

# OASIS: Organizing to Advance Solutions in the Sahel

## SPEAKER PROFILES

**Babatunde Abiodun** is a lecturer at the Department of Environmental and Geographical Sciences at the University of Cape Town (UCT). He obtained his PhD degree (Meteorology) through a sandwich program between the Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA, Nigeria) and Uppsala University (Sweden). Before joining UCT in 2008, he was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences in Iowa State University (USA), and taught several undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Meteorology and Climatology at FUTA. Abiodun is a National Research Foundation (NRF, South Africa) rated researcher. His research interest is in the development and application of atmospheric models to study climate. He is a lead author in the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report 5 (IPCC AR5, Working Group I).

**Fatima Adamu** has taught in the Department of Sociology at Usmanu Danfodiyo University (UDUS) in Sokoto, Nigeria since 1996, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2008, teaching graduate level courses in gender studies, social development, and research methods. She was also the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics at the National Centre for Women's Development in Abuja. For two years she served as Social Development Advisor on Maternal and New Child Health (MNCH) under DfiD, leading community engagement teams to promote birth planning and complication readiness across four northern states. She effectively mobilized communities to begin making practical plans to reduce risk in childbirth, despite the fact that in these communities, the concept of birth planning was virtually nonexistent.

**Leo Arriola** is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focuses on electoral politics, ethnic politics, and political violence in African countries. He has conducted field research in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, and Senegal. He is author of Multiethnic Coalitions in Africa: Business Financing of Opposition Election Campaigns (Cambridge University Press, 2012). His research has appeared in journals such as *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Northeast African Studies*, and *World Politics*. He currently serves as the Vice Chair of the African Politics Conference Group (APCG), a research network affiliated with the American Political Science Association.

**Judith Bruce** is a Senior Associate and Policy Analyst with the Population Council's Poverty, Gender, and Youth program. Since joining the Council in 1977, she has coordinated a program of policy-oriented research on issues related to women's and adolescent girls' social and economic development. Recently she served as co-chair of the Expert Group Meeting on the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl-child. Her areas of expertise include women's roles and status, with a

focus on intra-family dynamics, and investments in children and adolescence, especially vulnerable adolescent girls. She has been a member of the Council on Foreign Relations since 1977, and in 1993 received the Association for Women in Development's bi-annual award for outstanding contributions to the field. A 1968 graduate of Harvard University, Bruce has written and lectured extensively on population policy, the quality of reproductive health services, adolescent girls' status in the developing world, family and partnership dynamics, and women's access to and control of resources inside and outside the household.

**Federico Castillo** is a lecturer and researcher in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management in the College of Natural Resources (CNR), University of California, Berkeley. He is responsible for teaching ESPM 102C, The Economics of Natural Resource Management. His current research includes the economic impact of climate change, particularly in regard to the impact of extreme events on the rural sector (agriculture, water, and ecosystem services) and migratory phenomena. In addition, he is currently undertaking research on the economics of innovation, technology transfer, and technology adoption in both the developed and developing country context. His consulting has included the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the Tropical Agricultural and Research Center (CATIE), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and other academic, nonprofit and international organizations.

**Thomas Dempsey** is the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) Chair for Security Studies. A retired US Army Colonel, he specializes in security sector reform, rule of law, post-conflict transitions and peace operations. Dempsey served as Director of African Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College from 1999 through his retirement in August of 2006. He then directed the reconstitution and training of the Liberian Ministry of National Defense. His 31-year military career as an Infantry Officer and African Foreign Area Officer included service as the Chief of Africa Branch at the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency Defense HUMINT Services, and as Defense Attaché in Liberia and Sierra Leone. He edited and contributed to Civil Power in Irregular Conflict (2010) and he authored a monograph entitled Counterterrorism in African Failed States (2006). Dempsey has an MA in African Area Studies from UCLA, and an MMAS in Theater Operations from the School of Advanced Military Studies at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He is currently a doctoral candidate in Public Administration at Penn State.

**Rodio Diallo** is the Country Manager for Population Services International in Mali. She has extensive experience in leadership, project management and multifaceted program implementation for a wide variety of organizations. She has over twenty years of experience working in key sectors of social marketing and public health in Africa (Togo, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Uganda, and Senegal) and Haiti including family planning, child survival, malaria and HIV/AIDS. Diallo has a Bachelor's degree in Marketing and Communication Techniques (DUT) from Dakar University Institute of Technology (IUT), Senegal, and a Marketing Management degree from the International Marketing

Institute of Boston.

**Jean-Pierre Guengant** has over forty years of experience researching demographic behavior and managing research institutions. He is Emeritus Director of Research at the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD). He holds a PhD in Development Economics and a Masters in Demography, and has worked in the Caribbean and Africa and at the international level with the United Nations in New York and the IDRC in Canada. He has been Resident Representative of the IRD in Niger and Benin, Director of the IRD Centers in Niamey and Cotonou (1997-2003), and Resident Representative of the IRD in Burkina Faso and Director of the IRD Centers in Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso and Representative of IRD for Côte-d'Ivoire (2003-2009). He recently held (October- December 2011) the position of Acting Chief at the Population Division of DESA at the United Nations in New York. Guengant's work on the fertility decline in sub-Saharan Africa in the early 1990s predicted that fertility decline would not be as rapid as was then thought. His work on sub-Saharan fertility is published in articles and books in both French and English.

**John Harte** is a Professor of Ecosystem Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley. He did his undergraduate studies at Harvard and his PhD at the University of Wisconsin. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Leo Szilard prize from the American Physical Society, and is a co-recipient of the 2006 George Polk award in journalism. He is an elected Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and the American Physical Society. He has also served on six National Academy of Sciences Committees and has authored over 190 scientific publications, including eight books, one of which, Consider a Spherical Cow, is a widely used textbook on environmental modeling. Harte's research focuses on climate change, biodiversity, and maintaining ecosystem services for humanity.

**Nap Hosang** is a founding member of the Center for Entrepreneurship in International Health and Development (CEIHD), now Impact Carbon. He is a lecturer at the School of Public Health, UC Berkeley, where he is also on the steering committee of the campus-wide Center for Global Public Health with a special interest in the management of maternal and child health outcomes in poor, rural communities. Hosang grew up in Jamaica and before coming to Berkeley was on the medical faculty at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica. He earned his medical degree in Jamaica, and his MPH and MBA from the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include cleaner burning biomass and charcoal stoves and telemedicine options to improve rural health care access and quality.

**Amadou Konaté** has been an agro-economist for twenty-seven years. His areas of expertise include general agriculture, early warning and information systems, food crisis prevention and management, planning and implementation of agricultural development programs, and geographical information systems and data analysis. Since 2005, he has monitored the agricultural and food situation in the Sahel and West Africa

for the Standing Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). He also served as the expert in charge of Food Crisis Prevention and Management (PREGEC) for five years. He has consulted and studied throughout West Africa and published many articles and monitoring reports related to the Sahel region. Konate has a degree in agronomy from the Agronomic Institute in Romania.

**Djingarey Maïga** has been the President of Femmes et Droits Humains, based in Mali, since 2000. She is also the Coordinator of the African Network for Medical Abortion (ANMA) for the International Consortium for Medical Abortion (ICMA). Her work aims at strengthening women's human rights, specifically on the issues of reproductive and sexual health, political participation, female genital mutilation and economic and educational rights. She has experience working with these issues on the local, national, regional and international levels. From 1996 to 2000 she worked as the Human Rights and Gender Analysis Trainer and Women's Education Coordinator for the Institute for Popular Education. Maïga is a member of multiple networks including Women Living under Muslim Laws, Women's Global Network for Reproductive Health and Rights, African Feminist Forum, Africa Democracy Forum, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) and African Network for Medical Abortion. She received a Diploma in Computer Science, a Technical University Diploma in Applied Languages, and a University Diploma in Communication on Human Rights. She has been a 2005 DAWN Fellow, a Les Aspin Center Fellow on Democracy and Good Governance, and a Michigan State University Fellow on Women and Political Participation.

**Mairo Mandara** is an obstetrician/gynecologist at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in Zaria, Nigeria with extensive knowledge and experience in managing maternal and child health programs. Her technical expertise includes planning and implementing leadership development programs at the upper management level, developing clinical service protocols, and integrating reproductive health content into training materials. Mandara has vast experience negotiating and partnering with the Nigerian government at both the national and the state levels. She has provided technical assistance to the Federal Ministry of Health as well as the National Primary Health Care Development Agency, and served as senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs. She is a member of the National Reproductive Health Working Group, the Technical Working Group on Integrated Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Nigeria and the Presidential Working Group to eradicate polio in Nigeria.

**John May** is a Belgian national and specialist in population policies and programs. A former Lead Demographer at the World Bank, he is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Center for Global Development (CGD) in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the World Bank in 1997, he worked on many population projects around the world for UNFPA, UNICEF, USAID and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP). He was posted in Haiti, West Indies, and New Caledonia, South Pacific for the United Nations. He came to the U.S. in 1987 and was appointed Senior Scientist at The Futures Group International, a consulting firm offering services in population and

HIV/AIDS modeling, policy and program design. In 1991-1992 he spent a year as a Visiting Scholar at the Population Reference Bureau (PRB.) He is also an Adjunct Professor of Demography at Georgetown University, Washington DC. He published recently World Population Policies: Their Origin, Evolution, and Impact (Springer, 2012). He earned a BA in Modern History (1973) and an MA in Demography (1985) from the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium), and received his Doctorate in Demography (1996) from the University of Paris-V (Sorbonne).

**Sonia Nikiéma** is the General Manager of the Burkinabé Association for the Advancement of Young Girls (ABPJF), an organization working to improve the socio-economic status of girls and women in Burkina Faso. ABPJF engages young women to produce and export 150 tons of conventional shea butter and 40 tons of organic shea butter to Europe every year. Through shea butter production, ABPJF is increasing economic self-sufficiency and combating high levels of poverty among young women, unemployed women, girls who have left school at a young age, and orphan girls. Nikiéma has a degree in management and marketing and is a leader in the Association of Women Entrepreneurs. She is also president an organization linked to ABPJF, the Union of Women Shea Butter Producers (UPROKA) which specializes in producing conventional shea butter and cosmetics, while offering basic literacy and commercial preparedness courses. This training network helps rural women improve their agricultural productivity and food security, and earn much needed income which enables them to attend ABPJF's literacy classes, benefit from trainings on topics such as family planning, female genital mutilation, HIV/AIDS, and legal rights. ABPJF/UPROKA has 4,500 members in 14 provinces, and six salaried staff members.

**Daniel Perlman** is a research medical anthropologist at the UC Berkeley Bixby Center for Population, Health & Sustainability. He has more than twenty years' experience planning, implementing, and evaluating primary health care programs in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Perlman is currently co-directing the Bixby-NIH Population and Health Program in Nigeria with Malcolm Potts. He is also the PI on the David and Lucille Packard Foundation grant "Delaying the Age of Marriage and the Onset of Childbearing through Girl-Child Education in Northern Nigeria." Perlman co-edited The Practice of International Health, Oxford University Press.

**Ndola Prata** is Associate Professor in Residence at UC Berkeley in School of Public Health and serves as Scientific Director of the Bixby Center for Population, Health, and Sustainability. She is also the Medical Director for Venture Strategies Innovations. Her primary research focuses on developing and testing innovative, cost-effective solutions to improve maternal and reproductive health services for disadvantaged populations. She is currently testing a service delivery model that combines social marketing with community-based distribution to expand access to injectable contraceptives in rural Ethiopia. She has published extensively in areas of family planning, financing and ability to pay for reproductive health programs, the role of the private sector in health care in developing countries, adolescent sexual behavior in developing countries,

priorities for maternal health and the use of misoprostol to manage postpartum bleeding.

**William Ryerson** is Founder and President of Population Media Center (PMC), an organization that strives to improve the health and wellbeing of people around the world through the use of entertainment-education strategies. He also serves as Chair and CEO of The Population Institute in Washington, DC which works in partnership with the Population Media Center. In developing countries, PMC creates long-running serialized dramas on radio and television in which characters evolve into role models for the audience resulting in positive behavior change. The emphasis of the organization's work is to educate people about the benefits of small families, encourage the use of effective family planning methods, elevate women's status, prevent exploitation of children, and promote avoidance of HIV infection. Ryerson has a 40-year history of working in the field of reproductive health, including two decades of experience adapting the Sabido methodology of social change communications to various cultural settings worldwide.

**Wolfram Schlenker** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley. His research focuses on environmental and resource economics and applied econometrics. His main area of expertise includes the effects of weather and climate on agricultural productivity, drivers of commodity prices, and the health effects of pollution. He previously served on the faculty at UC San Diego and Columbia University and was a Visiting Researcher at Princeton, the Cargill Visiting Scholar at Stanford, and the Gilbert White Fellow at Resources for the Future. He received his Diploma in Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences (Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen) at the University of Karlsruhe in Germany, a Master of Environmental Management at Duke University, and his PhD at UC Berkeley.

**Basia Tomczyk** is a registered nurse with more than twenty years of clinical experience in critical care, emergency and refugee health care. For the past thirteen years she has worked as a senior epidemiologist with the International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch (IERHB) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She has conducted numerous surveys and assessments in collaboration with the UNHCR, UNFPA, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, the U.S. Department of State, and the Bureau of Population Refugee and Migration on documenting the burden of reproductive health including HIV/AIDS, family planning and unmet need for family planning, pregnancy outcomes including maternal, neonatal and under five morbidity and mortality, nutrition and sexual and gender based violence among populations affected by conflict and other emergencies. She has worked in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Thailand, Bangladesh, Niger, Chad (with Dafur refugees), Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, and Haiti. She has earned an RN, MS, MPH, and DrPH degree.

**Samson Wasao** is the Advisor on Environment and Climate Change to the Ministry of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 of the Government of Kenya. He is also National Project Manager for the Poverty and Environment Initiative-Kenya, which is part of the worldwide poverty and environment program tasked with integrating environment and climate change into all national development projects. Previously Wasao was the Planning Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Marketing and Livestock Development. In 1996 he took charge of the socioeconomic appraisal of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) development projects/ programs.

**David Zilberman** is a professor and holds the Robinson Chair in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Zilberman's areas of expertise include agricultural and environmental policy, marketing, risk management, the economics of innovation, natural resources, water, biotechnology, and biofuels. He is a Fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, and he has received the AAEA Outstanding Journal Article Award: *Choices* (2011), AAEA Publication of Enduring Quality Award (2005, 2010), and the UNESCO International Cannes Prize for Water and the Economy (2000). He has served as a consultant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. He received his BA in Economics and Statistics at Tel Aviv University, Israel, and his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley.