



# Akbota Askanbay

Director, ESG and Corporate Governance

Almaty, Kazakhstan



## General Information :

Akbota is a director at PwC's Corporate governance and ESG practice in Eurasian region. She will be responsible for the interaction with the regional management of ERG. Akbota has over 13 years of experience of project management in the areas of corporate governance, sustainability, management reporting, and financial statements audit at various offices of PwC in Eurasia and the UK. Three of Akbota's clients were included to FTSE100 or S&P500 indexes.

Akbota's recent projects in the area of sustainability were on assessments of ESG systems and their readiness for international investments, assessment of quality of ESG information and building decarbonisation strategies.

Akbota has extensive experience in corporate governance. She was a senior manager of corporate governance diagnostics and ESG systems at the NWF Samruk-Kazyna and its portfolio companies in 2014-2021. Akbota led the process of developing medium-term improvement plans aimed at strengthening the corporate governance systems of Samruk-Kazyna portfolio companies.

Akbota has considerable experience in the audit of FTSE100 indexed mining group, banks, insurance groups with operations in the UK and continental Europe, private equity funds, wealth management funds and real estate mutual funds. Akbota has expertise in financial analysis, business modelling and the construction and evaluation of corporate governance systems, board effectiveness and group management.



## International and industry experience (key areas):

- Through 2014-2021 Akbota was a lead project manager at assessment of corporate governance and sustainability systems at the ten major portfolio companies of Kazakhstan's National Wealth Fund with the focus on building improvement plans and support at their implementation: NAC Kazatomprom JSC, NC KazMunayGas JSC, Kazakhtelecom JSC, NC Tau-Ken Samruk JSC, NC Kazakhstan Temir Zholy JSC, KEGOC JSC, Samruk-Energy JSC, Kazpost JSC, FNSK JSC, Air Astana JSC, Qazaq Air JSC, United Chemical Company LLP.
- Through 2017-2020 Akbota was at the group audit team of multi-continent mining group originating from Central Asia, at different points of time coordinating audits of assets in Africa, Brazil and Kazakhstan and overall group audit.
- ISAE3000 engagements on providing assurance on ESG disclosures of a number of companies in Metals and Mining industry
- Assistance at building ESG reporting frameworks for large mining and oil&gas companies in Central Asia
- Development of the Corporate Governance Code for the Republic of Armenia in 2019.
- Diagnostics of corporate governance and development of recommendations on improvement of corporate governance according to international practices for a large bank in Mongolia

## Areas of expertise and industry experience:

- Sustainability and climate change services
- Diagnostics of corporate governance, evaluation of corporate governance systems
- Assessment and improvement of the boards efficiency
- Preparation for IPO
- Audit of financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS, banks, financial institutions, mining groups
- Financial analysis and business modeling

## Professional qualifications:

- Member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), UK.
- Bachelor's degree in Finance, Kazakhstan National University, Kazakhstan.