



The Road to Addis: shaping the 2021 digital development agenda.

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SPEAKERS BIOS FILE

MODERATOR





Mr. David Kirkpatrick, Founder & Editor-in-Chief, Techonomy Media.
David Kirkpatrick is a journalist, the founder and editor-in-chief of Techonomy Media, and author of the best-selling book “The Facebook Effect: The Inside Story of the Company That Is Connecting the World.” Techonomy’s conferences gather leaders to discuss how tech changes everything and to help build a better society. Along with weekly virtual roundtables, its major on-going virtual initiative is The Health+Wealth of America, a series of discussions with leaders like Steve Case, Anthony Scaramucci, Sallie Krawcheck, Esther Dyson, and others responding to the pandemic and the challenging moment in which we find ourselves. Techonomy normally hosts two major annual physical events—in New York in May and a retreat in California. Speakers have included Mark Zuckerberg, Jack Dorsey, Marc Benioff, Marissa Mayer, Peter Thiel, Penny Pritzker, Jeff Weiner, Katherine Maher, John Chambers, Esther Dyson, and Tim O’Reilly. Kirkpatrick’s book on Facebook is in 32 languages. He spent 25 years at Fortune Magazine, and is a contributing editor at Bloomberg Television and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

SPEAKERS



Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU.
Houlin Zhao was re-elected ITU Secretary-General at the 20th Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November 2018. Mr Zhao is an information and communication technology (ICT) engineer who has served in a variety of senior management positions at ITU, began his second, and last, four-year term on 1 January 2019.
Prior to first being elected as ITU Secretary-General in 2014, Zhao served eight years as ITU Deputy Secretary-General. In that role, he assisted the ITU Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the other elected officials of the Union, to manage the implementation of the ITU Strategic Plan and the operations of the ITU Secretariat, in particular with a view to increasing the transparency and efficiency of the organization.
He was responsible for implementing important innovations, including the promotion of a new category of membership open to the global academic community, internal efficiency measures such as the move to a near-paperless work environment, the increased use of remote participation systems, and measures to increase revenue from sales and cost-recovery services. In addition, he focused closely on membership-driven priorities including maintaining and extending ITU's commitment to accessibility, to multilingualism, and to broad multi-stakeholder participation in the work of the Union.

	<p>He also served two elected terms as Director of ITU's Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), which develops technical standards to ensure worldwide ICT interoperability.</p> <p>During his two terms as TSB Director, he spearheaded the introduction of new efficiency measures to improve ITU's standards-making environment through fostering even closer cooperation with industry members, while strengthening the promotion of ITU's leadership in global ICT standards development. Before that, he was a Senior Counselor with TSB for 12 years.</p> <p>Before joining ITU, Mr Zhao served as an engineer in the Designing Institute of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of China, taking an active role in his country's expert meetings on telecommunication standards and national plans, as well as participating in ITU work as a Chinese delegate. He contributed important articles to a number of prestigious Chinese technical publications, and in 1985 was awarded a prize for his achievements in science and technology within the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.</p> <p>Born in 1950 in Jiangsu, China, Mr Zhao graduated from Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, and holds an MSc in Telematics from the University of Essex in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>He is married with one son and two grandchildren, and is fluent in three official ITU languages: English, French and Chinese.</p> <p>Mr Zhao is committed to further streamlining ITU's efficiency, strengthening its membership base through greater involvement of the academic community and of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and to broadening multi-stakeholder participation in ITU's work.</p>
	<p>H.E. Dr. Ahmedin Mohammed, State Minister of Information Communication Technology and Digital Transformation at the Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia.</p> <p>Dr. Ahmedin received his PhD degree from Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, PRC in 2014, the Master's degree in Software Engineering from Chongqing University, Chongqing, China, in 2011, and the B.S. degree in Computer Science from Bahirdar University, Bahirdar, Ethiopia, in 2006. He authored/co-authored 20+ research papers in International reputable journals and conferences. He also co-authored one book chapter in his research area. In addition to the publications, he serves as invited reviewer for a number reputable and journals and conferences. He is contributing to the discipline by advising Masters level students in Ethiopian Universities such as Jimma University, Gondar University, etc. He is also co-advising PhD candidates in Ethio-France and Ethio-German Sandwich programs. His research interests include mobile and social computing, ad-hoc social networks, mobile data management, middleware design, software engineering, IoTs, big data and ERP. He is a Member of IEEE.</p>
	<p>Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau.</p> <p>Doreen Bogdan-Martin was elected Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau on the 1st of November 2018. She took office on the 1st of January 2019. She is a strategic leader with 30 years' high-level experience in international and inter-governmental relations and a long history of success in policy and strategy development, analysis and execution. She has advised governments around the world on policy and regulatory issues, and is a regular presenter at high-level international forums and summits.</p> <p>Prior to her election, Ms. Bogdan-Martin oversaw the organization's Membership,</p>

	<p>Corporate Communications, External Affairs and UN Liaison teams, and was instrumental in establishing the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, on which she continues to serve as Executive Director. She was one of the principal architects of the annual Global Symposium for Regulators, directed ITU's first global youth summit #BYND, oversees ITU's contribution to the EQUALS Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age, and is leading ITU's collaboration with UNICEF and others on the GIGA project to connect the world's schools.</p> <p>Prior to joining ITU, Ms. Bogdan-Martin was a Telecommunications Policy Specialist in the National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA), US Department of Commerce.</p> <p>She holds a Master's degree in International Communications Policy from American University in Washington, DC, post-graduate certification in Strategies for Leadership from the Institute for Management Development in Lausanne, Switzerland, and is certified in Accountability and Ethics by the United Nations Leaders Programme.</p> <p>She is an affiliate of the Harvard University Berkman-Klein Center for Internet and Society, and a Generation Unlimited Champion. She serves on a number of advisory bodies, including the Geneva-Tsinghua Initiative, the SDG Lab Advisory Board, and the UN Technology Innovation Labs. She is also an amateur radio operator. She is married with four children.</p>
	<p>Betty G., Ethiopian singer and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador.</p> <p>Bruktawit Getahun, also known by her stage name Betty G, is an upcoming star. She was born and raised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She went to Lycée Gebre Mariam, a French high school from which she graduated in 2006. She pursued higher education attending Commercial College of Addis Ababa University as well as a French University called Université de L'IAE Poitier via correspondence. In 2009, she graduated with a dual degree in office management and general management. Even though she spent most of her time in school her passion for music was born with her. She was so devoted in her singing career that she started singing in a different night-club when she was still in high school. Her ability to sing in French, English, and Amharic has made her highly demanded in the international music industry. She aspires to show her Ethiopian heritage in her work and bring more exposure to the richness and beauty of her culture.</p>
	<p>Mats Granryd, Director General GSMA.</p> <p>As Director General, Mats Granryd leads the GSMA in supporting its global membership through a range of industry programmes, advocacy initiatives and industry-convening events.</p> <p>Mats is a strong proponent of sustainability and led the mobile industry in becoming the first sector to broadly commit to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2016. He is now spearheading initiatives to amplify and accelerate the mobile industry's impact on all 17 of the SDGs, across both developed and developing markets.</p> <p>Supporting this, Mats serves on the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, chairing the Working Group on Digital Gender Divide to foster the equal inclusion of women and girls in broadband access and use, and he is also a leader with The B Team.</p> <p>Prior to joining the GSMA in 2016, Mats was President and CEO of Tele2 and also spent 15 years in a variety of roles at Ericsson.</p>



Dr. Boutheina Guerhazi, Director, Digital Development Global Practice, World Bank. Ms. Boutheina Guerhazi is the Director of Digital Development (DD) Department of the Infrastructure Practice Group of the World Bank. She heads a global team working on building digital economies in developing countries, to drive shared prosperity and reduced poverty. The team advises policymakers and regulators, works in collaboration with leading firms and partners, and designs investment and technical assistance programs to improve broadband connectivity and use of digital technology to address development challenges of client countries. The work covers a wide area of focus including broadband networks, mobile networks, cloud infrastructure, internet of things, and big data analytics. The team works collaboratively across sectors to ensure the availability and use of digital government platforms, identification for development and other key foundations to harness digital development, while strengthening cybersecurity, privacy, and data protection. Ms. Guerhazi also leads the Digital Development Partnership (DDP), a Multi-Donor Trust Fund focusing on Digital development globally.

Prior to her role as Director, Ms. Guerhazi was Practice Manager of Digital Development covering Africa and the Middle East regions of the World Bank. She also served as Lead Operations Officer in the Regional Integration Unit of the Africa region of the World Bank. During her tenure, she has written and published articles and book chapters on trade law, telecommunications policy, and regulatory reform.

Before joining the World Bank, Ms. Guerhazi was Assistant Professor at the University of Law and Political and Social Sciences of Tunis, and a Telecommunications consultant to the Sector Reform Unit at the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

Ms. Guerhazi holds a Ph.D. in Telecommunications Law and Policy from the Faculty of Law at McGill University, Canada; an L.L.M. in International Law from Indiana University, USA; and a Bachelor’s Degree in Public Law from the University of Tunis, Tunisia. She held a Fulbright Scholarship and was a research scholar at the University of Michigan (USA), the Social Science Research Council (USA), and the Center of Studies for Regulated Industries (Canada).



Fabrizio Hochschild, UN Under-Secretary General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Digital Cooperation.

In his current role as Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, Mr. Hochschild is coordinating the preparation for the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 and related celebrations, through a system-wide process of consultations and reflections on the role of the United Nations in advancing international co-operation and in supporting Member States’ ability to respond to emerging challenges and frontier issues.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Hochschild served as Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (2017-2019).

Previously, Mr. Hochschild served as Deputy Special Representative for the UN peacekeeping mission in Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in 2016, UN Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and Resident Representative of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in Colombia from 2013 to 2016, and as Director of the Field Personnel Division for the United Nations from 2010 to 2012. He started his career in 1988 with UNHCR and served in various field settings.

A graduate of the University of Oxford, United Kingdom, he has published studies and articles on leadership, on the protection of civilians, on transitional justice and reconciliation among other topics.



Aarti Holla Maini, Secretary General, EMEA Satellite Operators Association (ESOA).

Aarti Holla-Maini has been Secretary General of the ESOA since 2004. She is a Member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Future Council on Space Technology, Global 5G Coalition Network and Essential Digital Infrastructure & Services Network.

Under Aarti’s leadership, ESOA & its member CEOs lead the effort to showcase the benefits of satellite communications for a more inclusive and secure society - vital to bridging the world’s digital divide, achieving the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals and realizing the 5G ecosystem.

Since joining the association, Aarti has lead the expansion of ESOA from a European association to one that represents the interests of 20 global and regional satellite operators. She reports directly to their Chief Executives.

Aarti has 23 years' experience in the aerospace industry, starting at Daimler-Benz Aerospace/EADS (now Airbus) in Germany. In 2000, she moved to Brussels, representing Airbus interests in the European satellite navigation program: Galileo.

Aarti holds a Masters of Business Administration from HEC, France & Stern Business School, NYC, USA. She qualified as Solicitor of the Supreme Court in the UK in 1995, holding a 2:1 graded LLB Hons Law with German Law degree from King's College, University of London & the University of Passau, Germany. Aarti is of British-Indian origin and holds British and Belgian nationalities. She lives in Brussels, has 3 children and speaks 5 languages.



Fayaz King, Deputy Executive Director of Field Results and Innovation, UNICEF.


Fayaz King is the new UNICEF Deputy Executive Director of Field Results and Innovation. He recently served as the Chief Operating Officer at Econet Wireless where he was influential in digitally transforming the telecommunications company. He served on the boards of Liquid Telecom Zimbabwe, Econet Burundi and Econet Lesotho, bringing to the position over 30 years of experience in innovation, business development, organizational and digital transformation.

Mr. King previously served as Managing Director at Bharti Airtel International and Celtel International, having worked in Uganda, Nigeria, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Mr. King has spearheaded the implementation of several technological innovations, including digital products, and overseen developments aimed at digitizing school education and health care. He is a passionate driver of youth development and empowerment.



Mr. King also founded various entrepreneurial endeavours in the field of agriculture and food security, driving efficiencies through technology innovations. He was Chief Executive Officer and Group Marketing Director at Innscor Africa Limited where he pioneered the growth of a range of products and services, from bread and confectionary to video games and entertainment, and expanded Zimbabwean business ventures in the region.



He earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Zimbabwe in 1994 and completed several specialized courses at INSEAD, HEC Paris and Harvard Business School.

	<p>Ritah Muyambo, Program Specialist, Civil Society Division, Youth and Faith Engagement, UN Women.</p> <p>Passionate about human rights for youth and children, gender equality, women and girls’ empowerment, education and ending violence against women and girls. More than 10 years’ experience in programming that changes lives, mainstreaming of gender in various contexts and a commitment to translating policies into practical action, with a special focus on reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized. A mentor and advocate for young people’s voice, leadership and agency at national, regional and global level. Co-convoked the first Young Women’s Forum at CSW in 2015 and 3 subsequent ones.</p> <p>Prior to joining UN Women, she was Head of Programmes for the largest and oldest women’s rights movement, Young Women Christian Association working in 109 countries. Ms. Muyambo holds an Honors degree in Psychology and a Master’s in Business Leadership.</p>
	<p>Robert Opp, Chief Digital Officer at UNDP.</p> <p>Robert Opp is currently the Chief Digital Officer of UNDP, the United Nations' global sustainable development organization working across 170 countries globally with more than 17,000 staff. He leads the agency’s digital transformation, an organization-wide effort, to harness the power of new technology to improve the lives of those furthest behind.</p> <p>Prior to this role, Robert served as Director of the Innovation and Change Management Division within the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), and worked as a management consultant with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) based in Singapore where he served a wide range of private sector companies throughout Asia and the Middle East. Robert began his career at Canada’s International Development Research Centre managing projects focused on peace building in post-conflict countries.</p>
	<p>Mirjana Pović, Assistant Professor at the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute.</p> <p>Mirjana Pović is an assistant professor at the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute (ESSTI), an associate researcher at the Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía in Spain, and a honorary lecturer at Mbarara University of Science and Technology in Uganda. She obtained her PhD in astrophysics in 2010 from the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (Spain). Her main research interests are galaxy formation and evolution, in particular nuclear activity in galaxies, star formation, morphological classification of galaxies, and galaxy clusters. In addition, over more than 10 years, she worked on development in astronomy, science and education in different parts of Africa, and in particular in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, and Zambia, through different projects and initiatives related with research collaborations, institutional development, students supervisions, trainings, lecturing, regulation development, women in science, and outreach. In 2018 she received the inaugural Nature Research Award for Inspiring Science dedicated to young women for their scientific achievements and contribution to the society.</p> <p>In May 2019 she was invited by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia to be one of the 16 selected Science Ambassadors. In June 2019 she received a recognition from the ESSTI for her contribution and work, and in March 2020, a recognition from the Ethiopian Space Science Society for her involvement in education and outreach. She believes that through education, science, and technology we can fight poverty in the</p>

	<p>long-term and make in future our world to be a better place for everyone, regardless of where our roots are.</p>
	<p>Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS).</p> <p>Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu is the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. She assumed her role in May 2017.</p> <p>Ms. 'Utoikamanu is responsible for monitoring and following up on the implementation of all three Programmes of Action under the purview of UN-OHRLLS. She is also called on to advocate for the issues and concerns of these vulnerable countries as well as to ensure their integration into and coherence with global processes, including those related to the 2030 Agenda and other global development frameworks. Ms. 'Utoikamanu also coordinates advocacy work related to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in forums and platforms outside the United Nations. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms. 'Utoikamanu was Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Tourism, Tonga; Acting Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the Council of the University of the South Pacific (2015); Deputy Pro-Chancellor and Deputy Chair of the Council of the University of the South Pacific (2009-2016); Deputy Director General and Director of Education, Training and Human Development of the Secretariat of Pacific Community (2009-2015); Permanent Representative and Ambassador of the Government of Tonga to the United Nations, United States of America, Cuba and Venezuela and High Commissioner to Canada (2005-2009); and Secretary for Foreign Affairs and European Commission's National Authorizing Officer for Tonga (2002-2005).</p> <p>A Tongan national, Ms. 'Utoikamanu speaks Tongan and English. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Economics (1980) and a Masters in Commerce in Economics (1983) from the University of Auckland in New Zealand.</p>

Young Leaders

	<p>Ali Altoblani, Bahrain.</p> <p>Ali is a university student studying Industrial Engineering at the American University of Bahrain. He is highly decorated when it comes to both academic and extra-curricular achievements. In University Ali is considered a public figure, as he is the Vice President of the student council. Ali is not only considered a student, he is also considered as an asset to both his school and University, due to his continuous achievements as a representative. He believes highly in personal branding and self-development. As he keeps growing and achieving, whomever Ali represents benefits from his growth, as much as he does represent them. Ali aims to seize every opportunity possible in order to continue his journey of self-development.</p>
	<p>Xingyi Chen, China.</p> <p>Xingyi Chen is a senior international student studies finance at the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Business in the US. This semester she is participating in the study abroad program at the East China Normal University (ECNU) and will come back to the US next year. While studying at ECNU, she is also an investment banking Cross-border M & A intern at Essence Security.</p> <p>On-campus, Xingyi the co-founder of the first International Student Advisory Board and the first Mental Health Coalition. She was also the only International student</p>

	<p>who served as the executive board member at UConn Undergraduate Student Government. Besides, she served as the student representative on the President’s Task Force on Student Mental Health & Well-being Member for promoting a better Mental Health environment and services to students. Furthermore, Xingyi was the Vice President of Alumni Relations in the oldest and largest professional business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi. She got selected as one of twenty brothers from all over the world for the 2019 Academy.</p>
	<p>Blenda Da Silva, Brazil. Blenda Silva currently works at the Americas Regional Office of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). She is an International Relations Specialist and an English graduate by the University of Brasilia, Brazil. Before the UN, Blenda was executive assistant to the Ambassador of India to Brazil from 2016-2018 and managed the Brazil office of the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development (BRICS-PED) from 2015-2016. She has been a volunteer of the Brazilian Red Cross for 5 years and has extensive international experience.</p>
	<p>Rury Demsey, Indonesia. Rury Dempsey is a digital inclusion junior officer in ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and assigned in ITU Area Office Jakarta. She joins ITU in handling International Girls in ICT Day 2020 together with the team to promote gender digital divide and to empower and encourage girls and young women to take up studies in ICTs. Prior to joining ITU, she was a public relations and business analyst in one of digital start-ups in Indonesia that is focusing in rural area development and a public relations analyst in national oil and gas company. Rury was a news anchor in several national televisions from 2014 to 2017 and a graduated MBA student at Intitute Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in 2016.</p>
	<p>Birke Laubinger, Germany. Birke Laubinger has recently joined ITU as a Digital Communication Intern, after finalizing her Bachelor in Social and Business Communication at the Berlin University of the Arts and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Due to her studies and her extracurricular engagement with the global youth organization CISV, Birke grew high curiosity towards fostering global exchange and connectivity. With CISV, she frequently organizes and leads international youth camps dedicated to educating and inspiring for peace through building inter-cultural friendship, cooperation, and understanding, from which she gained valuable insights into working with young citizens.</p>
	<p>Dunola Oladapo, Nigeria/UK. Dunola Oladapo is an external expert working on the I-CoDI project at the ITU. She has previously worked as a financial analyst at the UK National Audit Office, Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs Investment Bank. She sits on the #iWill Fund Leadership Board where she influences how investment is allocated to increase UK youth social action, she is the current UK Coordinator of the Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network [CYPAN] and she is a Schwarzman Scholar with a Global Affairs Masters from Tsinghua University, China [2020]. She has represented the UK at the Youth G7 Summit, The G(irls)20 Summit, Women Political Leadership Forum and MISK Global Forum. She is a G(irls)20 Ambassador and is the founder and trustee of Luton Lights - a charity which empowers girls in her local community in Luton, UK. She has been awarded a UK Women of The Future Award for her continuous work to try to empower those who are marginalised in society. Dunola is 25 and from the UK and Nigeria.</p>



Lena Ostlund, France/Sweden.

Lena Ostlund is half French and half Swedish, based in Paris. She joined ITU in July to support the coordination of the organization's different activities, in particular the 2020 EQUALS in Tech Awards. Lena has always been interested in the fight against gender inequality, but never fully understood what role technology played in it. By joining ITU and more particularly the EQUALS Global partnership, she now sees how providing access to digital skills can truly change the lives of many young girls and women all around the world.



Geremachew Wagaye, Ethiopia.

Geremachew is Bsc. graduate of Electromechanical Engineer from Hawassa University. Currently, he is working as Product Designer and Quality Supervisor Officer at a private company called " Selam Business Group PLC. He is also The CEO and Founder of Ethio-SciTech Engineer Solution, a social enterprises business which is developed a practical teaching apparatus for primary and high-school students.