

**PANEL 3. Voices from the real economy (Monday, 30 March 16:45-18:00)**

**BIOGRAPHIES**

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**Dr. Michael Shank**

*Director of Media Strategy, Climate Nexus (Moderator)*

Dr. Michael Shank is Director of Media Strategy at Climate Nexus and Senior Fellow at the JustJobs Network. In 2013-2014, Michael served as the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs at the Friends Committee on National Legislation in Washington DC. Prior to FCNL, Michael worked for four years as US Congressman Michael Honda's Senior Policy Advisor and Communications Director. Michael's Ph.D. from George Mason University's School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution is on Climate Conflict.

Michael is Adjunct Faculty and a Board Member at George Mason University's School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Board Member at Communities Without Boundaries International, and Senior Fellow at the JustJobs Network and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

Michael is a former columnist for Washington Post's The Root DC and now a columnist for US News & World Report and an energy insider for the National Journal. Michael writes regularly for USA Today, The Guardian, Daily Beast, Roll Call, among others, and is an on-air analyst for CNN, FOX News, CCTV, Al Jazeera, and RT.



**H.E. Councillor Nomvuzo Shabalala**

*Deputy Mayor of Durban, South Africa*

Her Worship the eThekweni Municipality Deputy Mayor and Chairperson of the Economic Development and Planning Committee, Councillor Nomvuzo Shabalala believes that the solution to eThekweni's development challenges lie in greater collaboration between the elected Council leadership and its 3.5 million citizens, as well as enhancing accountability in local government. Councillor Shabalala is a South African politician and anti-apartheid activist. She is a member of the ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC) and associated liberation movements. Councillor Shabalala is a mother to four daughters and one son, who has passed on. Councillor Shabalala is a leader of dedication and commitment to promoting the rights of all people, in particular the poor and all vulnerable groups in our society.

Councillor Shabalala has served as a Ward and PR Councillor in eThekweni since the advent of democracy in South Africa, in 1994. Over the past two decades she has assumed numerous leadership positions and currently serves as a member of eThekweni Municipality's Executive Committee. She has chaired eThekweni Municipality's Health, Safety and Social Services Committee, the former Durban Metro Council Health Committee and former Durban Metro Council Economic Development Committee among others.

During the time when the ANC was a banned political organisation in South Africa, Shabalala was an active member of the United Democratic Front's Affiliated Natal Womens' Organisation. Councillor Shabalala is acutely aware of the fact that although South Africans have achieved political freedom, she however, believes that the biggest challenge is ensuring sustainable economic emancipation.

Driven by this desire to realise broad based economic emancipation, Councillor Shabalala

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has steered the eThekweni Economic Development Committee towards achieving the employment and economic growth objectives of the City.

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### **Dr. Sanjay Kumar**

*Director of SEWA Bharat*

Sanjay is currently a Ford Foundation Mason Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and pursuing a Master's degree in Public Administration. A doctorate in Microfinance Interventions among Women Workers, he has honed his keen interest in the area of women's empowerment.

Alongside, he also holds an exhaustive PG diploma in 'Social Security for the Poor'. Associated with Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) movement for the last 15 years, he has spearheaded many a programs and has ensured expansion of SEWA's work in 9 diverse states.

As the Director of SEWA Bharat, which is a federation of SEWA member organizations, he devises organizing strategies for women in the informal sector and formulates advocacies for urban and rural livelihoods and better living conditions. He has authored varying papers for the Indian Government and publications alike. As a keen photographer, his inspiring images on the lives of women workers in India were exhibited at the House of Commons, London.

Donning many hats, he is committed towards empowerment of women and advocating towards improving the governance, which could be inclusive and beneficial for the poor.



### **Ms. Vicenta Trotman**

*Community leader and member of the Administrative Board of Rural Water Supply in the Ngäbe-Buglé indigenous territory of the Ño-Kribo region, Panama*

Ms. Trotman is a facilitator for Indigenous Enterprises in the indigenous communities. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Sciences and has received training as leader in water security planning from the Pan American Health Organization.

She has made presentations before at the Paraguay Encounter on the exchange of indigenous experiences in water and sanitation within the framework of South-South Cooperation of MDG-F projects under the ILO's Employment Intensive Investment technical assistance, as well as at the "Water and the Green Economy in Practice: Towards Rio+20" Conference (3-4 October 2011, Zaragoza, Spain), which was organized by UN Water and UNSGAB to support the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015. She is also a member of several craftspeople and environmental organizations in the Ngäbe-Buglé indigenous territory of the Ño-Kribo region.



### **Mr. Paul Hazen**

*Executive Director, Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCDC)*

Hazen is the Executive Director of the Overseas Cooperative Development Council. In 2012, he stepped down as president and CEO of the Washington, D.C.-based National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA), the oldest national cooperative organization in the U.S. Under Hazen's leadership, NCBA's international cooperative development portfolio grew from \$8 million annually to over \$30 million. Hazen is widely known for his cooperative expertise and often speaks at national and international forums on the role of cooperatives in community and economic development.

In 2001, he was named CEO Communicator of the Year by the Cooperative Communicators Association. Active in numerous cooperative organizations, Hazen serves as board member of the Consumer Federation of America and was a member and chair of the OCDC board. Hazen served on the International Cooperative Alliance board of directors and chairs the United Nations International Year of the Cooperative steering

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