



Facilitators

Iliana Petridou



Iliana is a primary school teacher and she feels very happy with her job because she loves learning and teaching. Some years ago, she came across non formal education through different youth exchanges and trainings she attended under Erasmus + and other programs and realized how much influence it had on her. She decided to become a non formal education trainer and since then she cannot work without using non formal methodology. She believes that by using methods such as simulation, role play, debates and many more, we have the chance to explore any subject more thoroughly and also develop self-consciousness, empathy and communication skills.

She worked with young people through different NGOs for the last 10 years and she is very familiar with youth programs. She is a member of the Pool of Trainers of CYC and she is cooperating with Cyprus National Agency for different youth projects.

Stalo Lesta



Stalo is a driven activist and works with civil society as a researcher, trainer, consultant and workshop facilitator. She is passionate about human rights education, women's rights, gender equality, LGBTI rights and sexuality. Since 2007, Stalo has been a consultant to NGOs in the areas of vision and mission development, strategic thinking and planning, volunteer recruitment, management, and monitoring and evaluation.

A real devotee of non-formal education, Stalo has extensive experience in developing training materials, manuals and handbooks. As an active member of the Family Planning Association for the past 18 years, she also carries broad expertise in the field of sexual rights, especially in the implementation of comprehensive sex education in elementary and secondary schools. Stalo dreams of a world that embraces diversity, justice and equality and is committed to empowering women, children and young people in asserting their rights.

Mentors

Stavros K. Parlalis



Stavros currently works as Assistant Professor in Social Work at Frederick University and Senior Researcher at FRC. He has published one monograph, twenty papers in international journals and twelve chapters in books; he has also edited one book. He has participated in funded research projects as researcher, research team coordinator and project manager. Moreover, he has been involved in research studies implemented by NGOs in Greece, Cyprus and Scotland. Also, he is currently participating in 3 large-scale funded research projects as researcher, responsible for preparing the socio-economic studies (LIFE-Troodos, LIFE-Kedros and LIFE-for-birds).

Konstantinos Stergiou



Dr. Konstantinos Stergiou is an Economist (Ph.D., M.Ed., M.A.) and his professional activity focuses on both formal and non-formal education. Since 2007, he has gained many years' experience working as an economist, business consultant, trainer, educator and career consultant. As a Youth Trainer, he has provided non-formal learning education services in 21 countries around the world in the fields of social entrepreneurship and youth work.

Konstantinos has several scientific publications related to Youth, Social Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship Education, Youth Employability, Efficiency and Effectiveness of Education.

He is member of the Council of Europe Pool of Trainers, member of the British Council Greece pool of trainers, member of SALTO pool of trainers, member of Erasmus+ Greek pool of trainers, member of the Youth@Work Partnership on Youth Employability and Entrepreneurship pool of trainers, member of the Council of Europe Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) and Manager of the Europe Direct Information Center (EDIC) of Western Macedonia, in Greece.

Mentors

Sezis Thompson



Sezis has been working for civil society sector as project manager and consultant in the US, UK and Cyprus for more than 20 years. For the last 10 years, she has been part of the civil society in Cyprus working towards reconciliation through youth empowerment, and entrepreneurship initiatives. She has managed projects funded by UNDP-ACT and the EU focusing on youth empowerment, human rights and entrepreneurship between 2012-2017. She is very keen on encouraging young people to become entrepreneurs. She is the founder of Hive CY which was founded with support from Stelios Awards, first coworking space in the Turkish Cypriot community (2014-2015), as well as co-founder of Global Shapers Nicosia.

Eleni Stamouli



Eleni has worked in non-formal education since 2005. She has conducted training courses for adults, young people and children for various NGOs as part of national and international programmes. She studied Communication and Psychology and has a Master's degree in Adult Education from the Hellenic Open University. She is an international online facilitator for Virtual Youth Exchanges in the Erasmus+ Programme. She is a member of the National Pool of Trainers of the European Solidarity Corps Programme in Greece and in Cyprus. The last 7 years she has been collaborating with the British Council on their Educational Programmes for Teachers and Students. Eleni Stamouli has been a member of a fair trade shop-café co-operative since 2011.

Meet the Team



Başak Ekenoğlu

▶ Basak is a political scientist who works for UNFICYP's Civil Affairs Section to develop and support intercommunal relations on the island. Her work contributes to the efforts to convene, connect, and amplify young voices in the peace process, focusing on the western part of the island. She has expertise in peacebuilding, human rights, trafficking in human beings, discrimination and gender.



Maria Tsiarta

▶ Maria works for UNFICYP's Civil Affairs Section for the development and support of intercommunal relations in the island with a focus on the eastern part of the island. She has 12 years of experience working with and for civil society organisations in Cyprus, international organisations and the foreign service. Her expertise is in peacebuilding and civil society development.



Marina Vasilara

▶ Marina is a political scientist and an economist and has worked for the last 20 years on public sector reform, civil society capacity building, peacebuilding and reconciliation both for international organisations (World Bank, UNOPS, UNDP) as well as NGOs and civil society platforms. She is currently working with UNFICYP under Civil Affairs promoting intercommunal collaboration through environmental peacebuilding, youth work and peace education.



Marilena Kyriakou

▶ Marilena Kyriakou is an Education and Society Projects Manager at British Council. She is coordinating the project COOPower focusing on promoting the involvement of young people in the social economy sector as a way to alleviate youth unemployment. She has previously worked in civil society supporting projects in the areas of education, sustainable development and capacity building for CSOs



Mustafa Öngün

▶ Mustafa is working for UNFICYP as a national program officer. His work in UNFICYP and before had extensively focused on youth and informal education, aiming to empower and build trust between the youth from different communities of Cyprus.

Presenters



Abdel Rahman Sultan

Abdel Rahman Sultan is the EcoPeace Amman deputy director and regional programs manager. Abdel Rahman Sultan has a Bsc. in Agricultural Engineering and holds a master degree in Environmental Engineering. Abdel Rahman worked for the Palestinian Institute for Arid Land and Environmental Studies, Palestinian Environmental Authority, Eco-Consult and joined EcoPeace in 2000. He initiated the Sharhabil Bin Hassneh EcoPark in the Jordan Valley. Abdel Rahman supports sustainable coexistence and prosperity in the Middle East. He sees EcoPeace's model of environmental peace building as a viable option.



Albert Martinez

Albert Martinez is a climate security analyst at UNEP's Crisis Management Branch. His work involves coordinating environmental peacebuilding strategies to strengthen resilience to complex climate change and security risks in conflict-affected settings, and the management of these risks through policy and programme recommendations. Prior to joining UNEP, Albert conducted academic research on the socioeconomic impacts of the extractive industry, and coordinated an international marine conservation NGO in Spain.

Albert holds an MA in International Administration and Conflict Management from the University of Konstanz (Germany), an MSc in Political Science from the Pompeu Fabra University (Spain), and a BSc in Environmental Science from the University of Barcelona (Spain).



Alexia Kalourkoti

Alexia has a BSc in International and European Studies from the University of Piraeus and is currently doing a MSc in Sustainable Development at the University of Sussex. She is the founder of Zero Food Waste Cyprus, which was initiated in 2018. She's currently employed at a logistics company, in the sales department.

Presenters



Angela Hennelly

Angela is Country Director at British Council in Cyprus. For over 28 years, she has led cultural relations and commercial operations in increasingly complex contexts in Europe, South America, the North Africa and Asia. She has worked in the areas of strategic business development and implementation, commercial management in English Language and Exams, building international and cross-sector partnerships, leading and developing diverse teams, project management, delivering transformational change in challenging international business environments, in profit and non-profit environments.



Costas Orountiotis

Costas has a MSc in Environmental Engineering from the University of Kansas. He worked as an Environmental Consultant in California for 15 years, and returned to Cyprus in 2005 and worked for Terra Cypria an environmental NGO, until 2018.

Since 2018 he has been the Deputy Director of Laona Foundation, an agro-environmental NGO.

Currently he is also the Chairman of the Board of Director of the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholders Forum, the first officially registered bicommunal environmental organization, dedicated to protecting the environment of all of Cyprus.



Demetra Theodotou

Demetra has a BSc in Business Administration from the University of Cyprus and ACA qualification from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. She is a tax Compliance officer at a Belgian Group and a Board Member of Zero Food Waste Cyprus since 2021.

Presenters



Elizabeth M. Spehar

Elizabeth Spehar is currently the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Mission of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Since the beginning of her tenure in June 2016, Ms. Spehar has simultaneously served as Deputy Special Advisor of the Secretary-General in support of settlement negotiations in Cyprus.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Spehar was part of senior management in the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) of the UN Secretariat for close to nine years, providing political advice and analysis to UN leadership and supporting the UN's efforts around the world in the areas of mediation, peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. Specifically, Ms. Spehar led several key DPA Divisions during that period: the Americas and Europe Division (AED), the subsequently-created Europe Division (ED) and the Policy and Mediation Division (PMD), also serving as the Department's focal point for democracy and chairing the United Nations Democracy Fund's Programme Consultative Group as well as the Inter-Agency Working Group on Democracy of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security (ECPS).

Before joining the UN Secretariat in 2007, Ms. Spehar was a senior official with the Organization of American States (OAS) for over 12 years. Her tenure at the OAS involved heading the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) at OAS Headquarters in Washington DC for 9 years, during which time she helped to develop the Organization's work on prevention, dialogue and conflict resolution, organized and led numerous electoral observation missions and participated in several high-level political missions undertaken by the Secretariat in the region. She also headed the OAS Electoral Support Programme in Port-au-Prince, Haiti during 2005-6.

Ms. Spehar holds a B.A. Honours Degree from Queen's University, Canada, a Masters' Degree in International Affairs from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA), Carleton University, Canada, and a Diplome d'Etudes Supérieures from the University of Pau, Pau, France.

Presenters



Emilia Strovolidou

Emilia is a lawyer, holder of LLB and LLM degrees from the UEA and Kings College of the University of London respectively. She has been working for refugee rights since 1998 in the civil society and joined the Representation of the UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR, in Cyprus in 2000, to assist in the asylum capacity building of the country and since 2002 she has been working as a public information officer of the Representation in Cyprus aiming at enhancing awareness and empathy for refugees in the society. After studies and before joining the humanitarian sector, she worked in public law issues at the Law Commissioner office of the Republic of Cyprus and dealt with legislation drafting and vetting, as well as in preparation of reports on human rights situation in Cyprus.



Fatih Segmen

Fatih is graduate from the Girne American College highschool. He is a medical student at the University of Nicosia and Board Member of Zero Food Waste Cyprus since 2021. He is the initiator of Wasteless Wednesdays initiative under Zero Food Waste Cyprus and representative in the north.



Hassan Mowlid Yasin

Hassan Mowlid Yasin is a Global Climate Change Teacher, Environmental Activist, Advocate for Climate Change Solutions, Humanitarian Worker, working towards achieving UN sustainable Development Goals & Working towards Youth and Women Empowerment. He plays many roles in protecting and preserving the environment in Somalia as well as regionally. He is the co-founder and vice-chairperson at Somali Greenpeace Association, one of the African Regional Facilitators and Steering Committee for Children and Youth Major Group of UNEP, active member at African CSOs Biodiversity Alliance, and National chapter for Pan African Climate Justice Alliance.

Presenters



Hatice Benan

Hatice was born in Nicosia in 1992 and studied Biological Sciences at the Middle East Technical University and did her master's degree in Education. During her undergraduate studies she was one of the editors of a science magazine which was founded by her and her classmates called "The Tree of Evolution". Since 2015, she has been teaching Biology and Ecology courses in high schools. In addition to that she is a member of the steering committee and responsible for foreign affairs at the Biologists' Association (Bio-Der), which is a member of the European Countries Biologists' Association (ECBA). Recently, she became the general secretary of CESF (Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum) and is one of the authors of Science and Technology course books which will be taught in secondary schools in north Cyprus.



Klitos Papastylianou

Klitos has a BA in Political Science and History from Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens, and an MSc in Environmental Social Science from the School of Social Policy, Sociology, and Social Research of the University of Kent, Canterbury. He is working as a Scientific and Administrative Officer of the Federation of Environmental Organisations in Cyprus. He also works voluntarily as the spokesperson of the Initiative for the Protection of the Natural Coastline.



Lefkios Sergides

Lefkios was born in Limassol, Cyprus, in 1979. He has a BSc in Biology from the University of Patras, Greece and an MSc in Environmental Science from the University of Lancaster, UK. He is the executive director of Terra Cypria since 2017 and has also worked at BirdLife Cyprus (2006-2007) and the Environment Department of Cyprus (2007-2010). He works on Biodiversity issues, Wildlife Management, Management of Nature Protection Sites, Sustainable Agriculture, Circular Economy and Renewable Energy Sources.

Presenters



Lefteris Arapakis

Lefteris comes from a long line of Greek professional fishermen. During the Greek economic crisis, he co-founded Enaleia, a social start-up with a vision to make the marine ecosystem sustainable. Enaleia has created the first school for professional fishing in Greece and a wide-scale plastic clean-up, the Mediterranean Clean Up, working with a thousand fishermen. The collected waste is integrated into the circular economy. Lefteris has been awarded as the UN European Young Champion of the Earth 2020. He is a graduate of the Athens University of Economics and Business, a TEDx speaker, an Ashoka Changemaker, and he was listed in the Greek Forbes 30 under 30 list of 2020.



Maria Nomikou

Maria Nomikou has been working as a youth trainer for the past 15 years and has collaborated with the European Youth Forum, the Council of Europe and other organisations. At British Council, she is responsible, at EU level, for youth skills topics and has an extensive experience in the social enterprise and social economy sector. She has coordinated many EU projects, including a technical assistance project to the Greek government on social and solidarity economy. She has a BA in Theatre Studies and an MA in International and European Policies in Education, Training and Research.



Marianna Bolshakova

Marianna Bolshakova is the Regional Coordinator for Environmental Law and Governance at the Europe Office of UNEP. She joined UNEP in early 2020 from the secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. As Legal Officer, she supported the intergovernmental negotiations process, including the drafting of the Paris Agreement and its implementing framework. Before this, Marianna worked at the UN Economic Commission for Europe on issues that included environmental governance, compliance mechanisms and sustainable development. Prior to joining the UN in 2003, Marianna managed multi-country environmental policy and governance projects for an international organization in Central and Eastern Europe. She started her legal career at the first public interest environmental advocacy in Ukraine in 1995 and holds LLM degrees in Civil Law and in Comparative Constitutional Law.

Presenters



Marie Schellens

Marie works as an environmental security analyst at UNEP's Crisis Management Branch. She leads the theoretical and methodological development of Strata – the Earth Stress Monitor. Strata will be a web-based mapper that helps end-users to easily and rapidly identify where environmental and climate stresses are converging. It aims to support area-specific policy-making and programme planning around environmental and climate security. Before joining UNEP, she was a Marie Curie PhD fellow at Stockholm University and the University of Iceland, researching the role of natural resources in conflict risk, with qualitative and quantitative tools from the field of complex systems. Marie also worked with ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction at UNESCO.



Mark Grassi

Mark studied languages and politics before specialising in environmental policy at the College of Europe. He has worked as a journalist on food politics in Brussels, as an advocate for renewable energy for the Climate Parliament NGO, and in microfinance. As you will see in his photo, he has a passion for sustainable cacao.



Melissa Anley-Mills

Melissa Anley-Mills is a science communications professional, social media lead, and STEM engagement and outreach liaison at the EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD). Highlights of a 22 year career in federal service include serving as an Embassy Science Fellow in Cyprus in 2020, working in the Emergency Operations Center during the Deepwater Horizon – BP Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, and each opportunity to engage with students of all ages about the importance of our environment. Prior to her time at EPA, Melissa was a community organizer working on lead poisoning prevention. Melissa holds a B.S. in Human Ecology from Cook College (now The School of Environmental and Biological Sciences) at Rutgers University and was a National Urban Fellow earning a Master of Environmental Management degree at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. Melissa is located in northern Virginia, USA.

Presenters



Meruyert Syzdykbekova

Meruyert is an Environment and Climate Change Specialist at UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office. Her areas of expertise are: climate change, gender equality, and women's empowerment.



Michael Loizidis

Dr Michael I. Loizides is a Chemical (BSc) and Environmental (DIC, MSc, PhD) Engineer and the Chairman of ISOTECH Ltd. Since 1990 he has cooperated with a several Universities as an external associate and as environmental expert in a significant number of applied research projects. He has worked as scientific coordinator in many EU funded projects, international funded projects, transnational, national research projects and private funded projects in the field of waste management, Air pollution, Environmental Impact Studies, Environmental Management Systems and Community Annoyance Studies.

Michael has been a member of several European and international expert groups and networks as expert chemical and environmental engineer. He has cooperated with international organizations and worked as an expert researcher and consultant. In 2014, was appointed, as a co-chair of the Bi-Communal Technical Committee on Environment within the peacebuilding negotiations for Cyprus. In 2015, he was appointed as Member of the Board of Directors of Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation. As a representative of the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber, he is Member of the National Committee for the evaluation of Strategic Environmental Impact Assessments of the Republic of Cyprus. He represents Cyprus in several International and European Fora on environment and sustainability.

Presenters



Myrto Skouroupathi

Myrto is an Environmental Engineer (MEng) and climate activist. For the past 4 years, she has been working at the Cyprus Energy Agency, an NGO aiming to actively contribute to the saving of energy resources, the protection of the environment and the improvement of the quality of life. She is also managing projects on green jobs and forecasting of extreme weather phenomena for local adaptation. She is also involved in several environmental organisations, one of them being Avli, a multicommunal initiative working on the intersection of peace and the environment.



Nicolas Jarraud

Nicolas is Assistant Vice President for Institute Affairs at the Cyprus Institute, where he is responsible primarily for the International Relations portfolio. He has almost 15 years of environmental and peacebuilding project and programme management experience (including over 10 years at the UNDP peacebuilding programme in Cyprus - UNDP-ACT) and has published many papers in the fields environment, participatory development, and conflict resolution. He was the facilitator of the bi-communal environmental technical committee in Cyprus between 2008 and 2013. He has a PhD in environmental science from Imperial College, London, as well as a Masters in Science Communication and a BSc in Biology from the same university. Nicolas has also had experience as a freelance journalist for the French news magazine "Le Point".

Presenters



Nisreen Elsaim

Nisreen Elsaim is an environmental and climate activist, started activism in 2012 with a Bachelor's Degree in physics from the University of Khartoum, Sudan. She pursued her master's degree in renewable energy from the same University. She is the general coordinator for Youth and Environment - Sudan (YES); a platform working to provide networks to young people working on the environment. Also, Ms Elsaim is the Chair of the Sudan Youth Organization on Climate Change (SYOCC)- a youth-led organization. Nisreen led and mentored many young people in YOUNGO, PACJA, Abu Dhabi youth Voices, and others as part of many regional and international platforms. She is also a junior negotiator with the African Group of Negotiators in technology transfer, focusing on countries' policies regarding climate change and renewable energies. She has several policy papers on climate change, renewable energy, gender and youth empowerment. She has recently been chosen to chair the UN Secretary General youth adviser on climate change along with six other young climate activists.



Pantelis Kiriakidis

Pantelis holds a BSc in Geophysics and MSc in Environmental Technology with Energy Policy from the Imperial College- London. He is a Board Member of Zero Food Waste Cyprus since 2020 and a Board Member of YEU since 2020. He is employed at the Cyprus Institute as a Research Assistant on Air Quality Modelling.



Rana A. Qaimari

Rana is the Program Manager at EcoPeace Middle East, Palestine Office. She holds an MA from Birzeit University in Water Science and Technology and has fifteen years of professional experience in education with direct relevance to water and environmental education. She worked as environmental coordinator for youth environmental awareness programs with different organizations - Latin Patriarchate Schools in Palestine and Jordan, Palestinian Academy for science & Technology and Royal Society for Protection of Nature. She also has 3 years' experience working as a program officer, at the EU Erasmus+ Office in Palestine.

Presenters



Robin Snape

From 2003 to 2005, Robin got a taste for Cyprus when he volunteered on the Marine Turtle Conservation Project with SPOT. He then worked for the British Antarctic Survey as a biologist studying penguins, seals and albatross, but in 2009 Robin returned to Cyprus to settle and worked part-time leading sea turtle nesting season work in summer, expanding his marine studies, doing bird surveys for KUŞKOR and working as a freelance consultant. He since finished his PhD on fisheries interactions with sea turtles and dolphins in Cyprus and now works remotely as a Research Fellow at University of Exeter. Robin works closely with the Cyprus fishing community and manages a number of grants and research projects focusing on fisheries sustainability, bycatch, elasmobranchs, cetaceans, monk seals, sea turtles and sea birds. He is a board member at SPOT and KUŞKOR and also guides birdwatching trips and British University field trips to Cyprus.



Salih Gücel

Salih is the co-chair of the Bi-communal Technical Committee on Environment.

Salih completed his studies on biology at the Faculty of Science at Ege University. He continued his research with a masters degree and PhD on protecting rare and endemic plant species and habitats. Since 2005, he has been the Director of the Environmental Research Center at the Near East University and actively involved in awareness-raising activities on environmental and cultural issues in Cyprus and participated in several island-wide projects. Salih has a research interest in plant ecology, reproductive biology and plant, and habitat conservation.



Sherry Holbrook

Sherry has worked at the United Nations since 2004. She has more than 15 years of global experience in advancing peace, human rights and the rule of law. Her work with the United Nations has taken her to a range of countries including Liberia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Thailand, Indonesia, and Lao PDR.

Beginning her career as an attorney at international legal practice Sullivan & Cromwell, Sherry has deep experience with the private sector, as well as programme development and implementation experience in developing and post-conflict countries. She also served with the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina as Director of the Legal Department, overseeing claims determination.

Presenters



Sibel Paralik

Sibel Paralik is an environmental engineer and has masters' degree in international business and management. She is active in the environmental field for more than 20 years. She enthusiastically and actively involved in different environmental projects on waste management, renewables, wastewater treatment and reclamation projects where she used her technical background and add on to her technical capabilities as well as her managerial capabilities where she took leadership for implementation. She has worked with, lead and steered dozens of international and local experts, and implementers. Her commitment to make things better and improve the state of environment on the island are always makes her a solid and valuable team member. Currently, she is active in renewable energy where she has a good knowledge of available technology, methods of improvement and reclamations. She has created the networks and momentum and inspires civil society groups to get involved in environmental causes. At the same time, she has a consensus building approach that allows her to take initiative and lead disparate groups towards a common goal effectively. She was one of the founding members of the TC Chamber of Environmental Engineers and the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (CESF).



Steven W. Stavrou

Steven is a senior biotech strategy and management advisor, digital health strategist, published researcher, startup investor, and social entrepreneur with a deep passion for using technology to tackle large, complex, and global issues. He is the co-founder of CyprusInno, an award-winning social venture run by an inter-communal team in Cyprus working to connect entrepreneurs across the island (and other post-conflict regions) via entrepreneurship, technology, and innovation by creating an island-wide entrepreneurship ecosystem. He is also a startup mentor for the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network's social business accelerator program, as well as a board member of GreekTech - the first New York City based tech community and startup accelerator built by and for Greek and Cypriot entrepreneurs. Steven was a 2019 Yunus & Youth Fellow for social entrepreneurship and the 2014 Price Babson MBA Entrepreneurship Fellow at Babson College where he received his MBA.

Presenters



Vijdan Sengör

Vijdan is an Environmental Engineer (MEng) and an active citizen. For the past 3 years she has been working on an EU technical assistance project, aiming to bring the environmental standards in the northern part of Cyprus on an equal level with the EU environmental acquis, with the scope mostly on the solid waste sector. She has several other international and local job experiences on projects covering behavior change, air pollution from domestic sources, waste amounts and composition study and a wastewater treatment plant feasibility study. She has an active role in several organisations such as Avli, Cyprus Green Action Group and the Chamber of Environmental Engineers.



Virginia Till

Virginia Till applies her 20+ years' outreach and education experience to her role as Sustainable Materials Management Coordinator for EPA Region 8's voluntary Sustainable Materials Management initiatives. She is passionate about keeping good food out of landfills and bridging the urban-rural interface to facilitate better understanding of food and agriculture. Virginia's current work emphasizes collaboration, food waste reduction, and audience-specific messaging to facilitate behavior change. In her spare time, she studies fungi as an amateur mycologist.



Yuval Berson

Yuval Berson is the Program Manager at the Tel-Aviv office of EcoPeace Middle East. Yuval joined EcoPeace from the hi-tech industry, where he served in marketing and business development roles for many years. Prior to EcoPeace, Yuval cofounded and served as CEO of a startup in the solar field. Yuval has a B.Sc. in electric engineering and is finalizing his Masters' degree in conflict management and mediation in Tel-Aviv University.