Expert Group Meeting
"Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age
for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls"
10-13 October 2022 (Virtual)

Biographies of Experts

Background Paper Authors

Alison Gillwald is the Executive Director of Research ICT Africa (RIA), an African digital policy and regulatory think-tank that works across 20 African countries. She is currently also an adjunct professor at the University of Cape Town's Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, where she convenes a doctoral programme in the Digital Economy and Society in Africa and professional development and executive training for policymakers, regulators and parliamentarians in the areas of policy, regulation and data governance. Alison has served on several national statutory commission and councils, including as deputy-chairperson of the National Broadband Advisory Council 2014; the chairperson of the first South African National Digital Migration Advisory Body in 2001; the Ministerial expert group seconded to the Communications Ministry in 2013 to fast-track the South African broadband plan, SA Connect. She has also served on various international panels and tasks forces, including the first ITU Gender Task Force in 1999 and the African Ministers' Advisory Group between 2000 and 2003. Alison is a Member of the UN Secretary General's Digital Cooperation Roadmap Digital Inclusion Roundtable and a member of the data governance working group of the Global Platform on Artificial Intelligence.

Londa Schiebinger is the John L. Hinds Professor of History of Science in the History Department at Stanford University and Founding Director of the EU/US Gendered Innovations in Science, Health & Medicine, Engineering, and Environment Project. From 2004-2010, she served as the Director of Stanford's Clayman Institute for Gender Research. She is a leading international authority on gender in science and technology. Over the past thirty years, Schiebinger's work has been devoted to teasing apart three analytically distinct but interlocking pieces of the gender and science puzzle: the history of women's participation in science; gender in the structure of scientific institutions; and the gendering of human knowledge. Londa's research has been featured in Nature "Sex and Gender Analysis Improves Science and Engineering" (2019), Science "A Framework for Sex, Gender, And Diversity Analysis in Research" (30 Sept 2022), the European Commission "Gendered Innovations 2: How Inclusive Analysis Contributes to Research and Innovation" (2020) as well as in Le Monde, El País, the New York Times, Die Zeit, La Vanguardia, at the London Museum of Natural History, and elsewhere. She is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the recipient of numerous prizes and awards.

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman is CEO/Founder of Women at the Table, and Co-Founder of the <a+>Alliance for Inclusive Algorithms. The < A+ > Alliance, founded 2019, is a global coalition of technologists, activists and academics who champion Inclusive AI and Affirmative Action for Algorithms so that we come closer to creating gender and racial equality in a world where machine learning does not wire an already biased system into our future. <a+>Alliance are leaders of the Generation Equality Forum Action Coalition for Technology & Innovation. Women at the Table, founded 2015, is a growing, global gender equality & democracy CSO based in Geneva, Switzerland focused on advancing feminist systems change by using the prism of technology, innovation & AI, and exercising leverage points in technology, the economy, sustainability & democratic governance. Caitlin is also the co-founder of the International Gender Champions, founded 2015, based in Geneva with hubs in New York, Vienna, Nairobi, The Hague and Paris, a leadership network of female & male decision-makers that break down gender barriers for system change.

Jamila Venturini is one of the Executive Directors of Derechos Digitales, a Latin American-based non-profit organization which defends and promotes human rights in digital environments since 2005. Jamila is a journalist and researcher in social sciences with a Masters Degree from FLACSO Argentina. She is the author of books and papers on technology and human rights; and a member of the Latin American Network of Surveillance, Technology and Society Studies (Lavits).

Mei Lin Fung is the Chair of the People Centered Internet which she co-founded with Vint Cerf. She was an early pioneer of Customer Relationship Management at Intel and Oracle and was Socio-Technical lead for the US Department of Defense Health Futures activity between 2009 and 2013. She is a member of the Executive Committee of IEEE's Society for Social Impact of Technology Committee, and chairs the Assessment subcommittee for IEEE's Humanitarian Activities Committee. She was a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council for Digital Economy and Society, 2017-18, and has been recently appointed a Fellow at the Hasso Plattner Institute in the University of Potsdam. At MIT, where she did her MBA, she studied under Franco Modigliani, Robert Merton and Fisher Black. She serves on the advisory council of Govstack, a UN initiative to develop common technology building blocks for government services, also for VentureRock. She is on the boards of moHuman and Design for Change.

Nighat Dad is a Pakistani lawyer and an inaugural member of the Oversight Board, which since 2020 has been working to better protect freedom of expression on Meta's platforms by making principled, independent decisions about important pieces of content. She is also the founder of Digital Rights Foundation, a charity organisation focused on cyber harassment, data protection and free speech online in Pakistan and South Asia. As a feminist and pioneer for women's rights activism in Pakistan, Dad has raised awareness of Pakistani patriarchy and illuminated her own experience as a women engaged in digital rights activism. Her accomplishments

include being named a Next Generation Leader by Time Magazine in 2015, the Dutch Human Rights Tulip Award in 2016, a TED Global Fellowship in 2017 and nomination as a Young Global Leader by World Economic Forum in 2018. Most recently, she was listed among 2019's 21 Young Leaders from Asia by Asia Society.

Experts

Group A

Sonia Jorge is an experienced leader and international digital policy expert. As the Executive Director of Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) until September 2022, Sonia led this successful global coalition bringing together private sector, governments, and civil society actors from across the globe to deliver the policies needed to reduce the cost to connect and make universal meaningful connectivity a reality for everyone in low- and middle-income countries. As a policy advisor and gender equality advocate with experience in over 45 countries, she has led numerous digital policy and development projects in several countries and with international organizations, such as the World Bank, UNDP, UN Women, ITU, and for private sector companies and associations. Sonia was recognized by apolitical as one of the World's 100 Most Influential People in Digital Government in 2019. She serves or has served as a member and expert in a number of Committees, including DFID's Digital Access Panel for Africa, the ITU-UN Women EQUALS Partnership, The World Economic Forum's Future of the Internet Initiative, the Broadband Commission Working Group on the Gender Digital Divide, the Advisory Committee on International Communications and Information Policy (ACICIP) Subcommittee of the US State Department on ICT4D, and the EU-AU Digital Economy Task Force. She is an Independent Board Director with KaiOS Technologies and frequent speaker at international, regional and national events.

Dhanaraj Thakur is a Research Director at the Center for Democracy & Technology, where he leads research that advances human rights and civil liberties online. Over the last 15 years, he has designed and led research projects that have significantly informed tech policy and helped improve the way public policy problems are framed. He is currently a member of the Technology Policy Research Conference program committee and the advisory board of #ShePersisted, which tackles gendered disinformation against women in politics. A former Fulbright scholar, Inter-American Development Bank scholar, and ISOC Ambassador, Dhanaraj previously led research at the World Wide Web Foundation, focusing on broadband access and affordability, gender equality online, and data rights. He has published over 40 peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers; as well as reports for civil society organizations, multilateral development banks, and governments. He has also published extensively and has been interviewed and quoted in several news outlets, including CNN, the WSJ, the Economist, the Guardian (UK), and the Financial Times.

Asha Allen serves as Advocacy Director for Europe, Online Expression & Civic Space at CDT Europe Office in Brussels, where she leads our work on issues at the intersection of online expression, civic engagement, and technology. Her work focuses on advocating for the preservation of fundamental rights in European Union/Regional legislation, and democratic accountability in industry content policies. Asha came to CDT as an intersectional digital rights advocate, with an extensive background in combating online gender-based violence, having worked on projects with the United Nations, Council of Europe and OSCE. She coordinated the #HerNetHerRights II campaign which aimed to increase women's safety and participation online during the European elections. Asha emerged into this area having worked as policy officer in the field of gender-based and domestic violence, and as an independent researcher, she has published analyses on the intersection between online discourse and the securitisation of migration, and the online facilitation of human trafficking. In her spare time, Asha is one of six women who front the Who Writes the Rules Campaign, which advocates for increased participation of women of colour in EU policy making and the tech industry.

Suzie Dunn is an assistant professor at Dalhousie University's Schulich School of Law. Her research focuses on technology-facilitated violence, the non-consensual distribution of intimate images, deepfakes, and impersonation in digital spaces. In 2018, she worked as a policy advisor with the Digital Inclusion Lab at Global Affairs Canada supporting the drafting of two international commitments to end gender-based violence in digital contexts, including the G7's "Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts" and the UN Human Rights Council's resolution titled "Accelerating Efforts to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls: Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls in Digital Contexts", both of which were adopted that year. Suzie was part of the legal team that supported CIPPIC's intervention in R v Jarvis and R v Downes at the Supreme Court of Canada, both of which are key cases in the jurisprudence related to privacy and image-based abuse. Currently, she is working with CIGI as a Senior Fellow on a project examining technology-facilitated violence across 18 countries globally and she sits on advisory committee with the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund that addresses issues related to technology facilitated violence.
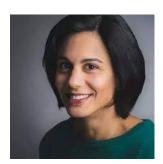
Quinn McKew is the Executive Director of ARTICLE 19, the leading international freedom of expression organisation. She brings to ARTICLE 19 a background in community building, environmental activism, and the protection of human rights in the digital age. Above all she brings a decade-long dedication to the value of freedom of expression to create and maintain a more inclusive, a fairer and a more sustainable world. As a graduate of both Stanford (international relations and the environment) and of Georgetown University (MBA in non-profit management), McKew's experience has spanned both the public, private and third sectors. Since joining ARTICLE 19 in 2011 she has played a vital role in developing a world-leading programme of work on digital infrastructure and human rights, and become a leading voice on the protection of civic space from a rights-based perspective. She is also a board member of The Equal Rights Trust – an international organization combating discrimination.

Brandeis Marshall teaches, speaks and writes about the impact of data practices on technology and society. This computer scientist is an accomplished educator-scholar instructing thousands and leading federally funded projects. Marshall is the Founder and CEO of DataedX Group, LLC. DataedX Group provides learning and development training to help educators, scholars and practitioners humanize their data practices by recognizing and mitigating algorithmic harms. Marshall holds a Ph.D. and Master of Science in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from the University of Rochester. Visit brandeismarshall.com for more information or on LinkedIn: brandeis-marshall.

Lauren Klein is a Winship Distinguished Research Professor and Associate Professor in the Departments of English and Quantitative Theory and Methods at Emory University, where she also directs the Digital Humanities Lab. Before arriving at Emory, Lauren taught in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication at Georgia Tech. She received her PhD in English and American Studies from the CUNY Graduate Center, and her AB in Literature (English and French) from Harvard University. In 2017, she was named one of the "rising stars in digital humanities" from Inside Higher Ed. She is currently at work on two major projects: Data by Design, an interactive history of data visualization from the eighteenth century to the present; and Vectors of Freedom, a quantitative analysis of the abolitionist movement of the nineteenth-century United States. She is the author of two books. The first, Data Feminism (MIT Press), co-authored with Catherine D'Ignazio, and the second, An Archive of Taste: Race and Eating in the Early United States (University of Minnesota Press). With Matthew K. Gold, she edits Debates in the Digital Humanities (University of Minnesota Press), a hybrid print/digital publication stream that explores debates in the field as they emerge.

Yasmin Bin-Humam is a Financial Sector Specialist with the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP). She works on analyzing excluded segments to more closely examine who remains financially excluded and how financial services might impact their lives. She also serves as a focal point for CGAP's gender mainstreaming and for FinEquity, an industry-wide community of practice on women's financial inclusion. Before joining CGAP, Yasmin developed indicators measuring women's equality under the law for the World Bank's Women, Business, and the Law project and contributed to publications on legal barriers to women's economic empowerment. Her previous research includes the historical evolution of labor and family law reform in countries around the world, and she has compiled legislation on banking, nonbank financial institutions, and consumer protection regulations. Her earlier work experience spans the public, private, and nongovernmental sectors.

Diana Dezso is an international development consultant with 20+ years of experience in the financial inclusion sector. In recent years, her work has focused on women's financial inclusion and economic empowerment. Diana works with global alliances, learning networks and communities of practice on engagement, influencing and expansion strategies. She also specializes in knowledge management, organizational development and learning, capacity assessments, program implementation, and new business development. Until recently, Diana was the lead facilitator of FinEquity, a community of practice focused on women's financial inclusion convened by CGAP at the World Bank. She also held leadership positions of international organizations in both Washington DC and the field, including the SEEP Network and ACCION USA. Diana has an MPA from New York University. She is fluent in Romanian, proficient in Spanish, and speaks basic French.

Elena Estavillo is the Founder and CEO of the think tank: Centro-i para la Sociedad del Futuro/Centre for the Society of the Future which studies exponential technologies and the digital ecosystem on the principles of competition, trust, inclusion, privacy, and human rights. She is also the co-founder and associate director of the consultancy Aequum, specializing in competition and regulation and in telecommunications and technological markets. Elena is Chairwomen and founder of Conectadas, a network of women leaders in the digital space that received a WSIS Champion award, as well as a WSIS Gender Trendsetter. She is the Former Commissioner at the Federal Institute of Telecommunications in Mexico, as well as Member of UNESCO's Open Space on Artificial Intelligence for Latin America and the Caribbean, Member of the Working Group of Independent experts on C26+ Digital Economy, promoted by the US-Mexico Foundation, and Member of the International Women's Forum. Her awards include MujerTec 2022; Most Powerful Women from Forbes Mexico; 102 Women Leaders from El Universal, 20 Women who are Changing the Industry from the Radio and TV Chamber in Mexico.

Judith Mariscal is Executive Director at Centro LATAM Digital, research professor at CIDE and member at its highest level of the National System of Researchers. Her research focuses on the role of digital technologies for development in Latin America.

Shirley Malcom is senior advisor and director of SEA Change at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) where for four decades she has worked to increase access to education and careers in STEMM for all. She is a trustee of Caltech and regent of Morgan State University. She served on the National Science Board, policymaking body of the National Science Foundation, and on President Clinton's Committee of Advisors on S&T. Shirley, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, received her PhD in ecology from Penn State, masters in zoology from UCLA and bachelor's in zoology from the University of Washington. She is an elected fellow of the AAAS and American Academy of Arts and Sciences, where she serves as

International Secretary. Active in gender and science issues globally, she has co-chaired the Gender Advisory Board of UNCSTD and was 2003 recipient of the Public Welfare Medal of the NAS.

Valentina Muñoz Rabanal, also known as @chica.rosadita in social media, is a young feminist and digital rights activist. As the only Latin-American woman appointed as an SDG Advocate by the UN Secretary-General, she is leading the organization of the first International Convention about Digital Rights.

Luiza Drummond Veado is OutRight's UN Program Senior Program Officer based in New York. She is a Brazilian attorney with an International Human Rights Law LLM from the University of Essex. She worked at the Rapporteurship on Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Persons of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for almost two years, where she developed thematic reports and worked on regional leading cases on LGBTI rights. Prior to this, she was a member of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Essex and has worked at the Inter-American Court on Human Rights, the Center for Justice and International Law and the Minas Gerais State Human Rights Council and its Truth Commission. Luiza has also published several academic articles on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics; trained more than one hundred activists and government officials on international and regional non-discrimination standards, with a focus on LGBTI rights; and has coordinated an award-winning video campaign on violence against LGBTI persons in the Americas.

Group B

Helani Galpaya is CEO of LIRNEasia, a pro-poor, pro-market think tank working on digital and other infrastructure policy and regulatory issues across the Asia-Pacific. Her research centers around digital access, digital inclusion, human rights online, algorithmic/AI and data governance, the information disorder and the regulation of social media, and how digital technology can be used to improve social safety nets. Helani serves on the Board of Editors of the Information Technology and International Development journal and the Board of Directors of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data. She is a member of the Working Group on Innovation and Commercialisation of the Global Partnership on AI and a member of the AI Capacity Building Working Group of the UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development.

Milagros Sáinz Ibáñez is a Researcher at the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3) at the Open University of Catalunya (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya). She is a psychologist specializing in Gender stereotypes and roles; academic motivation and choice of studies in adolescence; gender and attitudes towards technology; careers in technology. Her R&D activities focus on the motivational and psychosocial factors behind the vocational segregation of girls and boys from secondary education on. This includes family and school influences on study choices; gender role development during adolescence; gender stereotypes about ability self-concepts, achievement and task-choices; gendered construction of careers of occupations; and secondary school teachers' and students' attitudes towards technology and technological subjects. Her main research interests are gender stereotypes, the influence of the socialisation process in choosing courses (theories of social learning, of social roles and choice of achievement, etc.) and the digital gender gap. She also specialises in the use of quantitative and qualitative methodologies in social research. She leads the research group GENTIC (Gender & ICT: Researching Gender in the Network Society) and is a Member of the Consortium for Cross-cultural Research on Education and of the Gender and STEM Network.

Alice Abreu is *Professor Emerita* of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil, has a PhD in Social Sciences from the University of São Paulo Brazil (1980), and M.Sc. in Sociology from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) of the University of London (1971). She was a Full Professor of Sociology at the UFRJ for twenty-five years and has published extensively in sociology of work and gender as well as, more recently, on gender and science. Since early 2000 her career has been closely linked to science, technology, and innovation policy, holding important positions in Brazil and internationally. More recently, Professor Abreu was the Director of GenderInSITE (2015-2017), a global initiative aimed at promoting the role of women in science, innovation, technology and engineering (SITE). In 2022, she was elected International Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Nyama Gusona Marvel is currently a member of the European Union Youth Sounding board. Nyama began her work within the United Nations system at age 21, as a youth advocate for child protection, supporting UNICEF's Generation Unlimited and other youth engagement projects. She is a Member of the ITU Generation Connect Africa Youth Group. She has volunteered with Amnesty International as a human rights activist, and contributed to Amnesty's online decoder research to identify and analyze racist, sexist and abusive tweets against women thereby helping to create a massive database of examples of online abuse against women. Nyama has received an award from the Women Economic Forum for her outstanding achievements in the development sector.

Ian Makamara is a Kenyan lawyer with an interest in digital rights and gender equality. He possesses a bachelor of laws degree from Strathmore University, a Certification in Gender Analytics from the University of Toronto and a Certificate in Human Rights from The Hague Academy. He has previously worked in the Microsoft Policy Innovation Centre as a Legal Intern and with various international organizations that are focused on youth empowerment such as UN-SDSN Youth and The Joint SDG Fund Youth corner. Currently, he is a policy assistant at the Lawyers Hub, an organization that is focused on the nexus between law and technology. He also serves as one of Africa's regional representatives for the CIVICUS Youth Action Team and is undertaking a fellowship with the International Republican Institute that is based on leadership, accountability and civic action. He is a Member of the ITU Generation Connect Africa Youth Group. Due to the impactful work he has done over the past few years, Ian was selected as a top 30 under 30 changemaker in 2019.

Jan Moolman is the Women's Rights Programme co-manager for the Association for Progressive Communications (APC). She has led the Women's Rights Programme's (WRP's) work on online gender-based violence since 2009 when she joined APC as coordinator of a 12-country project, which was the first of its kind to explore the intersections of violence against women and technology focusing specifically on the global South. Jan has provided leadership to WRP's impactful policy advocacy to secure recognition for online gender-based violence through engaging and influencing multiple rights-based policy processes, including with treaty bodies, special procedures and in relation to internet governance. Between 2002 and 2004, Jan was the editor of Agenda, an African peer-reviewed academic journal of feminism, which was established in 1987 as a volunteer project in South Africa and is currently published by UNISA Press in collaboration with Routledge. She has extensive experience in the women's rights and feminist movements in South Africa and the region and is particularly interested in the intersections of gender, race and class.

Elettra Ronchi is currently an Adjunct Lecturer at Science Po, School of Public Affairs, Paris, and a senior policy consultant in data governance, privacy and digital health. In her former capacity as Head of Unit in the Division for Digital Economy Policy at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, she has led work on data governance, privacy and risk management for over a decade. Work under her guidance has included the review of the implementation of the OECD Privacy Guidelines, the development and OECD Council adoption of the 2021 OECD Recommendation on Enhancing Access and Sharing of Data, the 2021 Recommendation on Children in the Digital Environment and the 2016 Recommendation on Health Data Governance. Elettra has served as an expert on various advisory boards and panels, including most recently the Ethics Advisory Council of the International Covid-19 Data Alliance, the Working Group on Data Governance of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence, and the Foundation Board of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

Marwa Fatafta leads Access Now's work on digital rights in the Middle East and North Africa region as the MENA Policy Manager. She has written extensively on the intersection of technology and human rights in Palestine and the wider MENA region. Marwa is also a Policy Analyst at Al-Shabaka: The Palestinian Policy Network. Before joining Access Now, Marwa worked as the MENA Regional Advisor at Transparency International Secretariat in Berlin and coordinated regional and global efforts to mainstream gender into anti-corruption policies and norms. Marwa was a Fulbright scholar to the US, and holds an MA in International Relations from Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University. She holds a second MA in Development and Governance from University of Duisburg-Essen.

Hilde G.Corneliussen has a Doctoral degree in Humanistic Informatics (2003). Her work is mainly within the interdisciplinary field of STS (Science, technology and society). Her main interests in research are in ICT and gender, diversity, and inclusion in areas such as education, working life, leisure and family. Her latest research includes topics such as recruitment to IT education, women's tech careers, e-health innovation, and the public sector's use of artificial intelligence. She leads the research group Gender, Diversity and Technology at Vestlandsforsking, and is the Research leader for Technology and Society.

Anita Gurumurthy is a founding member and executive director of IT for Change, where she leads research on the platform economy, data and AI governance, democracy in the digital age, and feminist frameworks on digital justice. She actively engages in national and international advocacy on digital rights and contributes regularly to academic and media spaces. Anita serves as advisor and expert on various bodies including the United Nations Secretary-General's 10-Member Group in support of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, Council of the Platform Cooperativism Consortium at The New School - NYC, Board of the ETC Group and of the Minderoo Tech & Policy Lab at the University of Western Australia.

Jill Tang is the co-founder of Ladies Who Tech, a social enterprise focusing on changing the status quo and promotes gender diversity and inclusion in STEM industry. It has 16 city chapters running by over 130 volunteers around the globe and connects more than 70,000+ members in total. Forbes China, the Guardian, BBC, TechNode, Paper, CGTN and CNN also reported her work. Jill is the finalist for 2016 Australia China Young Alumni of the year and top 100 Gen T in China by Asia Tatler in 2019. In 2020, Jill was awarded 'Social Impact Award' at AmCham Future Leaders of the Year Award. She holds Bachelor of Commerce from Latrobe University, Master of Applied Finance from Monash University and MBA from Melbourne Business School.

Patrice Braun is an Action Researcher with a PhD in ICT-enabled regional small business network development and a Masters by Research on the use of the internet for community informatics. She holds an Adjunct Professorship in Research & Innovation at Federation University Australia. Her global research and consultancy work focuses on gender, entrepreneurship and the weaving of technology with sustainable economic, social, environmental, and governance practices. Patrice consults with government, organisations, industry and communities on inclusive standards, gender and SME policy, and collaborative forms of capacity building and evaluation. A seasoned gender expert, speaker and contributor to economic, trade and technology forums, Patrice was the Australian focal point for a 5-year APEC research and capacity development program to enhance women's participation in the digital economy. Prof Braun's publications include gender-sensitive pandemic policies, gender-responsive ecosystems and e-trade practices; knowledge economy skilling and female entrepreneurship as a path for economic empowerment and social change.

Sabina Dewan is President and executive director of the JustJobs Network, an international think tank focused on creating more and better employment worldwide. Research includes work on the future of work in the digital age. She is also a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research in India, and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire. Before this, Dewan served as a Senior Fellow and Director for International Economic Policy at the Center for American Progress in Washington DC. Her research focusses on delineating strategies for job creation and workforce development. She works closely with governments, businesses, multilateral and grassroots organisations providing critical labour market information to improve interventions aimed at generating more and better employment, and cultivating employability, especially for women, youth and marginalised groups. Sabina's vast experience includes working with institutions including the World Bank, the International Labour Organisation, and the European Commission, as well as grassroots organisations in Sierra Leone, India and Western Samoa. She appears regularly in international media outlets, including The Wall Street Journal, Huffington Post, US News and World Report, as well as CNN, BBC, and Al-Jazeera.

Ayanna Samuels is a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Oslo Metropolitan University in Norway. Her research focuses on understanding the Mechanisms for Promoting Gender Inclusive Innovation Ecosystems with a particular focus on Digital Inclusion. Ayanna is an Aerospace Engineer, Technology Policy Expert, Gender Equity Specialist, International Development Professional and Motivational Speaker. She has run a consultancy practice for over 17 years specializing in a) the intersection of International Development, Gender, ICT and STEM policy b) the use of ICTs and Technology Policy as enablers of access to basic human rights, socio-economic empowerment and poverty eradication, c) Gender Equity and d) the role of Space Technology in realizing the UN's SDGs. Ayanna holds three degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology comprising two M.Sc. degrees in Technology Policy and Aerospace Engineering respectively, and a B.Sc. in Aerospace Engineering with IT. Ayanna's body of work has resulted in ICT4D related knowledge products and the establishment and execution of tangible capacity building programmes.

Observer organizations

Broadband Commission

International Labour Organization (ILO)

International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)