

ODA LEARNING SERIES 2020

Webinar #2: Development Cooperation in/post COVID era



Thursday, 3 September 2020, 11.00 - 12.00 Istanbul time

Register here for the webinar



“ SPEAKERS:



George Bouma

George Bouma is the Team Leader, Sustainable Development Cluster in the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub. George has over 25 years' experience in local government, technical consulting and international development. He has supported policy/programme/project development and implementation in the areas of rural development, public administration, natural resources management, oil and gas sector, water and sanitation, addressing poverty-environment linkages in development and recently inclusive and sustainable growth policy issues in middle-income country contexts and achieving the SDGs. He has been working in the UN system since 2000 with UN peacekeeping missions in East Timor (2000-2002) and Liberia (2009-2010) and with UNEP in Afghanistan (2004-2006), and consulting assignments in Indonesia, China, Rwanda, Mongolia and Ukraine. He started with UNDP in 2010 as Senior Policy Advisor in New York before joining the Istanbul Regional Hub in 2015. George holds a Masters in Science from Murdoch University (Perth, Aust) and Masters in International Development from Melbourne University (Aust).

Karen Smith

Karen Smith is the Programme Coordinator of the Connecting Business initiative (CBI). Previously she worked with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Coordination Division as a Business Partnership Advisor working with companies to improve humanitarian effectiveness. Karen has also worked with the OCHA Central Emergency Response Fund as the lead for the Rapid Response Window managing the allocation USD 300 million in projects a year. Prior to working with OCHA she worked with the UN Department of Peacekeeping (DPKO) as the Coordinator for the Guidance team in the Peace Keeping Best Practices Section, as well as holding various posts with DPKO in Kosovo and Sudan. In addition to working with the UN she's held management positions with several NGOs, a decentralized fund for the Canadian International Development Agency and as Director of CSR Projects for Business for Social Responsibility. She is a member of the expert group for the UN Global Compact and was also an advisor for the Risk and Resilience track for the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI). Karen holds a MSc in Responsibility and Business Practice from the University of Bath, a Cross Sector Partnership Certificate from Cambridge University, a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Simon Fraser University, and a B.A. in International Development Studies and Economics from the University of Toronto.



Arda Batu

Arda Batu is Secretary General of Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation (TÜRKONFED), a non-governmental business organization, aiming to contribute to the development of regional, sectoral and national economic policies in Turkey. TÜRKONFED represents over 40.000 companies, generating a business volume of USD 300 billion and creating more than 7 million jobs. Arda previously held executive positions at regional consultancy companies, HB Consultancy Group and StratejiCo. He serves on the executive board of Centre for Economics and foreign Policy Studies (EDAM), advisory board of Co-opinion, and the editorial board of Turkish Policy Quarterly.



“ ABOUT THE EVENT:

The unprecedented health and socio-economic crises are expected to aggravate existing development challenges, underlining the need to revamp our efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The second webinar of this year's ODA Learning Series will look at the emerging picture of the pandemic's socio-economic impact, and how various stakeholders have been responding to the crisis, examining the case study from SMEs in Turkey.

The weekly webinars of the *ODA Learning Series 2020* are complemented by a virtual community of practice for development practitioners in Europe and Central Asia. Join the [Community on SparkBlue](#), submit your questions, contribute to the discussions and get updates on future events.

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The event will be recorded and uploaded on SparkBlue and shared with registered participants.