

**International
Forum on
Sustainable
Value Chains
ISVC**

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ISVC Meeting 2018

Managing Towards Sustainable Multinational Multi-Tier Value Chains

18 June 2018

Frankfurt / Main, Germany

At the ISVC Meeting renown experts with various backgrounds and perspectives gather to openly discuss sustainability challenges in global value chains.

With its exceptional conference format, enabling maximum open interaction, every participant is an important contributor. Its focus on workshops and panel discussions allows comprehensive issue coverage and joint solution development. The ISVC Meeting's core objective is to nourish discussions beyond mainstream to eventually develop and agree on action plans that make a difference to the world.

The ISVC Meeting

The ISVC Meeting is an interactive discussion platform to address some of the most relevant challenges to sustainability in multinational multi-tier value chains these days:

- (1) How will further progress in automation, robotics and digitalization change value chains, and how will this effect prosperity, inequality and environmental challenges?
- (2) How can organizations craft individual corporate value chains that offer more unique and thus higher consumer value while being more sustainable?
- (3) How can organizations explore their corporate value chains, and based on the results draw maps that are meaningful and easily interpretable?
- (4) How can organizations shift management attention from monitoring and risk evaluations towards establishing truly sustainable value chains?
- (5) How can procurement organizations integrate corporate sustainability targets and commitments into their regular structures, processes, and objectives?

The ISVC Meeting brings together a selected group of well-experienced senior managers (strategy, supply chain, procurement, sales, CSR etc.) of manufacturers, producers, traders as well as senior representatives of regulators, inter-government organizations, non-government organizations, and academia by direct invitation.

A Unique Conference Format

The ISVC Meeting is a platform for open equal discussion among all participants and speakers. It puts major focus on honest, critical discourse and constructive workshops to allow maximum interaction and joint development of alternative solutions.

The meeting objectives are future oriented: Discussions in the workshops shall bundle into compelling project proposals detailing the challenges addressed, the targeted outcomes, the suggested way forward and the recommended leadership. The intend is to bring together motivated individuals forming project groups that drive development and implementation. At ISVC, we want to be measured against realized fundamental change in business practices.

Key Notes and Panel Discussions

The two key notes give concise introductions to the conference theme. They provide show case examples and exceptional insights from leading experts in the field. Each key note is followed by a panel discussion of renown experts with differing perspectives. Their opinions further enrich the key note topic and trigger inspiration for the the subsequent open discussion with all conference participants.



Frank Dassler

Representative for Governmental Relations, adidas Group
"Technological developments, reshoring and global value chains"



Guya Merkle

Owner, Vieri & Founder, Earthbeat Foundation
"Crafting what makes us different: Our value chain"

Workshops

Workshops are the heart of the ISVC Meeting. All participants and speakers jointly analyze challenges and experiences, develop and evaluate potential solutions, and sketch a plan on how to create and implement required knowledge, organizational elements, policies, tools etc. ISVC will follow up on the developed proposals by establishing specific projects. Participants are invited to engage in those projects.

Workshop 1: Automation Transforming Value Chains towards Sustainability

chaired by Joseph Sarkis, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Developments in automation and robotics suggest rendering repetitive tasks in today's jobs obsolete, causing tectonic shifts in human labor, while digitalization leads to new highly efficient value chain setups. How can organizations use these changes to better meet their environmental and social responsibility, in particular tackling inequality?

Workshop 2: Crafting Unique Corporate Value Chains

chaired by Tracy Gonzalez-Padron, University of Colorado in Colorado Springs

Many brands differentiate by the story they tell about the creation or use of their products and services, pointing stakeholders to the uniqueness of their value chains and the actors involved therein. How can organizations craft individual corporate value chains that offer more unique and thus higher consumer value while being more sustainable?

Workshop 3: Drawing Meaningful Value Chain Maps

chaired by Madeleine Pullman, Portland State University; Moritz Nill, Systain Consulting

Organizations' (and public) knowledge about the value chains of the goods and services they procure or sell, the sectors, regions, individual actors and their respective relationships is scarce. How can organizations explore their corporate value chains, and based on the results draw maps that are meaningful and easily interpretable?

Workshop 4: Upgrading from Massive Supply Chain Auditing?

chaired by Nicole Darnall, Arizona State University

Many Western organizations require actors in their value chains to be formally audited upon specified social or environmental criteria. Yet, the realized improvements still lack behind the targeted goals. How can organizations shift management attention from monitoring and risk evaluations towards establishing truly sustainable value chains?

Workshop 5: Integrating Sustainability into Regular Procurement

chaired by Mark Pagell, University College Dublin; Mike Wasserman, FH Münster

Procurement has been actively upgraded to become the central unit responsible for the buyer-supplier-interface and the supply chain. However, procurement functions lack capabilities or incentives to manage suppliers' and sub-suppliers' sustainability performance. How can procurement organizations integrate corporate sustainability targets and commitments into their regular structures, processes, and objectives?

Final Panel Discussion

A panel of senior representatives of international organizations working towards sustainable value chains will reflect on the different proposals developed in the workshops. To optimize efficiency, strengthen emerging standards and minimize redundancies, panelists will put the workshop proposals into context to related ongoing activities and report on initiatives addressing similar issues to join forces with.

08:30 Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 Welcome by **Joerg S. Hofstetter**, President, ISVC & Professor, KEDGE Business School
Axel Klaphage, Director Economic and Social Development, Digitalization, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Christian Ewert, Director General, amfori (formerly: Foreign Trade Association, FTA)

09:10 **Technological developments, reshoring and global value chains**
Key note by **Frank Dassler**, Representative for Governmental Relations, adidas Group, Germany

09:30 **Automation, digitalization, common prosperity and environmental protection in value chains**
Panel Discussion joining **Frank Dassler** with:
Andreas Esche, Director Global Economic Dynamics, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Germany
Christian Ewert, Director General, amfori, Belgium
Guido Jouret, Chief Digital Officer, ABB, Switzerland (invited)
Steven Sun, Vice Chairman, Easttop Group, China
chaired by **Robert D. Klassen**, Professor and Associate Dean, Western University, Canada

10:00 Open Discussion chaired by **Robert D. Klassen**

10:30 Coffee

11:00 **Crafting what makes us different: Our value chain**
Key note by **Guya Merkle**, Owner, Vieri & Founder, Earthbeat Foundation, Germany

11:20 **Crafting corporate value chains to offer unique stakeholder value**
Panel Discussion joining **Guya Merkle** with:
Anthony Sikpa, President, Federation of Associations of Ghanaian Exporters, Ghana
Joerg Hofstetter, Professor, KEDGE Business School & President, ISVC, Switzerland
Mridula Ramesh, Executive Director, Sundaram Textiles, India
Sibyl Anwander, Department Head, Swiss Federal Office of the Environment, Switzerland
chaired by **Maurizio Zollo**, Professor, Bocconi University & Academic Director, GOLDEN, Italy

11:50 Open Discussion chaired by **Maurizio Zollo**

12:20 Lunch

13:00 Workshop 1: **Automation Transforming Value Chains towards Sustainability**, Joseph Sarkis
Workshop 2: **Crafting Unique Corporate Value Chains**, Tracy Gonzalez-Padron
Workshop 3: **Drawing Meaningful Value Chain Maps**, Madeleine Pullman & Moritz Nill
Workshop 4: **Upgrading from Massive Supply Chain Auditing**, Nicole Darnall
Workshop 5: **Integrating Sustainability into Regular Procurement**, Mark Pagell & Mike Wasserman

15:00 **Presentation of the Workshop Results** by the workshop chairs

15:20 Coffee

15:50 Panel Discussion on How to Follow-Up on the Workshop Results with
Wael Issa, Senior Adviser in the Office of the Deputy Director General for Policy, ILO (invited)
Aseem R. Makajan, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the WTO (tbc)
Axel Klaphage, Director Economic and Social Development, Digitalization, GIZ
Cristina Tébar Less, Head of the Responsible Business Conduct Unit, OECD (tbc)
Elisa Tonda, Head, Responsible Industry and Value Chain Unit, UN Environment (invited)
Jill Tucker, Head of Supply Chain Innovation & Transformation, C&A Foundation (tbc)
Nikolaos Zaimis, Advisor, DG TRADE, European Commission
chaired by **Sanjay Sharma**, Professor and Dean, University of Vermont

16:50 Open Discussion to Specify Follow-Up Action Plans, chaired by **Sanjay Sharma**

17:10 Summary by **Daria Taglioni**, IFC/World Bank Group and **Joseph Sarkis**, Council Member, ISVC

17:30 Reception and open conversation

Sponsors:



ISVC's Mission

Business performance is increasingly impacted by long, complex value chain. Not only quality problems, material shortages, price fluctuations or innovations, but also public discussions on social, environmental or legal compliance issues at upstream sub-suppliers or downstream sub-customers associated with a company's name or its brands require top management attention.

Today's value chain management practices hardly allow controlling these challenges leaving key questions unaddressed:

- **How can companies create and benefit from individual, unique value chain?**
- **Who is involved in a value chain?**
- **Which practices are used by them?**
- **Which value chain elements are critical?**
- **How can we improve partner practices?**
- **How can we avoid value chain issues?**

Practitioners and management scholars from different parts of the world gather in the ISVC to develop new ways to better respond to the challenges of managing supply beyond direct suppliers and use beyond direct customers, to transfer this new knowledge into practice with pilot projects, to create tools, and to communicate with the greater public.

Registration

Participation fee: € 500 per person
...if paid until April 30: € 400 per person
...if paid after June 1: € 600 per person
Please register directly online on:
<http://susvc.org/events/annual-meeting/>

Conference Venue

Haus am Dom
Domplatz 3
60311 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Transportation:

S-Bahn station: "Konstablerwache"
U-Bahn station: "Dom / Römer"
Parking: Parkhaus Dom Römer
Plane: Frankfurt Airport (FRA)

ISVC Council

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