OCP Innovation Webinar with

Microsoft and the UN Sustainable Development Goals

21 April 2021 16:00-17:30 (GMT+2)

Introduction: The WMO Open Consultative Platform (OCP) "Partnership and Innovation for the Next Generation of Weather and Climate Intelligence" is a place for sharing information and knowledge between the public and private sector, and for promoting collaboration in addressing global societal challenges. We are pleased to announce an Innovation Webinar with the kind support from Microsoft on the theme: "Microsoft and the UN Sustainable Development Goals – A deep dive into digital technologies and innovations to accelerate climate, water and weather goals."

Overview: The Global Goals are consistent with our company's mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. We believe technology is a positive force in transforming our world and people's lives when it is developed and used in trusted, responsible, and inclusive ways. Advancing our mission means contributing to a future that empowers everyone. That is why we are putting technology in the hands of those who are addressing our most pressing societal challenges—so they can have a greater impact. We believe technology is a powerful force for good, and all of us here at Microsoft are working together to foster a sustainable future where everyone has access to the benefits it provides and the opportunities it creates. Read more about how Microsoft is contributing to each of the SDGs.

Moderators: Daniel Akinmade Emejulu, Program Manager, UN Affairs, CELA and Dimitar Ivanov, Director of Public-Private Engagement Office, World Meteorological Organization.

Invited Microsoft Speakers

Bonnie Lei
Head of Global Strategic Partnerships, AI for Earth, Microsoft

Bonnie Lei is a founding member and Head of Global Strategic Partnerships for Microsoft's AI for Earth program, a five-year, $50 million cross-company effort delivering technology-enabled solutions to global environmental challenges. In this role, she has awarded 750+ grants in 100+ countries, is helping build the first Planetary Computer, and leads Microsoft's effort to protect more land than it uses by 2025. She has been recognized as an Aspen Institute First Mover Fellow, a Corporate Eco Forum Emerging Sustainability Leader, and a National Geographic Explorer. Bonnie is based in Seattle, where she is on the Center for Geospatial Solutions Advisory Council, is a founding member of The Trust for Public Land's Next Gen Council and served on the city's Urban Forestry Commission.

Anirudh Badam
Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research - Farm Beats

Dr. Anirudh Badam is a Principal Research Manager at Microsoft Research where he leads projects related to edge-cloud connectivity, data storage and analytics, and geospatial analytics. His Ph.D. research at Princeton University on memory technologies called HashCache was recognized as MIT TR-10 and the IP eventually became a part of Akamai. His Ph.D. work on SSD technologies called SSDAlloc was licensed exclusively by Fusion-io that was later acquired by SanDisk. His work on energy-efficient mobile-storage work received the best paper award at USENIX ATC 2015. He received the MSR Redmond Rockstar Researcher (2017) award, and the project on storage systems that he led received the MSR Redmond Outstanding Research Project (2017) award. More recently, he received a best paper award at ACM COMPASS 2019 for his work on IoT based digital agriculture.

Paul Fleming
Global Water Program Manager, Microsoft

Paul Fleming leads the Global Water Program for Microsoft. Paul joined Microsoft to build its corporate water stewardship program and has helped establish Microsoft as a leader in the corporate water stewardship space. [Microsoft has committed to be water positive by2030](#), with a goal of replenishing more water the company consumes globally in approximately 40 water-stressed locations around the world and enabling drinking water and/or sanitation access to at least 1.5 million people in seven countries. In addition to driving the company's operational water commitments, Paul builds collaborative partnerships with other companies and NGOs and serves as the company's water subject matter expert, advising business groups on go to market strategies. He helped co-found the Water Resilience Coalition, a group of 18 companies focused on collective action to improved conditions in water stressed regions around the world and serves on the steering committee of the CEO Water Mandate.

Vincent Arribe
Sustainable Business Development Lead, Climate Innovation Fund, Microsoft

Vincent Arribe leads business and portfolio development for Microsoft's [Climate Innovation Fund](#). In January 2020, Microsoft announced a bold new environmental sustainability strategy focusing on carbon, water, waste, and ecosystems. As part of our commitment, we are investing $1 billion over four years in new technologies and innovative sustainability solutions. The Climate Innovation Fund will accelerate technology development and new innovations by investing in project finance, debt, and equity capital. Vincent is a 16-year Microsoft veteran, and joined the [Global Environment Sustainability](#) team in July 2020. Prior to joining the team, Vincent worked in the French Subsidiary of Microsoft, and relocated to Redmond in 2012, where he has had several roles spanning from Corporate Finance to Market Intelligence, and more recently Corporate Responsibility, where he led hardware development for the [Airband Initiative](#).

Daniel Akinmade Emejulu
Program Manager, UN Affairs, Microsoft

In January 2020, Microsoft launched a United Nations Affairs team to [deepen its support for the UN's mission and work](#). In this context, Daniel contributes to building Microsoft's partnerships with a diverse range of UN agencies and related organizations in Geneva as well as the UN Global Compact. He also champions Microsoft's engagement in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including through specialized policy forums, dedicated UN SDG initiatives, and co-authoring Microsoft's annual report on the SDGs. He has played a lead role in setting up the [2030 Digital Fasttrack Studios](#) — a forum linking technology to the acceleration of the SDGs. His publications and expert interviews on SDG-related themes have featured in The Financial Times, The Economist Group, The Brookings Institution, Business Insider, Huffington Post, Monocle, Harvard Africa Policy Journal, The Africa Report, and CNBC Africa— among others.

*Learn more about this event at **[Event Page](#)** or **[register here](#)**.*