

Candidate EOI's for 2021 ISDRS Board Member

**Rasyikah Md Khalid**

**Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (The National University of Malaysia)**

**Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

I am currently the Deputy Dean (Research and Innovation) at the Faculty of Law Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and a senior associate fellow at the Fuel Cell Institute UKM. I was a visiting researcher at the UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science at the University of Dundee in Scotland. In 2012, I received a full fellowship to attend the postgraduate courses in Building Resilience to Climate Change (BRCC) at the United Nations University (UNU) Tokyo. My research and teaching is in the field of environmental law, particularly on river basin management, energy, climate change, planning and heritage. I have conducted several stakeholder and public participation activities at the Kedah River Basin (the rice bowl of Malaysia) and the Malacca River Basin (the Little Venice of Malaysia). I am an active member of the International Water Association (IWA) and the ISDRS. I am also the Editorial Board member of "Journal of Law and Society" and the "Journal of Environmental Law, Development and Research".

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

I first joined the ISDRS program in 2010 for the Hong Kong ISDRS conference. I was impressed with the intellectual discourses during the event, and benefited from the postgraduate workshop as I was planning to further my PhD study then. I was not able to join the following conference but managed to send poster presentations for the 2015 ISDRS conference in Australia. I was able to join physically in Nanjing conference and I felt good to be back, surrounded by the ISDRS members, and participated in their theoretical discussions. I believe that I can benefit more by joining the ISDRS Board, and further contributes to sustainable development in Malaysia and perhaps in ASEAN region.

**ISDRS conference topic groups:**

- 9b. Collaboration and co-creation for sustainability, SDG initiatives and scale of governance
- 9c. Public participation and the role of stakeholders
- 9d. Legal aspects of sustainable development

**Other ideas for contribution to ISDRS:**

ISDRS is an excellent platform for me to improve my understanding on sustainability issues and agenda. On the other hand, I believe that ISDRS can also benefit from my sharing on the governance aspect of sustainable development in developing countries like Malaysia, and other developing ASEAN countries. There are issues on achieving effective participation as most of decision-making are top-down. The governance framework is also sectoral and not inclusive. I would like to nominate Malaysia as a venue for future ISDRS conference. This will allow more Malaysians and others in ASEAN, to participate and share their problems and hopes towards achieving sustainable development in this region.

**Roberta Salomone**

**Department of Economics, University of Messina (Italy)**

**Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

Roberta Salomone is Full Professor of Commodity Science, Rectoral Delegate for the Italian University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS Rete Università per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile) from the 07/12/2018 and Vice Rector for Student Services of the University of Messina from the 09/07/2020 She participated to various research groups, also as national coordinator, and she is author of more than 130 publications on national and international scientific journals, books and proceedings. She teaches Quality and Environmental Management, Sustainability Management, and Industrial Ecology in bachelors, master degree, PhD courses and specialization courses. Her main research interests are: Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and other environmental assessment and management systems and tools; Management for Sustainability; Industrial Ecology and Industrial Symbiosis. She was member of the Board of the Italian LCA Network from June 2013 to June 2019. She is Member of the Board of the Italian Academy of Commodity Sciences from 2011 to February 2014, and from February 2016 till today, Member of the Board of the International Sustainable Development Research Society (ISDRS) from 01/01/2019, and Member of the Board of Professor of the PhD in “Economics, Management and Statistics” – Universities of Messina and Catania.

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

The motivation for which I want to continue to be a member of the ISDRS board is that, in my opinion, the ISDRS is one of the most complete and inspiring scientific society in which I'm involved in. It has a broad, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective which is a continuous stimulus for me to search for new opportunities to improve my personal contribution to a sustainable society. For example, I'd like to continue to facilitate the participation in the ISDRS community of Italian researchers, scholars and students active in the field of Sustainable Development in order to promote their networking with other colleagues working on the same themes all over the world. Strengthening a global collaboration for the exchange of knowledge, experiences and best practices is crucial in the

path towards a fair, clean and sustainable society.

**ISDRS conference topic groups:**

In addition to current activities in the groups (Track 5c and Best Paper Award Committee), I would like to help the board in improving the Sustainability Strategy as well as in identifying additional services to the ISDRS members.

**Sigurd Sagen Vildåsen**

**NTNU and SINTEF**

**Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

Sigurd Sagen Vildåsen, senior researcher at NTNU and SINTEF, Norway has his research interests in corporate sustainability and the complexities involved in firm-stakeholder collaboration. He is member of the international research group Companies, Markets, and Sustainability anchored at the University of Oslo.

Dr Vildåsen has contributed to the *Routledge/ISDRS Series in Sustainable Development Research* (book edited by Keitsch & Vermeulen) and is currently engaged as guest editor in the first ISDRS special issue as part the recent Wiley agreement (*Sustainable Development*).

Dr Vildåsen

- has 12 years of experience from different leadership roles in Tekna, Norway's largest society for graduate professionals with more than 85000 members and is currently an executive board member and chair of the scientific committee.
- has been board member of UN Global Compact Norway and is currently deputy chair of the network's scientific committee.
- is chair of Standard Norway's mirror committee on ISO TC323 – the first international standard on circular economy
- has been board member in ISDRS since January 1st 2018, and executive board member & Treasurer since January 1st 2019.
- is board member at SINTEF Manufacturing and has completed board member roles at different organizational levels at NTNU

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

I have been actively involved in ISDRS since 2014 through conferences, topics groups and board membership since January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. With experience as Treasurer during the last two years, I believe I can continue my contribution to the society as an **advisor on administrative and financial matters to the executive board and in collaboration with the new Treasurer** in particular. The society's operations have become more complex during the last years, which has resulted in in increased need for risk management and financial control. I have first-hand experience on how the develop such competence and routines.

One my core organizational strengths is strategic management. I hope to contribute to such processes in the board through activities that aim to secure the long-term success of the society, e.g., the **sustainability committee** that has recently been established. A core motivation is to develop further the holistic, integrative, and transdisciplinary perspective on the UN SDGs.

**ISDRS conference topic groups:**

I have experience from 1b and 5c and would be happy to continue this engagement.

**Sjors Witjes**

**Assistant Professor Strategic Management and Corporate Social Responsibility**

**Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

After having worked on cleaner production, LCA and eco design for firms, local and national government as well as the United Nations in Latin America and as CS advisor for bigger SMEs in Europe, I co developed the sustainable business and innovation master at Utrecht University with a parallel development of my PhD on 15 years of CS experience. As an assistant professor strategic management and CSR at Radboud University as well as extraordinary professor Corporate Sustainability (CS) at the Antioquia University, my transdisciplinary research and education aims at preparing a future generation with the capabilities to contribute to a more sustainable society. As a coordinator of the global PhD programme on sustainability challenges under the Radboud Centre for Sustainability Challenges and co-director for the Responsible Organisation research centre, my research is based on the collaboration within a broad network of academic and non-academic actors ( for example as board member of the local CE board) and is aimed at supporting organizations with the integration of societal challenges taking a supply chain and learning communities of practice perspective.

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

As ISDRS board member, I am eager to use and share my experience in topic groups 5a and 1b to strengthen the other ISDRS topic groups. By connecting the topic groups to other global networks and supporting them to organise in-between conference topic group activities, a stronger and more secure base for ISDRS can be created leaving room for enhancing the yearly conference by sharing and summarizing ISDRS work that has taken place throughout the year in combination with new input from global or local sustainability related research as has been the case. Moreover, I would like to use my experience of having been one of the ISDRS auditors for the last 3 years to improve the formal organisational processes aiming for a faster and better overview of the current general and, specifically, financial status to be able to, for example, improve our response to non-paid bills.

### **ISDRS conference topic groups:**

Since 2016, I am co-chair of topic group 5a and as of 2018 I am co-chairing topic group 1b. With my research and educational interest being in both topics, I prefer supporting both ISDRS topic groups in the future. Besides, I would like to continue the development of knowledge on TD research approaches in close collaboration with several ISDRS members as it has been motivated from topic group 1b and has resulted in the PhD workshop I gave during the conferences in Bogota and Messina on TD research approaches, seminars I co organised on this topic during the ISDRS conferences in Bogotá (2017), Messina (2018) and Budapest (2020), a Routledge ISDRS book on TD (in collaboration with Walter Vermeulen and Martina Keitsch) as well as a Special Issue for the Wiley sustainable development journal (in collaboration with Monica Ramos, Thomas Macintyre and Sigurd Vildåsen). Thanks to these activities, we have been able to relive track 1b and make it connect to a broader network of leading scholars in the TD field. It is now time to ensure the sustainability of this success in the years to come. Moreover, conversations with Romana Rauter have already started on rethinking track 5a based on the experiences with track 1b.

### **Other ideas for contribution to ISDRS:**

As an addition to point 2., I recommend to improve the link of tracks to other global networks to ensure a more stable influx of initiatives throughout the year lowering the amount of pre-conference efforts to fill the conference tracks. Besides, by organising in-between conference activities (like the PhD workshop in January 2015 or the Cresting project), the track sessions become “part of” instead of alone standing events. With more sustainability related funding coming up from national, European and international funding agencies, the ISDRS as a network of academics should be used to co-develop proposals as was the case with, for example, the Cresting project.

**Prof. Dr. Marc Wolfram**

**Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER)**

**Technische Univ. Dresden, Chair of Spatial Development and  
Transformation**

### **Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

My academic and professional career is a highly inter- and transdisciplinary one, embracing various strands of engineering and the social sciences (at universities in Stuttgart, Barcelona, Lyon; Ph.D. in planning in 2002), and positions in policy consulting, science management, research and higher education (Cologne, Dresden, Seoul, Suwon) - guided by a strong motivation: **To foster urban sustainability at local to global scales**. I have been working and [publishing](#) on concepts and approaches for understanding urban change dynamics, and on strategies for pursuing urban sustainability, empirically focusing on Europe and East Asia. At present I am leading a large non-university research institute ([IOER](#)) in Germany and teach graduate courses in MA and PhD programs, dealing with spatial development and sustainability transformations. I am a founding member of the new thematic group “[Urban Transitions and Transformations](#)” of [STRN](#), as well as co-founder and editor-in-chief of the

open access journal “[Urban Transformations](#)”. I am also a scientific advisor to [ICLEI Korea](#).

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

Urban areas and processes have been widely recognized as pivotal for the outstanding transformations required to achieve *all* SDGs, and to limit global warming to 1.5°C. This overarching and cross-cutting role of cities and regions in a thoroughly urbanizing world has been underlined with a growing sense of urgency (e.g. [Habitat III](#), [Basque Declaration](#), [IPCC cities conference](#)).

Considering the established objectives, organization and practices of ISDRS, I would therefore like to join in order to:

- Strengthen the urban perspective and integration of urban issues in the ISDRS agenda and activities, further sharpening their transformative edge
- Support the articulation and translation of urban implications of ISDRS outcomes across themes I-IX towards society (publishing, exchange)
- Enhance interactions with theme I (sustainability science) regarding the particular role and relevance of space and the local scale
- Foster balanced regional participation in ISDRS and strengthen involvement from North America and Asia
- Liaise with key urban science and practice stakeholder groups and networks to invite novel contributions and leverage (co-)funded initiatives

Through these contributions, I expect to be able to **enhance the overall impact of ISDRS in science and society, attracting new members and establishing novel collaborations**, besides fulfilling all primary responsibilities of a board member.

**ISDRS conference topic groups:**

I have been active as a session chair or track chair in **theme VI (Urban and rural transitions)** since 2016. From 2018 I have chaired / co-chaired tracks 6a) Innovation levers and 6d) Smart transformations, and am currently engaging in the coordination of efforts to further consolidate the profile of theme VI and enhance its attractiveness for urban sustainability researchers globally.

**Other ideas for contribution to ISDRS:**

I would very much like to contribute to enhance **ISDRS mentoring activities**, developing new approaches to support young researchers, enhancing the attractiveness of membership for both mentees (guidance, network) and mentors (finding talents).

I am also active in the ISDRS conference committee with a view to further **innovations of the annual conference format**, esp. regarding the massive shift towards online interaction forced by the pandemic. Future ISDRS conferences should make smart usage of all options to enhance accessibility and lower carbon footprints, while still offering vital opportunities for interdisciplinary face-to-face exchanges. I am keen to support this move and to help accommodate novel interaction formats (both online and in presence) to enhance the creative potential of ISDRS as a global arena for advancing sustainability science.

**Dr. Gyula Zilahy**

**Department of Environmental Economics, Budapest University of Technology  
and Economics**

**Professional and organisational activities and experience:**

I am a full professor of business sustainability and the head of the Department of Environmental Economics of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics while also acting as the vice dean for scientific and international affairs of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences.

I received my Ph.D. degree in 2003 analysing the management aspects of energy efficiency measures within corporations. My research interests include corporate environmental management, the implementation of the principles of cleaner production and industrial ecology in an industrial setting, sustainability communication and sustainable business models. My practical experiences include work with SMEs and multinational corporations in the fields of Environmental Management Systems and sustainability reporting. I was director of the UNIDO/UNEP supported Hungarian Cleaner Production Centre for about ten years. I have also taught courses related to corporate social responsibility and climate change, including a course bringing together a hundred international students from more than fifteen countries from all around the globe simulating the United Nations climate change negotiation process.

My special interest is the promotion of responsible business education and the introduction of the principles of Sustainable Development in higher education.

**Motivation for joining the ISDRS Board and expectations with respect to your potential participation at the ISDRS Board:**

I have joined ISDRS conferences before, but as chair of the 2020 ISDRS conference hosted by BME, I had a chance to better understand the underlying motives, as well as activities of the Society with which I can fully identify myself.

Working with the Board Members, session chairs and presenters of the conference, I learnt a lot about the ISDRS community, a network of like-minded experts, who believe that both research and action in the field of Sustainable Development is very important.

Becoming a Board Member I hope that I can contribute to ISDRS not only by sharing my experiences regarding the on-line conference in 2020, but also by interacting more closely with other members of the Board and actively contributing to the development of sustainability science.

By joining the Board, I will be happy to discuss potential future pathways of the Society; activities beyond the annual conferences; as well as potential collaborations between ISDRS members in the field of sustainability science.

**ISDRS conference topic groups:**

My main research interests focus on the following topics:

- 2b: Educating for Sustainability
- 5a: CSR and Sustainable Entrepreneurship
- 5c: Circular Economy, Zero Waste and Innovation
- 5e: Sustainable Consumption and Consumers

I am also interested in joining discussion within the Sustainability and Science group, namely:

1a: Theoretical Approaches and 1c: Assessing Sustainability

**Other ideas for contribution to ISDRS:**

- I will be happy to assist future conferences with my experiences gained during the first on-line conference of ISDRS in 2020.
- The notion of Sustainable Development has been around for more than 30 years. I am interested in exploring how it can be used in 2020 and beyond and how it should be adapted to new social, economic and environmental circumstances.
- I am interested in contributing to publications and research projects initiated by ISDRS and/or ISDRS members.