Biographical Note



Mr. Paul Wessendorp is Chief of the Investment Promotion Section at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). He is responsible for a global technical assistance programme aimed at strengthening national capacities to promote and facilitate foreign investment for sustainable development.

Mr. Wessendorp has over twenty years of experience in more than 40 countries providing advice and training on investment policies and promotion. He helped found the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) and developed UNCTAD programmes on good governance, green investment, and the promotion of investment by diplomats. He is a frequent speaker at international meetings on investment and development and led teams that organized UNCTAD's World Investment Forums in China, Ghana, Kenya, Switzerland and Qatar.

Mr. Wessendorp is author and co-author of numerous publications on investment related issues. Before joining UNCTAD, he worked in the area of entrepreneurship and economic development with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) in New York, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nairobi, and the Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS) in The Hague. He is an Economic Geographer and Development Planner and has an MSc from the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands.



Ms. Natalia Guerra, Economic Affairs Officer at UNCTAD, coordinates capacity-building and technical cooperation programmes based on UNCTAD's Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development (IPFSD), the Global Action Menu for Investment Facilitation, and the Action Plan to Promote Investment in SDG sectors. Ms. Guerra joined UNCTAD in 1999 after seven years in the Venezuelan National Council for Investment Promotion. In UNCTAD, she has worked with investment promotion agencies and similar stakeholders like diplomats from all regions of the world. Ms. Guerra also serves as the focal point on gender mainstreaming in UNCTAD's Division of Investment and Enterprise.

Ms. Guerra graduated in Economics from the Central University of Venezuela and holds a MSc in Investment Promotion and Economic Development from Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland.



Ms. Stephania Bonilla-Feret, Economic Affairs Officer at UNCTAD, is an investment and entrepreneurship policy expert. She works at UNCTAD in Geneva since 2009 and has led projects across Africa and Latin America in various teams within the Division on Investment and Enterprise. Currently, in the Investment Promotion Section of UNCTAD, she works closely with investment promotion agencies and executives in developing countries through capacity building and advisory services.

Ms. Bonilla has a Bachelor of Economics and Women's Studies from McGill University in Canada, a Master's degree in Law and Economics from Bologna University Italy, and a PhD in Economics from the University of Hamburg, Germany.