



EMBA Profiles

Class of January 2025

A



Nifemi Adeniyi

Nigeria

Balance Sheet Manager

Treasury Rand Merchant Bank, Nigeria

Sector: Financial - Commercial Banking

Nifemi is an award-winning banking professional with over 12 years of experience in Treasury and Corporate Banking. Currently serving as the Balance Sheet Manager at Rand Merchant Bank Nigeria, she manages the bank's investment portfolio, formulating and implementing funding and liquidity strategies. She organised the successful issuance of debt capital instruments to fund the bank's short-term needs and recently spearheaded the registration of RMB Nigeria's N\$40 billion multi-instrument Bond programme.



Alrohaimi Alrohaimi

Saudi Arabia

Associated Professor

Shaqra University, Saudi Arabia

Sector: Healthcare

Dr. Abdulmohsen H. Al-Rohaimi, PhD, in Pharmacology from Tufts University, is a visionary leader in healthcare and education. As SFDA Executive Director, he built Saudi Arabia's clinical trials infrastructure. Former Dean of Pharmacy at Shaqra University, he pioneered AI-driven drug discovery. As CEO of GCC Combinator, he fosters MENA startups through blockchain, AI, and tokenisation, democratising investment, accelerating innovation and bridging funding gaps. Through this, he is shaping the next wave of innovation-driven economic growth.



Ilkin Aslanov

Azerbaijan

Deputy Head of Training, Education and Certification Department

The State Oil Company of The Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan

Sector: Energy and Utilities

Ilkin's career began at The State Oil Company of Azerbaijan as a specialist in crude oil, oil products and natural gas, marketing and export operations division, with a comprehensive knowledge of both local and global financial and commodity (oil and gas) markets. Ilkin is currently assigned to lead the career enhancement programmes for employed specialised oil and gas workers and engineers as well as the recruitment and preparation of new specialised workers.

**Vadim Astapovich**

United Kingdom

Head of Investment Banking

Oman Investment Bank

Sector: Financial - Investment Banking

Vadim has a background in metals and mining, chemicals, industrials equity research and investment banking, with a primary focus on EMEA markets. After a successful career in the UK, he now leads a team developing a new regional investment banking franchise in the GCC. His objective is to enhance professional service standards in the region and strengthen its integration into global capital markets.

B**Gennaro Bizzarro**

United States

Corporation Counsel

City of New Britain, Connecticut, United States

Sector: Law and Legal Services

As the Chief Legal Officer for the City of New Britain, Gennaro manages the City's legal department and advises on all aspects of municipal law and administration. He is the founder of GB Law Group and former General Counsel to Premier Basketball, LLC, and his clients include public officials, corporate executives and professional athletes. Long active in his community, Gennaro has been recognised for his civic engagement and also served a term as a Senator in the Connecticut state legislature.

**Joel Bowman**

United Kingdom

Commercial Director

Grant & Bowman, United Kingdom

Sector: Consumer Goods

An advisor-turned-operator, Joel started his career advising Fortune Global 500 companies as a strategy consultant at Monitor Deloitte. He later drove corporate innovation by building strategic partnerships with startups at Deloitte Ventures. Now, as Commercial Director of Grant & Bowman, he is on a mission to transform his third-generation family business into a long-term global success story.

**Jason Brandenberger**

United States

Head of Marketing & Development, EMEA

Gowan Company, United States

Sector: Agribusiness

Jason is a native son of Yuma, Arizona and grew up within its agricultural community. A graduate of The University of Arizona, he obtained a BS in Microbiology from the College of Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences and a Juris Doctor from the College of Law. While at Gowan, he has served in various functions including supply chain, sales, business development, mergers & acquisitions and seed treatment. Most recently he has accepted a role managing marketing, development and third party relationships for Gowan's EMEA region.

C**Dexter Chong**

Singapore

Founder and Managing Consultant

Cycas Solutions, United Kingdom

Sector: Consulting - Project and Programme Management

As Founder and Managing Consultant of Cycas Solutions, Dexter advises high-growth organisations on talent and organisational challenges. His leadership experience spans senior HR roles at Binance, TikTok, Alibaba, and Lazada, where he led initiatives in compensation strategy, workforce planning, and cultural integration. Dexter is committed to aligning HR practices with business goals, enabling organisations to build agile, high-performing teams in competitive global markets.

**Alisha Corbett**

South Africa

Director and Consultant Actuary

Actuarial Creatives, United Kingdom

Sector: Consulting - Operations and Performance Improvement

Alisha advises on business transformation projects to assist financial services clients achieve strategic business targets through risk identification and solution implementation. She is a Fellow Actuary of the Institute of Actuaries with extensive experience in Life Insurance and Employee Benefits. She was previously Head of Division, responsible for the performance of a multibillion-dollar assets-under-management portfolio. She is passionate about leadership and female equality.



Doug Coughran Gomez Pimienta

Mexico

Entrepreneur

Self, United States

Sector: Technology

Doug is a tech product and growth leader, having founded, led and exited a category-defining Silicon Valley company (\$10 billion GMV) in a mature market. He has a track record of creating first-of-a-kind partnerships from scratch with Fortune 500 leaders across industries and geographies, and has led cross-functional teams in the launch of five products in 19 countries through the entire product cycle. Doug has a BSc from MIT, speaks English, Spanish, Portuguese and French, and loves the ocean, design and food.

D



Toju David

Nigeria

Director

Axia Capital Management Partners, and Ploutheos Limited, Nigeria

Sector: Financial - Finance

Toju is a seasoned finance professional with over 20 years of transformative impact in corporate finance, wealth management, and strategy. He serves as Director at Ploutheos Limited, and Axia Capital Management Partners, where he has led transformation and anchored complex financial transactions. A visionary leader, he spearheaded a nationally celebrated gubernatorial campaign in Nigeria. Toju is passionate about innovation, excellence, and fostering a more equitable and inclusive global society.



Dina Dramaretskaya

Russia

Regional Account Director, Europe/ Africa/CIS/ Pakistan

Shell Global Solutions, Netherlands

Sector: Energy and Utilities

Dina has extensive international commercial experience in the oil and gas/ Petrochemicals sectors. She has fulfilled leadership roles in business development, technology and innovation, operations and value chain. She is responsible for the portfolio of major oil refining customers in Europe/Africa/CIS, helping them in the energy transition journey. Dina is a certified executive coach, mental health champion, marathon runner, diversity/gender balance/female leadership advocate.

E

**Mollie Eliasof**

United States

CEO, Executive Coach and Leadership Consultant

Mollie Eliasof LLC, United States

Sector: Consulting

Mollie is an internationally Accredited Executive Coach and Licensed Psychotherapist, with 15 years of experience enhancing peak performance of the world's most influential people, including C-Suite executives of Fortune 100 companies, partners of financial firms and celebrities. Utilising her straight-forward approach with her clients and while speaking around the world, Mollie aims to 'move the needle', accelerating decision making, simplifying complexity and optimising investment of time.

F

**Yuliya Flynn**

United States

Attorney

Samek & Flynn LLC, United States

Sector: Law and Legal Services

Yuliya is an attorney and an entrepreneur. She has spent a decade advising clients on business transactions, mergers and acquisitions, organisational structure, legal compliance and contract negotiations. In 2024, Yuliya founded her own firm where she continues to advise clients in the technology, retail, healthcare, hospitality and manufacturing fields, both within the U.S. and internationally. In addition to practicing law, Yuliya is a passionate about entrepreneurship and innovation.

**Colin Freitag**

United Kingdom

Head of Business Management - Global Metals

StoneX Group Inc., United Kingdom

Sector: Financial - Other

Colin has held a variety of roles during his 12-year career at StoneX – a global financial services franchise. Starting within operations, he progressed to the level of Deputy Chief Operating Officer for EMEA, before making the lateral move into his current position as Head of Business Management for the Metals Team. In this role, he oversees day-to-day management of 120 sales, trading and refinery operations staff globally, as well as project management, technology and corporate development.

**Jordan Fudge**

United States

General Partner

Sinai Ventures, United States

Sector: Financial - Investment Management

Founder of Sinai Ventures, a global venture capital firm focused on technology and media. Jordan oversees strategy, fundraising and investment decisions, having grown the fund to manage over \$200 million in assets. Throughout his career he has completed over 100 investments in technology start-ups across various stages and sectors. He also founded the firm's media fund subsidiary, New Slate Ventures, which has financed and produced award-winning films, documentaries, and television series.

**Anthony Fung**

United Kingdom

Director - Global Business Partnerships

American Express Global Business Travel, United Kingdom

Sector: Leisure, Travel and Tourism

Anthony is an authentic leader with extensive experience across diverse roles and cultures. A creative problem solver, he won innovation awards for technology deployment in travel. With a successful record of accelerating strategic growth and profitability, he currently drives the commercial optimisation of \$20 billion in volumes through product development and AI. Previously, as Head of Supplier Relations in Asia, he forged global partnerships with leading airlines and hotels. Outside travel, Anthony founded an international leather goods business, showcasing his innovative designs.

G

**Evan Greene**

Canada

Associate, Venture Capital

BDC Capital, Canada

Sector: Investment Management - Private Equity, Venture Capital, Hedge Fund

Evan is a specialist in the finance and technology sectors, bringing a wealth of experience in both entrepreneurship and investing. His role in building an early-stage venture capital backed technology company paved the way for his current position as a venture capitalist at Canada's largest investment fund. Today, Evan provides support to a \$200 million portfolio of Canadian technology companies that were significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

H

**Kate Hammer**

Canada

Vice President, Engagement

Vancouver Foundation, Canada

Sector: Nonprofits and Social Enterprises

Kate is the Vice President of Engagement at Vancouver Foundation, one of the largest public endowments in Canada with over \$1.5 billion in funds and assets. She leads communications, marketing, government relations, evaluation and research. She is an award-winning writer and investigative journalist who has worked for The New York Times and The Globe and Mail and formerly served as a senior advisor to the Premier of Ontario. She co-hosts Hotel Pacifico, a Canadian political podcast.

**Stefan Herbert**

Switzerland

Head of Technical Development

B. Braun Medical AG, Switzerland

Sector: Healthcare

Stefan is a dynamic leader with a passion for digital transformation and process optimisation. With a Bachelor's in Systems Engineering and certifications in Lean Six Sigma and Product Management, he has spearheaded innovative projects across the pharmaceutical and technical sectors. From launching AI-driven solutions to leading cross-functional teams, Stefan consistently delivers results that drive efficiency, growth, and innovation in fast-paced environments.

**Farid Hidayatzade**

Azerbaijan

Chief Corporate Sales Officer & Board Member

Kapital Bank OJSC, Azerbaijan

Sector: Financial - Commercial Banking

Farid is the Chief Corporate Sales Officer and Deputy Chairman of the Board at Kapital Bank OJSC, one of Azerbaijan's largest banks. He leads corporate sales operations, strategic initiatives, and long-term growth planning in response to evolving financial markets. With a vision that extends beyond traditional finance, Farid is committed to fostering innovation and redefining industry practices to meet modern challenges.

K

**Khattab Khattab**

Palestine

General Manager

HeliumDoc, Qatar

Sector: Healthcare

Khattab is an accomplished leader and entrepreneur known for driving digital transformation in healthcare across Qatar, the UAE, and Nigeria. As General Manager of HeliumDoc, he co-led its evolution from Meddy and navigated HeliumDoc through an historic acquisition. Khattab delivers innovative digital solutions to enhance patient experiences and expand healthcare accessibility.

L

**Ruairí Laughlin-McCann**

Ireland

Director/Partner

MoreGroup, Ireland

Sector: Accounting and Tax

Ruairí is an experienced entrepreneur and founder director with over 20 years of experience leading startup and mature enterprises through various phases of growth and development. He is currently the co-founder and director of MoreGroup, a tax, accounting and corporate services business specialising in private client services. As a chartered governance professional and trusted advisor to his clients since 2008, he has operated in Central Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Far East.

**Zhen Yi Lee**

Singapore

Senior Manager

Optimal Consulting Group, Singapore

Sector: Consulting - Other

With strong academic roots in psychology, Zhen Yi brings a decade of practical expertise in designing and delivering talent management solutions across industries and markets in the Asia Pacific region. In her current role with a boutique consulting firm, she offers a distinct blend of business and technical insight to drive growth and innovation. Guided by a data-informed approach, Zhen Yi seeks to equip and empower individuals and organisations to be future-ready and at their best.

**Jack Leung**

United States

Principal

Untaymed, United States

Sector: Media

Jack is a seasoned mergers and acquisitions professional, most recently advising stewards of multi-national corporates on behalf of Morgan Stanley. He has helped shape strategic investments and divestitures at the intersection of technologies and entertainment. Leveraging domain knowledge, he hopes to democratise developed market access for underrepresented voices with an artist-led, creator-empowered, global music collective. Jack often enjoys exploring ideas at the frontier of astrophysics.



Tamuna Lomidze

Georgia

Cluster CFO-MSC Georgia and Central Asia

MSC, Georgia

Sector: Transportation and Logistics

With over a decade of finance management experience, Tamuna is a cluster CFO, leading finance function of entities in Caucasus and Central Asia region at MSC, the largest global shipping line. As well as an accounting degree, ACCA and CIA designations, Tamuna has a master's degree in biophysics and is passionate about sustainability. Having managed significant changes in different cultures over the years, Tamuna believes that responsible leadership is pivotal to sustainable transformation.

M



Omololu Makinde

Nigeria

Senior AI Solutions Engineer

OFCOM, United Kingdom

Sector: Technology

Omololu (Lolu) has over 11 years of experience in ML and AI implementation across multiple functional areas, sectors and industries combined with cumulative learning from several AI products, projects and solutions. He has worked across start-ups, multi-billion-dollar enterprises, and government organisations, focusing on value creation. This has given him vast AI implementation experience. In one sentence, he would be described as a dynamic tech lead with hands-on expertise.



Rivha Mandavha

South Africa

Senior Investment Manager

Norfund, South Africa

Sector: Financial - Impact Investment

Rivhatshinyi Mandavha is a Senior Investment Manager for Norfund, the Norwegian Investment Fund for developing countries, with a mission is to create jobs and to improve lives by investing in sustainable businesses and overseeing investments into Renewable Energy. Her finance career spans private credit, private equity, project finance and investment banking with a focus on emerging markets across infrastructure, healthcare and manufacturing sectors.



Elvira Mazitova

Germany/Russia

Team Lead and Founder of training company Skills Boost
Renesas, Germany

Sector: Technology

With more than 15 years of experience in the IT industry, Elvira developed her career from Web Developer into Team Lead position in the Automotive sector. Elvira has lived in the USA, Czech Republic, Belgium and Germany. She has profound knowledge in Project Management, Scaled Agile Framework and IT Operations. This knowledge and cross-disciplinary experience triggered her to establish her own training company 'Skills Boost' and work as freelance trainer in her spare time.



Dophine Mbaabu

Kenya

Alternatives Investment Specialist
Citibank, UK

Sector: Financial – Investment Management

Dophine is a Senior Alternative Investments Product Specialist with over nine years of expertise in financial services. Currently VP at Citibank, Dophine manages \$80 billion+ in AUM and drives Alternative Investments capital raising efforts for institutional and private wealth investors. She has proven success in product strategy, stakeholder management and regulatory compliance and is skilled in market analysis, investor relations and innovative fund development, with a track record of expanding product offerings globally.



Daniel McKinlay

United Kingdom

Chief Executive
Firstfruits, United Kingdom

Sector: Nonprofits and Social Enterprises

Following a career in business and latterly as an Anglican Minister, Dan is the first Chief Executive of Firstfruits Foundation. The charity and single family office has giving partnerships with organisations in over 25 countries. Daniel is focussed on streamlining processes, developing an impact reporting framework and maintaining relationships with strategic partners throughout the world. A keen networker, he coordinates gatherings for HNW and UHNW faith based givers and investors.

**Conrad Mulherin**

Australia/Canada

Chief Commercial Officer

Vytas Ltd., UK

Sector: Energy and Utilities

Conrad is a dual Canadian-Australian citizen with 15 years of experience in a variety of commercial roles across the resources and energy transition sectors. He is currently Chief Commercial Officer at Vytas, a technology materials company developing projects in silicon and hydrogen. Conrad has a background in advisory and private equity investing. He is passionate about transitioning to a carbon-free economy through the intersection of earth sciences and technology.

**Narcis Murarescu**

Romania

Chief Operating Officer

PRISMA Software Switzerland, Switzerland

Sector: Technology

Co-founder of PRISMA Software, a company specialising in software for highly regulated sectors, Narcis leads the company's international expansion and oversees engineering projects. He collaborates with automotive manufacturers to develop emerging vehicle technologies from concept to mass production. Narcis' entrepreneurial ventures include recycling, the automotive service industry, and ContaDeal, a fintech platform. Beyond technology, his interests encompass finance and politics.

N**Lucas Nogueira**

Brazil

Region Manager

Manuchar, Belgium

Sector: Energy and Utilities

Lucas is a dynamic business leader with over 15 years of international experience spanning diplomacy, commodity trading, M&A and regional management. Fluent in five languages, he has lived and worked in six countries, excelling in cross-border transactions and post-merger integrations. Currently, as Region Manager for Brazil at Manuchar, he oversees operations generating over US \$340 million annually. Lucas is passionate about intercultural collaboration and growth strategies.

O

**Charles Odii**

Nigeria

CEO/Director General

Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Nigeria

Sector: Government - Other

Charles Odii is the Director General and CEO of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria, and the Secretary of the National Council of SMEs in Nigeria. He is a national policy fellow responsible for SME development through policy coordination, provision of guidance, resources, opportunities and workforce support for 40 million SMEs in Nigeria. Charles' impactful initiatives have resulted in the creation of 20,000 jobs. He is the winner of the Sun Newspaper Public service award.

**Zara Ohanyan**

Armenia

Senior Technical Program Manager

Affinidi, Germany

Sector: Technology

With over 15 years of experience in IT leadership and project management, Zara has spearheaded multimillion-euro digital transformation projects across fintech, retail and e-commerce sectors. She has successfully launched global e-commerce platforms, secured significant startup investments, and enhanced operational efficiency through strategic process improvements. Zara co-founded TEWER, a thriving community that empowers ambitious women to excel in their careers, relationships, and personal growth.

**Latifat Okara**

Nigeria

Principal and Americas Regional Lead

The Economist Group, Nigeria

Sector: Consulting - Strategy

Latifat is the Principal and Americas Regional Lead for health policy at Economist Impact, the think tank arm of The Economist Group. She defines and executes a global strategy for the health leadership area and assesses major client needs to design relevant, engaging and cutting-edge research programs. She serves on the board of the World Health Summit and helps set the international agenda to advance effective health policies and improve equitable access to health worldwide.

**Takayuki Omori**

Japan

Founder & CEO

RouteX Inc., Japan

Sector: Consulting - Strategy

Takayuki is the Founder and CEO of RouteX Inc., a think tank specialising in global startup ecosystems. He has extensive experience supporting new ventures with international expansion, facilitating open innovation for large enterprises, and developing investment strategies for VCs/CVCs. Takayuki has worked with startups, large enterprises and governments worldwide. Notably, he established RouteX Inc. subsidiaries in Russia and France, significantly expanding the company's international presence.

P**Jack Patrick**

United Kingdom

General Counsel

ONE Group, United Kingdom

Sector: Financial - FinTech

Jack has a broad legal experience spanning corporate, investment fund and commercial matters across a variety of financial services. Having started his legal career with Macfarlanes LLP in London, Jack spent time at a Big Four consultancy, seven years with an Alternative Investment Fund manager and is now in his third year of leading the Legal Team of a growth-stage multi-jurisdictional fintech.

**Ana Luiza Pellicer**

Brazil

Co-Owner and Commercial Director

Mió Coffee Ltd, United Kingdom

Sector: Agribusiness

Ana Luiza is Mió's Co-Owner and Commercial Director. Mió is a coffee farm in Monte Santo de Minas, Brazil and an exporter and importer of green coffee in the UK and Europe. After managing contemporary art exhibitions throughout Latin America for many years, Ana decided to get involved with the family's coffee business, transforming the farm into an international, technological and science-driven company, covering every part of the coffee supply chain.

Q

**Min Qin**

Hong Kong S.A.R.

Founder and CEO

BitHarbour (Hong Kong) Limited

Sector: Financial - FinTech

Min is the CEO and founder of a quantitative trading firm established in 2014. His team of 40 focuses on automated trading in the Chinese and crypto markets, using advanced AI models. Prior to this, Min worked at Morgan Stanley, Fidelity, Moody's and Microsoft. He holds a degree in Environmental Science, self-taught computer science, and earned the CFA Charter in 2012. Min is now building AI-focused teams to enhance his company and exploring new ventures in AI, education and clean energy.

R

**Aashish Rajesh**

India

Director of Strategy

Worldwide Formations, United Arab Emirates

Sector: Consulting - Strategy

In addition to serving as Director of Strategy at Worldwide Formations, Aashish works closely with the UAE government to combat financial crime and was pivotal in the UAE's exit from the FATF grey list. Driving transformation, collaboration and growth, Aashish also consults in emerging industries including automation, AR/VR and gamification. He champions innovation, empowerment and entrepreneurship, balancing his passion for music, aviation and learning with community service and mentorship.

**Tom Reynolds**

United Kingdom

Director of Policy & Communications

The Medical Defence Union (MDU), United Kingdom

Sector: Financial - Insurance

Tom is an Executive Director, serving as the MDU's chief spokesperson on matters of public policy. He is responsible for the organisation's marketing and communications departments, and has executive oversight of all internal communications across the MDU Group. Tom started his career as an advisor and researcher in the UK Parliament, before moving into the medical defence sector: indemnity and insurance. Outside of the MDU, he is a Justice of the Peace (magistrate) for Central London.

**Natalia Roszkowska**

Poland

Board Member

Seen Holding, Poland

Sector: Environmental Services and Sustainability

Natalia serves as a board member at Seen Holding, a family-owned capital group focused on investing in engineering and technology companies dedicated to environmental protection. She is responsible for overseeing strategic development and driving portfolio expansion, which now encompasses wind and solar farms, energy storage systems and electromobility solutions. Before joining the family business, Natalia pursued a career in opera, where she worked as both a project manager and a soloist.

**Roberto Rota**

Switzerland

Director

Gübelin, Switzerland

Sector: Retail

Roberto is a director at Gübelin, an historic Swiss company active in the watches and jewelry business. He has been working for over 20 years in luxury; Roberto went from a goldsmith, honing his skills in luxury manufacturing, to marketing and sales roles. He is now part of the senior management at Gübelin, developing and implementing new strategies for the luxury retail sector. His international exposure includes serving on the board of the Swiss Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

S

**Diego Salama**

Bolivia

Partnerships & Liaison Specialist

United Nations University, Netherlands

Sector: Government - Other

With over ten years of experience in strategic partnerships, programme management and communications within the UN System, Diego currently serves as a Partnerships Officer at the United Nations University. He advances strategic planning, governance, policy development, partnership management and budgeting. Alongside his policy work, Diego is a researcher and lecturer at Leiden University, where he earned a PhD in International Relations, focused on UN peacekeeping in the Middle East.

**Frankie Sanjana**

United Kingdom

Management Consultant

Statistics Without Borders, Netherlands

Sector: Consulting - Strategy

Frankie is a strategic leader with over ten years' experience in management consulting across a wide range of sectors, in particular TMT, healthcare and social impact. She directs strategy creation and development, provides guidance to senior management teams and supports and enables change. She currently develops relationships with new clients and scopes, leads and manages projects at Statistics Without Borders. She is a former professional triathlete (GB) and international rower (Scotland).

**Rodolphe Seiliez**

France

Associate Director, Comparator Sourcing and Supply (R&D)

Novartis, Switzerland

Sector: Healthcare

Rodolphe brings a decade of experience in the pharmaceutical industry and currently serves as an Associate Director in the R&D space at Novartis in Basel, Switzerland. With deep expertise in clinical trial operations, Rodolphe manages complex global programmes, ensuring compliance, efficiency and quality in drug development, all whilst managing a significant budget. Leveraging his international experience, Rodolphe has developed strong skills in strategy, negotiation and alliance management.

**Fahad Shaban**

Pakistan

Senior Engineering Manager

Thales, Australia

Sector: Aerospace, Aviation and Defence

Fahad serves in the leadership team of a large-scale Royal Australian Navy capability sustainment project. After developing the solution architecture to meet technical business requirements leading up to project launch, he is now executing that strategic vision as the Head of Engineering Delivery. Fahad aspires to be an inspirational leader and has a demonstrated history of leading high-performing teams in diverse portfolios within civil aviation and maritime defence.

**Tamara Samman**

United States

Chief Strategy and Growth Officer

Collaboration, Management and Control Solutions (CMCS), UAE (United Arab Emirates)

Sector: Technology

Tamara leads growth and operational excellence at CMCS, a provider of project management software and services for construction and real estate development in MENA. She oversees strategy, business development and special projects. Previously, Tamara spent eight years at Cisco, leading Smart Cities, Internet of Things, and Public Sector operations. With dual masters degrees in business analytics and behavioural science, she bridges technical teams and executives to deliver practical solutions.

**Sergey Shahinyan**

Armenia

Deputy CEO on Retail Business

EFES Insurance CJSC, Armenia

Sector: Financial - Insurance

Sergey is an accomplished leader in the insurance industry with 15 years of experience transforming Armenia's insurance landscape. He has played a pivotal role in modernising insurance, achieving \$5 million in contract sales, and expanding market share by over 50%. Known for his strategic acumen, he has led teams of over 2000 agents, launched 12 branches, and developed comprehensive training programmes. Sergey's expertise establishes him as a dynamic force in driving revenue growth and operational excellence.

**Abdelkhalig Shaib**

Sudan

Legal Counsel & Board Secretary

Bank ABC, Bahrain

Sector: Financial - Commercial Banking

Abdelkhalig is a Sudanese attorney and advocate with extensive experience in banking, corporate governance, and international law. He advises on corporate acquisitions, sanctions regimes, and governance issues. He is also an active voice in Sudan's constitutional reform and gender justice initiatives. Abdelkhalig has addressed global forums, authored articles on Sudan's politics, and engages in pro bono work for social justice, reflecting his commitment to impactful change in Sudan and beyond.

**Dmytro Shylyuk**

Ukraine

Sales Leader

Google, Poland

Sector: Technology

With over 14 years at Google and nearly 20 in tech, Dmytro now leads a Sales Team based in Warsaw. His expertise spans technology, digital marketing, strategy, leadership, e-commerce and building and leading high-performing teams across landscapes of burgeoning growth, economic downturns and wartime. He is passionate about leveraging technology for growth, particularly in deep tech and AI. Dmytro also mentors gaming and tech startups and is involved in ventures within fintech and e-commerce.

**Jacek Siewiera**

Poland

Investor / Associated Professor

Military Institute, Poland

Sector: Technology

Jacek is former Secretary of State and Head of the National Security Council of the Republic of Poland in 2022-2025. In addition to being a military doctor and a lawyer by training (LtCol. PhDm) Jacek is a former member of NATO Science and Technology Organization. He has been awarded several medals for courage, as well as the Commander's Cross of Finland, Grand Commander's Cross for Services to Lithuania and the Illinois Military Medal of Merit (US). Jacek is currently pursuing his scientific and business interests in the area of national security and dual-use technologies.

**Tamar Silver**

Israel

Senior Project Manager

XT Shipping, Israel

Sector: Maritime Transportation and Logistics

Tamar brings over 20 years of experience managing complex, large scale projects in public and maritime sectors. Currently leading initiatives to reduce fleet carbon emissions, she specialises in cross-functional collaboration, strategy execution and resource optimisation. Tamar is also pursuing an M.Sc. in Blue Biotechnologies to advance sustainable practices in the maritime industry.

**Lina Sio**

Macau S.A.R.

Chairman

Capital Estate Limited, Hong Kong S.A.R.

Sector: Real Estate

Lina is the founder of Grantit, a pioneering financial technology company offering innovative, unsecured lending solutions through a self-developed online platform in Hong Kong. Under her leadership, Grantit has transformed the lending landscape by introducing advanced data-driven credit assessments. In 2023, Lina transitioned to the role of Chairman and Executive Director of Capital Estate Limited, a publicly listed company engaged in property development, hotel operations and financial investments.

**Madhan Srinivasan**

United Kingdom

Director

Tullow Plc, United Kingdom

Sector: Energy and Utilities

Madhan is the Managing Director and a key member of the senior leadership team at Tullow Plc, an integrated energy company operating across the Pan-African region. With P&L accountability in five countries, he oversees strategy, production and capital deployment. He manages government and stakeholder relationships in complex geographies and is currently steering a multi-billion-dollar energy project in a remote part of Kenya towards investment decision.

**Melody Sun**

United Kingdom

Managing Director

Maxim Group, LLC, United States

Sector: Financial - Investment Banking and Securities

Melody is a Managing Director at Maxim Group, LLC, a New York-based full-service global investment bank and brokerage firm. She has extensive experience raising capital for biotech companies and is also responsible for increasing the firm's presence in Asia. Melody also advocates for insurance reform as a Biotech Fellow at No Patient Left Behind, championing affordable access to medicines.

**Wei Sun**

China

Managing Partner

Zhong Lun Law Firm, China

Sector: Law and Legal Services

Wei is a dispute resolution lawyer specialising in construction, energy and other sectors. With over 20 years of practice, he has acted as counsel or arbitrator in over 300 cases, receiving significant accolades such as Who's Who Legal 2023 Arbitration 'Global Leader' and Asian Legal Business 'Top 15 Chinese Litigators.' Wei is also China's Representative to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Working Group II and Court Member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

T

**Mariam Tchanturia**

Georgia

Area Marketing Lead

Mastercard, Georgia

Sector: Technology

Mariam is a marketing director with over ten years of managerial experience in leading successful marketing initiatives across multiple industries. Having served as the marketing director for McDonald's Georgia, Mariam is currently leading marketing and communications for Mastercard in the Caucasian cluster. Mariam was named a Forbes '30 Under 30' honoree. She has a background in consulting for the FMCG industry, blending expertise in marketing with her passion for psychology.

**Andrew Tobin**

Ireland

Infrastructure Delivery Manager

Meta, Ireland

Sector: Technology

With over 20 years of experience in the industry, Andrew has built a strong reputation as a seasoned engineer and team leader. His career spans a diverse range of engineering projects, from commercial ventures to large-scale data centres and pharmaceutical plants. Andrew holds a degree in Building Services Engineering, along with post-graduate diplomas in Project Management, Fire Safety Design and Construction Contract Law, as well as an MSc in Innovation and Strategy.

**Adam Trcka**

Czech Republic

Delivery Executive

IBM, Czech Republic

Sector: Technology

Adam is a dynamic IT transformation manager with over 18 years of experience delivering complex global projects. Skilled in managing multi-stakeholder environments, he leads diverse teams to create innovative, business-aligned solutions. With expertise in agile methodologies and strategic execution, Adam excels at fostering collaboration and achieving measurable results that align technology with business goals.

**Jen Truby**

United Kingdom

Chief of Staff

Gamma, United Kingdom

Sector: Telecommunications

Jen is Chief of Staff to the CEO at Gamma, a telecoms company based in the UK and Europe. In her role, she sees the whole business at high level and drives strategic objectives across functions. She has degrees in Physics and Maths, Masters in Earth Sciences (also at Oxford) and a PhD in Volcanology. On 'leaving' academia, she chose a career in software engineering, and Masters in Computer Science. She combines a detail-oriented analytical mind with a desire to understand and set wider strategy.

**Linda Tsarwe**

Zimbabwe

Senior Investment Officer

Trade and Development Bank, Kenya

Sector: Investment Management - Private Equity, Venture Capital, Hedge Fund

Linda is a Senior Investment Officer with the Trade and Development Bank, a development finance institution in Africa. She has predominantly worked in asset management as an investment analyst and portfolio manager for listed and unlisted equity. Currently, she is part of a team managing a trade fund that invests in trade finance assets across Africa. Her primary roles include fundraising (mainly institutional capital from African investors), as well as sourcing Africa trade finance assets.

U**Norberto Ubeda Abad**

Spain

Sales & Business Development

AVL Powertrain UK / BRIDGE Electrification, United Kingdom

Sector: Aerospace, Aviation and Defence

With a passion for sustainable mobility, Norberto bridges technical innovation and commercial success in the transportation sector. Through engineering leadership roles in Canada, UK, and Austria, he developed expertise in powertrain technologies and hydrogen fuel cell innovations. Currently driving business development for AVL's aerospace expansion through BRIDGE Electrification, he develops strategic partnerships to accelerate the adoption of sustainable transportation technologies.

V

**Andreas Vetsch**

Switzerland

Executive Director

LGT Capital Partners, Switzerland

Sector: Financial - Finance

Andreas is an Executive Director at LGT Capital Partners and a Senior Portfolio Manager with extensive expertise in asset management, specialising in hedge funds and multi-alternative solutions. He successfully manages the firm's flagship systematic hedge fund offering and is a key member of the multi-alternatives portfolio management team, overseeing investments across private equity, hedge funds, private credit, private infrastructure, real estate and insurance linked securities.

W

**Kathrin Wedekind**

Germany

Head of Public Side Advisory

SMBC Bank EU AG, Germany

Sector: Financial - Investment Banking and Securities

Kathrin is a qualified German lawyer and serves as Director of SMBC Europe's Compliance Advisory Team. She advises on regulated financial services and cross-border trading, and supports an ECB onboarding project. With over a decade of industry experience, including senior compliance and legal roles at global players such as Citibank, Nomura and Invesco, she is an expert in German and EU banking law. Kathrin shares the insights she gained throughout her career by mentoring young professionals.

X

**Vanessa Xian**

Hong Kong S.A.R.

Head of Strategy & Programme

Qatar Duty Free (The Qatar Airways Group), Qatar

Sector: Retail

A strategist, transformation leader and skilled negotiator combining consulting expertise from BCG with executive experience at Cartier and LVMH. Vanessa specialises in end-to-end business transformation, from strategy formulation to execution. Her track record spans successful turnaround of Domino's Pizza China, doubling Cartier's global travel retail network, and negotiating high-value retail concessions and JVs internationally. She is passionate about transformation and value creation.

Z

**Shai Zamanian**

Canada

Founder and Managing Director

The American Legal Center, United Arab Emirates

Sector: Investment Management - Private Equity, Venture Capital, Hedge Fund

Shai is the Founder of The American Legal Centre, a Dubai based firm specialising in U.S. investment migration. As a U.S. licensed attorney, with degrees from UCLA and University of Miami, he has raised construction finance for landmark projects such as the Ritz Carlton in New York City, and successfully challenged restrictive U.S. immigration policies. He has leadership aspirations of entering government public policy in solidifying rules on the flow and rights of migrants.

**Amy Zhu**

Australia/Canada

Senior Executive Director

Provincial Health, Canada

Sector: Healthcare

Growing up in an entrepreneurial family in Asia and Australia, Amy is a curious and adventurous explorer. She has worked globally in finance advisory and strategic leadership roles in both private and public sectors. Amy is currently a Senior Executive Director in healthcare, leading a large corporate services team with functions in Operations, Finance, HR and IT. She is passionate about innovating to maximise organisations' potential in delivering value to clients, communities and humanity.



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