Curse or Cure? Leaving No One Behind in an Age of Technological Revolution
A UNDP side event at the UN General Assembly
25 September 2018

Speakers

Mr. Nikol Pashinyan
Prime Minister of Armenia

H.E. Mr. Nikol Pashinyan is the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, in office since May 2018. He has worked as a journalist for several newspapers, founded one, and later became the editor-in-chief of Haykakan Zhamanak daily, a post he held 1999-2012. In 2007, he was a founding member of Alternative public-political association. In the general elections of 2012, he was elected to the National Assembly. In 2012-13, he was Chairman of its Ethics Committee. In 2013, he founded the Civil Contract public-political association. He was elected to the National Assembly in 2017, heading the Yelk faction. In 2011, after having been sentenced to seven years on charges of organising mass disorders and spending one year and 11 months in prison, he was released by way of a general amnesty declared by the Armenian authorities. On March 31, 2018, he initiated and led the My Move movement from Vardanants Square in Gyumri, which resulted in a non-violent velvet revolution in April and May. Mr. Pashinyan attended Yerevan State University.

Ms. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr
Professor of International Affairs and Director of the Julien J. Studley Graduate Programs in International Affairs at The New School

Ms. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr is Professor of International Affairs and Director of the Julien J. Studley Graduate Programs in International Affairs at The New School. Her teaching and research have focused on human rights and development, global health, global goal setting and governance by indicators. From 1995 to 2004, she was lead author and director of the UNDP Human Development Reports.

Ms. Fukuda-Parr contributes actively to international policy and research processes. In July this year, she was the lead discussant at the HLPF Session “Leaving No One Behind: Are We Succeeding?”. Most recent appointments include the UN Committee on Development Policy as Vice Chair, the Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines and Innovation, and Boards of Knowledge Ecology International and International Association for Feminist Economics. She directs the Independent Panel on Global Governance for Health at the University of Oslo, and also serves as Distinguished Fellow at the JICA Research Institute, Tokyo.
Ms. Molly Kinder
Senior Advisor on Work, Workers and Technology at New America

Ms. Molly Kinder is senior advisor on Work, Workers and Technology as well as the New America National Network. She has more than 15 years of experience in innovation, policy, economic development, research, and impact investing.

Ms. Kinder is also a fellow at Georgetown University’s Beeck Center for Social Impact & Innovation and adjunct faculty at Georgetown’s McCourt School of Public Policy, where she is teaching a graduate seminar on the social, economic and policy implications of AI. She is leading human-centered research on workers’ perspective on automation and their motivations and constraints to skills and opportunity.

Previously, Ms. Kinder was the co-founder and vice president of a $200 million social impact fund. She served in the Obama administration as director in a new innovation program and was a policy director at the ONE campaign. Kinder also directed a Pakistan initiative at the Center for Global Development, worked in Liberia in the government of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, as well as in India and Pakistan with the World Bank. She holds a master’s degree from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

Mr. Royston Braganza
CEO, Grameen Capital India

Mr. Royston Braganza is the CEO of Grameen Capital India, a first-of-its-kind financial advisory firm with a mandate to catalyze inclusive growth and facilitate capital market access for impact-focused enterprises across sectors.

Mr. Braganza was previously a Senior Vice President with HSBC and worked at Citibank India for over eight years in various assignments. He serves on many boards and advisory bodies, including the United Nations Microfinance Resource Group, Sa-Dhan, Grameen Foundation India and the Indian Impact Investors Executive Council. Mr. Braganza holds a master’s degree in Management Studies from the Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies in Mumbai.

Ms. Mary Snapp
Corporate Vice President of Microsoft Philanthropies

Ms. Mary Snapp is the Corporate Vice President of Microsoft Philanthropies within Microsoft’s Corporate, External, and Legal Affairs department. She leads the team responsible for Microsoft’s philanthropic efforts, which brings to life the company’s mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet in partnership with nonprofit organizations and communities to create lasting positive impact.

Mary joined the company in 1988 as Microsoft’s first female attorney. Prior to her current role, for many years, she supported the business and engineering orgs. On behalf of the legal department, she was the executive sponsor of the Diversity and Inclusion initiative for over a decade. Mary has been active on
boards of directors for many years in a number of nonprofit organizations including those engaged in human services, arts, education, and advancement of diversity in the legal profession. She currently serves on the board of directors for 4H, YWCA of Seattle, King, and Snohomish County, Washington STEM, Seattle Arts Museum, and is on the President’s Advisory Panel for the University of Michigan.

Ms. Clare Akamanzi
CEO, Rwanda Development Board

Ms. Clare Akamanzi serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Rwanda Development Board, the Rwandan government cabinet agency tasked with helping oversee Rwanda’s business regulations, foreign investments, tourism promotion, environmental conservation, and broader economic and development planning. Ms. Akamanzi has also served as Rwanda’s trade negotiator to the World Trade Organization, as chair of the holding company overseeing several Rwandan aviation groups, and as head of Strategy and Policy in the office of Rwandan President Paul Kagame.

Mr. Achim Steiner
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Achim Steiner is the Administrator of UNDP and Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, which unites 40 entities of the UN system that work to support sustainable development.

Over nearly three decades, Achim Steiner has been a global leader on sustainable development, climate resilience and international cooperation. He has worked tirelessly to champion sustainability, economic growth and equality for the vulnerable, and has been a vocal advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Prior to joining UNDP, he was Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow of Balliol College, University of Oxford. Mr. Steiner has served across the UN system, looking at global challenges from both a humanitarian and a development perspective. He led the United Nations Environment Programme (2006-2016), helping governments invest in clean technologies and renewable energy. He was also Director-General of the UN Office in Nairobi. Achim Steiner previously held other notable positions including Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Secretary General of the World Commission on Dams.

Achim Steiner has lived and worked in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Latin America and the United States. He graduated in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (MA) from Worcester College, Oxford University and holds an MA from the University of London/School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS).