



PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION JUST TRANSITION FRAMEWORK

DIALOGUE ON JUST TRANSITION FINANCING: 15 OCTOBER 2021

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

1. Ms. Joanne Bate

Joanne is Chief Operations Officer of the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa. She aims to play a central role in the creation of balanced and sustainable economic growth at a time when there is an urgent need to sustainably expand South Africa's economy.

Joanne is responsible for driving the IDC's planning, project development, business origination and implementation priorities. At the core of delivering sustainable industrial development is understanding and planning for the environmental impact of industrial value chains as well as the climate change impact on these value chains.

Joanne was previously Head of Client Innovation at Absa Corporate and Investment Bank. Among other achievements, she defined a shared value strategy for client centricity through sector-based value chain and ecosystem mapping that identified opportunities for differentiation, disruption and creation of positive social and environmental impacts. Joanne also held senior management positions at Absa including Head of Public Sector & Infrastructure and Head of Metals, Mining & Infrastructure. Prior to joining Absa, Joanne was a Director of Global Investment Banking at HSBC.

Joanne originally started her career at the IDC following completion of her articles at KPMG. She was involved in driving transformation funding and industrial development through roles as Head of Project Finance and Structured Finance and Head of Corporate Finance, among others.

Joanne holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from the University of the Witwatersrand and is a chartered accountant (SA) by qualification. She currently serves as a Commissioner on the Presidential Climate Commission.

2. Mr. Amar Bhattacharya

Amar Bhattacharya, Amar Bhattacharya is a senior fellow in the Center for Sustainable Development, housed in the Global Economy and Development program at

Brookings. His focus areas are the global economy, development finance, global governance, and the links between climate and development.

From April 2007 until September 2014 he was Director of the Group of 24, an intergovernmental group of developing country Finance Ministers and Central Bank

Governors. In that capacity he led the work program of the Group, supported the deliberations of the Ministers, and was the principal point of interface with other organizations including the G20. He has therefore been an active participant in the global economic discussions and a key representative of the views of developing countries. Prior to taking up his position with the G24, Mr. Bhattacharya had a long-standing career in the World Bank. His last position was as Senior Advisor and Head of the International Policy and Partnership Group. In this capacity, he was the focal point for the Bank's engagement with key international groupings and institutions such as the G7/G8, G20, IMF, OECD and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Amar Bhattacharya is a Visiting Professor in Practice at the Grantham Research Institute at The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He is also working closely with a highly profiled research team on topics of international finance, climate action and sustainable growth, as well as economic and climate policies.

Through these different positions Mr. Bhattacharya has had a long standing engagement in research and policy discussions on the global economy and spillovers, international financial architecture, development financing and the global governance agenda including on the role and reform of the international financial institutions.

He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Delhi and Brandeis University and his graduate education at Princeton University.

3. Ms. Sandy Lowitt

Sandy Lowitt holds a Master of Commerce from Wits University in Economics. She established the Economics Department in the Gauteng Provincial Government in 1995 and remained at GPG until 2006. While specialising in economic research and industrial policy and strategy she also created and ran Blue IQ which delivered large infrastructure projects such as the Gautrain, the innovation hub and the automotive supplier park. Sandy is active in public policy research and strategy development working for the Presidency, the DTIC, DST and National Treasury. Sandy has currently become active in just transition finance research.



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4. Mr. Saliem Fakir

Saliem Fakir is the Executive Director of the African Climate Foundation. Prior to establishing the ACF, Saliem served as the Head of the Policy & Futures Unit of WWF South Africa for 11 years. Saliem has worked as a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Public Administration and Planning and an Associate Director for the Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy at Stellenbosch University. Prior to that he served as Director of the World Conservation Union, South Africa (IUCN-SA) for eight years. Saliem has served on a number of Boards and is a prolific writer who contributes regularly to leading South African publications like Engineering News, Business Day and the Daily Maverick.