

CEE ESG Forum 2024 - Vienna, Austria

11:30-12:00 – REGISTRATION

12:00-14:30 – SECTION 1: GETTING STARTED

12:00 - 12:10 Welcome remarks by Green Forum and introducing the host of the day

Following the welcoming words of Green Forum's CEO, the host of the day will introduce the agenda.

As the Head of ESG consultancy in CEE and Hungary at CBRE, Áron has more than 15 years of experience in developing and implementing sustainability strategies and preparing reports. Before settling in the commercial real estate industry, he advised clients in the financial, energy and automotive sectors.

People:

Csanád Csürös, CEO, Property Forum

Áron Horváth, Head of ESG CEE, CBRE

12:10 - 12:40 Time to act yesterday – Lessons from the UN's climate report

Climate change is widespread, rapid and intensifying. Our first keynote speaker serves as Vice Chair of Working Group III of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). She is also a Professor at the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy at the Central European University (CEU). Her research areas straddle between building energy use, energy and building policies, climate change mitigation, energy efficiency, sustainable development, co-benefits of sustainable architecture, and energy transition. She holds a PhD from the University of California (Los Angeles and Berkeley).

People:

Diána Ürge-Vorsatz, Vice-Chair, Working Group III, United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

12:40 - 13:00 How EU sustainable and transitional investment is driving environmental and financial returns

Sustainable and transitional finance is the foundation of the EU ESG policy portfolio. Transitional finance funds present a compelling opportunity for investment managers to realise the double benefits of maximising returns from environmentally high-performing assets, and of marketing to investors seeking environmentally focused funds. The EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) supports transitional investment portfolios that outline a compliance path to the EU Taxonomy's sustainability specifications. For environmentally-focused companies, this presents an opportunity to secure financing from SFDR-aligned investors. This presentation will outline guidance for navigating the complexities of EU sustainable finance and ESG rules, preparing companies for SFDR alignment and structuring transitional finance portfolios.

People:

Lisa Chase, Strategic Policy and Research Consultant, Lucky Fish Research and Communications

13:00 - 13:45 Financing a green revolution – How do top lenders approach ESG?

This panel will bring together top lenders to discuss their strategies for integrating ESG considerations into financing decisions. Experts will explore how the growing emphasis on sustainability is reshaping lending practices, risk assessment, and investment portfolios. The discussion will highlight successful case studies of green financing initiatives, the role of regulatory frameworks, and how lenders are measuring the impact of their ESG commitments.

Chair: **Gabriel Marosi**, Director | ESG & Risk Advisory, FSI, Deloitte

Conversation participants:

Ksenia Brockmann, Head of Green Financial Systems (GFS), Central Asia, Caucasus & Turkey, EBRD

Honorata Fijalka, Principal, Concordiste

Stefan Predorf, Head of GCRE Business Development and Execution, Erste Group Bank AG

Gergely Pókos, Managing Director, Green Program Directorate, OTP Bank

Katsiaryna Souvandjiev, ESG Funding and Innovation Lead, Raiffeisen Bank International AG

13:45 - 14:00 How to implement the circular economy – Best practices from the aluminium industry

This presentation will focus on the aluminium industry's leading role in implementing circular economy principles, showcasing successful strategies and best practices. Key topics will include innovative approaches to material recovery, collaborations within supply chains, and the economic benefits of transitioning to a circular model

People:

Marlene Johler, Head of Sustainability & Public Affairs, Hammerer Aluminium Industries

14:00 - 14:15 How to transform your sustainability strategy into climate and nature actions
Insights for corporates from a reforestation organization on taking leadership. By effectively turning sustainability strategies into actionable initiatives, corporations can play a significant role in addressing climate change and supporting biodiversity. Leadership in this area not only enhances corporate reputation but also contributes to a more sustainable future.

People:

David Bircher, Head of Growth, WeForest

14:15 - 14:30 Scope3 in the light of the net-zero program of Ericsson Group

As a telecom industry best practice, this session will be about a successful corporate program, where the whole supply chain has been reviewed from a sustainability aspect. There will be tips and tricks for low-hanging fruits, for engaging suppliers, to less low-hanging ones, from the direct and indirect sourcing sides as well.

People:

Dr. István Pesti-Farkas, Strategic Sourcing Manager, Mid-Central Europe, Ericsson Group

14:30-15:00 – NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK

15:00-17:00 – SECTION 2: DIVING INTO DETAILS

15:00 - 15:15 Reaching climate ambitions by pricing emissions

Daiana Rohan will explain how pricing emissions can effectively lead to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. The presentation will cover the Emissions Trading System (ETS1), including its historical development, price trends, and new regulations that are tightening market supply, along with expectations for the remainder of Phase IV, which runs until 2030. The presenter will also introduce ETS2, which focuses on emissions trading for road transport and buildings, discussing its coverage and how Member States are addressing its implementation. Additionally, the presentation will briefly touch on Voluntary Carbon Markets (VCM) and the dynamics of international carbon markets.

People:

Daiana Rohan, Corporate Sales Trader, Holt Global

15:15 - 16:00 ESG in practice – Implementing long-term strategies and ways to measure results
This panel will explore the practical aspects of implementing long-term ESG strategies within organizations. C-suite executives will discuss their approaches to embedding ESG principles into corporate culture, operations, and decision-making processes. Key topics will include effective frameworks for measuring and reporting ESG performance, the importance of stakeholder engagement, and strategies for aligning ESG goals with business objectives. Panelists will also share insights on overcoming common challenges and demonstrating tangible results.
Chair: **Gabriel Thoumi CFA FRM**, Council Member, S&P Sustainable Finance Scientific Council / CEO, Responsible Alpha
Conversation participants:
Jacek Hutyra, Chief ESG Officer, Leroy Merlin Polska
Jana Kovandzic Pataky, Senior ESG Program Manager, A1 Telekom Austria Group
Aneta Martišková, Corporate Affairs & CSR Director, Edenred Česká republika
Dr. Mathias Nell, Head of Sustainability, SALESIANER Gruppe
Razvan Nica, Managing Director, BuildGreen & Carbon Tool

16:00 - 16:15 The future of cement - How Ceresit is reducing the carbon footprint of its cementitious products
Discover the sustainability strategy of Ceresit in CEE with a specific focus on climate and circularity. Sébastien Glorie will showcase some of the actions taken to reduce CO2 emissions from production (scope 1 & 2) as well as from raw materials and packaging (Scope 3). Ceresit is one of the key brands of Henkel that provides Tiling, ETICS, Flooring and Interior system solutions. Innovation, collaboration, education and are the driving forces behind the first positive results
People:
Sébastien Glorie, Sustainability Manager, Henkel

16:15 - 17:00 The future of decarbonisation – How to build and rebuild for a better future
This panel will focus on the pivotal role of decarbonisation in the real estate industry, exploring innovative approaches to sustainable building practices and infrastructure development. Leading executives from the real estate sector will discuss strategies for reducing carbon emissions across the property lifecycle, including the use of green materials, energy-efficient technologies, and sustainable design principles. The conversation will highlight successful case studies of decarbonisation initiatives within real estate and examine the importance of collaboration among developers, investors, and policymakers to meet climate goals.
Chair: **Tjidsger Wierda**, ESG Partner, Walvius Partners
Conversation participants:
Hubert Abt FRICS, CEO, New Work & workcloud24
Giovanna Jagger, Senior Director ESG Market Development EMEA, International WELL Building Institute
Daniel Schreiner, ESG Lead, Purpose Green
Susanne Steinböck, Group Head of Sustainability and Corporate Communications, CA Immo

17:00 CLOSING REMARKS