



International Mayors Forum Webinar Series #4 – 15 October 2020, 4-5pm (KST)

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND – GENDER QUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN OUR CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Speakers Biography

 <p>Ms. Angelda Mwai Acting Chief Human Rights and Social Inclusion, Urban Practices Branch in Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat</p>	<p>Angela Mwai is the Chief of the Human Rights and Social Inclusion at UN-Habitat global headquarters in Nairobi. She is UN-Habitat’s gender focal point and is responsible for mainstreaming social inclusion in all policies, programmes and projects in UN-Habitat, raising awareness and capacity building on gender and human rights issues, for internal colleagues and external partners, gender and human rights tool development, engaging colleagues and partners. She is responsible for ensuring gender and human rights responsive initiatives and interventions in areas including land rights, economic empowerment, governance, spatial planning and urban basic service provision.</p> <p>Angela is also involved with other UN Agencies and partners on advocacy events on gender and women’s issues in international forums around the world. In addition, she is responsible for global reporting on all the social inclusion and cross-cutting issues: gender, youth, human rights, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, as well as other marginalised groups which include refugees, migrants, indigenous people. Angela has been working at UN-Habitat from 2007 where she started as a Project Finance Adviser with the Slum Upgrading Facility before taking over the Gender Equality and Human Rights portfolio in 2012.</p> <p>Angela holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from York University in Canada and a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Azusa Pacific University, USA</p>
 <p>Hon. Maria Isabelle G. Climaco Mayor Zamboanga City, Philippines</p>	<p>Maria Isabelle “Beng” Climaco is the 2nd Lady Mayor of the City of Zamboanga. She previously served the City as a City Councilor in 1998, as a Vice Mayor in 2004, and as member of the House of Representatives in 2007 where she championed R.A. 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women. She served as the youngest and only female Deputy Speaker from Mindanao during the 15th Congress.</p> <p>In 2017, the Philippine Federation of the Local Councils of Women conferred her the Most Outstanding Mayor of the Philippines Award. She was recognized by London-based City Mayors Foundation as one of the Top 5 World’s Best Mayors in 2019.</p> <p>She is a Lieutenant Colonel under the Army Reserve Command. She is also a licensed teacher and guidance counselor.</p>



Ms. Gogontlejang Phaladi
Executive Director
AMANYA Group Consultancy,
Pillar of Hope NGO

Gogontlejang Phaladi is a philanthropist, development practitioner, entrepreneur and seasoned moderator from Botswana. She is the Founder and Executive Director of a non-profit making Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) called the Gogontlejang Phaladi Pillar of Hope Project (GPPHP) which she founded over 10 years ago in response to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children affected and infected with HIV and AIDS in Botswana. She is a member of the Botswana National Vision 2036 Council.

Gogontlejang is also the Team Leader of a company called SWAHIBA (PTY) LTD which provides leading Technology and Innovation solutions for human and social development issues and broad internet services. She has vast experience in giving presentations and facilitating/ moderating panels having done so during various high-level conferences globally for the United Nations agencies, the African Union and for International Organizations. Gogontlejang Phaladi is an African woman leader who is passionate about transforming lives and believes a world free of poverty, where equity and dignity is possible with more youth and women driving the development agenda as agents of change.

She is a seasoned human and social development expert who has worked as a member of the African Union High Level Advisory Group on Humanitarian Effectiveness in Africa, Botswana Presidential Task Team of Vision 2036, UNICEF Botswana Child Ambassador, a former Radio Presenter, member of the WHO external advisory group on the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents (AA-HA) Framework and a Motivational Speaker. She has also done consultancy for IPPF, UNFPA and SheDecides to mention a few.



Ms. Amanda Austin
Head of Policy and Advocacy
Equal Measures 2030

Amanda Austin leads national, regional, and global-level policy and advocacy for Equal Measures 2030, a partnership of leading organisations from civil society and the development and private sectors seeking to turn data and evidence into advocacy and action for gender equality.

She also oversees feminist partnerships with women's rights organisations across seven focus countries. With over 10 years' development and humanitarian experience in East Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Europe, she previously worked for Save the Children, Oxfam, and Plan International



Mr. Jean D'Aragon
Officer-in-charge

United Nations Office for
Sustainable Development

Mr. Jean D'Aragon has 20 years of international development experience in research, policy capacity building, and monitoring and evaluation related to sustainable development in America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. He worked at the UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya and the UN DESA United Nations Centre for Regional Development in Nagoya, Japan on climate change, natural disaster risk and vulnerability reduction, urban planning and governance.

Jean has also been called upon to undertake assignments as Early Recovery Advisor and Early Recovery National Coordinator with the same and other UN agencies such as UNDP, in various geographical contexts, including disaster-hit regions of the Philippines and Vanuatu or in Cameroon, where he developed and coordinated programmes combining food security and poverty reduction with youth job creation and empowerment, particularly in the Far North Region of Cameroon, which is severely affected by Boko Haram's insurgency, not to mention land use agro-pastoral conflicts, which are exacerbated by increases in drought and flooding associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

Prior to joining the UN, Jean worked as the Senior Programme Officer at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC - Canada), leading research on the interlinkages between urban poverty reduction, livelihood and food security, environmental protection and resilience building, supporting their integration into territorial planning policies, codes, regulations, plans, and he also taught and lectured in different universities in Brazil, Portugal, France and in Canada, particularly at McGill University, where he has earned his Ph.D.