



## Biographies of Participants

### Expert Group Meeting on Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa ▪ Addis Ababa  
ECACC-AA, Conference Room 3

27 February-1 March 2019

#### **Mr. Andrew Mundalo Allieu**

Andrew Mundalo Allieu is a Social Protection and Labour Migration Expert at the ILO Regional Office for Africa.

#### **Ms. Paola Bertolini**

Paola Bertolini is Associate Professor of Political Economy and researcher at the Department of Economics Marco Biagi of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. She teaches International Economics and Regional Policy. Her research experience is mainly focused on agri-food economics and policy, rural development and EU policies, labor and immigration and SMEs in agri-food sector. Among the several publications she has in the field of agri-food and rural economics and policy, there is the report for the European Commission “Poverty and social exclusion in rural areas”.

#### **Ms. Kate Bird**

Kate Bird is a socio-economist with over 25 years experience and is based at the Overseas Development Institute in London where she is a Research Associate with CPAN (Chronic Poverty Advisory Network). Kate has a particular interest in poverty dynamics and has extensive experience working on chronic and intergenerational poverty. Her work takes a gendered perspective and has incorporated work on pro-poorest growth, spatial poverty traps, land inheritances and the intergenerational transmission of poverty, women’s economic empowerment, the impacts of intersecting inequalities on poverty outcomes and the household and intra-household impacts of policies and interventions. Kate has extensive experience of designing and leading primary research using Q squared analysis and both leading and training research teams in using life history methodologies alongside participative methods. Country expertise includes Uganda, Zimbabwe and Kenya, with recent work in Cambodia.

### **Mr. Kafkas Caprazli**

Kafkas Caprazli is specialized in policy programming and statistical evidencing. As Subregional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE) Statistician, he collaborates with UNECA on Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition for Africa, Africa's Progress Report on SD, with AUC on the Biennial Report on Malabo. He is engaged in FAO's capacity building programmes on monitoring of SDG indicators. Kafkas is passionate about early adoption of contemporary technologies; i.e. block chain, Open Data, and SDMX and about governance of Artificial Intelligence.

### **Ms. Ritu Chandra**

Ms. Ritu Chandra, Associate Professor, Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University has been working as Principal, Institute of Education & Research, since its inception in 2014. She has served the University in various capacities. Dr. Chandra also worked as Dean, Humanities & Social Sciences prior to her appointment as Principal in 2015. She is also associated as visiting faculty in Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI), Deemed University, Agra. She has done her research in Education, graduation in Teachers' training programme and in Theology. She endeavors to identify individual differences in behavior, personality and intellect. She has been working to enhance academic achievement of students and inculcation of values among them.

### **Mr. Subhasish Dey**

Mr. Subhasish Dey is a Faculty (Tenured) member of the Economics Department of University of Warwick, United Kingdom. Before joining in Warwick he was an Associate Lecturer at the Economics Department of University of York, UK (May 2017 to December 2018) and an Assistant Professor of Economics at the New College of the Humanities, London. Dr. Dey did his PhD in Economics from University of Manchester, UK and MA in Development Studies (with Distinction and Award) from Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Dr. Dey's primary research fields are Development Economics and Political Economy with special focus in Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation in global South and their impact. Beside academics, Dr. Dey has also worked with the provincial government in India in education and rural development projects for many years with DFID and World Bank funded programmes.

### **Mr. Andries du Toit**

Andries du Toit is the Director of the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies in the School of Government at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. His research interests include the politics and sociology of land and agrarian reform in post-Apartheid South Africa, the political economy of structural poverty and inequality, and the biopolitical government of marginalised and vulnerable populations in postcolonial contexts in the Global South.

### **Ms. Grace Gondwe**

Grace Gondwe is an Economics PhD student at the University of Kwazulu-Natal and holds a Master of Arts Degree in Economics from the University of Malawi. She is an experienced Development Economics with expertise in development policy and macroeconomic analysis; food security and vulnerability analysis; as well as programme and project management. Her professional experience spans more than 8 years with responsibilities including social and economic policy analysis; food security assessments, macroeconomic analysis and economic modeling; coordinating and managing public investment projects; conducting baseline social and market surveys; conducting mid-term and post evaluations of programmes/projects; preparing sector studies; writing technical and financial proposals; and writing technical reports and technical papers on various social and economic issues.

### **Ms. Angela R. Hansen**

Angela Hanen is an international strategist most recently serving as the Interim CEO of the Global Knowledge Initiative (GKI). A former Partner and Director at Dalberg, she is happiest collaborating with inclusive decision-makers to untangle complex, systemic challenges. She is a skilled facilitator of multi-stakeholder dialogues and regularly advises on systems dynamics, social innovation, and sustainable market development. Angela draws on an extensive strategic toolkit, specializing in data-driven problem solving, systems thinking and human-centered design. Over her twenty-year advisory career, nearly half of which was spent living and working in emerging economies, she has advised Heads of State, UN Executive Directors, Civil Society leaders, and two World Food Prize Laureates. She regularly works with the World Bank, the United Nations, the African Union, leading private foundations, and Fortune 500 companies. In addition to her advisory work, Angela is pursuing her Ph.D. and teaching graduate-level courses in Human Centred Design, Financial Inclusion and Strategy for Emerging Economies at the University of Cape Town. She is a contributing author to two books; *Corporate Citizenship in Africa* (published by Greenleaf) and *Financial Inclusion in Africa* (published by the African Development Bank).

### **Mr. Lester Henry**

Lester Henry is currently Senior Lecturer in Economics at the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (USA). He also did graduate studies at the University of California at San Diego. His undergraduate studies were done at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and at Brooklyn College where he obtained his Bachelors Degree in Economics with Mathematics and Computer Science. He was the recipient of a graduate fellowship of the American Economics Association. Dr. Henry has taught at Brooklyn College (CUNY) and the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York and was a Summer Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. His areas of teaching and research include: The Digital Divide, Capital Flight, and Monetary Issues in Economic Development.

**Ms. Theadora Swift Koller**

Theadora Swift Koller is Technical Officer (Equity) on the Gender, Equity and Human Rights team at the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva. She leads the Equity workstream, which includes activities on assessing barriers to health services experienced by marginalized populations (including the rural poor) and strengthening national health programmes to leave no one behind using the Innov8 approach. She also co-leads the workstream on anti-corruption, transparency and accountability in health systems. In 2019, she is spearheading the development of WHO’s Roadmap on Leaving No One Behind for 2020-2023. Since Theadora joined WHO in 2002, she has worked on equity-oriented health systems strengthening and cross-sectoral action for health equity for WHO/Headquarters, the WHO Regional Office for Europe, and the WHO Country Office for India. She has coordinated and contributed to WHO and interagency initiatives on tackling inequities in progress towards the health-related MDGs and, more recently, the SDG targets on health. She also led development of WHO’s Gender, Equity and Human Rights “Country Support Package for leaving no one behind in the SDGs”. Prior to coming to WHO, Theadora worked with the Earth Council in Costa Rica, the Corporacion Nacional Forestal in Chile, Stanford University, and the Cable News Network (CNN). She holds a Masters and Bachelors from Stanford University (USA).

**Mr. Pali Jobo Lehohla**

Pali Jobo Lehohla was the Statistician-General of South Africa from 2000-2017. He has served as co-chair of PARIS21 and the Chair of the United Nations Statistics Commission. He was the founding chair of the Statistics Commission of Africa (StatCom Africa) and chairs the African Symposium for Statistical Development (ASSD). He was the Vice President of the International Statistics Institute (ISI), and sponsors the Young African Statistician (YAS) movement. He served as one of on the twenty-five-member panel on Data Revolution appointed by the UN Secretary-General, and has recently been appointed to the Independent Accountability Panel for the health of women, children and adolescents. Mr. Lehohla has been a forceful advocate for improving the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems in Africa. He was recognized by his alma mater, the University of Ghana for his contribution to the development of statistics in 2015 and was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Stellenbosch in the same year.

**Mr. Simon Lloyd**

Simon Lloyd is a Research Fellow in the Department of Public Health, Environments, and Society at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has worked on various global and European projects, modeling the potential impacts of climate change on health outcomes including those associated with under-nutrition, coastal floods, labour productivity losses, and diarrhoeal disease. He is currently involved in a sustainable cities project.

**Mr. Jimmy E. Lonsdale**

Jimmy Lonsdale is a 75-year-old retired sugarcane farmer who worked for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development doing business plans and controlling mentors in the land

reform programme. He has presented several papers on land reform at South Africa Society for Agricultural Extension, South Africa Sugar Industry Agronomists Association, Intensive Growers Association and South Africa Sugar Technologists Association. As a farmer, he started rural development programmes assisting resource poor farmers to produce sugarcane. He also started a community bank enabling the community of Mfekayi to utilize community funds to assist local emerging farmers. At present, Mr. Lonsdale is driving a programme to get State departments involved in rural development to work with commercial farmers to drive rural development.

### **Mr. Moazam Mahmood**

Moazam Mahmood is currently a professor in economics at Lahore School of Economics and a visiting professor at Capital University of Economics and Business in Beijing. He was the Director of the Research Department at the International Labour Organization in Geneva.

### **Ms. Kei Otsuki**

Kei Otsuki is an assistant professor at Department of Human Geography and Spatial Planning of Utrecht University, The Netherlands. She holds a PhD in development sociology from Wageningen University. Her research centres on environmental justice and sustainable making of human settlements on investment frontiers in Latin America and Africa. Her key publications include: *Transformative Sustainable Development* (Routledge, 2016); and a number of articles on displacement and resettlement, participatory governance in Brazil and Mozambique; and climate change adaptation interventions and community resilience in Ghana.

### **Ms. Ngo Ha Quyen**

Ngo Ha Quyen is Research Analyst at Mekong Development Research Institute in Hanoi, Vietnam. Quyen graduated from Ludwig-Maximilian-University of Munich and obtained her M.Sc. of Economics at the same university. She had prior experiences of 5 years working as a research assistant at the Ifo Institute for Economic Research in Germany. At MDRI, she has gained valuable experience in research projects, worked with respondents with diverse demographics, different ethnic groups, poor, near-poor and non-poor households, children and adults, institutions as well as enterprises. At MDRI, she has been focusing on education and poverty reduction.

### **Mr. Ruerd Ruben**

Ruerd Ruben holds the special chair of Impact Analysis for Food Systems at Wageningen University and is research coordinator for the knowledge base program on ‘‘Global Food and Nutrition Security’’ at Wageningen Research. He also serves at the planning and management committee of the IFPRI-led CGIAR research program ‘‘Agriculture for Nutrition and Health’’ (A4NH). He is member of the steering committee for the IFPRI-IIED program ‘‘CERES 2030’’, board member of the Dutch FoodFirst coalition and of Agriprofocus.

He is actively involved in policy research and advice on issues related to the dynamics of food systems, smallholder involvement in tropical agri-food value chains, the effectiveness of incentives for improving healthier diets, and the impact of standards and certification for enhancing food chain upgrading. He published more than 100 articles in peer-reviewed journal and co-edited 10 books with academic publishers.

Ruerd lived and worked for 14 years in Central America where he was engaged in programs of land reform, cooperative development and smallholder agriculture. Thereafter he coordinated multidisciplinary research and training programs of Wageningen University on food security and sustainable land use in several sub-Saharan countries and was a visiting research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, D.C.

He was the director of the independent Policy and Operations Evaluation (IOB) department at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and professor in Development Effectiveness and Director of the Centre for International Development Issues (CIDIN) at Radboud University Nijmegen.

### **Ms. Thokozile Ruzvidzo**

Thokozile Ruzvidzo is the Director of Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

### **Mr. Ken Shawa**

At present, Senior Economist at ILO Regional Office for Africa. A well-trained economist, with more than 17 years of experience in a variety of fields including the academia, economic policy, economic analysis, economic modeling, trade policy, consultancy, policy analysis, private sector development, financial analysis, impact assessment economics, food and nutrition security, and project coordination. Currently leading the European Union - Funded Fish Trade Project at the African Union- Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) that targets the African Continent.

### **Mr. Saurabh Sinha**

Saurabh Sinha is the Chief of the Social Policy Section at the Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

He has a PhD from IDS Sussex and more than 25 years of international economic research, teaching, and policy advisory experience.

Prior to joining ECA, Saurabh was Senior Economist with UNDP in Mongolia and has worked with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, UNDP Viet Nam, and as a consultant to various UNDP Country Offices, the World Bank and bilateral donors.

He has published extensively in international journals and at various times has taught development economics at Sussex University; National Economics University, Hanoi; and IIT, Delhi.

### **Mr. David Suttie**

David Suttie is Global Policy Engagement Specialist at IFAD. He is responsible for engaging in global policy processes, especially the Agenda 2030 follow-up processes to reflect rural dimensions therein, and for producing associated policy products sharing IFAD's experience and knowledge on inclusive rural transformation with a global audience. Suttie also works as a Visiting Lecturer at the Centre for International Economics, University of Rome Tor Vergata, where he delivers courses on Sustainable Development and Rural Change. He holds master's degrees in Rural Development and Change from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), and in Development Economics and International Cooperation from the University of Rome Tor Vergata, as well as a BA in Business.

### **Mr. Gutu Tesso**

Gutu Tesso is an agricultural economist by profession. He did his PhD in areas that are related to Economics, Agriculture and Climate Change. The extensive part of his research works is around climate change, resilience building and sustainable economic development. He has over 13 internationally published articles and 2 working papers. His recent research works are those with the African Development Bank, which is about: Measuring smallholder farmers resilience to climate change induced shocks and stress; and Commercialization of smallholder farmers as a way out of poverty under logistics and climate challenges. Gutu also teaches at different public universities across Ethiopia and is currently hosted by Ambo University. Some of the courses he teaches in the graduate schools include: Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Policy analysis, Project planning and Evaluations and more. Apart from the university activities, Gutu is currently the president of Oromia Economics Association, which is a professional association established by graduates from the different field of economics. The professionals come together to undertake research, hold conferences and draw policy briefs that is provided to the regional government of Oromia.

In another endeavor, he is also part of the community development program, where he has been supporting Livelihood and Resilience Program at Eastern Africa regional office and Ethiopia country office for about 9 years. He has been providing technical backstopping, research and implementation guidance under World Vision International. Since February 1, 2019, Gutu has moved from World Vision International to Christian Children's Fund of Canada to provide the same type of services.

### **Ms. Paloma Villagomez**

Paloma Villagómez Ornelas is Deputy General Manager of Guidelines for Poverty and Social Development Measurement at the National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL). She is a PhD Sociology Candidate at El Colegio de México and has a Master's degree in Population and Development Studies at the Latin American Faculty for

Social Sciences (FLACSO). Her academic and institutional work focuses on poverty, poverty measurement, social inequality and their specific expressions in the food dimension.

**Mr. Tassew Woldehanna**

Tassew Woldehanna, Professor of Economics, is the eleventh President of the Addis Ababa University since 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2018. Prior to his appointment as President, Professor Tassew served the University in various capacities. He was Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer, Dean of the Collage of Business and Economics, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Program, Graduate Program Coordinator of Faculty of Business and Economics, Associate staff member of the Institute of Development Research (IDR) and Chairperson of the Addis Ababa University Press Board. Before joining Addis Ababa University, Prof. Tassew served at Alemaya University of Agriculture and Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia for 8 years. He also served as Visiting Professor of Household and Agricultural Economics at the Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy Group, in Wageningen University, The Netherlands 2000-2012. He is also Collaborator researcher at the Center for the Study of African Economics, Oxford University, UK, and Visiting Scholar at Michigan University, USA.