



**United  
Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

# **International Conference on Data and Digital Governance**

**19-20 October 2024, Shanghai**

**(In conjunction with Global Data Ecosystem Conference 2024)**

**21-22 October 2024, Deqing**

**(In conjunction with UN Geo Week)**

## **DELEGATES and PARTICIPANTS**

### **Azerbaijan**

**Mr. Murad Fatullayev**

**Head of Data Analytics and Statistics Department, The State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan**



Mr. Murad Fatullayev is the head of the Data Analytics department at the State Agency for Public Services and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. With over 10 years of experience in digital transformation, he specializes in data management and analytics, driving initiatives to enhance public service delivery. He is committed to fostering a data-driven decision-making environment within the State Agency, ensuring that insights derived from comprehensive data analysis lead to informed policies and improved service efficiency. Passionate about leveraging

technology and data analytics for societal benefits, He will continue to advocate for innovation in public services.

### **Bangladesh**

**Mr. Mohammed Shahidul Islam**

**Deputy Secretary, Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Programme**



Mr. Mohammed Shahidul Islam, Deputy Secretary in the Government of Bangladesh, is a Senior Consultant for E-Service Implementation under the Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Program. With 19 years of experience in various administrative roles in Bangladesh Government, he has led key initiatives in Civil Registration, Vital Statistics (CRVS), and National Social Security Strategies (NSSS). He has been instrumental in implementing the E-filing system, improving governmental transparency. Mr. Shahidul holds degrees in Mathematics and Economics from the National University of Bangladesh and Yamaguchi University, Japan, supported by a Japanese scholarship.

## Bhutan

### Mr. Suresh Nepal

#### Deputy Chief ICT Officer, Government Technology Agency



Mr. Suresh Nepal is the Deputy Chief ICT Officer at the Data Science and AI Division within the Government Technology Agency, Royal Government of Bhutan. With a Master's degree in Data Science and a Bachelor's in Information Technology, he leverages his expertise to drive innovative solutions in public service. Originally from Bhutan, Suresh is dedicated to enhancing technological integration in government operations, ensuring effective data utilization for improved decision-making and service delivery. His commitment to advancing ICT initiatives reflects his passion for fostering a data-driven culture in governance.

### Mr. Cheku Dorji

#### Statistician, Kuenden Statistical Services



Mr. Cheku Dorji, a Bhutanese citizen is a consultant statistician with over 20 years of experience. He holds an MSc in Statistics and an MBA. As the founder of Kuenden Statistical Services, he has expertise in field survey coordination, data analysis, and report writing. He played a key role in major surveys in Bhutan, including the Bhutan Living Standards Surveys. Recently he was engaged by UN DESA as a consultant to conduct the Baseline Study of National Data Governance Framework in Bhutan.

### Ms. Tshering Pema

#### Assistant ICTO, Government Technology Agency



Ms. Pema is an experienced Assistant ICT Officer at the Government Technology Department, working in the Division of Digital Service Transformation. With two years of experience, she has a strong background in data quality management, ensuring data accuracy through validation, cleansing, and master data management initiatives. She also possesses in-depth knowledge of data privacy laws and has developed policies to safeguard sensitive data.

As a business analyst, Ms. Pema has conducted comprehensive analyses of business processes, delivered detailed requirement documents, and collaborated with stakeholders to ensure project alignment with organizational goals. She has also led business process reengineering initiatives, driving improvements in efficiency and service delivery.

Additionally, she has performed system analysis, proposed solutions, and integrated new systems to enhance functionality and interoperability across government sectors, contributing to data-driven initiatives for digital transformation.

## **Cambodia**

### **Mr. Puthyvuth Sok**

#### **Secretary of State, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications**



Mr. Puthyvuth Sok, studied in the U.S. from 1993, attending Virginia Military Institute, where he earned a BA in Economics and Business with a minor in Computer Science in 2002. He later completed a Master's in Management at EUROMED, France, and worked in London's banking sector. In 2005, he returned to Cambodia to work at Kampuchea Tela Co., Ltd. and founded SOMA Group in 2007, focusing on agriculture, education, and infrastructure.

He served as President of the Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF), leading efforts to improve the rice industry and farmers' livelihoods, and was re-elected in 2016. He also became the President of the ICT Federation in 2014. From 2018, as Secretary of State at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, he played a key role in developing Cambodia's Digital Government Policy, advancing the country's digital transformation.

### **Mr. Rapid Sun**

#### **Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications**



Mr. Rapid SUN is an Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications in charge of Policy, Digital Educational Ecosystem, International Relations and Digital Government Infrastructure. With more than 20 years in ICT field for the government, he has participated in many projects and developed himself from ICT technical person to project manager and policy maker. He had contributed extensively on the formulating the Cambodia Digital Government Policy 2022-2035. He has worked on the national data governance baseline and open data report with inputs from multi stakeholders in cooperation with development partners.



**Ms. UK Samphal**

**Director, Department of Administration, General Secretariat of the Digital Government Committee**



Ms. UK Samphal is the Director of the Department of Administration at the General Secretariat of the Digital Government Committee. In this role, she oversees a diverse team responsible for functions, including administration, finance, budgeting, human resources, general affairs, initiatives related to capacity-building programs and both public and international relations to enhance the committee's operational effectiveness.

UK Samphal holds a Master's degree in Law from the Royal University of Law and Economics. She is also a graduate of the High Official Ranking Student Training Program at the Royal School of Administration, where she developed advanced competencies in public governance and administration.

**Ms. DY Bosolida**

**Legal Officer, Policy and Legal Affairs Department, General Secretariat of the Digital Government Committee**



As a legal officer in the Department of Policy and Legal Affairs of the Digital Government Committee, Ms. DY Bosolida is tasked in core work areas including legal research and drafting, digital government products rollout, and international collaborations.

Working in the public sector, she develop a broad understanding of the complexity in the government and keeping up with global trend. However, She believe digitalization can only start with people and their willingness to change, then the technology will follow.

**Ms. Molyda Horn**

**Assistant, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications**



Ms. Molyda Horn is an assistant to H.E. Puthyvuth SOK, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications in Cambodia.

With more than 6 years as an assistant, her responsibility is managing in administrative tasks, logistical support and in public engagements. She efficiently handles scheduling, overseeing communications and coordinating high-level meetings. She ensures that all administrative tasks are executed smoothly, enabling H.E. Puthyvuth SOK to focus on strategic matters and leadership duties.

**Mr. Chea Linna**

**Cyber Security Specialist**



with over 8 years of experience in cyber defense and management, including protecting critical systems at Cambodia's largest bank. Currently working with MPTC Cambodia, with expertise in threat management, risk mitigation, and secure infrastructure development. Mr. Chea Linna is currently holds a master's degree in cybersecurity, enabling a comprehensive, strategic approach to tackling today's cybersecurity challenges.

## **People's Republic of China**

**Ms. XU, Huili**

**Deputy Secretary General, Shanghai Municipal People's Government**



Ms. XU, Huili is the Deputy Secretary General of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government, Director General of Shanghai Municipal Data Bureau, Director General of Shanghai Municipal Urban Operation and Management Center.

She assists the Vice Mayor in arranging emergency management, data development management, urban digital transformation and road traffic safety. She is also in charge of the development of "Government Online-offline Shanghai" and "One Net for All" platforms.

**Prof. SU, Changhe**

**Dean, School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University**



Prof. SU, Changhe is Professor and Dean of the School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University, China. Professor Su received his PhD. in international relations from Fudan University in 1999, and then joined the faculty of the International Politics Department at Fudan. During 2006-2011, he was as professor and dean of the School of International and Diplomatic Affairs at Shanghai International Studies University. Professor Su's major research interests are on international relations theories, Chinese politics and foreign relations, and international organization and global governance. Su's articles are appeared in many Chinese leading journals in international relations. He is also the vice president of China's Association of International Studies.

**Mr. FENG, Lei**

***Director General of Shanghai Meteorological Service***



Mr. Feng Lei, Director of the Shanghai Meteorological Service. He has been engaged in urban meteorological disaster prevention and reduction, meteorological public services, and management for a long time. He is currently serving as a member of the Shanghai Municipal Natural Disaster Prevention and Control Committee, Shanghai Work Safety Committee, Shanghai Joint Conference on Earthquake Prevention and Disaster Reduction, Shanghai Forest Fire Prevention Command, Shanghai Patriotic Public Health Committee, and other coordinating and leading organizations for multi-hazard prevention.

He has deeply participated in the planning, development, and application practice of Shanghai Multi-hazard Early Warning System. He has organized meteorological services for major events, such as the 2010 Shanghai World Expo and previous China International Import Expo. He has been leading the organization and implementation of smart meteorological service to support refined urban management of Shanghai city.

**Mr. JIANG, Bo**

**Director of Shanghai Urban IoT Operation Center**



Mr. Jiang Bo is the Director of Shanghai Urban IoT Operation Center, Director of the National Trusted Embedded Software Engineering Technology Research Center, Member of the Standing Committee of the Shanghai Municipal Association for Science and Technology, and the Provincial Academic and Technical Leader. He is a member of the Standing Committee of Shanghai Municipal Science and Technology Association, provincial academic and technical leader, editor-in-chief and director of the editorial committee of the Chinese core journal "Computer Engineering". He has led the research on several key national and ministry-level projects and has been engaged in research on software-defined system architecture technology and industry digital solutions.

## Egypt

### **Dr. Reham Abdelgawad Ali Fahmi Mohamed**

#### **Senior Advisor on Digital Transformation, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**



Dr. Fahmi is part of the team leading the Digital Transformation in Egypt. She serves as the liaison for strategic communications and partnerships, bridging the gap between Digital Transformation strategy and its implementation with all stakeholders, besides her essential role in drawing the vision of the National Digital Transformation Journey.

With more than 25 years of multi-disciplinary experience with an enthusiasm for research and working in complex multicultural environments; to build high performance teams, create long-term trusting organisational relationships, and lead operations by motivating cross functional teams. Dr. Fahmi served as the Head of the Technical Bureau for the Minister of ICT for 8 years ensuring strategic alignment and efficient communications of the Ministry's mission with all involved parties. She also held various positions in the Information Technology Institute; the ICT training arm for the Egyptian Government for more than 10 years working in Human Capital Development. On the Academic aspect, Dr. Fahmi holds an M.Sc degree in Computer Science from Nottingham University in 2004, Graduate Studies in Healthcare Informatics from Oregon Health and Science University, a Professional Diploma in Software Engineering as well as a B.Sc in Oral and Dental Surgery from Cairo University.

### **Dr. Riham Moawad Hassan Hassanien Elhabashi**

#### **Digital Transformation Strategies Advisor, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**



Dr. Moawad is a seasoned Information Technology and Strategic Management expert with over 25 years of experience. She has been a key member of the Digital Transformation team at the Egyptian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology since 2014.

Her expertise has been instrumental in developing national strategic plans and business development strategies. She has represented Egypt at numerous international forums, including the ITU, WSIS, G20, and the American Egyptian Joint Economic Commission. Dr. Moawad has also played a significant role in promoting entrepreneurship and innovation. She has mentored startups and SMEs and has contributed to academic programs at Cairo University. Her work has focused on bridging the gap between higher education and industry needs and creating job opportunities.

**Mr. Mohamed Attiyah**

**Unit Manager, International Relations Division, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**



Mr. Mohamed Attiyah is a Unit Manager in charge of cooperation with United Nations organizations and OECD, International Relations Division, at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt.

With a robust background in bilateral and multilateral cooperation, Mohamed has represented MCIT Egypt at various international forums and conferences. Notably, Mohamed has represented MCIT Egypt in the Digital Economy Working Group expert's meetings of the G20.

Mohamed has been actively involved in development cooperation programs such as the Egypt OECD Country Programme and UN Country programmes among others

Mohamed holds a Master's degree in International Economic Development from University of Carlos III, Madrid – Spain and a bachelor's degree in Political Science with a specialization in Political Economy from the American University in Cairo – Egypt and Mohamed is also a polyglot.

## **Ethiopia**

**Dr. Mesfin Kifle Menker**

**Associate Professor, Addis Ababa University**

\*Presenting on behalf of Mr. Abiyot Bayou Tehone, Senior Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Innovation & Technology (MInT)



Dr. Mesfin is an associate professor at Addis Ababa University. He earned his PhD in Software Engineering and MSc Degree in Computer Science. His experience in the past 25 years spans both in the industry and academia working in software development industry, research, consultancy and teaching. Moreover, he has served in various academic management positions for more than ten years. Currently, his research interest embraces enterprise architecture, IT governance, data governance, system and requirements engineering.



## Gambia

**Mr. Lang Loum**

**Director General, Ministry of Communications & Digital Economy**



Mr. Lang Loum has over 13 years of experience in IT and digital governance, specializing in initiatives, strategies, and policies. He currently serves as Director General of Communications and Digital Economy at the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy. Previously, Lang held roles as Director of E-Government, Deputy Director of ICT, and Head of IT at the Ministry of Finance, where he successfully managed the IT department, ensuring it effectively met the needs of all directorates within the Ministry.

**Mr. Sheriff Jallow**

**Director of Public Service, Ministry of Public Service**



Mr. Sheriff Jallow is the director responsible for coordinating the civil service reform agenda of the Government of The Gambia Under the Ministry of Public Service , Administrative Reforms, Policy Coordination and Delivery. He joined the civil service in March 2004 as a junior officer but rose through the ranks to his current position of Director.

## Republic of Korea

**Mr. Dongyub Baek**

**Principal Manager, National Information Society Agency in Korea**



Mr. Dongyub Baek is a Principal Manager at the National Information Society Agency (NIA) in Korea, where he leads international cooperation initiatives in open data by sharing Korea's experiences and lessons learned. Recently, he presented Korea's strategies at workshops organized by UNDESA, aimed at enhancing data governance capacity of partner countries. He also served as the head of the Korea-Tunisia Digital Government Cooperation Center (DGCC) from 2021 to 2023. During his tenure in Tunis, he contributed to the development of Tunisia's digital government by overseeing initiatives designed to share Korea's digital government expertise, focusing on interoperability, digital government services, infrastructure, and more.



## Lao People's Democratic Republic

**Ms. Vannapha Phommathansy**

**Deputy Director General, Digital Government Center**



Ms. Vannapha has been with the Ministry of Technology and Communications since 2014, and she is currently Deputy Director General of the Digital government Center, where she oversees digital government policy, standards, coordination, and management division. Her current project focuses on the formalization of the Digital Government Strategic Plan 2035, drafting Decree on digital transformation, she is secretariats to Lao National digital transformation committee led by Prime Minister of Laos , her works also involve in designing the digital government roadmap based on whole government approach and serving as the Lao focal point for the ASEAN Digital Data Governance Working Group. Prior to this position, in 2009 she worked as a core network manager for Millicom

Laos (Tigo) and invited lecturer at the national university of Lao - Engineering Faculty. In 2014, she began working with the department of telecommunications (MPT) on WTO Lao entry (on telecommunications). She was appointed as the national focal person for the ASEAN Digital Minister Sectoral Body (Director of ASEAN and Regional Cooperation) in 2016 and serves in that capacity until 2022. On education profile: Ms. Vannapha is a Fulbright scholar who completed her postgraduate studies in 2013 at the University of Illinois at Chicago, USA, with MSc. Electrical and Computer Engineering.

**Mr. Sompasong Phiphakhavong**

**Senior Technical Officer, Digital Government Center**



Mr. Sompasong Phiphakhavong is currently a Digital Data Portal Officer at the Ministry of Technology and Communication. With a background in data management and analysis, Sompasong is focused on ensuring the smooth operation of data systems and resolving challenges as they arise. He values a collaborative work environment and believes clear communication is essential for achieving team objectives. Always eager to improve, Sompasong is committed to learning new techniques and expanding his expertise in the digital field. He is enthusiastic about taking on new responsibilities and contributing to the team's success while staying informed about the latest technological

advancements.

**Mr. Pingpanya Phommilath (Ping)**

**Digital Government & Open Data Consultant, Ministry of Technologies and Communications**



Mr. Pingpanya Phommilath (Ping) is an independent digital governance consultant with experience in researching, developing, and implementing national digital government transformation projects in least developed countries. Recently, Mr. Ping led the development and implementation of a digital government open data strategy in Laos. He specializes in data-driven decision-making, open data frameworks, and e-government evaluation for international organizations. Prior to this, he was digital product specialist at the World Economic Forum and Digitalization Consultant at UNDP Lao PDR.

**Mongolia**

**Mr. Ariunbold Shagdar**

**Director General, Census and Data analysis Department, National Statistics Office of Mongolia**



Mr. Ariunbold Shagdar has been serving as the Director General of the Census and Data Analysis Department at the National Statistics Office of Mongolia since October 2021. He holds an MSc in Applied Statistics and a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Statistics. The National Statistics Office of Mongolia has been implementing "The Government's Integrated Database Development and Management" project with technical assistance from the ADB since 2023. In his role, Mr. Ariunbold Shagdar is leading the project as its director.

**Mr. Batsukh Yondonjamts**

**Head of Information Technology Office, National Academy of Governance**



Mr. Batsukh Yondonjamts have been working as a teacher at the National Academy of Governance of Mongolia /NAOG/ since 2002. From 2023 to now, He have been serving as the Chief Information Technology Officer. In 2002, Mr. Batsukh Yondonjamts graduated with a Bachelor degree of Arts in Business Administration + Applied Mathematics from Khan-Uul University, a Master of Business Administration in 2003 from the NAOG, and a Master of Public Administration in 2018 from Turkey. During his tenure at the NAOG, Mr. Yondonjamts was responsible for courses in Information Systems and Information Technology Applications, Statistics, Systems Analysis, Research Methods, and Public Policy Analysis.

## Papua New Guinea

**Ms. Mollina Mercy Kapal**  
**Principal Projects Engineer, ICT Applications**  
**National Information Communication Technology Authority**



Ms. Mollina Mercy Kapal is currently working with National ICT Authority as a Principal Project Engineer attached with the Universal Access Services Secretariate. She has been the first female engineer to be engaged in with the organisation and has been there for the last 20 years. Ms. Kapal is one of the senior technical staff in the organisation and is one of the only two females in the male dominated ICT environment. In 2004, Ms. Kapal completed her studies and graduated from UNITECH with a Bachelor Electrical Engineering, the only female amongst her male classmates in 2005. She joined NICTA right after graduating and started her career as a graduate engineer and have been with the organisation to date. She worked her way up from being a graduate engineer to her current post.

Ms Kapal obtained my Master's Degree in "Global e-Policies & e-Government" from Seoul, South Korea in 2016 topping her class. She very passionate about empowering females in the space of ICT. She's the senior advocate for Girls in ICT program in NICTA. She has been one of the pioneers in the program and continues to be very much supportive in this program. She has also been a valuable member to the Electrical Engineering Department in UNITECH through her contributions in being an external final year project thesis supervisor. Ms. Kapal partakes in ICT agendas outside of office as well as being part of female empowerment groups. Ms. Kapal's has contributed a lot to the ICT space up until her shooting in 2020 during one of the UAS projects she was spearheading. She was heading the first ever Blockchain for pigs' traceability for smallholder farmers" in the world in partnership with Department of Agriculture, FAO, ITU, NICTA and the Jiwaka Provincial Government when she encountered this dreadful incident which been left partially deformed on the right side of her face. Despite the challenges to get back with life, she's a fighter and continues to fight and being involved in empowering women and girls in ICT.

## Saudi Arabia

**Mr. Abdulrahman Almutairi**  
**Vice Governor of Strategy and Partnerships, Digital Government Authority (DGA)**



Eng. Abdulrahman Almutairi is currently Vice Governor of Strategy and Partnerships at the Digital Government Authority, established in Mar 2021 in Saudi Arabia. For the preceding three years, he held the same position within Yesser – eGovernment program. He leads the creation of new authority with a powerful mandate to empower the Saudi digital government. Being the lead strategist in the newly formed entity, he supervised the creation of the National Digital Government Strategy NDGS and now is overseeing the execution of ambitious NDGS to empower and establish a solid and robust digital government practices nationwide.

Eng. Almutairi is a significant contributor in creating the national transformation program and vision 2030, working in different vision2030 priorities agenda with leading government agencies. He held the Deputy Minister of Social development position and helped restructure four main goals for social development goals related to vision2030. His extensive experience in ecosystem design and implementation had help major sector transformation and reformation endeavors.

Eng. Almutairi has a bachelor's degree in Engineering from King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. He is also a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute (PMI). He has also held a Certification of Management Excellence (CME) from Harvard Business School and attended many executive education courses with leading business schools across the globe.

## South Africa

**Ms. Zukhanyise Euphonia Moropa**

**Deputy Director, Department of Communications and Digital Technologies**



Ms. Zukhanyise Moropa is a professional with a proven track record in ICT policy development, research, and project management. With more than 20 years of experience in the public sector, I have a deep understanding of the South African government's Information Society and Development Plan (ISAD) and its objectives. The expertise lies in coordinating and implementing innovative projects that leverage ICT to drive economic growth and social development.

## Solomon Islands

**Mr. Luke Sisi Cheka**

**Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Service**



Mr. Luke Sisi Cheka is the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Service in the Solomon Islands, having entered the Public Service in 2005. He has held various senior roles, including Human Resource Manager in the Prime Minister's Office and Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Police and National Security. He holds a degree from UPNG & USP and is leading efforts to modernize the public sector through e-government initiatives. His leadership focuses on workforce development and institutional reforms to improve public service delivery.

**Mr. Ian Rakafia**

**Deputy Secretary for Governance Performance Management, Ministry of Public Service Solomon Islands Government**



Mr. Rakafia has served as a Parliamentary Committee Clerk and Human Resources Manager at the National Parliament of Solomon Islands (2012–2021). He transitioned to the Ministry of Public Service in October 2021, where he served as Assistant Secretary for Research & Innovation until June 2024. Currently, Ian holds the role of Deputy Secretary for Governance and Performance Management in the Ministry of Public Service, contributing to the enhancement of public sector governance and performance management policies, systems and processes.

**Ms. Hemaima Moveni**

**Program Manager ICT, Ministry of Public Service**



Ms. Hemaima Moveni is the ICT Program Manager at IPAM, Ministry of Public Service in Solomon Islands. She worked at the ministry for over 10 years specializing in ICT role based trainings for public officers across the country. She also involves in managing the organisation's data, ensuring correct information are recorded to provide accurate reports for organisation. Recently, she engage and participate in activities that promotes digital governance in public sectors, particularly in the learning management systems.

**Tanzania**

**Ms. Ened Anwell Munthali**

**President's Office's Commissioner for Policy, e-Government Authority**



Ms. Ened Anwell Munthali is the Coordinator of Policy and Planning at the Tanzania President's Office - State House, who is dedicated professional with extensive experience in overseeing strategic policy initiatives and planning. With a deep understanding of government processes and extensive experience in planning and policy analysis, Ened Anwell Munthali however, manages implementation, and evaluation of projects. She holds a degree in Economic Planning and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Mzumbe University in Tanzania.

Ened Anwell Munthali has strong analytical skills, ability to navigate complex bureaucratic environments, and dedication to fostering change. In her free time, Ened Anwell Munthali enjoys watching movies, reading books and listening to

music.



**Dr. Jaha Kamugisha Mvulla**

**Manager, Research, Innovation and Training, e-Government Authority**



Dr. Jaha Mvulla is currently serving as a Manager for Research, Innovation and Training at e-Government Authority (e-GA) Tanzania. He received the B.Sc in Computer Engineering and Information Communication Technology Engineering from University of Dar es Salaam in 2007. Obtained the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the Department of Information and Communication Engineering, Donnguk University, South Korea, in 2014, and 2019, respectively. From 2007 to 2010, he was a Senior Engineer with Vodacom, Tanzania and from 2010 to 2012 as IT Manager with Presidential Trust Fund, Tanzania. As a senior researcher and expert in wireless technologies, Dr. Jaha Mvulla has presented and published multiple scientific papers in various international conferences

and Journals. He is an active IEEE Member. His research interests include network performance analysis, resource allocation, quality of service, and MAC protocol design of wireless networks, Emerging technologies (AI, ML, Blockchain, IoT and Data Science) in relation to digital economy and payment systems.

## **Tonga**

**Mr. Semisi Siupeli Niutupuivaha Taufa**

**Chief Systems Analyst, Digital Transformation Department, Prime Minister's Office**



Mr. Semisi Taufa have over 10 years of experience in the information technology industry as a full-stack developer, with extensive involvement in various digital transformation projects in the Kingdom of Tonga. He hold a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and a Postgraduate degree in Information Technology, where he gained a deep understanding of all layers of the OSI model. As the Chief System Analyst at the Digital Transformation Department under the Prime Minister's Office of Tonga, he have played an important role in numerous e-government initiatives. He is passionate about technology and committed to leveraging technology to make a meaningful impact in his home country and the world.



## Uganda

**Mr. Collin Mugasha Babirukamu**

**Director, E-Government Services, National Information Technology Authority**



Collin M. Babirukamu is a seasoned strategic leader with over 24 years of experience in technology and management on the African continent. He has held key roles in Digital leadership, advisory and governance, currently serving as a the Director E-government Services at the National Information Technology Authority Uganda and sits on a number of boards. Collin specializes in data governance and digital transformation, with a focus on enhancing organizational efficiency. His expertise is complemented by a commitment to sustainable development and innovation, making him a valuable contributor at the Global Symposium on Data and Digital Governance.

## Uzbekistan

**Mr. Dilshat Saitov**

**Head of Division for Cooperation with International Rating Organizations, Digital Government Projects Management Center**



Mr. Dilshat Saitov is currently serving as the Head of the Division for Cooperation with International Rating Organizations at the Digital Government Projects Center under the Ministry of Digital Technologies of the Republic of Uzbekistan. He works closely with UN DESA and translated the UN E-Government Survey 2022 into Russian, currently working on the translation of the UN E-Government Survey 2024.

Following the signing of the MoU with UN DESA in 2023, he conducted research on the portals of Uzbekistan's 14 largest cities based on the LOSI methodology. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Telecommunications from Tashkent University of Information Technologies and a Master's and PhD from Yeungnam University, South Korea. His professional interests focus on refining the methodology and enhancing the use of indicators in the E-Government Development Index, contributing to its continuous improvement and evolution.

## Zimbabwe

### **Mr. Munyaradzi Motsi**

**Principal Administrative Officer, Ministry of Local Government and Public Works**



Mr. Munyaradzi Motsi hails from Zimbabwe and is associated with the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works. This ministry is entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring, supervising, and regulating councils. Additionally, Munyaradzi serves as the Sustainable Development Goals Focal Person, overseeing Local Authorities in the realm of Voluntary Local Reviews. Recently, he spearheaded the cascading of Voluntary Local Reviews Trainings to all 92 councils. The incorporation of Data and Digital Governance will significantly aid councils in Zimbabwe to institutionalize matters pertaining to Sustainable

Development Goals.

### **Mr. Simeon Banda**

**Sustainable Development Officer, Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare**



Mr. Simeon Banda is a Sustainable Development Officer in the Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 Unit under Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, lead-Ministry coordinating Sustainable Development Goals. He has participated in Voluntary Reviews, compiled progress reports, and advocated for SDGs at various levels. Recently, he helped draft Zimbabwe's third Voluntary National Review and facilitated training for local authorities on SDGs. He looks forward to connecting for collaborations and gleaning insights at the Global Symposium on Data and Digital Governance.

## **International Organizations**

### **Mr. Ferdinand Katendeko**

#### **Director of Operation, African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)**



Mr. Ferdinand Katendeko is the Ag. Director of Operations at the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Continental Secretariat based in South Africa, having joined the Secretariat in 2006 as a Research Analyst, and risen through ranks of a Country Reviews Coordinator and Chief of Staff to become the Ag. Director of Operations. He currently supervises corporate services, Finances, Procurement, IT at the Secretariat.

Besides working with the APRM Secretariat, Mr. Katendeko also worked as Head of Liaison and Research on Conflicts in the President's Office (Uganda) from 1989 to 2001 and 2004 to 2006 in charge of researching on conflicts and advising on good governance in and outside the country. He further worked at the Uganda Human Rights Commission as a Regional Investigations Officer, based in Fort Portal, Western Uganda from 2001 to 2003. Katendeko holds MA degree in International Law and Settlement of Disputes from United Nations Mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and other postgraduate Diplomas in International Relations and Development (Institute of Social Studies, the Hague), Equal Status and Human Rights of Women (Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund, Sweden), Education and BA Degree from Makerere University, Uganda. He also holds certificates in Modern Management, Refugees Rights and the Law and International Humanitarian law.

### **Mr. Jibril Ibrahim-Kano**

#### **Coordinator of Digital Transformation, African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)**



Mr. Jibril Ibrahim-Kano is a seasoned technology professional deeply committed to advancing governance. In his capacity as the Coordinator of Digital Transformation at the APRM, he oversees initiatives aimed at monitoring the impact of rapid technological advancements on governance in Africa. He is instrumental in driving digital innovation, enhancing operational efficiency, and ultimately improving the effectiveness of the APRM in promoting data-driven decisions, good governance, and development across the continent. Leading the TechGov program on digital transformation at the APRM Secretariat, he brings a wealth of experience and expertise that spans two decades. Prior to joining the APRM, he led several successful tech projects in the private sector. His leadership was pivotal in implementing comprehensive digital turnaround strategies,

resulting in improved service delivery, increased revenue generation, and enhanced market competitiveness. Through his dedication to leveraging technology for positive change, he continues to make significant contributions to the intersection of technology and governance in Africa.

## **NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS and PRACTIONERS**

**Mr. Bijon Islam**

**Chief Executive Officer, Light Castle Partners**



Mr. Bijon Islam is the co-founder and CEO of LightCastle Partners, which focuses on data-driven growth for corporates, SMEs, startups, and development partners. Over seven years, he has led the firm through engagements with over 150 clients, supported 1,500+ SMEs and startups, and facilitated 50+ accelerator programs, mobilizing over USD 150 million in investments. Bijon is also an ecosystem builder, speaker, and visiting lecturer, drawing on his previous experience at Citibank and his expertise in business administration.

**Mr. Danil Kerimi**

**Sr. Researcher, CyberBRICS, FGV**



Mr. Danil Kerimi is a seasoned executive in technology and public relations with a strong background in corporate strategy, digital transformation, and economic diplomacy across global markets. After early roles with the UN Terrorism Prevention Branch and OSCE post-9/11, he joined the World Economic Forum (WEF) during the Global Financial Crisis, spending 12 years in leadership roles in Global Technology Governance and Fourth Industrial

Revolution strategies. He played a key role in building the Network for Global Technology Governance and led initiatives to enhance board oversight on emerging tech and geo-economic issues.

Danil has worked with a range of councils, including AI, cybersecurity, and space, and co-founded the Edgelands Institute during the pandemic. He has advised start-ups, corporates, and governments globally, and frequently serves as a panelist, judge, and commentator on tech and governance topics. In 2023, Danil was elected to the Independent Oversight Committee of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), overseeing internal controls and ethics. He holds degrees from Shandong University, the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, and has completed executive education at leading institutions like Harvard and MIT. He is also a JD candidate at the Technical University of Munich.

**Dr. GAO, Feng**

**Co-Founder, Open Data China**



Dr. Feng Gao, is currently the Data and Tech lead at Global Data Barometer. Locally, He is also the co-founder of Open Data China, a social enterprise and civic organization dedicated to building an open digital future. He was a Yale World Fellow, Chevening LSE Fellow, and Open Data Institute Research Fellow.

**Ms. GUO, Stella (Xu)**  
**Director of Government Affairs, RELX**



Ms. Stella is Director of Government Affairs of RELX China. She supports the business development of LexisNexis Risk Solutions, part of RELX, and oversees data and finance regulations in China. Before joining RELX, Stella worked in the British Embassy in China where she accumulated rich experience in managing large international development programmes and promoting international trade and investment. In her early career, Stella used to work for JD.com as management trainee, and for the Australian Embassy in China as policy specialist.

**Ms. Si Ying Thian**  
**Reporter, GovInsider**



Si Ying is a reporter with [GovInsider](#), an online media covering public sector innovation and digital governments. Based in Singapore, GovInsider has reached over 8 million readers in the past 9 years, interviewing permanent secretaries, government ministers, city mayors and senior officials. She is social work-trained, and has a background in business journalism and conference production.

**Dr. Tomasz Włodzimierz Janowski**  
**Head of the Department of Informatics in Management, Gdańsk University of Technology**



Mr. Tomasz Janowski is Head of the Department of Informatics in Management at Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland, guest professor at the University for Continuing Education Krems, Austria, and co-editor-in-chief of Government Information Quarterly. Between 2004 and 2016 he led the digital government program at the United Nations University. He served as an expert for CTO, European Commission, IADB, ITU, OSCE, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank, etc. and other international organizations, and conducts research on digital government, sustainable digital transformation, and digital transformation for sustainability.



**Mr. LU, Yong**

**Executive Director of Shanghai Data Service Provider Association, Vice President of Shanghai Data Exchange**



With over 30 years of IT industry experience, responsible for business development, sales management and had other managerial positions in HP, Cisco and Brocade China and Asia Pacific region before entering into data space 5 years ago. Currently is the Vice President of Shanghai Data Exchange and Executive Director of Shanghai Data Service Provider Association. He also plays an active role in communicating with different counties and organizations for big data applications, data exchange and data ecosystem building in the Asia Pacific region and around the world.

**Dr. Kayliang James Ong**

**Founder & MD, Origami Frontiers - Artificial Intelligence International Institute (AIII)**



Dr. James Ong founded Artificial Intelligence International Institute (AIII), a think tank advocating Sustainable AI for Humanity and is co-author of “AI for Humanity: Building A Sustainable AI for the Future”, published by Wiley. With 38+ years of industry experience, he is Adjunct Professor at SUTD and AI Mega Centre and a member of Strategic Resource Allocation Committee at National Supercomputing Centre Singapore. He received his PhD from the University of Texas at Austin specializing in AI for Governance.

**Mr. Mohamed Shareef**

**Director, Government and International Relations, OXIQA Pvt Ltd**



Mr. Mohamed Shareef is a distinguished technology executive and educator with over 2 decades of experience in government, academia, and international organizations. Currently, he serves as the Director of Government and International Relations at OXIQA, the leading cybersecurity service provider in the Maldives.

As the former Minister of State for Environment, Climate Change, and Technology, Mr. Shareef led the development of the eFaas into the National Digital Identity and secure digital service delivery through the National Data Centre and the National Computer Network. He launched Cybersafe Maldives and organized the first National Cyber Security Conference. Mr. Shareef also led the development of legislation for digital transformation including the Electronic Transactions Act and the National Cyber Security Bill and the Privacy and Data Protection Bill. Mr. Shareef has held significant roles such as CIO at the National Centre for Information Technology, Vice Rector at Cyryx College and Researcher at the United Nations University. He is a member of the Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group for the Maldives



Internet Governance Forum and has contributed to numerous initiatives in Public Digital Infrastructure and government digital transformation, online child safety and AI. He holds a Master of Engineering degree from the University of Birmingham, UK.

**Mr. Abere Shiferaw Abegaz**  
**Former Consultant, UN DESA**



Mr. Abere Shiferaw is a seasoned IT and communication professional with over 15 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. Holding a Master's in computer science, he serves as an independent consultant specializing in the digital economy, ICT ecosystems, and data governance. He has been a consultant with UNDESA's Project "Developing institutional capacities for digital data management and cooperation to advance progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals" as Research and project coordinator for baseline study facilitation for target countries in Africa. Abere has also held key roles in Ethiopia's

Digital Transformation Program, led departments at the Addis Ababa Science and Technology Agency, and managed e-commerce and digital finance services at Kifiya, a leading provider in Ethiopia.

**Mr. Lincoln Teo**  
**Executive Director, Intelligence Wise**



Executive Director of Intelligence Wise (iWise) - an international data management experience and participant of Singapore Government's intergovernmental cooperation projects.

Managed enterprise and consumer data deployment through the establishment and enhancement of credit bureau institutions under Monetary Authority of Singapore, Bank Negara Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam Central Bank and the State Bank of Vietnam. Before iWise, Lincoln was COO of Experian in

Singapore – the world's largest credit bureau operator. Presently, he is also Managing Director of ZERO13 - the COP28 award winning automated AI and blockchain-driven 'Network of Networks' PaaS ecosystem for carbon credits and ESG real-world assets.

**Mr. XU, Yamin**  
**Dean, Tomorrow.City Institute, Partner, Smart City Expo World Congress of Greater China Region**



In his current role and as the Chief Representative for the Greater China Region at the World Economic Forum's Centre for Urban Transformation, he has extensive international cooperation experience in urban digitalization, low-carbon transformation, and technology incubation, actively promoting the digital transformation of cities in Asia. With 20 years of experience in smart cities, energy, data governance and IoT application, he has held senior management positions in multinational corporations such as ABB, Schneider Electric, and ENGIE.

**Dr. WU, Xun**

**Professor, Innovation, Policy and Entrepreneurship Thrust, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou)**



Professor Xun WU is currently a Professor at the Innovation, Policy and Entrepreneurship Thrust at the Society Hub of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou). Professor Wu is a policy scientist with a strong interest in the linkage between policy analysis and public management. Trained in engineering, economics, public administration, and policy analysis, his research seeks to make contribution to the design of effective public policies in dealing emerging policy challenges. His research interests include science, technology and innovation policy, water resource management, health policy reform, and anti-corruption. He has consulted for the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, UNEP, International Vaccine Institute, and numerous government agencies on a variety of topics, such as infrastructure planning and development, environmental and social impact assessment, design and implementation of randomized control trials (RCTs), and Public-Private Partnership.

**Dr. ZHENG, Lei**

**Professor, Director of the Lab for Digital and Mobile Governance (DMG), Fudan University, China**



Dr. Lei Zheng is the Director of the Lab for Digital and Mobile Governance and a Professor at the School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University located in Shanghai, China. He received a PhD degree in Public Administration and Policy from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, State University of New York. His research interests and expertise include digital governance, government digital transformation, open government data, cross-boundary information sharing, mobile public services, and government use of social media. He serves as a member of the Expert Group for the United Nations E-government Survey since 2017, a member of the Editorial Board of Government Information Quarterly, Co-chair of Digital Government Society China Chapter and the Vice President of Digital Government Committee of China Information Society.

## United Nations

### **Mr. Navid Hanif**

#### **Assistant Secretary-General, UN DESA**



Mr. Navid Hanif is the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (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. Vincenzo Aquaro**

#### **Chief of Digital Government Branch**

#### **Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, UN DESA**



Mr. Aquaro has more than 25 years of experience on ICT in public affairs, has been working for private sector and for international organizations. He holds a Master Degree (Laurea Magistrale) in Electronic Engineering from the University of Bari, Italy. In 2010 he was appointed as Chief of E-Government Branch DPADM, UN-DESA.

Before joining the United Nations, for 10 years he was appointed as CEO of Formit Servizi SpA, an Italian corporate specialized in consulting for PAs, project management, monitoring and evaluation of national and international e-government programmes. As CEO of Formit Servizi, and in partnership with the Department of Informatics and Automation of the Faculty of Engineering of the Roma Tre University, and with IBM Italia SpA, Mr. Aquaro established and co-chaired, the first and the second Edition of the "Second Level Master's Degree in IT Governance: Development, Management and Monitoring". In that period, he also served as executive officer of the Formit Foundation for Technology Migration and Research, an international NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC.

In 2007 Mr. Aquaro founded and chaired for 3 years, CARMA - a multistakeholder Scientific Research Consortium on Basel II Bank Risk Management e-Services, in supporting SMEs in agriculture and

agroindustry. The Consortium was co-financed by European Commission and was run in partnership with academia, private sector and local government.

**Dr. Li, Pengde**

**Head of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC) in Deqing, China.**



Dr. Pengde Li is the Head of the United Nations Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre (UN-GGKIC) in Deqing, China. Dr. Li was the former Deputy Director General of the China Geological Survey under the Ministry of Natural Resources of China. As the Deputy Director General of National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geo-information from 2011 to 2018. He was the Co-Chair of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) from 2014 to 2018. He served as the Principal of China to the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) from 2015 to 2020.

Dr. Li studied Computer Science in Wuhan University from 1979 to 1983. He has obtained Master of Science Degree in Geographic Information Systems in 1992 in ITC, the Netherlands. He got his PhD in photogrammetry and remote sensing in Wuhan University in 1999. Dr. Li worked in various regions and organizations in the domain of geospatial information in China. He was the Member of the Standing Committee of the 12th and 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) for ten years and a Deputy to the 10th and 11th China People's Congress for 10 years.

**Mr. Wai Min Kwok**

**Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer**

**Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, UN DESA**



Mr. Wai Min Kwok joined the United Nations Secretariat in 2008. Before that, he spent over ten years in the energy and information technology sectors as an engineer and a technopreneur. In UN DESA, he has been entrusted with a portfolio of roles, including as one of the lead authors for selected editions of the UN E-Government Survey and the World Public Sector Report. His areas of expertise span a range in sustainable development, public policy, public administration and management, digital government, digital transformation and Internet governance. For three consecutive years in 2011-2013, he was the Secretary of the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA), a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council. Wai Min Kwok was formerly a Lee Ka-Shing graduate scholar and Mobil Oil undergraduate scholar. He has a

postgraduate master's in public administration with the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and an honours degree in electrical engineering at the National University of Singapore.