



**PROGRAMME: SEVENTH HIGH LEVEL ECONOMIC GROWTH FORUM  
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
PROPOSED THEME: “STRENGTHENING UGANDA’S COMPETITIVENESS TO  
FOSTER ACCELERATED ECONOMIC GROWTH”  
24<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

<b>Day 1: 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023</b>	
8:00am – 8:30am	<b>Arrival &amp; Registration</b> <b>Master of Ceremony: Maurice Mugisha</b>
8:30am – 9:00am	<b><u>Opening Session</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PS/ST - MoFPED (15 min)</li> <li>• Dr. Jonathan Leape (15 min)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session I: Global Economic Developments and Implications for Economic Growth.</b> <b>Session Chair: Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development in charge of Planning.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In the face of rising global interest rates, how can policymakers in Uganda check rising debt servicing costs?</i></li> <li>• <i>With several potential external shocks on the horizon, how can policymakers best manage a pullback in capital flows?</i></li> <li>• <i>Is there a trade-off between Ugandan policymakers focusing on exchange rate stability and export competitiveness?</i></li> </ul>	
9:00am – 10:40am	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Albert Musisi (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Uganda’s economic growth performance pre- and post-Covid-19: Challenges and opportunities-new growth opportunities”</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Chris Adam (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Shocks and uncertainty in the global economy: Adjusting to a world with reduced capital flows”</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Elizabeth Kasekende (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“New strategies for monetary policy and debt management”</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. John Mutenyo (5 min)</li> <li>• Ms. Izabela Karpowicz (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>
10:40am – 11:00am	<b>Coffee Break</b>



<p><b>Session II - Domestic revenue mobilization: Mobilizing finance for economic development</b>  <b>Session chair: Hon. Henry Musasizi, Minister of State for General Duties, MoFPED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How can administrators at URA increase revenue collection without unduly hurting the private sector?</i></li> <li>• <i>What can be done to make Uganda's tax incentives more effective in achieving the stated objectives and promote growth?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can local government revenues be utilized to impact economic growth at the sub region level?</i></li> </ul>	
11:00am – 12:30pm	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Twivwe Siwale (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Strategies for enhancing tax compliance: Mobilizing revenues for growth and development”</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Paul Lakuma (20min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Closing the loopholes in the tax system that undermine tax buoyancy”</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Regina Navuga, SEATINI (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>
12:30pm – 2:00pm	LUNCH
<p><b>Session III – Boosting exports &amp; firm productivity</b>  <b>Session chair: Dr. Ezra Muhumuza – UMA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Given rising protectionism around the globe, what opportunities are opening for Uganda?</i></li> <li>• <i>What are the 10 most important policy actions that Uganda could undertake to drive export growth?</i></li> <li>• <i>What does Uganda have to do to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the AfCFTA?</i></li> </ul>	
2:00pm - 3:15pm	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Bernard Hoekman (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“10 Policies to raise exports”</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Isaac Shinyekwa (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Realizing the opportunities – and coping with constraints – of preferential trade arrangements”</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Elly Twineyo, Executive Director, UEPB (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>



<p><b>Session IV – Climate Change and growth</b>  <b>Session chair: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What are the fiscal policy priorities for climate change mitigation and adaptation that promote economic growth?</i></li> <li>• <i>What are investment and regulatory priorities for ensuring both growth and sustainability in agriculture, transports, and cities?</i></li> <li>• <i>What can be done to attract climate financing?</i></li> </ul>	
<p>3:15pm – 4:30pm</p>	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Vicky Chemutai (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Adapting to a brave new (hotter) world: Fiscal priorities for Uganda and climate financing”</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Sam Mugume Koojo, MoFPED (15 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>“Implementing the NDC Promises for growth”</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussants</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Christine Mbatuusa, Programme Officer at Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI) (5 min)</li> <li>• Mr. Hugh King, FCDO (5 min)</li> <li>• Denis Mugagga, MoFPED (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>
<p><b>Summary Session – Report from the plenary sessions: policies for growth</b>  <b>Session Chair (Permanent Secretary, &amp; Secretary to the Treasury, MoFPED)</b></p>	
<p>4:30pm – 5:00pm</p>	<p><b>Speakers</b>  Ms. Milly Kaddu &amp; Rosette Nakavuma (30 minutes)  <b>Q&amp;A and Press Conference</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 2- 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023</b></p>	
<p>8:00am – 8:45am</p>	<p><b>Arrival and registration</b></p>
<p>Day 2 (Session I – Technology as a Driver of Productivity and growth)  <b>Session Chair: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of ICT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What are the barriers to technology adoption by firms in Uganda?</i></li> <li>• <i>What is the impact of mobile money adoption on the productivity of SMEs?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can foreign investors be incentivized to transfer technology to local businesses?</i></li> </ul>	
<p>8:45am – 10:25am</p>	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Marios Obwona (30 min)  <i>“Productivity growth: Drivers, global trends and some lessons for Uganda”</i></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Martina Ferracane (20 min) <i>“Realizing the promise of digital trade: Policies for economic growth”</i></li> <li>• Mr. Robert Mukiza, Executive Director, UIA (20 min) <i>“Technology and productivity: Harnessing FDI to boost productivity levels of firms”</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Ibrahim Okumu- Dean school of Economics, Makerere University (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>
<p><b>Day 2 (Session II – Transition to monetary economy and sustained growth: Leveraging the Parish Development Model (PDM))</b>  <b>Session Chair (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What is the potential of PDM in promoting households’ income and economic growth?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can local savings be utilized to impact economic growth at the sub-region level</i></li> <li>• <i>How to harness proceeds from PDM investments into large sustainable production ventures?</i></li> </ul>	
<p>10:25am – 12:00noon</p>	<p><b><u>Speakers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenneth Otikal (DDA) and Nana Cabrel Nkuingoua (FAO) (20min) <i>“Using the PDM to facilitate transition of households in the subsistence economy to the monetary economy”</i></li> <li>• Dr. Madina Guloba (EPRC) (20 min) <i>“How can the PDM help to connect farmers to the markets and value chains”</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Elly Twineyo (20min)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>How can PDM help to link producers and processors to the external markets.</i></p> <p><b><u>Discussant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Golooba Lwanga (MoFPED) (5 min)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Q&amp;A</u></b></p>
<p><b>Day 2: session – III</b>  <b>Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Maurice Mugisha</b></p>	
<p><b>Session Chair: Minister of State for General Duties, Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development</b></p>	
<p>12:00 – 12:35 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Stefan Dercon, University of Oxford <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Keynote address: Mobilizing political action for second and third generation reforms – lessons from Africa</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



12:35 pm - 1: 00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. Ramathan Ggoobi, Permanent Secretary &amp; Secretary to the Treasury, MoFPED <i>“Ideas from the growth forum “</i></li></ul>
1:00pm – 1:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minister of State for General Duties, Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development</li></ul>
1:15pm – 2:30pm	<b>Lunch and departure</b>

### **Biographies of the presenters**

**Ramathan Ggoobi** is the Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED). He has taught Economics at several universities particularly Makerere University Business School (MUBS), where he headed a think- tank – the MUBS Economic Forum. His research interests are in industrial policy, economic policy and political economy. Prior to taking over as PS/ST, Ramathan was a regular pundit in media on economic issues and wrote a weekly column, “Are you listening Mr. President” in the Sunrise Newspaper for 15 years. He has consulted with overseas Development Institute (ODI) UK; International Labour Organization (ILO); Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES); Financial Sector Deepening Uganda (FSDU); Government of Uganda; Action Coalition for Development and Environment, and many others. He was a board Director at the Uganda Development Corporation (UDC), the government of Uganda’s investment arm and senior presidential Advisor on the National Economy.

**Dr. Albert Musisi** holds a PhD in Development Economics from the Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He has considerable experience in Economic Development Policy, Macroeconomic Policy, and Poverty Analysis. He was the Commissioner for Economic Development Policy and Research in the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in Uganda but is currently the Commissioner for the Macroeconomic Policy in the same Ministry. He also coordinates the collaboration between the International Growth Centre (IGC) and Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) on behalf of Uganda. Prior to the above, he worked with the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management



(PREM), anchor unit of the World Bank in Washington D.C. USA. He has interest in regional integration and was task leader for Uganda in the negotiations for the establishment of the East African Monetary Union.

**Mr. Corti Paul Lakuma** is a Research Fellow in the macroeconomics department at the Economic Policy Research Centre. He is an established forecaster, economic model builder and adviser with more than a decade of service to government and international organizations. He has advised the Finance Ministry in Uganda on macroeconomic and fiscal policy, fiscal institutions and revenue administration. He has worked on the Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy for the medium term for Uganda, where he authored numerous diagnostic papers to inform the reform process. Most recently, Mr. Lakuma has been involved in the conduct of several firm level surveys to establish the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the productivity of Uganda's employees, firms and industry. He holds an MSc in Economics with distinction at the University of Essex, United Kingdom and BA Social Science from Makerere University Kampala (MUK) Uganda.

**Dr. Madina Guloba** is an Economist and holds a PhD (Economics) and Master of Arts in Economics from University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania under the Collaborative Postgraduate Programme of the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Nairobi-Kenya. Madina is currently a Senior Research Fellow at the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC)-Uganda's leading policy Think Tank. She has more than nine years of research experience in which she has worked on several projects and published in the field of development economics, gender, climate change, education, environment, natural resources and labour markets. Madina is a member of the International Association of Feminist Economist (IAFFE) and an Alumni of the African Economic Research Consortium and United Nations University-World Institute of Development Economic Research (UNU-WIDER), member of the National Advisory Committee on Monitoring and Evaluation representing Research and Academia and the National Subcommittee of Evaluations in the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).



**Dr. Elizabeth Kasekende** is an Assistant Director in charge of economics modelling and forecasting at the Bank of Uganda. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and a Msc. in Economic Research.

**Dr. John Mutenyo** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economic Theory and Analysis at Makerere University. He specializes in development and environmental economics and has published on investment, economics, and agricultural productivity.

**Regina Navuga** works as a Program Coordinator at The Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI), which is a federal company with an estimated 19 employees; and founded in 1996., their management level is non-Manager. Regina graduated from Makerere University Kampala-Uganda and is currently based in Kampala, Uganda.

**Christine Mbatuusa** is an economist with experience in research and project management. She is currently a Programme Officer at Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI), where she supports work under the climate change and Environmental Governance Programme. She has experience in financing for development, targeting environment and climate change. She has contributed to a number of EMLI studies through collecting both qualitative and quantitative data such as Tracking Climate Adaptation Financing in Uganda by EMLI and CARE Uganda and Domestic Adaptation Financing in Uganda led by EMLI and WWF-UCO.

**Elly Twineyo Kamugisha** is an economist and the current Executive Director for the Uganda Export Promotion Board (UEPB). He is a Senior Trade and Policy Specialist who worked with Chemonics International between 2013-2014. He is an academician owing to his experience in university teaching obtained at Uganda Management Institute and Makerere University Business School between 2009 and 2013.

**Robert Mukiza** is the Director General at Uganda Investment Authority (UIA). Prior to joining the UIA, Mr. Mukiza was Deputy Director for the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and Representative to Ethiopia, the African Union and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Robert served as a Director of Hong Kong-based Acadia Energy; Head of the



United Nations Country Team Coordination Unit in Botswana; Lead Economist for the United Nations in the Maldives; and a researcher at the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development in Switzerland.

**Dr. Isaac Shinyekwa** is the Head of Trade and Regional Integration Department at the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC). He joined EPRC in 2010 as a Research Fellow after which he was elevated to Senior Research Fellow in March 2016. He previously worked for the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries) as a Coordinator for Market Research Studies (value chains). He also worked as a resident consultant at the EPRC for over four years (2000 – 2004) to implement research projects in collaboration with Chronic Poverty Research Center (UK), Universities of Manchester, and Bradford in the UK and Fort Hare University in South Africa. Dr. Shinyekwa has conducted research for reputable institutions like the World Bank, International Food Policy Research Institute, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, South African Institute of International Affairs, African Growth Initiative of Brookings Institute and the United Nations University – World Institute for Development Economics Research. At the continental level he is a member of the expert group for African Union Malabo Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) declaration score card (Biennial Report). He participated in the preparation and development of the East African Community Regional Trade Policy. At the national level, he has been a member of several sector committees including Inter Institutional Trade Committee, the Private Sector Investment Survey by the Bank of Uganda, Uganda Bureau of Statistics and Uganda investment Authority, the National Development Plan III Committee. He has been involved in the development of government policies and strategies such as the National Industrial Development Plan and the EAC Common External Tariff.

**Golooba Lwanga (MEPD)** is Senior Economist at Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

**Dr. Stefan Dercon** is a Professor of Economic Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government and the Economics Department, and a Fellow of Jesus College, at the University of Oxford. He is also





Director of the Centre for the Study of African Economies. Between 2011 and 2017, he was Chief Economist of the Department of International Development (DFID), the government department in charge with the UK's aid policy and spending. In this position, he provided strategic advice, and was responsible for ensuring the use of evidence in decision making. Before joining the University of Oxford, he held positions at the University of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), the Catholic University of Leuven, and WIDER (Helsinki), part of the United Nations University.

**Dr. Jonathan Leape** is the Executive Director of IGC and an Associate Professor of Economics at the LSE. He was the founding director of the Centre for Research into Economics and Finance in Southern Africa, which was established at LSE in 1990 as an initiative of the Commonwealth Heads of Government to support the democratic transition in South Africa. He has advised several African governments, with a focus on tax and regulatory issues, and he served as Chief Academic Advisor on Taxation to the UK Government Economic Service. He was also director of the highly innovative “LSE100 The LSE Course: Understanding the Causes of Things” from 2009-13. His research interests centre on public economics, with a particular focus on taxation and regulation, including congestion charging. He has a PhD in Economics from Harvard University, where he was a National Science Foundation Fellow, and degrees from Oxford University and Harvard University.

**Dr. Chris Adam** is Professor of Development Economics in the Department for International Development and Research Associate of the Centre for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford. He is a Fellow of the European Development Network (EUDN), Visiting Professor at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, France, and a Visiting Scholar at the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington DC. In 2011-12 he served as Specialist Advisor to the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee Inquiry into the Effectiveness of UK Development Aid. He is Vice-Chair of the Board of the African Economic Research Consortium, representing DFID. His research is principally concerned with macroeconomic theory and policy in low-income countries, especially those of Sub-Saharan Africa. Most recently, this work has concentrated on the analysis of monetary, exchange rate and fiscal policy in ‘post-stabilization’ countries. In recent years, much of this work has been concerned with the economies of East



Africa. An undergraduate at the University of St Andrews, Scotland, he also holds an M.Phil. and D.Phil. in Economics from Nuffield College, Oxford.

**Ms. Izabela Karpowicz** is a career economist at the International Monetary Fund. She has 20 years of experience working on various macroeconomic policy issues in low-income, emerging, and advanced economies as well as cross-country topics. In her career she has covered the desks for Egypt and Brazil and has followed numerous programs supported by IMF financing facilities. Ms. Karpowicz has a Master in Economics from Central European University and a Certificate in Macroeconomic Policy Research from the Kiel Institute for World Economics. She is currently the IMF Resident Representative for Uganda since 2020.

**Twivwe Siwale** is the Head of Tax for Growth, a thematic initiative of the International Growth Centre. She is responsible for project development, content creation and policy engagement for IGC's work on tax. The portfolio includes a collaboration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority to develop a dashboard to increase the utilization of tax data generated from Electronic Fiscal Devices to increase domestic revenue mobilization. Other work is with the Zambia Revenue Authority to pilot a consumer incentive scheme to increase VAT compliance. Prior to joining the IGC, Twivwe worked at the Zambia Revenue Authority in various departments including the tax inspectorate, audit and policy and legislation unit. She is a Commonwealth Scholar who holds an MSc in Public Economics from the University of York. She is also a 2017 Mandela Washington Fellow and studied Public Management at the Andrew Young School of Public Policy in Atlanta, Georgia. She has provided expert economic analysis on Zambia to various media houses including the BBC and the Telegraph.

**Dr. Bernard Hoekman** is the Director of Global Economics at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (Global Governance Programme) at the European University Institute; and a CEPR Research Fellow. Prior positions at the World Bank include Director of the International Trade Department; Research Manager of the trade team in the Development Research Group; task leader of the trade capacity building program of the World Bank Institute.



During the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, he worked as a research economist in the GATT Secretariat (1988-93). He has published widely on the multilateral trading system and economic development, trade in services, and preferential trade agreements. He is a graduate of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan and is Senior Associate of the Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran, and Turkey.

**Vicky Chemutai** is an Economist (under the Young Professional Program) with the Trade and Regional Integration Unit of the World Bank. Her focus area is on analyzing the dynamics of international trade and its interactions with global issues which include, inter alia, climate change concerns. Prior to joining the World Bank in 2017, she worked with governments keen on using international trade as a conduit for structural transformation at the World Trade Organization.

**Hugh King** is a Private Sector Climate Change Adviser at the British High Commission in Uganda.

**Dr. Sam Mugume Koojo** is the Assistant Commissioner (Statistics), Macroeconomic Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

**Dr. Martina Ferracane** is a Research Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies at the European University Institute, as well as the manager of the Digital Trade Integration project. In addition, Martina is more broadly interested in the topic of digital transformation and is running a randomized controlled trial (RCT) which aims to assess the impact of digital fabrication classes on students' skills and interest in STEM subjects. She holds a PhD in Law & Economics from Hamburg University in Germany.

**Kenneth Otikal** is a seasoned Statistician, Development Planner, Economist, and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) specialist with over 14 years of dedicated service in various fields. Currently, he serves as the Head of Planning at the Dairy Development Authority of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries. Kenneth's key role in developing, reviewing, and evaluating plans, programs, and strategies for the Dairy Industry has significantly contributed to the growth of the industry. His hands-on experience in planning both at Central and Local Government levels, has fortified his expertise. As a coordinator of the FAO-AgriInvest project,



Kenneth facilitated policy dialogues that generated the Dairy Policy Action Plan, a critical step in leveraging the Parish Development Model in the Dairy Industry.

Kenneth's innovative solutions like “Eval Hub” reflect his dedication to solving real-world challenges. His comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the dairy sector makes him an invaluable asset to the industry's ongoing evolution. Kenneth's participation in the 7th High Level Economic Forum in Uganda symbolizes his unwavering commitment to using evidence-based practices and strategic planning to foster the growth and sustainability of the Dairy Industry leveraging on the Parish Development Model as one of the future key drivers.

**Nana Cabrel Nkuingoua** is a Policy Analyst at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Uganda. He is the national project coordinator of the FAO’s Monitoring and Analyzing Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) programme in Uganda. In this role, among other things, he has provided technical support for the development of Uganda’s Dairy Policy Action Plan, conducted policy impact assessment on key commodities such as beef and milk, provided capacity building on public expenditure and price incentives analysis and advise Government on investment prioritization in the agriculture sector. Prior to joining FAO Uganda, Nana worked in FAO headquarters in Italy at the Agrifood Economics Division. He has provided agricultural policy analysis and advise to the Government of Mali and Bangladesh and contributed to analyzing public expenditure in 13 sub-Saharan African countries. Nana has previously served as: Research Fellow at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, Research assistant at the Graduate Institute for International Development, Agriculture and Economics (GIIDAE) in the UK, and Agricultural consultant with several Non-Governmental Organizations in Cameroon. He holds a master’s degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Reading, UK.

**Dr. Marios Obwona** is currently a Consultant (Macroeconomics) at the National Planning Authority. He has over 30 years of experience in economic policy research and in teaching at Graduate levels at Makerere University, the Australian National University and as a visiting



Lecturer at the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Collaborative Masters and PhD Economics Programmes, Nairobi, Kenya.

Work experience includes

- ✓ Senior Lecturer, Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, Makerere University
- ✓ Principal Research Fellow, Economic Policy Research Centre; Makerere University
- ✓ Executive Director Research, Bank of Uganda; and
- ✓ Director of Training, African Economic Research Consortium.
- In 2012-2016, Marios Obwona served as Senior Economic Advisor on a USAID-funded Governance and Economic Management Support Programme to the Republic of Liberia and Recently, as an Economic Research Consultant on an EU-funded State Capacity Building Support to the Republic of Sierra Leone, he helped in setting up an Economic policy research unit in the Ministry Finance.

**Prof. Okumu** is an Associate Professor and Dean at the School of Economics, Makerere University. Okumu is also a World Bank Consultant in the Office of the Chief Economist African Region. Okumu is also an Associate Researcher at the: Economic Policy Research Center, Makerere University; Centre for Dynamic Macroeconomic Analysis, University of St Andrews; and Centre for Basic Research, Kampala Uganda. Okumu has research interest in economic growth and development, firm and household level behavior, public finance, corruption and governance. He has peer reviewed publications in high-ranking journals which among others include; Development Policy Review, European Journal of Development Research, African Development Review and South African Journal of Economics. Okumu is also reviewer for high-ranking journals such as World Development and African Development Review. Finally, Okumu holds a PhD in Economics of the University of St Andrews (United Kingdom), MA Economics (Distinction) of McMaster University (Canada) and BA Economics (First Class Honours) of Makerere University (Uganda).