

Issue  
16

# January - February Newsletter

2023

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## Happy Birthday!

To all our colleagues who celebrate their birthday In January and February

Marge Täks (EBS)

Delna Anna Abraham (RSM)

Daniel Jakovson (KCE)

Nurit Hashimshony Yaffe (MTA)

Dirk Schoenmaker (RSM)

Ofer Sean Flynn

*WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE YOU WITH US IN OUR PROJECT. WE WISH EVERY MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE BRINGS YOU HAPPINESS AND JOY.*



## Welcome

**"THERE IS NO MORE NEUTRALITY IN THE WORLD. WE ARE EITHER A PART OF THE PROBLEM OR A PART OF THE SOLUTION, WE GET TO CHOOSE"**

**ELDRIDGE CLEAVER**

Dear IFI Partners,  
2023 started with a meaningful and inspiring meeting in Israel, hosted by Sapir Academic College, and co-hosted by The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo. We are grateful to all IFI team members, who joined forces in making the best out of a complicated situation as our plans went through some rapid changes due to some unexpected events. In the following section you can find a review of the 4-day meeting, as summarized by our colleagues Ms. Isabella Pacchiano, Mr. Saadat Hussain, Prof. Eli Gimmon, and Dr. Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe. Also in the current newsletter is a farewell column from our dear friend, Ms. Shir Horovitz, update on our future meetings and events, a brief review of Impact 3.0 conference that was held in The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo, and an invitation to submit papers for a workshop in San Sebastian, organized by our friends in The University of Deusto.

Feel free to contact us in any issues regarding IFI. Our contact details and more relevant information can be found in the last section of each newsletter.

Vered & Vered

## Review: WP3 - Train the Professionals and Living Sustainable Finance in the Desert

12-16 February 2023

The Academic College of Tel Aviv - Yaffo and Sapir Academic College, Israel

### Day 1: Monday 13/2/2023 Impromptu IFI Workshop

By Isabella Pacchiano

On Monday, February 13th, The Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo hosted an IFI Project Conference. Project members from various institutions and experts in the field were invited to participate in the conference. However, Monday February 13th, 2023, was a date shared between the IFI Conference in Tel-Aviv and a historic vote in the Knesset. As Israel's governing body, the Knesset votes on, and passes bills, the bills being deliberated on February 13th included: one bill which aimed to extend power to a majority of the Knesset members to override nearly all supreme court rulings; and another which intended to extend more control to politicians over the appointment of supreme court judges.



The vote was formally introduced to the conference participants through an open letter written by the President of The Academic College of Tel-Aviv, Professor Dror Wahrman (see the letter in the box below), as he, among thousands of others, chose to travel to Jerusalem to peacefully protest the proposed bills which threaten democracy in Israel. Something in his letter really moved me, he wrote something like: 'There are times in life when one can stay quiet, this is not one of those times.' And I agree. As a young scholar of history and human rights, I believe in the power we, as citizens with unique thoughts and creativity, maintain in establishing social change. Whether through informing one another through shared knowledge, or education, rallying together to encourage governments to hear the voices of the people it ought to represent, or through other means, I believe in the necessity for active citizenship. I saw our active citizenship come to life in the meeting room of The Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo in our lively conversation. We shared our thoughts and questions in a safe space where everyone was encouraged to learn and interject.



## ***President letter to the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo***

*By Professor Dror Wahrman*

*Greetings to the community of the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo, academic faculty, administrative staff and our students,*

*I thought it is time that I sent you all a personal letter, explaining why I am taking a day off from the President's Office this coming Monday (tomorrow) and going to Jerusalem to join the demonstration in front of the Knesset.*

*In normal times, I would not share my personal political opinions with you. But these are not normal times. Every person can imagine certain moments in which his or her conscience forbids silence. For the first time in my life – and this despite decades of deep political and social disagreements – I find myself in this position. The State of Israel is about to transform itself beyond recognition, and in ways that may well prove irreversible. These changes are brought about at lightning speed, fundamental laws and structures are redesigned hastily within days and hours (Israel, we recall, does not have a constitution), and the transformations appear very dangerous. Many say that reform is necessary. But changes in the most basic structures of Israeli democracy must be reached only after prolonged consideration and with a broad backing. Instead, hundreds of prominent jurists and of key figures in the Israeli economy, leaders of Israel's institutions of higher education, thousands of academics, and hundreds of thousands of citizens, all express their deep concern, and run into a brick wall.*

*By profession I am a historian. As such, I know how fragile democracies are. Not least, since their core values include the tolerance for the positions that undermine democracy's underlying principles. The slippery slope to autocracy is often quick and sudden, and past experience shows that massive mobilization of civil society at the beginning of the road is critical in slowing down this process. Conversely, it also shows that the dismantling or crippling of the judicial system makes it almost impossible to reverse democracy's decline.*

*I realize that my words touch raw nerves in the current disagreements. Some will oppose them strongly, and I will fight for their right to think differently and express their opposite position openly and safely. These are precisely the democratic values in which I believe, values that today are threatened here like never before.*

*So, this is why I am going to Jerusalem tomorrow to protest, and why I will continue to do whatever I can to stop this runaway train, so that all the people living in this land can take a deep breath, realize that our fates are inseparably intertwined, and begin anew.*

*With best wishes,*

*Dror Wahrman, President*

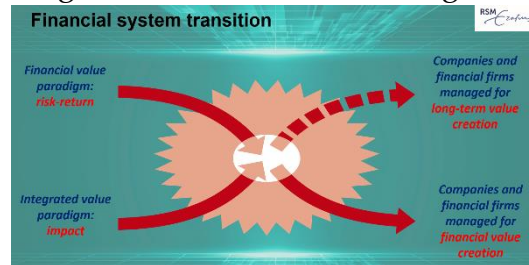
The outcome of the conference’s initial conversation was a unique proposal to reclaim the mission of academic institutions as spaces of intermediary institutions within civil society through the dissemination of frameworks on how to have open discussions and how to have healthy disagreements. I think the outcome of the proposal speaks to the courageous decision that Professor Dror Wahrman took along with thousands of others who traveled to Jerusalem to defend Israel’s democratic rights. As the conference carried on with interesting conversations and presentations, the partners and collaborators carried this special message with them and the expectant anticipation of work on framework that has the potential to reclaim the role of academia as an intermediary institution within civil society.

**Prof. Dirk Schoenmaker**, from Rotterdam School of Management, shared with



the participants his view on “Organizational transition in face of sustainability challenges”. He started with a brief review of sustainability challenges and the SDGs, suggesting a management model based on financial return and risk, impact on society, and impact on environment, to follow

principles of sustainable finance. He then explained the roles of the various players in the ecosystem that should act to address sustainability challenges towards common goods and values. Moving on to transition and integrated thinking, Dirk presented the financial system transition and discussed the ways in which lending and investing can be used for sustainable finance. He described the development from traditional finance through ESG, to transition finance, and summarized by encouraging the participants to set their organization strategy and business model, to do new things and stop doing the old things, and to develop partnerships.



The next speaker, **Dr. Volker Then**, Executive Director in Fondazione AIS,



talked about the development of impact investing from niche to mainstream. He started by explaining the dynamics of impact investing, where markets are increasingly demand an assessment and positive selection of assets based on impact. In his words: “in light of current market development, the challenge is no longer to find data at all, but to build impact measurement on relevant, valid

and reliable data". Volker presented an extended model of the SDGs which includes additional nine topics, and described an initiative to develop a transparent and AI-based process for selecting primary indicators that considers both data quality and conceptual alignment with normative impact goals.

I am personally very thankful for the way our first day of the conference transpired, for the changes in our day and for the activities of the following days. As an outsider who came to visit Israel for the first time my eyes were opened to many things I had never understood or imagined.



*Day 2: Tuesday 14/2/2023 - Educating for social impact, innovation & sustainability*

*By Saadat Hussain*

Barren landscapes with scanty rainfall resulting in hostile conditions for plant and animal life is what we usually associate with arid land surfaces. It may, however, turn out to be a matter of perspective after all. Where one might see nothing, the other might discover opportunity. That is the story (of love?) we lived on 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 during our tour of the Kibbutz Nir Am and Sapir Academic College .

On our way to Kibbutz Nir Am, we picked up our tour guide, **Malcolm**. We proceeded towards the Assaf Siboni Scenic Lookout and Memorial. Assaf Siboni was a warrior in the Nahal Brigade and was killed in a helicopter crash on 4<sup>th</sup> of February 1997. Twenty wind flutes hang at the memorial which resonate with the blowing wind and the music is heard all around the hill .



The place offers a clear view of the Gaza Strip. Malcolm came to remember the time when he moved to Israel from England as a young boy in 1972 with his family. He told us how the people living in Gaza used to come to this side of the border to work and how he used to go to the city center to buy spices and auto



parts. The political tensions have left those people facing severe economic hardship of late. The authorities in Gaza are however, still allowed to buy electricity and water from Israel.

Malcolm explained how the Israeli government came up with innovative solution to combat the scarcity of water in the region. He pointed towards the Nir Am Reservoir, which is one of at least three man-made lakes, that are filled with water during winter which are saved for use in summer. He also informed us that beside these lakes, the desalination technology and the purification plants for sewage water all ensure that Israel does not have to rely on either rain or Lake Galilee to meet its increasing water demand for irrigation, industry, and domestic use.



We then travelled through the banana, carrot, and citrus fields towards the



north-western area of the Negev where the ‘Darom Adom’ festival is held every year from mid-January till the end of February. At this time of the year, after a short rainy spell, scarlet Anemone flowers blossom. The region, mainly famous for its scarlet flowers and the festival, is not without a sustainability-story of its own. The area is home to several cisterns. A cistern is a specific type of wall that acts as reservoir for rainwater. According to Malcolm, these cisterns were built by the Romans after they invaded Jerusalem and destroyed the Second

Temple. They were excellent farmers; they built these cisterns to store rainwater for irrigation purposes and surprisingly, some of them are still in use today.

It was almost noon when we reached Sapir Academic College. After having lunch, we directly went inside **The Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (HIE)**, which is home to Innovation Labs, Entrepreneurship Clinics and the so called **eXlab: Experience Lab**. The department offers the students, staff, and the local Bedouin and Jewish communities of the region the necessary skills, knowledge, and practical experience to transform their innovative ideas into real ventures.



**Dr. Amit Marantz-Gal**, Head of Academic Internationalization at Sapir Academic College, welcomed everyone, thanked **CPA Amiad Gurewitz**, **Dr. Dan Kaufman**, **Revital Benami**, and **Gal Machloof** for organizing the workshop. She then introduced the eXlab as an open space having work areas with comfortable seating and workstations, designed to encourage and enable innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity. It is equipped with intelligently designed furniture that enables students to work individually and to collaborate with their peers without having to change the arrangement or cause disturbance.



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**Dr. Omri Herzog**, Head of the Cultural Studies department and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, then took his turn to greet the workshop participants. He stressed that we are all public intellectuals and should not be taking our responsibility lightly of creating impact and getting the stakeholders such as the universities, influential individuals, and the government together to the table.



**Dr. Dan Kaufman**, Director of Academic Program of the department then took the stage and informed us that about 150 to 200 students come to the HIE to study, exchange ideas and innovate. The mission of HIE can be connected to four important SDGs: quality education, decent work and economic growth, industry innovation and infrastructure, and reduced inequalities. Not only does the department aim at creating belief amongst the students that they can become capable of dealing with real-life issues and helping them improve their soft skills, but it also aims at eradicating inequality by engaging with the local Bedouin population. The concept of being an entrepreneur is entirely new to the periphery, especially when comparing to the population in big cities like Tel Aviv. HIE aims at empowering the youth of this region to lead the teaching process, where the professors are just there to assist and mentor. HIE mission is to reduce the economic and social gap between the core regions and the periphery, and to increase employability of young people through start-ups. Students could choose between any of the eight innovation labs to work on a project and are supported by four entrepreneurship clinics which act as support systems for the labs. Supervised by professionals in the field, the students run



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these clinics to provide innovation lab teams with relevant software, business, marketing, and legal services.

In the next session, **CPA Amiad Gurewitz** moderated a **Panel Discussion** with five inspiring panelists: **Nissim Bar-El**, Founder and Chairman at Yozmot Atid and Chair at HIE Sapir; **Dr. Dan Kaufman**, Director of Academic Program at HIE; **Shahar Belkin**, Executive VP of ZutaCore and Chairman of the Board at SouthUp; **Yuval Stav**, Head of economic development and strategic planning in the Western Negev Municipalities Cluster and a founding partner at Value Squared; and **Luna Pleasance**, Graduate of HIE, Software Developer at AudioCodes and Founder of the video game Out of Mind.



Amiad asked **Nissim Bar-El** if governments and corporations should directly be involved in regional development along with the academia. Nissim responded, “This is not the question. The question is Jerusalem!” He stressed on the importance of aligning the goals of all the stakeholders; universities,

governments, and the corporations because the economy cannot stand without the useful input from even any one of them. We all need to look at the larger picture and not deliberately miss something important like changing the world or even self-satisfaction while going after just money. Social impact investment is not just something that the UN is responsible for, rather, the present condition makes it indispensable for our survival.

**Dr. Dan Kaufman** was asked about how he manages to sustain the place (HIE) financially. He replied that the initial investment was made by Nissim and when the situation became shaky after two years, HIE managed to win a tender put in by the council of higher education demanding exactly what HIE has been doing ever since its inception. The aim is to get the next labs being funded by the institution departments.

Nissim and Dan then told the participants about how they aim to create an atmosphere of innovation and entrepreneurship so that the whole college becomes a part of it. Looking at what has previously happened, it shows that it has already started to bear fruits. Initially, HIE staff went to the departments to offer some extra modules related to innovation and entrepreneurship. HIE was able to attract a lot of students and the academic departments had no choice but to participate in HIE activities, supporting it financially, integrating them into their formal curricula and even letting students do their Final Year Projects at HIE.



**Shahar Belkin** was then asked to tell the audience about SouthUp. Shahar explained that SouthUp is an incubator for start-ups which focuses on bringing companies and generating jobs in the region. He shared with us that he grew up in this region and has always observed a lot of agricultural activities. When he came back to the area in 2016, start-up was not a language spoken here. Although 1200 start-ups were founded every year in Israel, none of them was in this area. He has now developed nine different incubators in the area where companies, even from Tel Aviv, come to launch their start-ups.

**Yuval Stav** was requested to share his opinion about the most important role that academia can play in transferring knowledge to society. He responded that colleges and universities can be the drivers of change from a shareholder-paradigm to a stakeholder-paradigm and also help shift the goal of economy. He emphasized on aiming for prosperity instead of growth and helping improve the quality of life as opposed to the standard of living. He sounded very hopeful and expressed his belief that students will be the driving force of this change.

**Luna Pleasance** was asked to share with us the impact HIE has had on her life and to tell us about her video game 'Out of Mind'. Luna told us that the idea behind this video game had its origins in her own personal life. Through this game, she wanted to share with the world the difficulties one might face when suffering from a mental illness. The game brings to light the realities associated with mental health treatments – there are no good or bad endings and there is no guarantee that it will make your condition better.

Amiad then led the discussion towards our responsibilities – what can we do better in the field of innovation and sustainability? Following suggestions were made by the panelists:

1. We are till date unable to make correct decisions according to the available data. Since impact is about measuring, it is imperative that we learn how to learn. On-the-job-training is the best synergetic solution where municipalities and corporations can learn from interns about their creative ideas and at the same time provide them with platforms to pursue those ideas.
2. Corporations should be encouraged to bring their real issues to academic institutions as they are the data source. This will help develop mutual trust between the stakeholders.
3. The local Bedouins should be encouraged to send their children to HIE or any such institute. Not only will they benefit from the programs, but they will bring new challenges to us. This shall increase our capacity to tackle new cultural issues.

In the closing session of the day, titled “Innovation, Intrapreneurship and Sustainability – My Sapir Experience”, **CPA Amiad Gurewitz** shared in detail his journey with Sapir Academic College. He compared Sapir College with the oldest and the well-established universities in Europe like Universität Heidelberg and the University of Padova. He emphasized that while the latter two can boast on being part of moments that changed the course of history, the former cannot do that because it is still young. But Sapir College is talking about innovation and entrepreneurship with flexibility and agility being its prime characteristics.



Amiad shared with us how he struggled and strived to bring about essential changes at the college. Due to his efforts, academic faculties’ and workers’ union got established, pension funds got approved for the senior as well as the junior staff, a new accounting department was set up and tenureship was institutionalized. Doing good for his colleagues gave him satisfaction and motivated him to look for new challenges. He also served as a CEO of an academic network comprising of 45 schools, 11 technical colleges and 3 offshore colleges. They grew to this number starting from just 12 schools while deploying the same seed of people. He also developed the program Gateway to Academy for the local Bedouin communities which aims at integration of the local tribes through education. Numerous scholarships and even stipends are offered to the students belonging to these tribes and they are given an opportunity to merge into the mainstream.

Last but not the least, Amiad developed a course on sustainable economy & impact investing, which focuses on imparting knowledge about entrepreneurship and innovation while changing perspectives with regards to the goal of the economic activity altogether – from absolute profit generation to inclusion.

### *Day 3: Wednesday 15/2/2023: Living Sustainability in the Desert By Prof. Eli Gimmon*

First stop was at the Bedouin village of Hura. This village inhabits 20,000 people of which 4,000 are unemployed women at working age. Following a case study, written by the team at Sapir Academic College, we visited a catering plant named **Al Sanabel** school nutrition, which employs 24 unskilled women. This SME (Small Business Enterprise) was founded in 2007 by **Mrs. Amel El-Sannah** who identified the opportunity to provide Bedouin-style food to Bedouin

pupils at schools. Feeding the pupils is subsidized by the Israeli government as part of a project designed for low class sectors. **Mr. Samih Taby**, who is managing this factory, is a professional social worker who graduated Sapir Academic College. We met Mrs. Kamla who is a talented self-educated manufacturing manager of this catering factory. In 2010 the factory suffered losses but fortunately was saved by a Jewish philanthropist who since then has been supporting this factory. It is a distinguished social enterprise which (a) reduces inequality by providing Bedouin women workers with well-paid salaries, (b) provides quality food for the local elementary schools Bedouin children, and (c) offers scholarships for higher education for the women and their children as well as support for medical treatment when needed. This enterprise is expected to diversify to another plant manufacturing electric wiring, which will employ ten unskilled workers and two professionals.



The second stop was at Wadi Attir Project. It is a model of sustainable desert community which leverages the Bedouin traditional values and know-how along with modern-day science and cutting edge technologies. This social enterprise was founded by **Dr. Hamad Nabary and Michael Ben-Eli**.



It is designed to enhance regional development with Bedouin social and cultural values. We watched de-desertification by desert agriculture, sheep, goats as well as medical herbs. The project is financed by governmental grants and matching provided by American philanthropists.



Following the field visit, we got an inspiring lecture by the co-founder, Dr. Hamad, who was the Mayor of Hura municipality from 2004 to 2015. He talked about the needs of the Bedouin population, which has experienced over the last decades a quick process of modernization.

The third stop was at the desert energy site at **Ashalim**. Located in the Negev Desert, the Ashalim thermo-solar power plant is an environmentally friendly renewable energy project. At the same area (4400 Acres) it holds three types of power plants: Thermal, Parabolic mirrors and PV (photo-voltaic) solar panels. The latter evidently is the most efficient manufacturer of electricity. Since desert



land is cheap this site provides an opportunity to study the production of non-fossil green energy.



The fourth stop was at **Sde-Boker** at the site of Ben-Gurion's desert home. Ben-



Gurion is considered to be the main founder of the State of Israel and served as its first Prime Minister. His vision, back in the 1950s, included promoting sustainable life. For 20 years, Ben-Gurion personally practiced life in the desert while he lived with his wife at Kibbutz Sde-Boker. He was enthusiastic about the desert, which in his eyes

seemed to have nothing and therefore offers ample opportunities. At the post of the Prime Minister, he preached for sustainability in four major aspects: forestation, population dispersal, solar energy and public ownership of civil services.

In summary, it was an insightful day in which IFI participants learned and discussed sustainable activities in the Israeli desert, in respect to the ecological and social ecosystem.



## Day 4: Thursday 16/2/2023 - IFI WPs Progress Workshops

By Dr. Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe

The last day of IFI meeting was dedicated to review, discuss, and further develop the project deliverables.

**CPA Amiad Gurewitz**, from Sapir Academic College, presented the IFI Taxonomy that he has developed for the project (the document is available on [IFI website](#)), under the framework of WP1 with the aim to establish a community of practice and body of knowledge. Amiad explained the target audience for the developed taxonomy does not include only academics but also students, professionals from the business sector, and policy makers. Although the term 'taxonomy' is used as a title for this document, it is taken in this case not from a scientific perspective, but rather as a comprehensive term used to present the context of what we are dealing with. The IFI taxonomy document was written as a conceptual paper that starts with an introduction and continues with several layers that build-up the discourse. The document is focused on the human perspective and refrains from presenting one specific definition.

Following the presentation by Amiad, we had an open discussion, where all the participants were invited to provide feedback. They all expressed their appreciation and agreed that the document is relevant and important. A few points for improvement were suggested and it was decided that the final document will be designed and translated to Hebrew and Arabic.

In the next session, **Dr. Inbal Abbou**, from Kibbutzim College of Education, moderated a workshop on lesson plans for sustainable and inclusive finance, based on blueprints that were sent in advance by IFI team members. She started by presenting the rationale of developing lesson plans that will be shared on the IFI website as open-source materials and also used for instructions during the conference that is planned to be held in Tel Aviv for our peers in Israeli academic institutions. Based on previous discussions, it was agreed that we aim at interactive lessons which will call for creative ideas and proactive participation of students.



We were divided into several workgroups to discuss in detail the submitted lesson plans on social impact bonds, technological marketing, sustainable monetary policy, and solar panels as energy source. The groups used those examples to brainstorm on effective ways for teaching and developed outlines for additional lessons.

**Prof. Vered Holzmann** concluded the meeting with a review of the outputs and outcomes that IFI team has achieved so far. She presented to the participants the newly designed website and thanked **Dr. Vered Haas** for all the efforts she invested to accomplish this result. **Prof. Alberto Lanzavecchia**, **Prof. Francesca Gambarotto**, and **Lamia Yasin**, from the team from The University of Padova, shared with the attendees the tentative plan for the next meeting that will be held on May 8-11 and focused on development and delivery of case studies and simulations. A few additional issues were discussed, including completion of WP3 (training for professionals), tasks related to WP4 (students' competition on innovative solutions for finance inclusion challenges and the option to conduct a summary meeting in Estonia), final results of WP5 (student led ESG funds), and planned activities in regard to WP6 (train the trainers).

On behalf of all the participants, we thank the team in Sapir Academic College - **Dr. Amit Marantz-Gal**, **CPA Amiad Gurewitz**, **Dr. Dan Kaufman**, **Revital Benami**, and **Gal Machloof** - for organizing a wonderful successful meeting.



## *A Farwell Note by Shir Horovitz*

Dear IFI partners and friends,

As you may already know, I am regrettably leaving our cohort and will no longer be the representative of the National Union of Israeli Students.



I am moving on to the Ministry of Economy and Industry, as the assistant and advisor to the CEO. I am excited, but unsurprisingly sad to leave this inspiring project behind (at least on a formal level). It is my hope that my work will influence our perception of economics in Israel, so we can measure and consider its effects on society and the environment.

Joining IFI has been an excellent opportunity both professionally and personally. My sincere appreciation goes out to you for making this experience so enriching and for your dedication to creating and expanding a community of practitioners with the goal of making our future brighter. I aim to bring forward all the knowledge I have gained and the skills that I have learned here.



It is my pleasure to thank our partners at Tel Hai College, University of Deusto (ES) and Heidelberg University (DE) who invested their time and experience in developing programs and models to connect students with the field through investments in student-led funds. Our collaboration has produced a review of student-led funds around the world and developed an innovative model that combines financial education with impact economy.

I am looking forward to reading the position papers and case studies that will be written as part of the project as well as participating in the events and the competition to come. Hopefully, these materials will be used in many classrooms and students will be inspired by them. With you as educators and role models, I am confident that students around the world are in good hands.

I have also appreciated knowing you on a personal level, and very much hope we can continue this relationship beyond my final day. Below are my relevant contact details and I hope you will get in touch at some point in the future.

I wish you all the luck for your future. Please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Shir Horovitz  
Shir.Horov@gmail.com



## Following Meetings & Events

Please mark your calendar for the following planned meetings and events:

- **WP2 meeting on sustainable and inclusive finance case studies and simulations, hosted by The University of Padova, Italy, on 8-11 May 2023**
- **WP4 online students' competition, hosted by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, on 8 June, 2023** (please note that registration of student teams is required)
- **WP6 meeting on ESG finance summer school, hosted by University of Deusto, Spain, on 19-21 June 2023**
- **TENTATIVE - Summary meeting and workshop for students, hosted by Estonian Business School, Estonia, July 2023**
- **TENTATIVE - WP6 train the trainers conference, hosted by The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo, Israel, on 5 September 2023**
- **TENTATIVE - La Grand Finale meeting, hosted by The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo, Israel, on 7-9 November 2023**

Please register to the meetings on the IFI website event page [here](#).

## Dissemination Event: Impact 3.0

The Academic College of Tel Aviv - Yaffo, Israel, 17 March 2023

Impact 3.0 conference was an initiative of collaboration between The Marker (daily business newspaper) and The Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo. The conference was held on 17 March 2023 with the participation of hundreds of senior managers in the public and business sectors, entrepreneurs, company owners, investment fund managers, and academics. The conference focused on the challenges and effective ways for economic, social and environmental change at the public, governmental and business levels. A long list of distinguished guests presented their view on the topic.

In alignment with the college vision to “make an impact”, **Dr. Nurit Hashimshony-Yaffe** introduced IFI project to the audience.



Photos by Eyal Milles and Hadas Parush from The Marker



## An International Workshop on ESG Values

15-16 June 2023, San Sebastian, Spain

Dear IFI colleagues,

Prior to our next meeting in Bilbao (19-21 June), we would like to share with the announcement on **2023 International Workshop on ESG Values** that will be held in San Sebastian, 15-16 June 2023. You can find all the information about the event [here](#).



The workshop will feature several parallel sessions, some sessions for PhD students, and four plenary sessions by **Maria do Ceu Cortez** from the University of Minho; **Cristina Ortiz** from the University of Zaragoza; **Antonio Trujillo** from the University Pablo de Olavide and **Emilia Vähämaa** from the Hanken School of Economics.

You are invited to submit your paper to the workshop via the following email address: [sustainable.finance.ws@deusto.es](mailto:sustainable.finance.ws@deusto.es)

Both full papers and work-in-progress are welcome.

**Two awards for complete paper submitted by deadline will be available:**

Best paper award;

Best PhD paper award

<b>Original papers can be submitted until:</b>	<b>31 March 2023</b>
<b>Notification of acceptance:</b>	<b>30 April 2023</b>
<b>Early registration deadline:</b>	<b>1-15 May 2023</b>
<b>Welcome and sessions:</b>	<b>15-16 June 2023</b>

[Here](#) you can see some pictures from last year's edition.

Thank you and we hope to see you!

*The University of Deusto team*

## Monday Monthly Meeting

The following Monday Monthly Meeting will take place on March 6, 2022.



Happy Monday!

The agenda for the meeting includes an update on training for professionals conference to be held on 19 March 2023, a discussion on development of a new application to teach sustainable finance course, and additional issues.

Your attendance and contribution to this meeting are important.

If you have additional topics that you would like to suggest for the agenda of the Monday Monthly Meetings, please send us an email to [ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il](mailto:ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il) and [veredhz@mta.ac.il](mailto:veredhz@mta.ac.il).

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## Reminders



- Please send us your birthdate so we can congratulate you on that special day.
- If you want to join our WhatsApp group, please send us your mobile number.
- If you haven't sent us yet your personal information and a photo to be presented on IFI website, please contact us at [ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il](mailto:ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il).
- Submit your financial reports (see [templates](#)) by email to [ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il](mailto:ifi.erasmus@mta.ac.il) and send a copy to [veredhz@mta.ac.il](mailto:veredhz@mta.ac.il).
- Share with us information on internal and external dissemination events or publications.

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Project number 619453-EPP-1-2020-1-IL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

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