AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
INSTITUT AFRICAIN DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

Leading Edge Insights Series LEI 8

Who Benefits from Africa's Data?

Turning Data Governance into Value, Skills, and Growth

BiOS Speakers



Ms. Teki Akuetteh,
Founder, Africa Digital Rights Hub

(Speaker)



Prof. Shivam Kishore,
Professor, University of Hawaii

(Speaker)



Dr. Dominic Orr,
Data Policy Lead, GIZ

(Speaker)



Dr. Babatunde Samson Omotosho,
Director, Statistics Department (ECST)
African Development Bank

(Speaker)



Ms. Carina Sugden,
Lead Governance Officer, ECGF
African Development Bank

(Moderator)

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Ms. TEKI AKUETTEH

Founder, Africa Digital Rights Hub

Teki is the Founder and Executive Director of the Africa Digital Rights Hub LBG, 'a think and action tank' on digital rights issues in Africa. As Ghana's first Data Protection Commission's Executive Director, she facilitated and implemented the Data Protection Act. She is also a Senior Partner at Nsiah Akuetteh & Co. a law firm based in Accra, Ghana that specializes in information technology and telecommunication law in Africa.

Teki is an IT and Telecom's lawyer whose work for nearly two decades spans, privacy and data protection, technology, data governance, digital economy, cybersecurity, child online safety across various African countries. She had also previously worked for the Government of Ghana in the development of several key legislation for the ICT sector including the Data Protection Act, 2012 (Act 843), Electronic Communications Act, 2008 (Act 775) and Electronic Transactions Act, 2012 (Act 772); and worked in various capacities with bodies such as the World Bank, EU, GIZ, ECOWAS and the African Union.

Teki has also sat on various international advisory bodies including the Data Governance Committee of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence; Global Privacy Assembly and the Think20 Taskforce on Digital Transformation. She is currently the Board Chair of the Data Protection Commission, Ghana.

She holds an LLM in Information Technology and Telecommunications Law from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow - Scotland and a Bachelor of Arts in Law and Political Science from the University of Ghana (Legon), Accra - Ghana.

Teki is also an ardent advocate of the environment and loves to spend pastime with family When she is not with family you are bound to see her with her dogs, traveling, gardening. cooking, exercising or dancing.



Prof. SHIVAM KISHORE

Professor, University of Hawaii

Shivam Kishore has spent more than 18 years at the intersection of digital transformation and sustainability. He has led enterprise-scale digital strategies for Fortune 100 tech and financial institutions at EY and Deloitte, and has advised national governments across Africa, Asia, and North America on architecting national data and digital policies.

As the Senior Advisor to the UN Environment Programme, he guided the development of UNEP's global digital transformation strategy. He is also a board advisor and active investor in tech and social innovation startups with successful exits, and teaches digital strategy and technology governance as a Professor of Practice at the University of Hawai'i.

He holds an undergraduate degree in engineering from Simon Fraser University (Canada) and a postgraduate degree in sustainability (management) from Harvard University (USA).



Dr. DOMINIC ORR

Data Policy Lead, GIZ

Dr Dominic Orr specialises in data governance and socio-technical innovation, with a focus on designing inclusive, safe, and enabling frameworks for the governance of data and digital systems. Trained in social science, he brings extensive experience as a policy advisor to international organisations including the OECD, UNESCO, and the World Bank, with particular expertise at the intersection of technology, society, and human development.

Since 2020, he has worked as a Team Lead in German Development Cooperation (GIZ). He currently supports the African Union Commission and AUDA-NEPAD in translating the AU Data Policy Framework into operational data governance frameworks at national and regional level, working closely with member states to strengthen country-led data governance. Earlier, he led the development of GIZ's atingi digital learning platform, which grew to serve more than 1.5 million users across emerging markets.

Dr Orr is also Associate Professor of Open Education at the University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia, where he teaches in the Master's programme and supervises student research on digitalisation, openness, and education.



Dr. BABATUNDE SAMSON OMOTOSHO

Director, Statistics Department (ECST)
African Development Bank

Babatunde is the Director of Statistics at the African Development Bank, where he leads the Bank's statistical agenda in support of sustainable economic development and social progress across Africa.

He oversees the implementation of the Bank's African Information Highway initiative, a transformative program designed to modernize Africa's data ecosystem. The initiative drives open data orchestration through the Bank's Open Data Portal (ODP2.0), promotes data standardization by supporting African countries to implement the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX), and accelerates data innovation on the continent through the Bank's Data Innovation for Africa (DI4A) initiative.

He also plays a leading role in strengthening statistical capacity across the continent through the implementation of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA).Before joining the African Development Bank, Babatunde served as Director of Research and Statistics at the West African Monetary Agency and held several senior roles within the Research and Statistics Departments of the Central Bank of Nigeria.

He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Glasgow and an MSc. in Applied Statistics & Datamining from the University of St Andrews, United Kingdom.



Ms. CARINA SUGDEN

Lead Governance Officer, ECGF
African Development Bank

Carina Sugden is Lead Governance Officer at the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), where she leads policy dialogue and strategic programs to strengthen economic governance across Africa.

Her work focuses on public financial management, domestic revenue mobilization, debt sustainability, and anti-corruption.

She has spearheaded major AfDB initiatives, including the Strategy for Economic Governance in Africa and the Action Plan for Managing and Mitigating the Risks of Debt Distress in Africa. Prior to joining the AfDB, Carina worked with the United Nations.

She holds a Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Economics from the University of Copenhagen.



Dr. ERIC K. OGUNLEYE

Director ECAD, African Development Bank

Eric has almost 20 years of progressively responsible post-doctoral work experience, spanning international development, private sector, public sector, and academia. He is currently the Director of the African Development Institute of the African Development Bank Group, responsible for coordinating and overseeing the mainstreaming of capacity development into the Bank's operations and co-creating institutional capacity development and knowledge support for inclusive growth and sustainable development in the Bank's 54 regional member countries. He was the Division Manager of the Policy Management Division of the African Development Institute, focusing on capacity development initiatives in key areas of macroeconomic, public financial and debt management.

Earlier, he was the Advisor to the Chief Economist and Vice President for the Economic Governance and Knowledge Management Complex of the African Development Bank Group,responsible for managing the front office of the Chief Economist and Vice President and coordinating the work program of the six departments under the Vice Presidency. Other previous work experiences include Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria, focusing on international trade and finance; Special Adviser to the Chief Economic Adviser to the President of Nigeria; Technical Adviser (Policy and Planning) to the Nigerian Minister of Budget and National Planning; Country Macroeconomist at the Nigeria Country Department of the African Development Bank; and Research Fellow at the African Center for Economic Transformation where he engaged in providing policy research and advisory services for all African governments on strategic policy actions to drive national and continental transformations.

He has stints at the UNU-WIDER in Helsinki, UNCTAD in Geneva, WTO in Geneva, and the University of Calabar,
Nigeria.



Dr. NAMAWU ALHASSAN ALOLO

Division Manager ECAD 3,
African Development Bank

Dr. Namawu Alhassan Alolo is a seasoned development practitioner with over 18 years of international experience in developing corporate strategies and policies, building capacities on operational programming, designing and implementing development projects, as well as teaching and research.

With a PhD in Public Policy from the University of Birmingham, she led the development of two of the Bank's three sovereign financing instruments, notably, the Bank Group Policies on Program-Based Operations (PBOs) and Results-Based Financing (RBF). The RBF instrument was the
first in 30 years to be added to the Bank's menu of financing options for sovereign operations.
Dr. Namawu A. Alolo has also played a central role in developing and implementing several key policy initiatives and innovative approaches for the Bank, such as the innovative framework on Multi-Tranche Financing (MTF) – the first of its kind in the Bank's 60 years of operations.

Dr. Namawu A. Alolo has an established track record of effectively engaging Governments in high level policy dialogue, catalyzing policy change in a variety of challenging economic and political settings and supporting development initiatives through innovative project design.
As a Country Portfolio Officer in the Sudan Country Office, for example, she coordinated the entire portfolio of 21 lending and non-lending operations close to half a billion dollars.

She has led numerous development initiatives in diverse country settings, ranging from transition states like Sudan and Liberia to large and fast-growing economies like Egypt and Nigeria. Prior to joining the African Development Bank Group in 2007, she worked as a Research Associate for the University of Birmingham and acted as an adviser on anticorruption initiatives for Transparency International.

She undertook substantial research on governance issues for international organizations, such as the International Council on Human Rights Policy and the former UK Department of International Affairs (DFID).



SHEILA JAGANNATHAN

Former Global Head of Digital Learning at the World Bank, Washington, DC
Consultant at the African Development Bank

Sheila Jagannathan is a lifelong learner and served as the Global Head of the Open Learning Campus at the World Bank in Washington DC, for 26 years,specializing in digital learning and technology in emerging countries. With over 35 years of experience in capacity building, knowledge management, and transformational change across global environments, Sheila has led the design and implementation of impactful solutions, contributing to performance and productivity enhancements.

Her work extends to providing policy advice and technical assistance for the World Bank's capacity building programs across diverse regions, including East Asia, MENA, Africa, and South Asia. Sheila's leadership in creating a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on the Future of Work won the prestigious EDX prize (Harvard/MIT) for 2020. All these highlight her commitment to addressing critical issues like the Fourth Industrial Revolution, diversity & inclusion, and innovative technologies in education. Her seminal book further underscores her contributions to the field. 'Reimagining Digital Learning for Sustainable Development,' which explores upskilling, data analytics, and educational technologies' roles in closing the skills gap.

Recognized for her influence, Sheila's insights have shaped the discourse on digital learning and sustainable development, earning her a spot on the advisory boards of prestigious learning associations worldwide. Selected as one of the 100 Executive Women in Tech to Watch in 2022, Sheila's extensive expertise and forward-thinking approach continue to drive advancements in education and capacity building on a global scale.