

## Bios of participants

**Ms. Shatho Nfila** is a native of Botswana and currently works for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Programme on Ageing Unit. Ms. Nfila worked in different programmes within the United Nations including ESCAP (Bangkok), OIOS and DESA (New York). Her career focus is in social research methods and analysis, monitoring & evaluation and social inclusion & development. Before joining the United Nations, Ms. Nfila worked for various civil society organizations where her main focus was HIV/AIDS research and analysis. After completing her graduate degree in 2002, Ms. Nfila was recruited by the Botswana -Harvard School of Public Health Partnership and joined experts that successfully conducted the first randomized study trials in Botswana on HIV/AIDS ART therapy and adherence in 2001. She has also been awarded grants for HIV/AIDS research including the Fogarty Global health fellowship for best undergraduate thesis and the KIT Royal Tropical Institute grant. Ms. Nfila holds a master's degree in development studies and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science & Sociology, both from the University of Botswana.

**Ms Cecilia Mbaka** is a distinguished development worker and a strategic management professional with over 25 years' experience working with the Government of Kenya as a senior officer who had headed key departments. Cecilia is currently serving as Secretary for Social Development and is also Director of the National Social Protection Secretariat. She was the Pioneer Director of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities.

**Ms. Charity M. Kiilu** – Mutua is the Assistant Director for Social Development in charge of the Older Persons & Ageing Programme Component in the DIRECTORATE of Social Development, *which is under the STATE DEPARTMENT of Social Protection, Senior Citizen Affairs & Special Programmes, in the MINISTRY of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizen Affairs & Special Programmes.* Mrs. Kiilu was trained as a Community Development Expert with a master's degree in Community Development Practice from Curtin University of Technology in Australia and a bachelor's degree in Anthropology & Sociology from the University of Nairobi. She worked with the National Government as a Social & Community Development officer since 1994 both in the field and currently at the National Headquarters. Her field of practice has been coordination and supervision of Social Development Programmes which have included *Programmes on Community Mobilization & Development; Gender, Women & Youth Empowerment; Persons with Disability; Older Persons & Ageing; and Family Strengthening and Social Protection.* Currently, Mrs. Kiilu is the National Secretary of the Association of Community Development Practitioners in Kenya having been one of the Founding Members of the Association.

**Ms. Mamtshengu Matiisetso Tshabalala** is Manager of Elderly Care Services and currently acting as Director of Elderly Care Services in the Ministry of Social Development. She is a Social Worker holding a Master of Social Work from Monash University in Australia and has been in Social Work practice since 2006. She is currently heading the Department of Elderly Care Services in Lesotho.

**Mr. Elie Mugabowishema** is the Founder and President of NSINDAGIZA Organization, Rwanda ageing platform, Rwanda Leave No One Behind Network and Co-Founder of Great Lakes Ageing Network, as well as a Member of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing-Africa Steering Committee. He is the 2019 diversity and inclusion award holder by Global Communities. Elie has more than 22 years of experience working with civil society organizations and holds a master's in project planning and Management.

**Ms. Mildred Miti** started her career in the Health Sector as an Environmental Health Technologist over 20 years ago. Environmental Health work ushered her into Community work which ignited a desire for development work. The communities had a lot of developmental challenges coupled with high levels of poverty. It is in this light that she pursued a degree in development studies from the Zambian Open University and later pursued a Masters in Development Studies majoring in Development Management at Kimmage Development Centre in Dublin Ireland. Ms. Miti worked in the social protection sector for 11 years and have been key in formulating many policies notable among them: National Ageing Policy, National Disability Policy, National Social Protection Policy, National Community Development Policy, National Social Welfare Policy, and National Volunteer Policy and has represented her country in a number of bilateral and multilateral meetings pertaining to Social Protection. Currently she is working for the Ministry of Labour and Social Security overseeing the policy and research in the Department of Planning of the Ministry.

**Ms Ogopoleng Batisi** is the Program Desk Officer for Healthy and Active Ageing in the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Gaborone, Botswana. She holds a Bachelor of Nursing Sciences with University of Botswana and a master's in nutrition science with the Atlantic International University (AIU).

**Ms. Bowoulo Taylor Kelley** is a Human Rights lawyer whose work is focused on the protection and promotion of the rights of women, children, and older persons in Liberia. She presently serves as the Acting Director of the Department of Treaties Matters and Law at the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, the incorporator of the African Platform for Human Rights and Governance and Managing Partner for Administration at the JALAH Law Firm in Monrovia. Attorney Kelley has a Master of Laws Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the Centre for Human Rights University of Pretoria South Africa, a Bachelor of Laws from the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law in Liberia, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the African Methodist Episcopal University.

**Mr. Tewodros Belachew** is a Country Director for HelpAge International in Ethiopia. Tewodros is a dual Masters graduate, with ample experience in the Development and Humanitarian sector. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Public Health and later attained a Master of Public Health from Debre Markos University and Masters of Business Administration from Jimma University. Tewodros has professional experience of more than 18 years in *INGOs, Local Civil Society organizations, public sector and private sector*. Before joining HelpAge in August 2021, he worked as the Country Director of WEEMA *International* for the past 8 years. He has proven operational and programmatic skills and experience and led the development of surplus strategic plans, contributed in the designing, implementing and supervising of as

many as 100 development and humanitarian projects for local and International NGOs. He has been consistently engaging in higher level platforms with multicultural teams. He has previously excelled in networking as well as advocacy activities in the development sector. He is a member of Ethiopian Civil Society Health Forum Steering Committee, National Nutrition Working group and Vice Chairperson for Reproductive Health and Rights Working Group.

**Mr. Jeremiah Sixtus Dery** is a statistician and a demographer with 15 years' experience at the Ghana Statistical Service. He holds a master degree in Population and Health studies and Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics. He has extensive expertise in survey organization and instrument design, implementation of sample surveys and censuses and the preparation of technical reports. He coordinates the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of social, economic, and demographic statistics in the Upper West Region of Ghana. Jeremiah has interest in the production of quality and timely data that impact on the lives of vulnerable especially children, women and older adults.

**Ms Gabrielle Kelly** is the Deputy-Director of the Samson Institute for Ageing Research (SIFAR) in Cape Town, South Africa where she carries out research related to ageing and the health and wellbeing of older people in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has a PhD in Sociology, an MPhil in Social Research Methods, a Bachelors in Politics and Economics, as well as a post-graduate diploma in monitoring and evaluation methods and has held doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships at Yale University and the University of Cape Town. Gabrielle coordinates the Care of Older Persons in Southern Africa Network (COPSAN) and, in addition to her academic work, she has managed several consultancies related to ageing, social protection and disability for UN and other development agencies.

**Mr. Raymond Mutura** has been in the ICT space for the past 26 years, having worked with a leading Financial Technology company – Fintech International and Strathmore College/University. His areas of passion and interest have been on the family from a social and political philosophy perspective. He is currently the Director of the Centre for Research on Organizations Work and Family, the Executive Research & Projects Assistant for the Executive Dean of the Strathmore University Business School and the Academic Director of the Family Business Executive Programme. Mr. Mutura is a PHD Student at the Nelson Mandela University undertaking a study on *Digital Innovation Implementation Framework for Kenyan Family-Owned Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises*. He has a Masters in Applied Philosophy and Ethics from Strathmore University, a Masters in Information Technology from Charles Sturt University-Australia, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Marriage, Education and Family from the International University of Catalunya-Spain.

**Ms Finh Monique Carine Traore** is a national of Burkina Faso and works as Legal Assistant at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. One of her major assignments is the ongoing technical support to the mandate of the Working Group on the rights of older persons and persons with disabilities in Africa. She is instrumental in the overall campaign aiming at ensuring that the Protocols on older persons and on persons with disabilities are ratified by African States for these to enter into force. She

also works on the project to have an annual report on the situation of the rights of older persons and persons with disabilities in Africa to be issued by the Working Group. Monique previously worked as a legal researcher at the African Committee of Expert on the Rights and the Welfare of the Child and at the African Centre for International Criminal Law and Humanitarian law. Monique holds an LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria and Master Degree in public Law from the University of Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). She has a particular interest in the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups and believes that they should be given particular care and attention.

**Mr. Fagbemi Kayode** holds a B.Sc. (Hons) Degree in Geography and Education, a Master of Technology in Remote Sensing Application and a Master of Science in Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies. He worked for the National Emergency Management Agency in Nigeria for over 21 years where he was a Director, Planning Research and Forecasting and later Director, Relief and Rehabilitation. Between 2012 -2013, he served as Humanitarian Affairs Officers and ECOWAS Liaison Officer with UNOCHA. He recently joined the National Senior Citizens Center as one of the directing staff.

**Ms. Agnes Ugbe** is the Assistant Chief Statistician in the department of Demographic and Social Statistics, National Bureau of Statistics, Nigeria. She has been working with the Bureau for the past 10 years and also doubles as a Gender Desk Officer in the department.

**Mr. Jesman Chintsanya** earned a PhD in Demography and Social Statistics from the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom and holds a master's degree in Population Studies obtained from University of Groningen in the Netherlands and bachelor's degree in Demography from the University of Malawi. Jesman joined University of Malawi in 2004. Currently, he is the Head of the Department of Population Studies and Senior Lecturer in Demography. For the past 15 years, his research has focused on ageing and older persons, sexual and reproductive health issues particularly fertility, HIV/AIDS, as well as developing indicators and indices which policy makers use to make informed decisions when evaluating policies' efficacy. As the lead consultant, Jesman was involved in Evidence and Data Gaps Assessment on Older Persons in Malawi. Subsequently, this led to the Multiple Indicator Survey on Ageing (MISA) in Malawi, which the Government of Malawi with support from the UNDESA launched as MISA project with the objective to develop a standard methodology to produce, analyze and deliver a database of harmonized indicators on the situation of older persons in Africa during the implementation phase of the new Post-2015 Development Agenda.

**Ms. Roseline Kihumba** is currently the Global Portfolio Development and Quality Manager – Healthy Ageing, HelpAge International. She has over 15 years of experience in international development and has worked in a wide range of sectors. She has actively engaged the Sustainable Development Goals, data revolution and rights of older persons from local to international levels while providing technical advisory support to both State and non-state actors on age-inclusive sustainable development. She

holds a Master of Science in Development Management, and a B. Sc. degree in Agriculture and Home Economics.

**Mr Lefhoko Kesamang** holds a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Botswana (1991) and Master of Clinical Social Work from the Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa (2006). He joined the Ministry of Health and Wellness as a Clinical Social Worker in 1991, before being seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation as a Health Attaché in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1995. Thereafter, he joined the Ministry of Local Government, and Rural Development to coordinate Clinical Social Work Services in 2003. Lefhoko joined the African Union Commission in 2009 and currently responsible for Ageing, Disabilities, Social Protection and Social Policy programmes of the African Union Commission.