

## GP Digital Salon

### "Strong Women - Strong Economies: Increasing Women's Financial Inclusion in Africa"

Tuesday, 30 March 2021, 4.00 – 5.00pm

---

#### Speakers:



#### **Dorothee Bär, MP**

Minister of State for Digitization at the Federal Chancellery of Germany

Dorothee Bär was born in Bamberg in 1978. She is a political scientist and a Member of the German Parliament since 2002. Before winning her parliamentary mandate, she was a journalist for various daily newspapers, radio stations and news agencies. From 2009 to 2013 she was Spokeswoman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group for family, senior citizens, youth and women affairs and deputy secretary general of her party, the CSU. From 2013 to 2018 she was Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Transport and digital Infrastructure. Dorothee Bär is chairwoman of the CSU Netzrat and of CSU.net. Since March 2018 Dorothee Bär is Minister of State at the Federal Chancellery and Federal Government Commissioner for digital Affairs.



#### **Mary Ellen Iskenderian**

President and CEO of Women's World Banking, Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the UN's Business and Sustainable Development Commission

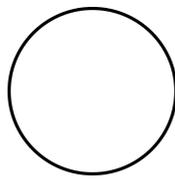
Mary Ellen Iskenderian is President and CEO of Women's World Banking, the global nonprofit devoted to giving low-income women in the developing world access to the financial tools and resources they require to achieve security and prosperity. She joined Women's World Banking in 2006 and leads the Women's World Banking global team, based in New York, and also serves as a member of the Investment Committee of its two impact investment funds.

Mary Ellen is a passionate advocate for women's economic empowerment through greater access to finance and is a leading voice for women's leadership in financial services. She has spoken widely and published extensively on the topic of equality of economic opportunity and women's financial inclusion.

Prior to Women's World Banking, Mary Ellen worked for 17 years at the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of the World Bank. She had previously worked for the investment bank Lehman Brothers. Mary Ellen is a permanent member of the Council on Foreign Relations, as well as a member of the Women's Forum of New York, and the UN's Business and Sustainable Development Commission.

#### Global Perspectives Initiative

Global Perspectives Initiative gUG (haftungsbeschränkt), Friedrichstraße 217, 10969 Berlin  
0049 (0) 30 55 57 80 530, [office@globalperspectives.org](mailto:office@globalperspectives.org), [globalperspectives.org](http://globalperspectives.org)  
Amtsgericht Charlottenburg, HRB 180995 B, Geschäftsführung: Dr. Ingrid Hamm



### **Scheaffer Okore**

Senior strategy and policy advisor; Advisory Board Member to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Goalkeepers Initiative; Obama Foundation's Africa Leader

Scheaffer Okore is a feminist, senior policy and strategy advisor and politician. She advises philanthropists and INGOs working intersectionally on policy, governance, and gender strategy with a feminist lens. Scheaffer is a Senior Policy Advisor at Reid Strategies and the Senior Strategy Advisor at SCOPE Impact where she also doubles up as a columnist for one of Kenya's top newspapers. She is a revered voice advocating for women's equity in leadership, economic autonomy and inclusion. She is currently an Advisory Board Member at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Goalkeepers (Seattle), She's The First (New York), Center for Feminist Foreign Policy (Berlin) and The She Tank (Abuja). Scheaffer is an inaugural Obama Foundation Africa Leader Fellow who was later recognized by the ONE Campaign as one of their Global Women of 2018. She has in the past consulted for INGOs such as Project Everyone, Malaria No More and Purpose Global. She is an intellectual polymath who has spoken at the African Feminist Macroeconomics Academy (AFMA) in Ghana, African Youth Perspectives discourse at Chatham House in the UK, the 31st African Union Summit on Anti-Corruption in Mauritania, Feminist Future discourses in Berlin, Mozambique, Uganda and Singapore and the Geopolitical Conference held in Kampala, among others. Her work has been featured in Careers magazine, African Portal, AfricanFeminism, among others.



### **Dr Christina Tewes-Gradl**

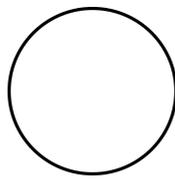
Founder & Managing Director of Endeava, former Strategy Consultant at McKinsey and Research Fellow at the CSR Initiative of the Harvard Kennedy School

Dr. Christina Tewes-Gradl is an expert on inclusive business and system innovation. As a founder and managing director of Endeava, she works with partners from all sectors to enable an economic transformation that benefits people and planet. She loves working towards a food system that nourishes everyone and benefits small farmers, having grown up in the countryside and having worked with small farmers all over the world since 2005. She has contributed more than 30 publications, including many flagship reports, on these topics. She regularly speaks at events and facilitates workshops. Christina has almost 20 years of experience in advising on sustainability, strategy and development issues. Christina is a former Research Fellow at the CSR Initiative of the Harvard Kennedy School, Strategic Advisor to the UNDP Growing Inclusive Markets initiative and Kofi Annan Fellow on Global Governance. She holds a PhD on the business model concept from the University of Halle-Wittenberg and Masters degrees from the University of Passau and LSE. Previously, Christina worked as a strategy consultant with McKinsey&Co and with rice farmers in Madagascar.

---

## Global Perspectives Initiative

Global Perspectives Initiative gUG (haftungsbeschränkt), Friedrichstraße 217, 10969 Berlin  
0049 (0) 30 55 57 80 530, office@globalperspectives.org, globalperspectives.org  
Amtsgericht Charlottenburg, HRB 180995 B, Geschäftsführung: Dr. Ingrid Hamm



**Moderator:**



**Christine Mhundwa**

Anchor & Correspondent for Deutsche Welle (DW)

Christine Mhundwa is a journalist who has covered current affairs, politics and financial markets in sub-saharan Africa. Mhundwa has worked for organisations including CNBC and Bloomberg and is currently based in Berlin where she presents Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle's (DW) flagship Africa bulletin on week-

days.

---

**Host:**



**Dr Ingrid Hamm**

Co-Founder and CEO of Global Perspectives Initiative

Dr Ingrid Hamm is Co-founder and CEO of the Global Perspectives Initiative. She is deeply involved in the international dialogue on global development. Dr Hamm has been working in major German foundations for three decades, including 15 years at the Bertelsmann Foundation. Most recently, from 2003 to 2015, she headed the Robert Bosch Foundation. In addition, Ingrid Hamm has served and continues to serve on German and international boards, including the University Council of the University of Tübingen, the General Assembly of the Goethe Institute, the Board of the European Forum Alpbach Foundation, and the Board of Trustees of the Karl Schlecht Foundation.

**Global Perspectives Initiative**

Global Perspectives Initiative gUG (haftungsbeschränkt), Friedrichstraße 217, 10969 Berlin  
0049 (0) 30 55 57 80 530, office@globalperspectives.org, globalperspectives.org  
Amtsgericht Charlottenburg, HRB 180995 B, Geschäftsführung: Dr. Ingrid Hamm