



WBG Virtual Vendor Forum for Woman- and Minority-Owned Businesses in North America and Europe

Speakers' Biographies In Alphabetical Order by Last Name



Hana Brix
Global Director, Gender
The World Bank

As Global Director for Gender, Hana Brix 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. Brix 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. Brix 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.



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.





Guranda Elashvili
Procurement Specialist
WBG Corporate Procurement

Guranda is a Procurement Specialist within Professional Service team, Corporate Procurement. She has been part of the Corporate Procurement team since 2011 and provides procurement and contract administration guidance to various departments, Practice Groups and regions of WBG. Before joining Corporate Procurement, Guranda worked in the Georgia Country office. As a regional Procurement Specialist, she handled investment lending projects and provided procurement expertise/clearance to Task managers during all stages of the project cycle.

Guranda graduated from University of Edinburgh, UK (LLM in International Law and Commercial Practice) and European School of Management (MBA). She holds a Master Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University, USA. She speaks English, Russian and Georgian.



Bee Joshi
Financial Controller
Sheppard Moscow

Bee joined the Sheppard Moscow team in 2007. Currently, her role as Financial Controller, is to ensure best commercial practice is central to all our business engagements. Primarily the role is to provide timely, accurate and relevant financial information – forming the basis of strategic decisions - making and enabling smooth transactions between us and our clients. The responsibility of keeping the process moving between consultants and clients throughout the whole engagement is one which Bee relishes and is hugely passionate about, whilst inspiring others in the team. Engaging with people is one of Bee's key strengths, proven through her strong client and colleague relations. She plays a huge, important role in the business-to-business relationships with our clients.




Kalsoom Lakhani
Co-founder & General Partner
i2i Ventures

Kalsoom is the Co-founder & General Partner at i2i Ventures, an early stage VC fund for Pakistan, and the country's first female-founded VC fund. Prior to opening the doors to i2i Ventures in 2019, Kalsoom was the Founder of Invest2Innovate, i2i Ventures' sister entity, which she founded in 2011 to support and unleash the potential of young entrepreneurs in growth markets like Pakistan. She has trained young entrepreneurs, changemakers, and civil society leaders in Kosovo, Nepal, Cambodia, Ireland, Bangladesh, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan, and has spoken at numerous venues, including the World Economic Forum, Aspen Ideas Festival, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, U.S. State Department, the Global Entrepreneurship Summit, and SXSW. Kalsoom is currently a nonresident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and serves on the Board of the American Pakistan Foundation.



Ihanta Evelyne Rasoanirina Ratsimbazafy
Project Manager
Global Real Estate Development & Management, WBG Paris Office

Evelyne joined the Bank in July 2010 and currently is a Project Manager in WBG Paris office. Prior to that, she had the responsibility to manage the facilities in Madagascar, Mozambique and Comoros country offices. Prior to joining the Bank, she worked as a Program Manager for the Habitat For Humanity providing decent houses for low income families and supporting the most vulnerable. She worked also for the Rural Development National Program in Madagascar as an infrastructure specialist and then as a procurement specialist. This program was financed by the World Bank. She joined the



Delegation of European Union in Madagascar and held the Housing National Program as the National Program Coordinator for 5 years. She started her career as a junior engineer in various Engineering Consultancies across different countries for designing and supervising infrastructure projects.

She is a Civil Engineer from the Ecole Polytechnique d'Antananarivo - Madagascar with a Master's degree in Real Estate Audit from Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne-Switzerland.



Adam Rubinfield

Sustainability and Supplier Diversity Program Lead
WBG Corporate Procurement

Adam Rubinfield, 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.



Diana Smallridge

President and CEO
International Financial Consulting


Diana Smallridge is President and CEO of International Financial Consulting, a firm she founded in 2000. Diana has worked with multilateral, bilateral and national development banks, agencies, institutions, and governments around the world in more than 70 countries. Her primary focal areas are institutional strategy, performance evaluation, and governance. She has an excellent network, accessing senior leaders throughout the world to identify best practice approaches to complex development and climate finance challenges. She has won recognition as a pioneering thinker and advisor on climate finance and development finance issues and is a sought-after guest speaker, facilitator and chair in workshops and conferences around the world. She has published extensively on climate finance, including developing the Guidebook on Climate Risk for National Development Banks. Diana developed the Full Potential© strategic planning methodology, which is applied in projects worldwide, as well as the Health Diagnostic Tool© to measure the overall performance of financial institutions with a development mandate. She holds a M.A. Economics from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.



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.





Sara Wilshaw

Assistant Deputy Minister and Canada's Chief Trade Commissioner

A senior government executive of 26 years, Ms. Wilshaw is Canada's Chief Trade Commissioner and Assistant Deputy Minister at Global Affairs Canada. She leads a global team that helps Canadian business find new customers, troubleshoot market access, sell their products, and grow their businesses (www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca). Sara also leads work across global trade support services including export finance, foreign investment, and responsible business conduct.

Prior to her current role, Sara served as Director of Operations, Foreign and Defense Policy Secretariat at the Privy Council Office. In this role she provided strategic analysis and advice to the Prime Minister, the Clerk of the Privy Council, the National Security and Intelligence Advisor and the Foreign and Defense Policy Advisor on matters concerning Canada-U.S. relations, Latin America, Trade issues, Climate Change, Human Rights and the UN.

Prior to joining PCO, Sara led the North America Bureau at Global Affairs Canada during the renegotiation of NAFTA as Director General. She was previously appointed to represent Canada as Consul General in Dallas, and as Senior Trade Commissioner in New Delhi, India, and she has extensive experience in trade promotion and negotiations, including at Canada's Permanent Mission to the World Trade Organization in Geneva and at the Embassy of Canada in Japan.

Her headquarters experience at Global Affairs Canada includes both functional and geographic, as well as foundational work on the Global Commerce Strategy, Corporate Social Responsibility for the Extractive Sector, modernization of the Trade Commissioner Service, trade policy consultations and communications, as well as human resources.

Ms. Wilshaw is a graduate of York University's International Relations and Economics program. She is married and has two children.





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 several 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.

