

Speaker Bios

Expert Forum: 23 October 2017

“The role of microinsurance in food security”



Michael Anthony

Business Development Director, Sarmap SA, India

Michael Anthony is a business development expert in emerging markets and was instrumental in kicking off the microinsurance business at Allianz that has grown into a portfolio of 40 million people insured in several markets in Africa and Asia. He now works with Sarmap, a Swiss technology company using satellite data for risk assessments of natural resources where Michael scopes new business opportunities. His current key assignment includes managing the transition of a multi-million dollar public-private partnership into a sustainable commercially-driven company.

The pursuit of developing business models for the base of the economic pyramid also drives Michael's interest in supporting Boond, an Indian social business that sells and services solar lamps in rural areas.

Previously Michael had worked in the Allianz SE head office in Munich, driving the company's climate change agenda and as a spokesperson for the company to the media and the public. Prior to joining Allianz, Michael worked as a journalist for German media outlets such as Spiegel Online from Israel and the Palestinian Territories and he founded and led a Berlin-based institute that connects journalists from different countries (<http://www.journalists-network.org>).

Michael studied International Relations in Jerusalem (Hebrew University), Paris (Science Po), Bath and Berlin (Humboldt Universität).



Mathieu Dubreuil

Microinsurance Advisor, World Food Programme, Italy

Mathieu Dubreuil is Microinsurance Advisor at the World Food Programme in the Climate and DRR Programmes Unit, particularly focusing on index insurance, and the R4 Initiative. Based in Rome, he currently mostly focuses on the R4 countries - Senegal, Zambia, Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Zimbabwe. He also provides technical expertise to the ARC Replica initiative.

Previously, he managed five microinsurance brokerage companies in West Africa for PlaNet Guarantee, and in particular, headed a regional index insurance programme based in Senegal over five years. Formerly, as Africa Director, he developed credit life and health microinsurance in West Africa, Madagascar and Palestine. Before that, he was Microfinance Expert at PlaNet Finance, working on business planning, product development and refinancing, as well as being trained on rating methodologies. He began as Admin & Finance Officer and Technical Assistant for PlaNet Finance Morocco, where he spent three years.

Mathieu is a graduate from EDHEC Business School, with a major in Cultural and Humanitarian Aid Management.



Anaar Kara

Director of Development, PlaNet Guarantee, France

Anaar is the Director of Development at PlaNet Guarantee. She has over eight years of experience in inclusive finance and has developed projects benefitting low-income populations in a variety of countries, including crop insurance projects in West Africa, Kenya, Egypt, Colombia and Tajikistan and health projects in Western Africa. Anaar holds a Master of Science in Finance from Grenoble École de Management and a Bachelor of Commerce from McGill University. In 2015, Anaar was named International woman of the year in Insurance from *Argus de l'assurance*.



Janina Schnick

Government Relations Manager, East and Southern Africa, One Acre Fund, Kenya

Janina Schnick has been managing government and external relations at One Acre Fund since 2014. Founded in 2006, One Acre Fund supplies smallholder farmers with the financing and training they need to grow their way out of hunger and poverty. Through a complete bundle of services offered on credit, the organisation distributes quality farm inputs to the remote areas where farmers live, trains farmers on agriculture techniques, and educates them on how to minimise post-harvest losses and maximise market prices. The organisation currently serves over 450,000 smallholder farmers in six countries in East and Southern Africa.

Janina coordinates One Acre Fund's local government relations teams in Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi, advises on regulatory, policy and government questions, and maintains relationships with national government and external stakeholders. Her professional background is in the global health, international development and consulting sectors across Europe, Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa. Among others, Janina has worked with the Vaccine Alliance GAVI (Geneva), the NGO ISCOS (Brazil, Italy, Mozambique), UNESCO (Paris), and SEEK Development consultants (Berlin). She holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Cambridge and a Master's from the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton. She is based in Nairobi and originally from Germany.