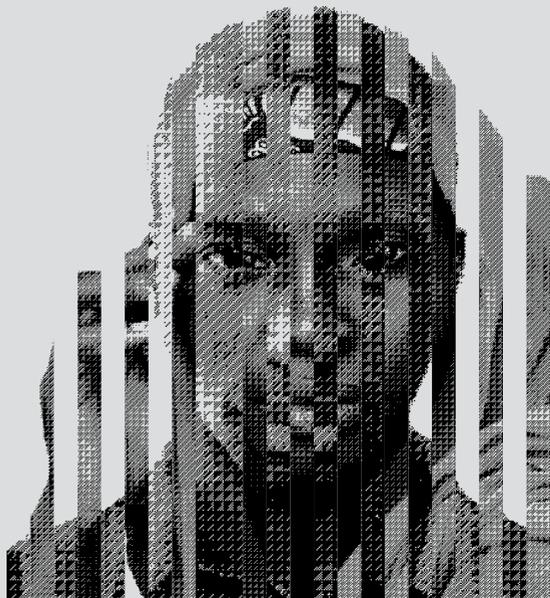


# Embedding multi-dimensional poverty measurements for Covid-19 structural recovery

## 13 NOV 2020



**DECENT  
STANDARD  
OF LIVING**

*Ubomi obungahlelekanga*

# DSL

#decentstandardofliving

## WELCOME...

...to a Decent  
Standard of Living:

**Fifth Annual Colloquium**

10am – 1.00pm

As we concentrate national initiatives on Covid-19 recovery, the systemic eradication of poverty must be the greatest priority, or reconstruction will not succeed.

This lies at the heart of the Decent Standard of Living research, and other recent national poverty studies. In the Fifth Annual DSL Colloquium 2020, we ask: how will poverty shape our future in SA?

## MESSAGES

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### SPII

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Poverty is not accidental, nor is it a distanced scientific formula. Poverty is felt in hunger, and seen in dirt, and sensed in social shaming, it is the denial of dignity to people. Poverty is multidimensional, it is not just an amount of money. If you are serious about eradicating poverty, then you need to seriously understand its nature as being the denial of basic dignity. The best way to understand the concept and dimensions of poverty is to understand how ordinary people describe what they see as dignity, as being necessary for a decent life. The Decent Standard of Living was built from the views of ordinary people across South Africa as they defined what is required to live a decent life. This standard needs to guide us all, from politicians to activists to academics, if we are really committed to ending poverty.

**Isobel Frye, Director, SPII**

## UNICEF

UNICEF is committed to end poverty. It believes that the best way to end poverty is to work with interested parties in government, civil society and the private sector. UNICEF understands poverty to be a multifaceted issue and urgent interventions are needed to secure sustainable income for vulnerable families and children. This requirement has become more urgent during the coronavirus pandemic and everyone should redouble their efforts to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry. Furthermore, given the different needs of children of different ages, access to crucial nutrition, health, education, and child protection services is vital to ensure that children survive, develop and thrive. This is not the time to withdraw investment in children's well-being and development and everyone should work together to ensure the realisation of children's social and economic rights.

**Ms. Christine Muhigana,  
UNICEF Country Representative**

## Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)

The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) supports SPII and civil society in the deepening of the impact of the Decent Standard of Living (DSL) research work in South Africa. FES's funding of this year's DSL colloquium, which looks into the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, is a continuation of its partnership with SPII to support the latter's work in advancing social and economic justice through research and social dialogue. These colloquia are important as they provide a platform for a cross-pollination of ideas between FES's partners in the academy and amongst organised labour and other social justice actors.

**Dr. Mbuso Moyo, Programme Manager,  
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung South Africa Office**

10:00 to 10:15

## Welcome and Objectives

We are seeking to set a decent standard of living in post-Covid-19 reconstruction, recognising the destruction of Covid-19 on the multi-dimensions of people's lives.

Representatives: **SPII, FES** and **UNICEF**

10:15 to 10:35

## First Keynote Address

Global snapshot on key pillars to pro-poor post- Covid-19 reconstruction.

**Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas** UN SA Representative

PRESENTATION

10:35 to 10:55

**SA Government response** to use of multidimensional poverty measures for effective integrated planning.

**Mr. Godfrey Mashamba** Deputy Director General at the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME), South Africa

PRESENTATIONS  
**PANEL ONE**

11:05 to 11:35

**Poverty and Covid-19:** What did it mean before Covid-19 in SA, and what is it likely to be in terms of impact, profile and weight?

**Dr. Thabo Mabogoane** Outcomes Facilitator: Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation in the Presidency

**Ms. Annabel Bishop** Chief Economist, Investec Bank Limited South Africa

**Mr. Dominic Brown** Alternative Information and Development Centre (AIDC)

11:35 to 11:45

Raising some pre-submitted comments and questions

PRESENTATIONS  
**PANEL TWO**

11:50 to 12:40

**Multidimensions of poverty, a decent standard of living and the social wage.** What is a multidimensional approach to poverty measurement?

StatsSA

**What is a Decent Standard of Living?** What do international instruments mean by requiring a multidimensional index of well-being for SA?

**Ms. Isobel Frye** Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII)

**Mr. Trenton Elsley**, LRS

**Dr. Shanelle van der Berg** Senior Researcher: Equality and Deputy Information Officer at the South African Human Rights Commission

**Response by National Planning Commission:** how these points resonate with the approach being taken by the NPC in light of the NDP.

**Dr. Kefiloe Masiteng** National Planning Commission

12:40 to 12:50

Select comments, questions

CLOSING

12:50 to 1:00

Wrap up, way forward and thanks.

**Ms. Isobel Frye** and **Ms. Christine Muhigana**

## SPEAKERS

### Ms. NARDOS BEKELE-THOMAS

Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in South Africa



Nardos Bekele-Thomas has influenced growth and development on the African continent for nearly 30 years through top positions in the governments of multiple nations and at the United Nations. Bekele-Thomas advances policy dialogue at the highest level of local and national governance, strategic public-private sector consultations, resource mobilization, pro-poor policy and program development and implementation. Her expertise encompasses private sector development strategies and policies, and public policy; decentralized governance and participatory development; public/civil service reform and management; public-private sector strategic partnerships; women and youth leadership; empowerment and employment; and Information, Education and Communication systems. Based on her strong belief in empowering women and youth, she has carried out policy studies and developed programs to promote entrepreneurship and business skills training for employment and job creation.



## Mr. GODFREY MASHAMBA

Deputy Director General at the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME), South Africa

His responsibilities include evaluation, evidence and knowledge systems, in which amongst others, he oversees the evaluations portfolio of the department and the technical support deployed across government, as well as provision of data integration and analytics services. He is a keen development and policy practitioner, with experience in industrial development, science and innovation policy, and the national statistical systems. In his free time, he travels, hikes, runs, mostly with family and friends, and reads on leadership, strategy, politics, economy, international affairs and biographies.



## Dr. THABO MABOGOANE

Outcomes Facilitator: Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation in the Presidency

Mabogoane focuses on the implementation of Basic Education and Post School Education and Training parts of the NDP through the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF). The work consists of monitoring the Delivery Agreements signed by the Ministers of Basic and Higher Education with the President, providing advice to the President and Cabinet Committee on issues relating to basic and higher education. He has previously worked in positions of a Senior statistician and Researcher, Project Manager, education policy analyst and lecturer in Economics of Education. He began his professional working life as a Maths and Physics teacher. He has published several peer reviewed articles on education issues.



## Ms. ANNABEL BISHOP

Chief Economist, Investec Bank Limited South Africa

Bishop joined Investec in 2001, and has worked in the macroeconomic, risk, financial market and econometric, among other, fields for around 25 years. Annabel is the holder of the Sake/Beeld Economist of the Year title for 2010 and has won numerous monthly Reuters Econometer awards, and various Focus Economics (Economic Forecasts from the World's Leading Economists) categories for correctly forecasting a range of economic variables. She has authored a wide range of in-house and external articles, published both abroad and in South Africa. She has also guest lectured at Gibbs, the University of Pretoria, Wits, UJ and other academic institutions, and has presented at various national and international conferences.



## Mr. DOMINIC BROWN

Alternative Information and Development Centre (AIDC)

Brown has worked at the Alternative Information and Development Centre (AIDC) since 2015. AIDC is an activist think-tank established in 1996, in support of worker struggles and social movements for economic, social, and environmental justice. At AIDC, Brown coordinates the economic justice programme, undertaking political economy research and facilitates popular education and training with social movements and trade unions.



## Mr. TRENTON ELSLEY

Executive Director, Labour Research Service

Elsley has conceptualised and implemented a range of interventions with trade unions and labour support organisations in Africa. His main interest is in the politics of trade union processes of organisation and representation, with a special interest in the contemporary organisation of work. He has a strong interest in social dialogue and corporate governance, with a specific interest in South African multinational companies operating in Africa. He's involved in efforts to deepen thinking and practice that assesses the contribution made by multinationals to the value created across the whole of the economic, social and environmental context within which these companies operate.



## Dr. SHANELLE VAN DER BERG

Senior Researcher: Equality and Deputy Information Officer at the South African Human Rights Commission

Her research focuses on horizontal and vertical equality, equality in the enjoyment of socio-economic rights, sustainable development, access to information, land and business and human rights. She also holds a research fellowship at Stellenbosch University. Van der Berg has co-lectured constitutional law, with a focus on socio-economic rights, access to information and freedom of expression. Her research interest lies in equality, information rights, socio-economic rights and capabilities theory. She has published widely on these themes in peer reviewed journals and the popular media and has presented papers at several national and international conferences.



## Dr. KEFILOE MASITENG

Deputy Secretary for National Planning in the Presidency of South Africa

Masiteng holds a PhD from WITS University (2016). Previously she was the Deputy Director General at Statistics South Africa responsible for Population and Social Statistics, household surveys and Censuses. She was also Chief Director in the Presidency Policy Coordination and Advisory Services: (PCAS) responsible for Governance and Administration. She conceptualized the government-wide Monitoring and Evaluation System. She has worked in the departments of Housing and Health responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation.



## Ms. CHRISTINE MUHIGANA

UNICEF Representative in the Republic of South Africa

Prior to her appointment to this position, she was the UNICEF Representative in the Central African Republic (CAR) for three years and she led the UNICEF team in increasing the immunization coverage, school enrolment, protection of children and treatment of severe malnutrition, through building systems and responding to humanitarian shocks. Muhigana started her career with the United Nations in 1988 and has more than 30 years of experience within the organisation. She has worked in positions of progressively higher responsibilities in the areas of strategic planning, partnership building, integrated peacebuilding strategies, advancing the child rights agenda and gender equality in Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Cape Verde, Burundi and at UN/UNICEF Headquarters.



## Ms. ISOBEL FRYE

Director of Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII)

Isobel Frye is the founding Director of Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute in Johannesburg. She was a director at a commercial law practice to work for the Black Sash as the Advocacy Manager and then moved to NALEDI as a senior researcher in poverty and socio-economic rights, before becoming the Director of SPII. SPII undertakes both primary and secondary research into poverty and social exclusions, and policy analysis in the field of anti-poverty policies, inequalities, socio-economic and constitutional rights and social protection.

Isobel serves on the Academy of Science of South Africa Standing Committee on Science for the Reduction of Poverty and Inequality. She is an active contributor to print and broadcast media on policy issues on poverty, inequality and socio-economic rights.

Isobel was appointed as one of the first National Minimum Wage Commissioners by the Minister of Labour in January 2019.