

S4YE Steering Committee

(Names are listed alphabetically by surname, with the Steering Committee Chair listed first)



Naria Santa Lucia, S4YE Steering Committee Chair

GENERAL MANAGER, DIGITAL INCLUSION AND US COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, MICROSOFT PHILANTHROPIES

Naria works to manage the company’s philanthropic investments and grant programs in digital skills, computer science education, and career pathways investments to drive digital inclusion and employment outcomes for traditionally underrepresented and under-resourced communities. Prior to joining Microsoft Philanthropies, Naria served as Executive Director of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS), a unique public-private partnership helping to build the next generation of scientists, engineers, technology specialists, mathematicians, and health care professionals in Washington state’s high-demand employment fields through scholarships and supports for low- and middle-income college students in Washington state. Naria is a graduate of the Law School and the College at the University of Chicago.



Mamadou Biteye

VICE PRESIDENT, SOCIAL IMPACT (CEMEA REGION) VISA

Mamadou is Vice President, Social Impact for the Central Europe, Middle East and Africa (CEMEA) region at Visa, based in Dubai. In this role, Mamadou works closely with the CEMEA Leadership Team to develop a Social Impact strategy for the region and implement programs that align to regional and market business priorities. Prior to Visa, Mamadou served at The Rockefeller Foundation as Managing Director for the Africa Region, leading programs such as the Digital Jobs Africa initiative, as well as developing partnerships with the African Development Bank, the Gates Foundation, and USAID to support the Foundation’s work. Mamadou is an Honorary Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE). He holds Master’s degrees in Agricultural Economics from Ohio University and The Crimean Agricultural Institute.



Sukti Dasgupta

CHIEF, EMPLOYMENT LABOUR MARKET POLICIES BRANCH INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Sukti Dasgupta is Chief, Employment and Labour Markets Branch in the ILO Office in Geneva. She has previously worked at the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok and in the field offices in South Asia and East Asia. She holds a PhD degree in Economics from the University of Cambridge, UK. She has published widely in the areas of employment, poverty and gender. She has extensive experience in working with policymakers on employment and labour market policies.



Ibrahim Elbadawi

MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH FORUM

Before joining the ERF, Ibrahim was Director at the Economic Policy & Research Center, the Dubai Economic Council (2009-2016); Lead Economist at the Development Research Group of the World Bank, which he joined in 1989; Research Director of the African Economic Research Consortium (Nairobi, 1993-1998), on external leave from the Bank; and Professor of economics at the University of Gezira in Sudan (1984-1989). He holds a PhD in economics and statistics from North Carolina State and Northwestern universities in the USA. He has published widely on macroeconomics, growth, democratic transitions and the economics of civil wars and post-conflict transitions. His regional specialization covers Africa and the Middle East.



Cynthia Hansen

MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADECCO GROUP FOUNDATION

Following a career in the private and non-profit sectors, Cynthia Hansen joined the Adecco Group in 2017 to start the new Adecco Group Foundation and spearhead social innovation. Cynthia's areas of expertise include strategy, change management, social impact and partnership. Prior to joining the Adecco Group, she spent nine years at the World Economic Forum, in leadership roles across Strategic Partnerships, Professional Services, Financial Services, Civil Society, and Content Strategy. Previous roles include Director of Management Consultancy at boutique consulting firm Action Planning, Director of the US State Department's International Visitor program for the State of Washington under the World Affairs Council, and Head of Admissions for Amity Institute. Cynthia has served on a number of non-profit boards and advisory bodies. She holds an MSc in Management of NGOs from the London School of Economics and a double BA (Hons) in Asian Studies and English/Literature from the University of Puget Sound. Cynthia was also a Global Leadership Fellow of the World Economic Forum.



Jill Huntley

GLOBAL MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP ACCENTURE

Prior to her position as Managing Director for Corporate Citizenship at Accenture, Jill worked in the Talent and Organization practice of Accenture's Management Consulting business. In 2002, she co-founded Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP), an innovative non-profit venture that channels Accenture's skills and expertise to the international development sector. She is also a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Youth Unemployment. Jill grew up in Southeast Asia and has lived and worked extensively in Europe, North America and Asia. She holds a Master's degree in Anthropology and Development from Cambridge University and a Graduate Diploma in Psychology.



Krishna Kumar

DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH, RAND CORPORATION

Krishna is a senior economist at the RAND Corporation and is the director of its Labor and Population unit. He holds the Distinguished Chair in International Economic Policy and leads the Rosenfeld Program on Asian Development at the Pardee RAND Graduate School, where he coteaches a course on economic development. His research interests include economic growth and development, human capital formation, and technological change. He is co-leading projects to study informal labor markets in Bangladesh and has also co-led or worked on several other projects in the Kurdistan Region-Iraq, China, India, and Mexico. Krishna received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago.



Domenica Preysing

SENIOR POLICY OFFICER, FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, GERMANY

Prior to joining the ministry's team of the special initiative on training and job creation she has been serving in various functions over the past ten years, most recently as in-country head of German Development Cooperation in Togo. She has also worked on the German position within the World Bank. In addition, Domenica knows about the challenge of employment creation from first-hand experience, especially among young women. This is because she managed a social business in Egypt before she went into development policy, research and consultancy. Domenica holds a PhD in political science, an MPPA with a specialization on emerging economies and an MA in history and politics.



Susan Reichle

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOUNDATION

Susan Reichle was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the International Youth Foundation in January 2019. She joined IYF in 2017 as President and COO, bringing 25 years of experience leading USAID policy development and programs overseas and in Washington, D.C. In her most recent position, she served as the Counselor to the Agency, USAID's most Senior Foreign Service Officer, and advised the Administrator and senior leadership on key global development policies and management issues. She also oversaw the Agency Coordinators for Youth, Countering Violent Extremism, and Local Solutions while communicating on a regular basis with 80 USAID Missions around the globe.



Rathin Roy

MANAGING DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Rathin’s policy interests and research has mainly focused on fiscal and macroeconomic issues pertinent to human development in developing and emerging economies. He was formerly the Director and CEO of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) in New Delhi. He has previously worked as an Economic Diplomat and Policy Advisor at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with postings in London, New York, Kathmandu and Brasilia. He has also served as an Economic Adviser with the Thirteenth Finance Commission, New Delhi, in the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India. Rathin Roy holds a Ph.D and an M.Phil in Economics from the University of Cambridge, an MA in Economics from the Jawaharlal Nehru University and BA (Hons) in Economics from St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi. He has taught at the Universities of Manchester and London.



Bickey Russell

DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS, GOOGLE’S NEXT BILLION USERS

Google’s Next Billion Users (NBU) initiative, builds products for people set to come online for the very first time. He is also co-lead of Kormo Jobs, an app that connects job seekers to employment opportunities, and caters to the informal jobs market in NBU countries like Bangladesh, Indonesia and India. Bickey has worked at Google for 13 years, where he was based in London and San Francisco, and now lives in Singapore with his wife and two children. He grew up in Bangladesh before moving to the UK where he graduated with a degree in Geography from King’s College London.



Michal Rutkowski

GLOBAL DIRECTOR, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR WORLD BANK GROUP

Michal is the Global Director for Social Protection, Labor and Jobs, overseeing work in developing systems that protect the poorest and most vulnerable from crises and shocks, and supporting private sector-led growth. Until recently, he was the Director for Multilateral Organizations, and prior to that, the Country Director for the Russian Federation and the Resident Representative in Moscow. His published work covers issues around labor markets and social security. Prior to joining the World Bank in 1990, he helped design the Polish pension system while serving as the Director of the Office for Social Security Reform and also taught at the Institute of Economic Policy at the Warsaw School of Economics. Michal holds an M.Sc. and Ph.D from Warsaw School of Economics and finished his post-graduate studies at the London School of Economics. He is also a graduate of the Executive Development program at the Harvard Business School.



Anita Tiessen

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, YOUTH BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL

Anita serves YBI bringing extensive experience working in a range of executive leadership positions in major voluntary sector organizations, most recently as Chief Executive of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). Throughout her tenure Anita achieved significant progress on WAGGGS's strategic priorities, including growing the membership, developing fundraising capabilities and driving digital transformation. Prior to this role she was Deputy Executive director at UNICEF UK where she led the organization's efforts to protect children's rights in the UK for 14 years. Anita also worked at Amnesty International's global headquarters in London and in provincial government in her native country, Canada.



Ved Mani Tiwari

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER & OFFICIATING CEO NATIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Ved Mani Tiwari serves as the Chief Operating Officer at National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and is responsible for managing the organisation's operations. A key member of the senior leadership team, Ved plays an integral role in developing and executing NSDC's strategies to drive skilling operations through Sector Skill Councils (SSC), Training Providers and Industry Engagement. Ved has over 30 years of professional experience where he served the Government of India, and worked with private sector in Infrastructure (Energy, Urban Development, and Transportation). In his previous roles, he has held key managerial positions - as Director, Welspun, Global CEO, Sterlite Power, MD, SunEdison, Director, Ministry of Railways, and Director in Kochi Metro, Chennai Metro and Nagpur Metro.



Thomas Bernhardt

SENIOR ADVISOR FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE, DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AUSTRIAN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

A development economist by training, Thomas is the Ministry's desk officer for the World Bank Group, after having served as the focal point for the Inter-American Development Bank. Prior to that, Thomas worked as an Economist for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and, with funding from the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), as a Researcher and Policy Analyst at the Myanmar Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD) in Yangon where he led projects on regional economic integration and labor market reforms. He is a graduate of the Vienna University of Economics and Business and holds a PhD in Economics from the New School for Social Research. He has published widely on economic development issues with a focus on trade, global value chains, industry, finance, and labor markets.



Jayathma Wickramanayake

ENVOY ON YOUTH UNITED NATIONS

Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake was appointed as the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth in June 2017 at the age of 26. In this role, Jayathma works to expand the UN's youth engagement and advocacy efforts across all four pillars of work – sustainable development, human rights, peace and security and humanitarian action – and serves as a representative of and advisor to the Secretary-General. Originally from Sri Lanka, Ms. Wickramanayake has worked extensively on youth development and participation, and has played a key role in transforming the youth development sector in her home country. Prior to taking up her post, Ms. Wickramanayake was instrumental in creating the movement for civic and political engagement of young people, especially young women in Sri Lanka named "Hashtag Generation".

Bio for representatives of Global Affairs Canada & Mastercard Foundation will be updated soon.