World Bank-CMI MENA diaspora workshop

Mobilizing the MENA diaspora for Global Integration, Investment, and Knowledge Transfer
Marseille, France, May 29, 2015

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS BIOGRAPHIES

George AKIKI
Co-Founder and President, LebNet, Lebanon/USA

George Akiki leads Strategic Planning for Cisco’s Corporate Social Responsibility and in his last role led CSR for Middle East and Africa. He is also acting Program Director for the Partnership for Lebanon which goal is to establish Public Private Partnerships to build scalable, replicable, sustainable solutions to help the people of Lebanon find the path to long term stability and economic growth. Akiki embarked on his CSR career in January 2007 and has experienced firsthand the human side of Cisco which has made him an avid believer in the power and importance of corporate social responsibility and Cisco’s culture of giving back. George had spent most of his 12-year career at Cisco in engineering management roles driving large scale cross-functional programs. Prior to joining Cisco, Akiki served as director of program management at Ramp Networks preceded by engineering management roles at Nortel (Bay) Networks. He received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Fairleigh Dickinson University, a Graduate electrical engineering degree from Ohio State University, and an MBA from Golden Gate University. Akiki is a co-founder of LebNet, and is the current President.

Sebastien DAGAULT
Founder and CEO, LINXEO, France

Sébastien Dagault, CEO of LiNXEO, has a 18 years’ international experience in the technology and entrepreneurship sector. Between 2009 and 2013 he was deputy director of the ANIMA Investment Network, working on developing cross-border business and innovation partnerships for entrepreneurs and SMEs in the MENA Region. From 2006 to 2008 he was based at the MIT campus (Boston-USA), working for the Office for science and Technology of the French Embassy, developing the “Young entrepreneurs Initiative”, a Franco American platform for technology startups. Between 2006 and 2008 he developed the “Home Sweet Home” welcoming program targeting high level French expatriates eager to start high growth companies. From 1997 to 2002, Sebastien worked for Gemalto, worldwide leader in the selling of smart card based secure solutions. He was first promoting and selling RFID applications in Brazil and Latin America and then moved to Marseille (France) to serve as sales engineer promoting mobile applications for Telecom operators in EMEA. Sebastien Dagault owns a Master Degree in Public Administration from the University of Aix Marseille 2 and a Bachelor in Business Administration from the Toulouse Business and Management School.
Uri DADUSH
Senior associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Uri Dadush is Non-resident Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, DC, where he was Director of the International Economics Program from 2009 to 2014. He is currently also Distinguished Senior Fellow at the OCP Policy Center in Rabat, Morocco, where he writes and lectures on developments in the international economy and their implications for Morocco. He is the author with William Shaw of Juggernaut: How Emerging Markets are Reshaping Globalization (Carnegie, 2011) and with Kemal Dervis et al. of Inequality in America (Brookings, 2012), and co-editor with Chiedu Osakwe of WTO Accessions and Trade Multilateralism (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming) and author of several other books and policy-focused articles. His opinion appears frequently in the mass media and the financial press. He is a member of the World Economic Forum Council on Trade and Foreign Investment, and a contributing editor of Current History. His career has also spanned consultancy in the private sector (McKinsey and Company; Data Resources, Incorporated; The Economist Intelligence Unit where he was CEO from 1986-92; and Economic Policy International, LLC). He was at the World Bank from 1992-2009, where he was Director of the International Trade Department and of the Development Prospects Group as well as Director of Economic Policy. He obtained a PhD in Business Economics from Harvard University and a BA and MA in Economics from Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dadush was born and raised in Tripoli, Libya and is a naturalized French citizen.

Abderrazek EL HAJRI
Director, NGO Migrations & Développement, Morocco / France

Abderrazek El Hajri has been engaged for a long time in local development non profit initiatives and started to work in the migration and development field since 1999. From 2002 to mid-2009 he was Delegate for Morocco of Migrations & Développement, an NGO based in Marseille and founded in 1986 under Lahoussain JAMAL’s leadership. Mr. El Hajri holds a Master in Social Development, and has been working in the past for the Moroccan Ministry of Social Development, Solidarity and Family, as a the person in charge of partnerships (from 2009 to 2011). He currently is the Director of Migrations & Développement since March 2014.

Mourad EZZINE
Manager, Center for Mediterranean Integration

Prior to being appointed manager of the Center for Mediterranean Integration in October 2013 Mourad Ezzine was the Education Sector Manager in the Human Development Department in the Middle East and North Africa Region of the World Bank. He joined the World Bank in 1992 and worked extensively on human development issues and the linkages between education and economic development in North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Before joining the World Bank, he was Director of Planning and Information Systems in the Tunisian Ministry of Education and held management-level positions in a Tunisian private development bank. Mr. Ezzine holds a post-graduate degree in economics and statistics from the Ecole Nationale des Statistiques et de l’Administration Economique in Paris, a Master degree in development economics from the Sorbonne University in Paris, and a Maîtrise in Mathematics from the University of Sciences of Tunis.
Mathias FILLON  
*Program Manager, ANIMA Investment Network, France*

Mathias Fillon is a Project Manager in charge of diaspora issues for ANIMA Investment Network. He joined ANIMA in April 2014 as coordinator of the European project MedGeneration that aims at mobilizing economic diaspora in the Mediterranean. He is also in charge of the European project DIAMED which is implemented in Maghreb. He works on the relation between migration and development since 2008. He was previously a project manager in several NGOs and international organizations in France and Senegal. He graduated from the Institute of training for development initiatives of Bordeaux with a Master degree in Development program management.

Khalid KARAOUI  
*Journalist, Business Editor, FRANCE 24*

Khalid Karaoui joined France24 in 2007 as business editor where he prepares daily business newspapers and anchors emissions, debates and economic talks, which led him to cover economic news around the world. Prior to France24, Khalid worked as a reporter for the Al-Jazeera channel. Khalid holds a master's degree in strategic management of media, from the Liverpool Management School of Montpellier (France) and a Master in Political Science at the Faculty of Law of Montpellier as well as a Master of Journalism, specialty "audiovisual " of the Institute of Press and Information Sciences (IPSI in (Tunis).

Rajat KATHURIA  
*Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, India*

Rajat Kathuria is Director and Chief Executive at Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi. He has over 20 years experience in teaching and 10 years experience in economic policy, besides research interests on a range of issues relating to regulation and competition policy. He worked with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) during its first eight years (1998-2006) and gained hands on experience with telecom regulation in an environment changing rapidly towards competition. The role entailed analysis of economic issues relating to telecom tariff policy, tariff rebalancing, interconnection charges and licensing policy. Market research and questionnaire development and analysis formed an integral part of this exercise. It also involved evaluation of macro level initiatives for transforming the telecom industry. He wrote a number of consultation papers which eventually formed the basis of tariff and interconnection orders applicable to the industry. He has taught undergraduate economics at the University of Maryland and is currently on leave from the International Management Institute (IMI), New Delhi where he teaches Managerial Economics and International Trade. He has worked with the World Bank, Washington DC as a Consultant and carried out project assignments for a number of organizations, including ILO, UNCTAD, LirneAsia, Ernst and Young, Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) and Standing Committee for Public Enterprises (SCOPE). He has published in international and national journals, besides in popular magazines and newspapers. He is founder member of Broadband Society for Universal Access and served on the board of Delhi Management Association. He has an undergraduate degree in Economics from St. Stephens College, a Masters from Delhi School of Economics and a PhD degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.
Mariem MALOUCHE  
Senior Economist, The World Bank

Mariem Mezghenni Malouche is a Senior Economist in the World Bank Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA) in Washington, DC. She is currently leading trade and competitiveness projects in Morocco and Tunisia as well as a MENA regional integration activity. Her professional areas of interest include trade and competitiveness, economic integration, trade policy and non-tariff measures, trade finance, and diaspora. She joined the World Bank in 2004 as an economist in the MENA region then in the World Bank International Trade Department (PRMTR). She is a co-author of Streamlining Non-Tariff Measures: a Toolkit for Policy Makers (World Bank 2012); co-editor of Non-Tariff Measures - A Fresh Look at Trade Policy's New Frontier; and co-editor of Trade Finance during the Great Trade Collapse (World Bank 2011). She also led and contributed to a number of country level policy dialogue, development policy loans and reports in MENA, South Asia and Africa Regions, notably in Morocco, Libya, Tunisia, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, and Lao DPR. Before joining the Bank, Malouche earned a PhD in international economics from Université Paris-Dauphine, France, and a master degree in business from University of Tunis III with the highest honors.

Anis MNIF
Tunisian American Young Professionals, Tunisia/USA

Mr. Anis Mnif has over fourteen years of diverse work experience. He had the opportunity to work in both the US and overseas, as well as the private and public sector. His roles have included marketing, product management, business development, economic development, research projects and teaching. Anis initiated his business career with Nestlé, Inc., in Tunisia North Africa. Positions included Marketing Manager and Sales Managing Director. In Tennessee State University (TSU), Anis started his career as a Research Associate of the Office of Business and Economic Research (OBER). A few years later he was promoted to Interim Director of OBER and is currently the Director of the Graduate Programs at the College of Business (TSU). Through OBER Anis applied for several grants, funding opportunities, and establish partnerships within TSU, locally, nationally and even internationally. Through TAYP, Anis initiated the Handicraft Export Program Initiative, a program funded by the US Embassy in Tunis, which he currently serves as its Program Manager. This program was recently recognized for its impact by the Clinton Global Initiative in May 2015, led to substantial revenue and access to US markets for Tunisian handicraft producers. Anis holds a Bachelor’s degree in Management with a double concentration in Human Resources/Marketing from the Institut Superieur de Gestion in Tunis, a Master in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance from Tennessee State University of Nashville, TN, USA, and a second Master in Economic Development from Vanderbilt University of Nashville, TN, USA. He also attended St Thomas, Virgin Island University -The Summer Institute for Future Global Leaders.
Michael NEWSON
Migration and Development Specialist, International Organization for Migration, Egypt

Michael Newson is currently based in Cairo as the Regional Thematic Specialist for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) for the Labour Migration and Human Development (LHD) Division, with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). He is responsible for providing technical support, policy expertise, capacity building, and training to governments, IOM officials, and other relevant stakeholders throughout the MENA region.

Michael previously worked with IOM in Bogota in 2007 and Mauritius in 2008 and 2009, with a focus on the development and implementation of labour migration programmes. From 2009 to 2011, Michael worked as Senior Policy Advisor in the Labour Market and Immigration Division for the Government of British Columbia (Canada) where he focused on policy issues relating to both temporary foreign workers and permanent economic immigration streams.

Michael has a BA in Philosophy & English Literature from the University of British Columbia, an MA in Social & Political Philosophy from York University (Toronto), and is currently an MBA candidate at the Warwick Business School, University of Warwick (UK).

Secretary Imelda M. NICOLAS
Chairperson, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Office of the President of the Philippines

Secretary Imelda Nicolas was appointed in 2010 as Chairperson of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), a Cabinet-level Secretary position under the Office of the President of the Philippines. Since 1980, the CFO has been mandated to maintain strong and mutually beneficial ties between the country and Filipino communities throughout the world and to promote and protect the welfare, the interests and well-being of Filipinos overseas. Secretary Nicolas was recently recognized by the Filipina Women’s Network (FWN) as one of the “100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the World.” She is currently one of the focal points of the Philippine government to the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative lauded, together with the United States’ Government, by the United Nations’ Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon during the 2nd UN High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in New York. This year (2015), she was invited by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to be one of the members of its reconstituted Migration Advisory Board (MAB). Likewise, she was asked to be a member of the Advisory Group of the ADB-MPI’s project on “Achieving Skill Mobility in the Asean Economic Community.” She chairs the Metropolis Asia Secretariat and is a member of the Metropolis International Steering Committee. Prior to her appointment at the CFO, she was Cabinet-level Secretary of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), former Chairperson of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NAPC), and Presidential Assistant helping Cabinet secretaries in monitoring implementation of major government-funded infrastructures. She was also Chair of the Women’s Business Council of the Philippines (WBCP) and the first woman member of the official delegation of the Philippines to the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC).
Emmanuel Noutary
*General Delegate, ANIMA Investment Network, France*

Emmanuel is General Delegate of ANIMA Investment Network. He joined ANIMA in Marseille in August 2006, as Project Director in the field of innovation, SME financing and investment. He was in charge of ANIMA contribution in the European programme Medibitkar – Euromed Innovation & Technology Programme – besides sitting in the Executive Committee of Invest in Med. He finally took the direction of the European programme Invest in Med in June 2009. Emmanuel spent 12 years in the telecoms, internet and communications sector: telecoms consultant in Paris; marketing director of a pioneer operator in the field of internet telephony based in London, and targeting the MENA markets among others; and research director delivering to various telecom operators. Besides he participated to several editorial projects (Launch of Le Méditerranéen – weekly newsmag on Euromed, collaboration to the African Development Bank publications, correspondance for Le Nouvel Economiste). He is graduated from University Paris IX Dauphine: Master 1 in Management Science and Master 2 in Management of Telecoms and New Medias.

Macarena NUNO
*Project Officer, “Health, Digital, Mobility”, IPEMED*

Macarena Nuño holds a DESS in management of European projects at the University of Caen (France) and a Masters in Economics from the University of Rennes. She worked for five years in various French organizations, first as Project manager and then as Deputy Director in charge of European affairs and partnerships. In this context, she engaged in developing educational projects, the creation of a European network on citizenship issues (European Civic Forum) and the establishment of technical and institutional partnerships at European level. In 2009, she joined as a Project Manager "health, digital, mobility" the Institut de Prospective Economique du monde Méditerranéen (IPEMED) whose mission is to bring together, through their economies, the countries of the two shores of the Mediterranean. The Institute also works at raising awareness on a common future and a convergence of interests between the North and South of the Mediterranean. For IPEMED, she is responsible for conducting the debate on health themes, mobility and ICT. She also had responsibility for the coordination of the project "Mediterranean 2030" which aims to develop a common vision for the Mediterranean region by 2030.

Sonia PLAZA
*Senior Economist, Migration and Remittances Team, Development Prospects Group, the World Bank*

SONIA PLAZA is currently a Senior Economist at the World Bank, in its Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) Economic Policy, Debt and Trade Department. She works in the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD). She is the co-chair of the "thematic working group on diaspora" of the KNOMAD initiative. She has worked on Science and Technology projects in Latin American. She wrote several articles on migration and remittances. She was a core member of the Africa’s Silk Road: China and India’s New Economic Frontier and wrote Chapter 5 on market information through ethnic networks and migration, skills transfer, regional trade agreements and bilateral agreements dealing with labor mobility. She is a co-editor of the book Diaspora for Development in Africa and lead author of the book Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills, and Investments. She advises many universities on transfer of skills and tapping to their diaspora. She acts as a focal point at the working level for the Bank’s activities and international partnerships on migration and development (Global Forum on Migration and Development, Global Migration Group, Global Remittances Working Group). Her
expertise includes migration, remittances, and trade policies. Sonia attended the University of Lima and earned a degree in Economics, after which she joined Chase Manhattan Bank, and was then invited to join the Peruvian Ministry of Trade as a manager responsible for counter trade and debt swap agreements. She negotiated Peruvian external debt and trade agreements. She taught International Economics at the Foreign Service School and at the University of Lima in Peru. She was also adjunct faculty (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics) at the American University, Washington D.C. She also has a dual degree from Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania in International Economics and Development. She is a research fellow of the IZA-Institute for the Study of Labor.

Dilip RATHA
Manager, Migration and Remittances Unit and Head, KNOMAD, Development Prospects Group the World Bank, USA

Dilip Ratha is Manager, Migration and Remittances Unit and Head, Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) in the Development Prospects Group of the World Bank. He is the focal point for the World Bank’s Migration Working Group and the Diaspora Bond Task Force, and a co-coordinator of the (G8) Global Remittances Working Group. According to the New York Times, “No one has done more than Mr. Ratha to make migration and its potential rewards a top-of-the-agenda concern in the world’s development ministries.” Besides migration and remittances, Dilip’s research reflects a deep interest in innovative financing for poor countries: diaspora bonds, future-flow securitization, shadow sovereign ratings and South-South foreign direct investment. He is currently the chair of the Consortium Advisory Group (and previously the founding CEO) of the Migrating out of Poverty Research Consortium based in the University of Sussex. Prior to joining the World Bank, he worked as a regional economist for Asia at Credit Agricole Indosuez, Singapore; as an assistant professor of economics at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; and as an economist at the Policy Group, New Delhi. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi where he also worked as a visiting lecturer and helped build a CGE model of the Indian economy. Dilip hosts People Move, a popular blog and can be followed on Twitter at @DilipRatha. His TED Talk "The hidden force in global economics: sending money home" has been viewed over a million times