



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK EXECUTIVE PANEL

UTILIZING BLENDED FINANCE TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BUILD BACK BETTER



OPENING REMARKS



Cheryl Urban has been with Global Affairs Canada since 2010. As Director General for Economic Development, she leads the department's engagement with international financial institutions and policy in the areas of economic growth and governance. Prior to this, Ms. Urban served as the Director General of South America and Inter-American Affairs, where she oversaw Canada's bilateral trade, political, and development cooperation relationship with countries in South America, and provided direction to Canada's permanent mission to the Organization of American States. In this capacity, she led Canada's strategic engagement on the Venezuela crisis.

Within Global Affairs Canada, Ms. Urban has also held the positions of Director General of Corporate Planning, Performance and Risk Management; Program Director, Southeast Asia; and Policy Director with the Afghanistan Task Force. Her time on the Afghanistan Task Force included field assignments in Kabul and Kandahar. Before joining Global Affairs Canada, Ms. Urban worked for seven years at Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada where she led federal-provincial/territorial-Indigenous negotiations related to education. Before joining the Government of Canada, she worked as a researcher at Sussex Circle Management Consulting firm in Toronto. She holds an Honours B.A. in Philosophy from McGill University and an M.A. in East Asian Studies from the University of Toronto.

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MODERATOR



Lindsay Wallace is a senior economist and impact measurement specialist who is currently consulting with Limestone Analytics on a variety of evaluations and innovative finance projects. She is also an Advisor to the Toronto Centre for Financial Supervision. Prior to working with Limestone Analytics, she was Head of Impact for the Mastercard Foundation where she oversaw impact measurement and evaluation for the Foundation's \$3B of investments. She has extensive experience developing theories of change and leading learning partnerships to support portfolio-level M&E systems and impact reporting. She was previously Deputy Director of the Financial Inclusion program

where she oversaw \$500m of blended finance investments. Lindsay previously led economic growth programming for the UK Department for International Development in Rwanda, where she was responsible for programming in trade, climate change, agriculture, land tenure reform and financial inclusion. She also has public finance experience working with Ministries of Finance in Ontario, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Guyana in budget reform, expenditure forecasting and fiscal transparency. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Oikocredit Canada Support Association.

PANELISTS



Joan Larrea, CEO of Convergence, is an expert in catalyzing investment in places that need it most and brings with her over 25 years of experience in emerging markets investing. Since 2016, Joan's leadership has driven Convergence to become a global independent authority for blended finance. As CEO, Joan ensures Convergence continues to elevate the field of blended finance through its products and services and accelerate the flow of private capital into SDG projects across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Joan also serves on the FinDev Canada Advisory Council, the Advisory Group of Financial Experts for the Global Environment Facility's Non-Grant Instruments Program, and HRH The Prince of Wales Sustainable Markets Council.



Hon. John Rwangombwa was appointed Central Bank Governor on the 25th February 2013. His career started in Rwanda Revenue Authority where he grew through ranks to the Deputy Commissioner of Customs for Operations. He then joined the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning in 2002 as the Director of the National Treasury Department. Having served as the Ministry's first Accountant General in 2005, Mr. Rwangombwa was appointed Permanent Secretary and Secretary to the Treasury in the same year and in 2009 he became the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning. At that time, he oversaw the elaboration and implementation of Rwanda's first Economic

Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS I), under which Rwanda's economy was able to achieve high growth at an average of 8% and poverty was reduced by 12% in 5 years from 2006-2011. Since his appointment as Central Bank Governor to date, Mr. Rwangombwa has been able to maintain the stability of the Rwandan Economy and its Financial Sector. He was voted Governor of the Year 2015 for the Sub-Saharan Region by Emerging Markets. Mr. Rwangombwa serves as member of various advisory bodies including the Presidential Advisory Council and World Economic Forum on Global Agenda Council.



Anita Bhatia serves as the Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women's Deputy Executive Director since August 2019. Prior to that, Ms. Bhatia served since 2014 as the Director for Development Partner Relations at the World Bank Group. Previously, she held the position of Director of Partnerships and Advisory Services Operations (2011–2014) and of Global Head of Knowledge at the International Finance Corporation (2010-2011). Ms. Bhatia also served as Head of IFC's Latin America Advisory Operations. In addition to Latin America, she has worked in Africa, Europe, Central Asia and South and East Asia. Ms. Anita Bhatia brings extensive experience in the area of strategic partnerships, resource mobilization and

management. During her time at the IFC, she developed and expanded innovative partnerships with public and private sector partners to support its strategy in key areas, including fragile and conflict-affected states, gender equality, financial inclusion, support to women-owned businesses and other priorities critical for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Ms. Bhatia holds a BA in History from Calcutta University, an MA in Political Science from Yale University and a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University.