



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) 2024

SIDE EVENT

10 July 2024 | 1:15-2:30 PM | Conference Room B

Global Action for Social Development amidst Converging Crises

Biographies of speakers and experts



John Wilmoth, *Officer-in-Charge*, Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) and Director of the Population Division (PD), UNDESA. Mr Wilmoth joined the United Nations after an academic career, most recently as a Professor at the Department of Demography of the University of California at Berkeley. Previously, from 2005 to 2007, he also worked in the Population Division as Chief of the Mortality Section. Mr. Wilmoth is the author or co-author of more than 50 scientific papers examining various aspects of population dynamics and population issues. He has worked as a consultant to the World Health Organization and the World Bank from 2009 to 2012, leading the development of new global estimates of maternal mortality. He is a member of the Population Association of America and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. He also serves on the editorial boards of some leading demographic journals including *Demographic Research* and the *European Journal of Population*.



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Navid Hanif, *Assistant-Secretary-General*, UNDESA, UN sous Sherpa to the G20 finance and main tracks. Mr. Hanif joined UNDESA in 2001. He was Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002. He served as the Chief of Policy Coordination Branch and later Director in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support and the Director of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office. He was the first head of the DESA

Strategic Planning Unit established in 2010. He was Principal Officer in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, Vice-Chair of the UN High Level Committee on Programming (HLCP) and Co-Coordinator of the UN team on repositioning of the UN Development System that led to major reforms in 2018. He has contributed several articles on financing and investing in the SDGs in various journals and reports.



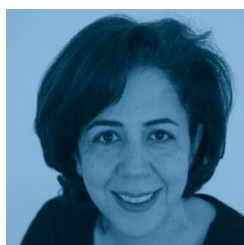
H.E. Fatumanava-o-Upolu III Dr Pa'olelei Luteru, *Permanent Representative of Samoa to the United Nations, Chair of AOSIS*. Prior to his current appointment, Ambassador Luteru served as the Ambassador of Samoa to Europe based in Belgium and bilaterally accredited to the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. He was also concurrently Samoa's Permanent Representative and Delegate to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the European Commission, and the European Council. He has served as Samoa's Trade Commissioner to New Zealand and as Assistant Secretary-General of the ACP Group, Political Affairs and Human Development Department in Brussels. He has held various positions leading Pacific-EU matters in the design and facilitation of projects for Pacific ACP member states under the Lome IV Convention. He has chaired several key ACP Committees and was the lead negotiator for the Pacific-EU Protocol under the new post-Cotonou Agreement with the EU and a member of the leads for the Foundation part of the Agreement. Ambassador Luteru has been involved in consultancy work in key sectors for SIDS development in the Pacific context, leading to publications in several priority areas. He also held several academic positions at the University of the South Pacific including Director of Planning and Development, and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Islands and Oceans.



Shantanu Mukherjee, *Director, Economic Analysis and Policy Division (EAPD), UNDESA*. Mr. Mukherjee's work encompasses the economic analysis of emerging and long-run trends relevant for sustainable development; shorter term macroeconomic forecasts; and assessing the development progress of the least developed countries. Previously, he headed the policy analysis function of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals. Prior to joining UN DESA, he led the research and writing team of UNDP's Human Development Report. This was preceded by a stint as head of UNDP's global MDG policy work, during which he worked closely with development entities across the UN system. Mr. Mukherjee began his career in development policy and public finance in India. He has also worked with national planning, finance and sector ministries in countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.



Sabina Alkire, *Director*, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Institute and Professor of Poverty and Human Development at University of Oxford. Ms. Alkire has worked at the George Washington University, Harvard University, the Human Security Commission, and the World Bank. She has a DPhil in Economics from the University of Oxford. Together with Professor James Foster, Sabina developed the Alkire-Foster (AF) method for measuring multidimensional poverty, a flexible technique that can incorporate different dimensions, or aspects of poverty, to create measures tailored to each context. With colleagues at OPHI this has been applied and implemented empirically to produce a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). The MPI offers a tool to identify who is poor by considering the range of deprivations they suffer. It is used to report a headline figure of poverty (the MPI), which can be unpacked to provide a detailed information platform for policy design showing how people are poor nationally, and how they are poor by areas, groups, and by each indicator. Sabina was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in the UK 2021 and was voted one of the top 100 thinkers by Forbes magazine in 2010.



Shahrashoub Razavi, *Director* of the Social Protection Department at the International Labour Organization. Ms. Razavi is a development economist, with more than 25 years of experience working on social policy, social protection, gender and development. She obtained her Bsc. from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and her MSc. and D.Phil./PhD from Oxford University. Before joining the ILO in 2020, she was Chief of the Research and Data Section at UN Women, and prior to that Senior Researcher at the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD).



Isabella Marras, *Senior Programme Management Officer*, in charge of Interagency Affairs at the United Nations Environment Programme. Ms. Marras is responsible for UNEP inter-agency cooperation with a particular focus on UN system-wide policy coherence and reforms. She supports coordination between the United Nations entities in New York and UNEP's headquarters. She also has oversight of the UNEP Sustainable UN facility and the coordination of Greening the Blue efforts. She brings to the job an extensive interagency network, understanding of UN internal management dynamics and substantial knowledge in several areas of UNEP work. Her enthusiasm for coherence, for the mission of UNEP and the UN System helped her navigate and bring environmental action in several UN interagency networks and projects. Ms. Marras has over 20 years of work experience in sustainable production and consumption, environmental education and lifestyles, sustainable events, environment management systems and urban environment. She initiated the sustainable procurement work of UNEP in 1999; the UNEP UNESCO youthXchange project on sustainable lifestyles for young people (translated in 32 languages) in 2001; and the UNEP work on

education for sustainable lifestyles in 2006. She led the Sustainable UN facility between 2011 to 2022 bringing visibility and substance to the UN System Greening the Blue initiative that focussed on reducing the footprint of the UN System environmental impacts.