

BROOKINGS

Breaking the cycle of poverty through innovative finance:

Lessons from the Village Enterprise development impact bond and beyond

Tuesday, April 26, 10:00-11:30am EDT

Brookings Institution office and Public Event online streaming

Event Speakers

Brian Boland



Brian Boland is a co-founder of The Delta Fund, a portfolio of impact investments and grants focused on supporting organizations working to improve equity.

Brian and his wife Katie co-lead the fund's focus on poverty alleviation, racial justice and economic justice by helping to scale organizations that improve outcomes for the poor and disadvantaged. He currently serves on the boards for Faith and Prejudice, Upaya Social Ventures and LifeHikes.

Brian is a former Vice President at Facebook where he built high impact teams in strategy, operations, marketing and engineering. Prior to working with Facebook, Brian spent time as an entrepreneur, working at an agency and in product roles at Microsoft. Brian holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy with honors.

Brian and Katie live in Bellevue, WA with their two children.

Brahima Coulibaly



Dr. Brahima Sangafowa Coulibaly is vice president and director of the Global Economy and Development program at Brookings after previously serving as director of the program's Africa Growth Initiative.

He joined Brookings in 2017 after nearly a decade and half at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System where he was most recently chief economist and head of the emerging market and developing economies group. In that capacity, he oversaw the institution's work on emerging markets and developing economies, provided intellectual leadership on economic and financial issues facing these economies, and often represented the Federal Reserve in international meetings and working groups on relevant topics.

Dr. Coulibaly has also taught economics and international finance at Georgetown University, the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia, and the University of Michigan. He has published widely in top-tier academic journals on various topics in international finance, macroeconomics, economic development, monetary economics, and trade. He speaks regularly to the national and international media on these issues. His research has featured in numerous prominent media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, Project Syndicate, and the New York Times. He holds a Ph.D. and Master's degree in economics, both from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor's degree in statistics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Avnish Gungadurdoss



Avnish Gungadurdoss is the Co-founder and Managing Partner of Instiglio, a non-profit advisory firm dedicated to pioneering Results-Based Financing approaches in international development.

By focusing funding on results, Instiglio incentivizes innovation and better delivery methods that ultimately improve social outcomes. Avnish leads Instiglio's global strategy; providing technical direction on projects in education, poverty alleviation, workforce development, and health - among other topics - across Latin America and Africa. He also steers the development and dissemination of knowledge products and trainings to build the capacity of practitioners.

Avnish formerly worked for MIT's Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), for the World Bank, and as a consultant to a DFID challenge fund. He holds a MPA/ID from the Harvard Kennedy School, a diploma in performance management for non-profits from Harvard Business School, and a BA in economics and math from Dartmouth College. He was awarded the Echoing Green Fellowship and was elected as one of the "30 under 30" social entrepreneurs for his work with Instiglio.

Emily Gustafsson-Wright



Dr. Emily Gustafsson-Wright is a Senior Fellow in the Global Economy and Development Program at the Brookings Institution, with a focus on effective delivery of social services in developing countries.

She is the premier thought-leader in the field of social and development impact bonds and has written over a dozen publications on this cutting-edge topic including a recent series of policy briefs, which examine the success of impact bonds over the past ten years. Her work is regularly cited in the media including in the Economist, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and the Financial Times, and she has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals as well as contributed to several books in her field.

With over 20 years of experience in development, Dr. Gustafsson-Wright's previous professional experience includes working at the World Bank, the UNICEF Innocenti Research Center, and the Amsterdam Institute for International Development (AIID). She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Tinbergen Institute at the University of Amsterdam, as well as a Master of Science in Applied Economics and Finance and Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Ruth Levine



Dr. Ruth E. Levine is the CEO of IDinsight. She is a development economist with more than three decades of experience working on the design and implementation of policies and programs related to global health and education, social protection, gender equality, and labor markets.

Prior to joining IDinsight, Ruth led the Global Development and Population Program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation between 2011 and 2019, overseeing a total of approximately \$1 billion in philanthropic grantmaking.

Previously, she was a deputy assistant administrator in the Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

She spent nearly a decade at the Center for Global Development, where she designed and led CGD's Global Health Policy Program and served as CGD's first vice president for programs and operations. Earlier in her career, she designed and evaluated health and education projects at the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank. She holds a doctoral degree jointly in economics and demography from Johns Hopkins University and a B.S. from Cornell University.

John McArthur



Dr. John W. McArthur is senior fellow and director of the Center for Sustainable Development at the Brookings Institution. He co-founded and co-chairs the [17 Rooms initiative](#), a new approach to catalyzing action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

He is also a senior adviser to the United Nations Foundation and a board governor for the International Development Research Centre. He serves as a member of the UNICEF Advisory Group and of Policy Horizons Canada's Deputy Minister Steering Committee.

He was previously the chief executive officer of Millennium Promise Alliance, the international nongovernmental organization. Prior to that he served as manager and then deputy director of the U.N. Millennium Project, Secretary-General Kofi Annan's independent advisory body mandated to recommend an action plan for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. He has also been a senior fellow with the Hong Kong-based Fung Global Institute, a faculty member at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, and policy director at the University's Earth Institute.

McArthur grew up in Vancouver and is a Canadian citizen. He completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) at the University of British Columbia; a Master's in Public Policy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government; and then an M.Phil. and D.Phil. (Ph.D.) in economics at Oxford University, which he attended as a Rhodes Scholar.

Hanan Morsy



Dr. Hanan Morsy is the Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

She has amassed extensive cross-country experience and vast expertise in leading top-quality policy and development work and building strong partnerships, working in international organizations including the International Monetary Fund and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. As former Director of Macroeconomic Policy and Research at the African Development Bank, she provided thought leadership on economic issues and oversaw the production of rigorous analytical work.

Dr. Morsy has published on a wide range of economic and development issues and holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the George Washington University and a Masters degree in Economics from the University of California, USA.

Taddeo Muriuki



Taddeo Muriuki is Vice President for Africa Operations at Village Enterprise, a nonprofit organization focused on the elimination of extreme poverty.

Taddeo has over 15 years of leading and managing teams across East Africa. He supports a team of more than 200 passionate individuals to successfully implement Village Enterprise's poverty graduation program in East Africa. Before moving to the Vice President role, Taddeo was the Kenya Country Director for six years.

Starting in 2017, he was the Project Implementation Lead for the Village Enterprise Development Impact Bond, working with over 13,000 households in Kenya and Uganda. Taddeo has

extensive experience working with County Governments and National Governments on scaling up poverty graduation programming.

Before joining Village Enterprise, Taddeo worked as a Project Director at Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), where he managed a \$13 Million randomized controlled study in Western Kenya.