



***Conference: 28 and 29 October 2009 @ Bytes Conference Centre, Midrand***  
***Opportunities in a Falling Market***

---

## **Biographies of Speakers and Panellists**

**Day 1: Wednesday 28 October 2009**

---

### **Helena Mcleod**

Helena McLeod is Head of the Resilient Livelihoods Team in DFID Southern Africa. The team's portfolio focuses on poverty reduction through tackling food, climate, health and personal security and includes DFID SA's work on governance and land issues. She has been with DFID Southern Africa for the past eight years. Previous posts within the office were as regional integration and trade advisor, and economist. Before coming to South Africa she worked in DFID's London head quarters as a trade advisor, and as a resource economist in the South Pacific. She is married to Nazeem, a South African, and has one son Tariq, who is fifteen months old.

---

### **Dr. Mark Napier**

Mark is programme director of Urban LandMark, a UK government-funded programme in South Africa which focuses on making urban land markets work better for the poor. He is an architect by profession and studied housing at post-graduate level at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mark has also spent time in government, setting up a research unit in the national Department of Housing (now Human Settlements), and before that was with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. He has researched and published in the areas of housing extensions, home-based enterprises, environmental aspects of informal settlements, and land and housing markets.

---

### **Antony Miller**

Antony is the Managing Director of Lightstone, a specialised GIS, IT and knowledge management company. Initially focused on the mortgage industry, Lightstone provides property valuation technology and other risk management services to most South African mortgage lenders. The company also provides property-related IT solutions to various municipalities and real estate companies, and its house price index is seen as a key measure of house price movements by most property economists and commentators. In addition, Lightstone provides a range of data quality, spatial and analytic solutions to the retail, automotive and telecommunications industries.

Antony started his career as a plant engineer with AECI, before spending nearly six years with McKinsey and Company as a strategy consultant. He left McKinsey to found Lightstone at the end of 2005. Anthony has an engineering degree from the University of Cape Town and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management. Anthony has recently been nominated to the Forum of Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum.

---

### **Kecia Rust**

Kecia is the coordinator of the FinMark Trust's housing finance theme area, now known as the Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa (a division of the FinMark Trust). As part of this role, she has grown the FinMark Trust housing finance theme area to focus on three broad areas of investigation: the nature of the housing asset; innovation in housing finance towards enhanced access for the poor; and understanding housing finance and access issues in Africa. Kecia has 16 years experience in the low-income housing policy sector in South Africa. Since 1997, she has operated as an independent consultant, specialising in housing policy and development.

Kecia holds a Masters of Management degree (1998) from the Graduate School of Public and Development Management, University of the Witwatersrand. In 2007, she participated in the International Housing Finance Programme at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. She obtained her Bachelors degree in International Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA, where she was a Morehead Scholar.

---

### **Robert McGaffin**

Robert is a town planner and land economist. He has worked as a town planner for local and provincial governments and as a commercial property finance manager for Standard Bank. In addition, Robert has lectured in Land Economics and Valuation at the University of Cape Town. He is currently the Property

Market Theme Coordinator for Urban LandMark and is working with Rode and Associates to produce the Rode Growth Points Report.

---

### **Pierre Venter**

Pierre is a housing practitioner who has been employed within the banking sector in the field of housing for the past 25-odd years. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree, together with a mini-MBA and numerous property-related diplomas. He is currently employed by The Banking Association South Africa where he holds the position of General Manager Socio-Economic Growth and Development, with a specific focus on sustainable human settlements.

---

### **Mark Souris**

Mark is in essence a retailer that has grown into the property industry. He started his retail career with Clicks in 1980 in Cape Town, joined the Wooltru group based in Johannesburg in 1989 and worked in the Topics chain of fashion stores. He has 20 years of extensive retail experience gained while managing stores in Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Free State, North West Province, Eastern, Western and Northern Cape. In the process he gained valuable insight into South Africa's diverse markets across all income groups. His retail experience at senior level has enabled him to understand full turnkey operations in both fashion and general department store concepts.

In 1999 he joined Old Mutual Properties and was appointed as General Manager in Johannesburg, he gained 7 years extensive property management and leasing experience whilst managing their Rosebank portfolio of 10 shopping centres/buildings in Gauteng comprising of 136 000m<sup>2</sup> retail and office space, totalling 350 tenants operating in various income markets. Mark has travelled overseas to the USA and the UK, taking part in several overseas conferences and has consulted on behalf of Old Mutual Properties in India. He served as an executive member of the Rosebank Management District and became Chairman in 2004. He has also completed the Certificate in Shopping Centre Management in 1999 and the Advanced Certificate in Shopping Centre Leadership in 2004. He has since joined Periscopic Property Management and heads up the retail department.

---

### **Dr. Caroline Wanjiku Kihato**

Caroline is a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand. She is also the coordinator for Urban Land Mark's regional initiative. She was previously a policy analyst at the Development Bank of Southern Africa and a senior lecturer in the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand. Her research and teaching areas are

around public policy in developing countries and participatory planning. Her research also includes the impact of migration in African cities, in particular in inner-city Johannesburg.

She has worked as a senior policy analyst at the Centre for Policy Studies and has also been involved in studies around the reform of local government. Caroline was editor of the journal *Development Southern Africa* from 2005 to 2007. She is currently working on understanding urban land markets on the continent, and in collaboration with UN-HABITAT is developing guides on urbanisation in Africa for policy makers.

---

### **Stephen Berrisford**

Stephen has worked as a consultant in the field of urban land and planning law and policy since 2000. Before that he worked with the Department of Land Affairs and the City Councils of Cape Town and Johannesburg. He is trained as a lawyer and a town planner and studied at the universities of Cape Town and Cambridge. Since Urban LandMark's inception he has worked as a part-time Theme Coordinator for Regulatory and Governance matters.

---

### **Alison Hickey Tshangana**

Alison recently joined PDG after having worked at the Western Cape Department of Housing and Local Government as the Director: Policy, Research and Information Management. Prior to this she spent two years heading the budget office at the Western Cape Provincial Treasury. Alison obtained a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 2000. She has more than nine years experience with NGOs, including four years with the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), working on HIV/AIDS and budget analysis.

---

### **Saul du Toit**

Saul is a professional valuer and CEO of Appraisal Corporation, which he started in Cape Town 21 years ago. It has since grown into one of the most respected valuation practices in SA. A past president of the SA Institute of Valuers, he specialises in expropriation (including restitution) valuations. He has developed methodologies for the valuations of power stations and airports, for rating purposes and often acts as expert valuer in litigation matters. Currently he is studying towards his MSc in Property Studies at UCT. He is also a guest lecturer at UCT, Stellenbosch University and Cape Peninsula University of Technology, where he presents SAIV courses and SAPOA PIP.

---

### **Erwin Rode**

Erwin is a property economist, a registered professional valuer, a publisher and editor-in-chief of a portfolio of property-research publications. Over the past three decades he has done pioneering research on the SA property market, and in 1987 founded the national property research firm Rode & Associates.

His name is listed in the *Who's Who of Southern Africa*. He is a fellow of the SA Institute of Valuers (FSAIV) as well as an eminent fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (FRICS). He is a part-time lecturer at the universities of Stellenbosch and UCT. He holds a BA and MBA, both from the University of Stellenbosch.

---

### **Durkje Gilfillan**

Durkje is a practicing attorney, employed by the Legal Resources Centre until the end of 2008, after which she joined the firm Gilfillan Du Plessis Inc. She holds a Master's degree in law from UNISA and has specialised in land reform with the focus on restitution, and the importance of land reform towards the re-integration of urban areas and the provision of housing for the urban poor.

---

### **Neville Chaine**

Neville is an attorney by profession and practiced human rights law pre-1994. He joined local government in 1996 and focussed on land administration and human settlement. He was appointed project manager for the All Africa Games Village in Alex in 1999 by Gauteng Housing and subsequently joined the Gauteng Housing Department in 2000 where he was responsible for Housing Administration and Finance and later for Essential Services and the People's Housing Programme Directorate. He then moved to the Ekurhuleni Metro as Head of Housing for six years, joined Standard Bank for a year in 2008 in the Integrated Residential Development Unit and is presently with the Housing Development Agency responsible for IGR.

## Day 2: Thursday 29 October 2009

---

### **Sithole Mangaliso M. Mbanga**

Sithole is the current CEO of South African Cities Network. He brings with him a diversity and wealth of experience ranging from education and academic exposure to business and government, at local, national, and international level. He strives to improve the economic and social development context in South and southern Africa by engaging relevant stakeholders and focussing on the strategic issues of the day.

---

### **Professor Paul Maurice Syagga**

Paul holds a PhD in Land Economics and is currently Professor of Land /Real Estate Economics in the Department of Real Estate and Construction Management at the University of Nairobi. He is a registered property valuer and a member of several professional institutions. He has authored three books on real estate valuation, property management and building maintenance management. His areas of specialisation include property valuation, land management, housing policy and finance and urban management.

---

### **Lauren Royston**

A development planner by training, Lauren Royston has worked in the NGO and public sectors. For over ten years she has been a principal at Development Works, a Johannesburg-based development organisation, which she co-established. Her fields of specialisation are land and housing. For many years she focused on planning for housing as part of municipal integrated planning and urban tenure security.

Lauren currently focuses on her role as coordinator of the tenure theme area at Urban LandMark, a donor-funded think tank, and on anti-evictions and community engagement work in Johannesburg's inner city, advising the Centre for Applied Legal Studies and the community-based organisations with which they work. She is also a member of a panel responsible for assessing municipal capacity and compliance for housing accreditation, which makes recommendations to provincial housing MEC's.

---

### **David Gardner**

David is a development and housing specialist based in South Africa. David has twenty years' experience in the low-income housing arena in southern Africa. His specific areas of interest are policy analysis and development, macroeconomic modelling, institutional strategy development and business planning, housing finance markets in developing countries, sustainable housing development and housing rental markets. David has a BSc (Town and Regional Planning) from the University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa), and a Diploma in Management from Henley Management College (United Kingdom).

### **Josette Cole**

Josette has been a human rights, land and housing activist and advocate since the late 1970s when she became involved with the Crossroads anti-removals struggles. Building on this experience she became a founder and former director of the Surplus People Project in the Western Cape and wrote extensively on informal settlements and local government under apartheid, including a book she authored on Crossroads.

Josette works as a development consultant and senior researcher for her company (Social Trends) and does voluntary work for the NGO she founded in 2000 – the MANDLOVU Development Trust/Institute. Josette has two writing projects in the pipeline: a booklet documenting a post-apartheid community development approach and practice she pioneered in New Crossroads, and a semi-autobiographical book.

---

### **Dr Charlotte Lemanski**

Charlotte is a human geography lecturer at University College London. Her research addresses South African post-apartheid urban transformation, particularly focusing on housing and land, poverty, governance and (in) security. She has an MSc in Development Management from the London School of Economics and a DPhil in Geography from Oxford University. She serves on the editorial board of *Urban Forum*, a journal addressing the broad developmental issues of urbanisation in the Third World, providing a distinctive African focus on the subject.