

**Speakers Profile Virtual Annual Forum 2020**  
**Keynote Addresses and Multi-stakeholder Roundtable Discussion**

**Opening and Keynote addresses, Thursday Sept 3 14:00 – 15:30 CEST**

**Bishop Sithembele Sipuka**



Bishop Sithembele Sipuka is the president of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC). He is the first Vice President SECAM (Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar), Chair of the CDDC Trust: EFSA Institute and the National Religious Association for Social Development (NRASD) as well as the Chair of the National Church Leaders' Consultation (NCLC). Besides his master's in theology in Italy, he also earned a Doctor of Theology at the University of South Africa.

**Hon Minister Dr Zwelini L Mkhize**

Minister of Health in the Republic of South Africa



Hon Dr Zwelini Lawrence Mkhize currently serves as the Minister of Health in the Republic of South Africa, having been appointed to the post in May 2019, returning to his first love, medicine and quality health care for all especially the poor.

Dr Mkhize is a medical doctor by profession and completed the MBChB degree at the University of Natal in 1982 and worked as a medical doctor at Edendale Hospital in Pietermaritzburg and at Themba Hospital in Kabokweni, Mpumalanga, as well as in Swaziland and Zimbabwe during his period in exile.

He was elected as Chancellor of Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, following service as Chancellor of the University of KwaZulu-Natal from 2009 to 2017.

**Mr. Alvin Botes**

Deputy Minister of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation; Republic of South Africa



Mr Alvin Botes is the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa from 30 May 2019.

He is a Member at African National Congress (ANC) (Party). Mr. Botes was a Member of Northern Cape Provincial Legislature (MPL) from 2009 to 2018. During this period, he was also appointed as a Member of the Executive Council (MEC) in the Northern Cape Provincial Cabinet. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Technology (Business Administration), a Post Graduate Diploma in Public and Development Management and a National Diploma in Management, obtained from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT).

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**Dr. Iyad Abu Moghli**



Dr. Iyad Abumoghli has more than 34 years of experience with international organizations, the private sector, and scientific institution. Dr. Abumoghli's expertise focus on strategic planning, sustainable development, water resources management, and knowledge and innovation. Currently, Dr. Abumoghli is the Lead Principal Advisor on Engaging with Faith-Based Organizations at UN Environment. Previously Dr. Abumoghli held several leading positions including the Regional Director and Representative of UN Environment in West Asia 2012-2017 and Director of Knowledge and Innovation at UNDP's Regional Office in Cairo 2009-2012.

**Ms. Amanda Khozi Mukwashi**  
Chief Executive, Christian Aid



Amanda Khozi Mukwashi is CEO of Christian Aid and a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Amanda has more than 20 years' experience, extensive knowledge and expertise in working to alleviate poverty, injustice and inequality, with a special focus on women's leadership, civic engagement and volunteering. She has previously worked for the United Nations Volunteer Programme, VSO International and Skillshare International UK. She served as a trustee for Bond and as President of Akina Mama wa Afrika. Amanda will publish her first book this month, titled 'But Where Are You Really From? On Identity, Humanhood and Hope'.

**Prof. Wilhelm Gräb**  
Head of the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development





Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Gräb is Professor of Practical Theology (emeritus) at the Faculty of Theology at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where he heads the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development. He is also Extraordinary Professor at Stellenbosch University. Wilhelm Gräb is one of the leading scholars in Practical Theology. His research inter alia focuses on the interrelation of religion and culture as well as religion and development. Wilhelm Gräb leads several international research projects on the role of African Christianity in processes of social transformation. Recent publications include Vom Menschsein und der Religion. Eine praktische Kulturtheologie (2018) and The Impact of Religion on Social Cohesion, Social Capital Formation and Social Development in Different Cultural Contexts (2014, edited with Lars Charbonnier).

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<p><b>Prof. Philipp Öhlmann</b>                  Head of the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development</p> 	<p>Philipp Öhlmann heads the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He is a Research Associate at University of Pretoria. Philipp Öhlmann leads several transdisciplinary research projects on religion and development. His research inter alia focuses on the effects of religion on economic performance as well as African Christianity and sustainable development. Philipp Öhlmann is the executive editor of the Journal Religion &amp; Development. Recent publications include African Initiated Christianity and the Decolonisation and Development (ed. with Wilhelm Gräb and Marie-Luise Frost) and Religion in Motion – Rethinking Religion, Knowledge and Discourse in a Globalizing World (ed. with Julian Hensold et al.).</p>
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**Multi-stakeholder Roundtable Discussion Thursday, Sept 3 16:00 – 17: 30 CEST**

<p><b>Dr. Kenneth Staley</b>                  Executive Director of the USAID COVID 19 Task Force</p> 	<p>Dr. Ken Staley was appointed to lead the USAID COVID-19 Task Force in March 2020. He joined USAID in April 2018 to lead the U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative, a collaborative U.S. Government effort led by USAID in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of State, the White House, and others. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Staley was a consultant at McKinsey and Company, where he assisted with large public health crisis responses to Ebola and Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome and served clients in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. Before joining McKinsey, Dr. Staley was an executive at Medtronic, where he led several ventures to expand access to medical technology in emerging economies.</p>
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<p><b>Ms. Mercy Niwe</b>                  Global Faith Engagement Lead, External and Corporate Relations, World Bank Group</p> 	<p>Mercy Niwe currently serves as the Lead of Global Faith Engagement at the World Bank Group. In this role, she leads the institution’s engagement with global faith actors and is focused on fostering strategic collaboration and partnerships based on shared values and priorities. Mercy formerly served as a Senior Program Manager in economic development at World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Mercy’s expertise includes finance and program management; policy design and advocacy; managing diverse partnerships; and integrating behavioural change approaches into market systems. A native Ugandan and now naturalized American, Mercy has strong external orientation and focused partnership with faith-based organizations to contribute to the financial and social economies of vulnerable communities to end extreme poverty. She holds a bachelor’s degree in</p>
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	<p>economics, mathematics, and statistics, and a master's degree in economic policy and management, both from Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda.</p>
<p><b>Sheikh Nuruddeen Lemu</b>                  Director of Research and Training, Da'wah Institute of Nigeria</p> 	<p>Muhammad Nuruddeen Lemu develops, facilitates and conducts train-the-trainers' courses in enhancing interreligious dialogue and engagement, intrareligious cooperation, responding to religious extremism among Muslims and promoting Shari'ah Intelligence, or faith-based critical thinking. Trainees at these programmes include students, lecturers, youth and community leaders from over 20 countries.</p> <p>Muhammad is the director of several organisations, including Lotus Capital (Halal Investments) Limited, the Development Initiative of West Africa, and a co-founder of the Inter-Faith Activity and Partnership for Peace (IFAPP). He holds various positions in a number of other organizations that focus on issues related to social welfare, government policy, education, sustainable development, environment, leadership, family life, youth empowerment and gender equity.</p>
<p><b>Dr. Thorsten Göbel</b>                  Head of Programmes of ACT Alliance</p> 	<p>Thorsten Göbel is Head of Programmes of the ACT Alliance. Until 2018, he headed the staff department for Principles, Dialogue and Theology of Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World) and Diakonie Disaster Relief. From 2009 to 2012, he was head of the department of principles and development policy of Bread for the World in Stuttgart. Prior to this, he completed his doctorate on the enforcement of labour rights in supplier companies of the textile industry in the interdisciplinary DFG Research Training Group "Global Challenges - Transnational and Transcultural Solutions". He studied political science with a focus on international relations, public law and modern history in Tübingen and at the Geneva University Institute for International Studies.</p>
<p><b>Prof. Katherine Marshall</b>                  Director, WFDD, Washington, DC</p> 	<p>Prof. Katherine Marshall is the executive director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue at Georgetown University. She worked at the World Bank from 1971 to 2006 and has nearly four decades of experience on a wide range of development issues in Africa, Latin America, East Asia, and the Middle East. She led the World Bank's faith and ethics initiative between 2000 and 2006. Marshall has written extensively about religion and development, peacebuilding, women, and the fight against poverty.</p> <p>Marshall serves on the boards of several NGOs and on advisory groups, including AVINA Americas, the International Shinto Foundation, the Niwano Peace Prize International Selection Committee, and the Opus Prize Foundation.</p>

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**Dr. Olivia Wilkinson**  
Director of Research, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities



Dr. Olivia Wilkinson is Director of Research at the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI). She leads the JLI's research work, collaborating directly with humanitarian and development organizations, as well as academics and researchers, to convene discussions and research projects on religion and development, particularly the role of local faith actors. Olivia is a sociologist and published a book with Routledge in early 2020, "Secular and Religious Dynamics in Humanitarian Response."

**PaRD Co/Chairs and moderators**

**Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer**  
KAICIID Dialogue Center



Professor Mohammed Abu-Nimer is an expert on conflict resolution, and dialogue for peace. As a professor with over 20 years of teaching experience, he has developed numerous courses that deal with different facets of peacebuilding and conflict resolution and regularly publish on the subject. While his research has focused on a wide array of areas in peacebuilding and conflict resolution, his most recent areas of focus have included faith-based peacebuilding, interfaith dialogue in peacebuilding and building social cohesion, and pedagogical considerations on incorporating peace and forgiveness education in the Arab world.

**Kirsten Evans**  
USAID - U.S. Agency for International Development



Ms. Kirsten Evans is the Director of the Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiatives, and acts as the senior advisor to USAID Administrator Mark Green on global engagement of the faith-based community. Prior to USAID, Ms. Evans was the Chief Operating Officer of Educando by Worldfund, a non-profit organization utilizing public-private partnerships for innovative leadership and professional training of public school sector educators in Mexico and Brazil. From 2014 to 2016, Ms. Evans served as the Executive Director of In Defense of Christians, a leading Washington DC based organization advocating for the protection and preservation of religious minorities in the Middle East, shaping US foreign policy recognizing Christians, Yazidis, and other religious minorities as victims of genocide under ISIS.

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<p><b>Jørgen Thomsen</b>                  DCA-Dan Church Aid/ACT Alliance</p>		<p>Jørgen Thomsen (b. 1961), employed at DanChurchAid/ACT Alliance since 1994, now as senior advisor on International Ecumenical Cooperation and Religion &amp; Development, previously as Regional Coordinator first for Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia and later for Asia. Member of the Side-by-Side Steering Group, co-chair of the International PaRD and of the ACT Alliance Community of Practice on Religion and Development. 1990-1994 General Secretary of the Ecumenical Council of Denmark (National Council of Churches). Besides his role as a cand. theol. and an ordained Lutheran pastor he is also an author of a range of articles in Danish and international publications, most recently on Religion &amp; Development/Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.</p>
<p><b>General Assembly of Members (GAM) Friday Sept 4 16:00 – 18:00 CEST</b></p>		
<p><b>Perspective on G20 interfaith Forum</b></p>		
<p><b>H.E. Faisal Bin Abdulrahman Bin Muaammar</b>                  Secretary General of KAICIID</p>		<p>For decades, Faisal bin Muaammar has promoted interreligious tolerance, built intercultural understanding through local and international inter-community institutions and overseen knowledge building initiatives. He is currently founder and Secretary General of two organizations focused on enhancing understanding and knowledge: the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) in Vienna, and the King Abdulaziz Public Library (KAPL) in Riyadh. Prior to becoming founding Secretary General of the International Dialogue Centre, Mr. Bin Muaammar oversaw the founding and stewardship of the King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue (KACND). As founding Secretary General of Vienna's International Dialogue Centre, Mr. Bin Muaammar oversees the Secretariat, as well as the development of training programs, events and various initiatives to enhance dialogue among followers of different religions.</p>
<p><b>Closing Remarks</b>  <b>Dr. Renier Koegelenberg</b></p>		<p>Dr. Renier Koegelenberg plays many interreligious and ecumenical roles in Southern Africa. He is the founder and executive director of the EFSA Institute for Theological and Interdisciplinary Research, a network of universities and churches that acts as secretariat to the National Religious Association for Social Development (NRASD) and the Cape Development and Dialogue Centre Trust. Koegelenberg works to build cooperation between churches, religious institutions, the state, and other institutions to support holistic and sustainable community development initiatives, particularly around the health of poor communities. His Ph.D. in theology is from Ruprechts-Kars-University of Heidelberg, Germany. He was awarded the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby</p>

\* The pictures and descriptions were not taken by PaRD but were provided by the persons themselves or taken from the respective organization's/ institution's website.

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