World Economic Forum – Analyst Directory

To assist the media, the World Economic Forum has assembled this list of in-house experts available for comment/interviews.

To book interviews, email Interviews@weforum.org mentioning the below details:

- Outlet
- Type of interview: print, live broadcast, recorded broadcast
- Topic and questions (if you share those in advance)
- Preferred time and date

To describe the World Economic Forum in interviews: Geneva-based International Organization working across public and private sectors.

Areas include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Topic</th>
<th>Possible interview topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members of the managing board of the World Economic Forum</td>
<td>Expectations from Davos Agenda week (DA21), public private partnership, global risks, future of work, reskilling, gender gap, global competitiveness, progress towards the SDGs, impact of COVID-19 on sustainability efforts, key business participants, technology sessions and trends, big data, expansion of 4IR Centre Network, strategic intelligence and transformation maps, cyber security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Healthcare</td>
<td>Pandemic response, vaccine development/distribution, impact on healthcare systems, global response efforts, precision medicine, rare diseases, cross border data sharing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade &amp; Supply Chain</td>
<td>Impact of the pandemic on e-commerce platforms, supply chain and production systems, trade and investment policies, tariffs and regulations, mitigating disruptions with tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>Artificial intelligence trends and ethics, how countries are adapting and deploying AI, facial recognition outlook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility: autonomous vehicles, drones</td>
<td>Global automotive industry trends, self-driving cars, drones, electric vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blockchain and Distributed Ledger</td>
<td>Global trends, bitcoin, privacy, digital inclusion, fintech, blockchain and DLT used by central banks and in the supply chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Policy</td>
<td>GDPR, privacy regulations in the US vs Europe, outlook for data privacy changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IoT &amp; Smart cities</td>
<td>Smart city trends and outlook, data privacy and IoT, wearables and COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
<td>Cybersecurity breaches and hacks, future trends, security and policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Combatting climate change, nature-positive solutions, the race to Net Zero, trillion trees, impacts of COVID-19 on sustainability efforts, solutions for a healthy ocean, plastic and pollution, sustainable value chains, food security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and mining</td>
<td>Clean energy, key trends in mining industry, tech trends to trace emissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td>Sustainable banking, green investments, systemic risk, financial crime, AI in financial services, fintech, digital payments, development finance, financial services in China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investing and ESG</td>
<td>Sustainable investing and long-term value creation, ESG reporting and governance, pensions, retirement reform, institutional investors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5G and Telecoms</td>
<td>5G, telecom capacity and expansion, digital inclusion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Members of the Managing Board & Executive Committee

Borge Brende -- President
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Expectations from DA21, public private partnership, global risks
Bio: Former Minister of Norwegian Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and secretary General of Norwegian Red Cross, during his time at the red cross Brende lead two of the largest relief operations in the societies’ history; in Haiti and Pakistan.

Saadia Zahidi, Managing Director, Head of Social and Economic Agendas
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Future of work, reskilling, gender gap, global competitiveness
Bio: With an MPhil in International Economics, and an MPA from Harvard University, Zahidi joined the Forum in 2003, as Head of Gender Parity Programme. Since then she has held numerous positions, and is currently Head of Centre for the New Economy and Society and Member of the Managing Board. She is Co-Author of Forum reports on Human Capital, Gender Gaps and Future of Jobs.

Dominic Waughray, Managing Director, Head of Centre for Global Public Goods
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Work towards SDGs, impacts of COVID-19 on sustainability efforts, what to expect from the environment sessions at DA21
Bio: Served as Managing Partner of Environmental Resources Management. International Fellow, IIED; Associate Fellow, Royal Institute of International Affairs; Trustee, The Climate Group, an international NGO; Vice-Chair, Water Resources Group Executive Committee.

Sarita Nayyar, Managing Director, Chief Operating Officer Forum LLC
Location: NYC
Can comment on: What to expect from DA21, key business participants
Bio: Previous Senior Vice-President and General Manager of a $1.6 billion business unit and various senior roles in business and marketing, innovation and new product development. Since 2007, with World Economic Forum: 2007-2011, Head of Consumer Industry overseeing global partnerships with companies.

Lee Howell, Managing Director, Head of Programming
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: What to expect from DA21
Bio: Prior to joining WEF in 2001, Howell was Deputy Director, Japan Society of New York, consultant to the UNHCR, and Senior Policy Adviser, USAID. He manages the creation of the Davos Agenda and Annual Meeting Programmes.

Murat Sonmez, Managing Director, Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Tech trends, big data, expansion of 4IR Centre Network
Bio: Having worked at TIBCO Software Inc, Murat held a number of roles including Head of Global Field Operations, General Manager, Europe, Middle East and Africa operations and Chief Marketing Officer, and Executive Vice President. He joined the forum in 2014
Makiko Eda, Chief Representative Officer, Japan
Location: Tokyo
Can comment on: What to expect from the DA21
Bio: Eda held several leadership positions in marketing and sales at Intel Corporation in Japan and Asia Pacific region. After serving as president and representative director of Intel’s Japanese subsidiary for five years, she assumed her current post in April 2018. Eda has also been serving on the committee for the promotion of regulatory reform by the Japanese government from 2016.

David Aikman, Chief Representative Officer, China
Location: Beijing
Can comment on: What to expect from the DA21
Bio: Over 18 years' experience in business development, fundraising, sponsorship, marketing and brand stewardship in high-profile, complex, international environments. David was part of the International Olympic Committee team. At the forum, David is responsible for Forum of Young Global Leaders, Global Shapers Community, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship.

Jeremy Jurgens, Managing Director
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Strategic Intelligence and Transformation Maps, Cyber security
Bio: Prior to joining WEF in 1999, Jeremy held a number of positions at the Japanese Ministry of Finance, Patagonia and Microsoft. He currently is Chief Information and Interaction Officer, and Head of Centre for Global Industries and Strategic Intelligence.

Health and Healthcare

Arnaud Bernaert – Head of Global Health and Healthcare
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Response to health crises, medical counter measures (Diagnostics, Protection, Treatment, Vaccines), role of private sector in crisis response
Bio: Health economist and past executive in Pharma and Medical Equipment, Strategy, partnerships, M&A and policy. Maintains a unique network of industry CEO’s, policy makers, regulators, heads of IOs and civil society leaders.

Elissa Prichep – Lead, Precision Medicine
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Vaccine development, pandemic prep
Bio: Launched specialty therapeutics and initiatives in the bio-pharmaceutical industry and developed economic policy in the public sector. Prichep most recently led patient strategy and digital innovation for biosimilar immunology products at Merck.

Dr. Genya Dana – Head, Precision Medicine
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Impact of COVID-19 on healthcare systems, the need for a globally coordinated response
Bio: PhD in Synthetic Biology, former U.S. Department of State and Office of the Science and Technology. Served as a negotiator on science, technology and innovation at the United Nations; developed international partnerships to support scientific research on brain science and biological engineering.
Lynsey Chediak – Rare Disease Lead, Precision Medicine  
Location: San Francisco  
Can comment on: Role of international collaboration & data sharing in combating rare diseases  
Bio: Founder and CEO of rare disease patient advocacy network, Venture for America fellow. Chediak implemented new models for increased patient engagement and support across hospital systems in the US.

Trade & Supply Chain

Ziyang Fan – Head, Digital Trade  
Location: San Francisco; Mandarin speaker  
Can comment on: Impact on e-commerce, how digital technologies can mitigate disruptions  
Bio: Senior Legal Counsel at Airbnb, he helped launch Airbnb in China, Assistant General Counsel at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency

Francisco Betti – Head of Advanced Manufacturing Industry  
Location: Geneva  
Can comment on: Impact on supply chain and production systems from COIVD-19, companies’ responses, comparisons with previous outbreaks and global crises  
Bio: Former international development consultant for Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, WHO and UN with PWC.

Sean Doherty – Head of International Trade & Investment  
Location: Geneva  
Can comment on: Impact on trade and investment policies from Covid-19, tariffs and regulations  
Bio: Former acting director of the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, IBM

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Kay Firth-Butterfield – Head, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning  
Location: San Francisco  
Can comment on: Global AI trends, ethics, privacy, inclusivity  
Bio: Kay is a Barrister-at-Law and part-time Judge in the United Kingdom and Professor of Law. She is Vice-Chair of the IEEE Initiative on Ethical Considerations in AI and Autonomous Systems. She is one of Robohub’s top 25 Women in Robotics in 2017 and co-founded AI-Austin, AI-Global and the Consortium for Law and Policy of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.
Automotive and Mobility

Christoph Wolff—Head of Shaping the Future of Mobility
Location: New York
Can comment on: Sustainable travel, sustainable e-commerce, emerging mobility technology (AVs, EVs, and drones)
Bio: Christoph is a mechanical engineer by training and is a leader in logistics, infrastructure, and energy. As Head of Mobility at the Forum, his work focuses on shaping a future for transportation and travel that is sustainable, safe and inclusive. Prior to joining the Forum, Christoph was a senior partner at McKinsey for 16 years.

Michelle Avary – Head, Automotive and Autonomous Mobility
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Impact of Covid-19 on global automotive industry, move to autonomous mobility, adaptation of the automotive industry
Bio: Michelle was VP of Products and Strategy, Global Automotive Io(m)T at Aeris, where she focused on future of automotive security and technology research. Avary developed services for Toyota, scouted technologies for Harman and co-founded an automotive data monetization start-up. She is the founder and President of Women In Automotive Technology.

Maya Ben Dror – Lead, Automotive and Autonomous Mobility
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Shared mobility
Bio: Maya holds a PhD in dynamic transportation policy and technology transition from Israel Institute of Technology (Technion), M.S. in Environmental Change and Management from the University of Oxford, and B.S. in Economics and East Asian Studies from the Hebrew University (cum laude).
Tim Dawkins – Lead, Automotive and Autonomous Mobility
Location: San Francisco
Can Comment on: Self-driving cars, autonomous mobility, electric vehicles
Bio: Tim is a former automotive technology consultant, he spent seven years working with SBD Automotive in Europe and the USA on vehicle security ADAS and automated driving systems with a range of OEMs, suppliers and technology companies.

Timothy Reuter – Head, Aerospace and Drones
Location: New York
Can comment on: Impact on aerospace and drone industries; how drones are deployed to combat epidemics
Bio: Timothy is a serial robotics entrepreneur, having started a consumer drone company, a service robotics company and a global drone community network. He previously worked on Google’s drone delivery program, Project Wing. Prior to getting into robotics, he worked at the State Department and USAID, with a focus on the Middle East.

Harrison Wolf – Lead, Aerospace and Drones
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Impact on aerospace and drone industries; how drones are deployed to combat epidemics
Bio: Harrison created and taught the Unmanned Aircraft System Regulations & Risk Mitigation Strategies course at the University of Southern California, Aviation Safety & Security Program and taught at MIT. He is the author of “Drones: Safety Risk Management for the Next Evolution of Flight.”.

Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Tech, Data Policy

Sheila Warren – Head of Data Policy and Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies Divisions
Location: San Francisco
Can Comment on: Global trends, bitcoin, privacy, digital inclusion, fintech
Bio: Before turning to philanthropy and non-profit tech, Sheila was a Wall Street attorney. In her career, she has represented banks, philanthropists and progressive non-profits. She was VP of strategic alliances and general counsel of TechSoup. Sheila also designed and launched NGOsource, a service focused on international grant making.

Ashley Lannquist – Lead, Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies
Location: San Francisco
Can Comment on: Blockchain and DLT used by central banks
Bio: Ashley worked in fixed income investment management and consulting at BNY Mellon in New York City. She co-founded several efforts related to blockchain technology, including the MOBI automotive blockchain consortium and the first university blockchain executive education program in partnership with Berkeley Law.

Nadia Hewett – Lead, Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies
Location: San Francisco
Can Comment on: Blockchain and supply chain
Bio: Nadia worked with Chinese State-Owned Enterprises facilitating big infrastructure projects in Africa, helped an Indian multinational change sourcing countries and devised a direct-to-consumer solution for a small Latin American retailer. She worked with IBM to re-imagine international trade and transportation using blockchain.
Anne Flanagan – Lead, Data Policy
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: GDPR, Privacy regulations in the US vs Europe
Bio: Anne served the Irish government as Deputy Head of Division for Telecommunications Policy & Regulation at the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Anne has developed policy positions for Ireland on several of the key dossiers under the DSM, including the European Electronic Communications Code, the Free Flow of Data Regulation, the proposed ePrivacy Regulation.

IoT, Robotics and Smart Cities

Jeff Merritt – Head, Internet of Things, Robotics and Smart Cities
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: IoT, Smart Cities, Data Privacy, wearables, big tech
Bio: Jeff was New York City’s first-ever Director of Innovation. He helped organize the first entirely online public election in US history, laid the groundwork for the world’s largest, fastest municipal Wi-Fi network and led the creation and adoption of new guidelines and tools to promote the responsible and equitable expansion of the Internet of Things.

Geoff Wylde - Project Lead, Internet of Things, Robotics and Smart Cities
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: IoT development, wearables and COVID-19, privacy
Bio: Wylde is a business leader with experience in developing corporate growth strategies and investment analysis across industrial, infrastructure and technology sectors. He was a Director in PricewaterhouseCoopers’ Strategy consulting team. He co-founded PwC’s Industrial IoT practice to help non-tech companies navigate economic and technological transformations.

Rushi Rama – Project Lead, Internet of Things, Robotics and Smart Cities
Location: San Francisco
Can comment on: Smart cities
Bio: Rushi Rama specializes in providing strategy and policy guidance on smart cities to governments at the local, national and international level. Rushi led the strategy team at the UK’s preeminent institute for smart cities, the Future Cities Catapult. In that capacity Rushi devised smart city strategies for two of the UK’s four capital cities, while leading the Catapult’s thought leadership and global research on smart cities.

Environment

Dominic Waughray – Managing Director
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Progress towards the SDGs, impacts of COVID-19 on sustainability efforts, what to expect from the environment sessions at Davos Agenda 21
Bio: Served as Managing Partner of Environmental Resources Management. International Fellow, IIED; Associate Fellow, Royal Institute of International Affairs; Trustee, The Climate Group, an international NGO; Vice-Chair, Water Resources Group Executive Committee.
Justin Adams – Head of Tropical Forest Alliance and 1t.org
Location: London
Can comment on: Reforestation efforts, trillion tree movement
Bio: Over 25 years of championing innovation and sustainability in the private and public sector to address the challenge of climate change, biodiversity loss and sustainable livelihoods. Justin worked as Global Managing Director for Lands at the Nature Conservancy where he launched and led all the organisation’s work on Natural Climate Solutions and set up the nature4climate partnership.

Antonia Gawel – Head of Circular Economy Initiative
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Clean energy, tech and the environment and sustainability policy
Bio: Previous Deputy Director, Energy and Climate, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Gawel also worked as an adviser on environment and clean energy programmes in Bhutan and at the International Energy Agency (IEA), responsible for monitoring and evaluating clean energy policy and deployment progress.

Akanksha Kharti – Head of Nature Action Agenda
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Biodiversity loss, economic impact of climate change, nature-positive solutions
Bio: Akanksha worked as Lead on Government Engagement for India and South Asia followed by an extended remit as Chief of Staff and Head of Strategy and Performance for the Forum’s Regional and Government Engagement globally

Anthony Hobley – Executive Director, Mission Possible
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: The race to net zero, how industries can reduce their carbon footprint
Bio: Anthony was Chief Executive Officer of the Carbon Tracker Initiative, prior to which he was a partner and Global Head of the Sustainability & Climate Finance Practice at global law firm Norton Rose Fulbright. Formerly he was General Counsel to the Climate Change Capital Carbon Fund and Director of Legal Policy for Climate Change Capital.

Kristian Teleki – Director, Friends of Ocean Action
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Solutions for a healthy ocean, sustainability and conservation of marine resources
Bio: Kristian served as director of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative at World Resources Institute, he was the senior marine adviser to the Prince of Wales’s International Sustainability Unit, and the director of engagement for the Ocean Unite network, he also worked as the director of global engagement at the Global Ocean Commission.

Kristin Hughes – Director, Global Plastic Action Partnerships
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Plastic pollution, sustainable value chains, social and environmental impact
Bio: Over the past twenty years Hughes has successfully devised and implemented strategic economic development, public policy and corporate social initiatives that reduced cost, mitigated risk, increased efficiency & improved productivity for multinational companies in the consumer goods, retail and technology sectors. She has worked at Cranbrook International, Mars and Hasbro.
Sean de Cleene – Head of Food Systems
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Food security, supply chain
Bio: Previous Senior Vice-President, Global Initiatives, Strategy and Business Development, Yara International, the world’s leading global crop nutrition company; Vice-President, Business Development and Strategic Partnerships, AGRA, and former Special Adviser to the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition.

Energy and Mining Industries

Jorgen Sandstrom – Head of Mining and Metals
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Key trends in mining industry, tech trends to trace emissions
Bio: Former diplomat and recognized sustainability leader. Prior to joining the Forum in 2018, Sandstrom worked as a chief operating Officer at Enoil Bioenergies, he also held the position of executive officer for business development and external relations at Addax Bioenergy.

Roberto Bocca – Head of Energy
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Global energy trends, sustainable energy, oil markets
Bio: Prior to joining the forum Bocca was director Energing Consumer Markets, alternative Energy at BP, he also worked at Unifarma, Finconsumo and Telecom Italia. He was member of the international presidential business advisory council for IPBAC Cyprus, and currently is a board member at Mercy Corps. Bocca holds a degree in Business and Economics, University of Turin.

Financial Services

Matthew Blake – Head of Shaping the Future of Financial and Monetary Systems
Location: New York
Can comment on: Sustainable banking, green investments, systemic risk, financial crime, AI in financial services, and business strategy
Bio: Matthew leads the Forum’s Financial and Monetary Systems Platform, which aims to build a more efficient, resilient and equitable international financial system. Prior to joining the Forum, Matthew was a Business and Market Risk Analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and an Investment Consultant at Oppenheimer & Co.

Drew Propson – Head of Technology and Innovation in Financial Services
Location: New York
Can comment on: Technology in financial services, AI in financial services, digital payments, development finance
Bio: Drew leads the World Economic Forum’s projects on digital finance in developed and emerging markets. Her work explores themes such as emerging technology influence on financial services, FinTech and other innovation areas in the industry. Prior to joining the Forum, Drew was a consultant at the IADB.
Kai Keller—Platform Curator, The Future of Financial Services Industry  
**Location:** Beijing, China  
**Can comment on:** Privacy and customer data use, cybersecurity, Financial Services in China  
**Bio:** Kai leads the World Economic Forum’s work on appropriate data use and cybersecurity in financial services. Much of his work has focused on the development of principles for appropriate data use in the financial services sector and the recent evolution of financial services in China. Previously, Kai worked at Credit Suisse, Macquarie Capital and Daiwa Securities.

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**Investing and ESG**

Maha Eltobgy—Head of Shaping the Future of Investing  
**Location:** New York  
**Can comment on:** Private investors, sustainable investing and long-term value, ESG reporting  
**Bio:** Maha leads the Forum’s Investors work which focuses on sustainability in long term investing and ESG investments and reporting. Before joining the Forum, Maha was Vice President of Marketing & Strategy at Empire State Development.

Adam Robbins—Head of Future of Investing Initiatives  
**Location:** New York  
**Can comment on:** Sovereign wealth funds, asset stewardship, responsible business, and governance  
**Bio:** Robbins leads the Long-term Investing Initiatives at the Forum, where his projects focus on strategic investment, sovereign wealth funds, and governance for the long-term. Prior to joining World Economic Forum, he was Senior Membership Manager at the International Forum of Sovereign Wealth Funds.

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**5G and Telecoms**

Isabelle Mauro – Head of Digital Communication Industry, Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and New Value Creation  
**Location:** New York  
**Can comment on:** 5G, telecom capacity and expansion, digital inclusion  
**Bio:** Isabelle was Head of International Affairs & Regional Engagement at the GSMA. She was responsible for governments and institutional relations at global level. As part of her role, Isabelle managed the delivery of industry programmes and lead global and regional advocacy campaigns to help shape the mobile agenda, both in the private and public sector.

Derek O’Halloran  
**Location:** Geneva  
**Can comment on:** Global telecom trends, connectivity, internet governance  
**Bio:** Formerly, worked within the IT industry in a number of business roles across the Far East, the United States and Europe, serving both private and public sector clients. Currently, Head of the System Initiative on the Future of Digital Economy and Society and Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum. Co-Author of Beyond Cybersecurity: Protecting Your Digital Enterprise (2015).
Zara Ingilizian – Head of Shaping the Future of Consumption
Location: New York
Can comment on: Consumer industries and habits, essential value chains
Bio: Zara is recognized as one of “Top 50 women in brand marketing”. She is member of the Board of Armenia Fund USA. She joined Diageo in 2011 as Senior Vice President leading a multi-billion-dollar portfolios. In 2014, she co-founded a tech start-up in her country of birth, Armenia, to promote economic development.

Cybersecurity

William Dixon – Head of Future Networks and Technology
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Cybersecurity breaches, hacks, future trends, security
Bio: Prior to joining the Forum, William was the Global Head of Intelligence at Barclays Bank and was the operational and strategic lead for a range of National Security and Cybersecurity programmes in the UK Government, which included significant experience working on a number of major and high-profile International Cybercrime Investigations.

Algirde Pipikaite – Project Lead, Cybersecurity
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Cybersecurity trends and policy
Bio: She is a lawyer with over a decade of experience in the public and private sectors. Most recently, Algirde was the VP of Information Risk at CyberSponse Inc. Algirde worked on multiple international development and security projects and has an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Georges de Moura – Head of Industry Solutions
Location: Geneva
Can comment on: Cyber resiliency, aviation and critical infrastructure risks
Bio: Georges has 20+ years of international experience in the cybersecurity and IT business. He was the Director for IS/IT Infrastructure and Security for Thales, the Head of Group Information Security, Risk and Compliance for Etihad Airways and is a member of the Airbus STAR Executive Advisory Group.