

Speakers Biographies: South Africa and the BRICS: Revisiting Development Priorities

23 February 2022, 10am – 11:30am (GMT+2), Zoom

- Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive, SAIIA

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos has been SAIIA's Chief Executive since 2005. With more than 26 years of experience in the field of politics and international relations, Elizabeth's expertise lies in South Africa's foreign policy, South-South Cooperation and the role of emerging powers in Africa. She is a regular commentator in South African and foreign media. She has published on various aspects of South Africa's foreign policy including on its peace-making model as a key dimension of its soft power, its development diplomacy and edited a volume on SA's foreign policy in the first decade of democracy – Apartheid Past, Renaissance Future (SAIIA, 2004). She has also co-edited two books exploring the rise of the new development cooperation providers: Development cooperation and emerging powers: New Partners or Old Patterns (Zed Books, 2012) and Institutional Architecture and Development: Responses from Emerging Powers (Jacana, 2015). She is the editor-in-chief of the DHET accredited South African Journal of International Affairs. She is the co-chair of the Think 20 Africa Standing Group, one of the task forces of the Think 20, which is one of the engagement groups of the G20. Most recently she co-edited a volume titled 'Values, Interests and Power: South African foreign policy in uncertain times', which was published in October 2020.



- Mr Cyril Prinsloo, Senior Researcher, SAIIA

Cyril Prinsloo's key research portfolios include infrastructure finance and development in African countries and Africa's interaction with strategic global partners (US, EU, China, BRICS). Previously he worked as an economic development consultant, providing technical assistance and capacity building support on trade and investment, regional integration and infrastructure development to various international development partners, governments and Regional Economic Communities across Southern and Eastern Africa. He holds an MA in International Studies from the University of Stellenbosch.



- Ms Sanusha Naidu, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Global Dialogue

Sanusha Naidu is a foreign policy analyst. Her research interests include Democratisation in Africa; Africa's Political Economy and Development; Africa's relations with Emerging Powers from the South (BRICS and IBSA); South African Foreign Policy Analysis; and the role of track two diplomacy in International Relations. Ms Naidu has a Masters in International Relations from the University of Staffordshire, United Kingdom. She has previously worked at the Centre for Conflict Resolution based in Cape Town and managed the South African Foreign Policy Initiative (SAFPI) at



the Open Society Foundation for South Africa. In the past several years Ms Naidu has also managed a programme that focused on Africa's international relations with China and Emerging Powers based at Fahamu from 2008-2010. She has an extensive publications record which includes two edited volumes on Africa-China relations: *Chinese and African Perspectives on China in Africa*, Pambazuka Press, September 2010 (co-editors: Axel Harneit-Sievers and Stephen Marks; and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon? Africa and China*, University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2008 (co-editor: Kweku Ampiah). Ms Naidu is a regular media commentator national and international issues for major news agencies including Al-jazeera News, CCTV, BBC Radio, SABC, and CBS Africa. She is also a regular analyst on South Africa's domestic politics and electoral trends.

- Mr Krish Chetty, Chief Researcher, Human Sciences Research Council

Krish Chetty is a Research Manager at the Inclusive Economic Development Division of the HSRC. He holds a Masters Qualification in Knowledge and Information Management from the University of Stellenbosch. His core research interests lie in the social applications of innovative technologies that contribute to eradicating poverty, inequality and unemployment. His works span Knowledge Management, Digital Inclusion, Platform Economies, Financial Technologies and Renewable Energy discourses. He previously worked in the HSRC's BRICS Research Centre, representing the HSRC and South Africa in several BRICS academic events. His recent publications cover subjects such as digital literacy, income inequality, online learning, renewable energy contributions to economic development and FinTech partnerships in BRICS.



- Ms Lihle Ngcobozi, Lecturer, Wits School of Governance

Lihle Ngcobozi is a lecturer on Public Governance, Public Policy, and Gendered Approaches to Development. She is the author of *Mothers of the Nation: Manyano Women in South Africa*, a book which explores the intersection between the black church, liberation theologies, as well as a African feminist analysis of the public sphere in South Africa. She has worked as a senior research consultant in varied Ministries where she has been responsible for policy drafting, policy framework development, as well as providing early evidence based research for policy positions.



She graduated from Rhodes University with a Master's degree in Political Studies and International Relations in 2017, in which she explored how the Women's Manyano church group offer a space for the public performance of citizenship by black women. Ngcobozi also holds a postgraduate degree in International Relations. Ngcobozi holds the Allan Gray Center of Leadership Ethics fellowship. Previously, she worked as a Research Manager at Iranti, which focused on the development of LGBTI rights in Southern Africa.