

Annawati van Paddenburg

Non-executive director · Supervisory board member · Adviser

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PROFILE

I help boards treat nature as a strategic asset and as part of an economy that lasts for generations. Our economies are being transformed: capital that still flows to business as usual needs to be reallocated to businesses and projects that build low-carbon, nature-positive economies, on land and at sea. For over twenty years I have worked where nature, economics and finance meet: with governments, multilateral institutions, investors and indigenous-led enterprises across Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America. Open to new non-executive, supervisory board and advisory roles.

CURRENT BOARD AND ADVISORY ROLES

2020 – 2026 **Co-founder and Chair of the Board**, Ebier Suth Cokran, Ransiki, West Papua, Indonesia

- Co-founder; adviser from 2020 and Chair of the Board since 2022.
- Leads the board of an indigenous-led cacao agroforestry enterprise in Ransiki, the town where I lived as a teenager.
- 2,000 ha under a 100-year permit: 1,200 ha cacao and 800 ha set aside for conservation.
- Grown from a 30 ha pilot towards 200 ha with a team of 180; its cacao won a Cacao of Excellence award.
- Raised over USD 2 million in start-up capital.
- Built a technical assistance facility to develop local leadership and nurture talent, prioritising the young generation, especially women.

2021 – 2026 **Director, Board of Directors**, Sustainable Biomass Program (SBP), London

- Board director of the global certification scheme for sustainable woody biomass.
- Holds a civil society seat, alongside the Executive Chair of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, under an independent chair.
- Part of the board that sets strategy and oversees governance; standard-setting is delegated to SBP's Standards Committee.

2021 – 2026 **International Advisory Council Member**, International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy (IACGB), Bonn

- Member of the international council that advises on the global bioeconomy and convenes the Global Bioeconomy Summit.
- Contributed to the Global Bioeconomy Summit 2026 in Dublin, where the council presented the Global Bioeconomy Vision 2040 in its communiqué.
- Special guest at ReFarm Conversations in Dublin on farmers, finance and nature restoration.

2021 – 2026 **Board Trustee**, Predator Free Hauraki Coromandel Community Trust, New Zealand

- Trustee of a community-led trust working to remove introduced predators across the Hauraki Coromandel region.
- Governance and partnerships for long-term protection of native birds and biodiversity.

PAST BOARD AND ADVISORY ROLES

2021 – 2022 **Expert Member, Nature Working Group**, Responsible Investment Association Australasia (RIAA)

- Expert member of the investor working group on nature-related risks and opportunities, for Australia and New Zealand.

2018 – 2020 **Expert Member, Natural Capital Working Group**, Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP), Geneva

- Expert member of the working group of GGKP, the partnership of UNEP, the OECD, the World Bank, GGGI and UNIDO.
- Contributed to bringing the value of natural capital into policy and financial decisions.

WHAT I BRING TO A BOARD

Nature-related risk and opportunity
Nature stewardship is a critical part of the bioeconomy. Unless the loss of nature from poor land and ocean practices is priced in, we lose ecosystem services that humanity depends on. Market-based instruments and economic incentives can translate what healthy ecosystems need into business and investment terms. Practical experience in ecosystem valuation, nature value at risk and the TNFD agenda.

Policy, market-based instruments and incentives
Experience with market-based instruments and economic incentives that make sustainable land use and green investment pay. Years of direct work with national and provincial governments across countries

Reallocating capital and blended finance
Low-carbon, nature-positive businesses still have too few track records, so investors see them as high risk. Blended finance instruments can de-risk early investments. We need to use them to build that track record, so this kind of investment becomes mainstream and can scale. Contributed to the mobilisation of over USD 150 million in catalytic capital from governments, multilaterals, foundations and companies.

Shaping the bioeconomy, on land and at sea
From global to local: the international council behind the Global Bioeconomy Summit, the board of a global biomass certification scheme, and a cacao company built from farm to value-added products. Across biomass, cacao, seaweed, forestry,

Strategy and building organisations, global to local
At GGGI I built the Indonesia programme from scratch and wrote the first global strategy for sustainable landscapes, approved by management and the GGGI Council. At Ebier Suth Cokran I helped build a cacao agroforestry company from the farm to value-added products, and the leadership of indigenous and marginalised communities.

People and cultures
Strong interpersonal skills and a multicultural Dutch-Indonesian background. Lived and worked in eight countries, including six years in China. Fluent in English, Indonesian and Dutch, with basic French, German and Spanish, and

and with UN agencies, WWF, The Nature Conservancy and development banks.

agriculture, wetlands and peatlands: standards and business models in which nature stewardship is part of the business, keeping land, coast and livelihoods productive for generations to come.

comfortable chairing across cultures and time zones.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017 – 2020 **Deputy Director, Head of Sustainable Landscapes**, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Seoul

- Member of the extended executive management team.
- Designed GGGI's first Sustainable Landscapes strategy, approved by management and the GGGI Council.
- Grew the programme to 16 partner countries in Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America.
- Led origination of land, water and ocean-related projects and interventions as part of the global Sustainable Landscapes portfolio.
- Mobilised multimillion-dollar climate finance and built a global community of practice.

2013 – 2017 **Indonesia Country Representative**, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Jakarta

- Set up the country programme from scratch.
- Designed a USD 20 million green growth programme with the Government of Indonesia, covering energy, industry and landscapes.
- Signed partnerships with the provinces of East and Central Kalimantan, including the East Kalimantan Green Growth Compact.
- Leveraged USD 110 million in REDD+ results-based payments from the World Bank's FCPF Carbon Fund for East Kalimantan, with GGGI as the main partner supporting the Government of Indonesia on the ER-PIN, ER-PD and payment agreement (ERPA).
- Worked on forests, agriculture, renewable energy and on greening economic zones, encouraging circularity.

2009 – 2012 **Sustainable Finance and Policy Strategy Leader, Heart of Borneo**, WWF, Jakarta

- Lead author of Heart of Borneo: Investing in Nature for a Green Economy, launched at Rio+20 and presented to the President of Indonesia.
- Led ecosystem valuation across Brunei, Malaysia and Indonesia.

2007 – 2009 **Philanthropy Manager**, The Nature Conservancy, China programme, Beijing

- Raised over USD 1 million from public and private sources.

2003 – 2007 **Project Development Officer**, Wetlands International, Beijing (associate expert, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- Secured funding for nine projects from the EU, World Bank/GEF, UNDP, UNESCO-IHE and corporate partners.
- Coordinated strategy for the Ramsar Convention COP9 in 2005.

2002 – 2003 **Tropical Rainforest Programme Officer**, Netherlands Committee for IUCN, Amsterdam

- Programme and external communication for tropical forest projects.

LOOKING FOR

Roles

- Non-executive director or supervisory board member
- Chair or member of a sustainability, risk or impact committee
- Advisory board or expert council

Sectors

- The bioeconomy on land and at sea: food, agriculture, cacao, forestry, biomass, seaweed and aquaculture
- Nature stewardship within the bioeconomy: nature-based solutions, regenerative land use and healthy coasts and oceans
- Renewable energy and the climate transition
- Green economic zones and the circular economy
- Impact investment, blended finance, banking and insurance
- Certification and standard-setting bodies

Where and how

- Based in Auckland, New Zealand
- Boards in New Zealand, Asia-Pacific and Europe
- Used to meeting remotely across time zones, and to travel
- Works in English, Indonesian and Dutch

EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES

Education

- MSc Geo-Information Science, Wageningen University
- BSc (Hons) Environmental Science, University of Western Australia
- Conservation Leadership Programme, WWF
- Green and Sustainable Finance (course), Chartered Banker Institute

Languages

- English, Indonesian, Dutch: fluent
- French, German, Spanish, Mandarin, Korean: basic

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2012. *Heart of Borneo: Investing in Nature for a Green Economy.* WWF, lead author. Launched at Rio+20.
- 2018. *Green Growth Assessment & Extended Cost Benefit Analysis.* Handbook for policy and investment decision makers. Government of Indonesia and GGGI, contributing author.