

S4YE Steering Committee

(Names are listed alphabetically by surname)



Mamadou Biteye, Chair of S4YE Steering Committee

VICE PRESIDENT, SOCIAL IMPACT (CEMEA REGION)
VISA

Mamadou is Vice President, Social Impact for the Central Europe, Middle East and Africa (CEMEA) region at Visa, based in Dubai. In this role, Mamadou works closely with the CEMEA Leadership Team to develop a Social Impact strategy for the region and implement programs that align to regional and market business priorities. Prior to Visa, Mamadou served at The Rockefeller Foundation as Managing Director for the Africa Region, leading programs such as the Digital Jobs Africa initiative, Global Impact Sourcing Coalition, as well as developing partnerships with the African Development Bank, the Gates Foundation, and USAID to support the Foundation's work.

Mamadou is an Honorary Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE). He holds Master's degrees in Agricultural Economics from Ohio University and The Crimean Agricultural Institute.



Anne Birgitte Albrechtsen

CEO
PLAN INTERNATIONAL

A renowned leader in the sector, AB has worked for over 25 years in international development, human rights, change management, and diplomacy. She took over as the CEO of Plan International in 2015. She is the former UN Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director for Management at the United Nations Population Fund, where she led country operations for UNFPA in Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan. AB served with the United Nations Development Program in Indonesia and later, as Director of the Administrator's Office at their headquarters. She also led Danish humanitarian and civil society affairs work as the director of the relevant division in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. AB holds a law degree from the University of Copenhagen.



Sukti Dasgupta

CHIEF, EMPLOYMENT LABOUR MARKET POLICIES BRANCH
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Sukti Dasgupta is Chief, Employment and Labour Markets Branch in the ILO Office in Geneva. She has previously worked at the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok and in the field offices in South Asia and East Asia. She holds a PhD degree in Economics from the University of Cambridge, UK. She has published widely in the areas of employment, poverty and gender. She has extensive experience in working with policymakers on employment and labour market policies.



Christian Gruen

**HEAD OF SPECIAL INITIATIVE ON TRAINING AND JOB CREATION
FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT,
GERMANY**

Christian is Head of the Special Initiative on Training and Job Creation of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Prior to this he served as Head of German Cooperation in Windhoek, Namibia (2014 – 2018), as well as Chef de Cabinet (2009 – 2014) and Special Advisor (2008 – 2009) to the German Federal Minister for Development Cooperation and Senior Policy Officer for bilateral development programs in Central America and the Caribbean (2007 – 2008). He holds a Master’s degree in Political Science, Contemporary History and International Law.



Jill Huntley

**GLOBAL MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP
ACCENTURE**

Prior to her position as Managing Director for Corporate Citizenship at Accenture, Jill worked in the Talent and Organization practice of Accenture’s Management Consulting business. In 2002, she co-founded Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP), an innovative non-profit venture that channels Accenture’s skills and expertise to the international development sector. She is also a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Youth Unemployment. Jill grew up in Southeast Asia and has lived and worked extensively in Europe, North America and Asia. She holds a Master’s degree in Anthropology and Development from Cambridge University and a Graduate Diploma in Psychology.



Krishna Kumar

**DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
RAND CORPORATION**

Krishna is a senior economist at the RAND Corporation and is the director of its Labor and Population unit. He holds the Distinguished Chair in International Economic Policy and leads the Rosenfeld Program on Asian Development at the Pardee RAND Graduate School, where he co-teaches a course on economic development. His research interests include economic growth and development, human capital formation, and technological change. He is co-leading projects to study informal labor markets in Bangladesh and has also co-led or worked on several other projects in the Kurdistan Region-Iraq, China, India, and Mexico. Krishna received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago.



Jon Lomøy

DIRECTOR GENERAL
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (NORAD)

Jon has been the Director General of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) since 2015, following five years as Director of the OECD Development Cooperation Directorate. He served as Ambassador of Norway to Zambia from 1996 to 2000 and later as Director of Norad's Southern Africa Department. In 2004, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Director General of the Department for Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, where he was responsible for the overall management of Norway's bilateral assistance program. As Ambassador of Norway to Tanzania, he managed one of Norway's largest bilateral aid programs.



Susan Reichle

PRESIDENT & CEO
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOUNDATION

Susan Reichle was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the International Youth Foundation in January 2019. She joined IYF in 2017 as President and COO, bringing 25 years of experience leading USAID policy development and programs overseas and in Washington, D.C. In her most recent position, she served as the Counselor to the Agency, USAID's most Senior Foreign Service Officer, and advised the Administrator and senior leadership on key global development policies and management issues. She also oversaw the Agency Coordinators for Youth, Countering Violent Extremism, and Local Solutions while communicating on a regular basis with 80 USAID Missions around the globe.



Michal Rutkowski

SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR
WORLD BANK GROUP

Michal is the Senior Director for Social Protection, Labor and Jobs, overseeing work in developing systems that protect the poorest and most vulnerable from crises and shocks, and supporting private sector-led growth. Until recently, he was the Director for Multilateral Organizations, and prior to that, the Country Director for the Russian Federation and the Resident Representative in Moscow. His published work covers issues around labor markets and social security. Prior to joining the World Bank in 1990, he helped design the Polish pension system while serving as the Director of the Office for Social Security Reform and also taught at the Institute of Economic Policy at the Warsaw School of Economics. Michal 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 is also a graduate of the Executive Development program at the Harvard Business School.



Naria Santa Lucia

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY
MICROSOFT PHILANTHROPIES

As the skills and employability lead at Microsoft Philanthropies, Naria works to manage the company's philanthropic investments and grant programs in digital skills, computer science education, and career pathways investments to drive digital inclusion and employment outcomes for traditionally underrepresented and under-resourced communities.

Prior to joining Microsoft Philanthropies, Naria served as Executive Director of the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS), a unique public-private partnership helping to build the next generation of scientists, engineers, technology specialists, mathematicians, and health care professionals in Washington state's high-demand employment fields through scholarships and supports for low- and middle-income college students in Washington state. Naria is a graduate of the Law School and the College at the University of Chicago.



Anita Tiessen

CEO
YOUTH BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL

Anita serves YBI bringing extensive experience working in a range of executive leadership positions in major voluntary sector organizations, most recently as Chief Executive of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). Throughout her tenure Anita achieved significant progress on WAGGGS's strategic priorities, including growing the membership, developing fundraising capabilities and driving digital transformation. Prior to this role she was Deputy Executive director at UNICEF UK where she led the organization's efforts to protect children's rights in the UK for 14 years. Anita also worked at Amnesty International's global headquarters in London and in provincial government in her native country, Canada.



Erion Veliaj

MAYOR
TIRANA, ALBANIA

Prior to his current role, Erion was formerly the Minister for Youth and Social Welfare for Albania. His involvement in politics followed a long engagement in civil society, international organizations and the media. In 2003, he founded the Mjaft (Enough) Movement, an organization that streamlined the activist and protest spirit of the Albanian youth, which was recognized with the UN Civil Society Award in 2004. In 2011, he joined the Socialist Party of Albania as the Youth and Emigration Secretary. He was elected member of the Assembly for Gjirokastra Constituency in 2013. He joined the European Stability initiative, a central body for the promotion of EU enlargement. Erion holds a B.A. in Political Studies from Grand Valley State University of Michigan, USA, and an M.A. in European Integration from Sussex University, UK.



Lindsay Wallace

DIRECTOR, STRATEGY AND LEARNING
MASTERCARD FOUNDATION

Lindsay leads the Foundation’s Strategy and Learning team, where she oversees the foundation’s research, measurement and evaluation work. Prior to this role, she was Deputy Director, Financial Inclusion and managed the Financial Inclusion team and its partnerships. Before joining the Foundation, Lindsay was a Senior Economist and Team Lead of the Economic Growth Unit at the U.K. government’s Department for International Development in Rwanda, where she was responsible for a variety of programming that strengthened the financial sector, trade links, agriculture, and overall economic development. She has extensive experience in private sector development and public sector reform in South America, Africa, and Asia.



Jayathma Wickramanayake

ENVOY ON YOUTH
UNITED NATIONS

Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake was appointed as the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth in June 2017 at the age of 26. In this role, Jayathma works to expand the UN’s youth engagement and advocacy efforts across all four pillars of work – sustainable development, human rights, peace and security and humanitarian action – and serves as a representative of and advisor to the Secretary-General.

Originally from Sri Lanka, Ms. Wickramanayake has worked extensively on youth development and participation, and has played a key role in transforming the youth development sector in her home country. Prior to taking up her post, Ms. Wickramanayake was instrumental in creating the movement for civic and political engagement of young people, especially young women in Sri Lanka named “Hashtag Generation”.