International Conference

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:

THE FIGHT AGAINST
POVERTY, EXCLUSION AND INEQUALITY.

20th - 21st March 2018

Gaborone International Convention Centre
Botswana
WELCOME MESSAGE

H.E. Lieutenant General, Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama
President of the Republic of Botswana

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome participants from around the world to what I am confident will be a groundbreaking gathering of minds. The significance of this International Conference is reflected in its inclusive theme of “Leave No One Behind: the Fight Against Poverty, Exclusion and Inequality.”

The commitment to leave no one behind is, clearly, the core principal of our shared 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as reflected in each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and corresponding targets. In this respect, I am informed that this Conference will be one of the first to exclusively focus on the leave no one behind principle to achieve the targets related to the first Sustainable Development Goal on ending poverty.

The next two days should provide all of us with a unique opportunity to reflect on the common challenges we face in our various ongoing efforts to bring poverty to zero, to reduce inequalities and overcome various forms of exclusion. I have no doubt that by sharing our experiences on what has and has not worked well will provide the opportunity to understand more fully who are those left behind and how best to reach them.

In the Botswana context, the Conference theme also dovetails with our own standing commitment to ensure that all our citizens can enjoy dignified livelihoods free of poverty. Our goal of eradicating poverty has been reflected in recent years in the roll-out of our own Poverty Eradication Programme, as well as our current National Development Plan’s commitment to obtain “inclusive growth for the realisation of sustainable employment creation and poverty eradication”.

While we have made remarkable progress over the years as a country in reducing the levels of poverty, we most certainly can benefit from the insight of others as we struggle to achieve our goal of a poverty-free society.

I therefore greatly look forward to the resolutions that will emerge from your proceedings. Despite your busy schedules, it is my hope that you will find time to enjoy the warmth and hospitality of my fellow citizens during your stay in Botswana.

Finally, let me thank all of the organizers and participants for making this occasion possible. I wish you well in your deliberations.
It is my pleasure to welcome you on behalf of UNDP. I am proud to be partnering with the Government of Botswana to host this very timely and important international conference on Leave No One Behind: the Fight Against Poverty, Exclusion and Inequality which aims to analyse the principle of leave no one behind within the context of tackling poverty. Indeed, this principle is at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This theme has been chosen in recognition of the close linkages between the elimination of poverty, exclusion and inequality. Achievements in these areas are required in order to achieve progress on the 2030 Agenda. The Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the challenges facing countries in bringing poverty to zero, reducing inequalities across a range of both income and non-income dimensions, and combating exclusion in various forms.

The programme will examine the extent to which successful policies and strategies implemented to date have been effective and will examine who have been the targeted beneficiaries and why they were selected.

The discussions will explore the scope for designing pragmatic and feasible policies based on the principle of leave no one behind, given the well-known challenges many countries face in terms of data collection, access, sharing and use. Discussions will also explore whether the principle can serve as an entry point for addressing extreme poverty. We welcome your active participation in these discussions.

The Conference will conclude by identifying the changes required as countries begin to adopt the leave no one behind principle.

We are delighted to have experts and policymakers from around the globe who will share their experiences, academic research and viewpoints. I am confident that with your contributions, we will demystify the leave no one behind principle and make key recommendations for our future interventions and policy formation.
Mr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi was confirmed by Parliament in November 2014 as Botswana’s 8th Vice President, having previously served in various Cabinet portfolios. Before becoming a full time politician he had established himself as an educationist.

In 1987 he became a Curriculum Specialist at the Department of Curriculum Development and Evaluation. In 1990 he attained his MSc. degree at Florida State University, specializing in Social Studies Education and Instructional Systems Design. Mr. Masisi joined UNICEF in 1995 as Education Project Officer, where he was responsible for initiating programmes for vulnerable and marginalised members of the community.

In October 2009 Mr. Masisi was elected to Parliament and appointed Assistant Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration, becoming full Minister from January 2011. As a Minister and Vice President, Masisi has been responsible for the oversight of key programmes, including: Poverty Eradication, Economic Diversification Drive and Employment Creation.

Hon. Molale is an expert in development economics and has extensive knowledge in socio-economic development issues. As Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, his portfolio includes governance and coordination and management of the public service. His public service career spans three decades, and includes policy analysis and development planning at the district and central governments. He is proficient in resolving key development issues. In addition, Mr. Molale was appointed District Officer (Development) and later District Commissioner. He served as Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Senior Private Secretary to the 3rd President of the Republic of Botswana His Excellency Festus G. Mogae, and Permanent Secretary to the President and Head of Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet. He was appointed Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration in 2014, a position that he holds today. His major focus is reforming the public service in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness, and providing guidance on strategic management to all accounting officers across all ministries and departments.

Mr. Molale holds an MSc in Agricultural Economics, a BA in Economics and Environmental Science. He served as Chair of Debswana and was also a member of the Board of the Commonwealth Association of Public Administration and Management.
Mr. Tsogwane is the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development since 2014. He was the Assistant Minister of Finance and Development Planning from 2004 to 2009 and in this capacity was Governor of the African Development Bank. His Ministry is responsible for the implementation of social safety net programmes such as orphan care and old age pension, as well as those targeting extremely poor people and people living with disabilities.

Mr. Tsogwane holds a BA from the University of Botswana. He taught in several Secondary Schools where he left as Deputy School Head to enter politics in 1999. He now remains one of the longest serving Members of Parliament representing Boteti West Constituency.

Mr. Patrick Pule Ralotsia is the Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security and a Member of Parliament for Kanye North. He is also a farmer in Kanngwe in the Southern District. Hon Ralotsia holds Bachelor of Education from the University of Botswana.

He has worked for various government departments including Ministry of Education and Department of Immigration. In addition, he is an analytical thinker and possesses excellent entrepreneurial, facilitation, interpersonal and communication skills. He also works well with teams.

Mr. Devereux has been a Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, United Kingdom since 1996, where he is a founder and Co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection. He is also the NRF–Newton Fund SA-UK Research Chair in Social Protection and Food Security, affiliated to the DST–NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security and the Institute for Social Development at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

He is a development economist with 25 years of experience in food security, poverty and rural development in 15 African countries, including three years as head of a rural research programme at the University of Namibia and one year as researcher on household drought responses in northern Ghana. He has published nine books and over 60 journal articles on food security, famine and social protection. In addition, he has worked for numerous international agencies and has provided policy advice to many African governments.
CONCEPT NOTE

Leave No One Behind: the Fight Against Poverty, Exclusion and Inequality

1.0 Introduction

1.1 International Conference on Poverty Eradication

1.1.1 The Government of Botswana will host an international conference in Gaborone on the Leave No One Behind principle and its implications. The conference is organized in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with technical support from other United Nations agencies.

1.2 Theme

1.2.1 The theme is ‘Leave No One Behind: the Fight Against Poverty, Exclusion and Inequality’, is the principle at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It was chosen in recognition of the close linkages between poverty, exclusion and inequality, and a recognition that much remains to be done in these areas to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The theme provides an opportunity to reflect on the challenges facing efforts to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities in income and non-income dimensions of wellbeing, and to combat exclusion that, in its various forms, excludes specific groups in society from the benefits of growth, access to services and participation in political processes. This will entail exploring the extent to which policies and strategies implemented to date have been effective, and what kind of changes are still required to achieve tangible results.

1.2.2 Botswana needs to put in place appropriate policies and programmes to safeguard the remarkable progress that it has made since independence in improving the welfare of its citizens. It also requires a deeper understanding of the sources and nature of the risks that poor households face, and the design of appropriate interventions to improve their livelihoods, reduce vulnerabilities, and strengthen coping mechanisms.

1.3 Global and national development frameworks on poverty

1.3.1 Leave no one behind is a key guiding principle underlying the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. This principle also applies to the Africa Agenda 2063. Both agendas place a strong emphasis on eradicating extreme poverty, tackling exclusion and reducing inequality. This emphasis implies that “no goal should be met unless it is met for everyone”, irrespective of political, social and/or economic status. Indeed, the primary target groups for this guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda are the most vulnerable, the extreme poor and the marginalized. This primary sustainable development objective is also reflected in Botswana’s Vision 2036 and its eleventh National Development Plan (NDP 11), which are also aimed at leaving no one behind and ensuring prosperity for all.

1.3.2 The global and the continental agendas have been developed as integrated agendas that reflect the indivisibility of the economic, social and environmental pillars of Sustainable Development. Both agendas reflect the fundamental understanding that poverty eradication is not a stand-alone activity to be carried out by a limited set of actors. Rather, it is activity in which robust and sustainable progress can only be achieved through the coordination of a wide range of actors focused on effective integrated solutions to ensure that no one is left behind or excluded from the benefits of development in all nations.
1.4 Conference Objectives

1.4.1 Expected Conference Results

The conference will provide an important platform for the review and exchange of information on how best to ‘leave no one behind in the fight against poverty, exclusion and inequality’. The focus will be on identifying and showcasing examples from countries that have sought to achieve these objectives, primarily those in the Global South. In addition, the focus will be on sharing ideas on critical pathways and the reality of trade-off.

The conference will provide an opportunity to:

- share criteria for identifying the poor and excluded, and approaches for targeting, and examine the structural barriers to poverty eradication, inclusive growth and social-economic mobility;
- learn from the experiences of other countries (i.e. lessons learned and best practices), especially from those that have successfully managed to reach the poor and those left behind, through a wide variety of interventions. Key focus areas will include how these countries were successful by adopting different government policies and strategies, and by drawing on the insights of experts from well-recognized global think tanks and policymakers from Brazil, Bangladesh, Greece, Honduras, Indonesia, Mauritius, Panama, and South Africa, among other countries, as well as bilateral and multilateral development agencies;
- identify a set of key policy considerations when designing programmes that focus on the most vulnerable, the extreme poor and marginalized groups.

1.5 Expected conference outcomes

1.5.1 Expected conference outcomes include:

- a better understanding of the poor and excluded, and their characteristics; who they are, where they are, which policies and approaches have worked and how they have worked in tackling deprivations and exclusion, as well as what has not worked in comparator countries;
- a better understanding of which policy measures can be adopted to successfully eradicate poverty, promote inclusive economic growth, and reduce inequality within the context of leaving no one behind.

1.6 Target Audience

1.6.1 The target audience includes: senior government policymakers and officials from the host and other countries in Africa and beyond, academic and research institutions, civil society organizations, United Nations Agencies, the European Union, World Bank, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), development partners, and the private sector.

1.7 Date and Venue

1.7.1 The Conference will be held on 20-21 March 2018, at the Gaborone International Convention Centre, in Gaborone, Botswana.
2.0 Background
Transforming diamonds into human development: Botswana’s poverty reduction strategy

2.1 Over the past 50 years, Botswana’s development trajectory has been impressive. From being among the world’s 20 poorest countries in per capita terms at independence, Botswana is now an upper middle-income country. Its GDP per capita rose from US$3,210 in 1997 (Osei-Hwedie, 2004), a per capita Gross National Income (GNI) of US$ 14,663 (UNDP, 2106).

2.2 Realizing that the benefits of growth were not being evenly distributed, successive post-independence governments have adopted a range of public policies aimed at transforming the country’s natural wealth into human development gains. This led to hundreds of thousands of people exiting poverty, developing their capabilities and expanding their life options. Driven by diamond revenues, national revenues have been invested in social protection programmes such as health and education.

2.3 In his inaugural address of 2009, the current President, His Excellency, Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, identified poverty eradication as one of Government’s flagship programmes, which was introduced by the theme ‘Poverty Eradication: Towards Dignity for All’. The Government recognized that it was neither socially just nor economically sustainable that some citizens had not received the benefits of national prosperity. Therefore, a commitment was made to directly address the issue of poverty in all its manifestations. In carrying out this bold commitment, the Government, under the leadership of the President, launched the Poverty Eradication Programme, which benefitted vulnerable members of society and which contributed to reducing poverty from 19.3 per cent in 2009/10 to 16.3 per cent in 2015/2016. Nonetheless, significant pockets of poverty remain, especially in rural areas.

2.4 Inequality in Botswana remains one of the highest in the world. The Gini coefficient of inequality, as measured by per capita consumption, declined from 64.7 percent to 60.5 percent from 2003 to 2010, but remains high (World Bank, 2015). The high levels of poverty are closely tied to the country’s high inequality, which has reduced the poverty-reducing potential of growth. Poverty remains a development challenge that the Government is determined to address definitively, in both rural and urban areas, in order to fulfil its commitment to achieve the SDGs and to leave no one behind.

Timeliness of the Conference

2.5 The International Conference could not have come at a better time, as countries have begun to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2.6 The international community has reaffirmed, with renewed urgency, its goal of an inclusive world. This requires addressing several interdependent objectives, including: the eradication of poverty; the reduction of inequality in various dimensions; and the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work, within the framework of sustainable development imperatives.

2.7 The Government of Botswana was among those countries whose leaders are committed to the goal of an inclusive world. This reflects President Khama’s vision of a Botswana free of poverty and his desire to draw on lessons learned from other countries to strengthen Botswana’s efforts in the fight against poverty, exclusion and inequality.
# AGENDA

## DAY 1: 20 March 2018

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<tr>
<td>08.30 - 09.30</td>
<td>Official Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td>08.30 - 08.45</td>
<td>Opening/Welcome Remarks –</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hon. Eric Molale,</td>
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<td>Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration</td>
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<td>Ms. Jacinta Barrins,</td>
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<td>UNDP Resident Representative</td>
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<td>08.45 - 08.50</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
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<td>08.50 - 09.05</td>
<td>Official opening</td>
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<td>H. E. Lieutenant General, Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama,</td>
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<td>President of the Republic of Botswana</td>
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<td>09.05 - 09.10</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
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<td>09.10 - 09.30</td>
<td>Keynote address</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr. Stephen Devereux,</td>
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<td>Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom, and Co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 - 10.10</td>
<td>Viewing Poverty Eradication Displays</td>
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<td>Tour of Poverty Eradication stalls. These will showcase the outputs of a number of successful beneficiaries of the Botswana Government’s Poverty Eradication Programme and cover a variety of different packages and business models.</td>
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Coffee Break

10:30 - 12:50

Plenary Session 1: Who are the poor and those left behind, and why are they being left behind? What are the key structural barriers to their inclusion and socio-economic mobility?

The session will discuss issues related to the definition, characteristics and identification of the poor and those who are left behind, and the reasons that they are left behind. Given the multidimensional nature of poverty, the session will also examine how to identify the most relevant dimensions that define who has been 'behind' or 'further behind' in order to better target them with programmes and policies. What measurements (e.g. the Multidimensional Poverty Index and other indicators of deprivation) do countries, and specifically their respective National Statistics Offices, use to determine exclusion? How have countries used data to identify the key structural barriers to inclusion and mobility, and how have they sought to ensure that the Leave No One Behind principle is applied?

Moderator:

Dr. Bernard Bulawayo, Chief Research Scientist and Acting Director for Research and Development at the National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC)

Panellists:

Ms. Anna N. Majelantle, Statistician General, Botswana, Official Statistics, Trends and Profile on Poverty and Inequality in Botswana
Ms. Elizabeth Stuart, Head of Programme, Growth, Poverty and Inequality, Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
Mr. Tony German, Development Initiatives, United Kingdom, expert on Leaving No One Behind
Prof. Leila Patel, South African Research Chair in Welfare and Social Development and the Director of the Centre for Social Development in Africa (CSDA), University of Johannesburg
Mr. Balisi Bonyongo, Managing Director, Debswana, Diamond Company
Mr. Robert Yates, Senior Fellow of Chatham House, Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, expert on universal health coverage and progressive health financing

Discussant:

Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Bangladesh, Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the World Trade Office (WTO) and United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna, and Chairperson of the Southern Voice on post-MDG International Development Goals
**AGENDA**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>12.50 - 14.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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| 14.00 - 16.45 | Plenary Session 2: How have countries reached the poor and those left behind, and how have they reached the farthest first?  
Once countries have identified those left behind, effectively providing them with social services, policies and programmes calls for institutional capacity, including processes, systems and skilled workers. Targeting methods are adopted to reach specific population's groups, such as direct individual or household assessments (i.e. means testing and proxy means testing) and self-selection. This session will review targeting methods, including those used by the private sector in the context of corporate social responsibility programmes, that have been used to reach out to the poor and vulnerable populations with specific policies, programmes and services, and will discuss their pros and cons.  
**Moderator:**  
Mr. Bojrazsingh Boyramboli, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius  
**Panellists:**  
Hon. Slumber Tsogwane, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Botswana  
Colonel Duke Masilo, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Botswana  
Ms. Alessandra Casazza, Programme Advisor, SDGs UNDP Regional Centre for Africa  
Mr. Victor Sulla, Senior Economist, World Bank  
Ms. Lara Storm, Director of Advisory Services of the Ultra-Poor Graduation Initiative, BRAC, Bangladesh  
Dr. Bambang Widianto, Deputy for Human Development and Equality, at the Office of the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia  
**Discussant:**  
Mr. Robert Yates, Senior Fellow of Chatham House, Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, expert on universal health coverage and progressive health financing  
**Open discussion** |
| 19.00 – 21.30 | Dinner hosted by the Government of Botswana at the Gaborone International Conference Centre, including a cultural evening of national dance. |
**AGENDA**

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<th>DAY 2 March 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
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<td><strong>Plenary Session 3</strong>: Which lessons and best practices have been learned that could help to improve the lives of the poor and those left behind?</td>
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Countries have put in place policies, strategies and programmes to improve the lives of people and address poverty and inequality, with mixed results. This session will review examples of policies, strategies and programmes that have been effective in lifting people out of poverty and reducing vulnerabilities. It will also discuss the lessons that have been learned from their implementation and the changes needed to achieve better poverty eradication results and build more inclusive societies. This session will highlight the critical role that monitoring and evaluation play in providing evidence to inform programming and policymaking.

**Moderator:**
- Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Bangladesh, former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to Bangladesh to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna, and Chairperson of the Southern Voice on post-MDG International Development Goals

**Panellists:**
- **Hon. Eric Molale**, Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, Botswana
- **Hon. Marie Roland Alain Wong Yen Cheong**, Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment, Mauritius
- **Hon. Miguel Zuñiga Rodriguez**, Minister of Social Development and Inclusion, Honduras
- **Mr. Daniel Silva Balaban**, Director of the World Food Programme Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil
- **Hon. Michelle Muschette**, Vice Minister of Social Development in the Republic of Panama and Technical Coordinator of the Social Cabinet
- **Dr. Rania Antonopoulou**, former Alternate Minister of Labour, Greece

**Discussant:**
- **Prof. Keitseope Nthomang**, Professor of Social Development and Head of Department of Social Work, University of Botswana

**Open Discussion**
Plenary Session 4: Managing reforms to improve poverty eradication, inequality reduction and inclusion

This session will examine experiences of countries in managing processes for changing existing policies, programmes and systems. What has been the role of evidence generation in helping to overcome resistance to change? What kind of evidence has proved most useful? What has been the role of community-based organizations and think tanks in identifying constraints, and how have they sought to influence public policy and strengthen strategies and programmes to improve the lives of people and address poverty and inequality? What partnerships have proved most useful in helping to improve performance?

Moderator:
Dr. Rania Antonopoulos, former Alternate Minister of Labour, Greece

Panellists:
Mr. Bojrazsingh Boyramboli, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius
Mr. Rafael Guerreiro Osorio, Senior Researcher at the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) and the Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA)
Mr. John Groarke, Mission Director for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Southern Africa, including bilateral programmes in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland
Dr. Chimimba David Phiri, Subregional Coordinator for Southern Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Discussant:
Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Bangladesh, former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to Bangladesh to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna, and Chairperson of the Southern Voice on post-MDG International Development Goals

Open discussion
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<th>13.30 - 15.00</th>
<th>Plenary Session 5: Key considerations for policies and strategies going forward</th>
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<td>This session will draw the key recommendations from the previous sessions for designing more effective policies and programmes for reducing poverty and to ensure that no one is left behind and that all benefit from investments in sustainable development.</td>
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<td>During this session, participants will agree on a set of operational principles to guide future actions on the key recommendations emerging from the Conference.</td>
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| Moderator:    | Mr. Stephen Devereux, Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom, and Co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection |

| Panellists:   | Prof. Keitseope Nthomang, Professor of Social Development and Head of Department of Social Work, University of Botswana |
|              | Prof. Leila Patel, South African Research Chair in Welfare and Social Development and Director of the Centre for Social Development in Africa (CSDA), University of Johannesburg |
|              | Mr. Bojrasingh Boyramboli, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius |
|              | Ms. Elizabeth Stuart, Head of Programme, Growth, Poverty and Inequality, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) |

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<th>15.15 - 16.00</th>
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<td>Moderator:</td>
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<td>Hon. Patrick Pule Ralotsia, Minister of Agriculture Development and Food Security</td>
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<th>15.20 - 15.35</th>
<th>Key recommendations from the conference: Ms. Jacinta Barrins, UNDP Resident Representative</th>
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| 15.45 - 16.00 | Closing Ceremony: His Honour Mr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, Vice President of the Republic of Botswana |

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Dr. Bernard T. Bulawayo
Dr. Bulawayo is a research scientist and intellectual property lawyer. He is currently Chief Research Scientist and Acting Director for Research and Development at the National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC). He holds a PhD in Chemical Engineering (specialized in bioprocess technology) from the University of Cape Town, an MA in Biotechnology, Law and Ethics from the University of Sheffield, an MSc in Biotechnology from the University of Zimbabwe, a BSc in Biology and Chemistry from the University of Botswana, an LLB from the University of South Africa, and several certificates in various aspects of research and innovation management, technology transfer, and intellectual property management. Dr. Bulawayo is a networking member of the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA), the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM), the International Intellectual Property Law Association (IIPLA) and the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI), and is Associate of the South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIIPL). He presently sits on the boards of the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) and NAFTEC Investments (Pty) Ltd.

Anna N. Majelantle
Ms. Majelantle is the CEO and Statistician General of Statistics Botswana, and has 36 years’ experience working in statistics organizations, including the Central Statistics Office of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. She is an expert advisor the Government, the private sector, civil society, international organizations and researchers on, inter alia, formulating statistical strategies and policies. Her expertise includes the execution of systematic collection, processing, analysis, interpretation, storage and dissemination of official statistics covering population and housing censuses, social statistics and demographic data, macro-economic statistics, environment and agriculture statistics, business and household surveys. She is responsible for overseeing the provision of statistical information for national development strategies, National Vision 2036 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
In addition, Ms. Majelantle coordinates the production and use of national official statistics for evidence-based decision-making, policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, she is a member of several high-level national committees for effective policy decisions and the appropriate use of statistical information. She represents the country in international conferences and committees, such as the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Statistical Committee and other African statistical committees to ensure Botswana’s adherence to international statistics standards and best practices. She is a former member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Board of Directors.
Tony German

Mr. German established Development Initiatives (DI) with Judith Randel in 1993 as an independent research and information consultancy working on poverty, aid and development policy, data and analysis. He led the establishment of Development Initiatives Policy Research (DIPR), a not-for-profit organization, in order to expand DI’s impact. By the end of his mandate as Executive Director in 2015, DI had 65 staff members based in the United Kingdom, Kenya, Uganda, United States of America, Brazil and Nepal.

Mr. German’s tasks at DI included: providing strategic direction of DI’s Investments to End Poverty reports to focus not just on aid, but on all resources that can contribute to poverty elimination; through DI’s aidinfo programme, helping establish the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI); working with ONE: DATA on the DATA Report to monitor 2005 G8 Gleneagles commitments to Africa; and establishing and editing of eight annual Reality of Aid reports (www.realityofaid.org). Mr. German continues his work on the P20 Initiative, which focuses on the poorest 20 per cent of people globally and in every country.

Prior to establishing DI, Mr. German was Director of Public Affairs at ActionAid. He studied law at Southampton University, United Kingdom. He lives in Evercreech, Somerset, England and works on international cooperation, social and economic development.

Elizabeth Stuart

Ms. Stuart heads the Growth, Poverty and Inequality Programme at Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and leads the Institute’s work on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on the ‘leave no one behind’ agenda. Her areas of expertise include inequality in its widest sense and multilateral processes, as well as the political economy of national-level policy-making. Before joining ODI, she was the Director of Policy and Research for Save the Children, a former head of Oxfam International’s office in Washington, D.C., and a national newspaper and radio journalist writing about business.
SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Prof. Leila Patel
Professor Patel is the South African Research Chair in Welfare and Social Development and the Director of the Centre for Social Development in Africa (CSDA) at the University of Johannesburg. She has published widely on issues of social development in South Africa and internationally. Her research topics include social welfare policy, social protection, gender, social services, and children and youth. Her work experience spans academia, government, non-profit organizations and social initiatives of the private sector.

Professor Patel was the former Director General of Welfare in the Mandela administration and played a leading role in the development of South Africa’s welfare policy after apartheid. Her recent books are: Social Welfare and Social Development, 2015; Development, Social Policy and Community Action: Lessons from Below, co-edited with Marianne Ulriksen, 2017; Social Protection in Southern Africa, 2014, co-edited with James Midgley and Marianne Ulriksen. In 2014, Professor Patel received the Distinguished Woman Scientist Award in the Humanities and the Social Sciences.

Balisi Bonyongo
Mr. Bonyongo is an accomplished career miner with over 25 years of experience in the mining industry. He is currently the Managing Director of Debswana Diamond Company. He has held other key executive positions, notably, Debswana Corporate Strategy Manager, Jwaneng Mine General Manager and Debswana Chief Operations Officer.

Mr. Bonyongo holds a BEng (Hon.) in Mineral Engineering from the University of Leeds and an MBA from the University of Cape Town in South Africa, and graduated from the Senior Executive Programme at the London Business School. He has held several directorship roles at First National Bank Botswana, Botswana Power Corporation, and PEO Venture Capital, and is presently the Chair of the Board of Trustees at Tlhokomela. Botswana Endangered Wildlife Species, Co-Chair of United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Council of CEOs on Children’s Rights and Vision 2036 Council members.
Robert Yates
Mr. Yates is an internationally recognized expert on universal health coverage (UHC) and progressive health financing. He is a Senior Fellow of Chatham House, Royal Institute of International Affairs, based in London, where he is Project Director of the UHC Policy Forum. He is also a long-term consultant to the Elders organization on their UHC programme.

His principal area of expertise is in the political economy of UHC, with a focus on advising political leaders and governments on how to plan, finance and implement national UHC reforms. He has previously worked as a Senior Health Economist with the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) and the World Health Organization, advising numerous governments in Asia and Africa on health financing policy and health systems reforms. He holds a BA in Natural Sciences and Economics from the University of Cambridge and an MBA from the University of Leeds.

Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya
Dr. Bhattacharya, a macroeconomist and public policy analyst, was the first Executive Director of and is a Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka. He is the former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to the United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna. He is also the former President of the Governing Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). In addition, he is Special Adviser on Least Developed Countries to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. Dr. Bhattacharya studied in Dhaka, Moscow and Oxford, and inter alia, was a visiting Senior Fulbright Fellow at the Center for Global Development (CGD), Washington, D.C.

Dr. Bhattacharya is a member of the governing bodies of various leading institutions, including BRAC International, and the editorial board of reputed journals including Oxford Development Studies. He has carried out assignments on behalf of international and bilateral development agencies in a large number of countries.

Mr. Bhattacharya chairs two global initiatives: the Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals network of more than 50 think tanks from Asia, Africa and Latin America; and the LDC IV Monitor, an alliance of eight development organizations. He led pioneering multi-country studies on shaping the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), on gaps in SDG monitoring data, and on early signals of SDG implementation. Mr. Bhattacharya currently serves as the convenor of the Citizen’s Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh, an initiative by a large group of concerned civil society organizations and the private sector from Bangladesh, aimed at contributing to achieving the SDGs at the national level.

Mr. Bhattacharya has recently edited *Southern Perspectives on the Post-2015 International Development Agenda* (2017) and acted as team leader of the study *Quest for Inclusive Transformation of Bangladesh: Who Not to be Left Behind* (2017).
SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Colonel Duke Masilo
Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, (Local Governance)
As the Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for Governance, Col. Duke Masilo coordinates and supervises the functions of three departments viz; Department of Local Governance and Development Planning, Department of Tribal Administration and the Department of Local Government Finance and Procurement Services. In addition to his core duties, he is a Committee Member of the President's Housing Appeal for the Needy. Prior to that he was the Deputy Permanent Secretary (Appeals), before that he was the Deputy Coordinator Poverty Eradication Coordinating Unit, both in the Office of the President. From April 2008 to September 2012 he served as the Senior Private Secretary to the President, His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama. It was during his tenure as Senior Private Secretary to the President that His Excellency the President conceptualized the President’s Housing Appeal for the Needy. Col Duke Masilo launched and spearheaded the program in August 2010 and has since then been at the forefront of ensuring that the program yields expected results. From humble beginnings the program has to date delivered many houses across the country providing shelter to many less privileged Batswana.
Col. Duke Masilo served in the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) holding various portfolios for 25 years before retiring in 2006. He led a BDF Contingent that participated in the UN peace keeping mission in Mozambique as Chief Operating Officer as well as being Botswana Contingent Commander in 1993 and 1994 respectively. From Mozambique he was seconded to UN Head Quarters in New York as a mission planning officer from 1995 to 1996. Upon completion Col. Masilo was appointed as a Defence Attache to Botswana Embassy in Washington D.C from 1996 to 2000
Col. Duke Masilo read for a Bachelor of Laws with Honours at the University of Wolverhampton in England. He is an admitted Attorney of the Courts of Botswana.

Alessandra Casazza
Ms. Casazza is currently working as Regional Programme Adviser on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa, in Addis Ababa. Her previous posts include: Policy Adviser for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Inclusive Growth at the UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre in Bangkok, and Policy Specialist on Capacity Development at the UNDP Bureau for Development Policy in New York. Her assignments included field work at UNDP Sri Lanka, where she worked as MDG Adviser and UNDP Timor-Leste, where she worked as Programme Officer for poverty reduction. She also worked for KPMG Italy, in the field of corporate social responsibility.
Ms. Casazza began her professional career in New Zealand, as auditor for Audit New Zealand. She holds an MSc in development economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, United Kingdom, and an MA in economics and business administration from the University of Perugia, Italy.
Victor Sulla

Lara Storm
As the Director of Advisory Services, Ms. Storm leads a team of Ultra-Poor Graduation experts in the design and implementation of graduation models in different settings across the globe.
Previously, Ms. Storm was the Director of Financial Inclusion at MIX, where she led the development of the first global financial inclusion data platform, the FINclusion Lab. She brings rich experience in financial inclusion and client-centred microfinance acquired from her work as Director of Youth-Inclusive Financial Services at Making Cents International, Client and Market Research Manager at Pro Mujer, and as Microfinance Accreditation Specialist at Catholic Relief Services.

Prior to working in the fields of financial inclusion and social protection Ms. Storm was an analyst at Fitch Ratings. Her passion for development was sparked during a two-year assignment for a travel company in Ecuador, where she witnessed the efforts of local communities in building inclusive economies and opportunities for all. Lara holds a BA in Spanish and Geography from the University of California, Davis and an MA in International Affairs from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs.
Dr. Bambang Widianto
Dr. Widianto is currently the Deputy for Human Development and Equality at the Office of the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia. He is also the Executive Secretary of the National Team for Acceleration of Poverty Reduction, a body in the Government of Indonesia directly chaired by the Vice President responsible for policy reforms and coordination of poverty reduction programme. Dr Widianto has an Industrial Engineering Degree from Bandung Institute of Technology, an MA in Computer Science from Boston University, and an MA and PhD in Economic Policy from Northeastern University, Boston, United States of America.

He has authored several publications, including most recently “The political economy of social protection reforms in Indonesia” in Social Protection in Developing Countries: Reforming Systems (2013). His previous publications and presentations include: “The impact of the economic crisis on industry performance” (presented at the World Bank Conference on Asian Corporate Recovery, Bangkok, April 1999) and “Making the most of the minimum wage policy” (Working Report, BAPPENAS, Jakarta, September 2003).

Hon. Marie Roland Alain Wong Yen Cheong
Hon. Marie Roland Alain Wong Yen Cheong was appointed Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms, in Mauritius, on 17th December 2014 and Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management on 24th March 2016. Currently he is Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment which has the following mandate: to formulate policies and strategies to combat poverty and social exclusion; drive and coordinate initiatives for the social integration and sustainable development of vulnerable families; encourage and assist vulnerable families to undertake income earning activities to become economically independent; widen the circle of opportunities for the empowerment of the vulnerable families; eradicate absolute poverty and improve the living conditions of the poor; lay the foundation for sustainable human development and improve the file of children of poor families by providing a package of support programmes and opportunities for learning an development from a very early stage.
Daniel Balaban

Mr. Balaban is an economist and holds an MBA in finance, specialized in public budget and fiscal policy, and a Masters in International Relations. In August 2011, he became the Director of the World Food Programme’s Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil.

For over ten years, Mr. Balaban worked in the areas of finance and planning in business consulting firms and foundations of welfare facilities. In 1994, he became a Finance Analyst of the Brazil’s Ministry of Finance, having served as Economic Adviser to the Secretary of the Treasury and National Coordinator for Economic Studies of the Secretariat of the National Treasury. In 2003, he served as Special Adviser to the Secretary of the Economic and Social Development of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil.

From March 2006 to August 2011, Mr Balaban was President of the Brazilian National Education Development Fund, responsible for, inter alia, the National School Feeding Programme that feeds over 47 million students around the country. He also collaborated on the establishment of the Brazilian School Feeding Law, which provides that at least 30 per cent of the food purchased in the country must come from the small family farming production. In addition, Mr. Balaban chairs the Latin America and the Caribbean School Feeding Network. He is a Board Member of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation as well as a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Councils. Mr. Balaban has been instrumental in supporting South-South cooperation and partnership in collaboration with the World Food Programme.

Hon. Miguel Antonio Zuniga Rodriguez

Hon. Miguel Antonio Zuniga Rodriguez is currently the Minister of Social Development and Inclusion of the Republic of Honduras. In this role, he has developed knowledge and experience in the field of social development and the Multidimensional Poverty Index. Through his relationship with different strata of the population, he has helped to raise awareness about the living conditions of many Honduran families. This has led him to work in the local communities and implement, “Planned Neighborhood”, a pilot programme aimed at identifying Honduran families’ most important needs and creating initiatives to address them within the community and appropriately managed by the government institutions.

In the past, Mr. Zuniga Rodriguez worked as the Human Resources Manager for the National Electricity Company in Honduras. He was the former Task Manager and Secretary of State for Social Development and Inclusion, and Administrative Manager of National Congress of Honduras. He was also the Municipal Supervisor in the development of neighbourhoods, colonies and communities in developing countries under the National Programme for Sustainable Rural Development.
Michelle Muschett
Ms. Muschett is the current Vice Minister of Social Development in the Republic of Panama and the Technical Coordinator of the Social Cabinet. She has broad professional experience ranging from the legal field and cultural affairs, to social development. She graduated with a Bachelor of Law and Social Sciences from the Santa Maria La Antigua University (summa cum laude). She also earned a degree in Commercial Law at the Externado de Colombia University, a post-graduate degree in International Business and Private Law from Carlos III University, Madrid, an MA in Public Administration with a concentration in Social Policy and International Development Studies from Cornell University, and an MA in Management of Cultural Assets and Events Management from the Instituto per l’Arte e il Restauro, Palazzo Spinelli, Florence, Italy. She also participates in the Aspen Institute’s VIII Class of Central American Leadership Initiative (CALI).

Dr. Rania Antonopoulos
Dr. Antonopoulos served as Alternate Minister of Labour, Greece from January 2015 until February 2018, and as a Member of the Greek Parliament in 2015. As Minister of Labour, she was entrusted with two portfolios: the reduction of unemployment and the strengthening of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE). She previous served as macroeconomic policy advisor at UN Women; Director of the ‘Gender Equality and the Economy’ programme of the Levy Economics Institute in New York, United States of America; Professor of Economics at New York University; Associate Researcher of the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Greece; Visiting Professor at Shanghai Academy of Science and Barnard College of Columbia University; and co-Director of the Levy Institute International Working Group on Gender, Macroeconomics, and International Economics (GEM-IWG) Knowledge Networking Programme on Engendering Macroeconomics and International Economics.

Ms. Antonopoulos headed a team of Levy Institute researchers studying the impact of public employment/job guarantee schemes (EGS) on pro-poor development and gender equality. She also worked closely with the National Women’s Institute (INMUJERES), the Government of Mexico, on an initiative whose aim was creating jobs in the public services, primarily for Mexican women in rural areas. Ms. Antonopoulos subsequently led a team of Levy Institute scholars in advising the Institute of Labour of the National Confederation of Trade Unions (INE-GSEE) to implement a newly emergency job creation programme in Greece.
Prof. Keitseope Nthomang

Professor Nthomang holds a PhD and is a Professor of Social Development and Head of the Department of Social Work, University of Botswana. He has over 20 years’ experience in social development practice and education in Botswana, the last ten years of which he has held senior academic leadership roles. Professor Nthomang specializes in social policy analysis, programme evaluation, and community development practice. Over the years, he has made a significant contribution to cutting-edge empirical research and publications. Professor Nthomang’s research topics focus on broad issues of social development such as poverty, unemployment, inclusive growth, exclusion and ethnic minorities. His research is driven by the passion to find solutions to complex social issues with a view to developing culturally relevant and sustainable context-specific interventions. He has published and consulted extensively on social problem scoping, social policy analysis, programme development and evaluation, and innovative community development interventions and HIV and AIDS, in Botswana, the Southern African Development Community, (SADC) region and internationally. Professor Nthomang is a member of various boards of government and NGOs. He is a member of the Vision 2036 Council and is President of Botswana Family Welfare Association (BOFWA). He recently co-authored the book *Leveraging Community University Engagements for Social Impacts with Lifelong Penchants*.

Boyramboli Bojrazsingh

Mr. Bojrazsing is the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius. He holds a diploma in Public Administration and Management (DPAM) and graduated from the University of Mauritius.

His previous positions include Principal Assistant Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Leisure, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Leisure, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Rodrigues & Outer Islands, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport & Shipping, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Integration & Economic Empowerment, Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment.
SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Rafael Guerreiro Osorio
Mr. Guerreiro Osorio is a Senior Researcher at the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) and the Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA). He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Brasilia and has coordinated research and published works on poverty, inequality and social policies in Brazil and internationally. Further, he has served as: Adviser to the Minister of the Special Secretariat for Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic and to the Brazilian Federal Government; IPEA’s Director of Social Policies and Studies; and IPEA’s Coordinator of Studies on Social Security and Demography. Before assuming his current responsibilities at the Brazilian Government, he worked as a UNDP researcher at the IPC-IG.

John Groarke
As Mission Director for USAID/Southern Africa, John Groarke is responsible for all USAID programming in Southern Africa, including bilateral programs in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland, as well as for regional programming. USAID’s programs in the region promote trade and investment, combat gender-based violence, increase basic literacy, improve access to energy, combat wildlife crime, and confront the duel epidemics of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

As USAID/Pakistan Mission Director from 2015 to 2017, Mr. Groarke led a $2.5 billion program promoting Pakistan’s development and the reconstruction of its conflict-affected border with Afghanistan. From 2013-2015, Mr. Groarke served as Mission Director for USAID/Haiti, leading a $2.2 billion program supporting Haiti’s recovery from a devastating earthquake. As Mission Director for USAID/Morocco between 2009 and 2013, Mr. Groarke led a program supporting the Government of Morocco’s political and economic reform during a time of regional transition. In 2010, Mr. Groarke was detailed to Afghanistan to lead USAID’s efforts to implement the U.S. Government’s new counter-insurgency strategy. He previously served as Deputy Mission Director for USAID/Egypt (2006-2009) and for USAID/Iraq, (2005-2006) where, in 2003, Mr. Groarke helped open the Agency’s Baghdad Mission in the aftermath of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Mr. Groarke served as Senior Regional Legal Adviser for Egypt and Iraq (2002-2005), Senior Regional Legal Adviser for West Africa (1999-2002) and Regional Legal Advisor for South Asia (1996-1999).

A member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, Mr. Groarke received USAID’s Distinguished Honor Award in 2009, the Agency’s highest performance award, for his service in Egypt and Iraq. Prior to joining USAID in 1995, Groarke practiced corporate law in New York and Washington, D.C. He holds a Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, a Master’s Degree in International Relations from the London School of Economics, and a Bachelor’s Degree from New York University.
Dr. Chimimba David Phiri

Dr. Phiri started his career in 1981 as Projects Officer in Malawi’s Ministry of Agriculture. He was lecturer at the University of Malawi in agricultural economics.

Since April 2013, Dr. Phiri has served as FAO Subregional Coordinator for Southern Africa based in Harare, Zimbabwe. He is also the FAO Representative in Botswana, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. He joined FAO headquarters as a policy economist and served in the Cabinet of the FAO Director-General, where he was involved in the policy direction and management of the Organization. He was appointed Head of FAO Policy Support Service and also served as the focal point for FAO’s support to the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) programme.

A national of Malawi, Dr. Phiri holds a BSC in agriculture from the University of Malawi, a MSc in agricultural economics from the University of Wales, United Kingdom, and a PhD in development economics from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.