

SPEAKERS



International Conference on Universal Child Grants

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Aida Kasymalieva

 a_kasymalieva

Ms. Kasymalieva was elected as member of the Kyrgyz Parliament from Social Democratic Party of the Kyrgyzstan (SDPK) in 2017 and started her parliamentary activity with a firm position on improving the life of the vulnerable segment of population. Made a major contribution to the development and promotion of the draft law “On State Benefits in the Kyrgyz Republic” in order to simplify the access of families with children and persons with disability who are not entitled to old age pension to state benefits and to ensure the maximum reduction of corruption risks when applying for state benefits. After the law was enacted, implementation is also actively carried out. For this purpose, a working group was created with a participation of active citizens from various fields. She is also a chairman of the oversight and monitoring group ensuring execution of National Action Plan on ‘Open Government’, OGP - Open Parliament of Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2020. As a member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Science, Culture and Health, Aida Kasymalieva continues to work on improving the situation of poor families. Her priorities are education sector and the rights of women and children.

In 2005 Aida graduated with honors from the Bishkek Humanities University (2001-2005) with a degree in journalism. She worked as a correspondent in a number of Kyrgyz and foreign media, as a journalist, presenter, and producer. Her works took first place in contests and film festivals.

MP Kasymalieva was awarded with the special prize “Discovery of the Year.” In her works she revealed a very acute problem of early marriage, violence against women and girls, and migrant women. She was awarded with a number of state awards.

Married, has a daughter.



Abdul Alim

Dr. Abdul Alim is currently the Regional Advisor for Social Policy covering South Asia for UNICEF and is based in Kathmandu. For the last 20 years he has worked with the United Nations Children’s Fund in the developing world covering countries in South Asia, South East Asia, CEE/CIS, and the Middle East. His major interest is in the application of results based management and Human Rights based Approach to reform social policy and planning with an emphasis on social service delivery. He is a member of UN Development Policy Network.



Alexander Pick

Alexander Pick is a Fiscal Economist with the OECD Development Centre, where he works on the European Union Social Protection Systems Programme (EU-SPS) and the Revenue Statistics initiative. Mr Pick plays lead role in EU-SPS activities in Kyrgyzstan, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Viet Nam and also specialises in analysing social protection financing. He has been at the Development Centre since 2015, before which he spent six years at the National Treasury of South Africa. While in South Africa, he was involved in a number of social security reform initiatives and worked closely with the Expanded Public Works Programme.

He arrived in South Africa as a fellow of the Overseas Development Institute, having gained a Masters in Economics from University College London. Before becoming an economist, he was a journalist and literature student.

SPEAKERS



Alexandra Barrantes

 @barrantesa27

International development practitioner with more than 19 years of experience, currently Senior Social Policy Specialist at Development Pathways. Key areas of expertise: social protection; poverty, inequality; economic, social and cultural rights; right to identity; financial inclusion. She has provided high-level policy advice and conducted negotiations with government high-level officials regarding social protection high-level design and policy implications in over 20 middle and low-income countries. Lead teams developing and designing a Cash Transfer Programme, a Social Protection Diploma Course, a regional social protection network, capacity-building for social development ministries, and providing technical advice to regional social policy inter-governmental bodies. Managed team responsible for providing support to the Working Group to Examine the National Periodic Reports Envisioned in the Protocol of San Salvador on economic, social and cultural rights and for instituting the first-ever round of reports on indicators of progress on social rights. She has also worked for a regional international organisation for the Americas region (OAS) for many years, undertaken consultancies with UNICEF, and collaborated with key international actors in the social protection and poverty reduction field, including: UNRISD, ILO, OPHI, ECLAC, World Bank, Regional Working Group for the Social Protection Floor Initiative; Inter-American Development Bank, WFP; FAO, UNDP, and UN Women.



Alexandra Yuster

 @AlexandraYuster

Alexandra Yuster is Associate Director, Programme Division, UNICEF HQ, leading UNICEF's work on Social Policy, which encompasses social protection. During her tenure the UNICEF social policy team contributed actively to the inclusion of children in SDG 1 on poverty and social protection, worked to advance the understanding and UNICEF's active engagement in the role of social protection in fragile and humanitarian contexts, and launched an evidence generation initiative around Universal Child Grants with partners. She served as UNICEF Representative in Moldova from 2008 to 2013, and previously at HQ as well as UNICEF Country Offices in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and India. While in Moldova, UNICEF helped the government to maintain and strengthen social protection during the economic crisis. At UNICEF HQ from 2003-2008, Ms Yuster was part of a multi-agency effort to advance child-sensitive social protection. During previous UNICEF postings her work encompassed health, child protection, HIV, and social policy.

Born and raised in NYC, she holds a BA in Anthropology and a Masters in Public Health.



Alejandro Grinspun

Mr. Alejandro Grinspun is Senior Economist in the Social Protection team of FAO's Economic and Social Development Department. Alejandro joined FAO in 2017 from UNICEF, where he had led the work on social policy including child poverty analysis, public finance and social protection in South Africa and Tanzania from 2009 to 2016. Before working for UNICEF, Alejandro held various technical positions with UNDP, both in headquarters and the field (HQ Bureau for Development Policy 1993-2002, IPC Brazil 2003-2005, UNDP Mexico 2006-2009), where he was engaged in social policy research and analysis, technical advice to governments, support to intergovernmental processes, and policy dissemination and influencing. A national from Argentina, Alejandro holds the title of sociologist from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and an M.Phil. in public policy from Columbia University. He has authored, coordinated and/or led in the publication of a number of books, articles and technical reports over the years.



Anantaporn Kanjanarat

H.E. General Anantaporn Kanjanarat has been appointed as the Minister of Social Development and Human Security since 2017. He is passionate and committed to human development policies throughout life-cycle with a strong focus on children. He is a key supporter for the expansion of the Child Support Grant (CSG) in Thailand aiming to ensure that all eligible children have benefited from the policy. One example of the current success is to push forward the expansion of the CSG to children under six and align the poverty targeting mechanism with the National Welfare Scheme (the National Poverty Targeting Scheme) in order to improve the efficiency of the CSG by reducing the exclusion errors of the scheme. The proposal is now being discussed in the Cabinet for final approval.



Andrea Rossi

 @rossiarossi



Andrea Rossi is the UNICEF Social Policy and Economic Analysis Advisor leading the work on child sensitive social protection in East Asia and Pacific regional office. He was Head of Social Policy and Research in UNICEF Mozambique working on the design of a new child grant, and previously worked on social protection programs in other Asian countries as UNICEF Social Policy Regional Advisor for South Asia. Andrea Rossi is the former Director of the Harvard Measurement and Human Rights Programme at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government where he worked at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy. In the past he was Research Coordinator at the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, and prior to that he worked with the International Labour Organisation in East Africa where he was in charge of research and statistics. He is an economist, with a focus on development and applied research. He teaches Applied Research Methods with Hidden and Marginal Population at the School in Social Sciences Data Analysis at the University of Essex (UK) and Human Rights Public Policies at the University in Milan (It).



Anna Machado

 @ACMMDS



Anna Machado works as a Researcher at the International Policy Center for Inclusive Growth since 2015, where she has already contributed to projects in partnership with UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and other organisations in Brazil, sub-Saharan Africa and more recently in the Middle East and North of Africa. Original from Rio de Janeiro, Anna holds a s Anna holds a MSc in Public Policy from the University of Bristol, in England, and a BA in International Relations from the Federal Fluminense University (UFF). Previously, she has worked as a consultant for the UN-Habitat Regional Office in Latin America (ROLAC) in social and urban development projects in the city of Rio de Janeiro, where she supported the local government in projects focused on the development of informal settlements (favelas). Her research interests include social protection, poverty reduction, child and youth development and urban policies.



Anush Bezhanyan

 @AnushBezhanyan

Anush Bezhanyan is Practice Manager for Strategy, Operations, Knowledge, Learning and Partnerships in Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice of the World Bank. She has extensive experience working on social protection policies and programs, ranging from social assistance

and cash transfers, public works, children and youth, social inclusion and social services to pensions and social insurance across many regions. Prior to joining the World Bank, she worked in different international organizations and NGOs as well as State Department for Refugee and Migration in Armenian government.



Atif Khurshid

[@khurshidatif](#)

Atif Khurshid is a Policy Specialist, Social Protection with UNICEF HQ, leading technical support to countries on social protection systems strengthening. Previously, he was Chief of Social Policy, UNICEF Iraq where he helped finalize and launch Iraq's first Child Poverty Report 2016 and contributed towards Iraq's 2nd Poverty Reduction Strategy 2017-2021. In close collaboration with the World Bank, Atif also provided support to launch a pilot cash transfer programme in Iraq to improve educational and health outcomes of children.

Before joining UNICEF, Atif has worked with UNDP Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa as Social Protection Specialist and led efforts together with ILO to establish UNDG - Regional Interagency Network on Social Protection to promote joint UN efforts for social protection reforms in the MENA region. Atif holds a Master Degree in Sustainable International Development focusing on development economics from Brandeis University, Boston USA and Bachelors in Economics and Statistics from Pakistan.



Bjorn Gelders

[@TheBjornGelders](#)

Bjorn Gelders is a Senior Social Policy Specialist and Economist at Development Pathways, specializing in poverty dynamics and vulnerability, inclusive growth, monitoring and impact evaluation. He has worked in more than 20 countries with governments, the UN and development agencies across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and is a member of the DFAT Poverty and Social Protection Expert Panel. Bjorn has authored and contributed to numerous reports on child poverty, social security, disability, and the sustainable development goals, published by UN agencies and national ministries. He holds an MA in Economics and a BA in Applied Economics.



Camila Arza

Camila Arza is a member of the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (Argentina) and principal researcher at the Interdisciplinary Centre for the Study of Public Policies. She holds a PhD and a Master of Sciences from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE, United Kingdom) and a first degree in Sociology from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina). Her current research focuses on comparative social policy in Latin America, social security, old age and childhood, and socio-economic and gender inequalities. Over the past fifteen years, she has collaborated with several international organizations, including ECLAC, UNRISD, UN-WOMEN and UNU-WIDER. Her work has been published extensively in academic books and journals, including *World Development*, *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *International Social Security Review*, *International Journal of Social Welfare*, and *Social Policy and Society* among others. Her most recent publications are "A long decade of gendering social policy in Latin America: Transformative steps and inequality traps" (*Handbook of Gender and Social Policy*, 2018, with Juliana Martinez Franzoni) and "Child-centred social policies in Argentina: Expansion, segmentation and social stratification" (*Social Policy & Administration*, 2018).





Carolina Aulicino

@Caro_aulicino

Carolina Aulicino holds a BA in Political Science at University of Buenos Aires and a Master degree in Administration and Public Policies at Saint Andrew's University. She is currently working as Social Policy Officer at UNICEF Argentina. She has specialized in social protection and early childhood policies: she has published several articles and coauthor the book "The future is today.

Early childhood in Argentina". She has conducted research and teaching activities at University of Buenos Aires and coordinated the Social Protection Program at CIPPEC, one of the main think tanks in Argentina.



Caroline Tassot

Dr. Caroline Tassot is an Economist at the OECD Development Centre working on the European Union Social Protection Systems Programme, in particular focusing on issues of informal work, universal health coverage and quantitative assessments of social protection systems in Indonesia, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Zambia and Togo. Prior to this appointment, she was an Associate Economist at the University of Southern California's Center for Economic and Social Research and a doctoral fellow at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. Her dissertation focused on subjective well-being, in particular looking at the impact of unemployment and inequality on well-being, as well as methodological aspects related to the measurement of well-being. During her graduate studies at Sciences Po Paris and at the RAND Center for Latin American Social Policy she did field work and conducted research on a randomized control trial evaluating the impact of social pensions in Mexico.



Catalina Devandas Aguilar

@SR_Disability

Catalina Devandas Aguilar is the first United Nations Special Rapporteur appointed by the Human Rights Council to support the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She is a native of Costa Rica, has three little daughters and was born with spina bifida. Trained as a lawyer she practised as an attorney at law between 1993 and 1999. Before taking up her duties as Special Rapporteur in 2014, Aguilar worked as a programme officer for strategic partnerships with the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund, she served an associate social affairs officer with the United Nations Secretariat unit responsible for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and also worked with the World Bank as a consultant for the disability and inclusive development team for Latin America and the Caribbean region. Catalina has extensive experience working with organizations of persons with disabilities at national, regional and international level.





Charlotte Biló

Charlotte Biló works as a researcher at the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth. Charlotte holds a Master's Degree in Poverty and Development from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Brighton, UK and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University College Maastricht, Netherlands. Before joining IPC-IG in September 2016, she worked as a Research Assistant for the Centre for Social Protection (CSP) at IDS as well as for the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) in Brazil and the Ministry for National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN) in Costa Rica. Charlotte's main research interest lies in the area of gender and social policies.



Christina Behrendt

@csbehrendt

Christina Behrendt is Head of the Social Policy Unit in the Social Protection Department in the Social Protection Department of the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva (Switzerland); her earlier work experience includes assignments as regional social security specialist at the ILO Regional Office for Arab States in Beirut (Lebanon), as consultant at the International Social Security Association (ISSA), and as lecturer and research fellow at the University of Konstanz. She has worked and published on various aspects of social security in both developed and developing country contexts. Having studied in Konstanz and Edinburgh, she earned her Master degree in Politics and Public Administration and her PhD in Social Policy from the University of Konstanz (Germany).



Christina Popivanova

@CPopivanova

Christina Popivanova is a public policy professional with nearly 20 years of experience with the UN in the field of social policy. Currently she heads the Social Policy team in UNICEF Thailand. Christina previously worked in Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and the USA. She holds Master's degrees in Economics and Public Policy from Europe and the USA.



Christopher Wimer

Christopher Wimer conducts research on the measurement of poverty and disadvantage in both local and national contexts, as well as historical trends in poverty and the impacts of social policies on the poverty rate. He is the Project Director on the Robin Hood Poverty Tracker, and also manages and participates in the research on many of the Center's poverty-related research projects. In addition to Wimer's research on measuring poverty and disadvantage, he also focuses on how families cope with poverty and economic insecurity, with a particular focus on how families manage food insecurity and other forms of material hardship. His work pays particular attention to the role of government policies and programs and their potential impacts on the wellbeing of low-income families and children.



David Piachaud

@DavidPiachaud

David Piachaud taught at the London School of Economics from 1970 to 2016 and was Professor of Social Policy 1988 to 2016. He is now Emeritus Professor of Social Policy and an Associate of the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion and of the Indian Observatory. He was Social Policy Advisor in the Prime Minister's Policy Unit (1974-79) and has been Consultant to the European Commission, the ILO, the OECD and the Chinese Government. He has lectured in 20 countries. He has written papers and books on children, poverty, social security, social exclusion and social policy.



David Chipanta

@ChipantaD

David Chipanta is Senior Advisor Social Protection with UNAIDS, based in Geneva, Switzerland. David provides leadership in UNAIDS to develop and implement innovative high profile strategies, tools for mobilization of HIV and Social Protection Stake-holders. He leads, co-ordinates and guides senior UNAIDS staff and others working on social protection for a coherent engagement in the AIDS response. He supports the co-programming of HIV in countries' social protection and Universal Health Access programmes, and leads the generation and utilization of evidence on HIV and social protection. David has served as UNAIDS Director for Liberia, AIDSRelief-Kenya Country Co-ordinator, Senior Advisor Health Systems with Abt Associates, President and co-ordinator of the Networks of African People Living with HIV (NAP+) and Network of Zambian People Living with HIV which he co-founded in 1994 and 1996. He has a Masters' Degree in Public Administration and International Development (MP/AID) from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, USA.



David Coady

David Coady is Division Chief of the Expenditure Policy Division at the Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) of the IMF. Prior to joining the IMF, he was Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute and held academic positions at the University of London. He earned his Ph.D. in economics from the London School of Economics in 1992. His research interests include development and public economics, and he has worked extensively on policy issues related to the efficiency and distributional implications of public policies including indirect taxes, public sector pricing, social spending, the evaluation of safety net programs, and age-related spending.



David B. Harris

David B. Harris is the President of Children's Research and Education Institute, a non-profit child advocacy organization that educates the public on the effect of politics and policies on children and families. He is a partner at Kids Project, an advocacy organization on child and family policy. He is also an external affiliate of the Columbia University Center on Poverty and Social Policy. Dr. Harris has appeared at conferences, on the network news, on the radio, and in major national papers. He has received the Public Advocacy Award from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, in recognition of "outstanding and fundamental contributions to the social understanding of trauma" and the "Fighting for Families Award," from the National Community Tax Coalition. Dr. Harris has been an early childhood educator, teaching in both public and independent schools in New York City.



David Stewart

 @dmistewart1

David began his career at the Global Human Development Report of UNDP where he spent 6 years working on the Human Development Reports and indices and researched, wrote and presented Human Development Reports on Human Rights, Democracy, the Millennium Development Goals, New Technologies, Cultural Freedom and Development Assistance. Between 2005 and 2010 he worked with UNICEF in New York working initially on State of the World's Children, and subsequently led the organisation's work on Policy Advocacy. David spent 4 years as Chief of Social Policy and Evaluation for UNICEF Uganda where he has worked on a range of social policy issues including child poverty, social protection, and public finance for children. He is currently the Chief of the Child Poverty and Social Protection Unit for UNICEF in New York, where he works on measurement, technical support to country and regional offices and global advocacy in the areas of social protection and child poverty. Recent work includes "A World Free from Child Poverty" a practitioner's guide to achieving the SDGs on child poverty, "Making Cash Transfers Work for Children and Families" and he is currently working on universal child grants and developing UNICEF's updated social protection framework. He chairs the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, and holds a degree in Economics from the University of Sussex and a Masters in Development Economics from the University of Oxford.



Dominic Richardson

Dominic Richardson is a Senior Education Specialist at UNICEF, Office of Research - Innocenti and guiding the Private Education in South Asia project. He is also leading research on issues of equity in education and the relationships between schooling, school outcomes and child well-being. Dominic previously worked with OECD Social Policy Division on child well-being, evaluating family policies, integrating human services, social impact investment, and studies of extreme poverty and vulnerability. Dominic has led or co-authored several reports on comparative child well-being and in 2014, he was the lead researcher on a joint EC OECD project evaluating the content and quality of international surveys of school children in high and middle- income countries. Dominic was awarded the 2018 Jan Trost Award for Outstanding Contributions in International Family Studies by the National Council for Family Relations: the oldest nonprofit, nonpartisan, multidisciplinary professional association focused solely on family research, practice, and education.



Elhabib Kinani

Ayant entamé sa carrière en tant qu'enseignant des sciences naturelles au niveau du cycle secondaire de 1984 à 1992, M. Kinani a suivi une formation de deux ans en planification de l'éducation, et exercé en tant que Conseiller en planification de l'Education au service central de la Carte scolaire du Ministère de l'Education Nationale (MEN) de 1994 à 1999. Ayant obtenu un diplôme d'études supérieur spécialisé en Urbanisme et aménagement du territoire en 2001, il a été affecté membre de l'Unité centrale de gestion du programme Méda 1 « soutien à l'éducation de base » de 2001 à 2006 avant d'être affecté comme chargé de mission auprès de Mme la Secrétaire Générale du MEN en 2006. Parallèlement, il a exercé comme enseignant formateur au Centre d'orientation et de planification de l'éducation à Rabat de 2003 à 2008 où il a formé les futurs conseillers et inspecteurs en planification en lien avec deux modules : les techniques de la planification de l'éducation et le Système d'information géographique « SIG ». M. Kinani a par la suite été nommé Chef de service des plans de l'éducation au MEN de 2007 à 2008 avant d'être affecté en tant que directeur du programme « Tayssir » des transferts monétaires conditionnels depuis son lancement en septembre 2008. Récemment, M. Kinani a été affecté en 2017 à la tête de la Direction de l'Appui social au MEN.



Eszter Timár

 @TimarEszter1

Eszter Timár is a researcher at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance in Maastricht, the Netherlands. She holds an MSc degree in Public Policy and Human Development (with a specialization in Social Protection Policy Financing and Evaluation) and an undergraduate degree in Social Work. Since joining the institute in 2016, Eszter has been involved in international research and consultancy projects on social protection commissioned by UNICEF offices around the world. Her expertise lies in the analysis of poverty and vulnerability and the design and evaluation of social cash transfer programs. Prior to joining Maastricht University, Eszter has worked for several years in NGOs, public social services and child protection in her hometown Budapest. This experience has guided her research interests towards child-sensitive social protection and the role of social work in social protection systems. She is currently involved in a consultancy project for UNICEF in the Kyrgyz Republic, which looks at the political, economic and technical feasibility of various options for targeting the country's Monthly Benefit for Poor Families with Children.



Fabio Bertranou

 @FabioBertranou

Fabio Bertranou fields of specialization are labour market, social protection, social security and pensions. He is Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Country Office for the South Cone of Latin America. Previously, he was Senior Labour Market Specialist at the ILO Office in Argentina and Senior Social Security Specialist at the ILO in Santiago, Chile, undertaking technical cooperation mostly in the southern cone of Latin America. In 2008 took a six month leave to work as Senior Economist for the World Bank at the Human Development Department. He contributed drafting the Report of the Advisory Group chaired by Michelle Bachelet "Social Protection Floor for a Fair and Inclusive Globalization" (ILO, 2011) and coordinated the Regional Report "Present and future of social protection in Latin America and the Caribbean" (ILO, 2018). Before joining the ILO in 2001, Mr Bertranou worked as consultant for UN-ECLAC and the World Bank, and had several positions at the Government and the academia in Argentina. Mr. Bertranou holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a Graduate Certificate in Latin American Public and Social Policy Studies from University of Pittsburgh.



Francesca Bastagli

 @FraBastagli

Francesca Bastagli is Head of the Social Protection and Social Policy Programme at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI). She specialises in research and advisory work on the design, monitoring and evaluation of social policies, with a focus on social protection policies and their poverty, inequality and employment outcomes. Her recent research examines social protection and gender inequalities in the world of work; fiscal policy and income and wealth inequality; social protection effectiveness in contexts of displacement and the alignment of social protection and humanitarian assistance systems. Francesca was team lead for the report Cash transfers: What does the evidence say? (ODI, 2016) and co-author of the book Wealth in the UK: Distribution, accumulation and policy (Oxford University Press, 2013). She is currently leading a study on Universal Child Grants. Prior to joining ODI, she was Research Fellow at the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the London School of Economics (LSE). She has also worked at Bocconi University and the World Bank. Francesca holds a PhD and MSc in Social Policy from the LSE and a Laurea in Economics from Bocconi University.



Frank Otchere

@fkotchere

Frank Otchere is a Researcher and Social Policy Specialist at the UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti in Florence, Italy. His current work involves research examining the impacts of social protection programmes on household and child well-being through a range of experimental and quasi-experimental designs. This work is part of the Transfer Project, an initiative which brings together UNICEF, FAO, and the University of North Carolina in a unique effort to help African governments create better policies and programs by undertaking long term, multi-country impact evaluation research on social cash transfers. His area of focus household income allocation, spill-over effects and income mobility. Frank holds Masters degrees in Statistics and Demography, and is completing a Ph.D in Public Policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He previously worked at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), a leading Think Tank based at the University of Ghana, Legon.



Franziska Gassmann

@gassmann21

Franziska Gassmann (PhD in Economics) is Professor of Social Protection and Development at UNU-MERIT and its School of Governance (Maastricht University) where she leads the research theme on Social Protection, Inclusive Innovation and Development and teaches in the institute's graduate programmes (MSc, PhD) in the field of social protection and welfare state economics, poverty and public policy analysis. She also has an affiliation at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Science as Professor of Poverty and Social Protection and has extensive experience in the design and implementation of executive training programmes. Franziska Gassmann has more than 20 years of experience as consultant and adviser to governments and international organisations on poverty and social protection policies in Central and Eastern Europe, countries of former Yugoslavia, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Asia. She has headed or worked on projects for the European Commission, ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank, OECD, ADB and others in numerous countries in Europe, Asia and Africa. Her own research focuses on the analysis of social protection policies and the measurement of poverty and vulnerability. Her work has been widely published.



Gabriela Agosto

@agostogabriela

Ms. Gabriela Agosto currently occupies the position of Executive Secretary of the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies of the Argentine Presidency, a body entrusted with the coordination, articulation and monitoring of the intervention strategies of those agencies responsible for national social policy. This body is responsible for administering both the Information, Evaluation and Monitoring of Social Programmes System and the National Tax and Social Identification System, as well as the implementation and inter-institutional followup process of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

She was formerly the General Coordinator of the National Register of Beneficiaries of Social Plans Project at the National Social Security Administration, Chief of Staff at the Secretariat of Planning for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and Action against Drug Trafficking, a body administered by the Argentine Presidency, and National Coordinator of the Youth Development Programme at the Argentine Social Development Secretariat.

She also carried out consultancy, advice and coordination activities of programmes and projects on

issues of regional integration, public administration, and social and development policies in public and private bodies both nationally and internationally.

She is a member of the Argentine Association of Social Policies, a member of the UNESCO Chair entitled “Current Manifestations of Social Issues” and of the Argentine Association of Women Judges.

She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and Sociology, with a specialisation in Government and Public Administration, awarded by the Universidad Complutense de Madrid; a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the Instituto Universitario Ortega y Gasset; and Diplomas in Advanced Studies in Political Science and Administration, and in European Communities, both from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. She also holds a degree in Sociology from the Universidad de Buenos Aires.

She has worked as a researcher at the Gino Germani Institute of the Universidad de Buenos Aires, at the Ibero-America and Portugal Institute of the Universidad de Salamanca and at the Social Observatory Civil Association where occupied the post of Executive Director.

She is currently senior teaching fellow at the Universidad del Museo Social Argentino and has written and co-written numerous publications in books and academic journals on issues related to her work.

Helen Barrett

 @communiglobal



Helen is an independent disability and social inclusion advisor based in Kigali, Rwanda. Trained as Speech and Language Therapist with a specialism in children with complex needs, Helen’s work focuses on working with, and for, children with disabilities and their families in resource-limited contexts. Helen is passionate about participatory research and has been involved in studies that have explored the challenges, needs and wishes of families living with children with disabilities, to ensure programmes are responsive to their needs. Helen is currently working with Chance for Childhood, UNICEF Rwanda and the Rwanda National ECD Programme (NECDP) on a large inclusive ECD project, and with UNHCR Rwanda and Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) on a sexual and reproductive health education project for refugees with disabilities, including children and adolescents.

Helen is also a part-time PhD candidate at MMU, UK, researching access to inclusive early childhood development and education services for refugee-children with communication disability. Her professional and research interests focus on building knowledge, understanding and capacity on disability and inclusion in under-resourced settings, particularly around issues of access to services and protection, and the realisation of human rights.

Isabel Ortiz

 @IsabelOrtizUN



Isabel Ortiz is Director of Social Protection at the International Labour Organization (ILO). Earlier she was the Director of the Global Social Justice Program at Joseph Stiglitz’s Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University (2012-13), Associate Director of Policy and Practice at UNICEF (2009-12), and senior official at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA, 2005-09) and at the Asian Development Bank (1995-2003), among other positions. She has worked in more than 50 countries, providing advisory services to governments and development institutions. Isabel Ortiz has a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, and has written more than 60 publications translated in several languages. She is responsible for the ILO’s flagship publication World Social Protection Report and leads ILO’s country and policy work on social protection.



Jamele Rigolini

Jamele Rigolini is a Lead Economist and Program Leader in the World Bank's regional office for the Western Balkans, where he coordinates the Human Development activities. His areas of expertise include human development, poverty, social protection, jobs and skills. Prior to joining the World Bank, he was an Assistant Professor in Economics at the University of Warwick (UK), where he taught classes on development economics and economic growth. At the World Bank, he worked on issues related to labor markets, skills, poverty and social protection in East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa and now the Western Balkans. Jamele Rigolini holds a Diploma in Physics from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zürich, and a PhD in Economics from New York University. In addition to his policy work he remains active in research and has published in leading academic journals including the Journal of Public Economics, the Journal of Development Economics, Economics & Politics, Economic Letters and World Development.



Jayati Ghosh

 @Jayati1609

Jayati Ghosh is Professor of Economics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research interests include globalisation, international trade and finance, employment patterns, macroeconomic policy, gender issues, poverty and inequality. She has authored and/or edited a dozen books and more than 180 scholarly articles, most recently *Demonetisation Decoded: A critique of India's monetary experiment* (with CP Chandrasekhar and Prabhat Patnaik, Routledge 2017), the *Elgar Handbook of Alternative Theories of Economic Development* (co-edited with Erik Reinert and Rainer Kattel, Edward Elgar 2016) and *India and the International Economy*, (Oxford University Press 2015). Her research output has been recognised through several national and international prizes. She is the Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates, an international network of heterodox development economists. She has advised governments at different levels, including as Member of the National Knowledge Commission reporting to the Indian Prime Minister, and consulted for several international organisations and also writes regularly for popular media like newspapers, journals and blogs.



Joanne Bosworth

Joanne is UNICEF's Regional Advisor on Social Policy for Europe and Central Asia. She has over twenty years' experience working with UNICEF and previously DFID on policy, research, evaluation and programme management on poverty, economic and social rights and on public finance for children, and has provided advice and technical support to governments and partners on the design and implementation of social protection in countries in Europe and Central Asia and in East Africa. She has contributed to several publications on social protection and child poverty, including the *Social Monitor 2015: Social protection for Child Rights and Wellbeing in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia*, and *Child Poverty in Europe and Central Asia region*. Joanne holds a D.Phil from the University of Oxford.



Josh Martin

 @JoshBWorld or @sd268

Josh Martin is a Vice President at ideas42, responsible for overseeing behavioral innovation projects in international livelihoods and governance programs. Prior to joining ideas42, Josh was

a policy advisor in Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Planning and Development, having previously held posts at Cordoba Initiative and Princeton University's Empirical Studies of Conflict program and consulting roles at the World Bank, USAID, the National Democratic Institute, and others. His interests include social protection, bureaucratic behaviors, conflict dynamics, corruption, and political decision-making. Josh has a masters from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and speaks Arabic and French.



Juan Gonzalo Jaramillo Mejia

 @juangogogo

Juan Gonzalo Jaramillo Mejia is a development practitioner and interdisciplinary investigator currently based in Mexico as a Project Manager and Researcher on Inclusion, Innovation and Social Protection at the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Prior to this assignment, he worked for the ITC-ILO and FAO as a social protection and gender specialist focusing on poverty reduction, capacity building and agro-rural development strategies for improving food security and nutrition around the developing world. A national of Colombia, Juan Gonzalo holds a MSc. in Development Management from the London School of Economics and a dual BSc. (Hons) in International Relations and Political Science and Government from Universidad del Rosario. His current areas of interest and action revolve around the extension of social protection to the informal and rural sectors; the inclusion of men and masculinities in gender and development interventions; as well as the migration and intergenerational turnout phenomenon from agriculture by the youth, resulting in the loss of knowledge, genetic resources and livelihoods.



Jurgen De Wispelaere

Jurgen De Wispelaere is a Policy Fellow with the Institute for Policy Research (IPR), University of Bath and a Guest Professor at the University of Tampere. He has published widely on the political theory and political economy of basic income in leading journals and edited volumes. He is the co-author (with Evelyn Forget) of *Basic Income Experiments: Theory, Practice, and Politics* (Policy Press, forthcoming 2019) and co-editor of *Basic Income: An Anthology of Contemporary Research* (Wiley, 2013) and *The Ethics of Stakeholding* (Palgrave, 2003).



Juergen Hohmann

Juergen Hohmann is working as social protection expert in unit B3 (Migration, Employment) of DG DEVCO, where he supports the social protection portfolio of DEVCO in its entirety. As part of his assignment, he contributes to policy analysis and formulation, initiates and manages various actions, often across Commission services and in close collaboration with EU Member States and international organizations. In this regard, he has contributed to embed the EU strategic approaches on social protection from a more sectoral perspective into larger policy frameworks. At international level, he represents the European Commission in SPIAC-B, the global coordination mechanism on social protection.

Mr. Hohmann has a track-record in social protection and health systems development in the EU, Asia and Africa. Prior to his work for the Commission, he have been working for different bilateral development agencies performed many advisory missions on macroeconomics, system design and financing and on the curricula development of short and long-term academic trainings in social protection, including social assistance, health, pension and long-term care.



Keetie Roelen

@KeetieRoelen

Dr. Keetie Roelen is a Research Fellow and Co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection at the Institute of Development Studies in the UK. Keetie's current research focuses on linkages between social protection, economic strengthening and child poverty, and on psychosocial aspects of poverty in low and middle-income countries. Keetie has worked with many international organisations such as UNICEF, Save the Children and Concern Worldwide on issues related to child poverty, poverty dynamics and social policies aiming to reduce poverty.



Karen Hall

@K_A_Hall



Karen Hall is currently Director General of the Social Policy Directorate in the Strategic and Social Policy Branch at Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). Prior to joining ESDC, Karen held the position of Director General, Benefit Programs Directorate at the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). Previously, Karen was the founding Director of the CRA's Innovation Lab and held a range of positions in the Tax Policy Branch at the Department of Finance, including Senior Chief, Social Tax Policy. Karen holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Calgary and a B.A.(Hons) in Political Studies from Queen's University, as well as a Certificate in Regulatory Leadership from the University of Ottawa and Carleton University.



Karishma Huda

Karishma Huda works as a Social Protection and Labor Markets Specialist with MAHKOTA, an Australian Government-funded program supporting the Government of Indonesia to improve its social protection system. Karishma led the design of BANGGA Papua, the Papua Province's inclusive child grant, and continues to be a technical advisor to the program.

Karishma started her development career with BRAC in Bangladesh and has over 15 years' experience as a social policy specialist. Prior to joining MAHKOTA, Karishma was the Social Protection Specialist to an Australian Government-funded program in Lao PDR, where she designed and managed a highly successful cash and asset transfer program. Prior to that, Karishma was a managing partner and Social Policy Specialist with Development Pathways.

Karishma has worked on social protection policies and programs in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Lao PDR, Haiti, South Sudan, Uganda, and Fiji. Her areas of focus include research and evaluation, program design, policy analysis and policy development. What excites her is helping governments implement inclusive, innovative social protection schemes that reach the most vulnerable.

Karishma received her B.A. in Economics from University of California, Berkeley, and her MPhil in Development Studies from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex.



Krzysztof Hagemeyer

@hagemeyer

Dr. Krzysztof Hagemeyer, professor at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, Germany (Department of Social Policy and Social Security). Senior researcher at International Centre for Research and Analysis ICRA. Lecturer at Collegium Civitas, Warsaw.

Economist, specializing in economics and financing of social policies. Between 1993 and 2014 at Social Protection Department of the International Labour Organisation in Geneva, 2013-2014 Chief of Social Protection Policy, Standards and Governance Branch. Key member of the team working on new international labour standard, Recommendation no 202 concerning National Floors of Social Protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference in 2012. Before joining the ILO, assistant professor at the Department of Economics of Warsaw University and adviser to the Polish Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and Independent Trade Union "Solidarno".



Larysa Vitaliivna Popova

Larysa Popova is holding the position of the Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine starting from 2018. Before joining the Ministry Ms. Popova was working in the Vinnytsia City Council as Director of the Department of Social Policy from 2013 and as Director of the Department of Labour and Social Protection from 2011. Since 2006 Ms. Popova was occupying the position of the Chief of the Department of Labor and Social Protection of the Population in Vinnytsia district. In 2001 started the career in the area of social protection in the district Department of Social Protection of the Population of Vinnytsia. Ms. Popova obtained Master's Degree in Public Administration from Odesa Regional Institute of Public Administration. Prior to that Ms. Popova graduated from Vinnytsia State Pedagogical Institute. Since 1988 Ms. Popova occupied posts of a preschool tutor, teacher of Russian and Ukrainian language and literature and teacher of elementary school. Larysa Popova is an honoured worker of the social sphere of Ukraine.



Luca Pellerano

@luca_pellerano

Dr. Pellerano is a development economist with comprehensive experience in social protection systems reform. He is currently a senior social protection specialist for the International Labour Organization (ILO) in the Arab States region. Until recently Luca has worked as advisor on social security for ILO in Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique. He has provided technical assistance on the design, implementation and evaluation of contributory and non-contributory social protection systems and programmes in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, including on issues of institutional coordination, social protection financing, social health protection, pension reform and the extension of social security to the informal economy. He has been coordinating the TRANSFORM Capacity Development initiative in Africa and has made a number of academic contributions in the sector. Prior to joining the ILO Luca was leading the Poverty and Social Protection team at Oxford Policy Management (OPM) and a Research Economist at the Centre for Evaluation of Development Policies (EDePo) at the Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) in London. Luca holds a Ph.D. in Economics and Applied Quantitative Methods from the University of Genoa and a MSc in Economics from the University College London.





Luke Harman

 @LHarman_UK @mathew_task

Luke Harman is Senior Social Protection Advisor at Save the Children UK and co-leads Save the Children's Global Child-Sensitive Social Protection Working Group. In his role he provides technical support to a number of social protection programmes and initiatives and develops staff training on social protection, including maternal and child grant programmes, among other responsibilities.

Prior to working at Save the Children Luke worked as a researcher in ODI's Social Protection Team, carrying out a range of policy and advisory work for international organisations, including UNICEF, FAO, DFID and the European Commission.

Luke holds a PhD and MSc in Development Economics and an MA in International Relations.



Luis Frota

Luis Frota is Social protection specialist for Southern and Eastern Africa at the International Labour Office, based in Pretoria, South Africa. Previously to that he worked in UNICEF office in Angola and at the ILO office in Dakar. He holds a MPA on Public administration and management (University of York) and a MSc on Social policy and administration (London School of Economics). He is a regular collaborator as lecturer and external examiner at Wits University in Johannesburg (South Africa) and is doing a PhD thesis on Governance of social protection at the School of Governance and Administration at the University of Pretoria (South Africa).



Magdalena Sepúlveda

 @Magda_Sepul

Magdalena Sepúlveda is Senior Research Associate at the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). She is also a member of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation (ICRICT). From 2008 to 2014 she was the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights. From 2013 to 2017 she was on the High-Level Panel of Expert on Food Security and Nutrition of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

Ms. Sepúlveda's 20-year career has focused on the intersection of poverty, development and human rights and has bridged research and activism. She has worked as a researcher at the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, as a staff attorney at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, as the Co-Director of the Department of International Law and Human Rights of the United Nations-mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and as a Research Director at the International Council on Human Rights Policy, in Geneva. She has also served as a consultant to several international organizations including UNWOMEN, the World Bank Group, UNHCR, ILO and OHCHR and has worked with a range of NGOs in formal and informal capacities. She has published widely on human rights, poverty, social protection and gender.

Ms. Sepúlveda holds a Ph.D. in International Law from Utrecht University and an LL.M in human rights law from the University of Essex.



Mario Gyori

Mario Gyori is a PhD candidate at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and has previously worked as a Research Associate at the UNDP's International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) in Brasilia, Brazil. He is mainly conducting empirical research on the impacts of innovative development initiatives in the field of social protection, food security, nutrition and health.

Mario grew up in Germany and holds a BSc in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from the University of Bolzano in Italy and an MSc in Development Economics from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid in Spain and Lund University in Sweden. During his time at the IPC-IG between 2014 and 2018, Mario supported a joint project with UNICEF to strengthen child-sensitive social protection in the MENA region, conducted research on coordination mechanisms between social protection and agriculture, and led an impact evaluation of a WFP-led Social and Behaviour Change Communication campaign in Mozambique. Alongside his PhD at LSE, Mario has been working as class teacher for courses in Econometrics and Social Economics at LSE, as a research assistant for the LSE's Middle East Centre, and as an independent consultant for clients like GIZ, UNDP and the ILO.



Maja Gavrilovic

Maja Gavrilovic is a qualitative researcher in the UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti. Maja joined Innocenti in August 2018 from FAO, where she has led the analytical and policy-related work on gender-sensitive social protection, and 'cash plus' programming in rural development contexts. Prior to FAO, she has carried out qualitative research consultancies for UNICEF, DFID, Save the Children, and UN Women on poverty and vulnerability assessments, maternal and child health, and child-sensitive social protection in various countries across Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. From 2013-14, she supported the Government of The Gambia to develop its first National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025. Currently, Maja leads the qualitative components of impact evaluations of cash plus programmes in Ethiopia and Mozambique.



Margaret Grosh

Margaret Grosh is the Senior Advisor of Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice. She has written, lectured and advised extensively on social assistance programs, especially on targeting and cash transfer programs, globally and for Latin America. She has extensive experience with social protection both for crisis response and for improving equality of opportunity. Earlier, she led the team for Social Assistance in the World Bank's global Social Protection Department and before that, the Living Standard Measurement Study in the Research Department. She holds a PhD in Economics from Cornell University, USA.



Martin Evans

Martin is a Senior Research Fellow in the Social Protection and Social Policy Programme. With over twenty five years of experience, Martin has been commissioned to research, review and advise on a wide range of social policy for Governments (both at home and abroad) and by academic and foundation donors. He has a wealth of knowledge on issues such as social exclusion, child poverty, neighbourhood deprivation, social protection systems in industrialised and developing economies; and technical experience in simulation and modelling. For example, Martin is currently working the Help Age funded end-line assessment of a cash transfer programme in Myanmar. He also led two social protection sector reviews that analysed and profiled social protection coverage and progressivity in Central and Eastern Europe, the mapping of the social assistance system in Vietnam; and worked with the World Bank on pension provision to the elderly in Malaysia.

Martin has long-term and in-depth experience of working on social assistance means-testing and ‘take-up’ issues that result in exclusion error. He has built micro-simulation models for social assistance and universal transfers in the UK, across 14 middle income countries and is currently working on micro-simulation work on Ghanaian social protection. Martin has hands-on experience of working on revising Proxy Means Testing models – in Georgia in 2013. Martin has also designed and produced longitudinal lifetime simulations of contributory benefits and social assistance and taxation. His long-term experience in applied social research on poverty and social protection was based in the Universities of Oxford and Bath, and at the London School of Economics, from where he obtained his MSc and PhD.



Mayke Huijbregts

@UNICEFMOZPROT

Mayke Huijbregts is currently the Chief of Social Policy and of Child Protection at UNICEF in South Africa. She is passionate about working with partners to reduce poverty, inequalities, violence against children and accelerate investments in child care. She has worked with UNICEF for over 18 years in Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Mayke started her career with the European Commission in Brussels, and then worked for the Human Rights Watch and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. A Dutch citizen, she holds a LLM in Law from Amsterdam University with a specialization in international law, human rights, leadership, social protection and child protection. She is a mother of a precious girl.



Meltem Aran

@Dev_Analytics

Dr. Meltem Aran is a human development economist with research focusing on poverty, inequality and the distributional impact of social policies on households and on children in low opportunity settings. She has spent the last 16 years working on poverty measurement, access to services and analysis of inequality of opportunities in several other countries including Turkey, Indonesia, South Africa, Madagascar, Egypt, Albania, Azerbaijan and Moldova. She is co-author of the book entitled “Life Chances in Turkey: Expanding Opportunities for the Next Generation” published by the World Bank and holds several peer reviewed publications related to children’s early outcomes and opportunities. She is currently the Executive Director of Development Analytics and in this capacity, she has led research projects and evaluations for the World Bank, International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF, UNWOMEN and French Development Agency (Afd). She holds a dual BA degree from Brown University in economics and international relations, a master’s degree in international development (MPAID) from Harvard University and a doctoral degree in economics from the University of Oxford.



Michael Samson

Dr. Michael Samson, Research Director of the Economic Policy Research Institute (global research institute in Cape Town) has 33 years’ experience working in social protection. His work in 41 countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia focuses on how comprehensive social protection strengthens cross-sectoral public investments in “cognitive capital” and enables governments to tackle complex challenges and deliver comprehensive outcomes. Michael, on the Economics faculty at the Williams College Center for Development Economics (USA), lectures at conferences and courses around the world and holds an Economics Ph.D. from Stanford University.





Michal Rutkowski

 @mich_rutk

Mr. Michal Rutkowski is the Senior Director for Social Protection and Jobs – overseeing the World Bank Global Practice responsible for protecting poor and vulnerable from shocks through improving their job opportunities, earning capacity, and social insurance and social assistance (safety net) coverage. Until July 2016, he was the Director for Multilateral Organizations, and prior to that the Country Director for the Russian Federation and the Resident Representative in Moscow for three years. In the period 2004-12, he was Sector Director for Human Development in the Middle East and North Africa and then South Asia regions of the World Bank.

Before 1996, after a brief period of work on Africa and China, Mr. Rutkowski worked extensively on social insurance and labor market issues in transition economies and as a country economist for Russia and after taking a leave from the Bank, returned as Sector Manager for social protection between 1998-2004, where he led a team of professionals working on pensions, labor market and social assistance reforms in 28 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union, as well as in Turkey. During his leave from the World Bank in the period 1996-98 he helped design and implement the new Polish pension system while serving as the Director of the Office for Social Security Reform. He also taught at the Institute of Economic Policy at the Warsaw School of Economics.

Mr. Rutkowski's published work covers among others, issues on labor markets and social security. He was a core team member of the 2015 World Development Report "Workers in an Integrated World" - the World Bank's annual flagship research publication.

Mr. Rutkowski holds an M.Sc. and Ph.D from Warsaw School of Economics and finished his post-graduate studies at the London School of Economics. He also graduated from the Executive Development program at the Harvard Business School in 1999, and from the Leadership for Collective Intelligence program run by Dialogos in 2010.



Moussa Oumarou

Mr. Moussa Oumarou completed his secondary studies in his home country, Niger, and advanced studies in France where, among others, he graduated as Inspector of Technical Studies and Vocational Training at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan.

Mr. Oumarou occupied many positions in teaching and public administration which led him to occupy several positions of responsibility such as that of Inspector of Technical Studies and Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Education. He was appointed Minister of Public Services, Labour, Employment and Social Security from 1997 to 1999. During this period, he was a member of the Inter-Ministerial Committee responsible for economic and social reforms, and President of several committees instructed to negotiate for the Government with the social partners

Mr. Oumarou started working for the ILO in 2001, as a consultant for social dialogue and coordinator of a regional project for the promotion of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. He then became Chief Technical Advisor of the Regional Programme for the Promotion of Social Dialogue in French-speaking Africa. In 2006, he joined the ILO headquarters where he served as Senior Labour Administration and Labour Inspection Specialist.

In 2011 he was appointed Director of the Industrial and Employment Relations Department. He became Director of the Governance and Tripartism Department in 2013 and subsequently Deputy Director-General for Field Operations and Partnerships on 1 January 2018.

His career earned him the decoration of Chevalier des Palmes Académiques and Chevalier de L'Ordre National de Niger.



Mukunda Prasad Paudyal

Education and Qualifications:

- Doctorate in Economics; Master of Philosophy in Economics; Master of Arts in Economics (TU)
- Post Graduate Diploma in Economic Modelling (ISS, The Netherlands)

Career Progression:

Joint Secretary-Ministry of Finance, earlier Joint Sec with Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction/Nepal Peace Trust Fund, Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers (OPMCM), Investment Board Nepal (IBN)' Under Secretary, Ministry of Finance (2059-2067)

Other Professional Involvements:

Part time Lecturer on Economics, Quantitative Techniques, Econometrics and Development Economics at various colleges and institutions

Books:

- Co-author, An Introduction to Anti-Money Laundering in Nepal (with Prof. M.K. Shrestha and et al.,)
- Co-author, Contemporary Development Issues in Nepal (with S.P. Mainali)

Memberships:

- Life-Member, Nepal Economic Association (NEA)
- Life-Member, Association of Nepalese Alumni from Australia (ANAA)

Awards and Special Interests:

- Awards and Fellowships: Outstanding Student Fellowships (from Certificate level to Master Levels, TU); AusAid Fellowship; The Netherlands Fellowship (NEP)

Special Assignment:

Member-Secretary, Public Expenditure Review Commission, 2075; Government of Nepal (www.perc.gov.np)



Nabila Idris

@Nabilaldris

Nabila Idris is a doctoral candidate at the University of Cambridge's Centre of Development Studies, where she researches the politics of social protection policymaking. A Khazanah scholar at Cambridge, she has previously worked in the UK, China, Thailand and Bangladesh. She served as the founding President of CommunityAction, a youth-led civil society organisation in Bangladesh – under her leadership, the organisation won several international awards. She is an alumnus of the US State Department's International Visitors Leadership Program as well as the Swedish Institute's Young Connectors of the Future program.



N. Vijaya Lakshmi

Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi is a senior civil servant of the Indian government having 24 years of experience in the Indian Administrative service and has worked extensively for women's empowerment and gender equality. She has been a pioneer in initiating several programmes for children as well. One of them was making Hisua block of Nawada district as the first child labour free block of the country way back in 2002. She worked in several departments and has been instrumental in implementing various development programmes for women, children and marginalized communities. She got several awards for her work which vary from agriculture to animal husbandry to cooperatives to gender equality to

using energy efficient technologies etc. Under her able leadership the Agriculture Department won two successive krishi karman awards for highest ever productivity in rice and wheat in Bihar State. She was awarded Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award by Rotary International for the Year 2002-03. She was felicitated by the Hon'ble president of India as one of the 100 women achievers in 2016. She was also awarded the climate change leadership award for introducing energy efficient technologies in steel rerolling mills in 2013. She was also recognized for her efforts for initiating and implementing a community based behavior change modification on health, nutrition, sanitation through self help groups known as "Gramvarta", by the commonwealth Innovation awards in 2016. In 2018 the Cooperative milk federation of Bihar, under her chairmanship, had received the best cooperative award and she was able to turn around the Animal and Fisheries resources department, which won the global agriculture leadership award in 2018, which she currently heads as its Secretary. As Managing Director of Women Development corporation she is running a comprehensive universal child grants programme known as Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana under which each girl child born in Bihar is eligible to get Rs 54,150 from birth till graduation which is a conditional cash transfer programme.



Nazgul Tashpaeva

In 1996 she graduated from the Kyrgyz National Medical University. Later she furthered her academic studies at the National Judicial Academy of Kyrgyzstan where she majored in Law.

Since 2003 she worked as an expert in the President Administration, head of social development department in Prime Minister Office, then as Minister of Labour and Social Protection. Major progressive reforms in social protection took place during her leadership. Since 2010, Nazgul worked as an expert on social policy, social and child protection, strategic planning, policy analysis, national development and related areas with EU and the UN in the Kyrgyz Republic. In December 2018 by the President Decree Ms. Tashpaeva was appointed as Head of Department on Civic Development, Religious and Ethnic Policy, and in charge of social issues in the Office of the President.

Nazgul is married and has one daughter. She plays volley ball and is a professional swimmer.



Olli Kangas

 @ollikan

Olli Kangas Professor of Practice at the University of Turku and the Director of Equals Society research programme at the Academy of Finland. Previously he has been the Director of Governmental Relations at the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela, 2015-2018) and Research Director (2007-2014). He has worked as Olof Palme visiting Professor at the Uppsala University; H.C. Andersen Professor at the University of Southern Denmark, Professor at the Danish National Institute for Social Research (2004-2007), Professor in Social Policy, University of Turku (1994-2003) and research fellow at the Academy of Finland 1987-1993. His research interests revolve around comparative analysis of social policy systems, their causes and consequences in terms of macro-economy, income distribution and legitimacy of social institutions. He was the leader of the research group planning the Finnish experiment with basic income.



Olivier Thevenon

@othevenon

Olivier Thevenon is an Economist at Social Policy Division at OECD, and Coordinator of the organization's work on Child Well-Being.

Olivier is currently coordinating OECD work on child well-being and child poverty, and is responsible for the OECD Child-Well-Being Data Portal. He is also a member of the French Haut Conseil de la Famille, which advises the government on reforms to be undertaken in the area of family and child policies. He conducts research on child and family policies and its impact on child, fertility, and labour market outcomes.

He has contributed to the development of the OECD family Database, and to Babies and Bosses, Doing Better for Families, Closing the Gender Gap, Dare to Share, Preventing Ageing Unequally.



Palash Ranjan Sanyal

@prsanyal

Palash Ranjan Sanyal is a development practitioner currently responsible for partner relation and networking at the School of Environment and Sustainability, University of Saskatchewan. The research work of Palash focuses on multidisciplinary issues like child health and water-food-energy nexus, conflict and food security, the impact of climate change on river species. Palash holds multiple masters degrees in Development Studies, Environmental Engineering and Water Security from USA and Canada. His current work focuses on the question, "Which communities will be the most difficult to bring under Sustainable Development Goals and why?"

Palash has previously worked with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNESCO, WaterAid, TEDTalk, Global Voices, Soliya and many other international organizations. An expert in facilitation and communication, Palash He has extensive experience in the WASH sector with new technology design and development, implementation and sensitization. Remote and vulnerable communities like urban pro-poor in Bangladesh and indigenous population in Canada are some of the groups he has served. Palash was named 30 under 30 leader in Sustainability in Canada for his work in 2018.



Pau Mari-Klose.

Born in Ibiza in 1972, Pau Mari-Klose is professor of Sociology in the University of Zaragoza (on leave of absence). He holds a PhD in Sociology from the Universidad Autónoma of Madrid, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago, and a Master in Social Sciences from the Centre for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (Juan March Institute). Before joining the University of Zaragoza, he was postdoctoral research fellow at the Institute of Public Goods and Policies of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and had been researcher at the Institute of Childhood and the Urban World in Barcelona. His research interests lie in areas of childhood poverty, education, transitions to adulthood, sociology of family, and social policies, on which he has published extensively in scholarly books and journals. He has provided external advice to many NGOs working on poverty and social exclusion (Oxfam, Save the Children, UNICEF, FEDAIA) and has written regularly in different media outlets, such as eldiario.es, El País or El Heraldo de Aragón and occasionally in many others. He has served as editor of the blog of sociology and policy analysis Agenda Pública.



Ram Kumar Phuyal

Ram Kumar Phuyal is a member of the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal (GON) since 26th April 2018. He is an accomplished economist with over 17 years of solid experience in teaching Economics to Graduate students and conducting evidence-based policy research in Nepal and abroad. His expertise lies on: Development Economics, Industrial Organization, Regulatory Economics, International Trade, Development Planning, Public Policy Analysis, and Applied Policy Research. Before the assignment in NPC, he was a faculty member of Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Tribhuvan University (TU), Kirtipur. Besides, he has also served as an adjunct faculty member in Kathmandu University, Pokhara University, HELP University, and Mid-Western University affiliated top colleges. Basically, he has taught in quantitative economics, microeconomics, international economics, managerial economics, and research methodology and he has supervised dissertation research of over 200 graduate students in these universities, and published more than two dozens of research papers in the peer-reviewed indexed journals. During his work at CEDA, he took leadership on several applied policy research projects, and provided evidence-based policies and recommendations to the policy makers and government officials with informed development policies, plans, and programs. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Chonnam National University (CNU), South Korea.



Richard Jolly

Sir Richard Jolly is Honorary Professor and Research Associate of the IDS (Institute of Development Studies) at the University of Sussex. Richard Jolly was Deputy Executive Director (Programmes) in UNICEF 1982-95 and co-author of the widely-acclaimed Human Development Report from 1996-2000. In 2001, he was knighted by the Queen for services to the UN and International Development.

He co-directed the UN Intellectual History Project with Louis Emmerij and Tom Weiss, the summary volume of which is UN Ideas That Changed The World (details on www.unhistory.org). He has written or co-written many articles and books on development, the latest of which is UNICEF: Global Governance That Works, to be published by Routledge in May 2014.



Robert Walker

Robert Walker grew up to be Professor in the School of Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University under China's 'High Level Foreign Talents' programme. He is Professor Emeritus at the University of Oxford where he is also Emeritus Fellow of Green Templeton College. He was formerly Professor of Social Policy at the University Nottingham and before that Professor of Social Policy Research, Loughborough University where he was Director of the Centre for Research in Social Policy. His recent research includes two major international studies. The first study, undertaken in China, India and Uganda sought to establish whether 'shame-proofing' anti-poverty programmes, remodelling them to promote human dignity and to reduce stigma, improves their overall effectiveness. The second study, being undertaken with ATD Fourth World, was a deeply participative study working with people experiencing poverty in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Tanzania, Britain, France and the USA to define the dimensions of poverty that should be considered within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, he is undertaking research exploring the representation of poverty in China through the medium of film.



Sebastian Waisgrais

 @sebawaisgrais

Sebastian Waisgrais is an Economist from the University of Buenos Aires with a specialization in Development and holds a PhD and a Master Degree in Economics from the Public University of Navarra. He obtained the World Bank Joint Japan Graduate Scholarship Program and the Phelan Fellowship Program from ILO Geneva. Since 2008 he has been the Social Inclusion and Monitoring Specialist at UNICEF Argentina. Sebastian has worked as a professor and researcher at several national and international universities and published numerous papers in specialized journals.



Shea McClanahan

Shea McClanahan has been actively engaged in key global social policy and social protection research and processes over the last 15 years, including: global research on financing social policy; UN-wide social protection inter-agency data collaboration initiatives; promoting improved data collaboration between key institutions charged with collecting and monitoring global social security data; and global flagship reports on social policy/protection for UNRISD, the ISSA and the ILO. She also jointly led research and production of Social Security Programs Throughout the World for a number of years while at ISSA, where she engaged with national social security agencies on challenges related to the extension of coverage, administration and implementation. Shea has worked on a wide range of issues surrounding social policy and social protection, including financing and design, political economy, gender and family policies, extension of social protection to workers in the informal economy, and governance. Since joining Development Pathways last year, Shea has led projects on social protection in Vietnam and Uganda and contributes to numerous projects, articles and reports on social protection around the world.



Simone Cecchini

Simone Cecchini is Senior Social Affairs Officer with the Social Development Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), based in Santiago, Chile. At ECLAC he leads research and advises governments on the design and implementation of social protection policies and programmes and the assessment of cash transfer and labour and inclusion programmes that aim to reduce poverty. His research is characterized by a multi-disciplinary approach and a focus on equity and human rights.

Between 1998 and 2002, Mr. Cecchini worked at the World Bank's Poverty Group, where he combined quantitative and qualitative data to analyze the socio-economic performance of developing countries and performed evaluation and research fieldwork on uses of information and communications technologies for poverty reduction.

Mr. Cecchini holds a Degree in Political Science from the University of Florence, Italy, a Master's in International Trade and Investment Policy from the Elliott School of International Affairs, Washington D.C., and an MBA from the Universidad Catolica of Chile.





Somchai Jitsuchon

Dr. Somchai Jitsuchon is currently a research director of inclusive development at the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), Thailand. He specializes in macroeconomic policies, macroeconomic modeling (computable general equilibrium models and econometric models), theories and empirical applications on poverty and income distribution, inclusive growth, social protection and welfare system. His past experiences include being a visiting researcher at the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), Tokyo, Japan; a special lecturer at various leading universities and public agencies in Thailand. He has served in many government and private committees and director boards, including the current member of the Monetary Policy Committee and the National Reform Committee on Health. Dr. Somchai received his doctorate degree in Economics from the University of British Columbia, Canada. His contact info is tel (662)718-5460 ext. 308 and email sj.tdri@gmail.com.



Sophie Collyer

Sophie Collyer is a Research Analyst at the Center on Poverty and Social Policy (CPSP) at Columbia University where she evaluates the impacts of anti-poverty policies at the national and local level. Sophie's current research focuses on the poverty impacts of the federal minimum wage, the earned income tax credit, and the child tax credit. Before coming to the CPSP, Sophie worked on projects evaluating asset-based welfare initiatives and consumer financial protections. Sophie began working with the CPSP as a graduate student at Columbia where she completed a dual-degree (MPA/MSW) at the School of International and Public Affairs and the School of Social Work. As a graduate student, her concentrations were Social Policy and Management and her specialization was Advanced Policy and Economic Analysis.



Stephen Kidd

 @JustKIDDing_DP

Dr. Stephen Kidd is a Senior Social Protection Specialist at Development Pathways. He has engaged on social protection in over 30 countries across Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. His experience ranges from advisory support to national governments – including on policy development – designing social protection programmes, research on a wide range of topics, and training. He has spent much of his career promoting universal social protection schemes from an evidence-based perspective, including child benefits. He previously worked for DFID, including leading its Social Protection and Equity and Rights policy teams, was Director of Policy and Communications at HelpAge International and a lecturer in social anthropology at the University of Edinburgh.



Tara Patricia Cookson

 @tpcookson

Dr. Tara Patricia Cookson is Co-Founder and Director of Ladysmith, a feminist research consultancy that helps international development organizations collect, analyze, and take action on gender data. She is author of *Unjust Conditions: Women's Work and the Hidden Cost of Cash Transfer Programs*, an ethnographic account of women's experiences of participating in the world's most widely implemented anti-poverty programs, available Open Access at the University of California Press. Tara earned her PhD from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Gates Cambridge Scholar. There, she founded a program called Learning for Purpose that equips early career researchers with leadership and communication skills. She is a SSHRC Research Fellow at the University of British Columbia, and publishes widely on gender equality, social protection, and the care economy, including in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, the *Huffington Post*, and *Devex*.



Ugo Gentilini

 @Ugentilini

Ugo Gentilini is a Senior Economist with the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice at the World Bank Group. His work encompasses the analytics and practice of social protection, including with an emphasis on social assistance and its intersection with themes like jobs and labor markets; fragility, resilience, and humanitarian assistance; food security and nutrition; and urbanization. He authored dozens of publications, including flagship reports, peer-reviewed articles, and operational guidelines. His latest co-edited book, coming out in early 2019, focuses on universal basic income. With a PhD in development economics, his two decades of professional experience were split between the WBG and UN system. His newsletter on social protection reaches several thousands of practitioners on a weekly basis.



Usha Mishra Hayes

18 years of experience in international development in senior management, policy analysis, research and advocacy gained with the UN, DFID, Oxfam GB and the Government of India. Worked as Chief of Social Policy with UNICEF (Cambodia, Tanzania, Afghanistan and Nepal), supporting ministers and top civil servants in reforming and strengthening national delivery systems in Asia and Africa. Awarded by the government of Cambodia for her work on social protection in ASEAN.

Key publication: Chapters in ‘From Safety Net to Safety Ladder’, edited by David Hulme and Hossain Zillur Rehaman, Universal Press, 2014 and ‘What works for the Poorest in Africa’, Edited by David Hulme and David Lawson; Practical Publishing, 2017.

Upcoming book ‘Policy Corridors- An Insider’s View of Making of Social Protection Programmes and Policies’, Palmipsest Publishing, New Delhi, India.



Unurbayar Gombosuren

 @UnurbayarG

Mr. Unurbayar Gombosuren works as the State Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Mongolia since 2016. His responsibilities include assisting the Minister of Labour and Social Protection in political steering and planning, drafting of policy outlines, conducting inter-ministerial coordination, harmonising of policy positions, implementation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection plans and programmes under the guidance of the Minister. He also oversees implementation and monitoring of the Government Plan of Action for 2016-2020, provides guidance and quality assurances of the issues to be discussed at the Cabinet and Parliament.

Prior to this position, Mr. Unurbayar occupied different government and political positions including specialist in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Mongolia, Head of Division at the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development of Mongolia, Professor of Social Science at the National University of Mongolia, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Mongolia and Head of Office of the Parliamentary People’s Party Caucus.

He graduated from National University of Mongolia and Kyushu University of Japan majoring in Social Sciences.



Valerija Korošec

 @ValerijaSlo

Valerija Korošec, Ph.D., is employed as an undersecretary at the Institute of Macroeconomic Analyses and Development at the Slovenian Government. She started there as the co-editor of Human Development Report for Slovenia 2002-2003. Prior to that she completed an MSc in European Social policy Analysis (MESPA) and worked as a research assistant at the University of Maribor where she wrote a Doctoral thesis on Post-modern sociological theory.

For almost twenty years she has conducted analyses on Human Development (in Slovenia) and other 'beyond GDP' indexes. Her fields of expertise are social policy, data analyses on education, health, migration, poverty, social exclusion, material deprivation, income and gender inequality data and satisfaction with life.

In 2010 she wrote the Universal Basic Income Proposal for Slovenia with the "model for cost estimation". Since then she has also been active as an independent researcher on conditions and possibilities of Universal Basic Income introduction. She was the co-editor of a collective book on Universal Basic Income in Slovenia (2011). She's also a Slovenian member of the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) since 2012, and Unconditional Basic Income Europe (UBIE) from 2014. In 2018 she also became a coordinator of Slovenian Universal Basic Income Network.



Valery Kavalkou

Valery Kavalkou has been working in the social protection system of Belarus since 1987 holding the position of the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus from 2012. In the Ministry he supervises the development and implementation of gender, demographic and family policies in Belarus.

Currently Mr Kavalkou is a member of the Council on Sustainable Development (advisory body on the implementation and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals in Belarus) heading there a sectoral working group on social issues. Majoring in jurisprudence, Valery Kavalkou graduated from the Belarusian Institute of Jurisprudence as a lawyer; in 2007 he completed studies in the Academy of Management under the President of the Republic of Belarus, specializing in governance of social issues.



Veronika Wodsak

Ms. Wodsak works for the ILO Social Protection Department since 2007 in various functions, currently as Social Protection Policy Specialist. Amongst other responsibilities, she was part of the team that supported the development and follow-up of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation (R.202).

Before joining the ILO, Ms. Wodsak worked as researcher on Global Social Policy at Bielefeld University and at the World Bank Social Development.

Ms Wodsak holds a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Kent at Canterbury and an M.A. in International Relations from Queen's University (Ontario).



SPEAKERS



Wanga Zembe-Mkabile

Wanga Zembe-Mkabile is a Specialist Scientist at the South African Medical Research Council. She is also a Director at the Southern African Social Policy Research Institute. She holds a MSc in Social Policy and DPhil in Social Policy, both from the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford, UK. She has more than 10 years research experience in social protection, child poverty and multiple deprivation, and maternal and child health. Her main interests are research and teaching in Social Policy, specifically as this relates to social protection, child poverty, health, and inequality.



Yi Wang

Yi Wang is a doctoral candidate concentrating in Social Policy Analysis at the Columbia University School of Social Work. Her research interests center on inequality in child development and child poverty, with cross-nation comparative perspective. She is currently conducting research with Dr. Jane Waldfogel studying effects of instructional policies in the kindergarten year on reducing socioeconomic status related gaps in cognitive skills. Using an international comparative perspective to study this research domain, she collaborates with German scholars to examine inequality in child cognitive skills associated with socioeconomic status in the United States and Germany, and explores factors that explain this inequality. Yi also works with Dr. Qin Gao to examine child multidimensional poverty in China and influence of China's safety-net sustenance program on child wellbeing.



Yulia Oleinik

Yulia Oleinik is the Chief of Social Policy at UNICEF in Uzbekistan. She and her team are working with the Government of Uzbekistan and partners on reforming the social protection system, the analysis of socio-economic policy, child poverty, public finance management and youth. Previously, she contributed to developing and later led foresight and policy planning work at UNICEF Headquarters in New York to strengthen UNICEF's ability to respond to and take advantage of global trends and emerging issues. Prior to that, Yulia managed UNICEF's strategic partnerships with multilateral organizations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, regional development banks, the G8 and the G20. At the United Nations Development Programme, Yulia managed a local development programme in Central Asia and was responsible for providing guidance, monitoring and oversight of five country offices in the region. Yulia also conducted research and policy analysis focusing on Eurasia at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) in London. Yulia received a Master of Science degree in international development from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



SPEAKERS



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