

## Chairs and Speakers Biographies

**Arianna Legovini** is the Head of the Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) Unit at the World Bank. DIME is a global initiative to put the scientific method at the service of development policy. Arianna is responsible for developing a new institutional approach to use rigorous impact evaluation to improve Bank's operations and help governments improve the effectiveness of their policies by testing and scaling up implementation modalities that work. In this role, Arianna supports the coordination of several multi-country programs of evaluation in various sectors and overviews the implementation of a couple of hundreds analytical products. In 2005, Arianna established the Africa Impact Evaluation Initiative for the Africa region of the World Bank. She also developed the Africa Results Monitoring System, the first Bank system to monitor Bank results. Before joining the Bank, Arianna was acting chief of the Poverty Unit in Inter-American Development Bank, and coordinator of the Network of Inequality and Poverty of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA). She is an economist from University of Maryland with twenty academic publications including journal articles and chapters in edited volumes.

**Asli Demirgüç-Kunt** is the Director of Research in the World Bank. After joining the Bank in 1989 as a Young Economist, she has held different positions, including Director of Development Policy, Chief Economist of Financial and Private Sector Development Network, and Senior Research Manager, doing research and advising on financial sector and private sector development issues. She is the lead author of World Bank Policy Research Report 2007, *Finance for All? Policies and Pitfalls in Expanding Access*. She has also created the World Bank's Global Financial Development Report and directed the issues on *Rethinking the Role of the State in Finance* (2013), and *Financial Inclusion* (2014). The author of over 100 publications, Ms. Demirgüç-Kunt has published widely in academic journals. Her research has focused on the links between financial development and firm performance and economic development. Banking crises, financial regulation, access to financial services including SME finance are among her areas of research. Prior to coming to the Bank, she was an Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in economics from the Ohio State University.

**Augusto Lopez-Claros** became the Director of Global Indicators and Analysis at the World Bank Group in March 2011. Previously he was Chief Economist and Director of the Global Competitiveness Program at the World Economic Forum in Geneva, where he was the editor of the *Global Competitiveness Report*, the Forum's flagship publication, as well as a number of regional economic reports. Before joining the Forum he was Executive Director with Lehman Brothers (London) and Senior International Economist. He was the International Monetary Fund's resident representative in the Russian Federation during 1992-95. Before joining the IMF, he was professor of economics at the University of Chile in Santiago. Lopez-Claros was educated in England and the United States, receiving a diploma in Mathematical Statistics from Cambridge University and a Ph.D. in Economics from Duke University. He is a much sought-after international speaker, having lectured in the last several years at some of the world's leading universities and think tanks. In 2007 he was co-editor of *The International Monetary System, the IMF, and the G-20: A Great Transformation in the Making?* and also *The Humanitarian Response Index: Measuring Commitment to Best Practice*, both published by Palgrave. He is the editor of *The Innovation for Development Report 2009-2010: Strengthening Innovation for the Prosperity of Nations*, published by Palgrave in November of 2009.

**Caren Grown** is Senior Gender Advisor in the Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning, where she leads USAID's efforts to integrate gender equality and female empowerment throughout the agency's policies and programs. Dr. Grown is on leave as Economist-In-Residence at American University, where she also co-directed the Program on Gender Analysis in Economics. Formerly, she was Senior Scholar and Co-Director of the Gender Equality and Economy Program at The Levy Economics Institute at Bard College and Director of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Governance team at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). She is the author of several books on gender issues in trade, public finance, and development, and her articles have appeared in *World Development*, *Journal of International Development*, *Feminist Economics*, *Health Policy and Planning*, and *The Lancet*. In addition, her current research interests include female entrepreneurship and asset ownership.

**David McKenzie** is a Lead Economist in the Finance and PSD Unit of the World Bank's Development Research Group. Prior to this he was Assistant Professor of Economics at Stanford University. He is the author of over 80 published articles, and has conducted a number of randomized experiments aimed at assessing the constraints to small business growth, including work in Sri Lanka, Mexico, Ghana and Brazil. He is also co-founder of and regular contributor to the World Bank's Development Impact blog.

**Ejaz Ghani** is Lead Economist in Economic Policy and Debt, PREM Network, at The World Bank. He has worked on Africa, East Asia, South Asia, Corporate Strategy, and Independent Evaluation Unit. Prior to joining The World Bank, he taught economics at St. Anne's College (Oxford University) and Shri Ram College of Commerce (Delhi University).

**Elena Bardasi** is a Senior Economist in the World Bank Independent Evaluation Group. Her current work focuses on assessing the gender impacts of social protection policies for poverty reduction. She has been writing and publishing on female entrepreneurship, female employment and gender issues in formal and informal labor markets, wage differentials, occupational segregation, and time use. She has contributed to the Africa Competitiveness Report and to several Investment Climate Assessments of Sub-Saharan African countries and has recently co-edited a special issue on Female Entrepreneurship in *Small Business Economics*. Prior to her current position she was part of the Gender Unit of the World Bank Poverty Reduction and Economic Management network. Before joining the Bank she was Senior Economist at the Institute for Social and Economic Research at the University of Essex (UK), working on issues of labor market dynamics, poverty dynamics, poverty in old age, and family policies in OECD countries. Elena earned her PhD in Economics from the European University Institute.

**Francisco Campos** is an Economist at the Africa Region Financial and Private Sector Development. His research interests include entrepreneurship, skills development, financial inclusion, and gender. He has worked for the Gender Innovation Lab in the Africa Region. He has extensive experience in private and public sectors including on financial markets, investment promotion, and business administration. He holds a MPA in International Development (MPA/ID) from Harvard Kennedy School.

**Frederic Wandey** is a Financial Officer at the Treasury Client Solutions Department. During his tenure at IFC, he has helped structure deals using different funding instruments (securities, covered bonds, warehouse lines, etc.) and guarantees for different asset classes (SMEs, renewable energy, energy efficiency, mortgages, auto loans, and student loans). He is currently co-leading IFC's recently

launched PanAfrican Domestic Medium Term Note Programme aimed at developing domestic capital markets in a number of African countries and finding local currency solutions for IFC's clients in these countries. Before joining IFC, Frederic led a team of MBS analysts and structuring specialists at Ally Financial (formerly GMAC ResCap) in Minneapolis, MN, USA. He also held teaching and research positions in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Belgium and USA. He holds Doctorate degrees in applied economics (University of Minnesota, USA) and Philosophy (Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium), a Master's degree in Econometrics and Policy Analysis (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium), and Bachelor degrees in Economics (Université de Kinshasa, DRC) and Philosophy (Université Catholique de Kinshasa, DRC).

**Ghazala Mansuri** is a lead economist in the Poverty Reduction and Equity and Development Research Groups at the World Bank. Much of Dr. Mansuri's work focuses on the impact of inequality and social exclusion and spans four broad areas: rural land, labor and credit markets, the economics of household behavior, the political economy of participatory development and institutional and governance reforms for development. Her research on the political economy of local development includes a number of evaluations of participatory development programs. Dr. Mansuri has published extensively in leading journals in economics and development, including the *American Economic Review*, the *Review of Economic Studies*, and the *Journal of Development Economics*. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Boston University.

**Jeni Klugman** is the Director of Gender and Development at the World Bank Group. In her current role, she acts as lead spokesperson for gender equality issues, and is responsible for promoting the institution's gender and development priorities following the release of the 2012 World Development Report on Gender Equality and Development. Prior to taking up this position in August 2011, Ms. Klugman was the director and lead author of three global Human Development Reports published by the United Nations Development Programme: *Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development* (2009); *The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development* (2010); and, *Sustainability and Equity: a Better Future for All* (2011). From 1992-2008, she held various positions at the World Bank, focusing in particular on poverty, inequality and human development in low income countries in Africa, Europe and Asia. Ms. Klugman has published a number of books, papers and reports on topics ranging from poverty reduction strategies and labour markets to conflict, health reform, education and decentralization. She holds a PhD in Economics from the Australian National University, as well as postgraduate degrees in Law and Development Economics from Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar

**Leonardo Iacovone** is Senior Economist of the Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship Global Practice, Financial and Private Sector Development Department at the World Bank. He is engaged in analytical, operational and impact evaluation work in the areas of microeconomic determinants of growth, related to innovation and entrepreneurship. His research has been published in various international peer reviewed journals such as *The Economic Journal*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of International Economics*, *World Development* and *Industrial and Corporate Change*. Leonardo is currently working in various African countries (Guinea-Bissau, Togo, Senegal, Ethiopia) as well as various Latin American ones (Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay) and Russia. Before joining the Bank, he worked as consultant in Latin America and Southern Africa for UNDP, WTO, UNIDO, USAID and EU. Additionally, before his PhD, Leonardo had been working in Mozambique as ODI Fellow for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (Unit for Development of Private Sector and Commercial Agriculture) and as advisor for the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Leonardo was trained at Bocconi University of Milan, Italy,

University Torquato di Tella of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and holds a PhD from University of Sussex.

**Leora Klapper** is a Lead Economist in the Finance and Private Sector Research Team of the Development Research Group at the World Bank. Since joining the Bank as a Young Economist in 1998, she has published articles on entrepreneurship, access to finance, corporate governance, and risk management. Her current research focuses on household finance and measurements of financial inclusion. Prior to coming to the Bank she worked at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Bank of Israel, and Salomon Smith Barney. She holds a Ph.D. in financial economics from New York University Stern School of Business.

**Matthew Gamser**, the Head of the SME Finance Forum, for the past 5 years has led IFC's advisory work in increasing access to financial services in the East Asia-Pacific region. He has over 30 years of experience in private enterprise and financial sector development. He has worked with commercial banks and non-bank financial institutions in broadening and deepening services to households and enterprises previously lacking formal finance. He has worked with governments and policy-makers on improving the enabling environment and infrastructure for financial sector development, with a focus on financial inclusion and on the role of the financial sector in mitigating the effects of climate change. At IFC, he has helped develop a benchmarking system for SME banking services, and other tools and techniques for building capacity in financial institutions and financial sector regulators. His original training was in environmental science, leading to his doctoral dissertation on the management of renewable energy technology innovation. He holds A.B. and A.M. degrees from Harvard University, and M.Sc. and D.Phil degrees from Sussex University (UK).

**Niklas Buehren** coordinates and participates in a portfolio of impact evaluations within the Africa Region Gender Practice. His work and research interest primarily focuses on technology adoption and access extension services in agriculture, land tenure, entrepreneurship, microfinance, adolescent development and intra-household bargaining. Before joining the World Bank, Niklas worked in the research unit of a NGO in Uganda, Tanzania and Southern Sudan. He holds a Masters degree from the London School of Economics and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University College London.

**Manar Korayem** is Operation Officer in the Global SME Banking Program at IFC. Manar has 15 years of professional banking experience in emerging markets of Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Manar is currently based in Washington, D.C. on a one year Developmental Assignment as an Operations Officer with the Access to Finance Global SME Banking Program. Prior to embarking on the Development Assignment, Manar has been the longest serving member of IFC SME Banking Program in MENA, since her joining in April 2006. During her time in MENA, Manar managed landmark IFC SME Banking Advisory Services projects in Egypt, Oman, Lebanon, Yemen, Jordan and Pakistan. Manar also successfully worked with other IFC Programs, Bank and Non-Bank partners to deliver high impact conferences and events in MENA. Manar started her professional banking career early in 1997. She joined Citibank, Global Consumer Bank, Egypt and was among the first settlers who helped launch Citibank consumer banking operations in Egypt. During her 9 years with Citibank, Manar helped set-up and manage the bank's Cards Authorizations Unit, Call Center Staff Development and Training function, Credit Cards Product Development function and Consumer Products Credit Policy Unit.

**Mehnaz Safavian** is a Senior Economist in the Finance and Private Sector Department in the South Asia Region. Mehnaz has worked extensively on financial inclusion issues, including micro and SME finance, gender, creditors' rights, informality, and responsible finance. Mehnaz holds a PhD in economics from The Ohio State University and has published extensively in World Bank and scholarly journals. Before joining the World Bank, Mehnaz held positions in the U.S. government, Development NGOs, and academia.

**Melissa Johns** is an Advisor in the Global Indicators and Analysis Department of the World Bank–IFC Financial and Private Sector Development Vice Presidency. She is part of the management team overseeing five global indicator sets: Doing Business; Enterprise Surveys; Women, Business and the Law; Regulation of Foreign Direct Investment; and Subnational Doing Business. Before joining the work on indicators, Johns led investment climate advisory projects in more than 10 countries and managed a team with operational engagements spanning 40 countries and 5 regions. Johns is a trained corporate lawyer with a juris doctorate from Stanford University and a bachelor of arts in public policy studies from Duke University.

**Sarah Iqbal**, Program Officer, Women, Business and Law, World Bank Group. Sarah is a lawyer with expertise in gender and private sector development. She has worked with the Financial and Private Sector Development Network's Women, Business and the Law Project since its inception and is coordinating the production of the 2013 report and dataset. The Women, Business and the Law Project examines the laws, regulations and institutions that shape women's economic opportunities when it comes to joining the workforce or starting a business. Her main focus is on identifying current and past reforms that may affect women's ability to interact with the private sector, both as entrepreneurs and as employees. Prior to joining the World Bank Group, she practiced criminal defense law and civil litigation. Sarah holds degrees in History, International Law and International Relations from UC Berkeley, UC Hastings, and Johns Hopkins Universities.

**Yasmin Tayyab** is a Senior Social Development Specialist in the World Bank Africa Region. Her current work focuses on ensuring socially sustainable development addressing conflict, inclusion, governance, youth and gender concerns. As the Task team leader Yasmin led the preparation of women's economic development projects in urban and rural settings, such as the Women Entrepreneurship Development Project an IDA USD 50 million project for Ethiopia and the Gender Support & Development and Adolescent Girls projects in South Sudan. Based in Ethiopia Country Office for three years she was responsible for all social development aspects in project design and implementation to the Ethiopia, South Sudan & Sudan country portfolio. She holds graduate degrees in Sociology, Political Science and Psychological Rehabilitation from Universities of Quaid-i-Azam, Hawaii and San Francisco.