



Helle Bank Jorgensen

CEO & Founder, Competent Boards

CEO & Founder, B.Accountability

Founder & President Emeritus, Global Compact Network Canada

Helle Bank Jorgensen is one of the world's most experienced and renowned sustainability, climate change, and ESG advisers with over 25 years of experience advising global companies and investors.

Helle was the creator of the world's first Green Account as well as the world's first Integrated Report, the first holistic supply chain program, and was the principal organizer for the CEO/Investor-network for Business Ethics and Non-Financial Reporting. She has led the CDP-report of the S&P 500, the Improvement of DJSI ranking and investor communication for global companies and has worked on Natural Capital Accounting for IFC/World Bank. In 2015, Helle became the first in North America to have received the Certificate of Achievement and passed the GRI G4 Exam.

She serves on His Royal Highness Prince of Wales A4S Global Expert Panel, the Canadian W20 Delegation, the Cornerstone Capital Global Advisory Council, the Board of Danish Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Future-Fit Business Benchmark Release Council.

Until recently, she was the Chair of Datamaran, a UK based technology startup, and for several years she served on the Board of European Policy Centre (EPC), as Chair of European Sustainability Reporting Association (ESRA), at the Board of CSR Europe, Board of American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham), Sustainability Advisory Panel of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), Sustainability Policy Group of Institute of European Accountants (FEE) International associate of the Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research (CSEAR), and as Member of the Council for International Development Cooperation (DANIDA). She is also a Board Facilitator for the UN Global Compact Board Program.

She has worked with hundreds of world-leading companies and is a regular keynote speaker, and the author of many thought-leading articles and books about sustainability, climate change, the Sustainable Development Goals, gender equality, and the roles and responsibilities of board members and investors.

In 2012 Helle founded B. Accountability, a certified Woman-Owned business where she advises global business leaders how to turn sustainability into strong financial results.

She was appointed UN Special Advisor to the Global Compact (UNGC) in 2013, and B.Accountability was awarded the role of building and managing the Global Compact Network Canada. The network has grown exponentially and actively engages business leaders, government, civil society organizations, academia, and investors in achieving progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) & UNGC principles.

In 2018, Helle founded Competent Boards where she facilitates online training, knowledge sharing, and tailored offerings to help companies and their boards understand the risks and opportunities present by environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters.

Prior to founding these organization, Helle spent 11 years as a partner with PwC in Europe and the U.S., leading sustainability and climate change practices where she gained extensive experience providing strategic and operational guidance to all functions within an organization, including advising at the C-suite and board level.

Helle received the Clean50 award in 2018 for her work in building the Global Compact Network Canada.

Helle is a State Authorized Accountant and Business Lawyer. She also holds a Master's in Business Administration and Auditing.

Social Presence

- Twitter: @HelleBankJorgen
- LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/hellebank

Helle can speak to the following topics and initiatives:

The history and future of corporate responsibility

Being a pioneer, Helle speaks to how it all started, what we can expect in the future and how to stay resilient.

ESG, sustainability, and climate change competent boards

Boards of Directors are bombarded with new expectations and demands from shareholders and stakeholders. Helle speaks on how to ensure the Board is a Competent Board ready for the 21st century.

The Sustainable Development Goals as a strategic tool that drives innovation

The SDGs are a framework that can be – and are – utilized to identify risks, opportunities, and innovations by the best companies in the world. Helle shares the insight she has obtained from the world's leaders.

Integrated Reporting and integrated thinking

Having designed the first Integrated Report in the world, and worked with leaders on reporting for decades, Helle shares how to and how not to go about integrated reporting if you want a valuable process.

A resilient and responsible supply chain

Helle has been involved in responsible supply chain management since the first companies were accused of sweatshops. She has built supply chain programs that are hailed as the best in the world and written highly regarded articles and books on the subject.

Sustainable good governance

- What does sustainable good governance look like? Helle shares insight on the form of good governance that will ensure good short and long-term results, resiliency, innovation and happy employees, customers, society, and shareholders

Gender equality as a business driver

- Helle shares her own insight as well as insight from the Gender Equality Project she is working on with the Government of Canada, the private sector and a group of world-class advisors.

Examples of Previous Speaking Engagements include:

- [The SDG Business Forum](#),
- The Vancouver International Film Festival – [Keynote on how to leverage the SDGs](#)
- The Gender Equality Forum,
- Governance Professionals Conference,
- New York Climate Week,
- UN High-level Panel on SDGs and on Gender Equality,
- Side event at The World Economic Forum, Davos,
- Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI) International Conference,
- The Conference Board,
- United States Council for International Business (USCIB),
- Earth Institute, Columbia University, New York,
- AICPA-SEC (US Securities and Exchange Commission) Conference,
- European Business Leaders Convention (EBLC), Northern Light Summit,
- Globe,
- The Canadian Club of Toronto,
- WEConnect International,
- COP15, COP16, COP19, Rio+20 The World Green Summit,
- The European Union on non-financial reporting (led to the EU Directive on Non-financial reporting),

Examples of Publications

Written and Contributed to Books including:

- [Environmental Debt – The hidden costs of a changing global economy](#);
- [One Report: Integrated Reporting for a Sustainable Strategy](#);
- Building Public Trust: The Future of Corporate Reporting;
- Creating Value in a Regulated World: CFO Perspectives;
- The ValueReporting Revolution – Moving beyond the Earnings Game;
- Towards New Global Strategies: Public Goods and Human Rights;
- Corporate Citizenship - The Social Aspects (IFCAI University Press, India);
- Corporate Values and Responsibility – The Case of Denmark;
- The Copenhagen Charter - a management guide to stakeholder reporting;
- Strengthening the implementation of CSR in global supply chains, (World Bank &

- IFC);
- Social accounts (JØP, Denmark);
- Accounting for the Environment, Rob Gray, University of Dundee, Scotland;
- The Annual Environmental Report: Measuring and Reporting Environmental Performance (for the Danish Environmental Ministry);
- A True and Fair View of Environmental Costs in Reporting - how to incorporate information about environmental opportunities and externalities into the annual report (Master Thesis).

Articles include:

- Featured article in Institute of Corporate Directors - [Two sides of the same coin: the growing expectation on boards to address climate change as risks AND opportunities.](#)
- A4S – Accounting for Sustainability: [What is the most purposeful way to spend USD 1.7 trillion?](#)
- Featured article in West Point - The United States Military Academy: [Stability through Sustainability](#)
- Listed Magazine: [Leaders send a message: It's time for climate action](#)
- Forbes: [Leveraging Gender Diversity To Yield High Financial and Human Returns](#)
- GreenBiz: [Why your board should care about sustainable development](#)
- Huffington Post: [From Rana Plaza to Soulful Economy: How Consumers Have the Power to Drive Change](#)
- GreenBiz: [Blackrock, Unilever, PVH on sustainability from investors to boards of directors](#)
- Sustainable Brands: [What Makes a Board Fit for the Future?](#)
- GreenBiz: [How boards of directors can shape a sustainable future;](#)
- Board Perspectives - [From Blind Spots to Bright Spots;](#)
- GreenBiz: [5 ways boards of directors can support sustainability;](#)
- GreenBiz: [Why your board should care about sustainable development;](#)
- GreenBiz: [Sustaining the world we want \(without screwing it up\);](#)
- GreenBiz: [Did your business get the 'integrated thinking memo'?](#)
- [It's proxy season again, so boards need to prepare;](#)
- [How much do you want to know about your supply chain?](#)
- GreenBiz: [How COP22 in Marrakech will be different;](#)
- GreenBiz: [Report from COP21: A waste of future?](#)
- GreenBiz: [One week later, 4 reasons to keep thinking about Climate Week;](#)
- Latest UN climate conference strengthens the case for the business-government bridge;
- Toronto Sustainability Speaker Series: [Report from COP18: Leadership is a matter of degrees;](#)
- GreenBiz: [Climate Change as a Driver for Green Jobs and Innovation;](#)
- GreenBiz: [Crowded COP15;](#)
- GreenBiz: [The role business plays in battling climate change and managing energy use;](#)

About Competent Boards

Competent Boards' online platform is a place where boards of directors, investors CEOs, and other executives can learn from each other and connect with business minds from all over the world.

We offer online education and training allowing executives to gain insights and learn about best practices from other leaders, in addition to more tailored offerings, helping companies and boards reach sustainable success.

"Incredible initiative. Competent Boards will share knowledge, experience and insight to help train board members on how to capitalise on opportunities SDGs present."

- Paul Polman, CEO, Unilever

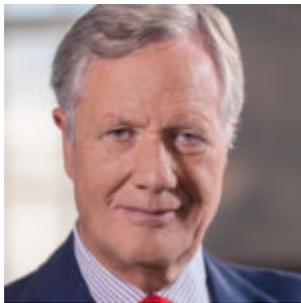


Testimonials



As a TV journalist and professional moderator being able to spot an outstanding speaker is part of my job. When I worked with Helle Bank Jorgensen she immediately stood out, both on and off stage. Ahead of the high-level international event I was moderating Helle prepared thoroughly and thought through exactly what were the key takeaways for the audience and how to communicate this in an engaging way. Then on stage she executed this perfectly with a delivery that was conversational and effortless. In a nutshell Helle has a dream combination of speaker qualities — experience, intelligence, confidence and charisma. I can't wait to work with her again!

FEMI OKE Senior Host/Journalist Al Jazeera
& Co-Founder Moderate The Panel



Helle's insight and disruptive questions are a great source of inspiration. She brings a unique strategic insight and perspective that help companies and boards focus on the emerging issues that are essential for any company that wants to be in business for the long-run. Helle and her team's integrated approach brings disruptive thinking, innovation and cost savings together to drive sustainable business development. The outcome is trust and admiration among stakeholders, including shareholders. Helle's concern and drive for sustainable business practices are very much appreciated.

MICHAEL TRESCHOW Former Unilever Chairman



Helle facilitated a series of sessions on Sustainability for PwC's global board and global leadership. The sessions not only informed, but also formed a clear business case and action plan for PwC. As a facilitator, Helle is incredibly knowledgeable, focused, and has an inspiring and energetic flair.

SAM DIPIAZZA as Global CEO & Chairman, PWC



I would highly recommend the B.Accountability team to any organization who wants to introduce their company to the Sustainable Development Goals and learn how to integrate them into strategy and reporting.

MICHAEL KOBORI, Vice President, Sustainability, Levi Strauss & Co.



Helle has a unique expertise in assisting domestic and internationally operating companies with the profitable implementation of sustainability into their corporate strategies, core activities, and into their communication with stakeholders.

MADS OVLISEN as Chairman, Novo Nordisk & LEGO



I have known Helle for a number of years, she has always been a remarkable store of information about sustainability issues and projects. She was an inspiration behind sustainability reporting for the accounting profession in Europe and then in North America, and has been a continuous source of advice to me as the concepts of integrated reporting have developed. She brings great expertise, experience and intellect to the integrated reporting process and I would recommend her to those looking to implement in the coming years.

PAUL DRUCKMAN as CEO, International Integrated Reporting Council



There is growing awareness and interest from corporate boards toward the risks and opportunities within sustainability and climate change. I had the recent pleasure of facilitating a dialogue with the leadership team of Triovest, a privately-held Canadian developer, advisor and manager of commercial real estate. I was amazed at how the topic sparked many important conversations that connected to different aspects of the business. This shows that if leadership teams are able to ask the right questions related to sustainability and climate change, then we are able to have rich exchanges that fuel innovation, shape strategy, and turn risks into opportunities.

Dialogue with the **Leadership Team** of Triovest



As the CEO of one of the largest Pension Funds in Denmark I was part of the Network for Good Business Ethics and Non-Financial Reporting that Helle established for 50 CEOs of leading companies and investors. Through her skilled facilitation, during quarterly discussions, Helle successfully aligned the CEOs on why and how to embed sustainable thinking into strategies, operations and reporting. Many of the participating companies are today seen as global frontrunners within sustainable business practices and many of the CEO's have taken on additional roles to further enhance sustainable business practices.

PETER DAMGAARD JENSEN as CEO of PKA and Chairman of Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC)



As CEO of Maersk Line, I asked Helle and her team to do an assessment and facilitate discussions with the leadership team around the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles, and to help us identify our risks and opportunities. The interviews and facilitated discussions helped us to both reduce company risk and identify innovative opportunities. The ideas that Helle helped us generate resulted in new business opportunities that were both profitable and transformational for our business.

EIVIND KOLDING as CEO, Maersk Line



Helle assisted IKEA's global sustainability team during many years; she helped IKEA refine its sustainability supply chain strategy, develop the supplier code of conduct program, and train IKEA co-workers and suppliers. She also conducted monitoring visits of IKEA suppliers, and helped to build a strategy and implementation plan around engaging and communication with suppliers and local communities.

MARIANNE BARNER as Senior Advisor Sustainability, IKEA



Helle joined me for the launch of WindMade under the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2011. Her knowledge about sustainability, integrated reporting, and greenhouse gas emissions has been of high value to both Vestas and other WindMade partners.

DITLEV ENGEL as CEO, Vestas Wind Systems



We invited Helle to speak with our Board of Directors Corporate Responsibility Committee. The discussion reinforced the essentiality of strong alignment and the importance of stakeholder engagement and embedding sustainability within the business functions and value chain; a journey that Helle and her company afterwards helped us embark on. Helle brings unique insight and perspective that is rooted in her many years of global business experience.

MAUREEN MAZUREK as Director, Monsanto