

Iain Watt

BIOGRAPHY

Iain Watt is a deeply experienced professional adviser and international line manager. For the past 4 years, he has been a key member of the team now at Irbaris and has been advising major companies and governments, particularly in Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia and other emerging economies, on the issues around carbon management and the impact of climate change and water scarcity. Iain has particular expertise and focus on advising clients on how to address their governance, reputational and communication challenges around carbon management and climate change.

Prior to co-founding Irbaris, Iain has enjoyed a 17 year international corporate career in roles covering corporate planning, marketing & communication and regional general management. His corporate career includes Deloitte, BP, Diageo and Philip Morris. More recently, his advisory career of 10 years began when he co-founded IGI, an international network of corporate communication professionals that started in New York before expanding internationally. Clients include some of the world's leading corporations in their sectors as well as governments and not-for-profit organisations. Iain was also seconded to AXA Insurance as Marketing Director and as a member of the Executive Committee. He has advised clients in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the USA. He has a particular expertise in the markets of the former Soviet Union and has been involved with that region since 1986.

Working on issues that are core to the sustainable well-being of organisations, Iain has developed an expertise in the effects that climate change will have on organisations and how they should face up to the challenges, as well as to communicate their positions. In recent years this business issue has moved from being an optional CSR agenda to one of top priority for corporate decision makers. Iain's aim is to ensure that clients understand the implications of climate change by highlighting the business opportunities as well as the risks. He has also co-founded a technology innovation incubator to facilitate the development of intellectual property connected with greenhouse gas emissions.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Post Graduate Accounting & Finance, University of Stirling (1978)
- MA Modern Languages, University of Glasgow (1977)
- Executive Programmes, IMD, Lausanne, Switzerland (1997, 2005)

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- LECG (2008-09)
Associate Director, Carbon & Climate Change Practice
- AXA Insurance, Marketing Director & Executive Committee member (2001-2003)
- Various directorships and consultancy roles on communication and sustainability (2000 onwards)
IGI, New York & London (2001 to date) Founding Principal
EPPA, London & Brussels
Osmatic Systems, London
- Argen, London (now called Capcon) (1997-2000)
Marketing Director
- Philip Morris International, Lausanne & Athens (1986-1997)
General Manager (final position)
- United Distillers (now Diageo), London (1984-1986)
EU Marketing Manager
- BP, London & Paris (1979-1984)
Accountant BP Gas (final position)
- Deloitte, Glasgow (1978-1979)
Auditor