



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

## **Launch of the World Public Sector Report 2023**

**9 November 2023, 8:00 – 9:00 EST**

### **Speakers' bios**



#### **Ms. Lisa M. Morrison**

**Acting Head of Strategic Planning and Communication Services, Office of the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)**

Ms. Lisa M. Morrison is the Acting Head of Strategic Planning and Communication Services in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General of UN DESA. She also serves as the Secretary for UN DESA's Editorial Board. She previously served as Special Assistant to the ASG for Economic Development, has worked as a Senior Programme Officer, Statistician and Social Affairs Officer in UN DESA, and has been a contributing author to several UN publications including three editions of the Report on the World Social Situation and two editions of the World's Women: Trends and Statistics. She is co-author of *Priced Out: Stuyvesant Town and the Loss of Middle-Class Neighborhoods* (New York University Press; 2016). Prior to joining the United

Nations, Ms. Morrison was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Southern Maine. She holds a PhD and master's degree in Comparative Sociology from the Ohio State University.



**Mr. Navid Hanif**

### **Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in UN DESA**

Mr. Navid Hanif is the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in DESA. He is also the UN sous Sherpa to the G20 finance and main tracks.

He joined UNDESA in 2001. He was Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002. He served as the Chief of Policy Coordination Branch and later Director in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support and the Director for Financing for Sustainable Development Office. He was the first head of the DESA Strategic Planning Unit established in 2010.

He was Principal Officer in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, Vice-Chair of the UN High Level Committee on Programming (HLCP) and Co-Coordinator of the UN team on repositioning of the UN Development System that led to major reforms in 2018.

He has contributed several articles on financing and investing in the SDGs in various journals and reports.

He holds MIA, International Political Economy, Columbia University (NY), & M.A., English Literature, Government College University (Lahore).



**Mr. David Le Blanc**

**Chief of Institutions for Sustainable Development Goals Branch, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, DESA**

Mr. David Le Blanc works in the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government in the UN Secretariat, where he leads analytical and policy work on public institutions and public administration in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals. From 2006 to 2017, he was in the Division for Sustainable Development in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. While there, he worked in support of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Rio+20 conference, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development. Before joining the UN, he worked at the World Bank as Senior Economist in the Urban and Housing Finance groups (2003-2006). Earlier in his career, he worked at the French National Statistical Institute (INSEE) as Head of Regional Studies in the Rhône-Alpes regional office (1994-97) and Head of the National Housing Survey (1997-2000), and at CREST, Paris as a research fellow (2000-2003).



**Dr. Müge Kökten Finkel**

**Co-director, Gender Inequality research Lab, University of Pittsburgh**

Dr. Müge Kökten Finkel is Assistant Professor of International Development and Program Director of the Master of International Development Program at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to her academic appointment in GSPIA, she worked as a Social Development Specialist at the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa region, and consulted for the International Food Policy Research Institute. She worked on youth and gender-focused projects in Yemen, Egypt, and Morocco. Dr. Finkel is the faculty co-lead of the Ford Institute for Human Security working group on Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA), a collaborative research effort with UNDP. Her current research focuses on politics of public sector employment and opportunities for women.



**Mr. Rolf Alter**

**Senior Fellow, Hertie School of Governance**

**Member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration**

Mr. Rolf Alter is an experienced economist and Senior Fellow at the Hertie School of Governance, in Berlin. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report. He spent over 25 years at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. In 2006, he was appointed Chief of Staff to the OECD Secretary-General and in 2009, he became Director of Public Governance. Dr. Alter built a team of over 200 staff to support governments in improving their public sector performance for inclusive growth and economic competitiveness. He previously worked for the International Monetary Fund, in Washington, D.C., and for the Ministry of Economy of Germany, in Bonn. Dr. Alter's interests include institutional and regulatory reform, productivity, innovation, results-oriented budgeting, transparency, leadership and integrity. He holds a doctorate from the University of Göttingen. In 2013, he received a doctorate (honoris causa) from the National University of Hungary. In 2016, he was awarded the Onkar Prasad Dwivedi Award by the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration for his outstanding contribution to public administration and policy.



**Ms. Alketa Peci**

**Professor of Public Administration and Government, Brazilian School of Public and Business Administration, Getulio Vargas Foundation**

**Member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration**

Ms. Alketa Peci is an Associate Professor of Public Administration and Government at the Brazilian School of Public and Business Administration at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, in Rio de Janeiro. Currently, she serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Public Administration (Revista de Administração Pública), which was launched in 1967 and published in three languages. Dr. Peci's research interests relate to the study of bureaucracy and its contemporary transformations. She has done empirical research on autonomous bureaucracies as independent regulatory institutions and audit offices, on bureaucratic representation and its intersections with reputation and administrative burdens and on networks with non-profit and private partners and major bureaucratic reforms. She has published books, several book chapters and numerous articles in international and national journals, such as Regulation & Governance, Public Management Review, Utilities Policy, Voluntas, International Review of Administrative Sciences, Organization, Public Administration and Development, Revista de Administração Pública and Revista de Administração de Empresas, among others. She received her doctoral degree in administration from the Brazilian School of Public and Business Administration at the Getulio Vargas Foundation in 2005. From 2018 to 2019, she held a visiting appointment at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Since 2015, she has been a visiting professor of

comparative public administration at the University Institute of Lisbon, in Portugal.



**Ms. Margaret Williams**

**SDG16+ Associate Director, Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies**

Ms. Margaret Williams is the SDG16+ Associate Director with the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies at the Center on International Cooperation at New York University. She has over a decade of experience in sustainable development and multilateral affairs, having worked across stakeholders on programming, partnerships, policy and advocacy. For the past six years, she is grateful to have worked with a number of partners within the SDG16+ ecosystem, including: the TAP Network, UNDP, IDLO, UNDESA and WFUNA, where she ran the 16+ Forum. Prior to an SDG16+-specific lens, her background includes prevention and peacebuilding, youth empowerment, women's empowerment, community engagement, and education. Based in New York, she has lived and worked in Tunisia, Palestine, Cyprus, and Greece, with additional experience in Georgia, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, and Uganda. She holds a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University in the U.S.