

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa

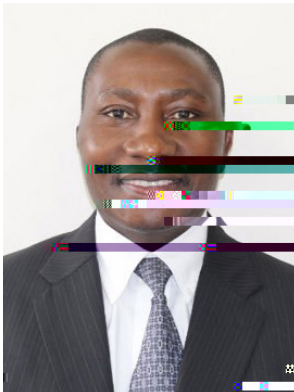
Ms. Cristina Duarte is the United Nations Special Adviser on Africa and Under-Secretary-General of OSAA since 1 August 2020. She is the strategic adviser to the Secretary-General on African Affairs, the focal point in UNHQ for relations with the AUDA-NEPAD as well as the African Group with regard to Africa's development. As the head of OSAA, she supports the Secretary-General in promoting coherence in the UN system's engagement in Africa and chairs the Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs (IDTFAA), and advocates and mobilizes the United Nations, its Member States and other key stakeholders around Africa's transformative vision articulated in the 2030 and 2063 Agendas.

Prior to joining the UN, Ms. Duarte served as Cape Verde's Minister of Finance and Planning for 10 years. She has 93nCoserv

her country to food security helping to lift more than a million Rwandans out of poverty.

Dr. Kalibata sits on various boards, councils and commissions including the Global Commission on Adaptation, the Global Agenda Council of the World Economic Forum, the Malabo-Montpellier Panel, the Food and Land Use (FOLU) Coalition, the Architecture for REDD + Transactions (ART), the International Fertilizer Development Corporation (IFDC), Bioversity International, and Africa Risk Capacity, among others.

She has a distinguished record of accomplishment as an agricultural scientist, policy maker and thought leader. She served as the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the 2021 Food Systems Summit, accelerating action to transform food systems around the world to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. She was also awarded the Yara Prize, now the Africa Food Prize, in 2012, Honorary Doctorate from the University of Liège in 2018, and the National Academy of Sciences' Public Welfare Medal in 2019 for her work to drive Africa's agricultural transformation through modern sciences and effective policy thereby improving livelihoods of stallholder farmers. She holds a doctorate in Entomology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



Director, DARBE, African Union Commission

Dr. Godfrey Bahigwa, a Ugandan national, is the Director of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Development (AUC-DARBE). In this role, he leads the efforts to develop and promote continental policies, frameworks, and programs that contribute to agricultural transformation and rural development in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063. Over the last 20 years, he has worked with national and international research organizations such as the Secretariat for the Programme for Modernisation of Agriculture and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and has been actively involved in food and agricultural policy both as a researcher and a practitioner. Bahigwa holds a PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Master's degree in agricultural and applied economics from the University of Minnesota.

Lead Development Economist and Thematic Coordinator in Agriculture,
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Dr Bekele Shiferaw leads evaluations and major studies in Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change at the World Bank Group. Dr Shiferaw is a Development and Resource Economist with wide experience in research, impact evaluation and analysis of policies in agriculture, environment and climate change.

Dr. Shiferaw has worked in international research and development for over 20 years in various capacities, including the position of Executive Director of the Partnership for Economic Policy, Director of the Socio-Economics Program at CIMMYT and Senior and Principal Economist at ICRISAT. He has provided technical and strategic leadership for several major international initiatives related to sustainable food systems; agribusiness and inclusive value chains; environment and natural resources; valuation of ecosystem services; climate change - mitigation, adaptation and



