

## World Export Development Forum 2023

*Diversify with Green Trade: Organic, Digital, Sustainable*

### SESSION BIOGRAPHIES

#### Women in Trade – Connecting Communities, Opening Doors



**Ms. Baigali Ochkhoo, Vice-President, Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mongolia**

Baigali Ochkhoo is an accomplished business development specialist and gender advocate with experience working in the management of non-profit organisations. In 2019, she became the first female vice president of the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She is an expert with extensive experience in increasing women's economic participation, strengthening multilateral cooperation in trade and industry, and increasing exports of creative industries. She has extensive experience and understanding of the issues women face in corporate and professional environments and has held the role of President of the Mongolian Chapter of the International Women's Federation of Commerce and Industry (IWFCI) since 2016. Additionally, Baigali has held leadership roles in various international companies and is currently the Chief Executive Officer of SafeTec and Seal, and a Founding Partner of UL Trade Ilc.



**Ms. Xoliswa Daku, Chairperson, Board of Directors, Small Enterprise Development Agency, South Africa**

Xoliswa Daku is a successful entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience. She is the Chair of the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) and the Founder and CEO of DAKU Ltd, a 20-year-old privately held entity with subsidiaries in Property, Law and Efficient Energy. Ms. Daku is also Deputy Chair of the University of the Western Cape. She has served on various boards during her 26 year career specializing in governance, institutional framework, Foreign Direct Investment, trade and industry. Her company footprint is nationwide, and she works with multinationals across the world, seeking opportunities for the growth of the South African economy. Ms. Daku holds an LLM, EMBA, and various international post-graduate business diplomas.



**Ms. Thérèse Sekamana, Chief Executive Officer, LED Solutions and Green Energy; Chairperson, Private Sector Federation Specialized Cluster, host institution of SheTrades Rwanda Hub**

After years of providing the public and private sectors in Rwanda with LED lighting technology through her company LED Solutions, Ms. Thérèse Sekamana expanded into sustainable energy production with a new venture, Green Energy Rwanda. Leveraging technical input and machinery sourced from Switzerland, the company now has two 25-year Power Purchase Agreements with the Rwandan government for its two hydroelectric plants. Ms. Sekamana also serves as the Private Sector Federation Chairperson of the Specialized Cluster including Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, the host institution of the SheTrades Hub, Rwanda.



**Ms. Elaine Conkievich, United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative, Mongolia**

Ms. Conkievich is a senior international development professional with 28 years of experience in human rights, rule of law, gender mainstreaming, democratic institution building, conflict resolution, and preventive diplomacy. Ms. Conkievich joined the UNDP as Resident Representative in Mongolia in November 2019. Prior to this she was the UN Women Representative in Kazakhstan from 2014 onwards, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. From 2012-2014, she served as Director for the Department of Democratization, to the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. Ms. Conkievich has an MA in International Studies from The American University, School of International Service, Washington DC.



**Ms. Opeyemi Abebe, Head of Trade Competitiveness, Commonwealth Secretariat, United Kingdom**

Ms. Abebe leads a team of advisers providing technical assistance to member countries. She oversees 18 country projects and four regional trade support projects in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. She previously managed a 2 million USD, USAID funded program, supporting MSMEs in Nigeria and served as a member of the Nigerian National Focal Point on Commerce. She led the implementation of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act at the Nigerian Export Promotion Council and has worked as a Consultant at UNDP, the UK Department for International Development and World Bank on several trade projects.



**Moderator: Ms. Judith Fessehaie, Head, SheTrades, International Trade Centre**

Judith is Head, SheTrades Initiative at the International Trade Centre. In this capacity, she oversees a portfolio of projects and programmes spanning capacity-building and access to markets for women producers and entrepreneurs; partnerships with business support organisations and corporates; and gender mainstreaming into trade policy-making.