

SPEAKER & MODERATOR

BIOGRAPHIES



OPENING SESSION

Nimrod Zalk | [Keynote Speaker](#)



Nimrod Zalk is the former Deputy Director-General of the Sector Branch of the South African Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**). He also served as Industrial Development Advisor in the Office of the Director-General between 2013 and 2023. Prior to that he was Deputy Director-General of the Industrial Development Division of **the dtic**. From 2009 until 2023 he was a non-executive director on the board of the Industrial Development Corporation. He is a Scientific Committee Member of the African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE) and sits on the Academic Advisory Board of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences of the University of the Free State.

He holds an MSC in Economics and a PhD in Economics from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies. He has been appointed an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town's Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance.

Nimrod has been involved in a range of policy, research and academic processes related to South African and broader African industrial development and trade, including management of sector Master Plans; establishing the Industrial Development Think Tank at the University of Johannesburg; developing and implementing South Africa's National Industrial Policy Framework and Industrial Policy Action Plans (IPAP); and designing key industrial policy initiatives including various sector strategies, industrial financing instruments, and leveraging procurement for industrial development. He is a Member of Professor Joseph Stiglitz's Initiative for Policy Dialogue: Africa Task, and co-founder of APORDE.



Fiona Tregenna

South African Research Chair (SARChI) in Industrial Development | UJ

Professor Fiona Tregenna holds the DSI/NRF South African Research Chair in Industrial Development, heading this centre of research, capacity-building, and public and policy engagement. She is also a Professor of Economics at the University of Johannesburg. Her research focuses on issues of structural change, industrialisation and deindustrialisation, and innovation and technological upgrading. She has published widely in leading journals, received awards and grants for her research, led large research projects, co-edited several books, and serves on the editorial boards of various international journals and book series. Fiona has been involved in economic policy debates for more than 25 years. She serves on many panels, boards and councils. These include the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Advisory Council, through which she advises on trade and industrial development across Africa, and is advising South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on economic policy as a member of his Presidential Economic Advisory Council. She also sits part-time on the Competition Tribunal (South Africa). Fiona has advised international organisations such as UNIDO, UNCTAD, the United Nations University and the ILO, and has contributed to a number of flagship United Nations reports. Fiona is an elected member of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), and sits on several ASSAf bodies. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Cambridge.



Saul Levin

Executive Director | TIPS

Saul Levin is the Executive Director of TIPS and co-course director of the African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE). He previously worked as a Chief Director in the Economic Development Department (EDD) with oversight over the Development Finance Institutions reporting to EDD. Prior to that Saul spent two years as a senior manager at Standard Bank, working as a Business Operations Manager in the Corporate Affairs Unit. Previously he worked as the Chief of Staff for the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry, and as an economist at the Department of Trade and Industry. Saul has a Master's Degree in Industrial Sociology from Wits University.

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Lesego Moshikaro-Amani | Moderator

Economist | TIPS

Lesego Moshikaro-Amani is an Economist at TIPS. Her expertise lies in industrial policy, automotive manufacturing, battery energy storage systems, and employment and skills for industry. Before joining TIPS, Lesego worked as a Crisis Response Fund researcher and data analyst at CIVICUS and as a graduate research assistant at the Land Restitution Evaluation Study, launched by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU). Lesego has a Master's degree in Commerce specialising in Development Economics from the University of Cape Town

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SESSION ONE



Gillian Chigumira | Moderator

Economist | TIPS

Gillian Chigumira is an Economist at TIPS. She has more than eight-and-a-half years of experience as an economist, policy advisor and strategy analyst in the field of industrial development and inclusive economic growth for South Africa and the greater Southern African Development Community Region.

Her work fundamentally targets research and policy development for government departments, regional and international organisations. Her expertise cuts across national masterplans for industry and sectors, and individual product analysis in agricultural and agro-processing related value chains and the broader manufacturing sector. Gillian has recently worked on South Africa Master Plans such as the Water and Sanitation Industry Master Plan; Sugar Value Chain Master Plan; the Poultry Master Plan and the Plastics Industry Master Plan for Growth. She has also worked on multiple agricultural value chain studies on agro-processing machinery, dairy, aquaculture, abalone, essential oils, soybeans, fruits and vegetables, cassava, industrial starches, hemp, and confectionery. Gillian is also a member and Certified Business Advisor with the Institute of Business Advisors of Southern Africa (Reg. M5358).

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Nishal Robb

Economist | TIPS

Nishal Robb is an Economist at TIPS. Before joining TIPS, he worked as an Economist at the Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development at the University of Johannesburg, and as the National Training and Organising Coordinator for Equal Education. Nishal has worked on a range of topics, including the history of South Africa's labour-intensive clothing industry; the impact of poor school safety on education; the financialisation of South African firms and implications for structural transformation; and illicit financial flows, tax havens and industrial development in South Africa. He has an MSc from SOAS, University of London, and a BA Honours (Economic History) and BSocSci (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) from the University of Cape Town.

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Nokwanda Maseko

Senior Economist | TIPS

Nokwanda Maseko is a Senior Economist at TIPS. She was previously a Budget Analyst at National Treasury and an Assistant Director at the Economic Development Department, focused on industrial policy. Nokwanda has a BCom Economics and International Trade (Cum Laude) and an MCom in Economics from the North West University. She is a Thabo Mbeki African

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Itumeleng Mokoena

Economist | TIPS

Itumeleng Mokoena is an Economist at TIPS. He has worked on several projects across different sectors including financial services, government and manufacturing. Prior to joining TIPS in 2020, Itumeleng worked as an Intern at Genesis Analytics. Itumeleng holds both BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics and BA Honours in Politics and International Relations (with distinction) from the University of Johannesburg. He holds a Masters in International Relations (with distinction) from the University of Cape Town. His Masters' dissertation investigated the impact of private capital flows on South Africa's developmental state agenda. Itumeleng is an MPhil candidate in Industrial Policy at the School of Economics at the University of Johannesburg. His broad research interests include financialisation, industrial development, and developmental states.

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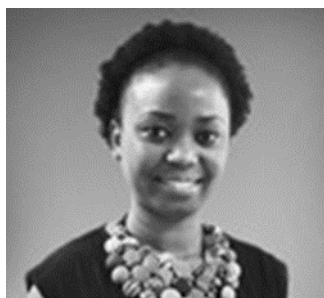
Neva Makgetla

Senior Economist | TIPS

Neva Makgetla is a Senior Economist at TIPS. She has undertaken extensive research into South African economic issues, published widely, and contributed to a number of national economic policy processes and debates since 1994. Until 2015, she was Deputy Director General for Economic Policy in the Economic Development Department. Before that, she was Lead Economist for the Development Planning and Implementation Division at the Development Bank of Southern Africa. She has worked at a senior level in the Presidency and other government departments, and for seven years was head of the COSATU Policy Unit. She has a PhD in economics and before 1994 worked for more than 10 years as an economics lecturer.

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SESSION 2



Lauralyn Kaziboni | Moderator

Senior Manager | Economic Advisory, EY

Lauralyn Kaziboni is a development economist and a Senior Manager in EY's Economic Advisory. Prior to joining EY, she spent nearly five years with DNA Economics focusing on issues related to trade and industrial policy, as well as climate change and energy, and monitoring and evaluation. She began her career at the University of Johannesburg's Centre for Competition, Regulation, and Economic Development (CCRED) where she worked for five years as a project coordinator and researcher on issues related to structural transformation and regional integration. Lauralyn holds an MCom in Development Economics and a BCom Hons in International Trade and Finance from the University of Johannesburg. She also has a Bachelor of Social Science, specialising in Economics with a minor in Psychology from Africa University. She has published several working papers, conference papers and book chapters.

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Leseko S. Makhetha

Lecturer | National University of Lesotho

Leseko S. Makhetha is a lecturer at the National University of Lesotho in the Department of Economics and is the Head of the Department. He pursued his PhD in Economics at Peking University. He is an Advisory Academic Board Member of the African Economic Research Consortium. His research interests include foreign direct investment, growth and finance. He is also a coordinator for the World Trade Organization Chairs Programme at the National University of Lesotho, and heads the Lesotho National Human Development Report in collaboration with the United National Development Programme (UNDP). His dissertation, collaboratively supervised under the World Trade Organization programme for Doctoral Students, was awarded a 2022 Third Prize Peking University Baoping African Studies Distinction Thesis Award.

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Alexis Habiyaremye

Senior Researcher | University of Johannesburg

Alexis Habiyaremye is a Senior Researcher at the DSI/NRF South African Research Chair in Industrial Development (SARChI-ID), College of Business and Economics, University of Johannesburg. His research interests focus on innovation, structural transformation and technical change, with ramifications for intellectual property rights, export diversification and natural resource-based development

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Sand Mba-Kalu

PhD Candidate/ Executive Director | The University of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela School, of Public Governance/ Africa International Trade & Commerce Research

Sand Mba Kalu is an international trade and investment expert for the African market with more than 15 years' experience working in a multicultural environment. He is the current Executive Director at Africa International Trade and Commerce Research. His achievements include being a lead technical consultant for the first independent study on the potential benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) for Nigeria. His research work has been presented at a public hearing in the European Parliament, and he actively participated in the UN Policy Hackathon on Model Provisions for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic. Sand is pursuing a PhD at the University of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance. He holds a certificate in Trade Negotiations in an Era of Uncertainty from the European University Institute, Italy, a Bachelor's degree in International Trade and an MSc in International Business Management, both from the University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom.

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Torque Mude

Senior Lecturer of Political Economy | University of Namibia

Torque Mude is a Senior Lecturer of Political Economy at the University of Namibia. In 2022, he served as a Research Fellow in the Regional Integration and Trade Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa, Kigali, Rwanda. During the fellowship tenure, Torque's analytical studies primarily concentrated on the trajectory of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) focusing on intra-African trade, regional integration, peacebuilding and development in Africa. Over the years, he served as a Senior Lecturer of international relations in the Department of Governance and Public Management at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe. He holds a PhD in International Politics (2018) obtained from the University of South Africa, a Master of Arts in International Affairs (2011), and Bachelor of Arts Honours in History and Development Studies (2009), all from Midlands State University. His research interests are African politics, international political economy, development, peace and security. He has published book chapters, book reviews and journal articles in *Africa Insight*; *African Studies Quarterly*; *Africa Development*; *Springer*; *Palgrave McMillan*; and *Lexington Books*, among others.

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SESSION 3



Lutfiyah Suliman | Moderator

Independent consultant

Lutfiyah Suliman has several years of management, coordination and research experience in the development sector with a feminist political ecology lens, most recently as the Climate Policy Researcher in the Climate, Infrastructure and Energy programme at Institute of Economic Justice (IEJ), and before that as Transport and Energy advisor for GIZ's Climate Support Programme. Her work has focused on the just transition, energy justice, food systems and climate finance. She is currently an Embrace Fellow and is interested in understanding the shifts in care and wellbeing that are fundamental to equitable sustainability transitions. Lutfiyah was born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa. She has an interdisciplinary MSc (Environment, Ecology and Conservation) from the University of the Witwatersrand.

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Katharina Gihring

Project Coordinator and Consultant | African Circular Economy Network

Katharina Gihring is an executive member of the African Circular Economy Network where she coordinates and implements projects such as Horizon 2020 JUST2CE, Circular South Africa and South Africa Circular Economy Hotspot 2024. Her background is in systems thinking, life cycle sustainability assessment, ecology and environmental management. Her main focus is on the circular economy and how this concept can be implemented in a just way in the South African and African context. Her experience includes multidisciplinary and mix-method research, research coordination, stakeholder engagements, project management, event coordination, action plan development and educational facilitator.

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Nicholas van Doesburgh

African Climate & Development Initiative (ACDI) Masters graduate | UCT

Nicholas van Doesburgh is a recent University of Cape Town Master's graduate, having completed an MPhil in Climate Change and Development through the African Climate & Development Initiative (ACDI) earlier this year. Under the supervision of Prof Harald Winkler and Dr Andrew Marquard, his Master's thesis examined the historical political economy dynamics underpinning South Africa's high-emissions low-employment development pathway, with a focus on the role of industrial policy. His research interests centre on the interplay between economic development and climate mitigation in developing countries, with a specific interest in political economy, just transitions, energy security and green industrial policy.

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Aishwarya Sharma

Public Policy Professional

Aishwarya Sharma is an early-career public policy professional keen to conduct research & advocacy on themes of sustainability, socio-economic welfare policies, & digital economy, especially from a multi-disciplinary perspective. She has pursued an integrated B.Com. LLB (Constitutional Law Hons.) programme from Nirma University, Ahmedabad, India.

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SESSION 4



Cheryl-Lyn Selman | Moderator

Economist and Associate Researcher | Centre for Competition Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED)

Cheryl-Lyn Selman is an African feminist economist and researcher. She co-founded Rethinking Economics for Africa and previously worked as a Researcher and Special Projects Lead at the Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ,) where she focused predominantly on national budget analysis work, and research support for COSATU's participation in the Industrial Policy Masterplan process. Prior to this, she has more than 20 years' experience in SMME development and in the retail and hospitality sectors. She holds a BCom (PPE), Honours and Master's (cum laude) in Applied Development Economics from the University of the Witwatersrand and is pursuing a second Master's degree in Inequality Studies with a research focus at the intersection of gender and competition policy. She recently joined CCRED at the University of Johannesburg.

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David Fadiran

Research Fellow | University of Cape Town

David Fadiran is a Research Fellow at Policy Research in International Services and Manufacturing (PRISM) at the School of Economics, University of Cape Town. He has been at UCT for more than 10 years, first as a graduate student, and subsequently as a postdoctoral research fellow, under the Carnegie DEAL programme. He is an economist, with a focus on institutional economics, natural resource economics, and local government dynamics, with a keen interest in applying spatial econometric analysis to these topics. Other research interests include the intersections of institutions with international trade, illicit financial flows, and economic performance. David has undertaken work for the United Nations University (UNU-WIDER), the African Development Bank, and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa. He has a PhD in economics from UCT, an MA. from Northern Illinois University, an MA from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a BA in Economics and Statistics from the University of Eswatini.

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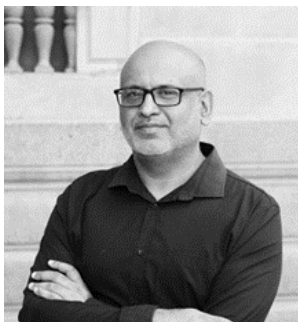
Justin Visagie

Senior Research Specialist | Human Sciences Research Council

Dr Justin Visagie is a Senior Research Specialist at the Human Sciences Research Council with a focus on urban economics, development economics and applied microeconomic research. He is also a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Economics and Finance at the University of Free State, supporting the National Research Foundation (NRF Chair)

in City-region Economies. He was previously Director of Economic Planning, Policy and Research in the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism in the Eastern Cape. Dr Visagie has expertise in microeconomic data analysis and has worked on a wide array of cross-sectional and longitudinal datasets. He has published more than 20 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters and regularly produces reports for local and international organisations such as the World Bank, International Science Council, UNU-WIDER and National Treasury. Recent research projects have involved spatial administrative data mining, regional industrial policy, city-region economies, tradable services, spatial inequality, social mobility, urbanization, housing and migration. He completed his PhD at the University of KwaZulu-Natal where he won the Founders' medal from the Economic Society of South Africa for his thesis on the development of the middle class in South Africa.

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Ebrahim-Khalil Hassen

Senior Researcher | Gauteng City Region Observatory

Ebrahim-Khalil Hassen is a political economist at the Inclusive Economies Programme, Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO), where he is part of a team working on understanding the impact of current policies aimed at economic inclusion, and in developing policy options. He has worked in diverse areas including social security, small business development, and urban renewal. The underlying theme of his work is the search for policy options that address structural inequalities in South Africa.

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SESSION 5



Shimukunku Manchishi | Moderator

Research Fellow | Trade and Investment, Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research

Shimukunku Manchishi is the Head of the Trade and Investment Unit at the Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR) where he provides evidence-based advice to the government and other stakeholders on matters relating to trade and investment policy. He previously worked for the Zambia Development Agency (2014–2018) as an Export Development Officer. His areas of interest include research in private sector development, industrial policy, international economics and international trade agreements. He has published on subjects such as the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, Brexit, the United States-China trade war, rules of origin, harmonisation of product standards, special economic zones and diversification in Zambia. He has also undertaken consultancy work for the International Trade Centre, COMESA Business Council and African Development Bank. Shimukunku has a Master of Science degree in International Trade Policy and Law from Lund University and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Zambia.

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Yakhuluntu Dubazana

Independent Researcher

Yakhuluntu Dubazana is an environmental scientist and researcher specialising in the just energy transition, energy transformation, and impact management. She is an energy transformation expert with the Renewables Academy through the Enertracks online training programme. She has participated in projects with the World Bank, TIPS, and Eskom, focusing on the social dimensions of climate change, inclusive climate-resilient development, and the energy transition's impact on marginalised communities. She supported the development of social baseline assessments for NDC's energy transition initiatives in Mpumalanga, contributing to understanding the social implications and facilitating a just transition in the region. She holds an MSc in Environmental and Geographical Science, focusing on sediment characteristics in coastal wetlands.

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Sören Hilbrich

Researcher | German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)

Sören Hilbrich is a researcher at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS) in Bonn. His research focuses mainly on sustainable finance and global economic governance. He completed a PhD at the Free University Berlin on legitimacy in global governance and holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree of Philosophy and Economics from the University of Göttingen. Study and research has taken him to South Africa, the United States and India.

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Jason F. Bell

Researcher | Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development

Jason F. Bell is an Economist and Researcher at the Centre for Competition Regulation and Economic Development. He is interested in political economy and industrial development issues, focusing on the role of regulation, governments and institutions in fostering growth and the evolution and distribution of power within global value chains. He was part of the Industrial Development Think Tank, where his sectoral focus covered metals, machinery and equipment, development finance institutions, automotives, climate change and green hydrogen in South Africa. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree in Economic Science, Corporate Finance and Investment from the University of the Witwatersrand, and a Bachelor of Economic Sciences (Honours) (Cum Laude) and a Master of Commerce in Economics from the same institution. He is pursuing a PhD in industrial development, looking into the spatial and industrial nexus relating to township economies

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Nicola Wills

Junior Economist | DNA Economics

Nicola is a junior economist at DNA Economics in the Trade, Regulation and Industry practice area, as well as the Climate Change practice area. This includes working in trade and industrial policy, as well as energy economics. Her work has involved research on carbon abatement strategies and the potential of various industries, carbon emission calculations and reporting (Carbon Disclosure Project), just transition strategies, and the overall sustainability reporting for companies in different sectors (including Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures reporting). Before joining DNA Economics, she held part-time positions while studying at Change Pathways, Acacia Economics, and Carbon Calculated. She has also worked on a variety of industrial competition and regulatory policy projects throughout Africa. Nicola has a Master of Commerce degree in Development Economics from the University of Cape Town, and an MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge.

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Seutame Maimele

Economist: Sustainable Growth | TIPS

Seutame Maimele is a Sustainable Growth Economist and a research lead on climate change and trade at TIPS. He has experience in global climate change policies and trade, designing climate-compatible value chains for carbon-intensive industries for South Africa and Africa. He has also worked extensively on just transition in South Africa. Recently, he has been working on understanding the implications of the European Green Deal, including its subsidiary the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), as well as the Inflation Reduction Act of the United States and how it impacts African trade, including South Africa.

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Alboricah Tokologo Rathupetsane

Junior Researcher | The Centre for Sustainability Transitions, Stellenbosch University

Alboricah Tokologo (TK) Rathupetsane is a Junior Researcher at the Centre for Sustainability Transitions Stellenbosch University. As a junior researcher, Tokologo focuses on various sustainability topics such as the just energy transition; climate change impacts on water, energy and food; socio-economic implications of the energy transition; and the creation of decent work. She has a BSc in mechanical engineering from the University of the Witwatersrand and a Master's in Philosophy (Sustainable Development) from Stellenbosch University where she looked at the potential for wind technology industrialisation in South Africa. She has just started a PhD, and plans to dive deeper into the area of green economy industrialisation in South Africa.

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SESSION 6



Cornelius Dube | Moderator

Chief Economist | Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries

Cornelius Dube is an Economist with 18 years of experience in economic and social policy research. He has researched and published widely in the areas of public finance management, international trade, competition policy, industrial policy and general economic policy analysis with local, regional and international publishers. He holds a PhD Economics from the University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban, South Africa, as well as a Master's Degree in Economics and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics, both from the University of Zimbabwe. He is currently working as Chief Economist for the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries. He previously worked for 11 years at the Zimbabwe Economic Policy Analysis and Research Unit as a Senior Research Fellow. He has worked extensively on competition policy and competition enforcement with CUTS International, India and Competition and Tariff Commission, Zimbabwe.

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Odwa Mtati

Associate | Jupilog Consulting

Jupilog Consulting is a multi-disciplinary economic development consultancy based in Nelson Mandela Bay. The consultancy was established in 2010 and offers services to both the public and private sectors. The core services offered are research and analysis, and policy and strategy development. The company comprises a diverse and experienced in-house project team and frequently partners with multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral professional business specialists and strategic partners.

Odwa Mtati, presenting the paper on behalf of the consultancy, is a specialist associate of Jupilog Consulting. His areas of interest are research, skills development and Economic Development. He has widespread experience in various industries. He previously also followed a career in the non-governmental organisation sector, higher education, government and the private sector. His past experience includes service as Chief Executive Officer of the Port Elizabeth Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry where he worked on establishing the SME desk. He has served on various boards focusing on economic and social development, such as the Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism Board, the Eastern Cape Gambling Board, and the Eastern Cape Socio-Economic Consultative Council. Odwa holds a Master's degree in Development Studies from Nelson Mandela University.

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Mohau Isaac Moahludi

Researcher | Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Mohau Isaac Moahludi works for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Northern Cape, as a Deputy Director: Research and Development. He has 14 years' experience in the public service at a Provincial Government level, including working as an economist with the Free State Provincial Treasury. Mohau has a B.Com, majoring in Economics and Statistics, from the University of the Free State, and has completed his studies towards an Advanced Post-Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning with the Centre for Financial Planning Law. He has a Post-Graduate Certificate in Economic Development and Policy with the University of Witwatersrand and a Master's degree in Development Policy and Practice, from the University of Cape Town Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance. He also has a Post-Graduate Diploma in Public Management, Sol Plaatje University, and is currently pursuing a second Master's degree in Extractive Industries Policy, Regulation and Management with the University of Pretoria. He was a participant of the 2019 African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE) programme.

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Elvis Korku Avenyo is a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Competition, Regulation, and Economic Development (CCRED). He researches broadly on development economics with interests in innovation, technical change, industrial development, labour markets and firm behaviour, with a focus on developing countries. Elvis obtained his PhD in Economics of Innovation, Policy Studies of Technical Change and Governance from the United Nations University (UNU-MERIT)/Maastricht University, The Netherlands.

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Vuyiswa Mkhabela is a Research Officer at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance. Her research interests include development economics, industrial policy, trade, and regional integration. She has a Bachelor's degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Cape Town (UCT) and an Honours degree in Economics from the University of South Africa. She is completing her Master's degree at the UCT School of Economics specialising in economic development.

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SESSION 7



Phumzile Ncube | Moderator

Post-doctoral Research Fellow, DSI/NRF South African Research Chair in Industrial Development

Phumzile Ncube is a postdoctoral research fellow at the DSI/NRF South African Research Chair in Industrial Development. Her research interests are in agro-processing regional value chains, and industrial development, particularly in Southern Africa. She obtained her PhD at the University of Johannesburg.

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Wendy Engel

Senior Manager Sustainable Finance, WWF South Africa

Wendy Engel is the Senior Manager Sustainable Finance at WWF South Africa, with more than a decade of experience addressing ESG challenges and developing green financial solutions. The sustainable finance team works on research and green financial solutions, represented on the Steering Committee of the Development Bank of Southern Africa Climate Finance Facility, the Sanlam Living Planet Fund Investment Committee, agriculture expert on the French Development Bank's Transforming Climate System credit line to commercial banks, and the Green Outcomes Fund Advisory Committee. Wendy has authored a number of publications including on investing in biodiversity in Southern Africa, investing in soil in South Africa, and climate change investment and finance opportunities in South African agriculture, food loss and waste in South Africa (co-author), and climate-related disclosure factsheets for South African JSE listed companies.

Wendy has more than 15 years' experience working as an Agriculture Economist at Absa Agribusiness due diligence on commercial and small scale agriculture, an Economist at Cape Town University's Energy Research Centre, and Project Manager at Sustainable Energy Africa. She started her career in the non-profit sector and academia designing a Sustainable Agriculture Master's programme at Sustainability Institute. She holds a Pretoria University Masters (Distinction) in Agriculture Economics specialising in Environmental Economics and is registered for PhD at Stellenbosch University's Business School.

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Dominic Ramos

Economics and research Intern | TIPS

Dominic Ramos is a trade and industrial policy intern at TIPS. His research interests include developmental trade, agricultural development, climate change and human development. He has a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Political Science and International Relations, an Honours degree in International Relations and International Political Economy, and a Master's degree in food security and regional trade from the University of the Witwatersrand. He was awarded the prestigious post-graduate merit award scholarship in 2019 and is a Golden Key Honour Society member.

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Olwethu Shedi

Economist | Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development

Olwethu Shedi is an economist at CCRED. Her research interests include gender, competition economics, industrial development, poverty, early childhood development, regional integration, and food security. Prior to joining CCRED, Olwethu worked as a junior researcher at the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies. She holds an MCom in economics (with distinction) from the University of the Witwatersrand.

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SESSION 8



Toto Matshediso | Moderator

Director: Global Projects | Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)

Toto Matshediso is the Director: Global Projects at the DSI in South Africa. He is also the South African National Projects Coordinator for the Eureka Network. His role is mainly to coordinate the international investment portfolio of strategic relationships with foreign multinational companies that do business in South Africa. This includes mobilising resources through partnerships with venture capital financing and angel investments. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Director: Strategic Partnerships still within the DSI. His role was to promote and support participation of the South African National System of Innovation stakeholders in European Union programmes of strategic importance to South Africa. He has worked for a number of different institutions in corporate services, banking, United Nations operations management and donor funding, international relations, and project and programme management. He has a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA), and a Bachelor's Degree in Public Management

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Glenda Kruss

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Dr Glenda Kruss is the Executive Head of the Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) unit at the Human Sciences Research Council. Over the past 20 years, she has worked in the field of innovation studies, to understand the role of universities and public research institutes in economic and social development, and the determinants of skills and knowledge flows within sectoral, national and global systems of innovation. Her current research focus is oriented towards more contextually appropriate datasets, measures and indicators of science, technology and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development in South Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa. She has collaborated widely on comparative research projects in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe, and has led large-scale projects for national government, building alliances and networks between researchers, policymakers and practitioners in South Africa and the Global South.

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Dr Rendani Mamphiswana is an innovation expert and policy scholar. He has diverse professional experience in chemicals, energy, water, non-profit, public policy, and academia. He is Head of Research and Innovation at Nafasi Water Technologies (Pty) Ltd in South Africa, where he leads commercialisation of technological and business innovation. He is also affiliated as a Senior Research Associate with the DSI/NRF South African Research Chair Initiative in Industrial Development at the University of Johannesburg. He researches on innovation and industrial policy in the Global South, and is an active voice on using innovation as a lens to grow the South African economy. He is a board member of The Innovation Hub (a subsidiary of the Gauteng Growth and Development Agency) and a TEDx speaker. He has a PhD in Innovation Policy and Management from the University of Johannesburg.

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Dr Freeman Mateko holds a PhD Economics and Management Science. He is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Johannesburg. His key research areas are innovation and technological change; development economics; industrialisation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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Dr Rex Asiama is currently a Research Associate with the DSI/NRF SARCHI Industrial Development, based at the University of Johannesburg. He has presented at international conferences such as the TIPS Forum, the Economic Society of South Africa (ESSA) conference and the EAEPE annual conference. He has also published in journals such as *Energy Policy*; *Water Policy*; *Irrigation and Drainage*; *International Journal of Emerging Markets*; *Journal of Sustainable Forestry*; and the *International Journal of Social Economics*. He researches broadly on issues in industrial policy, technology upgrading and development, development economics, energy economics and development studies.

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CLOSING SESSION



Baba-Tamana Gqubule | Moderator

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Baba-Tamana Gqubule is Research Manager in the Just Energy Transition Investment Plan Project Management Unit (JET IP PMU) in the South African Presidency. Prior to joining the JET IP PMU, Baba was a development economist in the Presidential Climate Finance Task Team (PCFTT). Prior to joining the PCFTT, Baba was a Senior Economist at TIPS where she was involved in sector-specific policy research, which explored how the structure of the South African manufacturing industry influenced gender equality and developmental outcomes. She has a Master's Degree in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, and a Bachelor of Economics Honours Degree from Rhodes University.

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Mbongeni Ndlovu

Head of Trade and Industrialisation | Toyota Wessels Institute of Manufacturing Studies (TWIMS)

Mbongeni Ndlovu is an academic, consultant and development economist. He is the Illovo Academic Head of African Trade and Industrialisation at TWIMS, an academic institution, and a Senior Researcher at B&M Analysts. Mbongeni's research and consulting focuses primarily on the automotive, clothing and footwear, and agro-processing industries. He has contributed to the development of a Sub-Saharan African Automotive Pact model; South Africa's Automotive Master Plan; South Africa's Clothing, Textiles and Footwear Master Plan; and a National Strategic Framework for Agro-Processing. Mbongeni has a Bachelor of Business Science in Economics and Finance, Cum Laude from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and two Master of Science qualifications, in African Studies and Economics for Development from the University of Oxford. The Oxford qualifications were obtained by Mbongeni as a Rhodes Scholar (South Africa-at-Large & Lincoln). He is currently completing a PhD in Economics with specialisation in industrial development at the University of Johannesburg. His PhD topic is *The effects of regional value chains on industry competitiveness*.

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Ayanda Hlatshwayo is Director: Secondary Sector in the National Treasury of South Africa's Microeconomic Policy Unit in the Economic Policy Division. Her current position focuses on industrial policy, manufacturing and trade. She serves as a part-time commissioner on the International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC). She holds a PhD in economics from the University of Stellenbosch. Her research focused on labour mobility, wages, productivity and foreign-connected firms in the formal South African labour market.

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Thando Vilakazi

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Dr Thando Vilakazi is Executive Director of CCRED at the University of Johannesburg, specialising in academic research, teaching and advice on competition policy and industrial development. He also serves as a part-time member of the Competition Tribunal of South Africa.

Thando has led research and provided teaching and advisory services across various economic sectors for competition authorities, regulators, government departments, international universities, non-governmental organisations, and private enterprises in South Africa and various African countries. His research interests include barriers to entry and economic participation, black economic empowerment, regional integration, competition policy and industrial development.

He holds a PhD (Economics) from the University of Johannesburg, and a Master's Degree (Applied Economics) from the University of Cape Town. Thando has published several peer-reviewed book chapters in Oxford University Press, HSRC Press, and Wits University Press publications, as well as papers in *The World Economy*, *Development and Change*, *Global Networks*, *Development Southern Africa*, and *Review of African Political Economy*. He is co-editor and co-author of the HSRC Press book *Opening the South African Economy? Barriers to Entry and Competition*.

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Boitumelo Molete

Social Development Policy Coordinator at the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), lead on Climate Change and Just Transition

Boitumelo Molete is Social Development Policy Coordinator at COSATU. She is the lead on Climate Change and Just Transition for the trade union federation. The key focus of her work is social policy, including policies on transport, housing, health and comprehensive social security, as well as climate change. Her responsibilities include engaging with stakeholders on topical issues that are impacting climate change and the just transition in various sectors and industries; establishing capacity building programmes within COSATU affiliates on the just transition; and conducting workshops. She has worked on issues of climate change through the labour perspective for eight years, looking at the effects of climate change on the working class. She is one of the experts who contributed to the newly developed COSATU Just Transition Blueprint for workers. She sits on the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC), where she represents organised labour, including on the Management Committee (MANCO) and the Executive Committee (EXCO), and in the NEDLAC Development Chamber. She is a Universal Basic Income Coalition subcommittee member, Trade Unions for Energy Democracy South Advisory Group Interim Committee member, and Youth Advisory Group of the Green Jobs for Youth Pact member.

Boitumelo is participating in the Leadership Development Programme (University of Pretoria: Enterprise 2023) and completing a BA Sociology Honours (University of South Africa: 2024).

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Dr Tebogo Makube

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Dr Tebogo Makube is Chief Director: Industrial Procurement at the dtic. Before joining the dtic, Dr Makube was the Programme Manager: Fiscal Policy at the Financial and Fiscal Commission. Prior to that he was Director: Provincial Infrastructure at the National Treasury. He has also held research and management positions at the Gauteng Provincial Legislature, National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) and Nokusa Consulting. He is also a Board Member of Proudly South African. Dr Makube holds a PhD in Energy Studies and other qualifications in law, economic policy and energy economics.



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