

# Virtual Workshop on Subsidiarity and Decentralization for Sustainable Development in Africa

12 March 2024

## Speakers' Bio

 A circular portrait of Ms. Hyeyoung Kim, a woman with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue blazer over a white top, sitting in an office setting.	<p><b>Ms. Hyeyoung Kim</b> Head of Office, United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA)</p> <p>Ms. Hyeyoung Kim is the newly appointed Head of the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of DPIDG/UN DESA. She brings to the office an extensive experience in digital government development, personal information protection, ICT infrastructure security and administrative information sharing as well as civil service ethics. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms. Kim served as the Senior Vice President of the National Information Society Agency (NIA) of the Republic of Korea. Ms. Kim also held various senior positions at the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea including Director General for Personal Information Protection Policy of E-Government Bureau, Director General for ICT Infrastructure Security Policy, and Director General for Administrative Information Sharing Policy. During her 38 years of public service with the Government of the Republic of Korea, Ms. Kim has contributed to digital government innovation, open government and public service innovation. Ms. Kim holds a degree of Master of Science in Technical Communication from Colorado State University.</p>
 A circular portrait of Ms. Najat Zarrouk, a woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a grey blazer, sitting at a conference table with a microphone and a nameplate that reads 'NAJAT ZARROUK'.	<p><b>Ms. Najat Zarrouk</b> Director, Development Branch and African Local Government Academy, United Cities and Local Government of Africa, and UN CEPA Member</p> <p>Najat Zarrouk is the Director of the Development Branch and of the African Local Government Academy of the United Cities and Local Government of Africa, based in Rabat, where she has been working since 2016. She has 39 years of experience in public service at the national, regional and global levels, notably as a former civil servant of the Ministry of the Interior of Morocco, where she served from 1983 to 2014, including as Governor and Director of Training. In 2019, she was elected as a member of the Board of the International Association of Schools and</p>

Institutes of Administration for the 2019–2022 term. In February 2020, after her election by the Board of Management of the Association, she was appointed Chairperson of the International Commission on Accreditation of Public Administration for education and training programmes of the Association. In 2018, she was elected Vice-President of the African Public Service Human Resources Managers Network. She served as a Member of the Board of the Arab Women’s Leadership Institute from 2009 to 2012 and as a member of Women’s Democracy Network, which was supported by the Government of the United States to empower women in the Arab region. She has authored a number of essays and articles on issues related to public administration and public service. In 2008, she published a book on trade and development, from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to the World Trade Organization. She has received a number of recognitions and awards for her commitment to public service, including the Onkar Prasad Dwivedi Award from the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration, for her contribution to public administration and public policy, and the Gold Medal 2018 from the African Association for Public Administration and Management. She received her PhD in Political Science from the University Mohammed V, in Rabat. She is also a graduate of the National School for Public Administration, in Rabat (student honours) and of the University of Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne).

	<p><b>Ms. Rebecca Adda-Dontoh</b> UN Resident Coordinator for Malawi</p> <p>Ms. Adda-Dontoh is a peacebuilding and development practitioner with over 30 years of service in national public service, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations, focusing on fragile, transitional and humanitarian contexts in Ghana, Philippines, Nigeria, Malawi, Gambia and Bangladesh. Prior to her appointment as United Nations Resident Coordinator, Ms. Adda-Dontoh served for the past 10 years as a Senior Peace and Development Adviser to United Nations country teams in Bangladesh, Gambia and Malawi. Before that, she was the Deputy Director at the Centre for National Culture in Ghana, the Conflict Prevention Programme Manager for Non-violent Peaceforce in Mindanao, Philippines; and the Peace Adviser for the German Association for Development Cooperation in Plateau State, Nigeria. Ms. Adda-Dontoh founded and led Mothers for Active Non-Violence, a women’s peace and development non-governmental organization. She also worked as a consultant with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Interior in Ghana. Ms. Adda-Dontoh holds a Master of Arts degree in public relations and public communications from the</p>
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	<p>University of Westminster, and a diploma in journalism and public relations from the Ghana Institute of Journalism.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Bala Yusuf Yunusa</b> Senior Technical Advisor, Office of the President on SDGs, Nigeria</p> <p>Dr. Bala Yusuf Yunusa is a Development Economist by training and presently serves as the Senior Technical Advisor to the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (OSSAP-SDGs). In this capacity, he provides technical leadership and strategic policy guidance in the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Nigeria. Prior to this, between September 2015 and April 2018, Bala taught Masters level courses in International Development at the Global Development Institute (GDI) of the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Between 2008 and 2014, Bala served as the Team Leader of the United Nations Millennium Villages Project (MVP) in Nigeria, where he oversaw the technical and financial implementation of the Project. While there, he facilitated the adoption of the Millennium Villages model at the national level, reaching 21 million people across 113 Local Government Areas. In 2012, he won a grant from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) to implement a Market-led Model Soil Health Programme - targeting 30,000 smallholder farmers in Northern Nigeria. He holds a B.Sc. Economics from Bayero University, Kano-Nigeria; and an M.Sc. &amp; PhD in Development Economics and Policy from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. He is married with four children.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Tebogo Matlou</b> Project Manager, International Programmes and Partnerships, South African Local Government Association</p> <p>Tebogo Matlou, has worked for SALGA for 18 as Analyst: Strategy and Business Processes and now a Project Manager in the office of the CEO, prior to coming to SALGA, he was Learnership and Project Manager at Mopani FET College. In addition to his current position, also serve as Project Manager for International Programs and Partnership, SDG Champion and initiated the acceleration of SDGS through VLR, UNDP covid-19 relief projects, Waste Management project with VVSG.. Tebogo has been involved with teaching and facilitation on Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Strategic Management, Leadership, Governance and Asset Management. Tebogo is graduate from University of Natal, Social Science in Finance and Management, also studied Executive Leadership Municipal Development Programme (Cum Laude) and outcome-</p>

	<p>based Monitoring and Evaluation implementation at University of Pretoria, Certificate Programme in Management Development for Municipal Finance at Wits (second class). Added is BCom Law, BCom Honors. Tebogo has won several awards as the best employee at Mopani FET College and SALGA, including team of the year for making impact through Building Inclusive Green Municipality project (BIGM). Current interests are Sustainable Development Goals, Asset Management, Environmental Sustainability, lastly, Leadership, power influence and politics in Projects Management.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Issaka Garba Abdou</b>  Head, Governance and Human Rights Division, Directorate for Governance and Conflict Prevention,  African Union Commission</p> <p>Dr. Bala Yusuf Yunusa is a Development Economist by training and presently serves as the Senior Technical Advisor to the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (OSSAP-SDGs). In this capacity, he provides technical leadership and strategic policy guidance in the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Nigeria. Prior to this, between September 2015 and April 2018, Bala taught Masters level courses in International Development at the Global Development Institute (GDI) of the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Between 2008 and 2014, Bala served as the Team Leader of the United Nations Millennium Villages Project (MVP) in Nigeria, where he oversaw the technical and financial implementation of the Project. While there, he facilitated the adoption of the Millennium Villages model at the national level, reaching 21 million people across 113 Local Government Areas. In 2012, he won a grant from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) to implement a Market-led Model Soil Health Programme - targeting 30,000 smallholder farmers in Northern Nigeria. He holds a B.Sc. Economics from Bayero University, Kano-Nigeria; and an M.Sc. &amp; PhD in Development Economics and Policy from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. He is married with four children. Issaka has a lengthy experience in diplomacy and legal affairs, Human Rights, Elections Management and Observations, Illicit Financial Flows and Asset Recovery. He is also skilled in Program and project development and management in public service and administration, Anti-corruption and Capacity development.</p> <p>Before joining the AUC, Issaka served as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Secretary at the Embassy of Niger and Permanent Mission to the AU and ECA in Addis Ababa;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Legal Affairs a.i (January 2013 - April 2013) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Republic of Niger);</li> <li>• Head of Multilateral Treaties Division for more than 10 years, at the General Directorate of Legal and Consular Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Republic of Niger).</li> </ul> <p>Issaka holds Master of Laws from the University of Limoges in France, Master in project management from the International Institute of Management, in Niamey, Niger, bachelor's degree in diplomacy from the National School of Administration, Algiers, Algeria, Certificate in International Diplomacy from Queensland University, Australia and Certificate in International Law from the United Nations Office at Geneva.</p>
	<p><b>Patrick Spearing</b> Secretary of the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration</p> <p>Mr. Spearing is Secretary of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration at UN DESA. Previously, he has served in positions at the United Nations supporting multistakeholder consultations and deliberations pertaining to the Internet and carrying out analytical work on governance and sustainable development. He was also a departmental focal point on governance within the UN System Task Team convened in the lead-up to the 2030 Agenda and has served as a senior information systems officer and editor in the United Nations and non-Governmental sector. Mr. Spearing holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Columbia University.</p>
	<p><b>Paul Smoke</b> Professor of Public Finance and Planning, New York University</p> <p><b><u>The strategic note on fiscal federalism and decentralization was prepared by Paul Smoke.</u></b></p> <p>Paul Smoke, Professor of Public Finance and Planning and Director of the PNP MPA, teaches courses on public finance, development planning, governance and development assistance in developing countries. His research and policy interests include urban and regional development and the political economy of fiscal reform and public sector decentralization. He previously taught in the International Development Program and chaired the Master in City Planning Program at MIT, and he worked as a resident policy advisor with the Harvard Institute for International Development in Kenya and Indonesia. Smoke is a Senior Research Associate at the Overseas Development Institute (London), serves on the Economic Advisory Council of the Millennium Challenge</p>

	<p>Corporation and the Advisory Board of the Local Public Sector Alliance.</p>
	<p><b>Astrid Haas</b>  Urban Economist and Adjunct Professor at the School of Cities at the University of Toronto, Extraordinary Lecturer at the African Tax Institute, University of Pretoria and Research Associate at the African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town</p> <p><b><u>The strategic note on strengthening municipal finance and local finance was prepared by Astrid Haas.</u></b></p> <p>Astrid is an independent urban economist, working in both research and practice, supporting cities around strategy generally and specifically to strengthen their financial systems, with a focus on unleashing new opportunities for sub-national financing. She is currently an Extraordinary Lecturer in the Department of Economics at the University of Pretoria and a Fellow at the Infrastructure Institute at the School of Cities at the University of Toronto. In addition, Astrid has worked extensively with city governments across Africa and Asia in her diverse roles, including previously as an urban economist with the African Development Bank and Policy Director at the International Growth Centre.</p> <p>She holds an MA in International Economics and International Development from Johns Hopkins University. In 2016, she was nominated by the University of Cape Town as one of Africa’s Young Leaders and in 2020 she received Johns Hopkins University’s Outstanding Recent Graduate Award, for her work on urbanization.</p>
	<p><b>Hanna Kleider</b>  Associate Professor in the Department of Political Economy at King's College London</p> <p>Ms. Kleider is an Associate Professor (Senior Lecturer) in the Department of Political Economy at King's College London. Before moving to KCL, she was an assistant professor in the Department of International Affairs at the University of Georgia. she received my doctorate in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2014. Her research and teaching interest centre on comparative political economy, with a particular focus on transformations of the welfare state and their impact on patterns of inequality. More specifically, she studied the effect of decentralization reforms on territorial inequalities in the quality and access to social services. A second line of her research explores the effect of welfare state reforms on class and gender relations.</p>



**Allan Lavell**

Research Associate at the Latin American Social Faculty, Costa Rica and founding member of the Latin American Network for the Social Study of Disaster Prevention (LA RED)

**The strategic note on enhancement of local capacity for prevention, adaptation and mitigation of external shocks was prepared by Allan Lavell.**

Dr. Allan Lavell was born in England and has lived continuously in Latin America for 50 years. He has a PhD and M.Sc. in Economic Geography from the London School of Economics and Political Science-LSE. Specialist in urban and regional development, since 1989 he has been dedicated to the study of disaster risk and climate change and its management. Currently an associate researcher at the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, Costa Rica, he has been a professor and researcher at the University of London, Middlesex University, the Metropolitan Autonomous University of Mexico and UNAM, the Central American Superior University Council and the University of Costa Rica. He has written more than 150 chapters, articles, documents and scientific books on the topics of risk and disasters and urban development, has given more than 150 international conferences in 42 countries around the world and has carried out nearly 90 consultancies in 32 countries on four continents. He has been a member of numerous global and regional scientific committees and editorial boards for journals and books and was a co-founder of the Social Studies Network on Disaster Prevention in Latin America in 1992. He is a winner of the NN. UU Sasakawa Prize. UU in 2015 of 88 applicants, in recognition of his contributions to the development of risk management worldwide.



**Brian H. Roberts**

Emeritus Professor at the University of Canberra, Australia

**The strategic note on strengthening urban governance was prepared by Brian H. Roberts.**

Brian H. Roberts is a Emeritus Professor and an international urban management expert, Brian holds qualifications in land surveying, urban and regional planning, urban design and business management as well as a PhD in urban and regional economic development. Brian has held senior positions with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, Queensland state government, two academic institutions and within the consulting industry. Brian has held responsibility for the management of large and complex multi-discipline projects, the overseeing of national and regional institutional reform programs, national and international urban management policy,

	<p>higher education and training, and ministerial advice in several countries. Brian has co-authored more than 100 publications and conference papers including 10 books with contributions to the UN Habitat World Cities Development Report in 2011 and 2015.</p>
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