Ghada Abdel-Tawab, Program Officer, Ford Foundation
Ghada Abdel Tawab works from the foundation’s Cairo office. Her grant making has supported civil society, government, and academic institutions in their efforts to promote social justice in the Middle East and North Africa. Her current portfolio focuses on promotion of decent work and social protection in contexts of informality and forced migration. Ghada has worked for more than 25 years to advance development and human rights. Before joining Ford in 2013, she was senior regional expert at the German International Cooperation (GIZ) program for economic integration of women in the Middle East and North Africa. Her work included designing and launching program initiatives, developing country strategies, and mapping out key partners and issues at the country and regional levels. Previously, Ghada was senior adviser and technical team leader for gender equality at the Canadian International Development Agency. As the leader of CIDA’s gender team, she directed the design and implementation of a national program strategy to further the social and economic rights of women and girls. In 2008, she was recognized with the CIDA Presidential Award for Excellence. In her earlier role as national program coordinator for the Canada Fund, Ghada was responsible for grant making across an array of fields, among them water, sanitation, primary health care, human rights, and the environment. She managed and supervised local community initiatives, provided technical input and coaching, and commissioned studies and research. Ghada holds a master’s degree in development studies and a bachelor’s degree in political science, both from the American University in Cairo.

Rina Agarwala, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University
Rina Agarwala is Associate Professor of Sociology at Johns Hopkins University. Agarwala publishes and lectures on international development, labor, migration, gender, social movements, and Indian politics. Agarwala is the author of the award-winning book, *Informal Labor, Formal Politics and Dignified Discontent in India* (Cambridge, 2013) and the co-editor of *Whatever Happened to Class? Reflections from South Asia* (Routledge, 2008). She has published articles on informal labor, transnational movements, migration, legal justice, and gender in *International Migration Review, Theory and Society, Social Forces, Journal of Industrial Relations, Political Science and Politics, Research in the Sociology of Work, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Critical Asian Studies, and Indian Journal of Labour Economics*. Currently, she is working on a book manuscript on migration and development, and a cross-country comparative project on informal workers’ movements in seven countries. She has also worked on international development issues at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Beijing, the Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) in Gujarat, and Women’s World Banking (WWB) in New York. She holds a BA in Economics and Government from Cornell University, an MPP in Political and Economic Development from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and a PhD. in sociology from Princeton University.

Laura Alfers, Research Fellow, Rhodes University and Director, Social Protection Programme, WIEGO
Laura Alfers has worked with WIEGO since 2009 in the Social Protection Programme and was appointed Director in 2017. In 2013, Laura was one of 10 winners in the Rockefeller Foundation’s Centennial Innovation Challenge for the Phephanathi Project, which aims to make the informal trading of Warwick Junction more secure and healthy for traders, customers, people passing through, and the officials who manage it. In 2015 Laura completed her PhD at the School of Built Environment and Development Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The thesis used a gendered historical analysis to critically engage with current health reforms which seek to be inclusive of informal workers. As well as working for WIEGO, she is currently a post-doctoral research fellow at the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit at Rhodes University in South Africa.
Mark Anner, Associate Professor of Labor and Employment Relations and Founding Director of the Center for Global Workers’ Rights, Penn State University

Mark Anner is an Associate Professor of Labor and Employment Relations and the founding director of the Center for Global Workers’ Rights at Penn State University. He also directs the Penn State Master’s Program in Labor and Global Workers’ Rights, which is part of the Global Labour University network. Mark holds a Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University and a Master's Degree in Latin American Studies from Stanford University. He is the author of Solidarity Transformed: Labor Responses to Globalization and Crisis in Latin America, published by Cornell University Press. His current research examines how pricing and other sourcing dynamics in apparel global supply chains affect working conditions and workers’ rights, including homeworkers in the Delhi region.

Pamhidzai H. Bamu-Chipunza, Africa Coordinator, Law Programme, WIEGO

Pamhidzai H. Bamu-Chipunza was born and raised in Harare, Zimbabwe. She holds an LLB, LLM (Labour Law) and a PhD (Labour Law) from the University of Cape Town. She has worked as a Researcher in the Institute of Development and Labour Law at the University of Cape Town, and the Social Law Project at the University of the Western Cape and has undertaken and published research on various labour issues in South Africa and Southern Africa. She recently completed a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at Stellenbosch University. Her post-doctoral project considered the Zimbabwean labour market, with a focus on the development and regulation of its informal economy. She has consulted for agencies such as the International Labour Organization and SADC Secretariat on a number of labour and human rights issues.

Jane Barrett, Director, Organization & Representation Programme, WIEGO

Jane Barrett, a trade unionist from South Africa with over 30 years’ experience in the labour movement, is the Programme Director of WIEGO’s Organization and Representation programme since early 2016. She is a former General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union (now the South African Transport and Allied Workers Union), worked for the International Transport Workers Federation in its headquarters in London for five years, and immediately prior to joining WIEGO served as the Affiliate Support Officer in the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). Jane has extensive experience in collective bargaining, membership recruitment and organizing, trade union membership and leadership education, research and policy advocacy. Her specialist interests in the trade union movement were precarious workers, minimum wage regulation, women’s empowerment and, more recently, climate change and the working class. From her long involvement with transport workers, including public transport workers, she has extensive knowledge of how cities work (or don’t work) for the poor. Jane has a Social Work Degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, an Industrial Sociology honours degree from the University of the Witwatersrand, and an MPhil degree from SOAS, University of London. She has published widely. She is based in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Gautam Bhan, Lead, Academics and Research, Indian Institute for Human Settlements

Gautam Bhan is Lead, Academics and Research, at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore, where he teaches urban politics, planning and development. His writing, research and practice focuses on the politics of poverty in contemporary urban India with a focus on urban displacement, access to affordable housing, and housing policy in India. He has been an active part of urban social movements on sexuality as well as housing rights, and currently advises and trains governmental agencies at local, state and national levels on housing policy. He is most recently the author of In the Public's Interest: Evictions, Citizenship and Inequality in Contemporary Delhi (University of Geogria Press/Orient Blackswan), and co-editor of the Routledge Companion to Planning in the Global South. He holds a PhD in City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley.
Mike Bird, Operations Director, WIEGO
Mike Bird is based at the WIEGO office in Manchester. He has worked in the international aid and development sector for over 20 years, managing NGO programmes in Africa and Asia. Prior to joining WIEGO in 2010, he ran the New Zealand Government’s NGO funding programme. Mike is a generalist with a degree in French and Portuguese and a teacher training qualification.

Adelle Blackett, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Transnational Labour Law and Development, McGill University
Adelle Blackett, Ad. E., is Professor of Law and Canada Research Chair in Transnational Labour Law and Development at the Faculty of Law, McGill University. Professor Blackett holds a B.A. in History from Queen’s University, civil law and common law degrees from McGill, and an LL.M. and a doctorate in law from Columbia University. Widely published in English, French and Spanish in the emerging field of transnational labour law, in 2015, she co-edited a Research Handbook on Transnational Labour Law. Her book on the regulation of domestic work is under contract with Cornell University Press. Professor Blackett was awarded the Social Science and Humanities Research Council’s Bora Laskin National Fellowship in Human Rights Research in 2010, and recently received the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Fellowship in 2016 on transnational futures of international labour law. She has been a visiting scholar at the African Development Bank, the Australian National University and SOAS (University of London). She is the founding director of the Labour Law and Development Research Laboratory (LLDRL). A former official of the International Labour Office, Professor Blackett has been an ILO expert on international standard setting on decent work for domestic workers (2008-2011) leading to the adoption of Convention No. 189 and Recommendation No. 201, and on labour law reform in Haiti (2011-2014). She was unanimously appointed by the National Assembly of Quebec to the Human Rights and Youth Rights Commission (2009-2016). She was awarded the Barreau du Québec’s Christine Tourigny Award of Merit and the status of advocate emeritus in 2014, in recognition of her social commitment and her contributions to the advancement of women. In 2015, the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers awarded her its Pathfinder Award for her significant contributions to the legal community and the community at large.

Jan Breman, Professor Emeritus, University of Amsterdam
Jan Breman (1936) majored in the social sciences and specialized in South and Southeast Asian Studies. Since 2001 he is Professor Emeritus Comparative Sociology at the University of Amsterdam but continues his academic work as Honorary Fellow at the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam. His fieldwork-based rural and urban research for five decades was conducted in India (South Gujarat), Pakistan (Sindh and Punjab) and Indonesia (West Java). His latest books include At Work in the Informal Economy of India; A Perspective from the Bottom Up (OUP 2013, paperback 2016), Mobilizing Labour for the Global Coffee Market; Profits from an Unfree Work Regime in Colonial Java (AUP 2015) and On Pauperism in Present and Past (OUP 2016).

Jacqueline Burton, Program Associate, Ford Foundation
Since 2014, Jacqueline Burton has served as a Program Associate on Ford’s Equitable Development team. She acts as the coordinator of the foundation’s New Orleans working group, and internationally, works to develop cross-programmatic strategies to address inequality in urban areas and in processes of urbanization around the world. Jacqueline co-led Ford’s engagement in the Habitat III process and was a lead designer of Ford’s recent board of trustees trip to New Orleans. She has experience as an intern and researcher for UN-Habitat. Jacqueline holds a master’s degree in urban planning and international development from New York University and a bachelor’s degree in urban studies and planning from the University at Albany, State University of New York.
Françoise Carré, Research Director, Center for Social Policy, UMass Boston, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies and Research Coordinator, WIEGO

Françoise Carré is also a Research Director at the Center for Social Policy, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, University of Massachusetts-Boston, USA. Her areas of expertise are: labour economics and industrial relations; comparative employment systems; low wage employment; and worker representation systems. She conducts research on work transformation, nonstandard, and informal work in the USA and cross nationally. Recent projects include a study of retail employment in the US and Europe (Where Jobs are Better: Retail Jobs across Countries and Companies, with Chris Tilly, Russell Sage Foundation) and policy impacts of dependent contractor misclassification. On behalf of WIEGO’s statistics programme, she serves on the International Labor Organization Expert Group on the Revision of the International Classification of Status in Employment and the UN-Economic Commission for Europe Expert Group on Quality of Employment. She is an Affiliated Fellow at the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UCLA. Françoise holds a PhD, Urban and Regional Studies, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Jérémie Cavé, Expert in Urban Ecology

Jérémie Cavé is a French expert in urban ecology. He holds a PhD in urban studies and has been working on urban issues in the Global South for more than a decade. He gives lectures at Sciences Po Toulouse and other academic institutions.

Martha (Marty) Chen, Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School and Founding Member and International Coordinator, WIEGO

Marty Chen is a co-founder and International Coordinator of the global research-policy-action network Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO). She is also Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and has been an Affiliated Professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. An experienced development practitioner and scholar, her areas of specialization are employment, gender and poverty with a focus on the working poor in the informal economy. Before joining Harvard in 1987, she had two decades of resident field experience in South Asia: in Bangladesh in the 1970s, working with BRAC, an NGO which has gained world-wide scope and reputation: and in India in the 1980s, where she served as field representative of Oxfam America. In both capacities, she worked closely with working poor women in both villages and urban settlements to promote their economic empowerment. Over the past two decades, she has led the WIEGO network which seeks to improve the status of the working poor in the informal economy through stronger organizations, improved statistics and research and a more favorable policy environment. Today, WIEGO has affiliates and activities in over 100 countries: www.wiego.org. Dr. Chen received a PhD in South Asia Regional Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded a high civilian award, the Padma Shri, by the Government of India in April 2011; and a Friends of Bangladesh Liberation War award by the Government of Bangladesh in December 2012.
Jennifer Jihye Chun, Associate Professor in Sociology and Director of the Centre for the Study of Korea, University of Toronto

Jennifer Jihye Chun is Associate Professor in Sociology and Director of the Centre for the Study of Korea at the University of Toronto. Her research explores the changing world of work, gender, migration and politics through a comparative and critical ethnographic lens. Currently, she is engaged in research collaborations on protest cultures in South Korea; immigrant women workers and community organizing in California; and global comparative approaches to studying informal and precarious worker organizing in China, India, South Africa, South Korea, and the United States. She is the author of the award-winning book Organizing at the Margins: The Symbolic Politics of Labor in South Korea and the United States (Cornell University Press, 2009) and has recently published articles in Citizenship Studies (2016), Global Labour Journal (2016), Progress in Development Studies (2016), Positions: Asia Critique (2015), Journal of Korean Studies (2014), and SIGNS: Journal of Women in Culture and Society (2013).

Sarah Cook, Director, Office of Research-Innocenti, UNICEF

Sarah Cook is the Director of UNICEF’s Office of Research-Innocenti in Florence, Italy, and was previously Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). Her own research has focused primarily on China's social and economic transformations, including labour and migration, poverty, inequality, social policy and gender. She has been a Programme Officer for Economics and Public Policy at the Ford Foundation in Beijing and a Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex. Recent publications have focused on the care economy and social policy in China since the financial crisis.

Veronica Crossa, Professor, Centro de Estudios Demográficos, Urbanos y Ambientales, El Colegio de México

Veronica Crossa is a professor in urban studies at the Center for Demographic, Urban and Environmental Studies at El Colegio de México, since 2013. Previously she was a lecturer in the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy at University College Dublin. Veronica completed her doctoral degree in geography at The Ohio State University. Her research lies at the intersection of urban geography, cultural geography, and critical theory, with an interest in understanding the ways in which power operates at the level of everyday life in cities. Most of her work has centered on the struggles resulting from the implementation of revitalization policies in Mexico City’s public spaces. Specifically, her work has examined the ways in which street vendors in Mexico City negotiate and struggle over changing power structures in their everyday lives.

Jessica Dalton, Program Associate, Ford Foundation

Jessica Dalton recently joined the Ford Foundation’s New York office as a Program Associate in the Inclusive Economies program area, where she works to support strategies focused on enhancing economic security through quality work and financial stability, increasing capital for social impact and creating a pathway to an economy that works for all. Prior to joining the Ford Foundation, Jessica worked as a consultant for UN Women’s Economic Empowerment Section in New York on a project that aimed to promote and protect women migrant workers’ labor and human rights. She also worked as a consultant for UNICEF’s HIV/AIDS Advocacy Unit in New York and as a fellow for International Justice Mission in Chennai and New Delhi. Jessica holds a master’s degree in human rights studies from Columbia University and a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Oklahoma.
Arjan de Haan, Program Leader of Employment and Growth Program, IDRC

Arjan de Haan is Program Leader of the Employment and Growth program. Before joining IDRC, Arjan worked at the Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University Rotterdam) in The Hague, where he was convenor of the master’s program in social policy and led the development of the Indices of Social Development database. He previously worked for 10 years with the UK Department for International Development in London, India, and China. He also managed the Poverty Research Unit at the University of Sussex (UK). Arjan holds a PhD in social history from Erasmus University Rotterdam, and has published widely.

Sonia Dias, Waste Picker Sector Specialist, WIEGO

Sonia Dias is a sociologist by training and a “garbologist” with specialization in Solid Waste Management from the University of Kitakyushu, Japan (JICA grant). She also had a two-year visiting professorship at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (she was housed at the Centre for Women’s Studies — NEPEM — from 2012-2014). She has a Master’s degree in Human Geography (UFMG) on the role of local governments in strengthening waste pickers’ organizations in Belo Horizonte City, and a PhD in Political Science (UFMG) on the role of participation in solid waste management in Brazil. She has been active in the waste management field in Brazil since 1985 with a focus on promoting the integration of social inclusion aspects into the technical planning of waste collection and recycling. Her on-the-ground experience encompasses work as a public officer at the Municipal Cleansing Agency in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and voluntary work for the NGO INSEA supporting the organization of waste pickers and social activism for the Waste and Citizenship Fora. She is an Eisenhower Fellow for the Common Interest Program on Challenges of Urbanization, 2007. Sonia was named best speaker at the International Solid Waste Association ’97 ISWA’s World Conference, held in Wellington, New Zealand. She collaborated in Habitat III as Policy Unit Expert (#2). She is based in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Rhonda Douglas, Programme Strategy Advisor, WIEGO

In her role as WIEGO’s Programme Strategy Advisor, Rhonda Douglas coordinated the Inclusive Cities project and the Securing Economic Rights for Women’s projects, as well as the Focal Cities initiative. She is a member of WIEGO’s global operations team, leading the Programme Support and Communications Teams. She also provides operational and strategic planning support to membership-based organizations of the working poor. Rhonda holds a Master’s degree in Management for the Voluntary Sector from McGill University and has over two decades of experience in resource mobilization and organizational development. Prior to joining WIEGO in late 2006, Rhonda held senior management positions with Amnesty International Canada and CARE International, in addition to work as a consultant. She’s the Series Editor for *Sustainability for MBOs: Resource Books for Organizations* (WIEGO, 2014), and Editor, *Building Inclusive Cities: Lessons from the Inclusive Cities Project*. 
Alnoor Ebrahim, Professor, Tufts University

Alnoor Ebrahim is a Professor at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. His research examines the challenges of performance measurement, accountability, and governance facing organizations with a social purpose. He teaches courses on Leadership, International Business Strategy, and Managing NGOs and Social Enterprises. He also co-chairs the Schwab Social Entrepreneurs executive education program at the Harvard Kennedy School. Professor Ebrahim recently served on a working group established by the G8 to create global guidelines on measuring social impact, and continues to serve on an advisory board of the Global Impact Investing Network. He has worked with the NGO Leaders Forum, an annual gathering of CEOs of the largest humanitarian development organizations based in the US. His previous research on accountability mechanisms within the World Bank led to a Congressional Testimony on improving the Bank’s information disclosure policy. Alnoor is author of the award-winning book, "NGOs and Organizational Change: Discourse, Reporting, and Learning," and is co-editor of "Global Accountabilities: Participation, Pluralism, and Public Ethics," (both with Cambridge University Press). He is presently working on a new book, "Measuring Social Change," (Stanford University Press).

Lucía Fernández, Waste Picker Sector Advisor, WIEGO

Lucía Fernández is based in Montevideo where she works for WIEGO as the Waste Picker Sector Advisor and is a PhD candidate of the Doctorate in Architecture at Universidad de la República, Uruguay. She is an assistant professor at both the Institute of Theory and Urbanism, of the Faculty of Architecture as well as the Social and Solidarity Economy & Cooperatives Unit. Lucía holds a MA in Architecture, focused on spontaneous recycling dynamics from the Ecole National Superieure d’Architecture (ENSAG) and a MA on Ethical and Sustainable Development from the Philosophy Faculty of Universite Lyon 3. From 2011 – 2013 Lucía was based in Boston where she had a research affiliation with CoLab, at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. She has worked with WIEGO since 2008, when she coordinated the first World Conference of Waste Pickers, held in March 2008. Since then, she has supported large scale networking, with the Latin-American Network of Waste Pickers and the international coordination of the Global Alliance of Waste Pickers. She has been involved for so many years with the waste sector that some people fondly call her “basurita”.

Judy Fudge, Professor, University of Kent

Judy Fudge is Professor at Kent Law School at the University of Kent, which she joined in 2013. She began her academic career in Canada, where she was Professor at Osgoode Hall Law School and Lansdowne Chair in Law at the University of Victoria. She has a BA (Hons) from McGill University and an MA from York University, both in philosophy, as well as an LLB (Osgoode Hall Law School) and a D.Phil in law from Oxford. Her research interests are labour law history, labour and employment law (Canadian, UK, European, and International), immigration and work, precarious work, human rights and citizenship at work, and feminist approaches to labour law. She is particularly interested in developing a conception of the regulation of work and labour markets that captures the complex mix of paid and unpaid work and that gives voice to, and serves the needs of, working women and men at the sharp end of the global economy. Currently she is working on a project with Deirdre McCann on Global Regulatory Challenges of Unacceptable Forms of Work, which brings together an international network of researchers to identify, evaluate and develop innovative regulatory initiatives to make work better. Edited collections include Temporary work, Agencies, and Unfree Labour: Insecurity in the New world of Work (with Kendra Strauss); Challenging the Legal Boundaries of Work Regulation (with Kamala Sankaran, and Shae McCrystal). She is currently working on a book called Labour Exploitation, Modern Slavery and Unfree Labour: The Social Dynamics of Legal Characterization.
Marshall Ganz, Senior Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School

Marshall Ganz is a Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. He entered Harvard College in the fall of 1960, leaving a year before graduation to volunteer with the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project. He found a “calling” as an organizer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and, in the fall of 1965, joined Cesar Chavez in his effort to unionize California farm workers. During 16 years with the United Farm Workers he gained experience in union, political, and community organizing. During the 1980s, he worked with grassroots groups to develop new organizing programs and designed innovative voter mobilization strategies for local, state, and national electoral campaigns. In 1991, in order to deepen his intellectual understanding of his work, he returned to Harvard College and, after a 28-year “leave of absence,” completed his undergraduate degree in history and government. He was awarded an MPA by the Kennedy School in 1993, completed his PhD in sociology in 2000, and was awarded an honorary doctorate in divinity by the Episcopal Divinity School in 2010. As senior lecturer, he teaches, researches, and writes on leadership, organization, and strategy in social movements, civic associations, and politics.

Isabel Guerrero, co-founder (IMAGO Global Grassroots) and Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School

Isabel Guerrero is an economist who has worked in development all her professional life. She started as a macroeconomist, designing policy reforms from the World Bank adjustment operations in Philippines, Morocco and the Former Soviet Union. Isabel was a manager in the Economic Development Institute, training government officials, parliamentarians and journalists on macroeconomics and trade. Between 1997 and 2008, Isabel was a Country Director for Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Colombia, Mexico and India. In that capacity she designed the World Bank Country Strategy covering a wide range of sectors, including infrastructure, social development, environment, private sector development, rural development and livelihood programs, the financial sector, macroeconomics and trade policy. From 2008 to 2013, she was a Vice-President for the South Asia region. Isabel co-founded IMAGO Global Grassroots in April 2014, a non-profit that works with organizations at the Base of the Pyramid to help them scale up (www.imagogg.org). She is a Council Member of the United Nations University and on the Board of the Presencing Institute at MIT. Since 2014 Isabel has been teaching “Scaling Up for Development Impact” at Harvard Kennedy School and is a Senior Lecturer at MIT Sloan School of Management. She is also a frequent guest analyst of Global CNN Dinero at CNN-Español.

Barbara Harriss-White, Emeritus Professor and Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford

Barbara Harriss-White drove from Cambridge (UK) to New Delhi in 1969; since then she has been fortunate to research and teach Indian political economy. With 40 (ex) doctoral students, 40 books and over 250 papers and chapters, she directed Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford, established the South Asia Programme in Area Studies and is now Emeritus Professor and Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford. She has professorial associations with SOAS, London and JNU, New Delhi and is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. Her field research has followed two tracks: first, aspects of deprivation (malnutrition, poverty, gender subordination, disability, destitution, ageing and stigma); and second, agrarian change (long-term village studies, the long-term development of a market town, the food economy, relevant aspects of policy as politics). The informal economy, self-employment and small business have been leitmotifs. In retirement she studies the economy as a waste-producing system. She has worked with trade unions in India and the UK, with 7 UN agencies, and has been trustee / adviser to several international organisations and governments.
James Heintz, Professor, University of Massachusetts Amherst

James Heintz has written on a wide range of economic policy issues, including job creation, the distributive consequences of macroeconomic policies, gender and economics, and human rights. He has worked on collaborative projects with numerous United Nations agencies, including the International Labour Organization, the U.N. Research Institute for Social Development, the Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme, and UN Women. His policy work has focused on the U.S. as well as developing countries, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa, including Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, the Gambia, Madagascar, and South Africa. He worked as an economist at the National Labour and Economic Development Institute in Johannesburg, a policy think tank affiliated with the South African labor movement. He currently sits on the board of the International Association for Feminist Economics.

Renana Jhabvala, National Coordinator, SEWA and Founding Member and Chair, WIEGO Board

Renana Jhabvala is the National Coordinator of the Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) of India, Chair of SEWA Bharat and co-founder and board chair of WIEGO. She received a BSc in Mathematics from Hindu College, University of Delhi and a BA in Mathematics from Harvard University. She did post-graduate studies in economics at Yale University. She has a long and distinguished career in organizing working women in India into trade unions and cooperatives, engaging on policy issues, and writing about the informal economy. Her publications on the informal economy in India include include; Informal Economy Centrestage: New Structures of Employment, which she co-edited with Ratna M. Sudarshan and Jeemol Unni; and The Unorganised Sector: Work Security and Social Protection, which she co-edited with R.K.A. Subramanya. She recently served as the Chancellor of Gandhigram Rural Institute, a Deemed University in Tamil Nadu, India. Among other awards, she was awarded a Padma Shri from the Government of India in 1990 for her contributions in the field of social work.

Amin Kamete, Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow

Amin Kamete is Senior Lecturer in planning in the Department of Urban Studies in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Glasgow. Previously he was Lecturer in Planning in the School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography at the University of Wales, Bangor. He began his academic career in the Department of Rural and Urban Planning at the University of Zimbabwe. In 2003, he moved to the Nordic Africa Institute in Sweden as Senior Researcher and Research Programme Coordinator for the urban programme. Amin’s research interests are planning theory and practice with special emphasis on governmentality, cities, space and power in the context of development planning and development management practice vis-à-vis informality, marginality, resistance, (in)security and sustainability in sub-Saharan Africa. His recent research is particularly focused on two themes. First, focusing on the governance of space, it peers into the practices, strategies, attitude, behaviour and perspectives of planners and the authorities to urban informality. Second it looks at the circumstances, tactics, actions, reactions, and perspectives of ‘informals’ in urban spaces and places. His recent publications are on planning, informality, livelihoods, power, spatialised resistance, and urban governance in the contested urban spaces of Zimbabwe.
Ravi Kanbur, Professor, Cornell University and Member, WIEGO Board
Ravi Kanbur was born in India and brought up in India and in England. He did his university education in economics at Cambridge (undergraduate) and Oxford (doctorate). After his doctorate he taught for 10 years at the Universities of Cambridge, Essex, Princeton and Warwick before joining the World Bank. The positions he held at the World Bank included Head of the Ghana Field Office, Chief Economist for Africa, and Principal Adviser to the Chief Economist of the World Bank (Joseph Stiglitz). As Chief Economist for Africa, he was a member of the joint World Bank/IMF task force that designed the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt relief initiative. After eight years at the World Bank he returned to academia, to a Chair at Cornell University, where he has been since 1997. His academic CV shows over 250 published items, and he has published in the leading journals in economics, including *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Political Economy* and *Economic Journal*. He has been involved in joint research with SEWA for over 15 years, and has held the SEWA Chair at the SEWA Academy in Ahmedabad. With Renana Jhabvala and Marty Chen he initiated the Cornell-SEWA-WIEGO Dialogue process, which brings together academic economists, non-economists, and ground level activists to discuss and debate key issues in economic analysis and economic policy.

Lin Lean Lim, ex-ILO and Member, WIEGO Board
Lin Lean Lim, an independent consultant, is a development economist by training. She retired from the International Labour Organization at the end of 2008, after serving for 20 years. From 2007-2008, she developed the ILO global programme to make decent work a central objective of development policies, as part of the efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. From 2004-2006, she was Deputy Regional Director of the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, where her responsibilities included the supervision of regional programmes in areas such as labour migration, youth employment, labour market governance and local economic development. From 1994 through 2004, Lin’s positions at ILO Headquarters involved providing policy advice, implementing projects and conducting research dealing mainly with gender issues and the protection of vulnerable women workers and informal economy issues. She wrote the technical report and served as the Secretary-General’s representative for the 2002 International Labour Conference discussion on Decent Work and the Informal Economy. The ILC resolution was a major breakthrough in terms of the technical approach and global programmes on the informal economy. She was also responsible for an ILO global programme on More and Better Jobs for Women. Before joining the ILO, she was Associate Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Malaya and Visiting Fellow at several other universities. She is the author of several books, journal articles and technical reports.

Francie Lund, Advisor and Emeritus Team Member, WIEGO
Francie Lund was the Director of the Social Protection Programme of WIEGO from 2000 until early 2016. Currently, she works in the role of Advisor. She is also a Senior Research Associate in the School of Built Environment and Development Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa. She trained as a sociologist and community organizer and developed an abiding interest in social policy and social security issues. She is interested in understanding the effects of different forms of social assistance on poor households, and especially their effects for women and children in rural and informal areas. More recently she has been working on the link between women’s paid and unpaid care work and also on occupational health and safety for informal workers. She has worked as a research and policy consultant for a wide range of international organizations and for local, provincial, and national government in South Africa. She chaired the Lund Committee on Child and Family Support. Convened after the transition to democracy in 1994, this resulted in a new form of cash support for poor children.
Jane (“Jenny”) Mansbridge, Professor, Harvard Kennedy School
Jane Mansbridge, Charles F. Adams Professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and an active feminist, has engaged with the theory and practice of democracy since the late 1960s. She is the author of *Beyond Adversary Democracy* (on the deliberative and power dynamics in two small face-to-face democracies) and *Why We Lost the ERA* (the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution), as well as editor/co-editor of *Beyond Self-Interest, Feminism, Oppositional Consciousness, Deliberative Systems*, and *Political Negotiation*. President of the American Political Science Association 2012-13, she is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.

Kate Meagher, Associate Professor, London School of Economics
Kate Meagher is an Associate Professor in Development Studies at the Department of International Development, London School of Economics. She has a D.Phil in Sociology from the University of Oxford, and lectured in rural sociology at Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria from 1991-1997. She has engaged in extensive theoretical and field research on various aspects of African informal economies, with a particular focus on Nigeria, and has published widely on cross-border trade and regional integration, rural and urban informal activities, non-state security groups, informality and religious conflict, and youth unemployment. She has conducted collaborative research on religious conflict in northern Nigeria, with a specific focus on issues of extremism and youth unemployment. Her current research focuses on how linkages between the formal and informal economies shape economic regulation, with specific attention to taxation, the dynamics of economic inclusion, and the comparative study of African informal economies. Selected publications include *Identity Economics: Social Networks and the Informal Economy in Nigeria* (James Currey, 2010) and *Globalization, Economic Inclusion and African Workers: Making the Right Connections* (Routledge, 2016).

Rahul Mehrotra, Architect and Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Design
Rahul Mehrotra is a practicing architect, urban designer, and educator. His firm, RMA Architects, was founded in 1990 in Mumbai and has designed and executed projects for clients that include government and nongovernmental agencies, corporate, as well as private individuals and institutions. The firm has also initiated several unsolicited projects driven by the firm’s commitment to advocacy in the city of Mumbai. Mehrotra is a professor of urban design and planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD) and has written and lectured extensively on architecture, conservation, and urban planning in Mumbai and India. His writings include coauthoring *Bombay—The Cities Within, Banganga—Sacred Tank, Public Places Bombay, Bombay to Mumbai—Changing Perspectives and The Kumbh Mela – mapping the ephemeral mega city*. He has also co-authored *Conserving an Image Center—The Fort Precinct in Bombay*. Based on this study and its recommendations, the historic Fort area in Mumbai was declared a conservation precinct in 1995—the first such designation in India. His recent book is *Architecture in India, since 1990* which became the basis for an exhibition he co-curated titled *The State of Architecture – Practises and Processes in India* which was opened at the National Gallery of Modern Art in Mumbai in Jan 2016.
Rodrigo Negrete, Researcher Economist, INEGI

Rodrigo Negrete is a researcher economist of Mexico’s Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI). His areas of specialization are labor markets indicators, as well social indicators. As INEGI’s former director of the household survey division he accumulated experience on design, implementation and operation of both Labor Force Surveys and Income-Expenditure Surveys. A member since its inception of the Delhi Group, he was part of the draft team in charge of elaborating the Manual “Measuring Informality.” He has published a dozen articles in peer-reviewed publications on conceptual issues regarding labor indicators and measuring informality; he also published essays in national magazines on the interplay amongst culture, politics, history and society. Mr. Negrete has been a member as well on the ILO groups on measuring labor underutilization and currently, alongside WIEGO delegates, member of the expert group on the revision of the International Classification of Status in Employment, with the aim to produce a draft resolution on this regard to be presented at the next International Conference of Labour Statisticians to be held in Geneva, Autumn, 2018.

Michael Piore, Professor, MIT

Michael J. Piore is the David W. Skinner Professor of Political Economy, Emeritus, at MIT. He is currently a Visiting Senior Fellow in International and Public Affairs at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University and continues to teach part-time at MIT, where he is also faculty co-chair of the Industrial Performance Center. Professor Piore is a labor economist who has worked on a wide variety of labor problems including international migration, the impact of technological change, trade union organization and collective bargaining. The hallmark of his work is a concern with the way in which the economy is embedded in society and how its evolution is molded and directed by social processes. He is particularly interested in the insights this perspective offers relative to conventional economic theory, with its emphasis on individual decision-making in a competitive market. He is associated with a number of key concepts including the internal labor market, dual labor market analysis and the distinctions between flexible specialization and mass production, between interpretation and analysis in innovation, and between the U.S. and the Franco-Latin approach to work regulation and their impacts on labor market flexibility.

Uma Rani, Senior Economist, ILO

Uma Rani is Senior Economist at the Research Department and joined the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2008. She holds a Ph.D in Development Economics from University of Hyderabad, India. Prior to joining the ILO she worked as an Associate Professor at Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, India. She has also held Visiting Fellow positions at Institute of Developing Economics, Japan; ETH-NADEL, Zürich and Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement, Paris to undertake research on informal employment, precarious and non-standard forms of work. Her main research interest lies in development economics, the informal sector, minimum wages, social policies and gender. Her current research focuses on minimum wages in developing economies, income inequality, global supply chains in smart mobile segment and the gig economy, wherein she explores how labour and social institutions could be strengthened to address economic and social inequality.
Sally Roever, Incoming International Coordinator, WIEGO
Sally Roever holds a PhD in political science from the University of California at Berkeley (2005). Her current research focuses on the risks and vulnerabilities associated with own-account work in the urban informal economy, the role of urban infrastructure and public space in supporting informal livelihoods, and innovations in urban legal frameworks regarding informal employment. Her research has appeared in several journals, including *Environment and Urbanization*, *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, and *Cityscape*. She also has published articles in *The Guardian*, *Cityscope*, the *Global Urbanist*, and *Development Progress*, among others, and has been cited by media outlets including National Public Radio and *Next City*. Dr. Roever currently serves as WIEGO’s Incoming International Coordinator, and was formerly its Urban Policies Programme Director. She has lived and traveled abroad extensively, including a year in Lima, Peru, where she studied street vending organizations and local governance as part of her doctorate. Dr. Roever is currently based in Rome, Italy.

Mike Rogan, Senior Researcher, Rhodes University and WIEGO
Michael Rogan is a Senior Researcher in the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit (NALSU) at Rhodes University, South Africa and a research associate with WIEGO. He holds a PhD and a Master’s degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the University of Washington in Seattle. Michael’s work over the past five years has focused largely on informal employment, gender, poverty, food security, education and skills development, and survey design.

Jennifer (JJ) Rosenbaum, Lecturer, Harvard Law School
Jennifer (JJ) Rosenbaum is currently working with workers’ centers in the U.S. and Asia on law and organizing strategies to advance human and labor rights approaches to labor migration and global supply chains. She recently completed a Robina Foundation Visiting Human Rights Fellow at the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School. Prior to that she was the founding Legal and Policy Director for the National Guestworker Alliance and the New Orleans Workers’ Center for Racial Justice and was the legal strategist behind national campaigns including the Signal workers, who exposed labor trafficking from India to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, the Justice @ Hershey’s campaign where hundreds of foreign students won new regulations for the cultural exchange visa program, and the CJ’s seafood campaign highlighting forced labor in seafood processing on Wal-Mart’s U.S. supply chain. She has litigated cases before trial and appellate courts, led national policy campaigns, and testified before the United States Congress on labor issues of migrant workers. She received her J.D. from Harvard Law School where she is currently a Lecturer in Law.

Melanie Samson, Senior Lecturer, University of the Witwatersrand
Melanie Samson is a Senior Lecturer in human geography at Johannesburg’s University of the Witwatersrand. Prior to joining Wits Geography Department Melanie spent several decades working in trade unions, nongovernmental organizations and social movements. Melanie previously coordinated WIEGO’s Africa Waste Picker Programme and continues to collaborate with the WIEGO Waste Team. For over fifteen years she has researched the politics and political economy of waste and recycling while accompanying South African and global movements of privatized and informal workers in these sectors. Her current research focuses on theorizing ‘waste picker integration’. Linked to this research project, she is leading and facilitating the South African Department of Environmental Affairs’ stakeholder policy process to develop national guidelines on ‘waste picker integration’.
Kamala Sankaran, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu National Law School and Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi

Kamala Sankaran is presently Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu National Law School, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India. She is also Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Her research work is in the areas of constitutional law, international labour standards and the informal economy. She is currently working on the legal regulation of the informal economy, and equality and discrimination issues in South Asia. She has been part of the WIEGO Law Pilot Project in India and WIEGO’s three country law project covering Thailand, Ghana and Peru. Her most recent books include Affirmative Action: A View from the Global South published by SunMedia, South Africa in 2014 (co-edited with Ockert Dupper) and Challenging the Legal Boundaries of Work Regulation, published in 2012 by Hart Publishing, Oxford (co-edited with Judy Fudge and Shae McCrystal).

Bish Sanyal, Professor, MIT

Professor Bish Sanyal is Ford International Professor of Urban Development and Planning in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. He also heads the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program at MIT and is Director of the MIT Comprehensive Initiative on Technology Evaluation (CITE). Professor Sanyal joined MIT in 1984, served as the Head of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning from 1994 to 2002 and as the Chair of the MIT Faculty from 2007 until 2009. He recently completed a project, which he co-lead with Professor Larry Vale, and which was funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, to create the curriculum for a new university, the Indian Institute of Human Settlements in Bangalore, India. He has published extensively on cities and city planning in developing countries, particularly, how to integrate the majority of urban population who are poor into the physical and economic fabric of the city. He has also written on internationalization of planning education. His publications include 5 books, his most recent (2012) is Planning Ideas that Matter (MIT Press); and he is working on a manuscript Hidden Successes: Innovative Institutional Responses to India’s Urban Challenges. Professor Sanyal was named a MacVicar Faculty Fellow at MIT in 2011 for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education; and he was recently awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award 2011 from his alma mater, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. He has advised governments in four continents, as well as leading international institutions. For more on Professor Sanyal’s projects and work, please visit his website at: http://sanyal.scripts.mit.edu/site/

Caroline Skinner, Interim Urban Policies Programme Director, WIEGO

Caroline Skinner is WIEGO’s Interim Urban Policies Programme Director and a Senior Researcher at the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town. For nearly 20 years, Skinner’s work has interrogated the nature of the informal economy with a focus on informing advocacy processes and livelihood-centred policy and planning responses. She has published widely on the topic. In her capacity as WIEGO Publications Director she has overseen the editing, commissioning and publication of over 100 open source publications - arguably the most comprehensive collection of work on the global informal economy to date. Skinner has a long track record of policy and advocacy work at a local, provincial, national and international level. She has written policy papers for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, and she has worked with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. She also provided technical support for membership based organization advocacy campaigns both internationally and in South Africa. For many years, she has also provided research material for the Legal Resources Centre in their litigation to secure informal workers’ rights, including on a case challenging the constitutionality of confiscating street traders’ goods.
Silke Staab, Research Specialist, UN Women
Silke Staab is a Research Specialist at UN Women and one of the authors of Progress of the World’s Women 2015: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights. Prior to UN Women, she has worked as a researcher in both the UN Research Institute on Social Development (UNRISD) in Geneva and at the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) in Santiago. A political scientist in training, Silke completed her PhD at the University of Manchester in 2014. Her recently published book Gender and the Politics of Gradual Change (Palgrave, 2017) focuses on social policy reforms and innovations in Chile.

William (Biff) Steel, Faculty, University of Ghana and Founding Member, WIEGO Board
William (Biff) Steel is one of the founding members of WIEGO, and has participated actively in the Steering Committee/Board, Management and Finance Committees. He currently lives in Accra, Ghana, teaching part-time at the University of Ghana and consulting for the World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, and others. At the end of 2005, he retired as Senior Adviser in the Africa Region Private Sector Group of the World Bank, where he had worked since 1983, specializing in small enterprise development and microfinance. He led a WIEGO team in preparing the Diagnostic Framework for the World Bank’s study on Raising Productivity and Reducing Risks of Household Enterprises in six African countries. As Co-Chair of the Committee of Donor Agencies for Small Enterprise Development (1991-2004), he led the development of Guiding Principles for donor support both for microfinance (1995) and for business development services (2001). He has published numerous studies, articles and books on small enterprise development, informal financial markets, microfinance regulation, informal workers, employment of women, and industrial adjustment. He previously taught economics at Vanderbilt University and the University of Ghana, and he has served as an Advisor in the African Development Bank and the Indonesia National Planning Agency.

Meenu Tewari, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina
Meenu Tewari is Associate Professor of Economic and International Development at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on the political economy of development, industrialization, and urbanization. She is particularly interested in the changing nature of work in rapidly urbanizing low-income and emerging economies, and in the challenge of skill formation and upgrading within regional and global production networks. Her recent research has focused on institutional reform in the urban water sector and the challenges of urbanization in an era of climate change. She is also exploring issues related to the institutional embedding of the local food economy in US communities. Her work has been published in World Development, Competition and Change, Environment and Planning, Oxford Development Studies and the Global Economy Journal. Her co-edited book, Labor in Global Value Chains in Asia (with D. Nathan and S. Sarkar) was published by Cambridge University in November 2016. Tewari holds a Ph.D. and Masters from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelors from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi.

Chris Tilly, Professor, UCLA
Chris Tilly, Professor of Urban Planning at UCLA, studies labor and inequality in the US and global context, with a particular focus on bad jobs and how to make them better. Tilly’s books include Half a Job: Bad and Good Part-Time Jobs in a Changing Labor Market; Glass Ceilings and Bottomless Pits: Women’s Work, Women’s Poverty; Work Under Capitalism: Stories Employers Tell: Race, Skill, and Hiring in America; The Gloves-Off Economy: Labor Standards at the Bottom of America’s Labor Market, Are Bad Jobs Inevitable?, and Where Bad Jobs Are Better: Retail Jobs across Countries and Companies.
Jeemol Unni, Professor, Ahmedabad University and Member, WIEGO Board

Jeemol Unni is Professor of Economics at Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad. She was Director at Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) and earlier RBI Chair Professor of Economics at IRMA. She holds a Ph.D., Economics and M.Phil, Applied Economics. She was a post-doctoral Fellow at Economic Growth Center, Yale University. She was an International Labour Organisation Consultant and Senior Advisor to the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS), Government of India. She is currently on the Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics, Ministry of Statistics, Government of India. She is a specialist in Labour economics and is currently working on the changing geographies of labour in urban India and the multiple manifestations of informalisation in the labour market. She also works on issues related to gender and higher education. Recent publications: “Employment and Education: An Exploration of the Demand-side Story”, Devesh Kapur and Pratap Bhanu Mehta (edited) Navigating the Labyrinth: Perspectives on India’s Higher Education, Orient Blackswan, 2017; “Women Entrepreneurship: Research review and future directions”, Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research, 2016, 6:12(6).

Imraan Valodia, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, University of Witwatersrand

Imraan Valodia is Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He was previously based at the School of Built Environment and Development Studies, University of KwaZulu-Natal. His research interests include employment, the informal economy, gender and economic policy, and industrial development. Professor Valodia has led and participated in a number of large national and international studies. In the recent period, he led an international study, in 10 cities across the globe, of the informal economy using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methodologies. In the period 2008-2011 he led, with Professor Caren Grown of the American University, a pathbreaking three-year research project, conducted in 8 countries, on the gender impacts of direct and indirect taxation. This research was recently published by Routledge as an edited book. He has published widely in leading international journals. He is a National Research Foundation (NRF) B-rated researcher - a rating given to researchers who enjoy considerable international recognition by their peers for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs. Professor Valodia is a part time member of the Competition Tribunal in South Africa. He is also a Commissioner of the South African Employment Conditions Commission and a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa (Assaf) Standing Committee on Science for the Reduction of Poverty and Inequality. In August 2016 he was appointed by Deputy President Cyril Rampaphosa to chair the Advisory Panel on the National Minimum Wage, which presented a Report to the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC) social partners in November 2016.

Joann Vanek, ex-UN Statistics Division and Director, Statistics Programme, WIEGO

Joann Vanek is a gender/social statistician. She retired from the United Nations Statistics Division after 20 years of work. At the United Nations, she led the development of the programme on gender statistics and coordinated the production of three issues of the UN global statistical report on women, The World’s Women: Trends and Statistics. She has co-authored several WIEGO flagship publications, including, most recently, Women and Men in the Informal Economy 2013: A Statistical Picture. The co-authors of this publication are Martha Chen, Ralf Hussmanns, James Heintz and Francoise Carre. Joann is featured in the bulletin of her undergraduate college, St. Mary’s College Courier (Spring, 2012, page 12). The story highlights pivotal moments of her career as a statistician and her research on the informal economy.
Marlese von Broembsen, Visiting Researcher, Harvard Law School and Director, Law Programme, WIEGO

Marlese von Broembsen hails from Cape Town, South Africa. Currently she is a Visiting Researcher at the Institute for Global Law and Policy, Harvard Law School. Marlese joined WIEGO in 2015 as WIEGO’s first Law Programme Director. She holds law degrees from Stellenbosch, the University of Cape Town, and Harvard University. Marlese is a qualified attorney and has a MPhil in Development Studies. Early in her career she worked grassroots with informal enterprises (for four years), and was involved in policy work in Southern Africa for many years. She wrote the South African report on Business Rights for the UN Commission for the Legal Empowerment of the Poor and was the lead researcher for the Global Enterprise Monitor (South Africa) for its 2005 study on the informal economy. Marlese has taught at the Universities of the Western Cape; Cape Town and North Eastern Law School. She pioneered an inter-disciplinary Master’s Degree in Social Justice in the Law Faculty, University of Cape Town, which she taught from 2009-2014, when she was awarded a Harvard South Africa Fellowship. She has published in the areas of development, labour law, global value chains, and legal empowerment of the poor.

Michael Walton, Senior Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School

Michael Walton has been working as a development economist for almost four decades and has lived in four continents. For the past 14 years he has been working with the next generation, through teaching and field work. Throughout this time, his central interest, and role, has been as a bridge between the worlds of ideas and practice. He likes to engage with other disciplines, especially politics and anthropology. Michael is also a dancer, and gets enormous pleasure from the multiple dimensions of life. As an economist and development practitioner, he is particularly interested in understanding change. He believes change, and resistance to change, has to be understood in relation to economic, political and social inequalities and institutional structures. He has been with the Harvard Kennedy School since 2004 and the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi since 2007. He worked for the World Bank from 1980 to 2004. He is increasingly involved in working with grassroots organizations, especially in India and Latin America, with IMAGO Global Grassroots. He also loves nature, art, and gardening.

Vanessa Watson, Professor, University of Cape Town

Vanessa Watson is professor of city planning in the School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics at the University of Cape Town (South Africa), is a university Fellow, and undertakes research through the African Centre for Cities. Her research focuses on urban planning in the global South and the effects of inappropriate planning practices and theories especially in Africa. Her work seeks to unsettle the geo-politics of knowledge production in planning by providing alternative theoretical perspectives from the global South. She is the author/co-author of eleven books, some fifty journal articles and numerous chapters, conference papers and keynotes in the field of planning. She is the Global South Editor of Urban Studies, an editor of the journals Planning Theory and the European Journal of Development Research, and on several editorial boards.