

BRIEF PROFILE OF GUEST SPEAKERS



PROF. HEILA LOTZ-SISITKA

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, RHODES UNIVERSITY, SOUTH AFRICA

Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka holds a Tier 1 South African National Research Foundation / Department of Science and Innovation Chair in Global Change and Social Learning Systems, and is a Distinguished Research Professor at Rhodes University. She is an internationally acclaimed researcher and has led various national and international research programmes in Environment and Sustainability Education.

Her passion is sustainability and social justice education, and people's participation in transformative education and learning processes.



DR ESTHERY KUNKWENZU

RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI, MALAWI

Dr Esthery Dembo Kunkwenzu is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Education, University of Malawi. She has a PhD in Curriculum Studies obtained from Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Her areas of research interest include curriculum and instruction, nutrition education, girls' education, teacher education and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).



DR KGOSIETSILE VELEMPINI

RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA, BOTSWANA

Dr Kgosietsile Velepini is a senior lecturer at the University of Botswana. He has a PhD in curriculum and instruction from Ohio University, USA. His research focuses on environmental and sustainability education, SDGs, tourism, community-based natural resource management, climate change and local knowledge systems. He has published in various international journals.



PhD Candidate, LWANDA MAQWELANE

RESEARCHER, RHODES UNIVERSITY, SOUTH AFRICA

Lwanda Maqwelane is a PhD candidate at Rhodes University, and research assistant, SARChI Chair in Global Change and Transformative Social Learning. Her research interest is the sustainable development and integration of black farmers into value chains for the purpose of commercialisation. Her PhD work expands on her M.Ed thesis with a particular interest in monitoring and evaluation and climate change education.



PROF. LEON TIKLY

GLOBAL CHAIR IN EDUCATION, BRISTOL UNIVERSITY, UNITED KINGDOM

Professor Tikly, is the UNESCO Chair of Inclusive, Good Quality Education and Global Chair in Education at the University of Bristol in the UK. He also serves as the co-director at the Centre for International and Comparative Education ([CIRE](#)) in the School of Education at Bristol University and is the Principal Investigator of the International Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures research programme. He has a long history of contributing actively to transformative education in the global South.



PhD Candidate, CAMILLA CROSO

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION, UNITED KINGDOM

Camilla Croso, a leading global advocate for the right to education, is the Director of Education at the Open Society Foundation. Before this, she was the general coordinator at both the Brazilian National Campaign for the Right to Education and subsequently at the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education where she led the regional network working for effective implementation of the right to education in 18 Latin American countries. She was president of the Global Campaign for Education, sat on the board of directors of the Global Partnership for Education, and has integrated both Global and Regional Sustainable Development Goal 4 and Education 2030 Steering Committees. Croso's academic publications focus particular attention on education financing, non-discrimination, the right to education, and the right to social participation and democratic governance. Camilla holds an MSc from the London School of Economics in social policy and planning in developing countries. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in education policy at the State University of Campinas, Brazil.



PROF. ANA NHAMPULE

VICE-RECTOR OF JOAQUIM CHISSANO UNIVERSITY, MOZAMBIQUE

Educationist with more than 25 years of experience. PhD in Education: Curriculum, from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo; Master's degree in Curriculum and Instructional Development from Eduardo Mondlane University; and Graduated in Portuguese Language and Culture: Foreign Language, University of Lisbon. With multifaceted professional experience, she is a former President of the National Council for Assessment and Quality Assurance in Higher Education (CNAQ – 2014-2020). She has participated in several international bodies and initiatives for the development and implementation of quality assurance mechanisms as member of the Southern African Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (TCCA); and Member of advisory board on continental projects for harmonization of higher education (HAQAA, Tuning Africa II, ACQF). She participated in the processes of establishment and implementation of training programs in public administration and management. In curriculum development, she also has experience on research, design, and implementation of programs for higher education, basic education, and teacher/training.



DR YANIRA M. NTUPANYAMA

**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, MALAWI**

With more than 35 years of experience, Dr Yanira Ntupanyama is a leading advocate for the development of sustainable natural resource, climate and environmental management, regulations, laws, policies, and strategies of environmental science in Malawi. In her current role of Principal Secretary for Forestry and Natural Resources in the Ministry of Forestry and Natural Resources in Malawi, she is driving the inclusive growth and sustainable development within the context of the African Union Agenda 2063 to leverage innovative industrialization to accelerate Malawi's economic growth and transformation of the agriculture, fisheries, sustainable energy and a sustainable natural resource base. Dr Ntupanyama holds a PhD from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in Horticulture Sciences and Masters of Science in Forestry and Range Management from Washington State University.