Sub-Saharan Africa Virtual Vendor Forum for Woman-Owned Businesses

Speakers’ Biographies
In Alphabetical Order by Last Name

Harish Kumar Balagangadharan
Procurement Specialist
Corporate Procurement – World Bank Group

Harish Kumar Balagangadharan is a Procurement Specialist with the Corporate Procurement Unit of WBG, leading the Category Support team responsible for sourcing, contract management and advisory support to WBG offices across the globe. He joined the World Bank in 2006 and has over 22 years of experience in business operations and supply chain domain. He is currently based out of Chennai, India.

Kenny Cheung
Chief of Corporate Procurement
World Bank Group

Kenny heads the World Bank Group’s procurement and vendor management effort globally across 140+ locations and has successfully modernized the function to improve its efficiency, governance, value generation and sustainability of its ~34,000 vendor base. His current focus is to broaden procurement’s value contribution in World Bank Group’s strategic priorities, including Fragility, Conflict and Violence; Country Services; Disruptive Technologies; Gender and Minority inclusion. Before joining the Group, Kenny was the Executive Director and Global co-Chief Procurement Officer at Goldman Sachs, responsible for the delivery industry leading commercial, vendor risk management, and sustainable supply chain initiatives across 97 cities and 35 countries. Kenny also had a long career with the National Australia Bank Group and ExxonMobil Corporation where he spent much of his time in procurement transformational roles. Kenny has an Executive MBA from the Australian School of Management and Honors in Engineering from the University of Melbourne.
Caren Grown
Global Director, Gender
The World Bank

Caren Grown is recognized internationally as an expert on gender and development. Before joining the Bank Group in 2014, she was Economist-in-Residence and Co-Director of the Program on Gender Analysis in Economics at American University. From 2013-2014, she led the UNU-WIDER program on aid effectiveness and gender equality, and from 2011-2013 she served as Senior Gender Adviser and Acting Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment at USAID. Among her previous positions, Dr. Grown has been Senior Scholar and Co-Director of the Gender Equality and Economy Program at the Levy Economics Institute at Bard College, Director of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Governance team at the International Center for Research on Women, and Senior Program Officer at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Margaret Jackson
Managing Partner,
Rainbow Consult

Margaret Jackson, FLPI is the Managing Partner of Rainbow Consult. She is a Learning and Performance Institute (LPI) Expert Facilitator, Face-to Face and Online Facilitator, Certified Online Learning Designer, as well as a Certified Assessor in addition to being an International Finance Corporation (IFC) Certified Master Trainer and Instructional Designer. She has trained over five hundred (500) trainers under the IFC program. She has facilitated retreats for numerous organisations including SNV, West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI), FORD Foundation, Amnesty International, GRIDCO, NSIA Insurance, DALEX Finance and Leasing Company among others. She has led various successful SME capacity building projects in Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Guinea, Senegal, and Mozambique, and has trained over 500 heads of SMEs over the years.

Angela Kariuki
Project Coordinator for Sourcing2Equal Kenya
International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Angela Kariuki works in IFC’s Gender and Economic Inclusion Group within the Africa team. She is the Project Coordinator for Sourcing2Equal Kenya, one of our programs that is supporting the growth of women-owned businesses by increasing their access to markets via corporate procurement. Angela is a business advisory expert with over 16 years of work experience, most recently in SME sector in Kenya where she has worked in capacity building and financing initiatives, providing business development and investment support.
Elizabeth Annet Mutesi
Procurement Specialist for East Africa, horn of Africa and West Africa
International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Elizabeth Annet Mutesi is the IFC Procurement Specialist for East Africa, horn of Africa and West Africa. She provides strategic guidance to the IFC Investment, Advisory teams, and country offices on WBG procurement policy and procedures for contracting of consultancy services, provision of goods and services. Elizabeth has 18 years of public procurement experience with various sectors including Governments in East Africa, International Donor Agencies, and the World Bank Group, where she has worked for half of her career. Elizabeth holds a Masters degree in Business Administration from the East and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI), a Bachelors degree in Accounting from Makerere University, and a post-graduate diploma in Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) U.K.

Joan Ongache
Administrative Officer
World Bank Group – Kenya Country Office

Joan has over 10 years’ experience in Administrative Procurement and is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She manages the Country Office Administrative Services contracts and vendor relationship. She also serves as a member of the Country Office’s Administrative Procurement Review Committee (APRC) which is an advisory body to the Country Office Management on administrative procurement matters, with the support of the Bank’s Corporate Procurement Unit. Some of her key areas of expertise include (i) providing advice to staff conducting procurements on behalf of the country office; (ii) making recommendations to the Country Office Management, based on Bank’s policy, for procurements conducted by the country office valued at under $50,000, including award decision and contract signature requirements; and (iii) participating in the development of the Country Office administrative procurement strategic plan for each fiscal year, identifying goods, services and consulting procurement opportunities. She is also a mother of one, and during her free time enjoys cooking, sports and spending time with the family.

Adam Rubinfeld
Sustainability and Supplier Diversity Program Lead
Corporate Procurement – World Bank Group

Adam Rubinfeld, LEED AP, is the Sustainability and Supplier Diversity Program Lead for Corporate Procurement at the World Bank Group. In this role he mainstreams sustainability considerations into over $1.7 Billion of annual purchases for the World Bank Group’s global offices. Prior to his current role, he oversaw the World Bank’s Corporate Responsibility Program, working with internal stakeholders to reduce the Bank’s environmental and
social impacts by focusing on energy efficiency, waste reduction, and staff behavior changes. Adam holds a BA in Anthropology from Washington University in St. Louis, and an MSc in Biological Conservation from Oxford Brookes University in the UK.

**Patricia Sennequier**  
Founder and Managing Partner, Beautiful Soul

Patricia is the Founder and Managing Partner of Beautiful Soul, a coaching firm specialized in organizational change and leadership development based in Dakar, Senegal. Since 2013, the organization, an expert team of 18 professionals, has served 15 countries, more than 100 clients and 4000+ individuals. She is also the project director of Naaw by Beautiful Soul, a digital development platform for women leadership. A change leader and entrepreneur at heart, Patricia has an unusual convening power and a gift to create and facilitate environments that foster trust and action. She also combines the ability to engage and align multiple stakeholders with the skill to trigger and execute large-scale projects. Before founding Beautiful Soul, Patricia was an Area Manager at Oracle EMEA covering West and Central Africa and a Senior Officer (P4) at the United Nations in Geneva. She has graduated from INSEAD (MBA), Université Paris Dauphine (Master in Finances - MSTCF), ESCP (Entrepreneurship Certificate). She holds an executive coaching certification accredited by the EMCC (European Mentoring and Coaching Council), a CEDR mediator certification and an advanced certification in Appreciative Inquiry from Case Western University and IFAI. She has lived and worked in 5 different countries and speaks English, French and Wolof.

**Belay Cherkos Tikuye**  
Assistant Project Manager, Global Corporate Solutions  
World Bank Group

Belay Cherkos is an Ethiopian national, with over 17 years of experience working with different international organizations including, the World Bank, UN agencies in Facility Management sector. He has an MBA in project management from NIBM, a Bachelor of Technology in electrical engineering and an MSC in microelectronics engineering from Addis Ababa University.

**Ercilia Mata Ubisse**  
Director of Business Development and Learning,  
ELIM Serviços

Ms. Ercilia Mata Ubisse is an Economic and Business Development Specialist with 17 years in International Development. Over the past twelve years, she has developed and implemented Business Development strategies centred on partnerships with multilateral and bilateral donors, private and public sector clients. Her experience includes supporting teams across
multiple geographies (Mozambique, South Africa, Kenya, USA, UK), and technical sectors (Agriculture, Climate Change, Early Child Development, Energy, Finance, Infrastructure, Nutrition. Ms. Mata Ubesse is the Director of Business Development and Learning at ELIM Serviços, the first wholly Mozambican woman-owned development consultancy in Mozambique. ELIM’s work centres on market systems development and research. It provides expertise in the design, implementation and evaluation of development interventions in sectors including Agriculture and Rural Development, Financial Services, Health, and Early Child Development. All ELIM’s interventions seek to strengthen the representation of African women in rural value chains and economic processes. At ELIM, Ms. Mata Ubesse leads market and partnership strategies, technical concept development, organisational learning, and knowledge management.

**Djoudalbaye Daniel Ygnalbaye**  
**Resources Management Officer**  
**World Bank Group - Cote d’Ivoire Office**

Djoudalbaye Ygnalbaye Daniel is a Word Bank Resources Management Officer currently based in Abidjan, Office of the World Bank Group in Cote d’Ivoire. His 21 years’ experience in handling WB Country Office administrative and resources management functions includes supports in Country Office administrative procurement activities.