



Discussing the African Economic Outlook 2016: Sustainable Cities and Structural Transformation

Tuesday 5 July 2016, 11:00-13:00
Palais des Nations, Room XI

Biographies

Arthur MINSAT

Arthur is an Economist in the OECD Development Centre's Africa team. He is the lead author of the thematic chapters of the African Economic Outlook (AEO) 2016: Sustainable Cities and Structural Transformation, and AEO 2015: Regional Development and Spatial Inclusion. Before joining the OECD in 2014, Arthur worked for three years at the UNDP, contributing to the Human Development Reports. He conducted economic analysis in Abidjan during Côte d'Ivoire's electoral crisis in 2010-11.

Arthur holds a PhD from the London School of Economics (LSE) and a Franco-German double diploma from Sciences-Po Lille and the University of Münster.

Jan KELLETT

Jan is a Special Advisor for External Engagement within the climate, disaster and energy team of UNDP, responsible for: partnerships; advocacy and communications; research, evidence and communications.

Prior to this post, Jan spent a year and a half consulting for UNDP on global initiatives, including the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Financing for Development Forum and the Paris Climate Negotiations.

Before UNDP, Jan was a senior research advisor at the Overseas Development Institute, where he was a member of the climate and environment programme. During his two years at ODI, Jan worked on influential aspects of work in and around risk management, especially in the areas of climate adaptation, aid financing, international institution capacity, resilience, transition and fragility. Prior to ODI, Jan led the Global Humanitarian Assistance programme at Development Initiatives, focusing on delivering detailed and concise information on humanitarian financing.

Before this, Jan spent more than ten years working for the United Nations in 15 diverse post-conflict and post-disaster contexts at a country level, as part of UNDP country offices or later as senior advisor to UN Resident Coordinators.

Jan has an undergraduate degree in media arts and a masters degree in civilisation and barbarism.



Kookie HABTEGABER

Kookie is global lead for green economy at WWF International. In this role she is responsible for leading the development, alignment and implementation of the WWF Network green economy strategic plan, providing policy, advocacy, capacity support to the WWF network, as well as building and maintaining external partnerships on green economy agenda.

Before joining WWF, Kookie worked as a management consultant focusing on sustainable finance and corporate responsibility. Most recently, she led and coordinated the launch and roadmap development for the Natural Capital Declaration. In this role, she worked closely with a wide array of financial institutions, governments, NGOs and Corporates. Previously, Kookie worked as an economist focusing on international trade and sustainable development.

Kookie holds an MSc in International Economics from University of Maastricht, an MBA in Strategic Carbon Management and Climate Change from the University of East Anglia and a diploma in management consultancy from the Institute of Consulting/ Chartered Management

Jean-Yves BARCELO

Jean-Yves is the Inter-regional adviser and Head of the UN-Habitat Office in Geneva. He joined UN-Habitat in 1995 to support the in-country preparatory process for the Habitat II Conference. He was appointed Inter-regional adviser in 1997 to provide policy advises to Member States on sustainable urbanization. In this capacity, he also supports technical cooperation projects in Least Developed Countries and cities in crisis as well as in Mid-Income Countries on a wide rank of subjects, including city extension and regeneration programmes, urban services, integrated urban planning, regional and metropolitan development. He coordinated the preparation of international guidelines on access to basic services for all.

Before joining the UN, Jean-Yves served in the French Ministries of Public Works and Foreign Affairs. Jean-Yves is a Civil Engineer.

Neil WALMSLEY

Neil Walmsley is a senior Manager of the C40 Cities Finance Facility, which provides support to cities in developing countries to develop bankable investment proposals for sustainable infrastructure.

Neil has worked in sustainable development for nearly 10 years, in both the private and not-for-profit sectors, working with governments, local authorities and businesses on a range of climate change issues. A specialist in climate change adaptation and climate finance, Neil has helped cities around the world develop resilience strategies and financing approaches for a range of projects.

Neil is also originally an archaeologist and has worked on sites across Europe, ranging from Neolithic monuments in Scotland to Roman cities in Bulgaria.



Wondy ASNAKE

Wondwosen (Wondy) is principally responsible for the development, management and implementation of regional partnership and outreach activities on sustainable development issues linked to health, education, youth and women, in cooperation with a wide-range of civil society organizations and sister UN agencies at UNEP Regional Office for Europe. He coordinates and actively contributes to UNEP's work in the areas of Environment and Health, Education for Sustainable Development, Gender, UN Inter-Agency partnership, and the Post-2015 development agenda in the European region. He pioneered UNEP's flagship youth magazine. He has contributed to a number of sport and sustainable development publications. He served as member of the Sport and Environment Commission of the IOC and UN Secretary-General's Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace. He is a strong advocate and believer in the power of education and young people to make a positive difference in the world.