Barna Baráth

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Economist (UCLA) with more than 30 years of international leadership, financial, educational, sustainability, and supervisory experience. Executive leader of international financial and economic enterprises and educational institutions; Vice-Chair of the Supervisory Board and Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee of Europe's largest climate innovation organization, predominantly funded by the EU; extensive experience as a member of multiple boards of directors, and decades of experience serving on supervisory boards.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Advisory Board Member – Green School South Africa *2026–present | Cape Town*

- Member of the Advisory Board of an international school focused on sustainability and entrepreneurial learning.

Chair of the Board of Trustees – Dream to Reality Foundation for Sustainability *2021–present | Budapest*

- As Chair of the Board of Trustees of a non-profit foundation, responsible for the organization's strategic direction and oversight of its accountable and transparent operations.

Founder and Managing Director – REAL School International Primary School *2019–present | Budapest*

- Founded and led an independent, non-profit international primary school following the British curriculum, accredited by COBIS and recognized with sustainability awards.
- Full financial and operational responsibility, including annual budget planning and oversight, annual reports and financial statements, as well as accreditation, risk management, and compliance policies.
- Oversight of financial reporting and accountability for EU-funded (Erasmus+) projects; implementation of a self-organizing (TEAL) organizational model.

Vice-Chair of the Supervisory Board – Climate-KIC International Foundation *2017–present | Amsterdam*

- Vice-Chair of the Foundation's Supervisory Board (2025–present); previous Chair of the Supervisory Board of CKIC BV (2020–2024) and a member of the Supervisory Board (2017–2020) at Europe's leading climate innovation agency.
- Oversight of the organization's annual budget of more than €40 million (previously €100+ million), a significant portion of which is funded by the EU.
- Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee. Board-level oversight of operations, financial management, and strategic risks, as well as review of the annual financial reports.

Co-Founder; Chief Executive Officer; Board Member – Vertis Environmental Finance *2002–2024 | Budapest*

- Co-founded and served as CEO of one of the world's leading climate finance companies; built the business from financing emission reduction projects under the Kyoto Protocol to global carbon trading.
- Obtaining financial services licenses and ensuring ongoing compliance with the supervision and regulatory requirements of MNB (Hungarian National Bank).
- Financial modelling, trading, risk management, and management of the financial operations of a large international organization; supervisory role as a Board member until 2024.

Member of the Supervisory Board – Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (HCLU) *2010–2020 | Budapest*

- Oversight and support of one of Hungary's leading human rights organizations; monitoring its operations and financial management during a challenging period for civil society organizations.

Member of the Board of Trustees and Strategic Lead – Green School, Bali *2015–2018 | Bali*

- Member of the Board of Trustees of an international school for sustainable education; Strategic Director (2015–2016).

Director, New Ventures and e-Business – Diageo *1996–2002 | London, Los Angeles, Budapest*

- Corporate venturing and strategy development at one of the world's largest FMCG companies.
- Earlier roles in finance and IT across Central Europe.

EDUCATION

UCLA – BA in Economics, 1995.

London Business School – Corporate Finance course, 2004.

LANGUAGES

Hungarian – Native · English – Native-level proficiency · French – Conversational