



1818 SOCIETY® QUARTERLY

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear colleagues,

The 1818 Society has come a long way since it was incorporated in 1978 under the District of Columbia's Non-Profit Corporation Act (now DCRA 2010).

Our membership has grown to about 7,240, of which 5,573 (77%) reside in USA. Of those, 83% live in the DMV (great Washington metropolitan area). As 2023 comes to an end it is time to take stock of the era we are living in.

The past year has seen an unfortunate increase in the adverse effects of conflict and climate change leading to tragic losses of human lives and widespread destruction of property across the globe. A decade ago it seemed that globalization and economic growth was reaching the far corners of the planet, and that poverty and conflict would be relegated to historical memory. Sadly that was but an illusion. The Africa region has seen a return to conflict with several hundred thousand killed or displaced in Ethiopia and Sudan, and a new wave of successful and failed military coups in 2023. The conflict in Syria and Yemen is not even considered newsworthy these days although millions of people have been displaced and survive on handouts. Over the past year, about 10,000 innocent civilians lost their lives in Ukraine and almost 20,000 Israeli and Palestinian civilian lives have been lost in the Middle East. These wars continue unabated, with no sign of political solutions. Those deaths are tragic because they were unnecessary. Conflicts in one part of the world have far reaching economic and social impacts elsewhere. We call for a cessation of wars and a political resolution to all conflicts, with accountability for all the political leaders, terrorists and non-state militants who have caused and are continuing this mayhem.

In the meantime, the planet burns and 2023 has been by far the hottest year in historical memory. Widespread forest fires and unprecedented floods affected thousands both in developing and highly developed countries. If we do not change our ways we will not even have a planet to fight over. There is an urgent need to turn our gaze to the real challenge – ensuring that we have a livable planet. The World Bank has redefined its mission as “**A world free of poverty on a livable planet**” and pledged enhanced resources to help its client countries achieve this mission (see page 12 of this Quarterly). We support this enhanced attention by the World Bank to the intertwined crises of poverty, conflict and climate change.

Closer to home, this has been a productive year for the 1818 Society.

1) **Our finances** are in good shape thanks to the contribution of our volunteers whose efforts keep our committees, thematic groups and activity clubs going, and the in-kind support received from the Bank for the Society's office.

2) On **information management and technology**, our goal since 2021 was to make the website more accessible and provide tools to enhance communication among members. Quick Links and FAQs are your gateway to information. Blog posts and the M2M Community Hub empower members to share ideas and interact with other members. The 2023 Members' Survey indicates we are on the right path. The Weekly Update was identified as the most useful communication tool as it provides a summary of announcements, events, and web posts with web links to help members find those webpages.

3) The **Thematic Groups** organized a total of 48 events in 2023 (in addition to 11 informational webinars organized by other Committees and Groups), keeping retirees abreast of the state-of-the-art in their sectors and maintaining networks with Global Practices. We have also seen a healthy turnover in the leadership of Thematic Groups, more than half of them having brought in new leadership to replace or supplement the previous Chairs. We plan to continue this renewal to provide opportunities for newer retirees to take on leadership roles if they are willing to volunteer their time to do so.

4) **Members Helping Members** continues to function as a self-help group for mutual assistance. One milestone by MHM was the update of the *Handbook for Advance Planning*, published online and distributed in hard copy at our Annual Meeting (see details on MHM on page 10). The new edition of the Handbook complements the updated *Checklist* and the *Guide on Actions after a Death*, which was released at last year's Annual Meeting.

5) In terms of wellbeing activities, the **Hiking and Yoga Clubs** have continued their activities while the **International Treks & Tours** bounced back after the COVID break. In 2023, we organized 10 trekking and cultural trips to seven countries, including Armenia-Georgia, Bhutan, the Canadian Rockies, Corsica in France, Italy, Türkiye and Pakistan. We have announced a list of trips for 2024 on our website.

6) Thanks to the dedication of our office team, the **Annual Meeting** went off seamlessly and was well attended with over 100 in-person participants and an even larger number connected online. The sessions are reported on in pages 7-9 of this issue and recordings posted online (<https://www.wbgalumni.org/proceedings-of-the-45th-annual-meeting/>) Electronic balloting ensured transparency in the elections, the results of which were announced at the Annual Meeting and posted online. Thank you to the outgoing directors, Lee and Zoe, and welcome to the new Director, Morallina.

7) Retirees continue to play a critical role in the **CCC campaign** and donated a record of \$2.26 million to the campaign (see details on page 9).

Pension and Health Insurance is and will remain an important focus of the Society since those benefits are crucial to our wellbeing. In parallel, there has been a huge growth in own-managed services provided by the Society on a self-pay basis to its members. None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of the 70+ volunteers who are the brains and brawn of the Society. On behalf of our members, I would like to express a huge thank you to all of you.

As we usher in 2024, I wish you a joyful holiday season and a Very Happy New Year.

Stay healthy and stay safe!

Anis

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Friends:

We received an abundance of good material for this issue of the Quarterly, most of which we are able to include. Some items of particular interest:

- Bank President Ajay Banga's summary report to staff on the results of his recent seemingly endless rounds of international conferences, meetings with heads of state and others on some of the most pressing issues facing the Bank Group. Please see page 12.
- One issue drew the particular attention of 48 retirees, mostly managers: Gaza and what should the Bank Group do. Their letter to Ajay is summarized on page 11.
- There were several lively sessions at the 1818 Society's annual meeting. Some "nuggets" are provided on pages 7-9.
- The decision to have a single Bank Group country manager or resident representative in 20 countries for the IBRD/IDA, IFC and MIGA is announced – page 13.
- We decided to encourage contributions to this and future issues of the Quarterly on AI – Artificial Intelligence and how it might affect our work and lives. Frank Lysy takes on the Google AI device BARD in a piece on page 24. "Harsh" Harshadeep, the Bank's guru on "Disruptive Technology" gave some insights in an annual meeting discussion – page 8. And Guy Pfefferman found AI being used on dating apps during a recent visit to Cairo --- page 20.

Thanks again to all who have contributed to the Quarterly, especially Brenda Bermudez and Dennis Ocampo Bacani in the 1818 office.

Best wishes for 2024.

Tom

1818 SOCIETY® NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Staff Retirement Plan

By Lee Meddin

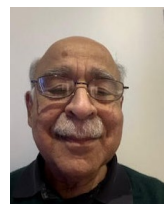
The seminar on the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP) was held on the morning of November 8th, kicking off the 45th Annual Meeting of the 1818 Society.

- Panel members included:
 - Lee Meddin– Chair, Pension Committee
 - Ivan Zelenko – Director, Investment Management, PENDB
 - Gabriel Petre – Lead Investment Strategist, PENIN
 - Sharada Sundar – Manager, PENAD
 - Bernard Murira -Njogu – Manager and Head of Investments, PENIN
 - Eric Gires – PEN
 - Amit Bajaj – PEN
- Topics covered:
 - Review of 2022 SRP Performance
 - Pension Portal
 - Some fun details regarding composition of current beneficiaries
 - Actuarial results

Ample time for Q&A was available for members to ask questions directly to panel participants. The seminar was well received by those in physical attendance and those joining virtually. The session was chaired by Lee Meddin, who has served as chair of the pension committee for the past two years. As Lee has now completed serving his maximum of two terms as a Board Member, he is stepping down as chair of the committee but remaining on the committee in an ex officio role.

Following the annual meeting, the new chair of the Pension Committee will be **Javed Hamid.**

Javed joined IFC in 1979 as an economist for East Africa. After taking leave in 1984 to help set up a privately financed university in his home country of Pakistan, he returned to IFC. He held several senior managerial positions before retiring in 2006. He has been a member of the 1818 Society Pension committee for over 10 years and was the Society representative on the Bank Group Pension Fund for five years.





The Retirees Medical Insurance Corner

By Eduardo Wallentin

For this issue I want to focus on three important topics: health insurance sessions organized by the People and Culture department (PaC) formerly Human Resources; insurance premiums and Health Insurance Committee work.

Health Insurance Sessions organized by People and Culture (formerly HR)

During the last three months, PaC organized two informative sessions on health care insurance. The first was an online session with CIGNA International in October, attended by about 50 members. It was informative and questions raised prior to and during the session were well addressed. The second session was traditional one held during our Annual Meetings in which we had informative presentations from PaC, Aetna, CVS/SilverScript and Health Advocate followed by a lively Q&A session. Due to time constraints, we couldn't address all the questions raised in the chat forum but we have addressed them in a Q&A document. You can find that document as well as the presentations and recordings of both sessions [here](#) (login required). Salient points from the Annual Meetings session:

- *PaC* – MinuteClinic (CVS) copay being reduced to \$10 in 2024. They also reminded us of TelaDoc services, which are different from Telemedicine.
- *Health Advocate* – It's a service at no additional cost to our members with the aim of serving members, not the vendors.
- *SilverScript* – SilverScript cards are not limited to being used only in CVS drugstores and can be used in other drugstores as well.
- *AETNA* – This session was informative on how to submit claims through their website or APP. Also, new cards will be issued in early 2024 but you can continue to use your current cards until you receive the new ones.

Premium Increase

PaC informed us that the premiums for retiree plans will increase by 5% in 2024. This is lower than the increase for active staff plans which is 9.5%. It is also lower than general inflation of 2022. The main driver of premium increase is the actual recent cost of the plan and what has helped keep the cost at bay has been the higher use of in-network providers as well as the use of national health plans (e.g., Medicare).

Your Health Insurance Committee at Work

We were recently asked how many cases we support every year. In the last two years, the number is 218. What type of support do we provide? Basically, we try to address the member's concern by providing guidance, documents or bringing up the case directly with PaC if the member agrees. In about 70% of the cases, we have been able to provide direct guidance or support, from informational documents on Medicare to form referrals or answering coverage issues. For the other 30%, we refer them to PaC as the cases need intervention at that level. In terms of topics, 30% of the cases have been related to AETNA, 22% to Medicare, 15% to CIGNA Dental, 12% to CIGNA International, 8% to CVS and

the rest on other issues. As you can see, we have been busy and we hope that we have been providing, as volunteers, a valuable service to our fellow Society members.

Wishing you all a healthy and joyful winter!!!

Annual Meeting Summaries

***Editor's note:** Following are some memorable excerpts from speeches at this year's 1818 Society Annual Meeting: One by former Bank Vice-President Mark Malloch-Brown, currently President of the Open Society Foundations; another by Bank Managing Director for Operations Anna Bjerde; a third by Nagaraja "Harsh" Harshadeep, a Bank specialist, on artificial intelligence and Cynthia Concordia, a transformational life coach.*



Mark Malloch-Brown

- “Steps forward at Marrakech (site of the 2023 Bank Annual Meeting) were much too limited...The world is still far short of marshalling the additional \$3 trillion per year needed by 2030.”
- “Ajay (Bank President Ajay Banga) hit the nail on the head when he said: ‘We do not suffer from a shortage of solutions; we are paralyzed by a persistent lack of courage to pursue them.’
- “At a dinner in Marrakech, I was sitting next to a Bank official. She recalled a time, not long ago, when institutions like the Bank would routinely invite in philanthropic organizations to cooperate with their initiatives. Now, by contrast, my dining companion went on to note, we seem to prefer the role of challenger as much as partner.”
- “If there is a note of hope...it is that new attention is being paid to multilateral institutions and, in some cases, the philanthropies seeking to support them.”
- “The World Bank’s resources today are much smaller as a share of the global economy than they were in the past. Paid-in capital as a percentage of global GDP is a fifth of what it was in 1960.”
- “I can still picture Kofi (Annan, UN Secretary General) perched on the end of a bed at the Gleneagles G8 summit in 2005, plotting with Bob Geldof and Bono (Irish singers) how to pry more funds out of national leaders.”



Anna Bjerde

- We are now discussing how best to operationalize the Bank’s new vision of “eliminating poverty on a livable planet.” A livable planet is much broader than climate. It is climate, nature, resilience, inclusion. This is the first time that we have a global public good in our mission statement. How do you operationalize it? One step is to change the operational scorecard to focus on 20 key performance indicators which have to be quite different addressing climate mitigation and risk but also the quality of

jobs created, including good governance and learning, and economic management. It is pushing us to be more strategic rather than retaining the current 150 plus indicators. And we are considering a new “Livable Planet fund” to support climate initiatives tied to the new scorecards. But all this takes time.

- We need to reduce the amount of stress our clients are under. All countries asked for crisis response. We could use all of our money for budget support but we need a difficult balancing act to use some money for investment projects and implementation support. Despite higher IDA commitments we still have a resource envelope issue, so we need to mobilize partners and the private sector, including the domestic private sector.
- We want to focus on operational efficiency and effectiveness to streamline operationsno document more than 25 pages...agree with the Bank Board on a program lending approach rather than individual projects....retail to wholesale.
- On operational policies and procedures, it is really tedious to process a project in the Bank. We need to go more programmatic and invest in client’s programs. We need to go the Board with the first operation in a program, leaving the rest of the program to the Regional Vice President, at least for moderate risk operations.
- I would like to work more with client systems. That’s why we are streamlining the environmental and social framework. We need to meet our clients where they are and have to build their capacity. That will help us stay relevant and also be seen as a partner.
- When I talk to our clients, whether in the Philippines or Chad, they are mostly interested in the Bank’s development experience and knowledge to help them build capacity. Money/loans/credits are important but not a priority.
- There are so many global crises to deal with. This is the new reality and we have to be nimble, pivoting between new initiatives, traditional development work and reconstruction as in Ukraine and the Middle East. We are focusing on delivery mechanisms to address local needs. This will mean going beyond the government and the UN to local organizations and communities for local delivery.
- The Bank has adapted to global changes in the past and will continue to do so. It is a unique institution with unique skills. It is a fascinating time to be in this institution as it deals with these challenges.



“Artificial Intelligence (AI): The Future is Coming”

By Angelica Silvero and Katia Tabash

Nagaraja Rao Harshadeep, also known as Harsh, the Bank’s Global Lead for Disruptive Technology, delivered an enlightening presentation at the Annual Meeting on the challenges and opportunities presented by AI, and the Bank’s current approach towards its use.

Harsh discussed various ways AI is being used by the Bank, including innovative methods of data collection, analysis, and monitoring. He emphasized that soon, we will all be interconnected through various sources and devices, thanks to advancements in technology that are making connectivity faster

and more affordable. As an example, he pointed out that it took Netflix 3.5 years to reach 1 million users, whereas ChatGPT achieved the same feat in just 5 days.

While the benefits of AI are immense, Harsh also highlighted the risks associated with this technology. These include potential job and skills obsolescence, privacy concerns, the violation of human rights, and even the creation of misleading or false information, which he referred to as "hallucinations."

Harsh provided intriguing illustrations, ranging from the remarkable capability to access information about every building worldwide, to awe-inspiring AI-generated art. One participant even asked for proof that Harsh was not an AI profile himself!

If you missed the presentation, here is the [video](#) recording or the [PowerPoint Presentation](#).



How Do You Manifest Your Dream?

By Susan Dubas

Cynthia Concordia, a transformational life coach, led a session on overcoming roadblocks to attain one's dream. She engaged with the audience asking about our dreams and whether we had achieved them. The underlying dream building principle is: "The point of power is within, and what is within us is far greater than anything in our surroundings." In other words,

our power is not in the circumstances and conditions that we see around us, but within us.

There are three steps to manifest the dream: 1) define your dream; 2) test your dream; and 3) identify blockages. Cynthia then shared her personal story how she has achieved her dream focusing on the steps she had to undertake to overcome fear. Her account was inspiring.

Additional News

Another Successful Community Connections Campaign (CCC);

Retirees Set All-Time Record

By Susan Dubas

The preliminary FY24 CCC results are in. Overall, we raised over **\$6.7 million** from staff, consultants and retirees, which will be doubled by the corporate match (this is over \$500k more than last year). While 82% of staff worldwide participated, the number of retiree donors was an all-time record, with almost **700 retirees** (an 11% increase from last year) donating over **\$2.2 million**, once again accounting for about 1/3 of total donations. Bravo, retirees!!

As part of this year's campaign, we published a [booklet of retiree-led CCC non-profits](#) showcasing 22 retiree-led organizations. Thank you all who participated.

In response to members' queries, we are again partnering with the Bank CCC team to hold an event on January 17, 2024, to discuss the process by which non-profit organizations can become eligible for CCC funding. Join us ([register here](#)) to learn the steps and criteria for inclusion in next year's CCC list.

As the 1818 Society CCC Co-Coordinator (and Society Board members) Angelica Silvero and I want to thank all who contributed to this year's fundraising campaigns.

Members Helping Members (MHM)

Did you know that the Members Helping Members Group produced **3 valuable documents for you**:

1. **Guide for Action after a Death**: <https://www.wbgalumni.org/wbg-guide-what-to-do-after-a-death-of-retiree-spouse-partner/>
2. **Handbook on Advance Planning for End of Life**: https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Handbook-for-Advance-Planning_November-2023.pdf
3. **Checklist** (condensed version of Advance Planning): https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Checklist-for-Advance-Planning_November-2023.pdf

Did you know that on November 2, 2023, the Members Helping Members Committee held a greatly successful **webinar on Advanced Planning for End of Life** and if you missed that, you can still see the recording online. More than 50 participants had conversations with one another in break-out groups. **Click here** to access the recording (login required).

If you would like to be part of the 160 MHM volunteers who share their expertise with other retirees, please let Khalid Siraj know at ksiraj@1818alumniwbg.org or contact mhmhelp@wbgalumni.org.

WORLD BANK GROUP NEWS

The Gaza Letter

In a rare letter to a World Bank president, 48 Bank retirees—including senior managers, country directors for the West Bank and Gaza who have “worked on the Palestinian program over many years”—wrote to Ajay Banga to share their views on the situation based on their experience.

The letter dated October 29 reflected the situation at the time and proposed a phased series of responses by the Bank that could make a contribution “on the basis of its long-standing programs in Gaza and the five pillars of its current strategy: Prosperity, people, environment, infrastructure and connectivity. This could begin with the provision of immediate emergency relief. If a convincing political way forward can be established, this could be followed by a joint Bank/UN/donor reconstruction program consistent with the needs of the Palestinian people...”

The authors also “believe the Bank’s leadership...should urge all parties to recommit to a diplomatic solution to the crisis..” in a way that would address the concerns expressed by some Bank staff and protect the Bank’s reputation in the region and more broadly in a rapidly evolving global context.

The letter received brief expressions of gratitude in letters from Ajay and Anna Bjerde, Managing Director of Operations. She met with five members of the group on November 27. One participant described the meeting as very constructive. The group offered current Bank management the opportunity to draw on the group’s extensive experience as needed as the situation unfolds.

Editor’s Note: All Bank staff reportedly have been evacuated from Gaza. Some staff have had many members of their extended families killed in the war. The Bank, according to a message on the West Bank/Gaza website, is working with donors to prepare support for urgent relief efforts, focusing on emergency medical supplies, food and water. These activities would be implemented through UN agencies. The Bank is also working to mobilize resources through established Bank managed trust funds that deliver help to the poorest and most vulnerable.

Ajay on the Move

- The Bank President has continued his whirlwind travel and speaking marathon: Among others, Indonesia with wife Ritu, where they visited Bank-supported climate initiatives and planted some mangroves; the G20 Leaders meeting in New Delhi; the Bank/Fund annual meeting in Marrakech; interviews with the Washington Post and New York Times; IDA mid-term meeting in Zanzibar (also known as Unguja), off the East African coast; the COP28 climate jamboree in Dubai, attended by an estimated 70,000 people and where the Bank had a special pavilion in partnership with the IMF and the *Financial Times*, plus 120 hotel rooms for Bank managers and staff. The results of all this were summarized succinctly by Ajay in a message to staff on December 12. The key points: Devote 45 percent (or \$40 billion) of annual Bank Group lending for climate activities by 2025-- \$9 billion more than the original target of 35 percent.



Ajay and wife Ritu, on right, visit mangrove plantation on recent Indonesia visit.

- Methane reduction: over the next 18 months, 15 national programs to slash methane omissions across rice production, livestock operations and waste management.
- African power. Next year, launching a new energy program to bring renewable power to 100 million people in seven years. Currently, 600 million Africans are without power. This initiative will be supported with \$5 billion of IDA financing and \$10 billion from public and private sources.
- Carbon Credits. This initiative aims to deliver round 24 million credits before 2025, starting with programs in Guatemala, Vietnam, Congo. Eventually, programs involving 11 countries are anticipated bringing the total of 126 million credits, with the potential to transfer billions of dollars to communities from companies and governments.
- Climate Resilient Debt Clauses. This program offers pauses on principal and interest payments on loans held by the most vulnerable.

Ajay's message to staff can be read [here](#) (login required).

Bank Group Briefs

- IFC's Kenya Headache. The IFC, according to Devex, a DC based news platform that focuses on global development, has "failed to carry out appropriate due diligence or monitoring after it was made aware of allegations that teachers had abused children at Bridge International Academies in Kenya, in which IFC invested \$13.5 million between 2013 and 2022." The allegations are explained in an investigative report by the IFC's internal accountability unit, the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO). Bridge, part of the NewGlobe company, is the world's largest for-profit primary school chain, operating low-fee schools in Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, India among others. On November 10, the IFC Executive Director Makhtar Diop wrote in a letter to civil society groups that he was "deeply disturbed" by the abuse reports and outlined steps the organization is taking to address the problem, including special reports to the Bank Group Board in December. *(Results of these actions, including Bank Group Board review, were not available to the 1818 Quarterly by publication of this issue. A summary report will be provided in the next issue.)*

- New Bank Group Disability Review Panel. This new group was announced in March, 2023. Its charge will be to review claims decisions made by the third-party disability program administrator and determine whether the decisions were reasonable and based on Bank Group rules. Details are provided here (log in required). The PaC (formerly HR) Vice President, in consolidation with the staff association, will review nominees and appoint three members to serve on the panel, with at least one member based in a country office.

More Managerial Changes

- Starting July 1, 2024, there will be a single country manager or resident representative for 20 countries covering the Bank and IDA, IFC and MIGA. The countries involved and rationale for this decision are contained in the senior management announcement (link here, login required).
- Two vice-presidents have announced their retirement: Diarietou Gaye, VP for People and Culture (PaC, formerly HR) will leave at the end of this calendar year after 27 years with the institution; Ferid Belhaj, VP for the Middle East and North Africa, will depart at the end of February, 2024, also after a 27 year career. Until a successor to Ms. Gaye is appointed, Carlos Felipe Jaramillo will act as VP for PaC effective January 1, 2024 in addition to his current role as regional VP for Latin America & Caribbean.
- Ousmane Dione will become Regional Vice President, Middle East and North Africa region starting April 19, 2024. A Senegalese national, he is currently Country Director for Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan. *Ndiame Diop becomes country director for Nigeria, based in Abuja, starting July 1, 2024. A Senegalese national, he joined the Bank in 2000 through the Young Professionals program.
- Robert J. Saum, country director for Eastern Europe based in Kyiv. A United States national, he joined the Bank in 1998 as a financial management specialist. In the new job, he will lead the Bank's programs in the region, including recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine.
- Joseph Pierre Claude Gascon, a Canadian/US national, became Director of strategy and operations in the Global Environment Facility (GEF) this past October.
- Trina Haque, a Bangladesh national, became Regional Director for Human Development in the Western and Central Africa region, effective January 2, 2024.
- Hamoud Abdel Wedoud Kamil, is the new country manager for Burkina Faso based in Ouagadougou. A Mauritanian national, he joined the Bank in 2009.
- Marina Wes will be the Director of Strategy and Operations in Western and Central Africa effective July 1, 2024. A Dutch national, she joined the Bank in 2000.
- A total of 18 practice managers have been appointed in the operational regions, mainly for the social sectors and environment. Two managers were appointed in the Bank's finance and accounting unit. And effective from November 1 this year, Dr. Jules Duval, a US national, became lead medical officer in the Health and Safety directorate.



CHAPTER NEWS AND UPDATES

Note: Most Chapters maintain websites that can include details of their activities. These individual Chapter website can be accessed at www.wbgalumni.org/chapters/. Contacts for Chapter heads are indicated at the end of the Quarterly.

Dutch Chapter

The 2024 reunion of the Dutch chapter will be Tuesday, September 3, 2024 to Thursday, September 5, 2024 in Maastricht, a wonderful city dating back to Roman times, situated in the very south of the Netherlands along the River Maas. For more information on the program, contact Hermann van Wersch at hvanwersch@gmail.com



Florida Chapter

Mark Walker has agreed to take over as chapter chair. He relocated to Florida a year ago and is a stalwart of the 1818 Society – he chaired the formidable By-laws Committee a year ago and is currently Board Secretary. So, the Chapter will be in very capable hands. Mark will take over from Jan 1, 2024.

So far, we have the following events planned for 2024.

- In southeast Florida, Karin Nordlander (karin@nordlander.com) will be organizing her monthly lunches in venues between Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale. If anyone residing in the Miami area would like to organize a lunch, let her know. Those living further north could carpool or use Brightline. Also, if you will be in the area and wish to join, just email her to indicate your interest.
- Mike Edwards (medwards1@protonmail.com), our new northeast Florida volunteer coordinator, is organizing a lunch in St Augustine on Tuesday, 16 January 2024, venue TBD. If interested to join, pls. email Mike for details. These will also be posted on the web/and Chapter list closer to the date.
- Southwest Florida, Sandra Hadler will organize dinners in the Naples area in January and February. Also, if anyone wishes to join me, there are two promising performances in the Naples Opera Festival. Iolanthe (Gilbert and Sullivan), 7pm Feb 3 at the Wang Opera House, tickets \$39-84 and Mme. Butterfly (Puccini), 7pm March 10, outdoors at Cambier Park, tickets \$79-149. More details will be posted on the web and by Chapter list closer to the date. If you wish to be added to the list, pls. email me at sachadler@gmail.com.
- Also, in SW Florida Larry Hannah is proposing to organize a visit to the REVS Institute in Naples (<https://revsinstitute.org/>). This is the Collier family's car collection – and by all accounts, a world class venue. Larry recommends a docent-led tour, which are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.3am to 1.30pm. Proposed dates are either Feb 8 or Feb 29. If interested please contact Larry directly with your date preference, Larry.Hannah@gmail.com. A lunch in a local restaurant will probably be added.

So, whether you live in Florida or will just be visiting, you are always welcome to join any of our events. Further details will be announced closer to the time on the Florida Chapter website on the 1818 web and also emailed to the Florida Chapter list.



French Speaking Chapter

The French-speaking Chapter resumed its activities in the Fall with a meeting of the Board at the end of September, where decisions made before the summer were reconfirmed, especially with regard to the continuation of the series of lunch-debates. Such a meeting took place in November at the Cercle Suédois in Paris, with a presentation and discussion led by Christian Grossmann and Olivier Lambert on the synergies and lack thereof among the main institutions of the World Bank Group, i.e., IBRD/IDA, IFC and MIGA. A lively exchange took place among participants.

Prospective invitees for future sessions include Mr. Kako Nubukpo, a well-known economist and politician from Togo; Ms Linda van Gelder, the Director of the European Office in Paris, and others. Details about the future meetings will be communicated in due time.

Our president Olivier Lafourcade took the opportunity to inform the participants about (a) the results of the recent Annual Meetings of the IMF/World Bank in Marrakech; and (b) the new status of the European Office of the Bank in Paris (following his meeting with Ms. van Gelder).



Japan Chapter

The Japan Chapter organized on-line study group meetings roughly every two months among the members by inviting guest speakers including (1) Ms. Eriko Togo, Deputy Division Chief, Debt Capital Markets Division, Monetary and Capital Markets Department, International Monetary Fund on September 9, 2023. She spoke about the public debt management by sovereign governments from the viewpoints of IMF; (2) Mr. Shinji Asanuma, our chapter member and senior advisor, on October 28, about the history and lessons learned on the public debt problems, (3) Mr. Tetsuji Tanaka, former senior staff member of the Bank of Japan, on November 25 about the Russia-Ukraine War and the relations with Russia and China from the viewpoints of Central Asia.

The Chapter will organize the next study group (in person) on December 16, 2023 with our chapter member Professor Ms. Atsuko Aoyama as a speaker about the history of public health in Japan and the lessons learned for developing economies. The year-end member gathering will also be organized after the event.

THEMATIC GROUP NEWS AND UPDATES

Note: All Thematic Groups maintain a page on the Society's website where they post presentations and discussion summaries. These can be accessed <https://www.wbgalumni.org/thematic-groups/> (login required). Contacts for Thematic Group Chairs/Co-Chairs are indicated at the end of the "Quarterly". Members are invited to send the TG Chairs suggestions for topics/speakers.

Agriculture, Food & Rural Development (AgFRD)

2023 was a busy year for the Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Thematic Group. In February, Preeti Ahuja took over the role of Chair from Kevin Cleaver, who had done a stellar job for several years. The TG updated its name from Agriculture & Rural Development TG to add "Food" in the mix – not simply to align better with the name of the World Bank's Global Practice, but more so to underscore the emphasis on the *global food and nutrition security imperative* as the world battles polycrises ranging from climate change to conflicts – all with attendant implications for "Food". The TG hosted 8 events on a myriad of topics – from revisiting the *CGIAR reforms*, to *Climate Smart Rice and Livestock Value Chains*, as well as several joint events – held with external partners such as Brookings et al (Foresight Africa 2023) or IFAD/IFPRI (Food Policy Report 2023) and with sister TGs (e.g., with the Transport TG "*Green and Efficient Logistics and Cold Chains for Agricultural Products*", and with the Urban and Water TG "*What's New for Water in Agriculture?*" among others). Members actively contributed several blogs including "*The Lucrative Dangers of Tobacco Farming*" and "*One Hundred and Fifty Shades of Green*" and participated in a range of activities and clubs such as the Hiking Club.

Energy

As 2023 comes to an end, we extend Season's Greetings to all our 1818 Energy retirees in different regions of the world and encourage you to join us again in CY 2024 for a new series of presentations.

We extend condolences to the family of Richard Berney, particularly to his wife, Caroline, who passed away in late October at the age of 86. Richard was an outstanding economist, who worked both in IFC as well as in the 'old' Energy Department in the 1980s.

We also extend a special welcome to our *most recent 1818 Energy retirees*, who have joined us over the past 6 months: *Aurora Siy* in DC; *Maria Marques de Sa* in Portugal; and *Amina Benbrahim* in Morocco. We encourage each of you to start joining us for our planned 1818 Energy presentations.

On *October 19*, Ranjit Lamech, recently retired as Bank Regional Director for Infrastructure, East Asia and Pacific, spoke to us on: *Energy Transitions – Rhetoric, Realpolitik and Reality*, reflecting on his more than 30-year career in the Bank. It was both a personal and stimulating presentation during which he discussed the emerging challenges ahead for the Bank Group as it expands its lending activities to address the global climate change challenges.

Finally on December 13, following the COP 28 meeting in Dubai, our 1818 Energy Group partnered with the 1818 Environment and Sustainable Development Group, in arranging a *Panel Conversation* on the main outcomes of this meeting. The panel comprised current and former senior managers from the WBG-Demetrios Papathanasiou, Ede Ijjasz (now a Fellow at Brookings), and Diep Nguyen, IFC, as well

as Navroz K. Dubash, an experienced climate specialist and former Professor of Climate, Energy and Water Studies at the Center for Policy Research in New Delhi, India. Collectively, they provided a stocktaking of where progress has been made as well as an agenda, for WBG and other institutions, that still needs to be tackled.

The discussion and interaction is posted on the 1818 website and summarized in a report on page 27.

History

There has been a changing of the guard at the History Thematic Group. Chuck Ziegler, who founded the group in 2014, is stepping down. Succeeding him as Chair is John Heath. He worked at the Bank from 1990 to 2015, most of the time in the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG). Currently, John is an adjunct professor at American university, where he teaches international development and development management in the advanced degree program. John reports that the group aims to stage four to five presentations each year. The first in the new era will be an historical perspective on local participation in development project design/implementation. This will be on Wednesday, February 14. Details to come.

Urban and Water

Happy New Year to members of the Urban and Water Thematic Group!

On October 12, 2023, the Urban and Water (U&W) and the Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AFRD) Thematic Groups (TGs) jointly organized a virtual presentation on “What’s New for Water in Agriculture?”. Amal Talbi, World Bank Global Lead, presented the activities of the Global Solutions Group that promotes equity, productivity, and sustainability of water in agriculture. This was followed by remarks by Herve Plusquellec based on his extensive experience of irrigation projects financed by the Bank. Rita Cestti efficiently facilitated the discussion.

A follow-up joint U&W/AFRD virtual session initially scheduled for November 16 to discuss experiences with ground water and irrigation schemes management in Jordan had to be cancelled at the last minute; it will be reprogrammed for the first half of 2024.

The U&W, AFRD and Environment and Social TGs jointly organized an end-of-the-year lunch at the Bank Headquarters on December 14 that was attended by about 35 members; in addition, about 10 colleagues joined virtually. Our guest speaker, Richard Damania, World Bank Chief Economist of the Sustainable Development Vice Presidency, made a first-class presentation on “Detox Development: Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies”. The Q&A session that followed was facilitated by Ede Ijjasz, now back in the Washington area. Richard’s presentation and the Q&A session will be posted on the 1818 Society website.

A virtual session on “Preparing Cities for Heat Waves” is currently scheduled for late January 2024.

The U&W TG Coordinating Committee welcomes suggestions for future virtual presentations (theme, speaker, and date) from its members and friends. Contact any of its members or Alex Bakalian: alexbakalian@gmail.com

ACTIVE RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE

The 1818 Hiking Club – Don't Stop Walking!

The monthly hikes in the Greater Washington area are continuing. In the last quarter, we augmented our regular all-day hikes by offering options for longer, more challenging hikes or shorter, moderate hikes to encourage new members.



If you are interested in joining or are new to the Hiking Club, [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the webpage of the Hiking Club where you can see the list of previous hikes and read the Norms of the Hiking Club which includes the FAQs and Code of Conduct, Waiver of Liability, and the scale used to classify hikes based on difficulty level.

Want to join our local hikes? Send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org mentioning Hiking Club in the subject line. The local hikes are wonderful opportunities to create new networks among members in addition to being good preparation for international hiking trips.

During the last quarter, we organized two day hikes in the Washington area. Both hikes included options for a longer or shorter hike to accommodate the preferences and abilities of our diverse membership.

- Prince William Forest Park, VA, November 19, 2023 – **View Pictures**
- Little Devils Stairs – Piney Creek Branch Loop, SNP, VA, December 9, 2023 – **View Pictures**

International Treks and Tours:

In the last quarter we organized two cultural tours.

- A group of 9 participants joined the Autumn Tour of Gilgit-Baltistan in Pakistan, from October 15-29, 2023.
- A group of 12 participants joined the cultural tour of Türkiye to enjoy the rich culinary traditions of the Aegean region from October 1-15, 2023.

The international trekking and cultural tours for 2024 were announced at the 1818 Society Annual Meeting. For details of **International Treks and Tours** [CLICK HERE](#) (*login required*). A few spaces are still available on the trekking trips to Korea, Italy and Nepal, and the cultural tours to Armenia-Georgia, Korea, and Tuscany. If you are interested in joining one of these trips send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org.

1818 Yoga Club

Online Zoom yoga sessions led by our volunteer yoga instructors are offered from 11.00 am – 12.15 pm (Washington time) every Tuesday and Friday. In addition, a session on Meditation and Breathwork is offered every Monday from 7.45 – 9.00 am (Washington time). To enroll in these yoga sessions, send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org with “Yoga Club” in the subject line. Since the sessions are conducted by Zoom, you can join regardless of your physical location as long as you have a good Wifi connection and are able to attend at those times.

Art Club Update

In October, members of the Art Club visited two Galleries: AfricaArtBeats Gallery (www.africanartbeats.com), for the exhibit of works by Pascal Konan, an artist from Côte d’Ivoire, and Cheryl Numack Fine Arts Gallery for the first US **exhibit of Mexican sculptor Jorge Yázpik** (cheryl@numackartadvisory.com; PDF Catalogue [link](#)).

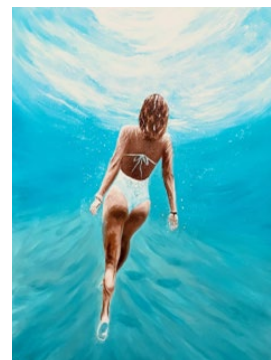
In November, 25 members had a guided tour of the *African Modernism in America: 1947-67* exhibit at the Phillips Collection. The tour was provided free of charge under the Collection’s Art for Senior’s Program, and non-members of the Phillips benefitted from a reduced entry ticket.

First in-person meeting of Art-Club members, spear-headed by Margarita Caro. Eight members met on November 20th and agreed on the benefits of in-person meetings to discuss opportunities for exhibiting and selling our work, educational opportunities, and critiquing work in progress. Meeting minutes are available on the [Art Club webpage](#). The next meeting will be held on January 29th at 2:30pm in MC4-100 and a video-conference link will be set up to enable non- metro area residents to participate. [Operating guidelines](#) for the Art Club have been drafted by Bill Katzenstein and will be discussed at the next meeting. Comments should be sent in advance of the meeting to Bill Katzenstein: Billk1@verizon.net.

We now have close to 90 members. If you want to join, send an email to Domiinique Lallement at Dominique.lallement@gmail.com, cc: Dennis Ocampo Bacani at dbacani@worldbank.org .

Margarita Caro exhibited at the Chevy Chase Arts and Crafts market. **Ruth Hyatt** was awarded First Place at the University Park Country Club Annual exhibition 2023, in Sarasota, FL. (See picture).

Sharmila Kapur was in two group exhibits, at the Foundry Gallery, Washington D.C., and at -Artesis Galeria, Tavira, Portugal. **Malathi Jayawikrama** was awarded a Robert Gold one-month residency in a French Castle. **Wendy Plotkin-Mates** is in a group exhibit, and sold many paintings and bookmarks, at the Watergate Gallery and Dumbarton Market. Work from a few retirees who contributed to the joint Art Program Resilience Exhibit will be included in the World Bank Calendar. Stay tuned...





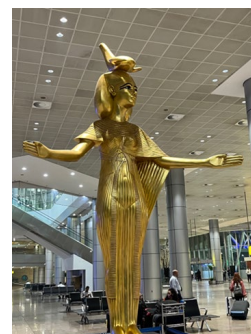
MEMBERS' NEWS IN BRIEF

Cairo Calling—2023

By Guy Pfefferman

(reporting on a recent conference trip to Cairo)

Passengers disembarking Cairo International Airport are greeted by a golden woman sporting a duck on her head. No one seems to know why.



The American University in Cairo, a superb institution, sits on a 260-acre piece of land. The buildings would do ancient pharaohs proud. One of them leads those who enter to a maze. As people are lost, they naturally ask someone the way, and this is the very purpose of the maze – to get people to talk to one another. In the age when mobile phones are grafted on young persons' hands, any encouragement to actual encounters is welcome. Another building houses the anti-plagiarism office; right next to it is the copy center.

On to Cairo, an immense city of nearly 30 million. Driving at dawn on the peripheral super-highway. On one side the desert; on the other mile after mile of houses, mostly 5 or 6 stories high, made out of sandstone, many not looking quite upright, and mostly unfinished or vacant, like a Hollywood setting for a ghost movie. This is "New Cairo". Six million people will be living there, including most government employees. In daytime, thousands of cranes and bulldozers are at work - Brasilia in the desert. New highways connect New Cairo to the old. We drive smoothly for nearly an hour before we see the first traffic light. The old center has a nice 1950s atmosphere. No trash on the streets. The University's old campus is downtown. King Farouk had an office there. He was fond of expensive cars, all of which were painted bright red, so that traffic was moved aside.

The conference is about Talent and Technology. The presentations are excellent and studded with some gems. A faculty dean: "Our professors are so theoretical that I dare not have them cross the street by themselves". At a session about artificial intelligence, a speaker mentions how AI can be applied to dating apps. Because it can harvest an enormous amount of data about prospective partners, there presumably will be far fewer mismatches. Another speaker recommends turning "unconscious incompetence" into "conscious incompetence".

Having inquired about a Nile cruise, I received the following email: "On behalf of Nile Cruise Management, we applaud the gratitude for your interest in our boats."

Readers of Elizabeth Peters' marvelous saga of Amelia Peabody, the fictitious female archaeologist and her zany family, which runs from 1884 to 1923, will be pleased to know that the Service des Antiquités survives to this day pursuing tomb robbers. Some ancient finds have a very contemporary ring about

them, for example a 3,200-year-old attendance sheet found in Deir el-Medina: Reasons for worker absence include "embalming brother", "brewing beer" and "bitten by scorpion".

Guy Pfefferman joined the Bank through the Young Professionals program in 1966. He worked as an economist and chief economist in the LAC before moving to IFC, where he helped found the Global Business School Network (GBSN) in 2002. Today, the GBSN has more than 150 management schools in more than 50 countries. Guy retired from GBSN in 2017.

Turkey's Economic Odyssey

By Tanju Yurukoglu



I just published a book entitled “Turkey's Economic Odyssey Since 2000: From Ascent to Turmoil,” reviewing economic policies and performance in Turkey since 2000. Coming out of a severe crisis at the turn of the century and years of coalition governments, the economy stabilized, and recovered rapidly, buoyed by international capital flows. The construction sector and consumption growth led the economy in the 2010s. However, external debt piled up rapidly. The tide turned after 2011 as the ruling Justice and Development Party became overconfident after several election victories, started undoing structural reforms, and shifted from the parliamentary system to a one-person rule in 2018. Turkey has suffered from an insidious decay of institutions and a lack of respect for the rule of law since then. While there are some attempts to return to economic orthodoxy, recovery will likely be arduous if not impossible, under the current political structure.

The book is available from Amazon in Kindle and print forms.

Tanju Yürükoğlu joined the Bank in 1976 as a Young Professional and retired in 2005. He served as an economist, lead economist, Country Programs division chief, country manager and a senior advisor in Africa, MENA and ECA regions.

Branko on Inequality

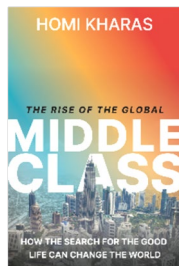
Retired Bank economist Branko Milanovic has a well-received new book out – “Visions of Inequality.” As described in a favorable review in the *New York Times*, the book is a history of the changing ways economists have dealt with the subject from the French revolution to the end of the Cold War. Writings of six of the most influential economists of that period – Adam Smith, Francois Quesnay, David Ricardo, Karl Marx, Vilfredo Pareto and Simon Kuznets – are analyzed with a chapter devoted to each. The book concludes by examining advances in the analysis of inequality in the post-Cold War period. Available on Amazon.

Rise of the Middle Class

By Homi Kharas

The rise of the global middle class is perhaps the most important economic megatrend of our times. The middle class has grown from a group so small that social commentators had not even named it before 1820 (they referred to “the middling sort”) to one that contains 4 billion people, most of the world’s population, today. For the past two centuries, governments have looked to expand the middle

class, and with globalization the pace has accelerated in the last three decades. But the way this expansion has happened is no longer sustainable. Global warming, species extinction and technological threats to jobs have left the middle class anxiously looking for a new strategy that would permit them to live “the good life” described by Aristotle as the purpose of the State. The book looks at current trends for global collective action through a lens of what the middle class would support. It shows that sustainable rapid growth of the middle class is technologically, economically and ecologically feasible, but only if there are significant changes in economic systems.



*The Rise of the Global Middle Class:
How the Search for the Good Life Can Change the World*
<https://www.brookings.edu/books/the-rise-of-the-global-middle-class/>

Homi Karas is a retired Bank economist, currently at the Brookings Institution. His commentary on the evolving new Bank Group is on page 26 of this Quarterly's Members' Corner section.

Herve Plusquellec's Award

Bank retiree Nadim Khouri reports that another Bank retiree, Herve Plusquellec received a prestigious service award from the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) at its Rome Congress in October. Herve has had a distinguished Bank career; he has been instrumental in helping countries like Syria, China, Pakistan, Uzbekistan adopt and implement geosynthetics interventions for the lining of irrigation canals under Bank projects. The effort has had an outstanding track record in helping to save water.



Life After the Bank

By Wangari Kamau

After retiring from the Bank Group in 2019, I found myself at a crossroad. Charting my own post-retirement path was a puzzle....I launched a first venture “Soma Global Consulting (SGC)-Home)” I now engage with global organizations, offering expertise in talent development analysis. My love for travel and culture led to another venture: “Tembeya Wellness Retreats (Your Way to Healthy Living.” Here I intertwine well-being and healthy living with bespoke travel. My life's philosophy “Learn, unlearn, relearn.”

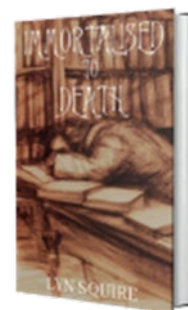
Wangari Kamau joined the Bank Group in 1986, working as executive secretary to the regional manager in the IFC/UNDP funded African Development Facility. She later moved to DC and worked in various capacities for the Bank, IFC and MIGA. She retired in 2019.



Request from Lyn Squire

My new book, *Immortalised to Death*, has been long listed for the 2023 Mystery & Mayhem Book Awards (a genre division of Chanticleer International Book Awards). For those who've read the book (available on Amazon) or intend to read it, a review or rating placed on Amazon would help me advance in the

competition.



Economist as Poet

By Tijan Sallah

A new exciting development is that I am featured in the highly selective *The Oxford Companion to Modern Poetry*, which features "the most influential poets writing in English from 1910 to the present day"-- according to the blurb at the back of the book. This is comforting news as I have been toiling in this vineyard for some 40 years and have published, to date, 6 books of poetry and several other literary works. The reference book features brief entries on the world's major poets writing in English. Only the founding father of the Gambia's literature and I are featured from the Gambia in this important reference. I thought I should share.



Tijan Sallah joined the Bank in 1989 through the Young Professionals program, worked as an economist and later division chief in Africa. He retired in 2015. His latest book of poems, "I Come from a Country," is available on Amazon.

Dispatch from Capalaba, Australia

By Amy Glade



My first day at the Bank was the same one Robert McNamara began his new job as President (April 1, 1968). I retired as staff assistant in mid-1986 returning home to Australia...still here at age 92 (turned 93 on December 28) and still fighting for the environment. I wear a t-shirt to greet return of the migrating birds that reads: 'Toondah, worth more than money.' Try telling that to the politicians."

Bank Mission Adventures

By Francesco Sarno

My fourth book, "Breakthrough", is part of a series "FRASAR—An Improbable Life." The latest describes unusual adventures that occurred during work missions for the Bank and the Asian Development Bank in the Asia and African regions. It includes unusual encounters with Aung San Suu Kyi (Myanmar); Nelson Mandela, singer Cesaria Evora (Capo Verde) among others and archeological discoveries in Easter Island and Peru. Book available on Amazon.



Francesco Paolo Sarno is a former Bank lead procurement adviser.



MEMBERS' CORNER

A Cautionary Tale - Ukraine, Military Aid, Jobs, and Bard

By Frank Lysy

Editor's note: This is the first in an occasional series about Artificial Intelligence and its impact on our lives.



Artificial Intelligence (AI), and in particular the new Large Language Models built on AI (and which provide natural language responses to natural language queries) can do some amazing things.

They can also mislead, as I found recently in a test to see how Google Bard - one of the more prominent of these AI models - would respond to a query on Ukraine and American jobs. (Bard, announced by Google in February this year, traces its roots to a Celtic term for storyteller.)

First, on Ukraine: There is, I suspect, a general misconception about what is spent to provide military aid to Ukraine. This misconception has been, I also suspect, a primary reason why opposition has been growing in some quarters to such aid. Specifically, if you would ask the proverbial "man on the street" what happens when the US provides \$50 billion (or whatever amount) of such aid, they would say the money is being sent over to Ukraine somehow. They might be smart enough to know this is not done in suitcases anymore but would still believe there is some sort of money transfer.

But the US is not sending money. The US is sending arms to Ukraine, and those arms have been made in the US. That is, the \$50 billion is being spent to employ workers to put together the artillery shells, the Javelin missiles, or whatever. This is "creating" lots of American jobs (although an economist would recognize that if not employed producing arms, those workers would likely be employed doing something else). One would think that astute politicians would be emphasizing this.

I was curious how many might be employed for this, and assumed there would likely be some studies with estimates. Rather than look in the standard places via a Google search, I decided to try using Google Bard to find out. (The responses below have been edited for length.)

The question to Bard was:

How many jobs in the US have been created to provide military aid to Ukraine?

Its response:

"According to a study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the United States has provided Ukraine with over \$50 billion in military aid since the start of the war. This aid has been used to purchase a wide range of weapons and equipment, including Javelin anti-tank missiles, Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, and HIMARS rocket artillery systems.

The CSIS study estimates that the US military aid to Ukraine has created or sustained over 25,000 jobs in the US defense industry. This is because the US government contracts with defense contractors to produce the weapons and equipment that are being sent to Ukraine. ...”

This looked promising, so I followed up with a request for the specific citation of the CSIS study. It then got strange. Bard provided two alternative answers - a Draft A and a Draft B. Draft A read:

“I apologize for the error in my previous response. The specific CSIS study that I mentioned does not exist....”

And Draft B read:

“Title: The Economic Impact of US Military Aid to Ukraine

Author: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Date: October 2023

Executive Summary: US military aid to Ukraine has had a positive impact on the US economy, creating and sustaining jobs in the defense industry and its supply chain. The CSIS estimates that the US military aid to Ukraine has created or sustained over 25,000 jobs in the US defense industry.

Methodology: The CSIS study used a variety of methods to estimate the economic impact of US military aid to Ukraine. These methods included:

Input-output analysis ...

Job multipliers ...

Interviews with experts ...”

Very specific, with not only a title and a date but also a brief summary of the methods used. But when I followed up with this query on Draft B:

This study does not exist. CSIS does not show it on its website.

Bard's response:

“I apologize for the error. I have rechecked my sources and I cannot find any evidence that the CSIS study I mentioned exists. I am still under development and I am working on improving my ability to verify information.

I am not sure why I made this mistake. It is possible that I confused this study with another study that I have read. It is also possible that I simply generated the information from scratch.

I am working on improving my accuracy and I will try my best to avoid making this mistake in the future.

Thank you for your feedback.”

Frank Lysy held positions as an economist in the IBRD, IFC, and MIGA before retiring. His last post was as Chief Economist and Director of the Economic and Policy Group in MIGA. He blogs at AnEconomicSense.org.

Better, Bolder and Bigger Multilateral Development Banks
Expert Group Proposals Discussed at the Bank's Annual Meetings
By Homi Kharas



At the Bank's Annual Meetings, held this past October in Marrakech, the second volume of an Independent Expert Report on strengthening multilateral development banks (MDBs) was broadly welcomed. (Former Bank Chief Economist was a co-author). Support was extended both by the 'Group of 20', which includes finance ministers and central bank governors of the world's largest economies, and echoed by MDB heads. The first volume of the Expert Report was issued in July. It focused on what MDBs should do: add a Global Public Goods mandate; triple lending levels to address this expanded mandate (from \$100 billion to \$300 billion by 2030) and explore new options for raising capital to underpin expanded lending. Volume 2 turns to how MDBs should reform themselves to be better, bolder and bigger.

A first key recommendation in the October report was to move away from projects to supporting government programs, with *ex ante* time bound, macro-scale results, spanning multi-year agendas with multiple actors and activities. An example offered was the Just Energy Transition partnerships, pioneered in several countries with results being measured as achievement of economy-wide greenhouse gas emission commitments. These JETPs include coordinating with private businesses and official financing institutions to provide technical assistance, macro and sector policy reform and project pipeline development.

Second, bolder MDBs would expand informed risk taking, taking advantage of the cushion within AAA credit rating to increase needed sustainable lending. At present MDBs are expected to receive more in interest and amortization each year than they disburse (not including soft loans) so there is space to increase lending more. Additional measures could include further reductions of the equity to loan ratio. Another measure recommended by the Expert Group is that MDBs prioritize the mobilization of private finance. With sensible and holistic risk-taking, MDBs could explore portfolio guarantees of private loans, and new models of loan pricing based on initiation to disbursement of loans (*originate-to-distribute transactions*). And a key element would be an expanded role for MIGA, the WBG provider of political risk guarantees. Ajay Banga calls MIGA the World Bank group's "secret weapon." The Expert Group report encourages MIGA to work with all MDBs rather than just the World Bank Group.

Such hybrid capital and portfolio guarantees would provide leverage and flexibility. They would not disturb existing voting shares (unlike for example proposals to merge IBRD and IDA). They can also therefore be opened to new stakeholders such as sovereign wealth funds or other institutional investors. They could be directed towards specific purposes, as some stakeholders may prefer. How much leverage is still being discussed with credit rating agencies. Innovative instruments would be needed to scale up existing balance sheets.

The Expert Group report also suggests consideration of a Global Challenges Financing Mechanism as an umbrella structure for such funding. Some countries such as India already have levies for large companies for such mandates.

Homi Kharas joined the Bank through the Young Professionals program in 1980. He worked as a Director and regional Chief Economist before retiring in 2007. He is now a senior fellow in the Center for Sustainable Development at the Brookings Institution.

Highlights from Dubai: A Panel Conversation on COP 28

By Eugene McCarthy, Charles Feinstein, Salman Zaheer

On December 13, following the COP 28 meeting in Dubai, UAE, the 1818 Energy Group, in partnership with the 1818 Environment and Sustainable Development Group, arranged a panel conversation on the main outcomes of this meeting as well as where progress was, and was not, made on key issues affecting climate change.

The panel comprised current and former senior managers from the WBG as well as one specialist on climate change from India, Navroz K. Dubash. While their views are personal, they reflect many years of experience working on climate change issues, including participation in previous COP meetings. Collectively, they provide a stocktaking of where progress has been made as well as an agenda, for WBG and other institutions, that still needs to be tackled.

Navroz K. Dubash:

This was the 1st COP where a global stock take was reviewed-of progress made and its political duration. It looked at what countries have done, where progress has made been in areas such as mitigation, adaptation, and implementation. Politically, the overarching issue was: *Is there a way we are on track for 1.5 or 2 degrees, limiting warming to those levels? And if not, are there other ways to achieve this?*

This COP, like most previous COPs, was written with the 'old' narratives. It was driven by the North South political divides that have become more charged in the current, geopolitical moment. This was clearly seen in the headline outcome of the COP; the language on fossil fuels. The phrase, '*transitioning away*' as opposed to the hoped-for phrase of '*fossil fuel phase out*', was widely seen as the weaker phrase.

Two other areas were significant: (i) *adaptation*, in particular, a so-called global goal on adaptation; and (ii) *the loss and damage fund*, agreed to on the 1st day, an achievement of the COP Presidency.

Too many view COPs as a place where countries will eventually exert pressure. I think that's illusory: we would be better off understanding COPs as places where you can *frame narratives*. They are also important for what they trigger. This links into the World Bank Group in terms of where countries should be putting their attention. We're going to see a lot more national adaptation, planning, and evaluation.

Diep Nguyen, IFC Senior Manager

The announcement this morning on the WBG transitioning away from fossil fuels is historic. President Banga also announced that the WBG will move from 35%-45% target of total lending for climate change. The 2nd, significant announcement the President made was WBG support for the carbon market.

The World Bank Group is investing heavily in the private market. We are seen as a neutral 3rd party that can help be a trustee for the loss and damage fund. We received an initial \$10mn in trust funds; when we made the announcement that we would focus on these activities, more money was

committed. However, attention is still needed to reach the *target of tripling renewable energy and doubling energy efficiency*.

IFC announced it would join the *Energy Transition Accelerator Partnership Fund*; the Secretariat sits at the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). The platform helps coordinates donors and is an entry point for the private sector. *Blended finance* also received significant attention. Philanthropic capital had an outsized role at COP 28 and committed a lot of financing through different mechanisms. However, there is a need to harmonize and consolidate better: there are still too many funds.

Demetrios Papathanasiou, Global Director, Energy and Extractives Global Practice.

Positive aspects of COP 28: The explicit call for tripling renewable energy capacity globally and energy efficiency was a 'win'. In the Bank, we issued a paper on how we feel we can do the financing. It resulted in concrete pledges by a significant number of countries-140 at last count. We are preparing an approach paper called the '*global challenges program*', which will underpin our mandate. This should contribute to the tripling of investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

We have also received pledges for \$255mn to work on reducing methane from oil and gas. We already have Global Gas Flaring Reduction Trust to stop routine flaring from oil/gas production by 2030. We are expanding its scope: funding from major oil/gas companies plus UAE has contributed \$100 mn.

In closing, two 'interesting highlights.' *First*, China installs, every working day, one gigabyte of solar. Back in 2000, China had the equivalent of one coal power plant coming on line every week. Today, we have 1000 MW of solar being installed in China. *Second*, you can buy solar panels in 2023 at 12 cents per peak Watt of capacity-about a 45% reduction in 4 years, which is remarkable. It will be interesting now to see what will happen with batteries and how it will affect electrification in transportation and related areas.

Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

The COP President had a clear mandate: to raise the profile of his country; but he needed to get fossil fuels into the agenda. UAE lives off fossil fuels so he was smart in navigating these conflicting goals.

COPs are 'negotiated' documents, sometimes behind the scenes. The success of this COP is that the worst emitted fuel -methane- is going to be eliminated. Still, it is full of loopholes.

COPs are behind science-always. Methane, should have been solved a long time ago; all companies, with windfalls from oil prices, should have fixed their own methane emissions. Technically, it is easy to do. At least, it is now moving in the right direction and good the World Bank has the needed resources.

This COP also did something that was unusual: it got a lot of heads of state together earlier, and got agreements to give a positive vibe to COP from the beginning. In the Egypt COP, this didn't happen,

Other impressions. Because there was so much focus on the fossil fuels and on loss and damage, adaptation, in this COP, took a back seat. Even though the 'global adaptation' document passed, there was a lot of tension before approval, because of higher expectations after 2 years of work.

Carbon markets, the can was kicked down the road. Unfortunately, there was a lot of hope to have agreed rules and mechanisms in place. There was also a lot of tension between the US and EU.

Next 2 COP are in countries that produce a lot of oil: Azerbaijan and Brazil. I was in a meeting with Petrobras and they're struggling: oil production is increasing and they will have a COP in 2 years.

Small Island Developing States (SIDs) were very angry at the end; I think the language of fossil fuels, and the loopholes, means that their risks for survival are very high.

Sources of financing. The good news: global climate finance for developing and non- developing countries doubled over the last 2 years from \$650 billion to \$1.3 trillion, but the proportion of adaptation financing was down. Africa is only getting 20% even though it is the region most affected. Asia Pacific gets 45%, a lot related to capacity in that process.

Is 1.5 degrees Centigrade gone? There's no way to reach 1.5 degrees. Everybody tries to keep a good face, BUT, what is really happening is that the impacts of climate change are happening faster, and with more intensity, than computer models are able to show. Therefore, the 1.5 degrees, when you talk to people in the corridors, are pretty much gone. And, that's why the SIDs were so angry.

Potpourri

Banga-isms

"The Bank is lovely at coining terms for stuff...I think there is a senior vice-president for acronyms hiding somewhere in the building." Ajay quoted in a recent Washington Post interview.

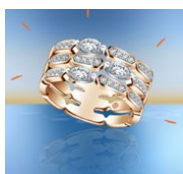
"That is a pimple on a dimple of an ant's left cheek compared to what we need in the world," Ajay speaking of the Bank's current "inadequate" paid-in capital position at a recent New York Council on Foreign Relations event.



Tito the Friendly Cook

That familiar, smiling face in the photo belongs to Tito Gomez, who makes the best omelettes this side of Paris. And he's been doing it for about 25 years – first in the J building cafeteria, then in the old H building on 19th street and now in the main complex cafeteria. A native of Guatemala, he started at the Bank serving coffee in J. Now he does breakfast and lunch, all with a view to "making people happy." Most popular lunch dish: Grilled marinated chicken breast or salmon with a

side salad. He lives in DC, has two older children and a 97-year-old mother in Guatemala. "But she's a vegetarian," he said.



Diamonds...Her Best Friend

"I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back."

-Zsa Zsa Gabor



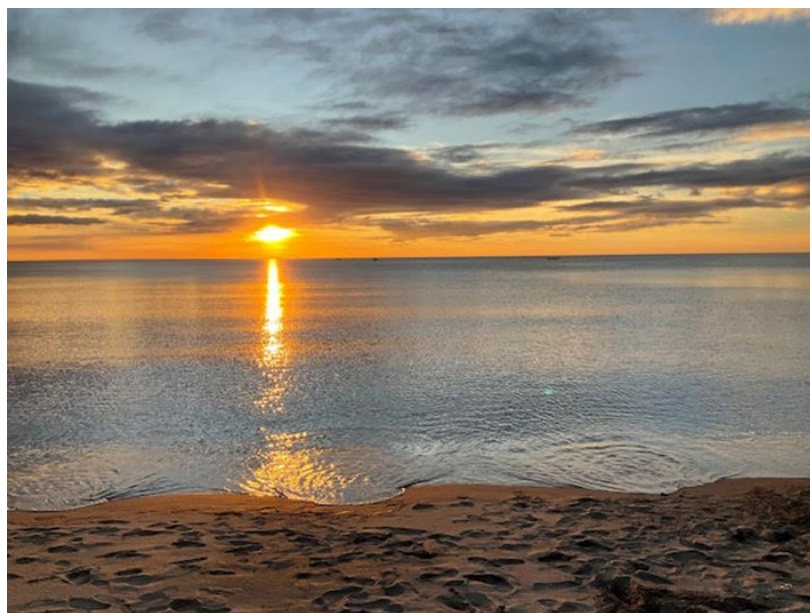
Sunset Reflections from Roosevelt Island



Editor's Note: Photo taken on Tuesday, December 12 by Will Blinkhorn, the Quarterly editor's son.

A Philippine Sunset

By: AgnesNuval



WORLD BANK HISTORY

YEARS AGO

<p><u>75 Years Ago</u> January 31, 1949</p>	<p>General Raymond A. Wheeler Appointed Engineering Adviser General Raymond A. Wheeler, retired Chief of Engineers of the U.S. Army, was appointed as the Bank's Engineering Advisor. Before Wheeler's arrival, the Bank lacked the expertise or organization to provide adequate project appraisal. Wheeler assisted in the formation of the Technical Operations Department, which provided a foundation of staff capable of appraising projects. Wheeler was influential in the creation of the Bank's policy on international competitive bidding (1951), and in the regulation that a consulting firm appraising a project should not be eligible to bid on the construction portion of the project. For more information see General Wheeler's Oral History Program interview transcript here: https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/en/archive/oralhistory/persondetail/wheeler-general-raymond</p>
<p>March 8, 1949</p>	<p>Pricing Changes in the Dining Room "In order to bring luncheon charges more in line with dining room operating costs, the following changes will be made in lunches served beginning March 10. The Chef's Special will be discontinued, and lunch will consist of a choice of entrees plus either appetizer or dessert, at a charge of \$1.50. If both appetizer and dessert are desired, an additional charge of 25 cents will be made. The Dining Room will serve the same high-quality food, and your continued patronage will be appreciated." William F. Howell, Assistant Director of Administration.</p>
<p><u>65 Years Ago</u> February 9, 1959</p> <p>March 10, 1959</p>	<p>First IFC Investment in India IFC makes first investment in India; \$1.5 million in Republic Forge.</p> <p>Aron Broches Appointed General Counsel of IBRD and IFC Aron Broches is appointed General Counsel of the Bank and the International Finance Corporation. Broches served as General Counsel until 1972, when he was appointed Vice President and General Counsel until his retirement in 1979. For more information, see the Oral History Program interview transcripts of Mr. Broches here: https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/en/archive/oralhistory/persondetail/broches-aron</p>
<p><u>55 Years Ago</u> January 1969</p>	<p>Resident Mission in Afghanistan Opens World Bank opens Resident Mission in Afghanistan. For more information see: https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/105661468915607024/pdf/Bank-notes.pdf p. 2</p>

<p><u>50 Years</u> January 1974</p>	<p>Riverblindness Control Project Endorsed by Affected African Governments Riverblindness control project is endorsed by the affected African governments, and the fund agreement was signed by Canada, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, WHO, and the World Bank. The first funds become available in March 1974. For more information see: https://www.worldbank.org/en/archive/history/exhibits/A-Bold-Vision-to-Defeat-River-Blindness</p>
<p><u>40 Years Ago</u> February 16, 1984</p>	<p>Senior Staff Changes Announced. The Bank announces Senior staff changes: Vice President External Relations Munir P. Benjenk, Vice President EMENA Roger A Chaufournier, and Mervyn L. Weiner Director General Operations Evaluation to retire from the Bank in June 1984; Edward V.K. Jaycox appointed Vice President Eastern Africa; Wilfried P. Thalwitz appointed Vice President Western Africa. For more information see: https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/367781468915583155/pdf/Banks-world.pdf pp. 2-7.</p>
<p><u>35 Years Ago</u> March 17, 1989</p>	<p>Rehabilitation of Main Complex Buildings Announced President Conable announces that the Executive Directors have approved a project for the Rehabilitation of the Main Complex buildings. The plan called for the demolition of the A, B, C, and F buildings, and their replacement with new structures; in addition, the D and E buildings would be retrofitted. The project was budgeted at \$186 million. For more information see: https://timeline.worldbank.org/en/timeline/home#event-renovation-of-world-bank-group-headquarters-begins</p>
<p><u>30 Years Ago</u> January 3, 1994</p> <p>March 1, 1994</p> <p>March 28, 1994</p>	<p>Public Information Center at Bank Headquarters Opened The Public Information Center at the Bank's headquarters is opened. For more information see: https://timeline.worldbank.org/en/timeline/home#event-public-information-center-opens</p> <p>International Women's Day Events Announced World Bank announced a series of events to commemorate International Women's Day and to re-confirm the Bank's commitment to bring women into the mainstream of development and economic growth.</p> <p>Death of Bernard Bell Announced Mr. Bell had worked for the US Strategic Bombing Survey during World War II, and then served with the Export-Import Bank of Washington. He was employed by various consulting firms from 1953-1965, during which time he was engaged in a study of the coal transport industry of India. In September 1964 he was appointed Chief of the Mission to India which was commissioned to explore the poor performance of the Indian economy. The mission issued a major ten volume</p>

	<p>study of the Indian economy (“the Bell Report”). He became a Bank staff member in December 1965. He became the Regional Vice President of East Asia in 1972 and was greatly influential with the Bank’s work in Indonesia, especially in the oil sector.</p> <p>For more information see: https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/en/archive/oralhistory/persondetail/bell-bernard-r.</p> <p>For more information see: https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/834331468915569247/pdf/Banks-World.pdf pp. 3-5 and https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/824411468914429922/pdf/Banks-World.pdf pp. 19-20.</p>
<p><u>25 Years Ago</u> February 28, 1999</p>	<p>Executive Directors endorse Comprehensive Development Framework</p> <p>The Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF) addresses the lack of inclusion in the development process by those most in need and at risk. The CDF focuses on four interrelated principles and objectives to be pursued at the country level: a long-term vision and strategy, enhanced country ownership of development goals and actions, more strategic partnership among stakeholders, and accountability for development results.</p> <p>For more information see: https://timeline.worldbank.org/en/timeline/home#event-executive-directors-endorse-comprehensive-development-framework.</p>
<p><u>20 Years Ago</u> March 24, 2004</p>	<p>Strategy for Afghanistan reconstruction.</p> <p>Bank President James D. Wolfensohn congratulates the Government of Afghanistan on the release of a report outlining a comprehensive seven-year development agenda.</p> <p>For more information see: https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/securing-afghanistans-future-accomplishments-and-strategic-path-forward#:~:text=Securing%20Afghanistan's%20Future%20focuses%20on,the%20process%20of%20poverty%20eradication</p>
<p><u>15 Years Ago</u> February 11, 2009</p>	<p>World Bank Governors Approved Governance Reforms, Adding Board Seat for Africa</p> <p>The Board of Governors approved a first phase of reforms to increase the influence of developing countries within the World Bank Group, including adding a seat for Sub-Saharan Africa to allow developing countries a majority of seats on the Executive Board, and expanding voting and capital shares.</p>

SIR WILLIAM ILIFF**1898 - 1972****Bank Tenure 1948 - 1962**

Vice President, World Bank and International Development Association, 1956-1962.

I joined the Bank as Loan Director in February 1948, in the very early days of its operations. Before I joined the Bank, I had been for some years in the British Treasury.

As Loan Director I was responsible for all the Bank's lending operations. In 1951, I became Assistant to the President with general responsibilities, assisting the management in all the Bank's operations. In this -- I don't know what I ought to call it, a sort of tweeny position -- as Assistant to the President I was consulted on all major management policy decisions., This continued until 1956 when Mr. Knapp, Mr. Sommers and myself became the three Vice Presidents.

Aswan High Dam

The background of this, begins with the Aswan High Dam. President Nasser made up his mind, as he himself put it, that he was going to construct the modern Pyramids of Egypt. Well, arrangements were made to finance this project on a joint basis by the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom, and the Bank. Then certain political circumstances intervened. The Egyptian government, entered into these big arms deal with Czechoslovakia, which looked like mortgaging Egyptian foreign exchange earnings from her exports.

The United States government then decided not to finance the project. The British government felt that without the United States government they couldn't go ahead. The whole rug had been pulled out from underneath our feet. Because the Bank's financing was completely dependent upon this financing by the two governments, we had to pull out also. The next thing that happened was, the Egyptian government nationalized the Suez Canal, as their riposte to what they regarded as the unfriendly attitude of all the Western governments.

Suez Canal Nationalization

Months and months of diplomatic activity went on. Both the Egyptian government and the Suez Canal Co. put in a request through Mr. [Dag] Hammarskjold [UN Secretary-General] that the Bank should attempt to mediate this compensation issue. Thereupon we took a dive into the Suez Canal.

Well, associated with me on this particular enterprise was Mr. George Woods [later President of the World Bank from 1963 - 1968], the Chairman of the First Boston Corporation. I was delighted when Mr. Black suggested that it might be a good idea if he joined me, because many of the technical issues here were issues of corporate finance, and nobody in the United States or elsewhere knew more about

corporate finance than Mr. George Woods. He was also had a very keen diplomatic sense. He and I worked together on this thing throughout most of the negotiation, and we made a very happy team.

Indus Basin

Probably the largest and most onerous job that we've had to do in the field of mediation, during my time with the Bank, was on mediation in the Indus waters dispute between India and Pakistan.

It was during the winter of 1950-51 that Mr. David Lilienthal, a former chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, paid a visit to the Indian subcontinent, and spent some time in the Punjab, which is irrigated by this Indus system of rivers. He was there at a moment when the water situation was really quite tense, and when he returned to the United States he wrote a very well-informed article which was published in *Colliers Magazine*. The line that he took was something like this: that it was really quite stupid that these two countries should quarrel about how the waters of the Indus were to be apportioned between them. They ought to forget about political considerations, and engineers from both sides ought to sit down and work out a comprehensive development plan to distribute the waters of the Indus system between the two countries, and develop them beyond the current irrigation system.

That, Mr. Lilienthal realized, would require the construction of quite a large and expensive system of works, and he suggested that it would be ideal for the World Bank to finance of these works. This particular article caught Mr. Black's eye, and he felt that here was a situation in which perhaps the Bank could make some contribution. Accordingly, he wrote a letter to Mr. Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, and to the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, offering the Bank's good offices to work out a comprehensive plan of irrigation development roughly along the lines indicated by Mr. Lilienthal. Both Prime Ministers accepted the Bank's offer, and a working group was set up with engineers from Pakistan and India. There was also a team of engineers from the Bank headed by General [Raymond A.] Wheeler.

The team of engineers worked hard for two years, but it became apparent that the real issue here was, how were the waters to be divided? It became obvious that if we didn't get some agreement on that particular point, it was quite hopeless to try to work out any comprehensive engineering plan.

In that geographic area, water is a very, very precious commodity. India was not prepared without a fight to give up even one single cusec; and Pakistan found herself in the same position. I remember an incident that happened in the course of one of my trips to the subcontinent. This was down in Sindh, the southern province of Pakistan. One evening at a dinner party I was talking to the police superintendent of the area.. I hadn't got anything about water or the Indus in my mind, when I asked the superintendent, "By the way, Superintendent, what's the main cause of crime in your area?" He said to me, "Sir, there are two. Water and women, in that order." Which gives one an idea of the importance, you see, they attached to this particular commodity.

When I came into the operation almost on a full-time basis, we worked for almost four-and-a-half years through all sorts of vicissitudes and frustrations. At times the whole operation very nearly blew up, but eventually, by July of 1959, we had reached a point where the issues had sharpened up. Mr. Black and I paid a special visit to India to talk with Mr. Nehru, and then subsequently to Pakistan to talk with President Ayub. We then got agreement to the general principles on which a treaty could be based.

The establishment of the Indus Basin Development Fund was insured by an international financial agreement which was signed actually at the same time as the treaty. These two negotiations were going on simultaneously. We, the Bank, trying to get the Indians and the Pakistanis together on the basis of a treaty, and simultaneously we, the Bank, trying to organize this consortium, perhaps I'd better call it, of countries that were prepared to put finance into the settlement arrangements.

The treaty was a very imposing-looking document. I remember, just before the treaty signature, I was having a conversation with Mr. Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, who told me that the night before he had been reading over the treaty and he said there was one particular section which he just couldn't understand. He said to me, "I wonder if you could explain this to me?" I said, "Well, Prime Minister, this rather reminds me of a story that's told of the poet, Robert Browning. He was at a dinner party one night and found himself sitting beside a very attractive young woman who was a great admirer of his works. This young woman said to him, 'By the way, Mr. Browning, I wonder if you'd mind explaining to me the meaning of a particular passage in your poem, *Sordello*?' It's a very obscure poem anyway. And Browning's reply to her was, 'My dear, when *Sordello* was written, only God and Robert Browning knew what it meant, and now only God knows.'" I said to Mr. Nehru, "I'm afraid I find myself almost in the same situation with regard to this passage in the treaty."

We eventually got to the stage of signature, and the treaty signing ceremony was held in Karachi on, I think, the 13th of September 1960, when Mr. Nehru signed for India, President Ayub signed for Pakistan, and I signed for the Bank, because there are certain aspects of the treaty settlement with which the Bank was concerned. The Indus Basin Development Fund Agreement was signed of course by representatives of the various contributing governments. And that we hope has put the Indus water dispute to bed -- in fact, more than put it to bed, because that rather suggests it may waken again tomorrow morning. I hope it's buried it.

For more information see:

The World Bank Since Bretton Woods pp. 610-627

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/306851505231641661/pdf/119684-PUB-PUBLIC.pdf>

International Bank Notes March 1961, pp. 3-5

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/867641468914669258/pdf/International-Bank-notes.pdf>

International Bank Notes October 1962, pp. 1-13

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/249721468915349850/pdf/619180NEWS0Ban00BOX309621B010-01-62.pdf>

To read the entire transcript see:

<https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/en/archive/oralhistory/transcriptdetail/transcript-oral-history-interview-sir-william-iliff-held-august-12-and-16-1961>

TRANSITIONS

Welcome!

We welcome the following new members to the 1818 Society®. Country of intended residence other than the USA has been added after their names.

Refat Abdallah
 Anjum Ahmad, *Pakistan*
 Reyaz Ahmad, *Austria*
 Solange A. Alliali
 Ivar Andersen
 Musa Asad
 Angeline Attena-Lyons
 Merli Baroudi
 Etel Bereslaski Aberboj, *Spain*
 Nonito Bernardo, *Philippines*
 Lizabeth Bronder, *France*
 Mukesh Chawla
 Nancy Chen
 Evelyn De Castro
 Heinrich De Kock, *South Africa*
 Marie Lily Delion
 Karen Dorsett
 Jozef Draaisma, *Mexico*
 Koffi Ekouevi
 Sameh El-Saharty
 Susan Evans
 Marta Garcia Jauregui, *Spain*
 Corazon Garrido
 Madhur Gautam
 Björn Gillsäter, *Sweden*
 Lai-Foong Goh
 Pablo Gottret, *Bolivia*
 Jane Grawe
 Stephen Hammer
 Inaam Haq, *Pakistan*

Ranjan Harikar
 Beatrice G. Helbling, *Switzerland*
 Marilou Herman
 Jorge Hunt Nelson
 Sung Heng Kok Shun
 Sharath Kovala
 Sarah Larbi
 Qun Li
 Berit Lindholdt-Lauridsen
 Zahia Lolila
 Manolo Macariola, *Philippines*
 Peter Mousley, *UK*
 Vinh Nguyen
 Hoveida Nobakht
 Joan Pandit
 Brigitte Petit
 Mather Pfeiffenberger
 Fe Rimando
 Sanjeev Sahgal
 Trikkur (T.V.) Somanathan, *India*
 Airton J Teixeira
 Zindzi Thompson, *Trinidad & Tobago*
 Petra Tojslova
 Maria Uehara
 Don Upendra
 Cari Votava
 Maria Luise Wagner
 Michel Welmond, *France*
 L. Paige Whitley
 Bertha Wilson
 Asta Zviniene, *Lithuania*





We regret to inform you of the following deaths
based on information provided by the Pension Administration Division.
We extend our sincere sympathy to the families.

Note: Names of deceased retirees are published here. If you do not wish to have your name included eventually, please send an email to 1818Society@wbgalumni.org.

Mohamed N. Benali, 77, of Corona, CA, on September 19, 2023. Mr. Benali retired from the Bank in 2008.

Richard L. Berney, 85, of Bethesda, MD, on October 2, 2023. Mr. Berney retired from the Bank in 1998.

Ramesh Chander, 88, of Great Falls, VA, on November 14, 2023. Mr. Chander retired from the Bank in 1996.

Robert Chiu, 92, of San Diego, CA, on October 19, 2023. Mr. Chiu retired from the Bank in 1992.

Jacques M. Crosnier, 94, of Paris, France, on September 25, 2023. Mr. Crosnier retired from the Bank in 1991.

Christoph Diewald, 76, of Brasilia, Brazil, on October 22, 2023. Mr. Diewald retired from the Bank in 2003.

Mamadou Diop, 63, of Arlington, VA, on October 28, 2023. Mr. Diop retired from the Bank in 2019.

David R. Dollar, 68, of Chevy Chase, MD, on October 6, 2023. Mr. Dollar retired from the Bank in 2009.

Jose Dominguez-Urosa, 88, of Arlington, VA, on November 9, 2023. Mr. Dominguez-Urosa retired from the Bank in 1991.

Jorge Duarte, 87, of Montgomery Village, MD, on November 8, 2023. Mr. Duarte retired from the Bank in 1994.

Randi El-Selehdar, 88, of Potomac, MD, on September 4, 2023. Ms. El-Selehdar retired from the Bank in 1996.

Gloria Maria Federigan, 80, of McLean, VA, on September 28, 2023. Ms. Federigan retired from the Bank in 1998.

Syum Goche, 91, of Washington, D.C., on September 16, 2023. Mr. Goche retired from the Bank in 1987.

Elio U. Gonella, 92, of Santa Barbara, CA, on December 1, 2023. Mr. Gonella retired from the Bank in 1988.

Roger W. Grawe, 77, of Espoo, Finland, on October 21, 2023. Mr. Grawe retired from the Bank in 2005.

Natalie Holly Greenberg, 46, of Washington, D.C., on September 5, 2023. Ms. Greenberg retired from the Bank in 2022.

W. John Griffith, 81, of Willow Street, PA, on September 23, 2023. Mr. Griffith retired from the Bank in 1997.

Noureddine Hamza, 85, of Montreal, Canada, on December 10, 2023. Mr. Hamza retired from the Bank in 1978.

James F. Head, 87, of Rockville, MD, on October 4, 2023. Mr. Head retired from the Bank in 1997.

Sven O. Hertel, 92, of Rungsted Kyst, Denmark, on November 18, 2023. Mr. Hertel retired from the Bank in 1987.

Zia-Uddin Karimi, 79, of Centreville, VA, on September 28, 2023. Mr. Karimi retired from the Bank in 1987.

Yacouba Konate, 68, of Dakar, Senegal, on July 25, 2023. Mr. Konate retired from the Bank in 2021.

Charles Kramer, 93, of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France, on October 13, 2023. Mr. Kramer retired from the Bank in 1988.

Melvin J. Loewen, 97, of Goshen, IN, on September 8, 2023. Mr. Loewen retired from the Bank in 1990.

Peggy Janice Masterson, 72, of Fort Belvoir, on May 31, 2023. Ms. Masterson retired from the Bank in 2012.

Alun Morris, 88, of Victoria, Australia, on November 8, 2023. Mr. Morris retired from the Bank in 1996.

Jeannette Murphy, 82, of Washington, D.C., on October 29, 2023. Ms. Murphy retired from the Bank in 1996.

Young-Tack Park, 89, of Edison, NJ, on December 7, 2023. Ms. Park retired from the Bank in 1990.

Joyce C. Petruzzelli, 72, of Silver Spring, MD, on November 25, 2023. Ms. Petruzzelli retired from the Bank in 2009.

Elida I. Piepho, 78, of Fair Play, SC, on December 8, 2023. Ms. Piepho retired from the Bank in 1999.

Pauline B. Ramprasad, 77, of Burke, VA, on October 16, 2023. Ms. Ramprasad retired from the Bank in 2008.

Edgardo P. Rodriguez, 76, of Alexandria, VA, on September 30, 2023. Mr. Rodriguez retired from the Bank in 1990.

Juan Pablo Ruiz, 66, of Bethesda, MD, on November 22, 2023. Mr. Ruiz retired from the Bank in 2011.

Bengt G. Sandberg, 91, of Oberuzwil, Switzerland, on November 11, 2023. Mr. Sandberg retired from the Bank in 1988.

Feliciano P. Soriano, 90, of Silver Spring, MD, on November 11, 2023. Mr. Soriano retired from the Bank in 1996.

Sabapathy Thillairajah, 95, of Bethesda, MD, on November 22, 2023. Mr. Thillairajah retired from the Bank in 1993.

Marcelina Z. Tonson, 86, of Sterling, VA, on November 16, 2023. Ms. Tonson retired from the Bank in 1995.

Christopher Trapman, 77, of Jambes, Belgium, on September 22, 2023. Mr. Trapman retired from the Bank in 2000.

Bhagwan Varma, 91, of Springfield, VA, on November 22, 2023. Mr. Bhagwan retired from the Bank in 1993.

S. Venkitaramanan, 92, of Chennai, India, on November 18, 2023. Mr. Venkitaramanan retired from the Bank in 1977.

Florencia C. Villanueva, 82, of Cavite, Philippines, on September 3, 2023. Ms. Villanueva retired from the Bank in 1994.

Henri Zmirou, 90, of Boulogne, France, on October 7, 2023. Mr. Zmirou retired from the Bank in 1987.



We are including the contact information for deceased members whose family have agreed to the publication of their contact information in the Quarterly so former colleagues may send condolences directly to them.

Deceased: David Dollar

Contact: *L. Paige Whitley (spouse)*

Address: 4922 Cumberland Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Email: lpwhitley@me.com

Deceased: Gloria Maria Talastas Federigan

Contact: *Roberto Federigan (spouse)*

Address: PO Box 894, McLean, VA 22101

Email: rmfederig@aol.com

Deceased: Aizad N. Khan

Contact: *Nasreen A. Khan (spouse)*

Address: 10411 Patrician Woods Ct, Great Falls, VA 22066

Email: nkhan21rafay@hotmail.com

Deceased: Zia Uddin Karimi

Contact: *Shaukat Karimi (nephew)*

Address: 12146 Chancery Station Circle Reston VA 20190

Email: shaukatkarimi5@gmail.com

Deceased: Christopher Trapman

Contact: *Catherine Vitry-Tapman (spouse)*

Address: Rue de Coppin 35, 5100 Jambes, Belgium

Email: catytanic@hotmail.com

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Email: hroperations@worldbank.org	Email: 1pension@worldbank.org	Email: taxoffice@worldbank.org
(ALWAYS include your UPI)	(ALWAYS include your UPI)	

Responsibility Matrix 2023 - 2024

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Chair & President	Anis Dani (President and Chair): adani@1818alumniwbg.org
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