

## **APPENDIX 2 - Irem Yerdelen Expression of Interest**

I am currently a Partner of the largest global sustainability consultancy firm (ERM); working with corporate, finance sector and sovereign clients on a daily basis, spending 50hr weeks on the sustainability topics and making impact in the world via advising on how to 'operationalise' sustainability. I chose this area as my focus not only because there is an urgency to act on Climate Change but also it's my purpose to channel my passion into helping the generations yet to come. I regularly speak about ESG / Sustainability at conferences & panels, produce thought leadership and influence young talent to work on this field. You can see my articles on my LinkedIn profile [www.linkedin.com/in/irem-yerdelen2018](http://www.linkedin.com/in/irem-yerdelen2018)

I am fully committed to support CoLC on this area and bringing the time, energy and dedication needed. I have been actively engaging and working with the previous lead Keith Bottomley and officers on a regular basis since I became a member. I have put my hand up for the Ward Pilot Scheme on implementing Corporation's CAS at ward level and working closely with officers and Heart of the City to execute plans.

### ***Experience in Climate Action and/or Sustainability within Financial or Professional Services.***

I bring 16 years of risk and insurance industry experience and have been working at major risk advisory firms in the City's FPS cluster, across the topics of Reinsurance, Alternative Risk Transfer Solutions, Risk Management Strategy. Early on in my career I focused on Natural Catastrophe exposures and providing capital market solutions to FTSE style organisations for managing & mitigating such risks; which is these days translated into Physical Climate Change impact. I am now utilising my transferable skills to advise Finance sector organisations (such as Banks, Insurers, Asset Managers, Infrastructure / Private Equity funds, etc) to take Climate Action by setting up dedicated strategy, identifying and managing their climate-related risks & opportunities (physical & transition); by reporting on climate-related financial disclosures; by performing a pivotal role in the UK's ambitious goal of becoming the world's first net zero-aligned financial centre.

A recent example is a project that I led, which was related to the development of a Transition guidance document that outlines minimum requirements for (Re)Insurance market to formulate comprehensive climate strategies within the next three years. This guidance serves as a practical roadmap, offering clear areas to focus and measure, as well as actionable recommendations to implement. By aligning industry practices with the UK's climate and sustainability objectives, my project team and I sought to drive significant positive change within the insurance sector in the short-term.

Besides, I advise finance organisations on operationalisation of relevant business strategies and tactical actions to achieve future climate resilience and with that effect I have been involved in shaping up market wide frameworks and policy guidance, example being: Financial Stability Board (FSB)'s global framework Task force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

## ***Understanding of Sustainable Finance or Infrastructure with or in COLC target markets***

We need to position the UK as a one-stop shop for sustainable finance in the eyes of other countries & companies, guiding with transparency and expertise. UK sustainable finance activity is growing so far across asset classes and City of London ecosystem is ripe for it to flourish further. I regularly support financial services clients to navigate the complex regulatory landscape associated with climate risk and disclosures, as well as Net Zero transition guidance. Good example to share as a subject matter expert, I advise Private Equity / Infrastructure funds and supporting their Portfolio Companies in setting up net zero roadmap, metrics and targets (science-based), decarbonisation plans and implementing the relevant technologies (levers) to achieve incremental carbon reduction. Alongside how to manage their water exposure and biodiversity impact.

During COP28 CoLC will focus on areas such as *transition finance, voluntary carbon markets, nature* that feature in our ongoing sustainable finance workstreams and provide an opportunity to showcase UK leadership. Having held senior positions, I managed and coordinated multifaceted programmes worth several millions, globally involving many people at a time. This brings the ability of liaising and engaging with variety of internal & external stakeholders in a collaborative way to drive results and support the Policy Chairman and the Lord Mayor to make progress on these sustainable finance focus areas and create momentum. For example, I will be able to offer a technical viewpoint as well as the relevant connections from the Public and Private sectors that would support the Corporation's success in this field.

Lastly, worth highlighting the below relevant points regarding my involvement thus far:

I attended Net Zero Delivery Summit, representing CoLC and joined follow-up meetings related to sustainable finance topics.

I am representing CoLC for The Cities Commission for Climate Investment, a partnership which is developing a business case for attracting private investments for retrofitting UK homes on mass.

Supporting the High Growth Markets policy lead in sounding board capacity to share market insight & expertise on Sustainability at regular meetings.

I am an active member of the Barbican Renewal Committee which will be the biggest sustainability / infrastructure related project that Corporation need to undertake to reduce necessary carbon emissions by 2027, offering support to Barbican & City Surveyor teams.