2017 UNEG EvalWeek High-level Event

Biographies of Speakers (in alphabetic order)

Per Oyvind Bastoe is the Evaluation Director at the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) with responsibility to evaluate all aspects of Norwegian development policy. He is also the chair of the OECD/DAC Evalnet.

He has broad experience from international development and evaluation and has previously held senior positions in other parts of the Norwegian government administration, in the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. Before taking up his current position, he served at the Executive Board of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Inter-American Investment Cooperation on behalf of a group of European countries. He is a member of the International Evaluation Research Group and has published several books and articles on development policy, evaluation and organizational change.

David Muchoki Kanja of Kenya was selected by the Secretary-General for the newly created position of Assistant Secretary-General for the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

Mr. Kanja brings 27 years of oversight experience to this position. Since August 2010, he has served as the Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund’s (UNICEF) Office of Internal Audit, overseeing all of the internal audit and investigation activities of the organization.

From 1992 to 2010, he served at the World Bank Group in various positions, including as Chief Auditor for audit quality and strategy, Audit Manager and Acting Auditor General. Prior to that, he served for nine years at one of the Big Four audit firms, Deloitte, in various positions, including as Audit Manager in the United Kingdom and Senior Manager in Kenya.

Mr. Kanja also served as a chair and member of UNICEF’s Audit Advisory Committee from 2006 to 2009. He is active in professional activities and has served as a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors’ Board of Regents and Exam Development Committee. He is a Certified Internal Auditor, Chartered Accountant (England and Wales) and Certified Public Accountant (Kenya), as well as a commerce graduate from the University of Nairobi.
Ziad Moussa is the President of the International Organization of Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE), and the Co-Chair of EvalPartners.

The IOCE represents national and regional Voluntary Organization for Professional Evaluation (VOPEs) in the Americas, Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Middle East. It strengthens international evaluation through the exchange of evaluation methods, theories and practice, and promotes good governance and recognition of the value evaluation has in improving peoples’ lives. It is committed to cultural diversity, inclusiveness and bringing different evaluation traditions together in respect of that diversity.

EvalPartners is an innovative partnership to enhance the capacities of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to influence policy makers, public opinion and other key stakeholders so that public policies are based on evidence, and incorporate considerations of equity and effectiveness. EvalPartners brings together over 45 international development agencies, regional evaluation networks, foundations, NGOs and others. The objective of the Initiative is to enhance the capacities of CSOs to engage in a strategic and meaningful manner in national evaluation processes, contributing to improved country-led evaluation systems and policies that are equity-focused and gender equality responsive.

Ziad has over 20 years of experience in leading complex multi-country evaluations across the Global South in well over 40 countries and with almost every major donor on the circuit. He is credited for the Arabization of the reference book “Outcome Mapping: Building Reflection and Learning into Development Programs” as well as several articles on facilitation, evaluation and communication for development.

Marco Segone is the Chair of United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), and the Director of the Independent Evaluation Office at UN Women. Prior to his role as UNEG Chair, he served as the Vice Chair of UNEG from 2014 to 2015. His past experiences include overseeing the Decentralized evaluation function as well as the National evaluation capacity development portfolios at the UNICEF Evaluation Office. He founded and has been the Co-Chair of the EvalPartners from 2012 to 2015; founded and has been co-chair of EvalGender+ since 2015; and has been co-chair of the UNEG Task Force on National evaluation capacities from 2009 to 2012. Previously, he was Regional Chief, Monitoring and Evaluation in the UNICEF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, during which he represented UNICEF on the Board of Trustees of the International Programme Evaluation Network. During his 25 years in international development, he worked in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Thailand, Uganda and Albania in integrated development projects.

In 1996, he joined UNICEF to work for the UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean; UNICEF Niger, where he founded and for two years coordinated the Niger M&E Network;
UNICEF Brazil, where he was one of the founders and coordinator of the Brazilian Evaluation Network. In 2003, he was elected Vice-President of IOCE and was one of the founders of the Latin America and the Caribbean Network for Monitoring, Evaluation and Systematization (ReLAC). Marco authored and/or edited several books and articles, including: How to evaluate SDGs with a no one left behind lens; National Evaluation Policies and Systems; Evaluation for equitable development results; How to design and manage Equity-focused evaluations; From policies to results; Country-led M&E systems; Bridging the gap. The role of M&E in evidence-based policy making; New trends in development evaluation; Creating and developing evaluation organizations; and Democratic evaluation. In recognition of his contributions to the evaluation profession, he was awarded the 2012 Alva and Gunnar Myrdal Practice Award by the American Evaluation Association.

Peter Thomson was elected on 13 June 2016 by the United Nations General Assembly to serve as President of its seventy-first session, which runs from September 2016 to September 2017. H.E. Peter Thomson took office in New York as Fiji’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in February 2010, serving concurrently as Fiji’s Ambassador to Cuba until assumption of his duties as President of the UN General Assembly’s seventy-first session. H.E. Peter Thomson held office as Vice-President of the UN General Assembly in 2011-2012. He was elected as President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority’s 2011-2012 session and then as President of the Council of the Authority’s 2015-2016 session. For the duration of 2013, he chaired the United Nations’ largest negotiating bloc, the Group of 77 and China. From January 2014 to January 2015, he served as President of the Executive Board of UN Development Programme/UN Population Fund/UN Office for Programme Support (UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS).

Between 1972 and 1987, he was a civil servant in the Government of Fiji working in the fields of rural development and then foreign affairs. His Fiji government career began as a district officer in the rural regions of Navua, Macuata and Taveuni. In 1978, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Suva, where he took on political and overseas development assistance responsibilities before being seconded to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in 1979. He was posted to Tokyo in 1981 with the responsibility of opening the Embassy of Fiji in Japan. He remained in Tokyo thereafter as First Secretary (Economic) until 1984, when he was appointed Consul-General of Fiji in Sydney. H.E. Peter Thomson has served as a board member of the Fiji Visitors Bureau, Fiji TV and the Fiji Broadcasting Commission. From 1988 to 2009, he worked in private enterprise as a company director, an investment consultant and a management consultant specializing in Pacific affairs, with clients ranging from government agencies to regional organizations, banks, universities and investment corporations. H.E. Peter Thomson is a founding member of the executive committees of the Australia-Fiji Business Council and the New Zealand-Fiji Business Council and in 2007 was made a life member of the latter.
Natalia Nikitenko Vladimirovna is Member of the National Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic. She worked in the Higher Education Management and NGO sector leading Central Asian Network of higher educational institutions EdNet and Academy of education TeachEx from 2005 till 2010.

Natalia Nikitenko was first elected as a Member of National Parliament in October 2010 from Ata Meken political party in the 5th convocation of the parliament. She was a chair of the Parliament Committee on Human Rights, Constitutional Legislation and State Structure. Since October 2015 she has been a member of the Parliament of the 6th convocation, and member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Science, Culture and Sports.

She has State excellence award in education (received in 2008), state excellent award in local self-governance (2015), an Awards from the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (2013), International Parliamentary Assembly (2015), a Medal from International Parliamentary Assembly (2017).

Natalia Nikitenko was an initiator and instrumental to adoption of the National M&E Law of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2014 and promoting Evaluation in the parliament and on the regional level. She is a member of Managing Committee of the Global Forum Parliamentarians for Evaluation. She was a speaker on the conferences on Evaluation and SDGs.

Dazhu Yang was appointed Deputy Director General of the Department of Technical Cooperation on 1 July 2015. Prior to this, he served as Director for the Division for Africa and Director for the Division for Asia and Pacific of the IAEA’s Department of Technical Cooperation.

Before joining the Agency, Mr. Yang held various senior positions in China, including Director General for International Cooperation of the China Atomic Energy Authority and Minister-counsellor of the Permanent Mission of China to the IAEA.

Mr. Yang also worked for 10 years at the Institute of Nuclear Energy and Technology of Tsinghua University as a researcher and associate professor.

Mr. Yang holds a doctorate in chemical engineering, a master's degree in separation engineering and a bachelor's degree in applied chemistry from Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.
Lassina Zerbo is the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), a position which he assumed on 1 August 2013. He previously served as Director of the organization’s International Data Centre (IDC). He is a national of Burkina Faso. Zerbo has been instrumental in cementing the CTBTO’s position as the world’s Centre of excellence for nuclear test-ban verification, as well as in driving forward efforts towards the entry into force and universalization of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). In November 2016, the Member States of the highest decision-making body of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission re-appointed Executive Secretary Lassina Zerbo to a further four year term of office until 31 July 2021.

In recognition of his work at the CTBTO and in the disarmament and nuclear proliferation field in general, Zerbo was awarded the 2013 “Arms Control Person of the Year” by the Arms Control Association, USA. In 2015 he became a Commander of the National Order of Burkina Faso, the country's highest honour, for his work towards the preservation of peace and international security. He was also decorated with the Grand Cross in the Chilean Order of Bernardo O’Higgins in June 2016. In February 2017, Zerbo was awarded the Presidential Medal on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Republic of Kazakhstan for his leadership in enhancing nuclear non-proliferation efforts.

During a professional career spanning nearly 25 years, Zerbo has developed expertise ranging from scientific and technical competencies to results-based management and multilateral diplomacy. Zerbo served as co-chair of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Nuclear Security (2012-2014), which was established to stimulate discussion among high-level policymakers and leaders in both the private and public sectors on the broader issue of nuclear security, including disarmament and non-proliferation. Further, he is a member of think tanks on energy, science, technology and development, and peace and security for Africa.