



PACT Consultancy (PACT)



Advisory Board Members

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Categorization Based on PACT Core Areas of Expertise/ Service

MEL & Statistical Analysis	Dr. Karamallah Ali, Intisar Salih, Dalmás Menya.
Socio-economic Studies & Development	Dr. Habtu Assefa, Abdelmajid Khojali.
Poverty Reduction & MSME Development	Dr. Mohamed Yousif, Tefera Tesfaye, Adil Sadoq, Dalmás Menya.
Technology, Fintech & Digital Transformation	Sunil Varghese, Melaku Kebede, Eric Nana, Amin Oshi, Hassan Nagila, Siddig Mamoun.
Strategy, Program/ Project Development & Assessment	Dr. Mohamed Yousif, Tarig Monim, Seifeldin Abbaro, Dr. Aberra Debelo, Dr. Ayman Abass, Chrysantus Ache, Dr. Nasredin Elamin, Ilham Osman Ibrahim, Elhussein Elkhazin, Faith Nyabuto.
Public Health & Nutrition	Dr. Ibrahim Ahmed Bani, Dr. Nasredin Elamin
Agricultural and Land Use Services	Dr. Abdelrahman Khidir, Dr. Abdullatif Ijaimi, Dr. Nasredin Elamin.
Education & Learning	Prof. Robert Deng, Dr. Herine Otieno, Dr. Fekadu Asrat.
Peace Building & Conflict Resolution	Chrysantus Ache, Elhussein Elkhazin, Ms. Kawther Abusin.
Climate Change	Dr. Omer Abdalla M. Egemi.
Renewable Energy & Natural Resource Management	Dr. Osman Babikir, Dr. Nasredin Elamin, Intisar Salih.

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Brief Profiles of Advisory Board Members

1) **Mohamed Yousif, Ph.D: Nationality - USA/ Sudan** Business Strategist and Project Development/ Management Expert.

Dr. Mohamed Yousif is a project development and management expert and strategist with more than 28 years of international experience in development consulting. He received his M.Phil. & Ph.D. degrees from George Washington University, Washington, D.C., USA.



At the corporate level, Dr. Yousif provided consulting services to multi-billion dollar and multi-national corporations, such as, FedEx (www.fedex.com), ZTE (Chinese Telecom giant) and PAE (when it was a subsidiary of Lockheed-Martin - www.pae.com), as well as, development organizations, such as, GIZ (previously known as GTZ – www.giz.de), UNDP, World Bank, WFP, IOM, IFAD, JICA, UN Women, British Council, UNICEF, SMDC, etc. He also assisted in the establishment of many medium-size companies, as well as co-founded a number of small companies in several countries.

In 1995-96, Dr. Yousif was a member of the round-table advisory group at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. The advisory-group's role was to advise on and promote elevating U.S. business interest in Africa. He also attended and contributed to many domestic and international business conferences and seminars, and conducted business or consulting assignments in more than 40 countries.

In addition to corporate consulting and business development, Dr. Yousif's activities over the last 15 years were focused on projects in the development field and aimed at economically empowering the poor, including micro-enterprises development; financial inclusion of the poor; designing and implementing integrated projects based on value chain and franchising business models; formulating strategies and developing business plans for financial services providers to better serve the poor; assisting business development services providers to technically support and to build the capacities of small and micro-businesses, groups and community based organizations; introducing technological solutions to improve providers' operational efficiencies and beneficiaries' access to financial and non-financial services; advising policy makers and organizations on Microfinance and poverty reduction strategies; etc. Dr. Yousif is intimately familiar with Sudan's complex political and social issues as well as its unique development contexts.

At the social and community services level, Dr. Yousif co-founded and served as the president of the Sudanese Community Center, Inc. (SCC) in Washington metropolitan area, - now known as The Sudanese American Community Development Organization (www.sacdo.com) - a nonprofit organization organized exclusively for educational, cultural, health and charitable purposes.

Dr. Yousif is currently the Chairman of the Board and CEO of PACT Consultancy - a Synergy of Consulting Expertise for Transformation & Development. PACT is a leading regional development consulting company with core and growing footprint in Africa.

2) **Adil Sadoq: Nationality - USA/ Morocco** Microenterprise, Livelihood and Business Development Expert

Mr. Sadoq is an independent consultant based in Washington DC, USA. He is a renowned expert in microenterprise development, youth livelihood development, business development and financial inclusion both with traditional lending and Islamic Sharia compliance lending. Further, he is an experienced trainer, mentor for field staff and has the ability to bring people together in teams to find solutions to implementation problems and design demand-driven programs.



Adil holds a Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Leadership from Deakin University, Melbourne Australia and a Master of Arts Degree (MA) from the University of Fes in Morocco (1994).

Adil has notable work and consulting experience in projects across different countries including: Libya, Sudan, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Cote D'Ivoire, Egypt, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Jordan, USA,

Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Lebanon, Mali and countries in the Middle East. He carried out assignments for reputable clients including: Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), Save the Children, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Professional Risk Manager's International Association (PRMIA), Maxwell Stamp Inc for International Finance Corporation (IFC), Plan International, MEDA International, SEEP Network, AGFUND, Groupement Professionnel des Banques du Maroc, Social Performance Task Force, Sanabel Regional Microfinance Network, MEDA International, Foundation Zakoura, among others.

Some of Adil's significant accomplishments include:

- ☞ Successfully started up \$5.3M youth and financial services project (Youth Invest) in Morocco and Egypt that reached more than 48,000 youth with services over four years.
- ☞ Successfully set-up and opened MEDA Maroc in Morocco, including registration, set-up of all operational and financial systems, policies, procedures and reporting mechanisms for 41 staff.
- ☞ Led design of financial services products for young people.
- ☞ Raised \$230k from 3ie for an impact evaluation of Youth Invest and established a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system for the project.
- ☞ Led design and managed mid-term and end-line evaluation in collaboration with the donor and MEDA International.
- ☞ Established many key partnerships and participated in proposal processes for MEDA in the MENA region, including with Silatech Foundation, International Youth Foundation, USAID Missions, European Microfinance Platform.

Adil is fluent in Native Arabic (Moroccan, Egyptian, Standard), French and English.

3) **Chrysantus Ache – Nationality: Cameroon** **Development and Humanitarian Expert**

Mr. Ache is an accomplished expert in the development and humanitarian sectors. He served in the United Nations High Commission for Refugees for more than 32 years, during which he worked mostly as a Representative of that agency in at least 16 African countries. These include the DRC, Somalia, Nigeria, Kenya and Benin, Ghana, Togo, Angola, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Sudan, South Sudan and Ethiopia. He acquired extensive experience working in tandem with various government entities to address critical national challenges linked to migration, humanitarian situations, security, political and development issues.



Chrysantus gained first-hand experience through the observation and analysis of Africa's regional integration challenges. In the course of this role throughout his distinguished career, he directly managed and oversaw numerous complex humanitarian and security situations across the continent of Africa. He was responsible for the establishment and full functionality of the first ever dedicated office of the UN refugee agency's representation to the African Union (AU) and the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA). Chrysantus served as the Permanent Representative of UNHCR to these agencies for five years from 2009-2014.

Chris also worked very closely with the AU, held and lead discussions with senior officials as they developed VISION 2063 - the continent's 50-year vision for poverty reduction. VISION 2063 addresses humanitarian and security challenges, infrastructure development, women's empowerment and post-conflict construction and development. Chrysantus is a true Pan-Africanist with a deep passion and commitment to meaningfully contribute to the solution of the root causes of conflict within the African continent. He is particularly interested in the resolution of conflict through good governance and capacity building.

Chrysantus is bilingual with fluency in English and French and has a conversational command of Spanish. He holds a Bachelor of Laws and Economics degree (LLB) from the University of Yaounde, Cameroon and a Master of Laws and Finance degree (LLM) from the University of Pennsylvania Law School/Wharton School of Finance, Philadelphia - USA. He also has a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy degree (MALD) from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy/Tufts University/JFK School of Gov't - Harvard University, Boston USA.

Currently, he is the owner and chief curator of Tikar Exotic Curios established as a unique home-based gallery that showcases African Art and Culture.

4) **Robert M. K. Deng, Ph.D. - Nationality: Australia/ South Sudan** Educationist and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry

Prof. Deng is a professor of inorganic chemistry and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Juba. Prior to this assignment, he served as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Administration and Finance at the University of Juba, having held the same position at Dr. John Garang Memorial University (2014-2019). Prof. Deng holds a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University College of Durham - UK (1981) and a B.Sc. in Applied Chemistry from the University Khartoum (1977).



He has a long teaching career. He started as a lecturer at the University of Juba (1881-85), University of Nairobi (1985-89), Senior Lecturer at Kenyatta University (1989-91), University of Botswana (1991-2002) and Finders University – Australia (2003-2006). He was the Chairman of the University of Juba Staff Association from 1983-85. He was the University of Nairobi – Departmental Representative to the Natural Environment and Human Settlement Secretariat, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (1987-89). He joined the University of Juba as a Professor in 2007 where he was appointed as Coordinator of the Science-based colleges (2007-2010). He also served as the Dean of Students dealing with students political, social and academic issues (2012-14), Coordinator of the University of Juba-University of Bergen Cooperation (2009-2012) and President of Sudanese Community in South Australia (2004-2006).

Prof. Deng has published widely and has authored a number of scientific papers in International Peer Review Journals in the field of Inorganic and Phosphorous Chemistry.

Prof. Deng is a Shareholder and Director in PACT South Sudan.

5) **Seifeldin Abbardo: Nationality - Sudan** Strategic Planning and Development Expert

Mr. Abbardo is a Strategic Planning and Development expert with over 45 years of knowledge and experience in the field of Strategic Planning, International Development Cooperation and Finance applying Creativity and Innovation in the design and management of Strategies, Development Programmes, Projects and Humanitarian Operations as well as Evidence Based Policy Formulation and Capacity Development with special expertise in setting up and operating Trust Funds, Resource Mobilization and Management.



He has notable experience in Strategic Planning and Management of International Cooperation and Development Programmes and Operations including (South-South) cooperation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Development and Humanitarian Programmes and Operations through Results Based Approaches, design and operation of Development Funding schemes including Trust Funds, Disaster Risk and Crisis Management, Partnership and Alliance Building and Donor Coordination as well as Organizational Restructuring and Change Management. He holds Master and Bachelor of Science Degrees from City University London, UK.

Mr. Seif is currently serving as the Strategic Planning Advisor/Ministry of Culture – Qatar. He previously held the following positions:

- Country Director/UNDP Lebanon;
- Senior Advisor to the DSRSG (Programme) and Head of UNDG Iraq Trust Fund Support Office /Jordan;
- UNFPA Representative /Jordan;
- Deputy Director, UNDP/ENRP – Erbil/IRAQ;
- UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Resident Representative /QATAR;
- Deputy Resident Representative/UNDP EGYPT;
- Deputy Resident Representative/UNDP IRAQ;
- Regional Officer, Special Unit for TCDC (New York);

- Head, Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) / Islamic Development Bank (Saudi Arabia);
- Projects Officer, Islamic Development Bank (Saudi Arabia).

6) **Intisar Salih - Nationality: Sudan** International Cooperation, Strategy & Natural Resource Management Expert

Mrs. Intisar is a development expert with over 25 years of extensive experience in Strategic Planning and Management of International Cooperation Programmes. She possesses a Master's Degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Khartoum and a Higher Diploma in Training of Trainers from Kuru College of Forestry in Finland. She is also a qualified and certified trainer in results-based monitoring and evaluation, with the ability to develop strategies for building the capacities of staff and institutions.



Mrs. Salih has vast experience as a development practitioner in the UN system, having served as both national and international staff for over 20 years. She has achieved profound accomplishments throughout the years, including mobilizing millions of dollars for development projects, building the capacities of institutions and designing as well as managing resource mobilization strategies. She has served in different countries and capacities including the following:

- Programme Officer with the UNDP in Yemen responsible for the development, management, implementation and supervision of natural resource management projects;
- International Cooperation and Development Consultant with the UNDP;
- Project Manager with UNDP: Enhancing Capacities and Business Processes of the Sudan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Khartoum;
- Monitoring and Evaluation Regional Advisor, Regional Centre in Cairo-Egypt, Regional Bureau of Arab States, UNDP;
- Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Lead Specialist for Nine Nile Basin Initiative on the Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP) with a budget USD 43 million supported by the UNDP and World Bank;
- Team Leader for the Sudan Enabling Environment Unit at the UNDP.

Intisar has a high ability to analyze situations, identify gaps, and develop strategies and approaches to address needs. She possesses vast skills and knowledge in supporting program and project development and formulation, including identifying and soliciting needed support and information. She has a strong capacity to manage and coordinate large studies and assessments in various fields such as poverty, climate change, environmental and social impact assessments, environmental and social safeguards, and conflict analysis dynamics and trends.

She has extensive professional experience in monitoring and evaluation using results-based management approaches and has served as an international M&E expert for 9 years, with accumulated comprehensive knowledge and experience in initiating, managing, and reviewing reports of various types and levels of evaluations.

7) **Tarig Abdel Monim - Nationality: Canada/ Sudan** Strategy, Business & Results-Based Management Expert

Mr. Tarig is an executive, advisor and consultant with international experience who delivers results on Strategy, Strategic and Business Planning, Performance Management and Systems, leading projects to achieve goals.

As a Strategy consultant, Mr. Tarig has notable project and consulting achievements including:

- Extensive strategy and performance management systems from development to implementation and review.
- Creative, focused, excellent problem solver and in developing new ideas, approaches,



and processes.

- International business management experience from North America, Middle East, Africa, and Europe.
- Experience extending from policy, policy support, investment policies, strategies, regulations, Doing Business, process development and improvement.
- Led new ventures, firms, and businesses to millions in revenues/sales.
- Managed teams from 5 to 75 employees.
- Excellent ability to formulate Vision, develop and implement a strategy to deliver results.
- Superior people management skills, resources allocation, and conflict resolution.
- Well-developed negotiation and contract management skills.
- Excellent leadership, communication, presentation and persuasion abilities.
- Excellent combination of executive, senior management, and consulting experience.
- Led Strategic Projects/Initiatives: PPPs, Re-Organization, development of KPIs, BSC (balanced scorecard) and Operational Performance measures.
- Local partner, for several years, with the World Bank/IFC on “Doing Business” report.
- Leading training to executives, senior managers from Africa and Asia on Strategy, Leadership, and other areas.
- Experience across many industries: Management Consulting, Training, Agro-Industries (Edible Oils, Sugar, Leather Tanning, Textile), Transportation, Financial Services, Oil and Refining, Chemical, others.
- Management support to Negotiations, Business Cases, Outsourcing, Policy and Regulatory changes, Revenues Management and Development (+ \$ 1 B per annum)
- Directed and coordinated projects from \$ 4 to \$ 138 Million.
- Worked with the UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization).
- Worked with Investment Authority on development of Investment Map, Consultants briefs, others.
- Consulting assignments on the Effects of Free Zones on the UAE economy, proposals on SMEs, FDI, Manufacturing survey with the Federal Government in the UAE.
- Lead assignments in the area of Feasibility Studies, Surveys and Market Research in Health Services, Financial Services, Manufacturing, Market Entry, and others.

8) **Abdullatif Ijaimi, Ph.D: Nationality - Sudan** Agricultural Production, Marketing and Market Access Expert

Dr. Ijaimi is an agricultural production, marketing and market access specialist with experience of more than 33 years in the field of agriculture in Sudan. He is a former Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forest in Sudan. Prior to that, he served as Undersecretary of Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Director General of Planning and Agricultural Economics and Assistant Field Inspector (production and marketing data collector), among others. Dr. Ijaimi has extensive experience in the preparation of strategies and analysis of issues on food security, poverty reduction and safety net interventions.



He holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Marketing from the University of Hohenheim, Germany (1991-1994), M. Sc, Agricultural Economics from the University of Khartoum, Sudan (1980-1982) and B.Sc. Agricultural Economics from the University of Khartoum, Sudan (1974-1978).

Dr. Ijaimi has a long history of work in collection, organization and analysis of agricultural statistics from the different states with emphasis on the rainfed sector (area, production and productivity, prices and marketing costs and margins). He has led various field surveys and teams in conducting studies and prepared reports. His main areas of interest include analysis of trends and changes in area, production and agricultural prices using time series data, conducting of baseline surveys and analysis of statistical data, development of strategies and plans, poverty reduction and food security, market development and integration, international trade, commodity chain analysis, policy analysis, economics of agricultural production and competitiveness studies and preparation and evaluation and review of agricultural projects and policies for agricultural and rural

development. He has participated in more 50 surveys for data collection as team leader covering the different farming systems in the Sudan and Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Ijaimi has participated in the preparation of almost all the agricultural strategies and plans in Sudan during the last 33 years, taking the position of member and rapporteur in the most significant ones: the Green Mobilization Programme (GMP) 2007-2011, Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (agricultural sector), Agricultural Revival Programme (ARP) 2008-2011, Strategy for Development of Rain-fed agriculture 2013 and one of the consultants who prepared Sudan National Agriculture Investment Plan (SUDNAIP) 2016-2020 within the context of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) funded by FAO. Further, he has good experience and high interest in pro-poor commodity value chain analysis for reducing poverty. He is also highly experienced and skilled in agricultural and rural development project preparation, monitoring, evaluation and strategies for their sustainable impacts.

His most recent assignments include participation in Productive Safety Net (PSN) Baseline Survey in North Kordofan State Report March 2018 and a similar assignment in River Nile State; member of the core team that performed the consultation process for preparation of Sudan Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) of Sudan and Team Leader for the Baseline Survey of Sustainable Natural Resources and Livelihoods Programme (SNRLP) executed by PACT Consultancy (Sept. 2022 – Feb. 2023).

9) **Herine Otieno, Ph.D - Nationality: Kenya** **Educationist and Learning Systems Expert**

Dr. Herine is a qualified and experienced educationist and expert in educational research and education management as well as delivery systems. She holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from Sheffield Hallam University (SHU)-UK on a Commonwealth Scholarship – 2019; Masters in Research-Sociology, Planning and Policy from Sheffield Hallam University (SHU)-UK (2018); Postgraduate Certificate in Mathematics Education from Sheffield Hallam University (SHU)-UK (2016); Master of Science (Statistics) Degree from Kenyatta University – Nairobi (2002) and B.Sc. (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry (Statistics Major) from Kenyatta University (2000).



She has proven track record, passion and expertise that straddles both qualitative and quantitative research. She has experience of over 8 years of providing technical and management leadership to education projects in Africa. In the last 5 years, in her most recent position as a Director of a \$12million MasterCard Foundation-funded Teacher Training Program (TTP) for mathematics and science secondary school teachers at the African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS)-Rwanda, she has been able to build a model for a teacher-centric gender responsive, evidence based and contextually grounded CBC training program for mathematics and sciences teachers which is highly acclaimed not only by Rwanda but other key education stakeholders in Africa and beyond. Dr. Herine has training and professional experience spanning several countries including USA, UK, South Africa, Scotland, United Arab Emirate (UAE), Portugal, Rwanda, Turkey, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, France, Norway, Morocco and Nigeria

A Pan-Africanist educationist at heart, she has an expansive network of key education stakeholders in a number of African countries (and beyond), including policy makers and teachers panning local and regional bodies such as African Union (AU) and Association of Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). The rich network has been built over years of membership in strategic organizations (c.f. <https://alainstitute.org/tutu-fellows>); participation in regional and global (Member World Bank Technical Advisory team of the Teach) education interventions; and implementation of innovative education programs such as launching and running of Africa's first online education radio-EduTalkAfric (edutalkafric.com) - radio host through own participation.

The is the founder and CEO of EduHub Africa, an education social enterprise for Africa focused STEM/education interventions and research.

10) **Aberra Debelo, Ph.D. – Nationality: Ethiopia** Agronomy and Food Systems Expert

Dr. Aberra is a reputable agronomist with extensive experience of more than 25 years in agricultural production and productivity for food security and income generation. He holds a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University (USA) in Crop Science specializing in agronomy/Crop Science (1992), Master of Science (M.Sc.) Degree from Addis Ababa University: Alemaya College of Agriculture, Alemaya, Ethiopia (1982) in Plant Science (Agronomy) and Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) from Addis Ababa University: Alemaya College of Agriculture, Alemaya, Ethiopia in Plant Science (1977).



He has an immaculate career as an agronomist. From 2005-2018, he was the Country Director of Sasakawa Global 2000 Ethiopia (a Japanese non-profit INGO). The main objective of Sasakawa Global 2000 is to transfer agricultural technologies to smallholder farmers in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) at Federal, Regional, State, Zonal and Woreda level and the national research system to increase agricultural production and productivity for food security and income generation. During his tenure as Director of Sasakawa, he made significant contribution and impact, including spearheading the engagement of rural women and youth into income generating activities through innovative agricultural technologies and knowledge. He also facilitated and collaborated with different stakeholders (public and private), strengthened inter-theme collaboration among the five country themes or impact on farmers' livelihoods and successfully raised funds from different donors including SAA/Nippon Foundation, BMGF, JICA, AGRA/USAID, GAC/CIDA, Purdue University/BMGF, among others.

Dr. Aberra's other notable positions include: Coordinator of Eastern and Central Africa Regional Sorghum and Millet (ECARSAM) research network based at ICRISAT Nairobi, Kenya, from October, 2003 to March 2005; Deputy Director General and ag. Director General of Ethiopian Agriculture Research organization (EARO), now Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR), from June 1998 to October, 2003; Acting Manager of Melkassa Agricultural Research Center, April to November, 1994; Ethiopian Sorghum Improvement Program Coordinator from September, 1992 to May, 1998; Ethiopian Maize Improvement Program Coordinator from Nov. 1982 – Dec. 1986; and senior Research Officer on maize and sorghum breeding at different times from 1977-1998, among others.

Some of Dr. Aberra's significant accomplishments include:

- ☞ Development and release of two varieties of sorghum for highland areas, two varieties for mid altitude areas and one variety for low moisture stress areas. In addition, two early maturing striga resistant varieties of sorghum were released for drought stress striga prone areas in collaboration with Purdue University, and also released two varieties of finger millet for mid altitude areas of Ethiopia.
- ☞ Initiating the development of maize inbred lines, which contributed to the development and release of maize hybrids in Ethiopia.
- ☞ Consultancy service to United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) on Woreda Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Rehabilitation Program (SAERP) in Tigray Region of Ethiopia with particular emphasis on crop production.

Dr. Aberra has published widely. He currently serves as President of the Ethiopian Association of Agricultural Professionals (EAAP) and is a member and Vice-President of the Crop Science Society of Ethiopia. Other notable membership include the Ethiopian Weed Science Society, East African Sorghum and Millet Steering Committee, Agronomy Society of Ethiopia and Crop Protection Society of Ethiopia.

11) **Nasredin Hag Elamin, Ph.D – Nationality: Sudan** *Agrifood Strategist and Food Security Expert*

Dr. Elamin is an experienced expert and advisor on design of agrifood strategies and policies, agrifood value chains and trade, design and evaluation of agrifood projects and programmes as well as food security and nutrition.



Dr. Hag Elamin has extensive experience, with more than 30 years, in advising countries on policies, strategies and programmes for sustainable agriculture development, natural resources management, food security, trade and agriculture related issues of the WTO Agreements. He led many FAO programmes and projects dealing with analysis, capacity building and advisory work in these areas. He has produced numerous FAO advisory and technical reports and training material, and published several journal articles, books and reports on agriculture, food security and trade.

Dr. Elamin started his career in 1990 at the University of Khartoum, Sudan, as Assistant Professor of agricultural economics. He joined FAO in 1999 as Trade Economist where he worked extensively on analysis and policy advice of trade and WTO issues in agriculture and food security. From 2004 to 2008, he served as Policy Officer in the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and from 2009 to 2014 as a Senior Policy Officer and head of the policy assistance group in the same Office. Between March 2015 to August 2019, he served as FAO Representative in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He subsequently served as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Representative in Egypt.

He holds a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Khartoum, Sudan, a M.Sc. in Trade and Development and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Lancaster, England.

12) **Sunil Varghese Prasad: Nationality - Kenya/ India** *Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) & Technology Infrastructure Expert*

Mr. Sunil is a certified, accredited and widely experienced information technology expert with an immaculate track record of over 20 years in the development, promotion and implementation of large-scale global ERP projects (both application and infrastructure). These include Openstack Cloud infrastructure, data centers acquisition of Internet, domain and public IPs, security access to cloud, billing systems and systems integration, among others. He serves as Director of Cloud Services at Sybyl Kenya Ltd with responsibility for creating new sales channels for the company, from the perspective of cloud solution in SAAS, BAAS, DRAAS, IAAS & PAAS, creating opportunity for sales team and assist them in closure, managing sales, pre-sales and technical team and adding and managing resellers for cloud sales in East Africa and SADC regions. He has previously worked with known technology companies including: NetApp Inc (Regional Technical Account Manager – EA & SADC; VirtualWorks Africa Ltd (NetApp, Avaya, CheckPoint, CommVault & Citrix Distribution Partner); Gestalt Gild Ltd. (Kenya); Computer Point Ltd (Systems Manager - Enterprise Solution); Times of India Ltd, Bennett & Coleman (Systems Engineer); Karrox Technologies Ltd (Oracle 7.x Trainer), among others.



Sunil's technical skills/ specialties and experience span the areas of Operating Systems, Backup Solutions, Systems Availability/ Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, Data Management, Systems Security and Technology Infrastructure, ERP Project Management, ERP Program Management, ERP Deployment & rollout, ERP Implementation, Transition Management, Infrastructure projects, Managed Services, Cutover, among others.

He has successfully overseen implementation and achievement of high profile projects including: Oracle Supercluster primary and DR Site for the Kenya National Treasury; PAM - CyberArk, Checkpoint for Safaricom; Contact Center, Oracle Superclusters and support for Equity Bank Ltd; Supercluster Primary and DR Site, support and implementation for the Commercial Bank of Africa; Oracle M8 Servers and Licenses for I&M Bank in Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda and support for data center solutions; Complete Infrastructure Solution – End to End for Old Mutual Group and EMC VMAX primary and DR for KCB Bank, among others.

13) **Ibrahim Ahmed Bani, M.D., Ph.D., FFPH - Nationality: USA/ Sudan** Public Health Expert

Dr. Bani is a highly accomplished public health physician with over two decades of extensive experience in International Public Health. His impressive career encompasses various academic appointments and significant contributions to the field. Dr. Bani's teaching journey includes serving as an Assistant and Associate Professor in Community Health at King Saud University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), and as a lecturer at Jazeera Medical School, Sudan. Jazeera Medical School is internationally renowned for its innovative community-based training, where Dr. Bani played a pivotal role in shaping future healthcare professionals.



During his tenure at academic institutions, Dr. Bani actively participated in numerous national training programs sponsored by prestigious organizations such as WHO, USAID, and the national governments of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Iraq. Furthermore, he has shared his expertise as part-time faculty at the International Health Department at George Washington University, adjunct Associate Professor in the Family Medicine Department at the University of Chicago, Illinois (UIC), and visiting Professor in Community Health at the American University in Beirut. Dr. Bani was Associate Professor at the College of Medicine, Ajman University, UAE. Currently he serves as an Associate Professor (adjunct) at the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Department, Yale School of Public Health, USA, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Global Health Department, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA.

From 2018 to 2020, he served as the Associate Professor and Chairperson of Community Medicine and Health Care at the Faculty of Medicine in Al-Qunfudah, Umm Alqura University (KSA). Additionally, he held the position of Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at the Faculty of Medicine, Jazan University, KSA. Dr. Bani's dedication to academic development and accreditation also extended to his advisory role for the VP of King Saud bin Abdelaziz University for Health Sciences, KSA. He is currently a member of the Board of Trustees for Sub-Saharan College and EDaen University, Sudan. Dr. Bani is a distinguished member of the Editorial Boards of several prominent journals, including the Tropical Medicine Reports Journal, Sudan Journal of Surgical Sciences and Research, and Sudan Journal of Public Health. He has also served as a reviewer for the Saudi Medical Journal, Saudi Family and Community Medicine Journal, and the Journal of Harm Reduction. Dr. Bani's scholarly contributions extend to the publication of over 50 papers in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Bani's international experience is equally impressive, encompassing collaborations with renowned organizations such as Nutrition International, World Bank, WHO, UNICEF, USAID, WFP, and UN Humanitarian Mission in Iraq. He has worked with WHO as a consultant, evaluating regional management training programs in the Middle East and North Africa Region. Dr. Bani is also an active member of a WHO consultative group focused on developing Public Health Leadership and Networking. Furthermore, Dr. Bani has played a significant role in addressing public health challenges, particularly in the context of humanitarian crises in the region. His involvement with the Yale School of Public Health programs in Sudan, Chad, and Jordan indicates his commitment to tackling global health issues effectively.

In his most recent role, Dr. Bani served as a technical adviser and co-supervisor of 2 Sudanese PhD students in the Migrant Health Project in the North Africa Middle East (MENA) region. This collaborative effort with the University of Barcelona, Spain, exemplifies his dedication to advancing global public health, transcending geographical boundaries. Dr. Bani's extensive experience, commitment, and profound contributions make him a valuable asset to any institution or initiative focused on promoting public health and global well-being.

Dr. Bani holds a Ph.D. in Nutrition from University of Surrey, England, UK; Fellow of Faculty of Public Health (FFPH), Royal College of Physicians, U.K; Public Health Fellowship, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, USA (Public Health Policy & Management); DTM&H, Royal College of Physicians, London, UK; Certificate in Primary Health Care (Family Planning and Rural Hospital Management), Gazira University and Columbia University; and MBBS (MD), Khartoum University, Sudan.

14) **Amin Abdelrahim Mohamed Oshi: Nationality - Sudan** **Banking Systems, Financial Technology and Capacity-building Expert**

Mr. Amin is a renowned Banking Sector, Financial Technology and Training Expert with extensive work experience in public and private sectors. He is the founder and CEO of Khotawat Consultancy, an Information Technology and Management Consulting firm registered with the Organizing Council for Consultancy Firms (OCCF) – Sudan to provide consultancy services to private and public organizations in Sudan.



He possesses PG. Diploma - Business Administration from School of Management Studies, University of Khartoum, 2009; PG. Diploma - Mathematics & Computer Science from the School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Khartoum., 1992; Diploma - Petroleum Industry Studies from Institute Francais du Petrol, France, 1981; and Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Mathematics and Physics from University of Khartoum, Faculty of Science, 1975.

Since 2007 to date, Mr. Amin has been an Independent Consultant in ICT, banking Technology and Management for reputable national and international organizations. He has more than 44 years' experience, with 10 years at the Central Bank of Sudan, where he acquired good knowledge of central banking and exposure to other central banks. Mr. Amin has insightful knowledge of Banking and Payment Systems in Sudan, having handled several mission-critical payment systems projects, especially at Central Bank of Sudan (CBOS). As part of his achievements at the CBOS, he led the technology-based change at Central Bank since 1998 through supervision of the Technology Horizons Project. The Technology Horizons Project resulted in the formulation of CBOS technology roadmap, implementation of the Core Banking System for the automation of CBOS banking operations according to international best practices. Further, he oversaw the implementation of an ERP System for the automation of CBOS internal Administrative, HR, and Financial affairs, among others. Moreover, while at CBOS, he led the efforts that laid the foundation for the National Payment System in Sudan. These efforts covered all stages of strategic planning, acquisition and operationalization of National ATM & POS Switch and Electronic Check Clearing System. Mr. Amin also led the Central Bank technology-based program for the introduction of banking technology in the banking sector and represented CBOS in the Technical Evaluation Committee on the procurement of software and hardware for the COMESA Regional Payment and Settlement System (REPSS).

At the national level, Mr. Amin's notable achievements include:

- ☞ Board Member, Credit Information & Scoring Agency (CIAS), Central Bank of Sudan (www.ciasa.gov.sd), 2020 to date.
- ☞ Board Member, Electronic Banking Services (EBS) Company (www.ebs-sd.com), 2000-2005, 2020 to date.
- ☞ Chairman of the Board, Elobied Refinery Company, Ministry of Energy & Mining (www.orc.sd), Mar 2020 - Oct 2021. April 2022 to date.
- ☞ Member of the e-Government Steering Committee, Ministry of Council of Ministers Affairs, Khartoum, November 2005 – November 2006.
- ☞ Member of Jury, the Sudanese Bankers Association Banking Technology Award, 2013 -2017.
- ☞ Board Member, the Sudan Award for Excellence in Banking, Central Bank of Sudan, 2013-2017.
- ☞ Member of the Board of Trustees, El Gerish Technical Institute, Omdurman, 2004 - 2014.
- ☞ Member of the Board of Trustees & the Executive Committee, A/Kareem Mirgani Cultural Center, Omdurman, Since 2003.
- ☞ Held membership and contributed to the works of the committee that drafted ICT Sub-sector Strategic Plan 2007 – 2011 for the country, National Information Center, April 2007.
- ☞ Participated in the presentation of “Electronic Transactions Act” to the various sub sectors of the Council of Ministers, December 2006.
- ☞ Member of the Information & Training Sub-Committee, Taxation Reform Committee, Ministry of Finance, June 2006 – January 2007.

15) **Fekadu Asrat, Ph.D: Nationality – Ethiopia** **Technical & Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Expert**

Dr. Fekadu is a multi-skilled Technical & Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Expert as well as Technology & Innovation Specialist with over 26 years of experience in providing technical assistance to governments, private institutions as well as reputable national and international organizations. He holds a Ph.D in Technology Management & Innovation from Cebu Technological University in the Philippines (2022), M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst, Dresden in Germany (1994) and B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Ingenieurschule für Maschinenbau Breitenbrunn in Germany (1983).



Since August 2019 to date, Dr. Fekadu has discharged various assignments in support of employment creation through skills development and formulation of policies & strategies, including drafting 2020 – 2025 plan of action; developing Ethiopia's education and training roadmap implementation process; GIZ STEP technical committee discussion/ facilitation on the roadmap for TVET; providing consultancy to the Federal TVET Agency in planning on long and short-term projects specific to technology development, among others. As a TVET Freelance Consultant, he has participated in identifying and selecting future Ethiopian Technology Development trends in line with the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP); advising the Federal TVET Agency on emerging technologies for Manufacturing, Agriculture and Health sectors; conducting training to TVET trainers, industry Technicians/ Practitioners, TVET Leaders and Managers Nationwide in Technology Development; providing support as Senior Advisor on Engineering Capacity Building Program – GIZ/ ECPB, TVET, Ministry of Education, among others.

Dr. Fekadu's notable professional accomplishments include:

- ☞ Lead Member of a Taskforce to Develop the Ethiopian TVET Financing Strategy in Addis Ababa in June 2022; Panelist on the establishment of Ethiopian Education and Training Authority in Addis Ababa in January 2021;
- ☞ Lead Consultant of an ad hoc experts' team in the development of Teaching, Training and Learning Materials for Refugees' skills training, GIZ STEP Qualifications and Employment Perspectives for Refugees and Host Communities in Ethiopia Programme (QEP), November 2018;
- ☞ Study tour Team Leader of Professors and Teachers of the Federal TVET Institute to Aachen University Germany Technology Transfer and Project management, April 2018;
- ☞ Consultant for the Government of Ethiopia, Ministry of Education, Federal TVET Agency, July 2014; Coordinator & Team Member, National Technology Transfer Strategy Study Team, 2008;
- ☞ 1st "Ethiopian Skills Competition Organizer & Implementer" (November 2007);
- ☞ Consultant for the Government of Sudan – Red Sea State Master Plan, Port Sudan, March 2007; Consultant for the Government of Sudan – Project Proposal "TVET Centre of Competence Establishment for Ex-combatant", Khartoum, February 2007; GTZ Team Member & Coordinator of "High Level TVET Experts to Thailand & the Philippines" - 2000;
- ☞ MoE Project Coordinator, non-formal training to street children & disadvantaged youth in Addis - 2000; GTZ Team Member & Translator of "High Level Delegation to Germany" - 1999; GTZ, Chief Coordinator, "Technical Assistance to 25 Skill Development Centers in Ethiopia" - March 1999; GTZ, SES Team Coordinator, "Technical Cooperation, Ex-combatant's Skill Development Assessment in 12 towns of Ethiopia" - 1998;
- ☞ GTZ, SES Chief Coordinator, "Training of Trainers" in Nazareth Ethiopia - 1997; GTZ, Member of a "Fact Finding Mission in Skill Development in Ethiopia", 1996, GTZ, Team leader in field assessment on "Soft Tourism Potential in Ethiopia", 1996, Workshop Organizer of "Appropriate Technology" - IGADD 1996;
- ☞ Team leader of Ethiopian Trainees - India / Hyderabad 1989; Team leader of a high degree Engineering staff in Turin Italy 1987.

Moreover, Dr. Fekadu has conducted 30 studies and submitted/ published reports/ and papers on TVET and related studies.

16) Omer Abdalla M. Egemi, Ph. D - Nationality: Sudan
Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Expert

Dr. Egemi is a Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Expert/ Consultant. He is also a Professor in the Faculty of Geography and Environmental Sciences at the University of Khartoum since 2007 to date. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Ecology of subsistence Crisis from the University of Bergen, Norway (1994); M.A. in Natural Resource Management from the University of Khartoum (1988).



He has extensive work and consulting experience including serving as advisor to various institutions on all aspects within the natural resources and conflict prevention thematic area including disaster reduction and land access rights. He has previously contributed to overall UNDP policy in Sudan with focus on land tenure, pastoralism and resource-based conflicts. Further, he has been the Team Lead for the natural resources and conflict prevention programme team in strategic planning and identification of new programme areas in consistency with UNDAF/ CPD and in close collaboration with the programme staff in other UN Agencies, UNDP HQs staff, government officials, multi-lateral and bi-lateral donors and civil the society. In this regard, he has been instrumental in providing quality policy advice services to the government and facilitation of knowledge building and management, as well as monitor, evaluate, measure the impact and analyze the programme environment for timely readjustments. Such programmatic engagements have brought him in close contact with GEF projects in Sudan and East Africa, UNDP Dry lands development Centre, Sudan IPRS, JAM, Darfur JAM (track 1 & 2), UNWPs, MDGs, Sudan Strategic Planning (national and state levels), UNDG-Sudan, CCA, and UNDAF (2009-2012) and also with various actors on land issues nationally, regionally and globally.

Dr Egemi has also previously served as Project Manager for Reduction of Resource Based Conflict (Darfur, Sobat Basin and Kordofan), UNDP. His responsibilities included management of all project aspects; working with pastoralists and farming structures in Sudan, Knowledge production as an integral part of his responsibilities, supervising UNDP studies on Roots of Conflict in Sudan, Pastoral land Tenure in Sudan, Resource Conflict in Sobat basin of south Sudan, Food Security and developmental options in East Sudan as well as Sudan's Experience in the sedentarization of Nomads.

17) Dalmas J. Menya - Nationality: Kenya
Financial Inclusion and Business Management Expert

Mr. Menya is a Financial Inclusion guru, Corporate Entrepreneur and Project/ Business Management Specialist with solid expertise and rich experience in enterprise development, strategic management, organizational transformation and development consulting. He is a shareholder and Board member in PACT Uganda, South Sudan and Rwanda.



He holds Master of Business Administration (MBA) qualification from Jomo Kenyatta University (JKUAT), Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences from Kenyatta University (KU) as well as a host of management, payments systems and technology certifications from the African Virtual University (AVU), Microsoft Corporation and the Cooperative University. Further, he holds certification in microfinance from the World Bank Institute (WBI). Additionally, he is a certified M&E Specialist from the International Training Centre of the ILO (Turin, Italy). Moreover, Dalmas is a Certified Data Management Professional from the Data Management Institute (DMI, USA).

He has over 15 years of experience at the helm of corporate entrepreneurship and empowering leadership as CEO & COO of multinational and national corporations spanning the areas of microfinance, commercial banking, cooperatives, financial technology and community empowerment initiatives. Dalmas' key achievements include managing successful digital financial services (DFS) projects as well as business startups and turnarounds/ growth based on clearly defined profitable strategies, digitization, organizational and governance structures, empowered management teams as well as policy frameworks.

On the consulting front, Dalmas has expertise and experience of over 15 years of development consulting and project management in initiatives funded/ supported by the World Bank (WB), Net1/ Aplitec, Swedish Cooperative Agency, International Finance Corporation (IFC), United Nations Development Program

(UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Mastercard Foundation (MCF) and other partnerships in Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa and Kenya.

18) Hassan Nagila – Nationality: USA/ Sudan Cloud Engineer and Technology Infrastructure Expert

Mr. Nagila is a Senior Cloud Engineer with expertise and extensive experience in comprehensive design and implementation of Data centers, network infrastructure, security & core IT projects. He has previous work and consulting experience as Network Engineer with notable global blue chip technology companies including Lumos Networks, Morton Consulting -VA, GIT Services - VA, SUDASAT JV, among others. He is currently serving as Senior Cloud Engineer with Allianz Technology, with responsibility for cloud operation and engineering, designing/deploying and operating the public cloud for Allianz pillars/Customers in the Americas and Canada (Allianz Technology is the global IT service provider for Allianz and delivers IT solutions that drive the digitalization of the Allianz Group. With more than 10,000 employees, Allianz Technology has a presence in 55 countries and works together with other Allianz Group entities in leading IT for the worldwide digitalization of Allianz Group.



His notable achievements include:

- ☞ Ensuring standards and directional adherence across the various technical domains.
- ☞ Developing and maintaining technology roadmaps within specific domains. Apply deep knowledge of specific domains and associated business contexts.
- ☞ Providing cross-project architectural governance that identifies relevant strategy, policy, and adherence roadmaps.
- ☞ Providing strategic consultation specific to innovation, concept development, emerging technology, and best practices.
- ☞ Partnerships with IT engineers to develop solutions and design standards. Model and assess the domains of baseline architecture and associated services.
- ☞ Working with internal and external technology experts to ascertain system functional capacity, constraints, and support lifecycles.
- ☞ Evaluating and recommending technology investments are optimized.

19) Melaku Kebede – Nationality: Ethiopia Banking and Payment Systems Expert

Mr. Kebede is a seasoned Banker, Banking Technology and Payment Systems Expert with extensive national (Ethiopia), regional and international experience. Mr. Kebede holds Master of Science (M.Sc.) Degree in Information Science from Addis Ababa University and a Bachelor's degree in Physics. He also possesses professional certification and training in the following areas:



- ☞ Certified with Islamic Finance from CIMA, London;
- ☞ Certificate of Leading Global Business from Harvard Business School, Boston, Massachusetts
- ☞ Certificate with Introduction to Global Securities and Investment from CISI, London;
- ☞ Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ Oracle 9i Database (DBA) at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ Introduction to Linux, Solaris 9i Advanced Administration, Unix essentials at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ IT Audit at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ Flexcube CORE Banking Application Software Implementation Training in Bangalore (India) (two times on ver 10.5 in 2010 and on ver 12.0 in 2013);
- ☞ ISO 27001: Implementation Boot Camp at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ Accounting and Auditing, for 8 months by the Office of Auditor General in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia);
- ☞ Management, Project designing and Evaluation, for 3 months by Regional Government of Amhara (Bahir Dar);

☞ Advanced Retail Banking & Branch Profitability Excellence 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

He served as the Chief Executive Officer until 2024, of Hibret Bank, one of the top 5 banks in Ethiopia providing banking services including e-banking, loan, personal and business accounts, and import-export services. Prior to that, he was Senior DCEO – Strategy & Technology of Hibret, V/President – Systems & E-Banking, United Bank S.C., V/President – Technology, Zemen Bank S.C., Manager, IT Department of United Bank S.C., He has over 17 years of experience in banking and successful execution of key projects including:

- ☞ Deployment of Flexcube Ver 12.0.1 at Debub Global Bank S.C;
- ☞ Deployment of Flexcube Ver 11.1 at Abay Bank S.C;
- ☞ Assessment of MIS system of Agriculture Bank of Sudan (Khartoum);
- ☞ Consultant to Oromia Saving & Credit MFI on automating business operation;
- ☞ Team Leader in a study on establishing National Switch in Ethiopia (in 2010);
- ☞ Developing Financial National Cyber Security Strategy Framework for Ethiopia.

20) **Abdelmajid Khojali Mohamed Ahmed Mohamed - Nationality: Sudan** **Livelihood and Financial Inclusion Expert**

Mr. Abdelmajid is a veteran livelihood expert and accomplished financial inclusion specialist with wide-ranging professional and consulting experience with different national and international governmental and nongovernmental organizations. He holds M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Reading – United Kingdom -1984, B.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Khartoum -1975 and a host of professional certifications in Business Planning and Financial Modelling, Monitoring for Impact Assessment, Rapid Market Appraisal for Micro and Small Scale Enterprises, among others.



Abdelmajid has handled several rural development assignments for national and international organizations spanning the areas of formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of cost effective economically, environmentally and socially feasible livelihoods, food security, and comprehensive development interventions (including livestock, farming, water, health care, rural marketing, financial services etc.) with investment and appropriate technology packages that aim at improving productivity and incomes for the wellbeing of the target communities. As a livelihood expert, he has executed work and consulting assignments involving evaluation of recovery, rehabilitation and development programmes, agricultural markets and commodity research, appraisal and resource inventory studies, capacity assessment and development, preparation of projects and annual assessment and completion reports as well as assessment of non-state actors with a focus on trade unions, business associations, cooperatives, rural community institutions, and community-based microfinance institutions with special focus on developing their performance and capacities to service their members in projects supported by UNDP, IRADAH, JICA, FAO, IFAD, UNOPS, AGFUND, Oxfam UKCARE International and Agricultural Bank of Sudan, among others.

With regard to microfinance/ financial inclusion and income generation, Abdelmajid executed assignments involving:

- (i) planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of cost-effective income generation and small-scale enterprise and livelihoods programmes in rural and urban set ups utilizing a sub-sector approach/value chain analysis to micro and small-scale enterprise development;
- (ii) business planning and financial modelling for microfinance institutions and market research for microfinance;
- (iii) performance review of Islamic and traditional microfinance institutions and programmes; (iv) design of microfinance management systems for microfinance institutions and community based managed microfinance societies, following the Islamic and traditional systems, and delivery of related trainings;
- (iv) design of lending procedures manuals for Islamic and traditional microfinance institutions covering group and individual lending, loan products, and lending procedures sensitive to credit risk and delinquency management following best microfinance practice standards; (vi) assessment of community-based microfinance institutions; and
- (v) capacity development for financial intermediators, among others.

21) **Habtu Assefa, Ph.D - Nationality: Ethiopia** Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Expert

Dr. Habtu is an agriculture and natural resource management expert with more than 35 years of experience. He holds a Ph.D. in Agriculture and Environmental Sciences from Wageningen Agricultural University – Wageningen in the Netherlands; M.Sc. in Plant Pathology and Minor Plant Breeding from University of Florida in Gainesville – USA; and B.Sc. in Agriculture, first, second and third year (1970-74), Alemaya University of Agriculture, formerly, College of Agriculture, Addis Ababa University, Alemaya, Ethiopia, then two years of national service, and the fourth year (1976/77) in the University of Florida, degree obtained with high honor.



He has rich experience in consulting, project management, research, development and professional work with reputable national and international organizations. He has previously worked as deputy country director and project coordinator in the Sasakawa Africa Association - SG2000 Ethiopia. During this tenure, he coordinated a project called 'strengthening Agriculture Extension Delivery in Ethiopia' and Digital Green Scale-up project. As deputy country director he was also responsible in supervising several donor support projects. Prior to that, he engaged in the Sida-Amhara Rural Development Programme, as coordinator and advisor in participatory on-farm research and agricultural and natural resource management. Through research and professional work, he has developed extensive experience and capacity in preparing research strategic plans, methodology for on-farm research and integrated watershed development and monitoring and evaluation research and development projects. He has profound understanding of participatory methodologies, on-farm research, and integrated watershed management and of problem identification/needs assessments with farmers and extension staff. As coordinator of these projects, he participated in the supervision of the midterm and final evaluation of the same.

Dr. Habtu has also served in other organizations/ capacities involving work and consulting assignments. These include SARDP/ARARI - Bahir Dar in Ethiopia, Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization in Nazareth – Ethiopia, African Highlands Initiative – ICRAF, among others.

22) **Prof. Abdelrahman Khidir Osman Abdelrahman: Nationality – Sudan** Dry lands Farming and Climate Change Expert

Prof. Khidir is a renowned Professor of Agronomy (Dry lands Farming and Climate Change Expert). He is a Research Professor from the Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC-Sudan) -1 998 and holder of M.Sc. degree in Crop Science from North Carolina State University in USA (1982). Further, he holds a B.Sc and M.Sc. in Agriculture from the Academy of Agricultural Science in Sofia, Bulgaria (1976).

He has extensive work and consulting experience of over 40 years and has served in the following capacities:



- ☞ Professor of Agronomy (ARC, Water Harvesting Research Institute, Soba, Khartoum): 2/2010-2017;
- ☞ Coordinator of Climate Change Adaptive Production Technologies Project (Drylands Coordination Group "DCG" project supported by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation "NORAD"): 6/2010-2014;
- ☞ Coordinator of Eco-farm Research Project (DCG project supported by NORAD): 6/2007-2/2010;
- ☞ Guest researcher at Noragric - Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Os, Norway: 3-6,2010;
- ☞ Associate, Assistant and Professor of Agronomy (ARC, El Obeid Research Station): 5/1983-2/2010;
- ☞ Research Scientist, Agronomy Section (ARC, Gezira Research Station): 7/1982-5/1983;
- ☞ Assistant Research Scientist, Agronomy Section, ARC, Gezira Research Station: (July 1976 to December 1979);
- ☞ University teaching, research supervision and training experience: 1996-2007;
- ☞ Professional international conferences and workshops attended (1980-2014).

Further to the above, Prof. Khidir has considerable research and project management experience including: Director of the Dry Lands Research Center (April 2006- April 2009); Drylands Coordination Group (DCG) Board Chairperson (January 2011- till present); Coordinator of Climate Change Adaptive Production

Technologies Project (June, 2010–2014); Coordinator of Eco-farm Research Project (June, 2007–2010); Director of El Obeid Research Station (January 1995 -June 1999);Coordinator of Oilseed Crops Development Project (April 1991 – July 1996); National Coordinator for Oilseed Crops (April 1993 - December 1995).

Moreover, Prof. Khidir has extensive consulting experience including:

- ☞ Evaluation of Masra plough performance in North Kordofan. Special assignment for the West Islamic Bank (Sudan) and ENnhoud Credit and Cooperative Project (ENCCP-IFAD), Jan 1994;
- ☞ Evaluation of Agricultural Activities of the Regional Finance and Planning Project (RFPP) in ENnhoud (Kodofan) and assessment of future needs CARE, SUDAN, July 1988; Seed Procurement Assignment, FAO, Sudan, May 1995;
- ☞ On-Farm Demonstration of Proven Technologies - Gubeish Agricultural Credit and Extension Project (GACEP) - CARE Sudan, April 1995;
- ☞ Agricultural Potential Assessment, Wau Agricultural Rehabilitation Scheme, UNDP, Feb. 1996; Agricultural Potential Assessment, Juba Agricultural Rehabilitation Scheme, UNDP, March 1997;
- ☞ Diagnostic Survey, South and West Kordofan Agricultural Development Project, Kadugli, June 1998;
- ☞ Environmental Impact of Ennuhoud Cooperative Credit Project (IFAD), July 1998;
- ☞ Agro-biodiversity in Kordofan, National Bio-diversity Action Plan (UNDP/GEF/ HCENR), July 1999; Production of organic hibiscus (roselle) flower cups and senna pods. Elie Commercial Company Ltd., Sudan, June-Dec. 2003;
- ☞ Kordofan Food Security Project, CARE International, Technical Advisor, 2002–2004; Development of a plan for initiating dryland eco-farm project in Sudan. Drylands Coordination Group, Norway, 2006;
- ☞ Kordofan Livelihood Enhancement Project, CARE International, Technical Advisor, 2006; Development of a Plan for Initiating Dryland Eco-farm Project in Sudan. Norwegian Drylands Coordination Group. July-August 2006;
- ☞ Evaluation of Abu-Habil Agricultural Project (current situation and future outlook), Ministry of Agriculture, North Kordofan State. January 2007; Greater Kordofan Diagnostic Survey, WESTERN SUDAN NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (WSRMP), May, 2007;
- ☞ Development of a Plan for Establishment of Genena (West Darfur) Agricultural Research Station, ARC, Oct., 2007; Evaluation of the EC funded Livelihoods Enhancement Project (LEP) for Rural Communities in North Kordofan State, CARE International, 2008;
- ☞ South Kordofan State, Agricultural Investment Plan, Ministry of Investment and Planning, South Kordofan State, 2008; Extension Staff Training on: Improved Production Technology in Drylands Agricultural Development. Ministry of Agriculture, Nyala, South Darfur, Sudan, 4-8, June 2011;
- ☞ Training on: Up-scaling of eco-farm improved production technologies for farmers and extension staff of North and South Kordofan States, El-Obeid, 20-22, June 2011;
- ☞ Vulnerability and Potential Adaptation Options of Agricultural Sector to Climate Change in Sudan. Assignment for HCENR (Sudan), 2012;
- ☞ Ecological Zonation of the Butana Region, Butana Integrated Rural Development Project (BIRDP), August 2012; Seed Development Project (IFAD).Start-up Workshop facilitation, 7- 8 May 2012;
- ☞ Technology Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change. Assignment for HCENR, Supported by UNDP, GEF, UNEP, enda, (Sudan), 2013;
- ☞ Karkde crop development and promotion in North Darfur. Assignment for Elie Group, UNDP and Voluntary Network for Helping Rural People, April, 2013;
- ☞ Priority research gaps and key research issues to support climate change adaptation in Sudan Agricultural Sector. Assignment for HCENR (Sudan), 2013;
- ☞ Baseline Survey: Food Security and Livelihoods Project in Krenik and Kulbus Localities. World Relief/Global Relief Alliance. West Darfur Program. Funded by: European Union, Implemented by: World Relief. May, 2013;
- ☞ Climate risk finance for sustainable and climate resilient rain fed farming and pastoral systems in Sudan. UNDP, GEF, Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources, Sudan. Member in the project document preparation team, July-Sep, 2013;
- ☞ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Sudan. (HCENR-UNDP-MIC). Strategy and action plan document preparation, Nov-Dec, 2013;
- ☞ Enhancing crop productivity through improving agricultural services and empowering farmers in North Kordofan State. Mamoun Beheiry Centre for Economic and Social Studies and Research in Africa (www.mabececentre.net). January, 2014;
- ☞ Livelihood Strengthening Project in Blue Nile State (Concept note for financed EU Project), ADRA, Sudan, March, 2014; National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP) for Rain-fed Sector, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Sudan, Jan-March, 2015;

- ☞ Development of knowledge products and documentations of the successes achieved under the NAPA implementation supported by the LDCF, UNDP-HCENR, March, 2015; Mid-Term Evaluation, Taadoud: Transition to Development: Building the resilience of local communities and households' ability to cope with shocks and stresses in Darfur, Implemented by Catholic Relief Services and funded by UKAID, October, 2015;
- ☞ Centre Commissioned External Review of Projects covering the Savanna Cereal - Legumes Systems, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria, and October, 1997;
- ☞ Mid Term Review Mission (MTR) of the IFAD Seed Development Programme (SDP), Sudan, 13 to 29 October 2014; Terminal Evaluation of the Project;
- ☞ Implementing NAPA Priority Interventions to Build Resilience in the Agriculture and Water Sectors to the Adverse Impacts of Climate Change in Sudan, Sudan, UNDP-HCENR, and Feb - March, 2015;
- ☞ Value Chains Studies for Sorghum, Millet, Ground Nuts, and Sesame (MTR). IFAD Seed Development Programme (SDP), Sudan, March-May, 2015;
- ☞ LB NUTS Promotion of Groundnut and Development of Relationship with the Relevant Peanut Market Players in Sudan, LB NUTS (international expert in nuts and dried fruits with headquarters in Switzerland), August, 2015;
- ☞ Mid Term Evaluation for Taadoud Project (Increased household resilience to shocks and stresses) in Darfur Region, Catholic Relief Services and PDS, June – August 2015;
- ☞ Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan. GEF Project concept note and prefeasibility study, Sudan, UNDP-HCENR, March-April, 2016; Climate Risk Finance for Sustainable and Climate Resilient Rain-fed Farming and Pastoral Systems Project “CRFP”, UNDP-HCENR: Improving Smallholder Farmers and Pastoral Communities Access to Agricultural Inputs and Services, July, 2016;
- ☞ Climate Risk Finance for Sustainable and Climate Resilient Rain-fed Farming and Pastoral Systems Project “CRFP”, UNDP-HCENR: Scaling-out of Climate-smart Extension Packages to Reduce Food Insecurity and Climatic Risks in CRFP Target States, July, 2016; Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan. GEF Project document and feasibility study. Sudan, UNDP, Sep, 2016;
- ☞ Implementation Plan for Improving Community Resilience in the Face of Conflicts and Environmental Shocks in Millit and Um-Kaddada Localities in North Darfur State. AECOM, USAID, Feb-June, 2017;
- ☞ Enhancing Capacity for Women in Agriculture: Supporting Activities of Demonstrations plots/ field, Farmers' School and Seed Multiplication Farms Run by the Agriculture Research Corporation in Darfur States - PDS-Mbehari Centre for Socio-economic Studies, Agust, 2017;
- ☞ Enhancing Capacity for Women in Agriculture: Supporting Activities of Demonstrations plots/ field, Farmers' School and Seed Multiplication Farms Run by the Agriculture Research Corporation In South Kordofan, West Kordofan and Blue Nile States. PDS-Mbehari Centre for Socio-economic Studies, February, 2018;
- ☞ Implementation Plan for Improving Community Resilience in the Face of Conflicts and Environmental Shocks in Millit and Um-Kaddada Localities in North Darfur State (extension stage). AECOM, USAID, April-September, 2018;
- ☞ Sustainable Livelihoods for Displaced and Vulnerable Communities in Eastern Sudan Project - SLDP, "Natural Resources Management with special focus on environmental issues in the targeted areas. State and Peacebuilding Fund and administered by the WB - PDS, eastern Sudan, Kassala state, April, 2018; Sudan's Third National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Climate Change Impact on Crops and Livestock and Adaptation Options). UNDP-HCENR, March-October, 2018; IFAD Livestock Marketing and Resilience Programme: Baseline Survey team member, September 2019; Proposal: Establishment of IGAD center for dry area development in Sudan(ICDAD), IGAD, Khartoum (IDRISI), October, 2019;
- ☞ Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan. Updating GEF Project document and feasibility study. Sudan, UNDP, October, 2019;
- ☞ Climate Risk Finance for Sustainable and Climate Resilient Rain-fed Farming and Pastoral Systems Project “CRFP”, UNDP-HCENR: Development of manual on climate change adaptation technologies transfer and dissemination, November, 2019;
- ☞ Sudan – Land, climate, energy, agriculture and development: A study in the Sudano-Sahel Initiative for Regional Development, Jobs, and Food Security, Center for Development Research, University of Bonn, supervised by Sudan Environment and Conservation Society, December, 2020;
- ☞ Conflict Analysis for GCF-funded project FP139 entitled Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan, January 2021;
- ☞ Baseline Assessment Report for Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain-fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan (PIMS #: 5813, GCF ID: FP139), March, 2021

23) **Eric Nana Kwabena Agyei– Nationality: Ghana** **Agricultural Technology & Payment Systems Expert**

Mr. Eric Nana is a certified IT specialist with more than 10 years of continuous professional experience in information systems. He is the founder, Managing Director and Head of Tech Design at MobiPay AgroSys Limited, an Africa-based international technology solutions company registered in Uganda, aiming at improving people's lives through innovative solutions to drive Agriculture, financial services and boost trade in Africa.



Eric has steered MobiPay since 2016 into a leading high-tech solutions and innovations provider for agriculture value chain actors feeding the world and driving economic inclusion. He is the principal architect of a cloud-based technology platform - AgroBase, an innovation that is designed to create farmer's visibility, linkages of small-scale farmers to other value chain players and offer possibilities that were previously unavailable in the agricultural sector. Through MobiPay, Eric has spearheaded data-driven solutions to capture farmers' data including their biodata, farm status, production data and historical data as well as offering secure electronic payments and settlement transactions for various clients and financial institutions. Moreover, Eric has developed agro Fin-Technology solutions under MobiPay for and in partnership with various international and local organizations including the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), USAID Feed the Future, International Labour Organization, Youth Leadership in Agriculture Uganda (FTF-YLA), The Palladium Group (NU-TEC MD), TechnoServe, EcoBank Uganda, Mercy Corps Uganda, AgroWays Limited, MTN Uganda Airtel Uganda, Uganda Telecom and Ngetta Tropical Holdings (NTH) in Uganda.

He is also experienced in program design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Additionally, he has extensive experience in implementing projects in digital financial service/ solutions. He has had the opportunity to lead grant and contracts projects with the palladium Group (U), USAID FTF Youth Leadership for Agriculture, USAID FTF producer Organization Activities, United Nations Capital Development Fund MM4P.

Eric holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science from Kampala International University, Diploma in IT in Business and Management from Cambridge International Collage (UK) and various certifications in IT systems development and infrastructure.

24) **Karamallah Ali Abdelrahman, Ph.D – Nationality: Sudan** **Statistician and Data Scientist**

Dr. Karamallah is a reputable, qualified and highly experienced statistician. He holds a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Applied Statistics, Southampton University (UK) and is a member of the Institute of Statisticians (UK). He has a B.Sc. Mathematics from Khartoum University.



He has extensive experience in statistics and serves as Associate Professor of Statistics, University of Medical Sciences and Technology (UMST). He has previously served as Director General of Central Bureau of Statistics in Sudan, Lecturer and researcher in statistics at the Institute of Public Administration Riyadh - Saudi Arabia for about 20 years, Researcher and Director of Center of Economic Information, Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia as well as Researcher and Lecturer at the Royal College of Jubail Industrial Town - Jubail, Saudi Arabia.

He is widely published and has made unique contributions as President of African Statisticians 2018/2019. He has participated in many statistical Programmes in most African countries and three times in USA.

25) **Tefera Tesfaye: Nationality – Ethiopia** **Banking and Microfinance Expert**

Mr. Tefera is an experienced banker and microfinance expert. He has over 16 years of experience in Microfinance, with his most recent experience being with Siinqee Bank as Director of Programs and Stakeholder Relations. Prior to that, he served the bank at different capacities including Projects Coordinator, Advisor to the President, Deputy Executive Managing Director, Director of Credit Supply and Delivery District, Director of Risk and Compliance Management, Head of Human Resource Management and Development, among others.



Tefera holds a Post Graduate Diploma Certificate in International Business Operation (IBO) from Indira Ghandi Open University (IGNOU), 2007; Degree in Agricultural Economics from Alemeya University (1984) and Diploma in Business Management from Jimma University (Extension Program), 1992. His other notable qualifications include:

- ☞ Certified Digital Financial Services Practitioner in 26 January, 2023
- ☞ Has completed The Fletcher School and Digital Frontiers Institute Course in Digital Money in December 2017
- ☞ Fulfilled the requirements for certification of management consultants and obtained Professional Competence Certificate in Aug 31, 2011 from Ethiopian Management Institute
- ☞ Completed five days training on saving promotion from Nov 28 to Dec 02, 2011 (Sponsored by Micro Lead and AEMFI)
- ☞ Completed six days training on the Role of PSNP in Break-Up Dependency from August 5 to 11, 2010 (Sponsored by Irish Aid)
- ☞ Completed a course on Training of Trainers on Financial Education from July 26-28, 2010 – PSNP PLUS: Linking Poor Households to Micro Finance and Markets (Organized by CARE Ethiopia)
- ☞ Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI) for five days at Adama German Hotel Sponsored by USAID
- ☞ International Leadership from Dec 20/08 to 24/08 i.e. for 5 days at International Leadership Institute.

26) **Ilham Osman Ibrahim – Nationality: Sudan** **Gender, Social Inclusion and Capacity Development Expert**

Ms Ilham Osman Ibrahim is a Gender Expert and Capacity Development/Project Management Specialist with over 20 years of work in research, community development, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning, human resources management with UN agencies and NGOs. She holds M.SC. in Peace and Development from University of Juba; B.Sc. in Science from the University of Khartoum; and a Higher Diploma in Development Planning from the University of Khartoum



Ms Ilham has extensive experience in designing and successfully delivering capacity building and strategic consulting assignments on program development, gender mainstreaming, with understanding of displacement phenomenon, to various clients and territories across Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Rwanda, Zanzibar, South Africa, South Sudan, and Uganda), Arab/ MENA (Egypt, Mauritania, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Europe: Italy, UK), Europe (Italy, UK), Latin America (Brazil) and Asia (India). She is a distinguished member of notable development organization including Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (Co-founder), African Women Network for Peace: (Chairperson), TREAT Centre for Sustainable Development (Co-founder), Emerge Leaders Consultancy and Training PLC (Training Contractor), among others.

Her notable achievements include:

- ☞ Executive Director Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (SORD) – 2015 to date.
- ☞ Programs Director Sudanese Organization for Research and Development (SORD) – 2012 – 2014.

- ☞ Area Program Manager. ACORD North Sudan with responsibilities for representing ACORD and its interests in its dealings with the government, international and local organizations, networks and medias in Sudan (2010-2011).
- ☞ ACORD Khartoum Program Manager and ACORD Sudan HIVAIDS Thematic Leader (2003 – 2010)
- ☞ Associate training facilitator and researchers with Environment and development Services, Gender Center for Research and Training, Partners in Development and Maarif for Consultancy and Training.
- ☞ Credit Specialist: Urban Upgrading and Poverty Alleviation Project- UNDP.

27) **Osman Mohammed Babikir, Ph.D: Nationality – Sudan** **Development Economist & Food Systems Expert**

Dr. Osman is an accomplished development expert with more than 20 years of professional experience in diverse engagements including: development economics, rural development, poverty reduction, livestock and crop economics, food security analysis, energy economics, policy analysis, livelihood analysis, rural development and marketing gained through work and consulting assignments in Universities, United Nations Agencies, World Bank projects in Sudan, and regional intergovernmental organizations. Further, he has extensive consultancy and research experience in Development Work including, project analysis and evaluation, development impact, knowledge generation and dissemination, capacity development and change management, projects/programmes coordination, management, design and implementation, policy formulation, alignment and mainstreaming issues with respect to national, regional, continental and global nature including leading and participating in emerging development agenda, MDGs and recently SDGs and agenda 2063. He leads regional initiatives on various issues including designing and implementation of different programmes on food security, regional integration, statistics and GDP calculations and resilience analysis, evidence-driven policy support, livestock, dryland farming, rural development and complimentary livelihood resources, value chains and financial inclusion among others.



Dr. Osman is an author of Economic Analysis of the Rural Labour Markets in Sudan (Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany), as well as contributing author to the UNEP report on Alternative Domestic Energy Options for Darfur, IDS study on Changing Livelihoods in Darfur, Tufts and UNEP study on Standing Wealth: Pastoralist Livestock Production and Local Livelihoods in Sudan, Mapping and Capacity Assessment of Civil Society Organizations in Darfur, UNDP, among others.

Dr. Osman holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics (2007) from the University of Khartoum, and Giessen University, Germany; M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics (1999) from the University of Khartoum; and B.Sc. in Agriculture (1994) from the University of Khartoum.

Some of the recent and key engagements by Dr. Osman include:

- ☞ Head of Social Economics, Policy & Marketing for IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (Dec, 2013 to date);
- ☞ Livelihoods & Marketing Expert, Sudan for the World Bank project, Sudan (Feb, 2013 to Nov. 2013);
- ☞ Sudan Peacebuilding & Development Project Operations Manager for World Bank project (June, 2011 to Jan. 2013);
- ☞ Dean, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies at the University of Zalingei, Sudan (2007 – 2011): Adil is fluent in Native Arabic (Moroccan, Egyptian, Standard), French and English.

Dr. Osman's notable accomplishments include:

- ☞ Led, coordinated and contributed to boosting regional agenda of economic integration.
- ☞ Led, coordinated and contributed to generation of evidence in support of policy shift.
- ☞ Led and contributed to equitable access of socioeconomic data to inform policy.
- ☞ Led, coordinated and contributed to introduction of advocacy tools in support of pastoralism.
- ☞ Led, coordinated and implemented conflict sensitive planning through livelihood lens.
- ☞ Led, and contributed to policy support to IGAD member states.
- ☞ Exposed and led some initiatives in support of Artisanal Mining and energy sector.
- ☞ Led and contributed in knowledge generation, sharing and documentation of best practices.
- ☞ Published on economic policy and various issues of development economics.

28) Ayman Abbas Mohamed Zein Idris, Ph.D: Nationality – Sudan

Business Analyst and Energy Expert

Dr. Ayman is a Senior Business Analyst and Oil & Gas Expert and a Board member in PACT Consultancy - Sudan. He holds Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) from the University of Khartoum (2020), MBA (Master of Business Administration) – 2020 and Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering from the University of Khartoum (1999).



He has extensive experience in senior executive and technical positions with prominent corporations especially in the oil industry, including: 2B Operating Company (2BOPCO) as General Manager – Business; Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Company (GNPOC) progressively as Systems Administrator, Mechanical Engineer and later as Senior Maintenance Manager, and Technical Assistant at UBG International Corp, among others. In his senior, strategic and focal position in these corporations over different times, he played the pivotal role of overseeing operations, planning and scheduling maintenance through the ERP, capacity planning and development, and ensuring business continuity, among other critical assignments.

☞ As General Manager for Business at 2B Operating Company (2BOPCO), Dr. Ayman successfully accomplished the following:

- Member of the Senior Management team responsible for overall administration/management of the Exploration and Production (E&P) Division, ensuring the smooth functioning of planning, budget development, and project activities.
- Advised the General Manager, Administration on HR, Legal, Accounting, Training, Budget, Cost Control, HSE, Security matters, etc.
- Coordinated the collection, analysis and compilation of all the Division's reports to the Board, Partners and Government.
- Handled the separation and handover of 3 companies effectively as a focal person for the administration and services division for PETOC in 2014, 2B OPCO in 2017 and GNPOC in 2019.

☞ In his progressive roles as Systems Administrator, Mechanical Engineer and later as Senior Maintenance Manager at Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Company (GNPOC), he achieved the following:

- Provided/ oversaw maintenance planning for upstream Production Facility consisting of 5 Field Production Facilities i.e. 1 Central Processing Facility and 3 power plants, as well as equipment including well head pumps, various type and capacity of crude oil booster pumps, air compressors, Separators, Free Water Knock Out drums, Electrostatic Treaters, Vessels, Tanks, pipelines, 8x 3.8MW Rolls Royce engines, 5 x 1.8MW MAN B&W Diesel engines, CAT Engines and various capacity Perkins portable Generators.
- Discharged administration, planning and coordination of all preventive maintenance and major activities in the field utilizing the ERP (Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning; assisting the Maintenance Superintendent with the administration of the section; and collecting/ compiling reports from front-line supervisors and produce field maintenance activity report on a weekly and monthly basis.
- Ensured that data gathering and entering into the ERP was accurate, updated, complete and reliable; planning and scheduling equipment maintenance activities through ERP; generating planned preventive maintenance work orders for execution by front-line personnel; planning short and long term preventive maintenance activities and distribute the work for execution for the Maintenance Section; planning, preparing and conducting classroom and hands-on training programs for the computerized MMS for all front-line personnel; reviewing and analyzing all maintenance activities and providing performance review based on analysis of the status of activities; supporting (directly) more than 200 operations and maintenance personnel;
- Acted as the focal person for planning and implementing the DNV Maintenance Optimization project in addition to update the data in ERP system Materials Management: Reviewing materials requirement and liaison with supervisors. Also responsible for placing order in Oracle ERP system, following up for approval and expediting delivery, inspection of spares up on receipt, reviewing

pending maintenance work order, maintenance cost for major overhauls, and maintaining overhaul history in ERP system.

- Prepared annual operating and capital budget proposals and monitored expenditure to ensure that maintenance costs remained within budget programs; receiving and analyzing ongoing budget performance; reporting on expenditure from Finance and Planning (F&P), discussing performance indices with supervisors and providing required feedback in terms of budget variance reports and required justifications.
- Reviewed inventories of spareparts and materials, preparing material requisitions and purchase requests for approval;
- Supervised the execution of pipeline repairs and hot taping.
- Supervised the execution of work carried out by contracted personnel, ensuring that all work meets contractual specifications.
- Administered networks, prepaid card system, voicemail system and VOIP system.

29) **Elhoussein Elkhazin Abdalla: Nationality – Sudan**

Development Planning, Public Finance, Project Management and Peace Building Expert

Mr. Elkhazin is an experienced professional with over 40 years of expertise in development planning, public finance, project management, peace building, and conflict management. He holds M.Sc. in Development Planning from the Development Studies and Research Institute of the University of Khartoum, High Development Planning Diploma from the same institution and B.Sc. in Economic and Social Studies from the University of Khartoum.



Mr. Elkhazin has extensive work experience involving supporting fragile communities in war-affected areas, focusing on livelihoods, economic empowerment, social reconciliation, and peaceful coexistence. Throughout his career, he has developed strong communication skills and leadership capabilities, combining theory with practical experience to achieve successful outcomes and identify best practices. His notable professional experiences and accomplishments include:

- ☞ Independent Development Planning Consultant (Presently).
- ☞ Project Manager for Sustainable Livelihoods in Sudan (World Bank-funded project), September 2021-2023. Managed a project valued at US\$ 200 million targeting 18 states.
- ☞ Project Coordinator/Manager for the Youth Employment Project, an extension of the Sustainable Livelihoods for IDPs and Vulnerable Communities Project in Eastern Sudan (SLDP), funded by a partnership between the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank with a budget of \$1 million (March 2020-April 2021).
- ☞ Project Coordinator/Manager for the Sustainable Livelihoods for IDPs and Vulnerable Communities Project in Eastern Sudan (SLDP), funded by a partnership between the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank with a budget of \$8 million in 3 phases (2013-April 2021).
- ☞ Project Coordinator/Manager for the Sudan Peacebuilding and Development Project (SPDP), a development project funded by a partnership between the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank with a budget of \$10 million in two phases, operating in 7 states: Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile (2010-2017).
- ☞ Project Coordinator for the Startup/Emergency Project in South Kordofan State (SKSEP), a donor-funded project under the supervision of the World Bank and the Ministry of Finance with a budget of US\$14.9 million (2009-2011).
- ☞ Project Coordinator for the Blue Nile State Start-Up Emergency Project (BNSEP), a donor-funded project under the supervision of the World Bank and the Ministry of Finance with a budget of \$18.3 million in two phases (2007-2011).
- ☞ Director of the Multi-Donor Trust Funds Coordination Unit (MDTF-CU) at the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, overseeing the implementation of all donor-financed projects managed by the World Bank (March 2006-June 2007).

- ☞ Assistant Undersecretary, Directorate for International Financial Cooperation and later the General Directorate for Public Corporations and Government Companies, Ministry of Finance & National Economy (July 2005-February 2006).
- ☞ Assistant Head of the Sub-delegation in West Darfur for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) (November 2004-July 2005).
- ☞ Admin for General Budget Department, Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Sudan (February 2004-November 2004).
- ☞ Deputy Academic Coordinator, Academy for Economic and Financial Studies (an affiliate of the Ministry of Finance and National Economy) (December 2002-February 2004).
- ☞ Deputy Head of the Planning Department at Al-Mutasim Construction Company in Iraq (1994-2001).
- ☞ Administrative Director at Al-Tamadun Printing Company in Yemen (1991-1994).
- ☞ Senior Inspector, Ministry of Finance and National Economy, involved in budget departments, research, loan settlements, public corporations and companies, and planning departments (1987-1990).
- ☞ Assistant Director of Planning at Sudan Ren Chemicals and Fertilizers Company (a joint venture between Sudan and the United States of America) seconded by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy (1983-1986).
- ☞ Financial Inspector in various departments of the Ministry of Finance, including budget, research, loan settlements, public corporations and companies, and planning departments (1979-1983).
- ☞ Research Assistant with the Dean Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum (1978-1979).

30) **Kawther Hamad Awad Elkareem Abusin: Nationality – Sudan** **Community Development, Organization Management & Peacebuilding Expert**

Ms Kawther is a Community Development, Organization Management, Project Management and Peace building Expert. She is the Secretary to the Board of PACT Consultancy and shareholder in PACT South Sudan. She holds a Master's Degree in Peace & Development from Juba University, Khartoum – Sudan (2005) and Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Development from Ahfad University, Khartoum – Sudan (1992)



She has extensive project management and field operations experience and expertise in projects implemented by PACT. Kawther has been PACT's Field Operations Manager for Projects with IFAD, WFP, UNICEF, the World Bank and other notable clients. She has also participated in a number of projects as an associate consultant with Partners for Development Services (PDS) and Sudan Peace Building & Development Project (SPDP) – a program funded by the World Bank. Kawther has conducted research and market studies (many for PACT) in nearly all states in Sudan.

Further, Kawther is an accomplished trainer, community development facilitator and consultant with notable experiences, including the following (among others):

- ☞ Project management, baseline survey, Monitoring & Evaluation, peace and development issues, Micro-finance and Gender consultancy (March 2012 to date);
- ☞ Participated in interim Assessment for reducing stunting in Eastern states - WFP Project (2019);
- ☞ Field Operations Manager in Assessment of Student Learning in 9 Camps and their Host Communities in Eastern Sudan Operation for UNHCR- Kassala State (June 1999);
- ☞ Field Operations Manager in the team of Third-Party Monitor for WFP activities in 13 states in Sudan (PACT) – 2018 – 2021;
- ☞ Conducted Ex-Post Evaluation on “Frontline Maternal and Child Health Empowerment Project (Mother Nile Project) Phase I and Phase II” Sudan collaboration with Mitsubishi UFJ Research & Cooperation (PACT) – February 2018;
- ☞ Conducted a value chain analysis in Kenana Sugar Company (KSC), which aimed to build the capacity of the staff of banking and microfinance institutions as well as familiarized them with the tools of the value chain analysis – November 2017;
- ☞ Conducted Mid-term field survey report collaboration with JICA –SMAPII- in North Darfur (PACT) – October 2017;
- ☞ Conducted Ex-Post Evaluation for Technical Cooperation Project for Human Resources Development for Darfur and Protocol Areas JICA-SMAP1 collaboration with FASID-Japan (PACT) – March 2017;
- ☞ Member of PACT team in Kulana Liltanmia Programme (KLP) Capacity Change Scale and Ladder of Change - collaboration with British Council. In Central states of Sudan (April 2016);
- ☞ Conducted value chain analysis for the Pro Poor Value Chain Project- collaboration with UNDP in Groundnuts, Sesame, Gum Arabic & Livestock in North, South, West & Central Darfur (January 2016).

31) **Faith Kemunto Nyabuto: Nationality – Kenya** Finance, Business, Investment and Strategy Expert

Miss Faith Nyabuto is a solutions-focused and accomplished professional with 10 years' comprehensive industry experience driving transformational growth for startups, SMEs and corporates through combined ability in financial management and strategy development. She holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Strategic Management from University of Nairobi (2021); Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) from the University of Nairobi (2013) as an Equity Bank/Mastercard Foundation Scholar with First Class Honors and Dean's List Award. She is also a Certified Public Accountant (CPA-K) licensed by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Kenya in 2012.



Faith has a track record of work and consulting experience with reputable blue chip companies, with a myriad of accomplishments including:

- ☞ Senior Growth Manager (Jan 2022 – February 2023) - Xetova Limited, a venture capital-backed technology company. Her notable achievements include: Developed and implemented comprehensive strategies to raise funding for growth, resulting in a successful \$1.2M bridge investment from leading venture capital firms and angel investors; Conducted comprehensive market and competitor analysis to identify new opportunities for growth, resulting in the launch of two innovative products; Led project management and writing of investment proposals, secured \$350K in grant financing from leading philanthropies such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Developed and implemented go-to-market strategies for an AI-driven gender-inclusive financing product, resulting in \$2M LPO financing and a 20% increase in female representation in partner financier's pipeline; Developed and implemented strategies to improve operational efficiency and increase profitability, resulting in a 40% increase in revenue YoY; Achieved a 40% increase in company-wide target achievement by developing departmental performance metrics and collaborating with business development, product, and program teams to identify and track key performance indicators (KPIs); and Generated monthly and quarterly reports on the company's progress against goals for current investors, resulting in follow-on equity financing of \$900K.
- ☞ Analytics & Transactions Lead (promoted from Snr. Associate: Sep 2016 – Dec 2021) Nairobi & Dubai. Botho Emerging Markets Group, investment and advisory firm. Her achievements include: Led research (primary, secondary and expert interviews), analysis and report writing for consulting engagements in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and the UAE in various sectors including agriculture, e-commerce, edtech, fintech, pharmaceuticals and textile and apparel (T&A) industries; Managed, coached, and grew a 5-person transaction advisory team working across Nairobi and Dubai to undertake equity, debt and grant fundraising engagements. Facilitated \$20M+ total financing into 4 companies; Managed a consortium of 3 advisory firms to provide joint buy-side advisory services in a potential \$30M acquisition of a regional technology company by a major Middle Eastern technology firm - the largest in the history of the business unit; Advised an ed-tech firm offering East African youth digital skills on courses to offer based on market demand. Resulted in the launch of a new program focused on data science; Sourced and evaluated 500+ investment opportunities across Sub-Saharan Africa in different sectors (both early- and late-stage), built a strong network of entrepreneurs, investors and entrepreneur support organizations (ESOs); Served as the interim finance manager for an e-commerce start-up for 3 months – built financial model, oversaw financial planning and worked alongside founder to build finance team; Successfully drove the creation of a start-up advisory unit in partnership with a law firm and jointly facilitated investor-readiness coaching for 130+ young entrepreneurs across 3 projects. >40% secured \$5,000 - \$1M external funding; Transformed Botho's approach to advisory work by instituting a systematic framework to analyze the job creation & value addition impact of investments; the framework was successfully tested with multiple clients.
- ☞ Associate on secondment with Crossboundary LLC, investment and advisory firm (Dec 2016 – May 2017). Her achievements include: Conducted market evaluation and business case analysis for a European logistics company, facilitating the company's set-up of first-of-its-kind modern grade-A storage infrastructure in Kenya; Devised a market entry strategy for a Mauritian based financial services firm seeking to expand into the rest of Africa, resulted in the firm's successful set up of largest hire purchase business in Kenya; Conducted market analysis, business case validation and developed go-to-market recommendations for a Madagascar-based agribusiness company seeking expansion into East Africa and USA, resulting in successful partnerships with distributors in Kenya.

- ☞ Finance Associate with Deloitte & Touche, Big Four accounting firm (Oct 2014 – Aug 2016). Her accomplishments include: Prepared monthly management reports, measured and analyzed financial and operational performance using financial ratios & key performance indicators, resulted in an increase in the firm's revenue by 30% YoY; Led 4 accountants in the preparation of quarterly/annual financial statements for Kenya, Uganda & Tanzania, streamlined the preparation and reporting process, resulting in a 40% reduction in errors; • Advised USAID-funded project teams on strategies to optimize expenditure and remedy control weaknesses, instigating cost savings of 35% over the lifetime of the project.
- ☞ Analyst, African Leadership Network, June 2013 – Sep 2014: Researched the state of entrepreneurship in Africa and wrote case studies on transformational businesses in the financial services sector.
- ☞ Summer Analyst (intermittent), Equity Bank, Apr 2008 – May 2012: Analyzed daily cash transactions for 100 bank branches and reported suspicious transactions, reducing fraud cases to less than 2% of total transaction value.

Faith is skilled in identifying and evaluating critical financial and strategy issues through financial analyses and valuations of companies, analysis of corporate strategies and developing innovative solutions to increase market share, optimize operations, and maximize return on investment (ROI). She is adept at building and managing relationships with stakeholders, partners, and investors and is passionate about helping businesses reach their full potential.

Her key competencies include: • Market Research & Analysis • Strategic Planning & Execution • Business Model Development • Project Management • Continuous Process Improvement • Start-up Advisory • Investment Advisory • Accounting & Taxation • Financial Modeling • Analytical & Quantitative Problem Solving • Risk Management • Relationship Management • Cross-functional Collaboration

32) **Siddig Mamoun Ibrahim – Nationality: Sudan** Information & Communication Technology Expert

Mr. Siddig is an information technology specialist with over 10 years of work and consulting experience in IP infrastructure, systems, database management systems, banking/ microfinance technology and mobile data collection systems, among others. He has deployed and supported and managed several mission critical technology platforms in the mentioned areas of expertise.

He has held key technology positions and managed significant technology consulting projects with PACT Consultancy, Almithal Microfinance, Sudan Rural Development Company (SRDC) among others.



Siddig holds a Bachelor of Science B.Sc. in Computer Science with specialization in Networks, Programming and Databases from Sudan University for Science and Technology. He also has several professional certifications including Certified Database Administrator, Systems Security, Web Applications among others.