

U20 2025 Webinar Speaker Profiles

**“Unlocking urban economic opportunities:
Building resilient and inclusive cities”**

**31 March 2025
14:00 to 15:30 (GMT +2)
Microsoft Teams**

Speaker profiles

Facilitator



Mr Khulekani Mathe is the Chief Executive Officer of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA), overseeing operations, policy coordination and stakeholder engagement. He is a seasoned expert in policy development, financial inclusion and economic transformation. Mr Mathe has extensive experience across the public and private sectors. Prior to joining BUSA, he was Head of Financial Inclusion at the

Banking Association South Africa, leading initiatives in banking transformation, small business development and financial education. He served in various positions in the public service in the Presidency, the National Planning Commission Secretariat and the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. During his tenure in the National Planning Commission Secretariat, he was part of the team that wrote the National Development Plan, as well as head of the Secretariat. In the early parts of his career, Mr Mathe spent 15 years in the education sector working with various organisations in the field of adult education. During this period, he was appointed head of Tembalethu Community Education Centre and led it to win two national awards and one international award for its work. In recognition of his leadership, he was appointed chairman of the Ministerial Committee to review adult education policy for South Africa in 2007. He served in the structures that set up and governed the Education Training and Development SETA in its formative years.

Speakers



Cllr Nasiphi Moya is the Executive Mayor of Tshwane and U20 Co-chair for the 2025 cycle. She graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science Politics and Public Policy and Administration from the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 2007. She furthered her studies at UCT and was awarded with an honours degree in Social Science, specialising in Public Affairs and Administration in 2008.

In 2011, she obtained her Master of Philosophy from UCT, specialising in Public Policy and Administration. She later obtained her PhD in Political Science from the University of the Western Cape in 2021. She is an action-oriented leader who is passionate about service delivery.



Ms Camille Viros is Head of the Inclusive Growth in Cities Unit at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. Her expertise covers issues related to urban inequalities and housing, as well as broader policies that promote competitive and inclusive cities. She also coordinates the OECD Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth Initiative, a group of 70 mayors from across the world committed to reducing inequalities. She holds a master's degree in Economic Analysis and Policy from the Paris School of Economics, a master's degree in Public Affairs from Sciences Po Paris and a master's degree from HEC Paris.



Mr Paseka Lesolang is the Chief Executive Officer of Water Hygiene Convenience (WHC). Paseka is a passionate advocate for job creation and environmental sustainability, with a particular focus on water security. Through his company, WHC, he has created over 30 jobs and saved more than 120 million litres of water to date through community-based projects. Paseka completed a course in Advanced Entrepreneurship and Business Management at the University of Pretoria and is currently pursuing a BCom in Business Management at the University of South Africa. As a water and energy-efficiency practitioner, he has also completed specialised training in Water and Energy Efficiency Management, Carbon Footprint Analysis, and Sustainable and Efficient Facilities Management at the Terra Firma Academy. His dedication and impact have earned him global recognition. He was selected as one of 25 High-Impact Entrepreneurs worldwide by the Unreasonable Institute, participating in an accelerated MBA programme at the University of Colorado in the United States of America. Additionally, he was one of only three Africans chosen by the Resilient Africa Network to attend an Innovation Course at Stanford University in the United States of America. He also completed a Project Management course at the IE Business School in Madrid, Spain.



Prof Mauricio Rodas served as the Mayor of Quito, Ecuador, from 2014 to 2019. During his tenure, he successfully led the construction of the country's first metro line and implemented numerous initiatives to promote urban sustainability, social equity and economic development. He hosted the United Nations Conference on Urban Sustainable Development – Habitat III and held prominent international positions in the main city networks, such as World Co-President of UCLG, Vice-Chair of C40 Cities, and board member of the Global Covenant of Mayors and ICLEI. Currently, he is a Visiting Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, lecturing on cities climate-resilient infrastructure finance, Senior Advisor on Extreme Heat and City Diplomacy at the Atlantic Council Resilient Center, leading the “City Champions for Heat Action” initiative, and member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration.



Prof Geci Karuri-Sebina is a scholar-practitioner who works in the intersection between people, place, time and technological change. She currently serves as an Associate Professor of digital governance at the University of the Witwatersrand School of Governance where she leads the Tayarisha Centre for Digital Governance and coordinates the Civic Tech Innovation Network. Geci has recently co-edited two seminal

volumes on digital governance in Africa, namely *Digitalisation and Public Policy in Africa: GovTech and CivicTech Innovations* (2025, Palgrave Macmillan) and *Africa's Digital Transformation and its Governance* (forthcoming, African Minds/Leuven University). She is based in Johannesburg.