

Financing Climate Action Solutions

Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2023 from 1PM - 3PM, EDT



H.E. Mr. Odo Tevi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations. Since May 2014, Ambassador Tevi became Vanuatu's Permanent Representative/Ambassador to the United Nations, New York in May 2014. Apart from this role, Ambassador Tevi also assumed other international roles at the UN. He is currently the Chairman of UN Disarmament Commission, was the Chairman of the Special Committee on UN Charter and Strengthening of the Role of the Organization and also was Chairman of the Asia Pacific Group, Vice-President for the UN Pledging Conference for Development Activities and Chairman of the joint Vanuatu and UN Consultative Forum on ICPD and National Sustainable Development Plan. He was extensively involved in the negotiation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN's Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR). From 2013-2014, he became an international consultant and did assignments for the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union and the Melanesian Spearhead Group. For the latter he investigated whether the four countries (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) should

adopt a common currency. From 2003 to 2013, Ambassador Tevi was the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu. During this period, he was also Vanuatu's Alternate Governor to the International Monetary Fund. His major achievement as Governor of the central bank during his 10 year stint was that Vanuatu was able to achieve monetary and financial stability and this was translated into record high economic growth. This was achieved despite the challenges imposed by the 2008 global financial crisis. Before becoming Governor, he was Head of the Macroeconomic Policy Division at the Vanuatu Ministry of Finance and Economic Management. He has a Bachelor of Economics degree from the University of Papua New Guinea. He then obtained a Masters of Arts (Development Economics) from the University of Sussex, UK. He has a graduate diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors and also an Advanced Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation from New York University. He did his executive training at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and also at Columbia University Business School. He and his wife Sharon have three young children and are residing in New York. He is an avid reader and loves music.



Amir A. Dossal is President and CEO of the Global Partnerships Forum – a not-for-profit knowledge platform providing changemakers with tools to build innovative partnerships for the SDGs. Amir is co-founder of the Pearl Initiative, and a founding Commissioner of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development. Amir co-founded the Blockchain Commission for Sustainable Development and serves as Executive Vice Chair. He is also co-founder of the Coalition for Better Health at Lower Cost that focuses on prevention of chronic diseases. Amir serves as a Distinguished Fellow for the Future of Health and Healthcare at the World Economic Forum. Pioneering Partnerships and Global Outreach Amir works globally across the economic and social spectrum. He is an accomplished diplomat, with a deep understanding of international affairs and extensive experience in global development and humanitarian issues, including managing complex technical assistance projects in emerging markets. By nature, a social entrepreneur and innovator, his work is an endeavor to bond the power of the private sector, governments, and civil society, in order to better serve the greater good. These include initiatives on women's

empowerment, engaging media in sustainable development, and innovative use of technology for positive social change. Amir is also a champion for the UN's Safe Ground Campaign. United Nations Service. Amir is a 25-year veteran of the United Nations and served as Executive Director of the UN Office for Partnerships until September 2010, which he established in 1998 to manage the \$1 billion gift by media mogul Ted Turner. During his tenure at the UN, Amir founded several new initiatives: the Department of Peacekeeping Operations: field finance and management, the Management Policy Office: oversee reform within the United Nations, the UN Fund for International Partnerships: interface with the UN Foundation, UN Democracy Fund: strengthen institutions and governance in new or restored democracies, UN Office for Partnerships: engage public and private sectors to support the UN's mission, Peacebuilding Support Office: help bridge development gaps in post-conflict countries. The Business Advisory Council for the Greater Tumen Region: regional cooperation among nations. Awards and Recognition: 2010 Humanitarian Award from the UN Association of New York, for his accomplishments in Partnerships to End Poverty and World Hunger, the 2010 Ambassador for Peace and Sport, Monaco, the 2015 Amir and his son, Zecki received Humanitarian Innovation Award for intergenerational partnerships, the 2016 Outstanding Achievement Award, bestowed by the ICAEW for his work in uniting public and private organizations to address the world's economic and social challenges, the 2017 Ellis Island International Medal of Honor for contributions to the global community. Personal: Amir is a UK Chartered Accountant (FCA) and has lived and worked in five continents. He is on the board of several non-profits and regularly undertakes speaking engagements and frequently serves as moderator for high-level panels, engaging Heads of State and Ministers. Amir is married to Tas, who is Senior Advisor of the Global Partnerships Forum. They have one son, Zecki, who is a Senior Director at Henry Schein.



Hawa Taylor-Kamara Diallo, Chief of the Civil Society Unit at the Civil Society and Advocacy Section at the UN Department of Global Communications. She has extensive United Nations field and headquarters experience in public information outreach and fostering civil society partnerships, with a particular emphasis on youth and women's organizations. Ms. Diallo began her United Nations career in 1987 in the Department of Public Information (now known as the Department of Global Communications) and has served in two United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Cambodia and Somalia, respectively from 1992 - 1994. She has also worked for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) at the United Nations Headquarters in Nairobi, as an Associate Human Settlements Officer and a Partners and Youth Officer, where she managed strategic partnerships and

designed and implemented empowerment programmes for communities in informal urban settings. Ms. Diallo is a national of Sierra Leone and the United States of America.



Satya S. Tripathi is Secretary-General of the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet. A development economist, lawyer and changemaker with over 40 years of varied experience, Mr. Tripathi is the Chancellor of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences - the world's largest academic institution dedicated exclusively to indigenous people and cultures. He is also a Senior Distinguished Fellow on Innovative Finance at the World Agroforestry Centre. He has served with the UN for over two decades in key positions across the planet and was most recently the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Head of New York Office at UN Environment and Secretary of the UN Environment Management Group. His other strategic engagements with the UN include: Head of Human Rights Investigations for the UN in post-war Bosnia; Chair of the Committees on Laws, Treaties and Administrative matters for the UN-mediated Cyprus unification

talks in 2004; UN Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias where he facilitated international cooperation and funding of US\$ 7 billion for post-tsunami recovery efforts in support of the government and affected populations; and Executive Head of UNORCID, a UN System Office established in 2011 to facilitate the implementation of a US\$ 1 Billion REDD+ partnership between Indonesia, Norway and other stakeholders. Tripathi was instrumental in establishing the Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility (TLFF) in Indonesia in 2016 and the Sustainable India Finance Facility (SIFF) in 2017 to leverage 'private finance for public good' at mega-scale to achieve transformative social and environmental impact for millions of people in developing countries.



Simon Littlewood, Founder & CEO of SDG Global Group, an investment group focused on building and investing in businesses globally which improve quality of life and sustainability. With over three decades' experience of founding, investing in, raising and structuring capital for a wide range of listed and private businesses, Simon has market-leading expertise in both developed and emerging markets. Recognized as an expert in the sector, Simon has been investing since the 1980s in sustainable businesses, with a current focus on agriculture, food, health, education and fintech. He is building a number of funds and platforms, with transparent, international standard reporting and governance, using both traditional and digital finance tools. These provide entrepreneurs, businesses and projects access to capital, technology, expertise and markets; and opportunities for investors, funders and technology providers.

Simon's international business adventures started in Africa in the 1980s. For the last 35 years, he has been working across emerging markets including the Middle East, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Greater China. Simon is currently serving as board member and advisor to a number of companies, funds, NGOs and other organizations. He was previously with HSBC London (structured finance), PwC (UK, Africa), BDO (UK, Europe) and several specialist funds and investment banks. Simon is a UK qualified chartered accountant (CPA equivalent) with a law degree from Oxford University.



Daniel Perell, Representative to the UN for the Baha'i International Community to the UN and Co-Chair of the Coalition for the UN We Need. Daniel joined the Baha'i International Community's United Nations Office as a Representative in 2011. His areas of work include social and sustainable development, global citizenship, human rights, and the role of religion in society and defense of the Baha'i Community. He was a Global Organizing Partner of the NGO Major Group and Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development. In 2010, Daniel received a JD from the University of Virginia, School of Law. He earned an MA in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and has been admitted to the New York State Bar.



Henk Rogers, President of the Tetris Company, Founder of Blue Planet Alliance, the Blue Planet Foundation, and Blue Planet Energy. Henk Rogers is an internationally-renowned entrepreneur and video game developer, widely recognized for his contributions to the gaming industry and his advocacy for sustainable-energy solutions. Dutch-born Rogers spent his early childhood in the Netherlands before his family relocated to New York. Rogers took an early interest in computers and gaming, and went on to study computer science at the University of Hawaii before moving to Japan in 1977. In Japan, Rogers started his first company, Bullet-Proof Software, which published "The Black Onyx," the first role-playing game in Japan. However, he is perhaps best known for serving as the producer of the hugely popular game Tetris, which he helped bring to the Nintendo Game Boy in the late 1980s after a daring trip to the Soviet Union. His efforts helped make Tetris one of the most popular games of all time. Rogers' story is the subject of the new Apple TV+ film "Tetris," starring British actor Taron Egerton as Rogers. Following success in the gaming industry (and a near-fatal heart attack in 2005, which led him to identify his true life's missions), Rogers became a strong advocate for renewable energy and sustainability. He founded the Blue Planet Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to reduce Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels and promote the adoption of clean-energy solutions. The Foundation has been instrumental in implementing renewable-energy policies in Hawaii and led Rogers to

found a sister organization, Blue Planet Alliance, which helps communities around the world transition from being reliant on fossil fuels to using 100% renewable energy.



Stan Chen, CEO of RecycleGO Inc., and President of United Metal Recycling. As the CEO of RecycleCO, Stan is a leader of the recycling industry, serving as both a recycling technology and service provider, and United Metal Recycling, is a full-service, Class-A permitted recycling facility that handles all grades of ferrous and non-ferrous material, source-separated plastics, and fibers using state-of-the-art processing equipment - is a leader of the recycling industry, serving as both. An eco-entrepreneur, Stan's passion for sustainability along with 20+ years of experience in the recycling industry has provided the knowledge needed to design and develop ever-innovative solutions for the recycling industry, the economy, and the environment. He is a leader of the recycling industry, serving as both. Stan is also a speaker and panelist in the recycling, blockchain and sustainability spaces. Most recently he has spoken at Circular City Week NYC, the Ultramarine Ocean Summit, and the United Nations General Assembly Global Foundations/ Global Blockchain Business Council's Blockchain

Central. Pre-Covid, Stan was selected to be a delegate of a US Department of Commerce sponsored trade mission to Malaysia and Indonesia to promote recycling between our countries, and was scheduled to speak at both ISRI and SWANA national conventions. Recently, he served as a mentor to Blockchain for Social Impact Coalition's annual Hackathon. During the height of the NYC Covid outbreak, Stan leveraged his supply chain expertise to help launch Maskforce, a nonprofit initiative sourcing PPEs to healthcare providers in critical need. Stan is an active member in the following organizations: ISRI - Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries; SWANA - Solid Waste Association of North America; MRAI - Materials Recycling Association of India; GBBC - Global Blockchain Business Council; BCC - Blockchain Chamber of Commerce; UNGC - United Nations Global Compact; BSIC - Blockchain for Social Impact Coalition; ISSP - International Society of Sustainability Professionals; GPML - Global Partnerships on Marine Plastics.



David Michael Terungwa, PhD Candidate; Environmental Management, Executive Director of Global Initiative for Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation, based in Nigeria. David is part of the Africa Regional Coordinator for Citizens Climate International. He is a member of the Resilient 40 a group of 40 Climate Resilient youth in Africa by Wilton Park, Foreign, commonwealth and development office. Head mitigation and Energy; Nigerian Civil Society platform on the Paris Agreement, A Crans Montana Fellow and Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders with the Policy for the New South Morocco. Driven from deeply held conviction, with his personal mantra “Thou shall not pollute the Earth”, he applies a degree in Agricultural Engineering with a specialization in Soil and Water Management and two post graduate degrees in Renewable energy and Masters in Environmental Planning and Protection.

David believes in helping people, young and old to help themselves, empowering them to build Climate Resilience at community level. He is an advocate of climate justice, equity and climate income. David is the lead author of the book; Understanding Climate Change a Guide for Secondary School



Dr. Adam Rosenfeld is a Global Humanitarian advocating equality for citizens across all nations. Adam is driven by a background in building engineering and technology, and his insatiable curiosity of our world and our place within it. His current initiatives in agile systems and green circular design solutions has led to recognition by an innovation and research centre. As a result, Adam has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Philosophy in Psychology from the Maryland State University, presented by a prestigious committee this year in Delhi, India. From a young age, and somewhat to this day, Adam’s unconventional way of thinking has caused him to be misunderstood and excluded. This feeling of displacement gave him a unique lens of the world around him which now fuels his journey to harness and convert his experience to the advantage of others. Channeling the

culmination of his life’s failures and successes, he directs his abundant energy towards various organizations and projects that inspires him. Adam is now focusing on facilitating the implementation of sustainable green solutions to the current crises that affect us all, such as climate change, deforestation, and natural resource depletion. Adam continues to serve his passion for the planet, people, and peace by using his personal ethos: think like a child, take responsibility like an adult.



Vaishali Kushan, Acting Director, Urban Economy Forum. Prior to joining the development finance sector, Vaishali worked in the banking industry in the commercial real estate department. While still with the banking sector she participated with City Development Block Grants to uplift the low-income neighborhoods and marginalized communities. As a gubernatorial appointee, she served on Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation & Development Authority Finance Committee. By developing bridges between the networks allowed her to assist with the first Trade Delegation to India from the Washington State. For the past 15 years, she has worked across Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and the Americas. Her internship with UN-HABITAT exposed her to issues related to human development such as gender, health, water sanitation, economy, education,

urban development and energy. To achieve sustainable goals, she uses a cross-sectoral approach. For the past few years, she has been working to empower micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in investing in clean technologies that are environmentally friendly and energy-efficient. To protect the environment, she works to advocate in adapting to Environmental, Social and Governance. With a Bachelors in International Studies - Political, Economy & Business from the Henry Jackson School of the University of Washington and Master in Public Administration from Cornell University, Ms. Kushan thrives in empowering society as a whole.



Kate Wright is the Executive Director of Climate Mayors. Kate is responsible for strategic direction of the network, including helping cities implement bold policies and programs, supporting equitable climate action by the Federal Administration and Congress, and building initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while advancing economic growth and environmental justice. Prior to joining Climate Mayors, Kate served as CEO of CivicWell (formerly the Local Government Commission), where she worked with city and county leaders for fifteen years spearheading environmental initiatives on climate resilience, clean mobility, sustainable water management, livable communities, renewable energy, and affordable housing.



Amy Seidman, Founder and CEO of Noble Profit, a platform dedicated to connecting sustainable business to increase adoption of sustainability solutions, and creator of [BFlo technology](#) for transparent data. Noble Profit, PBC focuses on impact, clean tech and sustainable business. As a social venture hybrid, BFlo technology supports initiatives around open data and truth for all stakeholders. Active in the clean tech, impact and sustainability communities over the past decade, Seidman built technology with her team informed by over 220 expert interviews. Amy's background includes being an award-winning digital media artist and entrepreneur. As an early pioneer of interactive media and technology. Amy created technology and experiences as part of her design firm Creative Entity for entertainment studios and companies like PacBell, Lotus, Sun, ValueClick Media, Disney, MGM, Warner Brothers, Fox. Fusing her activism and passion for the environment, she formed Incredible Places, systems called Made For the Media, acted as an NPS technology advisor, scientific visualization artist fellow

at SNRI in Yosemite, UNEP blockchain advisor, as well as a led a myriad of NGO initiatives. Recognizing the role of finance and business around environmental issues, she incepted Noble Profit to help transform the flow of resources to solve our greatest challenges. Climate Chain Coalition member, Gitcoin Kernel Fellow, Apollo Fellow, FinTech4Good Fellow. Advisor to the UNEP on blockchain, speaker for Horassis, YLP, EarthX, unDavos, and others on blockchain and sustainability. Amy is also created as a musician and photographer, having received a Meet the Composer Award from the NY Counsel for the Arts, winner of the Nikon Professional Photographer Bronze Award, founding member of Conexiones Institute, resident artist at SOMA Creative Center and virtual AIR (resident artist) at Vortex Immersion/C3 in Los Angeles.



Cherinet Hariffo, Temple University Political Science Student & NGOCSD-NY Youth Rep to UN Dept. of Global Communications & Rep of the Institute for Conscious Global Change to UN ECOSOC from Ethiopia. Cherinet is a passionate advocate for refugees and education, he once embarked on a journey as a refugee himself. Originally from Ethiopia, Cherinet overcame early challenges and hardships that instilled in him a strong dedication to supporting fellow refugees and advancing education initiatives. At just eight years old, he fled his homeland and found refuge in Kenya, experiencing life both within and outside of refugee camps throughout his childhood. Despite these formidable circumstances, Cherinet's determination led him to the United States where he currently resides and pursues studies in political science and legal studies at Temple University. Apart from his academic pursuits, Cherinet actively engages with various organizations focused on youth mobilization and advocacy. He has been involved with influential groups such as the African Diaspora

Youth Network and Youth for Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Through active participation in discussions on refugees, human rights, peace, security, and education issues worldwide, Cherinet has made significant impacts on the global stage. His unwavering passion for equal access to education shines through his advocacy work. By speaking at United Nations conferences and high-level forums, Cherinet calls upon leaders around the world to invest in quality education and ensure adequate resources are provided for all individuals. Furthermore, he strongly advocates for greater participation of youth from the Global South in decision-making processes both within the United Nations system and across international platforms. Collaborating closely with NGO leaders alongside heads of states ambassadors and senior United Nations officials alike; His commitment aims to address challenges faced by African youth specifically. Cherinet's personal experience as a refugee forms the bedrock of his dedication towards advocating for fellow refugees while promoting educational empowerment values vital to social change endeavours.



Jeffery Huffines, Senior Advisor of the Coalition for the UN We Need and Together First. Since 2017 the civil society-led UN2020 initiative had facilitated discussions with member states, UN officials and civil society advocates on the need for a robust, well prepared 75th anniversary commemoration for the UN in 2020, one that includes a meaningful process of stocktaking, review and strengthening of the organization. In December 2020, the UN2020 campaign was renamed the Coalition for the UN We Need. Together First is a network of individuals, civil society organizations, practitioners, parliamentarians, business leaders and activists from all regions of the world committed to fair, open and inclusive solutions to improve global governance. Jeffery had previously represented CIVICUS as UN Representative (NY), where he was an organizing partner of the UN DESA NGO Major Group (2011-2016) responsible for guiding multi-stakeholder engagement of NGOs in the lead up to Rio+20 through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. He was Chair of the 65th UN DPI/NGO Conference, “2015 and Beyond: Our Action Agenda”, UN HQ NY, 27-29 August 2014. He was also Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee (2007-2011), helping to organize the annual UN DPI/NGO Conferences hosted abroad in Paris (2008), Mexico City (2009), Melbourne (2010) and Bonn (2011). Jeffery was previously UN Representative (NY) for the U.S. Baha’i Community (1996-2009) where he led a number of NGO initiatives as Co-Chair of the Faith and Ethics Network for the International Criminal Court (FENICC); Chair of the UN Association/USA’s New York Council of Organizations; President of the Committee of Religious NGOs; and co-founder of the Tripartite Forum on International Cooperation for Peace.



Margo LaZaro, President and Chair of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Director of UN Relations for Global Family and Convener of NGO Major Group Urban Cluster for the UN High Level Political Forum at the UN. Margo is a Sustainable Development Strategic Consultant connecting stakeholders from all sectors and regions with the SDGs. In addition, she is an Advisor for Youth for a Better World-MMUN, a Climate Reality Project Leader and a Member of the Coalition for the UN We Need. Margo and the rest of the NGOCSD-NY Executive Board are proud that NGOCSD-NY has Special Consultative Status with the UN Dept. of Economic & Social Affairs and Association with the UN Dept. of Global Communications. She has represented the Huairou Commission and Mayors for Peace at the UN. Margo is a member of the NGO Major Group and the Women’s Major Group for the UN High Level Political Forum. She passionately champions all of the UN

17 Sustainable Development Goals especially SDG 11 on the Urban Agenda and SDG 17 on Building Partnerships. She believes in the NGOCSD-NY motto: *“Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change.”* Margo brings entrepreneurs of all ages and the private sector into the United Nations discourse to foster investing in the SDG solutions to support the success of the UN2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, to “Leave No One Behind”. She supports the UN Secretary General’s Our Common Agenda and preparations for the UN Summit of the Future along with the Global Futures Forum with C4UNWN and our partners. Margo was honored to receive the 2021 Volunteers of America Lifetime Achievement Award from U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Our Team: NGOCSD-NY, PVBLIC Foundation, SDG Relief Fund, the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet, Global Partnership Forum, Baha’i International Community, Coalition for the UN We Need, The Stimson Center, Blue Planet Alliance, RecycleGO, United Cities & Local Governments, IBTK Foundation, NGO/MG Urban Cluster, Global Family, Humanitarian Focus Foundation, Salvation Army International Social Justice Commission, Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, Global Urban Development, Huairou Commission, General Assembly of Partners, Global Family for Love & Peace, Debate for Peace, ICW, GNEC, CoNGO, and UNA-USA Council of Organizations.

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“Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change”
<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>