Namita Datta, works with the World Bank, and is the Program Manager of the Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) initiative. S4YE is a multi-stakeholder global program housed in the World Bank that brings together over 35 private sector companies, 44 youth employment projects, several NGOs, leading Foundations, bilateral donors, international organizations and youth themselves, along with World Bank’s operations to impact the global youth unemployment crisis, with a focus on innovation, digital technology, and inclusion of vulnerable youth and women. Before taking on this role, she was Global Head of Let’s Work, a global program to create more and better jobs with a focus on the private sector. She has also led multi-sectoral operations on jobs at the country level in several regions including Africa, Western Balkans, and Asia. She also led the Gender work program for the Jobs Group.

She has worked for the World Bank Group (both World Bank and IFC) for over 15 years working across sectors and regions. She joined the World Bank in 2006 as Governance Advisor of CGIAR, a global program on agriculture, where she led a team on the program’s governance and partnership agenda. She was a key part of the IFC Jobs Study team leading the analytical work on the employment impact of investments in infrastructure, developing a methodological approach that was later used by several IFIs and development organizations. As Advisor (Strategy and Policy) for IFC’s South Asia region, she was responsible for leading the policy dialogue on private sector development in the region working with several industry and operational teams on key strategic initiatives.

Before joining the World Bank Group, Namita worked with the Government of India, as an IAS officer (India’s high-level policy making body) where she worked as Delhi’s Zonal Municipal Commissioner leading a large complex municipal corporation responsible for delivering key urban services to the city of Delhi. She also worked as Secretary (Head) of the Departments of Urban Development, Power and Environment in Goa, India. She holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University, a Master’s from Columbia University, New York, and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.
Maho Hatayama
TECHNICAL SPECIALIST
WORLD BANK

Maho has over five years of international development experiences, specializing in entrepreneurship, firms and jobs in Africa. She joined the World Bank as a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) in February 2019. During her first year as a JPO, she has worked in the Development Economics (DEC) Unit.

Prior to joining the World Bank, she worked as a research officer at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, producing research papers on youth employment, labor standards and livelihood supports of refugees, for the UK Department for International Development (DFID). Additionally, she worked for the UNDP in Liberia, where she provided analytical/advisory services for entrepreneurship and SME development project. She also worked as a consultant working on agribusiness/agricultural development in Mozambique for JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency). Maho holds a Master of Science degree in Local Economic Development from London School of Economics and Political Science (U.K.).

Kavell Joseph
TECHNICAL SPECIALIST
WORLD BANK

Kavell joined the S4YE team in January 2020, where she works with the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) and leads communications and knowledge management. Prior to joining the team, Kavell worked with the Climate Change Investment Fund Management team, the Development Economics and the Legal Vice Presidency team. She started her career at the World Bank by working for the Women, Business and the Law team. Before joining the World Bank, she worked as a Research Associate for the Public International Law Policy Group and National Immigrant Women Advocacy Project in Washington D.C. Kavell has obtained more than six years of both professional and academic experience while working in Washington D.C and Trinidad and Tobago.

Kavell holds a LL.M in International Legal Studies from American University Washington College of Law and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of the West Indies. She is called to the legal bar of Trinidad and Tobago.
Jung (Sophie) Ryun Byun
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST
WORLD BANK & INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

Jung (Sophie) Ryun Byun is the Strategic Partnership Specialist at Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE). Sophie has over five years of international development experience and her work includes tracking, monitoring and analyzing the trend of private sector investment and mobilization of private finance in various sectors in emerging markets.

Prior to joining S4YE, Sophie worked as a consultant with the International Finance Corporation on economics and private sector development as well as partnerships and multilateral engagements. She holds a master’s degree in international affairs from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University and a master’s degree in business administration from Georgetown University.

Sunamika Singh
TECHNICAL SPECIALIST
WORLD BANK

Sunamika has 8 years of experience in large-scale youth employment, skills development, education and women’s economic empowerment programs with a focus on fragile and conflict settings. Before joining S4YE, Sunamika worked as Development and Communications manager for an education focused nonprofit in India where, she was responsible for advocacy and building financial support for the organization through corporate and public sector funding.

Prior to this, she worked for the Government of India’s National Rural Livelihoods Mission, where she supported designing of region wise strategies for skilling of rural poor youth and linking with entry level jobs in private sector in urban centers. She has also worked on implementing a direct- action community level learning pilot in Kashmir valley aimed at creating better opportunities for disadvantaged children and youth through innovative educational programs, counseling and referral services.

She has worked for UNDP, Johns Hopkins University and different non-profits in the past. She holds a Master’s in Public Policy from Johns Hopkins University.