EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR GROWTH AND PROSPERITY: NAVIGATING BARRIERS AND CONSTRAINTS

Speaker Biographies

Francisco H. G. Ferreira is a senior adviser in the World Bank’s Development Research Group, where he oversees the bank’s research programs on poverty and inequality. He was formerly the bank’s chief economist for the Africa region and has also been deputy chief economist for Latin America and the Caribbean. Ferreira is also a nonresident research fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor and a visiting professor at King’s College London. He has published work on poverty and inequality in developing countries. He is a coeditor of the World Bank Economic Review and has been editor in chief of the Journal of Economic Inequality and of Economía, the journal of the Latin American and Caribbean Economics Association. Ferreira has taught at the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro and at the Paris School of Economics. He holds a PhD in economics from the London School of Economics.

Arjan de Haan leads Canada’s International Development Research Centre program in employment and growth, including the flagship multidonor Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women program. He was a social development adviser at the Department for International Development for about 10 years, leading work on poverty analysis and social protection. He taught international development at the Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands, at the University of Guelph, and at the University of Sussex. De Haan holds a PhD in social history from Erasmus University Rotterdam.

H. Elizabeth Peters is an Institute fellow in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute. She is a labor economist and demographer who has studied issues related to women’s well-being for her entire career. Her research focuses on family economics and family policy, specifically examining the effects of public policies, such as divorce laws, child support policy, child care policy, taxes, and welfare reform on family formation and dissolution; inter- and intrahousehold transfers; father involvement; and family investments in children. Peters’s work has appeared in peer-reviewed journals, such as the American Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, and Demography. She coedited Marriage and Family: Perspectives and Complexities, published by Columbia University Press in 2009. Peters earned her MPP and her PhD in economics from the University of Chicago.
Fauzia Viqar is the chairperson of the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women in Pakistan. She is a women’s rights activist with over 17 years of experience working to eliminate gender- and race-based discrimination. She was previously an antiracism adviser to the Ontario government, director of advocacy at the Shirkat Gah Women’s Resource Centre, and a board member of multiple government and nongovernment organizations, including the Punjab Safe Cities Authority, the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority, and the Punjab Education Foundation. Viqar established and leads the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women, a government body responsible for promoting women’s empowerment that has been at the helm of landmark changes in Pakistan. Viqar has introduced key initiatives for accountability, for building capacity of state functionaries, and for promoting women’s access to information and redressal mechanisms.

Charles Cadwell leads the Urban Institute’s International Development and Governance team. He joined Urban in 2007, following 16 years at the University of Maryland’s IRIS Center in the Department of Economics, focusing on the role of institutions in growth and democracy. The Urban Institute team targets urban service delivery, governance of public goods, aid effectiveness, and political economy. In addition to the Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women program research, current Urban Institute projects include new multicountry data on the governance context for service delivery, support for devolution in Kenya, studies of urban refugees in Africa, and analysis of city resilience for the Rockefeller Foundation’s 100 Resilient Cities initiative. Cadwell has an undergraduate degree from Yale College and a law degree from the George Washington University. He also worked in the White House Office of Consumer Affairs, the Office of Advocacy at the US Small Business Administration, in private law practice, and in private business.