finance Consultancy. She assists corporates, institutional investors and governments with energy transition, low carbon technology related investment, corporate PPA, ESG and decarbonization strategy, circularity, green financing projects and policy advocacy.

Daisy is a member of the Executive Committee of the British Chamber of Commerce in China. She is dedicated to promoting trade, economic development and climate change collaboration between China and the UK. Daisy is also a frequent speaker at women's leadership forums and mentorship program, supporting gender diversity and young professional development.

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David Greenall

Global Managing Director, Climate Risk, Decarbonization, Nature, and Adaptation, KPMG International

David has 25 years of experience assisting large corporate, investor and public sector clients to position their organizations in order to be successful in a zero carbon, climate resilient and nature positive future. His climate risk and decarbonization strategy, risk & disclosure experience spans clients across Canada, U.S., Caribbean, South America, Australia, and Europe - including conducting enterprise/ portfolio/ asset-level climate risk assessments, developing strategies and targets, designing & implementing large-scale business transformation, transaction advisory and diligence, and preparing climate-related voluntary, regulatory compliance and financial accounting disclosures. He also has extensive experience in major capital projects management and operational excellence across the infrastructure, oil & gas and mining lifecycles.

In September 2023, David was elected to United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction – ARISE Global Board of Directors (the UN private-public collaborative platform for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience (Hyogo Framework for DRR). He has been appointed to numerous expert advisory boards and committees, including the UNDRR Chief Resilience Officers Network, World Bank – Climate Action Data Trust, Climate Disclosure Standards Board – Expert Technical Working Group (Climate-Matters in Financial Accounting & Reporting), ISO14097 Expert Technical Committee 207 (Climate Finance Standard – ISO14097), Carbon Bond Initiative – Hydropower Standard Industry Working Group, Global Water Forum - Climate-Related Precipitation Extremes – Expert Committee, National Roundtable on the Environment & Economy – Expert Panel on Climate Change, and Task Force on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). He was appointed by the Canadian Banking Association and G7 Investor Leadership Initiatives, respectively, to Chair the development of guidance and technical tools for banks and asset owners to conduct climate change risk analysis and integrate insights into investment strategy, and to conduct meaningful climate disclosures in alignment with the TCFD. Back in 2003, David founded the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) in Canada, where he led efforts by Canada's leading banks, pension funds and institutional asset owners to leverage the power of measurement and information disclosure to improve the management of climate change risk within Canada's largest publicly traded companies.

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Fadi Al-Shihabi

**Head of Sustainability (Middle East region), Partner,
KPMG in Saudi Arabia**

Fadi is a seasoned professional with a profound understanding of ESG, its associated risks and opportunities, and a wealth of experience in various domains, including strategy development, stakeholder engagement, materiality and maturity assessments, reporting, social and environmental impact measurements, and assurance.

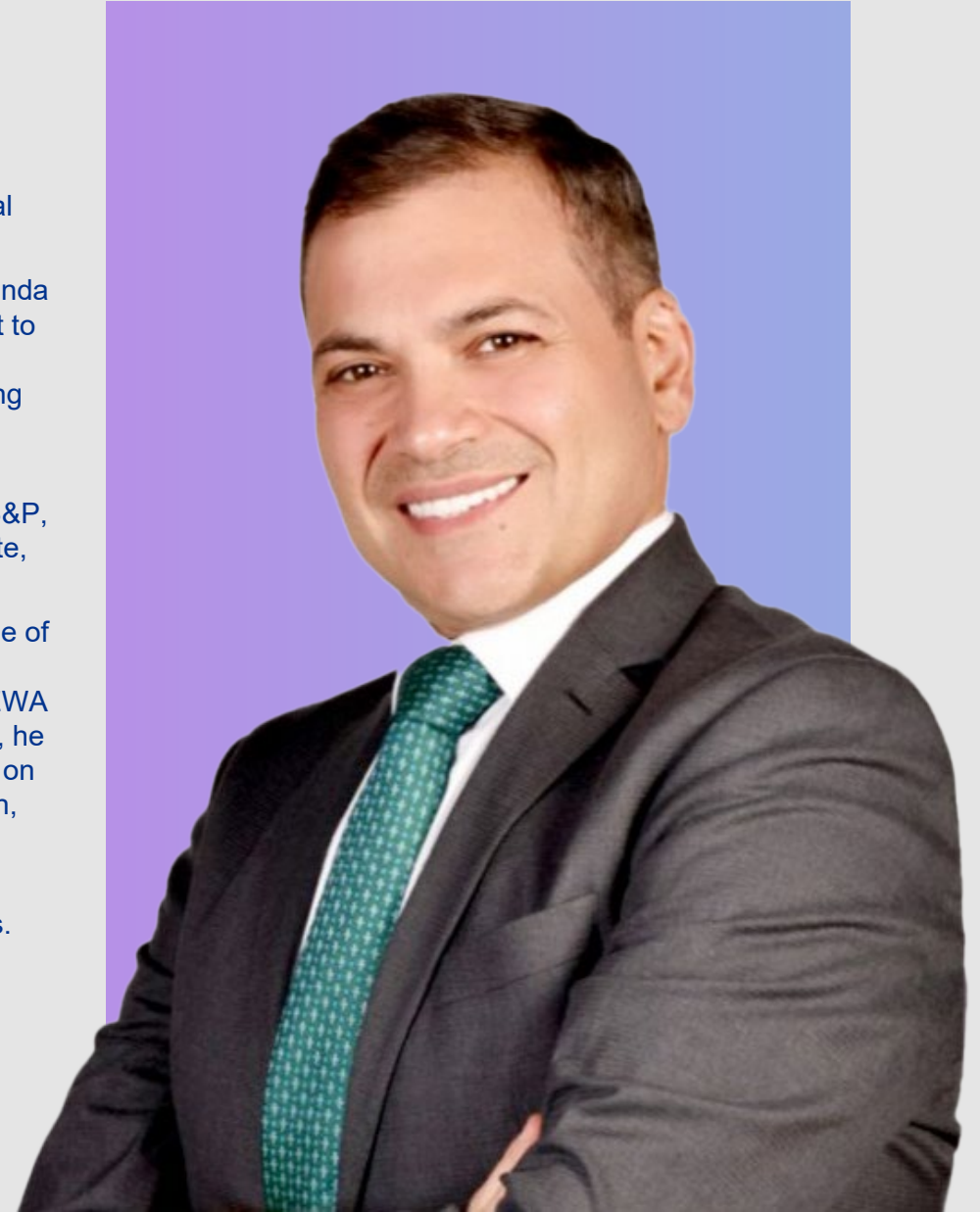
Over the past 14 years, Fadi has played a pivotal role in advancing the ESG and Sustainability agenda in the MENA region, working with both the public and private sectors. He has also provided support to the third sector and mega events. Fadi's contributions extend to supporting regulatory bodies in enhancing reporting guidelines and frameworks, including GRI, UNDP and KSA MEP, and delivering training courses and sessions.

Fadi has been instrumental in supporting key IPOs and due diligence efforts both in the region and globally. He has assisted clients in improving their ratings with various agencies, including MCSI, S&P, FTSE and DJSI, across diverse sectors such as finance, energy, telecom, media, mining, real estate, hospitality and retail.

His extensive experience spans various countries in the MENA region, where he has played the role of an engagement partner for a multitude of projects. Fadi's remarkable projects include leading the environmental and social impact assessment for EXPO 2020, assuring sustainability reports for DEWA and ADNOC, and advising organizations on sustainability strategies and reporting. In Saudi Arabia, he conducted training for ESG and GRI 2021 Standards for a major oil and gas company and advised on sustainability strategies and frameworks. His work also extends to Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan and Oman, addressing sustainability, energy management and environmental concerns for various clients.

Fadi's diverse experience and substantial contributions make him an invaluable expert in ESG and sustainability practices, well-positioned to contribute to high-profile meetings and panel discussions.

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Felipe Salgado

Decarbonization Leader, KPMG in Brazil

Felipe Salgado brings over 15 years of corporate sustainability experience to his role as the Director of Decarbonization at KPMG in Brazil, where he focuses on climate change mitigation, process optimization, and leading the firm's Decarbonization Hub. His work not only spans across Brazil but also supports other Latin American countries in their efforts to address the climate agenda. Felipe's background includes a mix of technical and strategic roles, reflecting a balanced approach to tackling environmental challenges.

One of Felipe's key contributions was serving as the chairman of the Sustainable Mobility Technical Group under the Brazilian Business Council For Sustainable Development (CEBDS). In this role, he facilitated discussions among companies from various sectors, emphasizing the importance of collaboration in advancing sustainable mobility solutions. His hands-on experience is evident in his successful implementation of a carbon management program for one of Brazil's largest fuel distribution companies, a project that covered all aspects from measurement and reporting to mitigation and carbon offsetting.

His engagement with the voluntary carbon market and Nature-Based Solution initiatives points to Felipe's commitment to exploring innovative approaches to sustainability. These efforts include foundational work towards the establishment of a regulated carbon market in Brazil. Furthermore, Felipe has deepened his knowledge and influence in the field through studies on climate risks and opportunities for a leading agricultural company, leveraging IPCC climate scenarios to inform strategic decision-making.

Felipe's international experience is highlighted by his master thesis on the impact of the energy transition in the European electricity market, with a specific focus on the role of hydrogen for grid flexibility. This work, alongside an in-depth analysis of energy transition strategies in the eight biggest energy-consuming countries in the EU, shows Felipe's ability to navigate complex global energy dynamics.

His industry experience spans across energy, fuel distribution, consumer goods, base industry, and agribusiness. Additionally, Felipe has contributed to the development of a guide for life cycle analysis studies of cellulose, showcasing his versatile skill set. In his tenure, Felipe Salgado has demonstrated a practical and collaborative approach to decarbonization and sustainability. His efforts in Brazil and Latin America reflect not just a commitment to environmental stewardship but also a dedication to practical and actionable solutions in the corporate world.

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Ghali Bouzouba

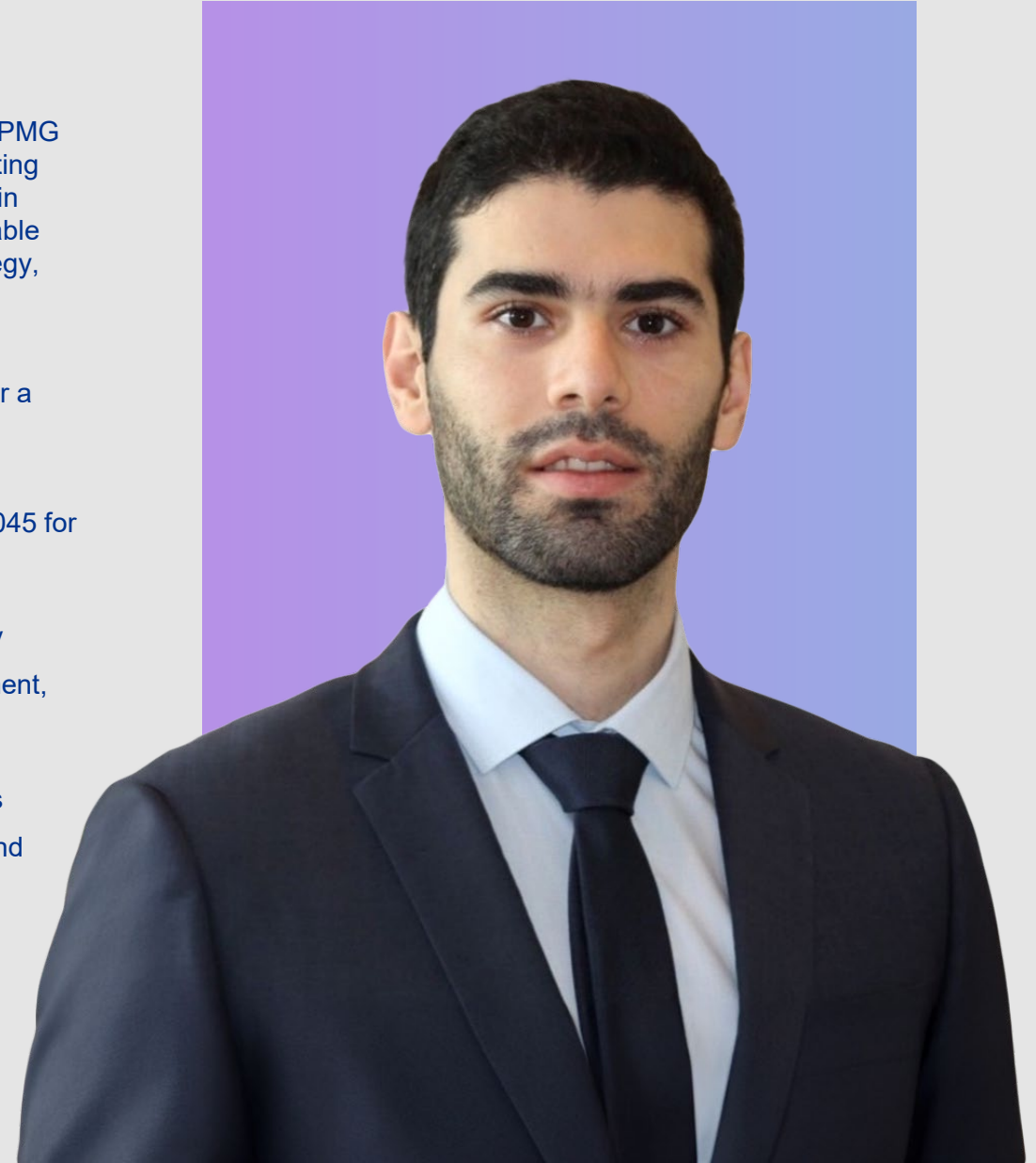
Manager, Deal Advisory, Energy & Decarbonization, Global and German H2 Group, KPMG in Germany

Ghali Bouzouba is Senior Manager at KPMG Deal Advisory Strategy and member of the KPMG Global Hydrogen Network. Prior to joining KPMG, he gained experience in strategy consulting for the energy sector and energy-intensive industries at EY and CGI Business Consulting, in asset management at Engie and in project management at Airbus. His focus lies in renewable energy and hydrogen. He has extensive experience in market analysis, go-to-market strategy, financial modeling & transformation of energy generation asset portfolios.

Some of Ghali's professional experience includes, but is not limited to:

- Market, infrastructure and regulatory analysis for selecting optimal industrial locations for a South Korean hydrogen tanks manufacturer
- Development of a calculation model for hydrogen production cost projection
- Creation of financial model to analyze transformation paths towards climate neutrality 2045 for an energy generation asset portfolio & evaluation of the financial implications
- Market assessment for PV & onshore wind energy in Germany (capacity, regulation, remuneration, costs, risks, opportunities, etc.) and elaboration of a market entry strategy
- Development of a carve-out & JV concept of an LNG business (feasibility, cost assessment, business plan, equity story, investor search, target operating model, etc.)
- Assessment of a fundamental model and assumptions on the German energy market evolution (demand, supply, market design) and validation of power and gas price curves
- Development of a model for the market-oriented use of a pumped storage powerplant and run-of-river turbines with real-time data (auction prices, grid demand, storage...)

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Gopi Rengasamy

Director, Advisory, KPMG in Singapore

Gopi is based in Singapore and comes with over 20 years of experience in a wide range of environments.

He has consulted for private and public sector clients in Asia Pacific and Middle East. His work experience spans over 10 countries, where he was based and assisted clients in a wide range of issues.

He has hands-on experience in strategy development, operational transformation, business planning, post-merger transformation, M&A transactions, EBITDA improvement, restructuring and strategy implementation. He also comes with a deep understanding of digital transformation and related organisational and strategy issues.

In strategy implementation and operational transformation, Gopi has assisted clients as a part of their extended team to effect commercial transformation, supply chain re-engineering, transaction execution and performance management.

Gopi has hands on experience in strategy and transformation across a wide range of sectors including Power and Utilities, Oil and Gas, e-mobility and transit payments

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Grace Todd

Technology Implementation Consultant, KPMG Australia

Grace Todd is a passionate advocate for leveraging technological innovation to drive climate action. As a technology implementation consultant, Grace is committed to advancing sustainability through data-driven solutions and technological transformation. Her goal at COP29 is to explore the intersection of technology and climate action, focusing on how technology innovations can accelerate progress toward net-zero targets and sustainable finance. With a background in finance analytics, renewable energy optimisation, and engineering, Grace aims to contribute to practical strategies that integrate technology and climate solutions for a sustainable future.

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Inna Alkhimova

Partner, Tax & Legal

Inna has been with KPMG since 2001, providing tax advisory and tax compliance services to international and domestic clients. Inna has extensive experience in taxation in Kazakhstan, including taxation in oil and gas, financial services, private equity, telecommunication, pharmaceuticals and consumer markets

Areas of specialization include corporate taxation, cross-border taxation and international transaction structuring, group reorganizations and tax planning. Inna's experience includes conducting tax diagnostics and reviews, assisting with tax compliance, conducting due-diligence, structuring cross-border investments

Inna has been a speaker at many taxation-related seminars and has published articles on taxation in business publications. Inna has conducted numerous trainings on taxation and lectures on tax-related issues in Kazakhstan universities.

Industry experience: Oil and gas, Financial sector, Transport and logistics, Private Equity, FMCG sector, Pharmaceutical sector, Building, construction and real estate, Telecommunications

Education and qualifications:

- Diploma in Applied Mathematics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russian Federation
- Postgraduate course in Mathematics, Al-FarabiKazakh State University, Republic of Kazakhstan
- Master of Business Administration, Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP), Republic of Kazakhstan
- Certified Management Accountant (CMA), USA
- CFA Charterholder, USA
- Qualification certificate No. 000363 of Tax Consultant of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Active member of the Chamber of Tax Consultants of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Public Association)

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Izzy Rigda

Policy, Economics and Public Impact Consultant, KPMG Australia

Izzy Rigda is a consultant within KPMG Australia's Policy, Economics and Public Impact team, where she leverages her expertise in public policy to provide support to federal and state governments, as well as NGOs. She is a core team member on a pivotal project addressing the gendered impacts of climate change in the Pacific Islands. Her role includes conducting in-depth research on critical issues experienced by women and young girls after climate events, such as early or forced child marriage and mental health. Izzy is eager to learn more about international development and climate finance at COP29 and aims to implement these findings in future aid related projects.

As the Australian Capital Territory's representative for KPMG's ESG program, Leaders 2050, Izzy has a strong interest in the multi-disciplinary approach required for a just transition, and is passionate about how governments, the private sector and NGOs can come together to drive innovative climate solutions. Additionally, she is dedicated to amplifying the voices of First Nations and Pacific Islander communities in climate discourse. Her work has supported projects in partnership with the Fiji Government and various First Nations organizations.

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James Ladbrook

Consultant, KPMG Australia

James works as a renewable energy consultant at KPMG Australia, advising on the largest renewable energy projects in Australia. James works in a national team and advises both public and private sectors, working with DCCEE (federal and NSW) as well as national and international private renewable energy developers. James is across all national and state decarbonization policies and strategies, as well as the commercial development stages and major renewable energy transactions in Australia. His interests lie within Renewable Energy transactions, Just Transition, Youth Engagement and Climate Finance.

James attended COP28 as a KPMG and Australian Delegate, and is again attending COP29 with KPMG. Additionally, his experience at COP28 as well as his finance and accounting background and being part of YOUNGO Energy Working Group, YOUNGO LCOYs and WEF Global Shapers Sydney Hub, he was given the opportunity to start the Australian branch of Leaders 2050, a KPMG youth climate change leadership program. On an international level, this program has allowed James to connect with the co-chairs of 18 other countries and nationally, this program has allowed James to organize and run 4–5 youth climate related events per year around Australia.

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Africa Head of Sustainable Finance, KPMG Africa

John leads KPMG Africa's Sustainable Finance, ESG, Climate Change, Decarbonization, Nature based Solutions and Circular Economy Advisory services where he has responsibility for leading the member firms' work on the provision of Innovative Sustainable Finance and Investments (Climate Finance, Gender Finance, Transition Finance, Development Finance, WASH Finance, GSS+ Bond solutions) for their clients across all sectors. As part of this work, John is actively involved in delivering ESG Advisory services as an Associate Director in areas such as climate risk, climate strategy, carbon markets, SDG alignment planning and energy transition for clients in several sectors in West Africa.

John previously served as the Head of ESG, Sustainability, and Climate Finance at a leading Development Finance Institution (DFI) in Ghana. He was instrumental in the establishment of the bank under the World Bank-funded initiative, where he led the unit and supported due diligence processes and eligibility requirements for financial intermediaries. As a function of his position, he designed and developed innovative and sustainable finance solutions and technical assistance initiatives. John spearheaded the establishment of a Green Taxonomy for the Bank for the lending business which comprises eligible climate mitigation and adaptation projects and sub-activities. John engaged in various partnerships such as the UN Global Compact, and Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) and actively participated in the 2xChallenge, recognizing respective opportunities. He has developed and secured technical and financial grants from development partners on Gender Mainstreaming and Green Finance.

Prior to this, John held various roles in commercial banking, and management consulting where he worked on MEAL frameworks and executed market development projects. Leveraging his banking and development finance experience, he catalyzed Africa's green economy through climate financing and impact investing. Beyond his expertise in biodiversity conservation, John has proven himself as a leader in integrating nature-based solutions into financial strategies, recognizing the indispensable role of biodiversity in achieving sustainable development goals and fostering resilient ecosystems for future generations. His comprehensive skill set encompasses Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS) development, implementation, audit, and ESG Due Diligence services, Designing Blended Finance Instruments and Credit Guarantees among others.

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Kazuhiko Saito

Partner, KPMG AZSA Sustainability Co. Ltd.

Kazuhiko joined KPMG in April 2002 and his main responsibilities include sustainability report assurance, responsible minerals sourcing assurance, and EHS audit and environmental due diligence. Kazuhiko has extensive experience within different industries including automotive manufacturing, oil and gas, mining and metals, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, transport and electronics.

He currently serves as engagement partner for more than 40 assurance engagements focused on sustainability reports for a wide array of companies.

Before joining KPMG he worked for Fujitsu Research Institute, a research arm of Fujitsu, for 4 years.

His country experience includes China, Taiwan, South Korea, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Germany, Ireland, the US, New Zealand and Brazil.

Qualifications:

- MSc in Environmental Economics, University of York, UK
- BA in Law, Waseda University, Japan
- Sustainability Assurance Practitioner accredited by the Japanese Association of Assurance Organizations for Sustainability Information, Japan
- Environmental Site Assessor registered by the Japan Environmental Management Association for Industry (JEMAI)

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Kirill Martynov

Partner, Head of Deal Advisory, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Kirill Martynov is a seasoned expert in Deal Advisory services, having been a key member of KPMG since 2007.

With over 16 years of extensive experience, Kirill specializes in financial modeling and business valuations. His expertise extends across a broad spectrum, including real estate, fixed and intangible assets valuations, M&A services, and the preparation of business plans and feasibility studies.

Kirill's industry focus is primarily on the Consumer and Industrials sectors within KPMG's Caucasus and Central Asia (KPMG CCA) region. This sector includes such segments of specialization as consumer markets, agriculture, construction materials production, and industrial manufacturing.

Since 2018, Kirill has been leading the Deal Advisory practice in KPMG in Azerbaijan, overseeing a team of over 20 professionals.

Kirill's clientele includes major and mid-sized companies from the CIS countries — such as Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan — as well as various international holdings.

Prior joining KPMG Kirill was working in the position of research engineer in a research and development institute for three years.

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Pilar Galán

Partner, Head of Financial Services Legal, KPMG in Spain, and Legal Lead for ESG, KPMG International

Pilar is the KPMG Global ESG Legal lead, supporting the development of KPMG ESG Strategy in the legal network of KPMG. She is directly involved in multiple international and pan-European KPMG ESG-working groups and taskforces for the monitoring and implementation of ESG related regulation and initiatives.

She leads and coordinates relevant ESG projects such as SFDR, Green Financing and Green-MiFID for Top Tier national and international financial firms, including banks, management companies and insurance companies, as well as other private-banking firms.

She manages the development of the Greenwashing line of services of KPMG that monitors the trends, regulation and litigation on an ongoing basis in over 50 countries. The services in this field include among others training for awareness, greenwashing risk management frameworks, mitigation strategies for litigation.

Pilar leads in KPMG Abogados Spain the legal and regulatory practice to the Financial Sector. She has over 15 years of experience in legal and regulatory advice to the Financial Sector, with strong specialization in Investment services and the asset management industry. In the recent years, she is focused in ESG projects for financial entities.

Within the ESG area, Pilar has made relevant publications on this area and actively participate in think-tanks such as FIDE with the University of Oxford.

Pilar lectures in ESADE University and Universidad de Estudios a Distancia (UNED), where she has introduced different ESG topics and lessons during the recent years.

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Mark Fitzgerald

Global Head, International Development Assistance Services, KPMG International, and Principal, KPMG in the US

Mark is a principal and National Practice Leader of KPMG's Development and Exempt Organizations practice, as well as the Global Lead Partner for the World Bank Group and United Nations, and the work with international development entities globally. He has over 30 years of relevant experience, is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland, and is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Prior to recently joining KPMG, Mark was the Director of Internal Audit and Investigations for the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). While there, Mark was responsible for establishing the oversight function from concept to a fully functioning and credible unit.

Mark has a strong oversight and assurance background, with a specific emphasis on systems reviews and management control issues. He has specific oversight experience within a wide variety of environments, including international development organizations, not-for-profit entities, public sector entities, and large, medium and smaller private sector entities.

Professional and industry experience

Mark Fitzgerald has extensive experience providing services to international organizations involved with international development, across multiple sectors and areas of focus including energy, WASH, institutional capacity building, governance, sustainability and resilience, and project oversight. His clients have included the World Bank Group, other MDBs, various United Nations entities, the European Commission, and bilateral donors such as USAID, DANIDA, and FCDO.

Mark also has deep experience serving not-for-profit organizations. He has assisted organizations in making grants and funding projects, including impact investing and impact assessments, for a variety of charitable purposes in over 70 countries.

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Mike Hayes

Climate Change and Decarbonization Leader, Global Head of Renewable Energy, KPMG International and Partner, KPMG in Ireland

Mike leads KPMG's climate change and decarbonization practice where he has responsibility for leading KPMG firms work on the provision of decarbonization and climate risk solutions for their global clients across all sectors. As part of this work, Mike is actively involved in delivering services around areas such as climate risk, climate strategy, carbon markets, transition plans and energy transition for clients in many different sectors. Notably, he provides strategic guidance to clients in their pursuit of Net-Zero strategies.

Mike is also leading on a number of significant bold ideas on the climate agenda. He is spearheading the development of a Digital Innovation Exchange, fostering collaboration between the innovation ecosystem, financial partners and major industrial players to fund and pilot exciting innovations. Furthermore, he emphasizes the significance of Human Capital in achieving Net Zero and explores the potential of innovative tax policies in driving the climate agenda.

Working with the World Economic Forum, Mike plays a pivotal role in KPMG member firms efforts to address climate change and energy transition challenges through innovative strategies. In particular, Mike and the KPMG team are supporting the Forum on the Coal to Renewables transition initiative. This involves the development of innovative financing structures to help attract investors into the managed phase-out opportunity.

Mike is also focused on the mobilization of climate finance for developing countries using innovative financing techniques to help mitigate risk. He is currently serving as a member of an Independent high Level Expert Group which is reporting to the G20 Brazilian Presidency on the operation of the various Environmental Vertical Funds.

In addition to his climate role, Mike leads KPMG's Global Renewables business. With over 24 years of experience, he advises global corporate groups in the renewable energy and infrastructure sectors. His expertise spans acquisitions, mergers and other transactions in multiple countries. Clients include utilities, large developers, private equity firms, and energy and infrastructure funds.

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Nadia Montoto

Global Decarbonization Co-Lead and Associate Director KPMG International

Nadia leads on decarbonization services where she is responsible for supporting KPMG firms to provide decarbonization solutions for their global clients across all sectors. As part of this work, Nadia is involved in delivering decarbonization advisory on carbon accounting, financed emissions, decarbonization and net zero strategy and transition plans for clients in many different industries.

With over 15 years of experience in climate work, Nadia has provided climate and decarbonization strategy consultancy on the ground in the UK, USA, Chile, Argentina and is currently based in Uruguay where she provides global climate insights to KPMG firms in the Latin American region and supports our global clients.

Along her career Nadia has pioneered key concepts of the climate agenda and is one of the authors of the first sustainability report issued by an NHS trust in the UK (2009) and contributed to the world's first corporate environmental P&L (Puma, 2011). She also has experience on international trade, having worked closely with the World Trade Organization's Dispute Settlement Body.

In addition to her climate role in KPMG, Nadia is a member of the GHG Protocol's Technical Working Group on Scope 3, and supports the development of the standard revision.

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Nasiba Muradkhanova

Head of Audit, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Nasiba is audit professional with over 14 years of experience delivering high-quality services to clients across the public and private sectors in the United Kingdom, Azerbaijan, and other CIS countries. She has built a distinguished career at KPMG, where her expertise spans a range of industries including Banking, Insurance, Oil and Gas, Telecom, and Manufacturing.

At KPMG's Azerbaijan office, where she spent over a decade, Nasiba managed audit and advisory engagements for more than 100 clients, showcasing her deep industry knowledge and analytical skills. Her experience includes a notable period from 2016 to 2017 at KPMG's London office, where she led the audit for a prominent banking group with a complex structure of over 40 subsidiaries worldwide. During this time, she effectively managed an international team of more than 50 professionals, demonstrating her leadership and global coordination capabilities.

In 2019, Nasiba was promoted to Director and took on the role of Head of Audit Practice in Azerbaijan. In her current position as an Audit Partner, she is focused on advancing KPMG Azerbaijan's audit practice, driving continuous improvement, and ensuring the delivery of exceptional audit services. Her leadership is instrumental in fostering a culture of excellence and innovation within the firm, enhancing its reputation and capabilities in the audit sector.

Recently, Nasiba has placed significant emphasis on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors, reflecting the growing prominence of these issues in the industry. She is actively involved in integrating ESG considerations into audit practices and advising clients on how to navigate the complexities of sustainability reporting and compliance. Her work in this area includes helping clients in Azerbaijan to navigate ESG topic by providing trainings and raising awareness about upcoming ESG assurance requirements.

Nasiba's career reflects her commitment to excellence and her ability to navigate complex audit environments with a strategic perspective. Her extensive experience, coupled with her focus on ESG, positions her as a key figure in the ongoing development and success of KPMG Azerbaijan's audit practice.

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Nate Gabig

Partner, Securitization & Sustainable Finance, KPMG in the US

Nate is a Partner in the Securitization and Sustainable Finance Advisory practice with more than twenty years of comprehensive experience in structured finance, asset-backed banking, SEC regulatory compliance, sustainable impact reporting and complex asset valuation. He has personally structured more than 175 banking transactions with an issuance value exceeding \$75 billion, including several “first of a kind” Green Bond, Blue Bond, carbon offset credit and clean energy deals. Nate manages a large staff of more than twenty-five CFA’s and modelers, including six directors across multiple KPMG offices. He has led and delivered successful multi-million dollar engagements that required coordination with investment banks, private equity funds, asset-backed issuers, securitization law firms, MBS syndicates, loan originators, specialty servicers, and data providers. His strong Wall Street relationships stem from more than two decade of transaction work with dozens of securities underwriters, legal counsel and impact-focused investors. He is often utilized as renewable energy and decarbonization subject matter expert for deal structures, technical accounting and investor impact analysis by the nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (Moody’s, S&P, Kroll, DBRS, Morningstar, and Fitch).

Nate also leads KPMG’s energy finance modeling and SEC Investor Reporting compliance team. He proudly serves more than thirty clients including investment banks, PE’s, utilities, hedge funds, securities issuers, and institutional investors. He is recognized for his substantial experience directing clients through their inaugural debt capital market transactions, including pre-testing securitization platforms to prepare for regulatory compliance across key areas that include: Impact testing, use of Green Bond proceeds, wire reconciliations, payment verification and multiple KPI-driven metric reporting frameworks (SASB, TCFD, CDP, etc).

Advises and validates complex cash flow models for asset finance deals across a range of Agreed-Upon-Procedures (AUP) engagements for Carbon Offset Credits, RMBS, Solar Asset-Backed, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), Stranded Asset ABS, Virtual Power Plant (VPP) & Energy Storage transactions etc.

Over two years Nate directed a large (\$15M+) engagement for a top 5 nation bank to rebuild a data delivery, calculation and reporting system. The project required reverse-engineering a portfolio of more than 800 structured deals; he performed SEC reporting gap analysis, created standardized monthly payment procedures, monitored “waterfall” distributions, and reviewed triggers to provide detailed variance analysis reports.

Acts as subject matter expert for KPMG audit and advisory teams, serving more than a dozen SEC Regulation AB engagements on an annual basis since 2006. Recent projects include securities valuation, stranded asset ABS, securitization accounting, Pooling & Servicing Agreement interpretation, model validation, ESG bi-directional coupon debt analysis and power utility expert witness advisory.

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Ozan Cakmak

Director, International Development Assistance Services (IDAS) Institute, KPMG in the US

Ozan serves as a Director, International Development Assistance Services (IDAS) Institute in Washington, DC. With over eighteen years of experience, he specializes in multilateral development funding and development finance, ESG and sustainability services, business and human rights, just transition and socio-economic development. His diverse portfolio includes work with multilateral development banks and development finance institutions, government, and private sector organizations.

At KPMG in the US, Ozan provides strategy, advisory and evaluation services to multilateral development banks, development finance institutions, United Nations agencies, donor agencies and governments. He also guides KPMG sector teams and other member firms collaborating with these entities. Additionally, he spearheads thought leadership initiatives at the IDAS Institute, focusing on the just transition, climate finance and the future of work.

Before joining KPMG, Ozan worked at the IFC's Blended Finance and Corporate Strategy Department, focusing on private sector solutions and investments in emerging markets. He has managed large development programs and policy advisory work at UNDP and ILO, specializing in areas like green economy, gender and social inclusion, and resilience response. His professional experience spans across various regions including Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

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Rauf Atakishiyev

Partner, Head of Consulting, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Rauf is a seasoned professional with 20 years of experience in external assurance, finance, and operations. He joined KPMG from a prominent industrial holding company in Azerbaijan, where he served as Group CFO and was a member of the Supervisory Board for various joint ventures.

Rauf holds a Master's degree in Business Organization from the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy and a Bachelor's degree in Management of the Oil Processing Industry (High Honour Diploma) from the same institution. He is also a Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA).

In his previous role as Group CFO, Rauf was deeply involved in projects with external consultants, focusing on joint venture establishment deals with investors. His work primarily centered on asset and business valuations, due diligence, and market research. His expertise also extended to optimizing business models and organizational structures, as well as developing corporate governance models.

Rauf was instrumental in facilitating the development of business unit strategies, implementing organizational structure changes, and overseeing joint venture establishment transactions. He led internal projects aimed at optimizing business processes, developing, and implementing ERP systems, enhancing budgeting and reporting practices, and strengthening control environments and asset safeguards.

In his capacity as COO and Deputy CEO of a large local distribution, production, and retail group, Rauf was responsible for defining performance management KPIs, restructuring business activities to enhance speed and efficiency, and implementing strategies to improve systems and policies to reduce costs.

In addition to his industry-specific experience, Rauf has successfully led audit engagements for oil & gas, insurance, energy, and industrial companies across Baku, Moscow, and London with Big 4 firms.

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Roopa Davé

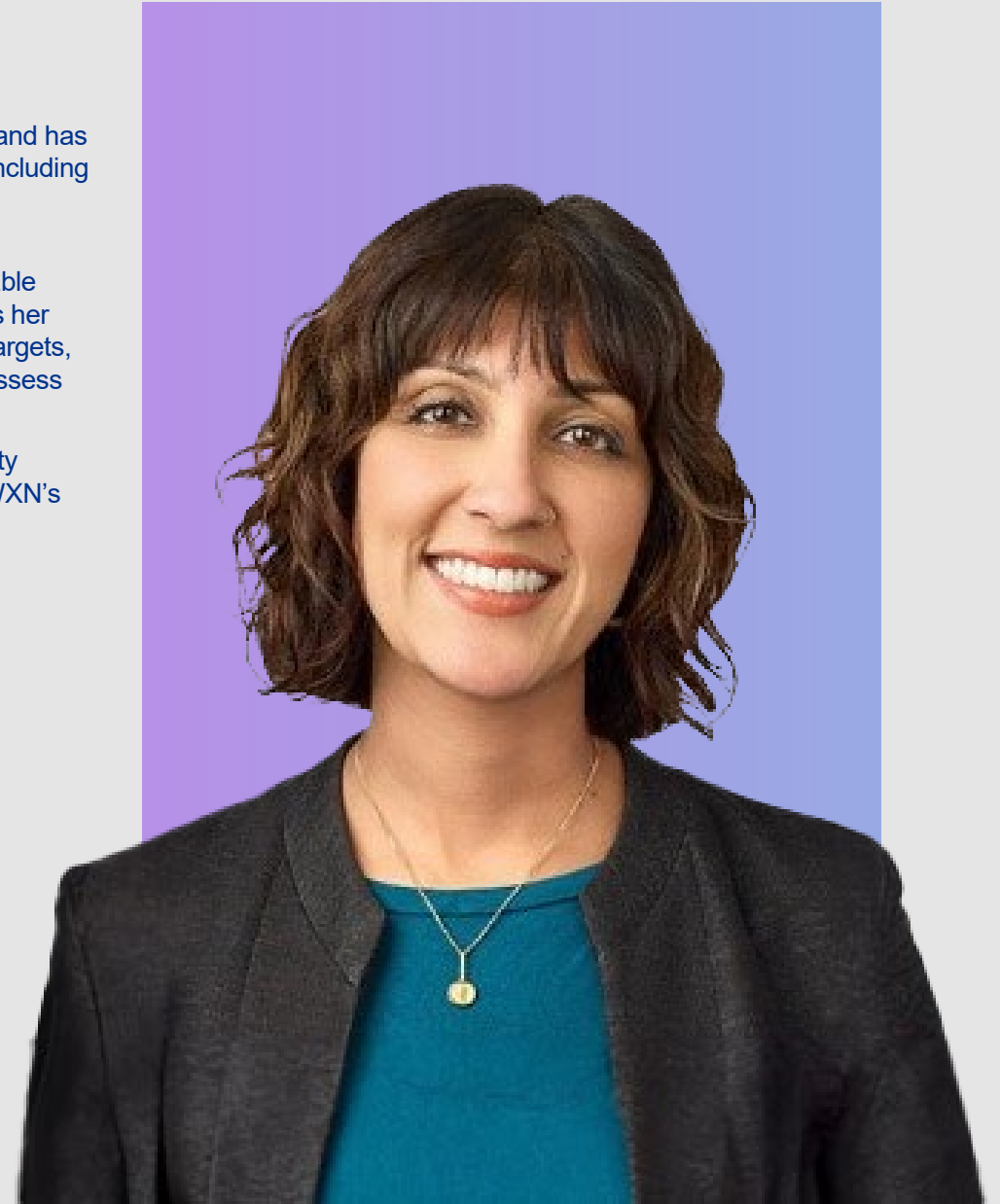
Partner - Climate & ESG Services, Canadian National Climate Risk Leader, KPMG in Canada

Roopa is a partner in KPMG Canada's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Services practice and has over 19 years of experience delivering ESG and climate services to clients across a range of industries including natural resources, retail, telecommunications, and real estate.

Having trained and practiced as a chartered accountant, Roopa shifted her career into climate change & sustainability over 12 years ago in order to focus on the role that business can play in shaping a sustainable future. She is a specialist in ESG and climate strategy, including climate risk and reporting. She supports her clients and teams across Canada to identify and assess climate risk exposure, set and validate climate targets, create transition plans, develop indicators to monitor and track performance and establish programs to assess compliance with mandatory and voluntary standards.

Roopa is also a Climate Expert for the Canadian Climate Law Initiative, sits on CPA Canada Sustainability Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors of YWCA of Greater Vancouver and was a recipient of WXN's Top 100 Most Power Women in Canada award in the Emerging Leaders category in 2020

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Ruba Amarin

Director, ESG and Clean Energy, KPMG International Development Assistance Services (IDAS) Institute, KPMG in the US

Ruba is a visionary leader at KPMG's International Development Assistance Services (IDAS) Institute, where she spearheads initiatives in renewable energy and ESG services for both public and private sector clients. With a robust background in energy market development, Ruba enhances the financial viability and operational efficiency of power utilities, fosters competition in the power sector, and refines policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks to drive regional electricity market development.

In her current role, Ruba is at the forefront of advising governments on clean energy and climate change strategies. She excels in program planning and implementation, policy development, technological innovation, GHG emission reductions, and climate mitigation measures. Her expertise ensures comprehensive reporting and monitoring, guiding nations towards sustainable futures.

Ruba co-leads KPMG's Just Transition working group, addressing urgent decarbonization challenges, and the Climate Finance working group, ensuring effective mobilization and utilization of climate finance to support sustainable development in developing countries.

With 18 years of experience across more than 20 countries, Ruba has managed diverse international projects in Europe and Eurasia, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific. Her work spans clean energy solutions, climate change mitigation, private sector engagement, off-grid electrification, legal and regulatory frameworks, power utility operations, and capacity building and training.

Ruba holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and multiple MSc degrees. She is an author with over 40 publications and holds a patent in clean energy and smart grid technologies.

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Saken Zhumashev

Managing Partner, KPMG Caucasus and Central Asia

Saken Zhumashev is an experienced leader in business consulting, with more than 20 years of industry expertise. He has significantly contributed to institutional and economic reforms in Central Asia and the European Union, focusing on large-scale transformation projects.

Most of his career path, Saken devoted to work in KPMG where he established the first regional practice of Management and Risk consulting. Saken became the Head of KPMG in Kazakhstan and Central Asia in 2018, and in 2022, he stepped into the position of Managing Partner & CEO for the KPMG Caucasus and Central Asia cluster.

Industry expertise: Power and Utilities, Oil and Gas, Transport and Logistics, and Financial Institutions

Education, licenses and certifications:

- Informational systems engineer, Karaganda State Technical University, Kazakhstan;
- Master of Business Administration (MBA), KIMEP University, Kazakhstan;
- Senior Executive Education C25, London Business School (LBS), United Kingdom;
- Management Development Program, Moscow School of Management Skolkovo; Russia;
- CIA, Certified Internal Auditor;
- CRMA, Certification in Risk Management Assurance;
- PMP, Project Management Professional

Activities and honors:

- Board Member of KPMG Middle East, South Asia, Caucasus and Central Asia region (MESAC);
- Co-chairman the Digitalization Working Group of the Foreign Investors' Council chaired by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (FIC);
- Saken is a regular speaker at numerous local and international forums, such as IDC Summit, CFO Summit, Astana Economic Forum, Astana Finance Day, Digital Bridge and other, sharing his insights on technology and business development.

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Samira Safarova

Legal Associate at KPMG Law Azerbaijan and Executive Assistant at KPMG Law EMA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa)

Samira began her legal career with internships at several prestigious law firms, where she built a solid foundation in various legal fields. She later served as Vice President for Academic Activities on the International Board of the European Law Students' Association (ELSA), where she managed and coordinated legal initiatives across 44 countries. In this capacity, she represented ELSA at prestigious international forums, such as the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights, and the World Trade Organization. Notably, she was also a delegate to the World Forum for Democracy in Strasbourg, France, organized by the Council of Europe in 2021. Through these roles, she led several international projects, including moot court competitions, research groups, legal reviews, and advocacy campaigns, with a focus on human rights, the rule of law, environmental sustainability, and technological advancement.

Currently, as a Legal Associate at KPMG Law Azerbaijan, Samira provides high-level legal advisory services to both private and public sector clients. Her expertise spans corporate law, labor law, data privacy, investment, health, advertisement, intellectual property, contract, environmental and migration law and extends to clients such as the Ministry of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan Deposit Insurance Fund, the Global Climate Partnership Fund (GCPF), managed by responsAbility Investments AG, etc. A key area of focus in her current role has been her involvement with the 29th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) and COP29 Azerbaijan Operating Company. Since the initiation of preparations for the COP29, Samira has been an active member of the legal team in helping to ensure that all company activities are fully compliant with applicable legal frameworks and contractual arrangements concluded for COP29, especially with vendors, partners, and service providers are aligned with the operational objectives of the Company and reflect the values of COP29, particularly its focus on sustainability and environmental responsibility. Additionally, she has been thoroughly involved in the legal review and negotiation of the Host Country Agreement, memorandums of understandings in different subject in collaboration with the COP29 Azerbaijan Operating Company and the United Nations.

Beyond her role as Legal Associate, Samira serves as Executive Assistant to Konstantin von Busekist, Managing Partner for KPMG Law Germany, and KPMG EMA Law Leader. Her responsibility focuses on the implementation of EMA-wide strategies and the expansion of KPMG Legal Services across the region. Additionally, she supports the Regional Advisory and Strategy Team for EMA, ensuring that key strategic initiatives are executed efficiently. One of her notable accomplishments includes the successful organization of the first EMA Law Partners and Directors Meeting in Athens, Greece — a crucial event that laid the foundation for stronger collaboration within the EMA Law community and further advanced KPMG's legal services in the region.

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Sarah O'Neill

Global Decarbonization Co-Lead and Associate Director KPMG International

Sarah leads on decarbonization services in KPMG International, with a focus on decarbonisation strategy, sustainable finance and transition planning services for financial institutions, with a focus on private equity, asset management and insurance.

Based out of KPMG in Ireland, Sarah works globally to support financial institutions to assess climate impacts and incorporate strategic climate considerations across the investment cycle, business strategy and operations, including responding to emerging regulatory and market demands, and Sustainable Finance, including Transition and Adaptation Finance.

Sarah has a background in climate, sustainability and economic development including working in emerging markets, and with government, international donors, third sector and private sector organizations, including a focus on social impact and the Just Transition.

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Seymur Niftaliyev

Director, Head of KPMG Law, KPMG in Azerbaijan

As an Attorney-at-Law with over 12 years of legal experience, Seymur provides a comprehensive range of expertise across various fields, including civil, contract, banking, labor, and migration laws. His work spans multiple legal advisory projects, such as due diligence, drafting shareholder agreements, and offering legal structuring and labor advice.

In his role as Director, Seymur has led numerous high-profile projects. He and his team provides legal services to COP29 Azerbaijan Operating Company. He led a number of major M&A projects in Azerbaijan, including due diligence, drafting of SPAs etc. In addition, he led legal services to infrastructure projects and was involved in dispute resolutions between parties.

In the realm of finance and banking law, Seymur has advised on the implementation of FATCA for top Azerbaijani banks, including Unibank and AFB Bank. He also served as legal counsel for the Islamic Development Bank Group, offering advice on financial leasing legislation, and advised Azerbaijan's Ministry of Taxes on FATCA requirements.

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Sharad Somani

Partner and Head of Infrastructure Advisory, ASPAC Head for Infrastructure Sector, KPMG in Singapore

Sharad leads the Infrastructure & Project Finance practice of KPMG based in Singapore

With over 20 years of experience in infrastructure sectors including renewable energy, water, waste to energy, transport, broadband and urban/industrial infrastructure Sharad has worked across the sector value chain with both public and private sectors. His skill set includes bid advisory, business planning, financial modeling, contract structuring, regulatory advisory, risk mitigation, project appraisal and fund syndication.

Sharad has been advising various governments and private sector clients in the Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa regions. He was previously with Enron and worked on power, transport and LNG projects in South Asia. He has worked on infrastructure projects in Singapore, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa. He has also advised clients on gas regulations and transportation issues in the SE Asian market. Sharad's main thrust has been on energy transition, privatization advisory, PPP structuring, transaction process management, contract structuring and arranging financing for water & waste, power, and infocomm projects in the region.



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Simon Weaver

Global Head of ESG Advisory, KPMG International, and Partner, KPMG in the UK

Simon is a Partner in KPMG in the UK and has been operating at the FTSE Board level for over 10 years.

Simon leads our ESG Advisory practice globally. Simon's focus is enabling companies to achieve their ambitions and potential in the climate and broader ESG arena. Simon was formerly an audit partner so helps clients understand the financial implications of their ESG decisions, and ensures that the data supporting decisions is robust.

Simon was KPMG's global representative on the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ('TCFD'), which includes the requirements for climate transition plans, and also sat on the ISSB's technical reference group. Simon is also working with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) on a guide around how to build the business case for sustainability.

Simon works across the corporates, financial services and public sectors — helping clients drive transformational change across the climate and broader ESG landscape. Simon's experience of supporting a large variety of large, complex listed companies enables him to bring a strategic, critical and innovative lens to his clients' issues — bringing practical solutions to help Board's move their strategic thinking forward. Simon is also responsible for ensuring sustainability is embedded across all areas of our Advisory services at KPMG.

Simon understands the pressures that Boards are under and ensures that the output from our projects are both understandable and robust, and presented in a way to enable the Board to stretch their planning horizons and take advantage of the opportunities available to them.

Simon has worked in a variety of sectors including Oil & Gas, Telco, Business Services & Outsourcing, Mining, Power & Utilities and Retail; and has worked in a range of countries including Australia, Netherlands, Spain, China, India, France, Kazakhstan, Norway and Canada.

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Tim Keenan

Senior Consultant, KPMG Sustainable Futures KPMG in Ireland

Tim Keenan is a Senior Consultant in KPMG Sustainable Futures based in Ireland. His background is in Environmental Sciences, where he focused on the key area of microplastics as emerging environmental contaminants. At KPMG, Tim works across client sustainability and forward planning, strategy and research. He has completed and contributed to a variety of projects, helping to secure successful outcomes for clients ranging from small-scale sustainability reporting frameworks and strategies to larger national-scale projects and ESG regulatory compliance. Tim is also co-chair of KPMG in Ireland Leaders 2050 Network, a professional network facilitated by KPMG for future leaders in all sectors who have an interest in net zero, clean growth and sustainability. Tim has contributed to a diverse range of strategic sustainability projects and applied research projects at the local, regional and national level for both public and private sector clients in the areas of decarbonization, biodiversity, circular/green economy, and climate risk.

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Turkel Seyfaddinli

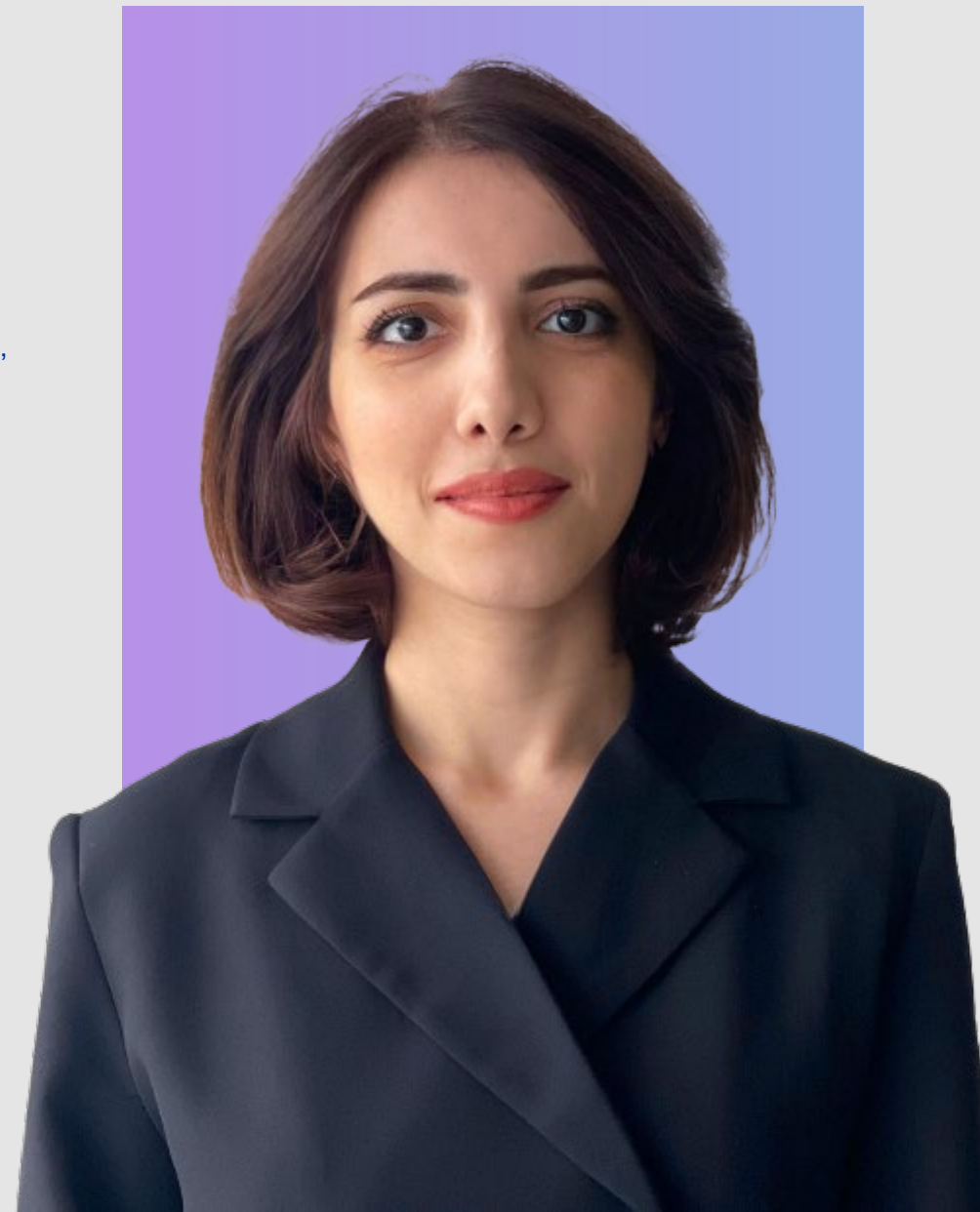
Senior Legal Associate, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Turkel is a Senior Legal Associate at KPMG in Azerbaijan, currently focused on legal matters for the COP29 Azerbaijan Operating Company, responsible for organizing the prestigious COP29 event. At KPMG, Turkel has been involved in various projects across energy, finance, corporate law, and employment law. She has conducted examinations and analyses of service agreements for state entity infrastructure, assessed Production Sharing Agreements (PSAs), and reviewed Share Purchase Agreements (SPAs). Turkel's expertise extends to a wide variety of contracts, including sales agreements, service contracts, sponsorship agreements, consultancy agreements, and distribution agreements. Turkel holds Master of Laws (LL.M) degrees from the University of Strasbourg in France, focusing on Energy Law, Management, Sustainable Development, and Business Law. This strong academic background enhances her practical expertise, providing her with a comprehensive understanding of the legal landscape in which she operates.

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Vitaly Yakovlev

Managing Partner, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Vitaly joined the firm in 2007 and currently serves as the Deal Advisory Partner for KPMG Caucasus and Central Asia (KPMG CCA). Previously, he was a member of the KPMG in the UK team from 2010 to 2012 and has made a vital contribution to the development of practices in KPMG Caucasus and Central Asia.

Vitaly possesses extensive expertise in Energy & Natural Resources, Infrastructure & Transport, Technology, Media, and Telecom. He also provides strategic advisory to prominent KPMG clients on valuation and corporate finance matters. He has led numerous transactions and landmark projects within the energy sector in the region, including the sale of renewable energy portfolios, the development of auction mechanisms for renewables, securing investors for thermal power plants, and creating tariff mechanisms for infrastructure sectors. His experience spans all sectors within the Power & Utilities domain.

Vitaly is a frequent speaker and moderator at international conferences and events, addressing topics such as renewable energy development, energy sector challenges, and sustainability.



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Wafa Jafri

Partner, Energy Deal Advisory, KPMG in the UK

Wafa is a Partner and UK lead of Energy and Natural Resources Strategy at KPMG.

Since joining KPMG she has worked with most major energy companies as well as energy intensive companies on creating and executing energy transition plans. She advises clients on strategy, partnerships and deals in the energy transition space.

Given her passion for energy transition and delivering net-zero, she is on the Board for Aldersgate Group - an organisation championing a competitive and environmentally sustainable economy

Prior to joining KPMG she worked for Department of Energy and Climate Change providing advice to the Secretary of State for Energy, Ministers and Senior officials at HMG on energy policy and at RWE where she worked in Corporate Strategy team for the generation business across Europe.

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Vusal Masmaliyev

Legal Associate, KPMG in Azerbaijan

Vusal Masmaliyev is a Legal Associate at KPMG Law Azerbaijan with over two years of professional experience. He has provided comprehensive legal services across various fields, including corporate law, contract law, civil law, labor law, data protection, and competition law.

Throughout his career, Vusal has played a key role in numerous high-profile projects, offering legal support in mergers & acquisitions, drafting shareholders' agreements and share purchase agreements, and conducting legal due diligence of companies. Additionally, he has advised international clients on establishing and structuring their businesses in Azerbaijan and provided legal advisory services in several areas.

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