WBG Vendor Forum for Women-Owned Businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean

Speakers’ Biographies
In Alphabetical Order by Last Name

Hana Brixi
Global Director, Gender
The World Bank

As Global Director for Gender, Hana Brixi leads a global effort to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. She sets the overall direction for the World Bank Group’s Gender knowledge agenda, drives Bank-wide efforts for results in closing gender gaps, and fosters partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders toward innovations at scale. In her career, Ms. Brixi has contributed to advances in human development, public finance, and governance. As Manager of the Human Capital Project, she led a global effort to protect and invest in people with an emphasis on girls and women empowerment. Prior to this, she held managerial and leadership positions in the Social Protection & Jobs and Governance Global Practices and in the Middle East & North Africa, East Asia & Pacific, and Europe & Central Asia regions. Based in China during 2001-10, she also served as World Health Organization’s Manager and UNICEF Chief in China.

Ms. Brixi has published articles in professional journals and written several books on economic development, including Trust, Voice and Incentives on service delivery and Government at Risk on fiscal management.

Mario Castilleja
Procurement lead for Mexico and Costa Rica
Accenture

More than 20 years of experience in the Procurement Department in various companies, such as Citi, HSBC and Accenture, performing roles in various Purchasing Categories. In HSBC I was part of the HSBC’s “Global Strategy Group”, member of “LATAM’s Strategic Purchasing Group”, the "LATAM Purchasing Council" and "LATAM Sustainability and Costs Committee".

Now in Accenture Mexico, I’m the “Procurement Lead for Mexico and Costa Rica”, “LATAM Procurement Category leader for HR, MKT and Travel” and finally “Supplier Diversity and Inclusion leader for Mexico and Costa Rica”.

Recently I assume the role of "Chair Advisory Council América Latina (Hispanic Countries)" for WEConnect International.

Maria Angelica Castro
Senior Resource Management Officer
WB Argentina

Maria Angelica joined the Bank in 2003, and since then she has had several Resource Management assignments both in the Country Office and in the WB Headquarters in Washington, DC. She is currently supervising Resource Management Staff across many LCR Country Offices, and overseeing Internal Controls/Quality Assurance in the LCR Region.
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.

Audrey Hinchcliffe  
Founder, Chairman and CEO  
Manpower & Maintenance Services Limited Group

M. Audrey Hinchcliffe is founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Manpower & Maintenance Services Limited Group of Companies comprising MMS Limited, Institute for Workforce Education & Development Ltd. (IWED), Manpower & Maintenance Business Services Limited (MMBS), and Manpower & Maintenance Services Foundation. She is also the Founder and Principal of Caribbean Health Management Consultants Ltd. (CHMC) her first business venture.

Prior to the start of her entrepreneurial endeavors, Mrs. Hinchcliffe boasts an illustrious career in healthcare and education spanning the post of Registered Nurse in Hospitals and Occupation Health in Jamaica, through the ranks of nursing specializations, to Nursing Administration, Hospital Administration and Educator from New York to Florida, USA. From a successful health-care profession in the USA, she was recruited by the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM) in Guyana (1982), where she served over six(6) years as the first Health Development Officer for the then seventeen (17) member states of CARICOM before returning to Jamaica to begin her foray into business (1988).


She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Community Health from St. Francis College, Brooklyn, New York, a Master of Science Degree in Health Administration from Long Island University, New York, and a Certificate in Health Economics from the University of York in the United Kingdom.

Jutta Kern  
Operations Manager for Mexico and Colombia  
The World Bank Group

Jutta Kern has been the Operations Manager for Mexico and Colombia since 2015 and has since overseen the World Bank’s portfolio of the two countries, based in Mexico City. Previously she has worked for the World Bank’s Africa region, including as an expert on monitoring and evaluation in low-income countries with high level of indebtedness and countries in fragile and conflict situations. She was based for several years in Zambia and Mozambique and has worked in many other Sub-Saharan countries.

Before joining the World Bank in 2007, she was Assistant Professor at the University of Vienna and later headed the unit for General Management and Corporate Programs at
Danube University Krems. In addition, Jutta was a program officer and later Deputy Director of the Office of Science and Technology at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, DC for five years, starting in 2002. She holds a Doctorate (1997) and a Master’s (1993) degree in Sociology from the University of Vienna, Austria.

Cecilia Maldonado
Director of Strategic Accounts
Latamways

With a degree in translation from the National University of Cordoba, my 20-year experience in the industry includes co-founding, managing and merging language service companies, co-founding the first language industry association in Argentina, volunteering with different international organizations, as well as organizing more than 30 training events such as the Language & Technology Conference, Think Latin America, and the Vendor Management Seminar in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Brazil, Ireland, Peru and the United States.

President of Women in Localization, Member of the Association of Certified Translators of the Province of Cordoba, Member of the Globalization and Localization Association (GALA), Member of the Association of Language Companies (ALC), Translator authorized by the Embassy of South Africa, Co-founder of Translated in Argentina (TinA) and an active developer of the industry.

Beatriz Marulanda
Senior Associate
Marulanda & Consultores

An economist from Universidad de los Andes with post-graduate studies on Economic Development from Oxford University where she graduated with honors. More than 20 years of professional experience, during which she has directed multiple projects for the public and private sector. Started by career at Banco de la Republica, Colombia’s Central Bank, and since 1992, Beatriz became an independent consultant for the private sector, different governments and multilateral organizations like the World Bank, InterAmerican Development Bank and CAF, among others. In 2002, she created Marulanda & Consultores, a firm with three women as its Senior Associates, specialized in providing financial, economic, policy and strategic advice in topics related to financial inclusion and digital payments mainly to public sector as well multilateral organizations and financial institutions.

Anna Domingo Riu
Entrepreneurship Specialist
IFC Gender and Economic Inclusion Group

Anna works for IFC’s Gender Economic and Inclusion Group, Women's Entrepreneurship Team and supports IFC’s work to integrate more women entrepreneurs into corporate supply chains. She is also a consultant professor in international business for Open University of Catalonia. She brings over 15 years of experience in the field of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) access to market opportunities in several industries and countries.

She has worked for several business support organizations and implemented technical assistance projects financed by the World Bank Group and the European Commission in the area of trade, SME development, and access to procurement in Africa, Latin America and Europe. Anna is fluent in Spanish, English and French. She holds an Executive Master in International Service from American University, a Master in International Development from Jaume I University (Spain), and a B.A. in Business Administration and Management from Barcelona University.
Adam Rubinfeld  
**Sustainability and Supplier Diversity Program Lead**  
**WBG Corporate Procurement**

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.

Maria del Rosario Salazar  
**Procurement Officer**  
**International Finance Corporation**

Rosario has been working in IFC since 2010 as a Procurement Officer. Currently, she oversees the procurement activities in Latin America & Caribbean, improving procurement efficiency on operational and administrative requirements. Before IFC, she had a solid career in Supply Chain Management, Change Management, Foreign Trade and Procurement in multinational companies in Peru and Mexico such as Pfizer, Johnson &Johnson, BASF, Schering Plough and TRW. She has led several projects on logistics improvements, international negotiations on freights, chemical and technical purchases.

Rosario holds a double Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Pacifico’s University and ESADE, certified in Procurement by CIPS Charter Institute of Purchasing & Supply. She also has a major as Customs Agent, a postgraduate degree in Supply Chain Management and complementary studies in foreign trade & Lean Manufacturing.

Roberto Ferreira Lima Silva  
**Senior Administrative Officer**  
**World Bank Brazil**

Author of eHR - Electronic Human Resources book and working with International Organization and Government/Embassy industry Administration and Consular areas for the past 35 years. Roberto also has an MBA in Human Resources from Fundação Getulio Vargas and International Foreign Trade (Importation and Exportation).

Roberto current occupies the position of Senior Administrative Officer for the World Bank’s Brasília, Brazil Country Office. He is also responsible for handling administrative procurement for the office.

Martin Spicer  
**Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean**  
**International Finance Corporation**

Martin Spicer is currently the regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, where he oversees IFC’s investment and advisory program for the region. IFC’s commitments in Latin America and the Caribbean in fiscal year 2020 reached $7.1 billion, enabling investments to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and fight the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Martin has over 25 years of experience with IFC. He served as IFC’s director for Blended Finance and he previously managed teams responsible for investments in IFC’s manufacturing, agribusiness and services business in Latin America and the Caribbean, telecommunications, media and technology business in Asia, Europe, Middle East and North Africa, and for infrastructure and natural resources in Europe. He
also served as a credit officer and has lived and worked in Bangkok, Thailand, and Istanbul, Turkey with IFC.

He received his MBA with a major in finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and his MA from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Prior to graduate school, he was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Gabon. He received a Bachelor of Science from Stanford University.

Catarina Thomaz
Procurement Specialist
WBG Corporate Procurement

Catarina Thomaz is a Procurement Specialist with the Corporate Procurement unit of the WBG, she is a Category Manager for Financial Services and Systems team and responsible for sourcing, contract management and advisory related to procurement. She joined the WBG in 2017 and has over 15 years of experience with Contract management, Procurement and Supply Chain operations. She holds a Master’s degree in International Cooperation for Development and a Bachelors in Law.

Elizabeth A. Vazquez
CEO and Co-Founder
WEConnect International

Elizabeth A. Vazquez is the CEO and Co-Founder of WEConnect International, a global network that connects women-owned businesses to qualified buyers around the world. She is a world leader in women’s economic empowerment and global supplier diversity and inclusion.

As the head of WEConnect International, Ms. Vazquez is responsible for mission delivery and measurable impact. WEConnect International identifies, educates, registers, and certifies women’s business enterprises that are at least 51% owned, managed, and controlled by one or more women, and then connects them with member buyers. The WEConnect International WECommunity supports and promotes women-owned businesses based in over 120 countries, including local support and certification in almost 50 countries across the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The organization also helps to develop the capacity of large buyers to source more products and services from underutilized suppliers, including women-owned businesses globally.

Ms. Vazquez is the co-author of the book, “Buying for Impact: How to Buy from Women and Change Our World.” She sits on several boards of directors and councils including the Procter & Gamble Supplier Diversity Advisory Council. She "rang the bell" at the New York Stock Exchange in 2019 in support of women business owners around the world and is a W20 Representative to advance G20 commitments. She also served as a member of the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment from 2016-2017.

Ms. Vazquez is an advisor to a long list of corporate, government and multilateral leaders, including WEConnect International members with over US$1 trillion in annual purchasing power. She has served as a trainer and guest lecturer on international trade and gender inclusive growth to graduate students at several business schools and universities such as American University, Arizona State University Honors College, Brown University, Georgetown University, Harvard University, MIT, Oxford University, Tufts University, University of Johannesburg, University of Ottawa, and more.

She was born in Mexico, has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Arizona State University, and was honored by the Barrett Honors College as an Inspiring Alumni for making significant contributions in her career and community. She has a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University where she studied development economics and international negotiation as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and is the recipient of the 2018 Fletcher Women’s Leadership Award for outstanding graduates who are making a meaningful impact in the world. She also completed graduate seminars
at Harvard Law School and the Kennedy School of Government, the Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University, and Sookmyung Women’s University in South Korea.

Shaolin Yang  
Managing Director and Chief Administrative Officer (MDCAO)  
World Bank Group

As Managing Director and World Bank Group Chief Administrative Officer since February 2016, Shaolin Yang is responsible for a number of critical functions of the institution including: organizational strategy, budget and strategic planning, information technology, enterprise risk, shared services, corporate procurement, general services, corporate security, health and safety, ethics and business conduct, the Sanctions System, and the Internal Justice System.

In these responsibilities, Mr. Yang leads the development and review of the World Bank Group’s strategic agenda through 2030, including the Forward Look, overseeing the alignment of resources with corporate strategies and commitments, including the 2018 capital package and IDA replenishment. He is responsible for the departments overseeing the health, safety and security of the Bank Group’s global staff across 140+ offices, as well as for steering World Bank Group decisions on investments and delivery of information technology and internal services to meet operational demands across the institution.

Mr. Yang also oversees the Bank Group’s internal corporate procurement of goods and services and the Group’s shared services, leading efforts to increase organizational efficiency and resource management, as well as provide agile back office support and robust business continuity across all five Bank Group institutions. He leads implementation of the Bank Group’s enterprise risk management framework and leads efforts to improve operational risk awareness, management and reporting across the Bank Group. In addition, through the administration of the Bank Group’s Ethics and Business Conduct department, Sanctions System and Internal Justice System he works to ensure a robust, fair, transparent, and ethical internal and external governance and business environment.

Mr. Yang has extensive experience and expertise in international development as well as multilateral and bilateral cooperation, including MDBs. He served as Director General for International Economic and Financial Cooperation at the Ministry of Finance of China, in charge of economic and financial cooperation between China and foreign governments as well as international financial institutions. Mr. Yang had also served as the Executive Director for China at the World Bank from 2009-2013, where he was the chair of the Committee on Governance and Executive Directors’ Administration Matters, overseeing the development and implementation of a number of corporate governance reforms. Mr. Yang had additionally served as the Alternate Governor for China at the IFAD in Rome, Italy, and as the Alternate Executive Director for China at the Asian Development Bank in Manila, the Philippines.