

Side event at 2022 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development

Innovative financing in support of the SDGs and trade as an engine for inclusive sustainable growth: The role of development banks

Tuesday, 26 April 2022, ONLINE, 8–9.30 a.m. (EST) / 2–3.30 p.m. (CET)



Mr. Tarun Sharma is the Chief Financial Officer of the Bank and also leads the Bank's technology initiatives. He has over two decades of global experience in trade, competitiveness, industry and infrastructure development and policy. Prior to this, Tarun was heading the Bank's New Delhi Office, with responsibilities covering structuring finance for enhancing capability of Indian companies; supporting socio-economic development projects in partner countries; handling government affairs, and contributing to policy formulation. During this time, Tarun was also responsible for launching a new initiative 'Ubharte Sitaare Programme' to identify enterprises that have latent potential by way of technology, product or process, and support them through a mix of debt, equity and technical assistance. Tarun has, over the past two decades, worked across various functional groups across the Bank, including the Bank's policy business, strategy formulation and a stint as the Executive Assistant to the Chairman. He has also served as the Bank's Resident Representative (Americas) based in Washington DC, followed by a stint as a consultant with the World Bank's Capacity Development and Partnerships Unit. Tarun has authored a book 'Project Exports: Connecting Continents with Indian Expertise', exploring the instrumental role that project exports are capable of playing in India's quest for a sustainable rapid economic growth. He has a bachelor's degree in engineering from Pune, followed by a postgraduate programme in management studies from Mumbai, and an advanced executive management programme from Cornell University in the U.S. Tarun enjoys reading, listening to music and dabbling in technology in his spare time.



Mr. Mohammed Awami has over two decades of corporate experience spanning through telecoms, pension fund management and development finance. He holds a Bachelor of Science (B Sc) Degree in Accounting from the University of Maiduguri, Nigeria and Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Murdoch University, Singapore. Mr. Awami started his professional career with Nigeria's first private telecoms operator, Intercellular Nigeria Limited in 2000 as District Treasurer for Abuja. In 2006 he joined Anchor Pension Managers Limited (now IEI-Anchor Pensions Limited) as Compliance Officer. He later joined NEXIM Bank in 2008. While at the Bank, Mr. Awami worked in the Project Finance Department, Credit Insurance and Guarantee Department, and Risk Management Department as Head, Internal Control Unit. These postings enabled him to acquire vital knowledge of the Bank's operations and its products and services. He was appointed as Technical Adviser to Managing Director in 2017 and later Head, Trade Finance Department in 2018. As Head of Trade Finance Department at NEXIM Bank, Mr. Awami is responsible for growing the Bank's Trade Finance portfolio from less than two billion nairas in 2018 to more than fifty-seven billion nairas as of March 2022. Mr. Awami is a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI), Global Association of Risk Practitioners (GARP), Risk Management Institute of Nigeria (RIMAN) and the Institute of Credit Administrators (ICA). He has attended numerous training courses both locally and internationally and is a sound credit analyst and administrator.



Ms. Diana Vivienne Barrowclough is a Senior Economist in UNCTAD, Globalization and Development Division. In addition to co-authoring the flagship Trade and Development Report, she is managing research on development finance, south-south integration, structural transformation and development. Before this, she lectured economics at the University of Cambridge, where she was elected a Fellow of St John's College. She was educated at the University of Cambridge (PhD Economics) and University of Auckland (MA, BA Economics and Political Science). Recent publications on development finance and development banks include "Public Banks, Public Purpose, and Early Actions in the Face of Covid-19" (2022), with T. Marois. Review of Political Economy, available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09538259.2021.1996704> and Southern-Led Development Finance: Solutions from the Global South (2020) available at <https://www.routledge.com/Southern-Led-Development-Finance-Solutions-from-the-Global-South/Barrowclough-Gallagher-Kozul-Wright/p/book/9781138391246>; and Making Banks Work Better for Development in Financing a Global Green New Deal. Trade and Development Report 2019) pp 143-172. https://unctad.org/en/PublicationChapters/tdr2019ch6_en.pdf You may also find the UNCTAD report titled "Public banks and covid-19: combatting the pandemic with public finance" (2021) at: <https://unctad.org/webflyer/public-banks-and-covid-19-combatting-pandemic-public-finance>

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