



DemoDay: Women Angels Mission'25

Speakers - WHO is WHO

Theresa Bardubitzki

Sustainability Manager KfW Capital GmbH & Co. KG
Frankfurt am Main

Theresa Bardubitzki is Sustainability Manager at KfW Capital. In this role, she is a member of the Investment Committee and is responsible for both the ESG due diligence and reporting process as well as impact measurement. In addition, Theresa is responsible for the further development and implementation of the internal sustainability strategy and the anchoring of sustainability projects from KfW.

Prior to joining KfW Capital, she worked at Finance in Motion and DZ Bank.



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Dr. Anna Christmann, MdB

Representative of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection (BMWK) for the Digital Economy and Start-ups and Coordinator of the Federal Government for German Aerospace, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Berlin



She was born in Hanover in 1983 and was already a political person in her school days. She studied political science, economics and mathematics in Heidelberg and did her doctorate on direct democracy in Switzerland. She then worked as the minister's office manager and policy officer at the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science. Since 2017, she has been a member of the German Bundestag for the electoral district of Stuttgart II. In the 19th legislative period, she was the spokesperson for Innovations & Technology and Civic Engagement for the Bündnis 90/Die Grünen parliamentary group. In 2021, she was re-elected to the German Bundestag and has since been a member of the Committee for Education, Research and Technology Assessment and a deputy member of the Digital Committee, among others. At the beginning of 2022, she was also appointed the Federal Government's Aerospace Coordinator and the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action's Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Start-ups.

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Anne Degenhardt

Project manager Business Angels Deutschland (BAND)
Essen



Anne Degenhardt is a project manager at Business Angels Deutschland e.V. (BAND). She studied International Business and Marketing Management in Maastricht and Rotterdam. Before joining BAND, she worked in marketing and public relations for various companies and non-profit institutions. In her function as project manager at BAND she supports building up the business angels culture in Germany, organizing the exchange of experience and promoting cooperation. BAND is the association of business angels and their ecosystem in Germany. As the umbrella organization of the German informal venture capital market, BAND is the spokesperson of the German Business Angels and Business Angels networks towards politicians and the public. The German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action is patron of BAND.

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Julia Dous

Angel Investor, president Evangelistas, founder Grow Diverse Berlin



In Julia's previous 15 years with leading Executive Search firms, she backed clients with her exceptional playbook and a strong network that led to a proven track record of bringing top-level leaders into mission-critical roles. Being a credible and trusted partner known for an outstanding client and candidate experience, Julia has built up access to a unique network. Her expertise in recruiting, diagnostics and personal development enables her to discover and unlock potential. She is a passionate people person who clears the path and brings the best out of candidates as well as organisations to push further.

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Sidonie Fernau

Social entrepreneur, Social Impact Investor,
CEO Paritätisches Kompetenzzentrum Nord (PariKom) GmbH
Hamburg/Berlin



Sidonie Fernau heads the Social Innovation, Civic Engagement and Diversity Division of the PARITÄTISCHEN Welfare Association in Hamburg. In this function, she is responsible for all the association's projects in the areas of flight, migration and diversity and is the facility manager of the PARITÄTISCHEN Competence Center Migration (KomMig). Ms. Fernau is responsible for the implementation of the guidelines for intercultural opening of the umbrella organization as well as for its strategic orientation and socio-political positioning in the fields of social innovation, civic engagement, and diversity. She completed her studies in nonprofit management at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster; her studies in Islamic and political science at Ankara University in Turkey and at the University of Hamburg. She is an expert on the civic engagement of ethnic minorities in Germany, the professionalization of so-called migrant organizations, Muslim and Alevi communities in welfare fields, and the diversity management of (non-profit) organizations. She is an associate member of the Think Tank 30 of the German Club of Rome and national chairwoman of the Association of Binational Families and Partnerships, iaf e.V., the only nationwide intercultural family association in Germany. She advises the German government as a participant in the Integration Summit and is a consultant for various profit and non-profit companies.

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Dr. Ute Günther

Board Business Angels Deutschland e.V. (BAND)
Essen



Dr. Ute Günther has been Co-Chair of Business Angels Deutschland e.V. (BAND) since 2001 and in this capacity is also Vice-President of Business Angels Europe (BAE). She studied Philosophy, Romance Studies and Education at the Ruhr University Bochum and the Sorbonne in Paris and holds a PhD in Philosophy. She was active in research and teaching at the universities of Bochum, Essen, Trier and Vallendar. In parallel, she developed infrastructure projects in the field of innovation and qualification, since the mid-nineties mainly in the Ruhr area. At this more regional level, she is still active today as an executive board member of pro Ruhrgebiet e. V. (VpR), board member of the Business Angels Agentur Ruhr e. V. (BAAR) and managing director of Startbahn Ruhr GmbH.

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Antonella Grassigli

Business Angel, Co-Founder and CEO Doorway SB,
Milan



She was born in Bologna, where she graduated in Economics and Commerce. She is a Chartered Accountant and Auditor, and owner of a professional firm based in Bologna and Milan. She has been involved in corporate restructuring and turnaround, both as Body of Judicial Proceedings and as Advisor. Since 2018, she has been leading as CEO Doorway, a Venture Investing startup founded by her and other Business Angels, with the aim of innovating the venture capital raising industry aimed at Start-ups and SMEs, which in November 2018 obtained from Consob the authorization to operate. She is an angel investor member of Italian Angels for Growth (IAG), of Angels4Women (A4w), which she co-founded, of Angels4Impact and of the Investors Club, which in 2021 awarded her the "Business Angel of the Year" prize.

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Ulrike Hinrichs

Executive member of the Board of Management,
Bundesverband Beteiligungskapital e.V. (BVK)
Berlin



Ulrike Hinrichs has led the BVK (Bundesverband Deutscher Kapitalbeteiligungsgesellschaften) as an executive board member since 2011. She studied German, chemistry and political science in Göttingen and Vienna. After graduating, she did a traineeship at SWR and worked for many years first at ARD and then at ZDF for various news and political formats, such as Report Mainz, Heute, Heute Journal and Frontal 21. In 2005, Ulrike Hinrichs became spokeswoman for Federal Minister Horst Seehofer and took over the communications staff of BMELV (Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection). In 2010, she moved to the management staff of the Federal Foreign Office as office and working staff manager of the then Minister of State. Ulrike Hinrichs is a book author, and since 2017 has hosted the talk show "Schlossplatz Berlin. Wo Politik trifft auf Wirtschaft" live on Focus Online, where she also comments as a political expert. She is, among other things, co-chair of the advisory board "Young Digital Economy" for the Federal Minister of Economics and Climate Protection, Dr. Robert Habeck, as well as a jury member of the government funding program Exist in the BMWK and a member of the advisory board of the Association of German Guarantee Banks.

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Fabiola Hochkirchen

Managing Partner Auxxo Beteiligungen GmbH, Angel
Investor, Berlin



Studied Politics, Philosophy and economics at the University of Oxford (2000). After acquiring her university degree, she worked for 12 years at "arcadia Beteiligungen", a German mid-cap private equity fund. Furthermore, she is a member of several advisory and supervisory boards.

In 2019 she and two other female business angels combined their experience and founded the angel club AUXXO. They want to create a positive influence with their company, by focusing on female founding, sustainable growth and Start-ups with an impact that is larger than just making money. The rule is that an investment case must fulfill two out of the three named attributes to get the chance of funding. AUXXO gets supported by leading Venture Capital Funds and a growing pool of Co-investors.

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Prof. Dr. Heike Marita Hölzner

Chair of Entrepreneurship and SME Management,
University of Applied Sciences Berlin,
Co-chair encourageventures e.V.
Berlin



Heike Hölzner has been Professor of Entrepreneurship and SME Management at HTW in Berlin since 2017. She holds a degree in economics with a focus on innovation and technology management. Her current research interests include deep tech, business model innovation, and entrepreneurship education and mindset. In the fall of 2021, she started the third-party funded project "Ideas in Action" at HTW Berlin. Funded with 2.3 million euros by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the project promotes the establishment of experimental spaces and the implementation of innovative start-up ideas. The aim is to strengthen the spirit of entrepreneurship at the university and to create ideal conditions for developing forward-looking and, above all, interdisciplinary start-up ideas. Before becoming a professor, Heike Hölzner worked in strategy consulting and in the insure-tech environment. She has also co-founded two companies herself and, in addition to her professorship at Sirius Minds GmbH, still coaches EXIST startups from all over Germany in team and business model development. Heike Hölzner has already received numerous awards for her work, including Female Digital Leader in 2018. In 2019, Capital magazine selected her as one of the Top 40 under 40 in science and society in Germany. In 2022, she received the Transfer Award from HTW Berlin.

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Cornelia Jahnel

COM3 group, VdU State Association Chair
Sachsen / Sachsen Anhalt, Co-initiator BAM!
Dresden



As an entrepreneur and networker with passion, Cornelia Jahnel can look back on more than 25 years of professional life, during which she gained a lot of experience in international sales and corporate communications, but also in financing and venture capital. Ten years ago, she established COM3 group with the motto: Communicate - Combine - Compose. In 2017 she founded the Saxon Angel Network AVESTA BAC, is co-initiator of the VdU Investorinnennetzwerkes and Technical Advisor in the Astia Angel Network.

She is currently contributing her know-how to the new matching offer BAM! of the European Metropolitan Region of Central Germany.

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Norma Jensen

Commercial Officer Baltic Business
Angels Schleswig-Holstein e.V.
Kiel



For more than 30 years, she managed a traditional Kiel family business together with her husband. She has become familiar with all the challenges that this presents. Starting with the cooperation of the most diverse family members, personal liability risks, the compatibility of career and family or the topic of retirement planning and succession. Their time together was characterized by bold visions on the subject of energy optimization, automation and digitalization of all production processes, modernization of real estate and a strict customer focus. They always questioned old structures and thought in new ways. Sometimes it was difficult for others to follow them, but in the end their visions have always led them to incredible results, of which she is proud. Her numerous further training courses, including as a stress and mental coach, together with her experience as an entrepreneur, makes her a competent contact person for entrepreneurs and executives. The increasing pressure of innovation and competition leads to a growing need for external impulses. She uses this, among other things, as a mentor at the Käte Ahlmann Foundation, FeMentor and WeStartup SH, where she supports young female entrepreneurs on a voluntary basis.

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Svenja Lassen

Managing Director Female Investors
Network (FIN) by Gateway Ventures
Wien/München



In addition to promoting sustainable innovation, one of Svenja's biggest goals is to inform more women about startup investing, get them excited about this form of economic impact, and lower the inhibition threshold for getting involved in startup investing. After all, more female investors also increase the number of female founders and impact investments. For this reason, she launched the Female Investors Network (FIN) at Gateway Ventures in 2020 and initiated the mission #25to25 with the goal of 25% women in the startup scene by 2025. In addition, Svenja started offering the FIN Academy in 2022 to provide basic knowledge for female business angels.

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Dr. Roland Kirchhof

Board Business Angels Deutschland e.V. (BAND)
Essen



Dr. Roland Kirchhof is Co-Chairman of Business Angels Deutschland e.V. (BAND), the association of angel investors and their associations in Germany. Dr. Kirchhof, who holds a doctorate in law from the LMU in Munich, has served, among other positions, as a councillor of the Landkreistag NRW (North Rhine-Westphalia County Council) and as head of the city administration of Herne. He is also currently a board member of Business Angels Agentur Ruhr e.V. (BAAR) and managing director of Startbahn Ruhr GmbH, which runs start-up promotion and start-up competitions.

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Mary McKenna

Angel Investor, Serial tech entrepreneur,
Co-Founder AwakenHub, Expert Advisor to the
European Commission
Donegal, Ireland



Based in Donegal, Ireland, Mary is a technology entrepreneur and serial angel investor. One of her passions is working with first time and female entrepreneurs. Thus, she is invested in companies with heterogenous, female-founded teams: *Aflo Analytics*, an automating correct inhaler technique in asthma & *COPD*, *MoveTru*, allowing athletes to customise their performance tracking, *Right Revenue*, a rate management software for hotels, all founded by women. Other companies in her portfolio are *Kairos*, a communication platform for elite sports teams and *Exploristics*, a provider of biosimulation software and biostatistics services. Mary holds a diploma of business economics from Lancaster University, UK. When she was 43 years of age she co-founded the company Learning Pool and exited it in 2014. In 2020, Mary co-founded AwakenHub, along with four other women. AwakenHub is a community for Irish female founders and it provides a learning and mentoring environment for women who are starting businesses that they intend to scale from day one.

Mary is an Expert Advisor to the EU. Here, she is a jury member for programmes such as Horizon Europe & other EU innovation themes. Her specialisms there are medtech, edtech, pharma, ICT and advanced computing. She is one of Said Business School's (University of Oxford) Entrepreneurship Experts and she is a trustee of CAST (the Centre for Acceleration of Social Technology) creating a more responsive, resilient and digitally-enabled social sector. And she is into the arts and has been a non executive director on the board of Derry's Millennium Forum & Theatre for many years. She is a member of the Global Irish Network and she sits on the boards of WestBIC (providing tailored, high level supports to entrepreneurs to convert their innovative ideas into a commercial reality). In the 2014 New Year's Honours she was awarded an MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by Her Majesty the Queen for services to digital technology, innovation and learning.

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Christian Müller

Project manager Business Angels Deutschland (BAND)
Essen



After studying regional science, Christian Müller worked for various companies in the fields of project management, consulting, and press and public relations. Since the beginning of 2019, he has been responsible for public relations at Business Angels Germany. In his function as project manager at BAND he supports building up the business angels culture in Germany, organizing the exchange of experience and promoting cooperation. BAND is the association of business angels and their ecosystem in Germany. As the umbrella organization of the German informal venture capital market, BAND is the spokesperson of the German Business Angels and Business Angels networks towards politicians and the public. The German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action is patron of BAND.

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Claire Munck

CEO BeAngels
Founder and Managing Partner SCALEFUND
Brussels



Since 2013, Claire Munck is CEO of BeAngels, a Belgian Business Angel club with 460 members that have invested 60m EUR in 380 startups so far. Claire joined BeAngels in 2009 as a board member and a member of the Selection Committee, which is in charge of pre-screening deals. She is also the founder of the Women Business Angel club which encourages women to become active as business angels. She has held positions in the World Business Angels Association and the Global Business Angel Network, and as an independent Board member contributes to the global strategy for Business Angels Europe.

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Dr. Annika von Mutius

Co-Founder & Managing Director
Empion GmbH
Berlin



Dr. Annika von Mutius is Co-Founder & Co-CEO of Empion, the first AI-based automated headhunting system that matches applicants and companies based on values, skills and personality traits. Von Mutius studied at WHU and earned her PhD on individualization models in mathematics. She worked for a robotics startup in Silicon Valley before founding her own company and was recently named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 Europe list in the technology category.

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Christine Rittner

Business Angel, Supervisory Board, Former member of the Board of Management & Global CHRO & CEO Lidl, Top 40 under 40, Heilbronn



Christine Rittner is angel investor and member of the board of directors at Denner AG, one of the largest food retailing companies in Switzerland, as well as Advisory Board Member at the Hochschule für Wirtschaft & Umwelt Nürtingen-Geislingen (HfWU). In the past, she spent 19 years at Lidl, including 2 years as CEO in Lithuania and Global Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) and board member until 2020, responsible for 300,000 employees in 32 countries. Her career stations at Lidl include several countries (Ireland, Austria, Lithuania and Germany) and different management levels. She has contributed to the books „Zukunftsrepublik“ (“Future Republic”), in which 80 forward thinkers jump into the year 2030 and „Der Aufstieg der Topmanagerinnen“ (“The rise of top female managers”), themed female role models from five economic nations on success paths to top positions. She is active in the networks encourageventures e.V. (an investor network for female founders), Mission Female (a women's empowerment network to strengthen diversity), GenCEO (an international network of leading female managers and being considered one of the first support networks for female executives), FidAR (an initiative for more women on supervisory boards) and was named one of Capital's Top 40 under 40 in 2016. She also received the Mission Female Award in the Consulting category in 2022.

Christine holds a diploma in Baltic Management Studies from the Hochschule Stralsund. Within these studies she spent time in Finland studying Business Administration and Management. Additionally, she has a Master of Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) from IPPS Dublin and certificates in “advisory board” competences from Interfin Forum in Bielefeld.

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James Sandoval

Founder & CEO
MeasureMatch
London



James has been deriving value from the power and potential of software and data, centrally for the advancement of marketing communications, commerce, analytics, and the customer experience. Today, his venture, MeasureMatch, is solving for the growing need for more organizational skills and capacity to do exactly that - advancing the use of B2B SaaS and enterprise software, and creating outsized value from the data these systems collect. MeasureMatch is an end-to-end marketplace & partner ecosystem platform to buy, sell and scale cloud software & data professional services. Business leaders globally are booking and managing services contracts, processing payments, plus rating and reviewing amazing service providers across 60+ countries. Nearly 10,000 systems and data experts are in our service provider network which is made up of elite consultancies, agencies, systems integrators, and amazing independent consultants. They care a lot about quality, which is why only 5-10% of service provider applicants are onboarded. SaaS

& enterprise software vendors are also leveraging the MeasureMatch marketplace's Partner Exchange to grow service provider relationships, maximise customer success and capture new customers, too. Millions of businesses globally are attempting to adopt and derive value from 1,000s of SaaS and enterprise software products, and the vast volumes of data these systems collect, but they just can't keep up. They need help. Cloud software and data are better with MeasureMatch.

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Eva-Juliane Stark

General Legal Counsel Cavalry Ventures
founder Venture Ladies
Berlin



Eva-Juliane Stark, LL.M. is a lawyer at P+P Pöllath + Partners, an international operating German law firm with many years' experience in venture capital, M&A/private equity transactions and investments as well as all related tax advice. Eva completed a master course for mergers & acquisitions and a specialist lawyer course for trade and corporate law. In 2014, she initiated ""Venture Ladies"", a network of women working in the field of venture capital in Berlin to improve the cooperation and support of females specialised and engaged in VC. Venture Ladies now counts >2500 members of which 15% are men. Eva is also an active business angel for STRONG fitness cosmetics and MERSOR. She was born and raised in Berlin, travelled to and lived in the USA and China and is a passionate art lover.

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Reginald Vossen

President Business Angels Europe BAE
Managing Director BAN Vlaanderen
Hasselt/Brussels, Belgium



Reginald Vossen is managing director of BAN Vlaanderen, which since the merger of 4 Flemish BAN's is the leading angel network in Belgium, with nearly 500 deals made. Reginald holds two Master's Degrees in Applied Economic Sciences (Commercial and Financial Sciences, Commercial and Consular Sciences – International Marketing). As Chief of Staff of the provincial economic executive of the Belgian province of Limburg, he was founding secretary of the Limburg BAN in 1999. He became manager of this network at the end of 2000.

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Brigitte Zypries

Former Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy
Berlin



After her second state law examination, she began her professional career in the legal department of the Wiesbaden State Chancellery. From there she moved to the Federal Constitutional Court, where she worked for three years as a research assistant in the 1st Senate. In 1991, she became head of department in the State Chancellery of Lower Saxony, and in 1996, head of department. From 1997 to 2002, Brigitte Zypries was a civil servant state secretary, until 1998 in the Lower Saxony Ministry for Women, Labor and Social Affairs, and from November 1998 to October 2002 in the Federal Ministry of the Interior. From October 2002 to September 2009, Brigitte Zypries was Federal Minister of Justice. From 2005 to 2017, she was a directly elected member of the Bundestag for the constituency of Darmstadt and Darmstadt-Dieburg. In 2010 and 2011, she trained as a mediator.

From December 2013 to January 2017, she was Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. From January 2017 to March 2018, she was Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy. She was also the German government's coordinator for aerospace from January 2014 to March 2018.

Since April 2018, Brigitte Zypries has taken on various honorary posts. She is particularly committed to German start-ups. She is also an ombudswoman for various organizations and sits on the supervisory boards of Bombardier, Betterplace and EIT Digital.

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