



15 June  
15:00-16:30 (CET)

# Donor meets policymaker: modelling social protection responses on the continent

**Session 4**

*#BuildForwardAfrica*

## Building forward more inclusively

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Ralf Radermacher

Nicolas Awortwi

Rita Owusu-Amankwah

Ulrika Lång

Gift Dafuleya

Paul Litjens

Rachel Sabates-Wheeler

## Ralf Radermacher



**Ralf Radermacher** is head of the *Sector Initiative Social Protection* as well as the global programme *Social Protection Innovation and Learning* at GIZ, based in Bonn. Prior to this, Ralf headed GIZ's social protection programme in Malawi and also worked in the domain of pro-poor insurance for over a decade, including a number of years out of India. Ralf is economist by education.

## Nicholas Awortwi



**Dr. Nicholas Awortwi** is a Ghanaian, a professional development planner and an expert in decentralization and local governance, public policy, and social protection with 20 years' experience in research, teaching, advisory services and policy engagement. He is currently the director of the Institute of Local Government Studies, Accra, Ghana. Prior to his current position, Nicholas was the Director of African Governance Institute based in The Hague, Netherlands (2017-18), Director of Research at the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) in Nairobi, Kenya (2012-2016). From 2004 to 2012, he was a Senior Lecturer in Development Management at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University, The Netherlands and a visiting lecturer at F.H.R Lim A Po School of Public Administration & Governance, Paramaribo in Suriname. Working with researchers and policy practitioners, Nicholas has conceptualized, built and implemented a community of practice involving researchers and policy actors working together in Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda and Ghana to ensure appropriate and negotiated policy actions and uptake occur either through programmes, legislation, policies or administrative and other forms of civic actions on issues for which there is research or practice evidence. He has been one of the leading authors of decentralization and local governance, and social protection issues in Africa and provided expert advice to international organizations working in Africa. His two latest books on social protection "Non-State Social Protection in Africa. Governance below the State" and "Politics, Public Policy & Social Protection in Africa: Evidence from Cash transfer programmes" are published by Routledge (London & New York).

## Rita Owusu-Amankwah



**Dr. Rita Owusu-Amankwah** built on over 20 years of progressive experience, where she has led and executed projects and programmes on behalf of government & non-governmental organisations and international organisations such as the International Labour Organisation and United Nations Development Programme and the private sector. She has also worked closely with the World Bank, UNICEF and European Union. Additionally, she has extensive experience working and strengthening farmer organisations and cooperatives in West Africa as well as providing participatory training to clients at all levels. She again has extensive working experience in the cocoa sector and social & child protection issues.

Rita who is currently the Director of Social Protection (World Bank Technical Support) at the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana. She holds a degree of Doctor (Sociology) from Wageningen University in the Netherlands, MA in Industrial Management (Marketing & Financial Management), Post Graduate Diploma in Organisation Development from OD Institute in the USA and BA in Social Sciences (Economics & Sociology) from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and many short courses including E-Coaching on Social Protection at the ILO International Training Center; Social Safety Net and Delivery by the World Bank in Washington DC and Conflict Management by UNICEF.

## Ulrika Lång



**Ulrika Lång** is Senior Policy Advisor for Social Protection at the Africa department of Sida. Ulrika Lång works with development of policies and methods for Sidas support to social protection and provides advice for implementation of Sidas support to social protection systems. Sida currently provides bilateral support to social protection in thirteen countries and also has global support to capacity development and research on social protection. Ulrika Lång has worked at Sida in different positions since 2000 and has also previously worked at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. During 2011-2014 Ulrika Lång had the position as Head of Operations at the civil society organization Olof Palme International Centre.

## Gift Dafuleya



**Gift Dafuleya** is a development economist with more than a decade of experience in social protection, including four years researching social assistance in Africa and three years researching migrants' remittances in Zimbabwe. He is a lecturer at the University of Venda and a research associate at the Center for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg. He has rendered consultancy services to numerous International Institutions, including the UNDP, UNECA, IDEP and IOM, and has led commissioned research for government departments in Southern Africa. He has published his research work in journals such as the Review of Household Economics, International Social Work and Development Southern Africa.

## Paul Litjens



**Paul Litjens** is the strategic policy advisor at the Sub-Sahara Africa Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Paul has worked his whole career on economic and political development issues and since 2003 has focused solely on Africa. While working at the Embassy of The Netherlands in Mozambique he worked on social protection matters (including cash transfers) together with the government of Mozambique and other donors.

During the COVID-19 pandemic it became quickly clear that now is the time to stimulate the application of social protection as a theme within the Dutch development cooperation system, and Paul is chairing a small group of experts that is preparing the ground.

## Rachel Sabates-Wheeler



**Rachel Sabates-Wheeler** is a Development Economist with over 25 years of experience working in areas of rural development, institutional analysis and social protection, including 2.5 years leading research on Land Policy in Albania and 2.5 years as Chief Social Policy and Research for UNICEF Rwanda. A Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex since 2001, and a co-Director of the Centre for Social Protection, she has worked on areas of poverty analysis relating to PRSPs, social protection, rural livelihoods and migration in many countries (including 9 African countries). She has published on issues of rural institutions in post-soviet transitions, law and development, social protection in Africa, migration and poverty, and has worked for numerous international agencies. She is currently the co-Executive Director of the Better Assistance in Crisis (BASIC) programme that focuses on delivering social provision in fragile states.