Jessica Abrahams, Deputy Editor, Devex

Jessica Abrahams is a UK-based journalist covering gender, global development and international affairs. She currently serves as Deputy Editor of Devex and also works with The Telegraph and Prospect magazine.

Anders Pedersen, Resource Watch Director, World Resource Institute

Anders Pedersen leads the overall strategy and programming to turn data into action through the ResourceWatch.org platform.

Anders has more than fifteen years experience with open data, program management, and sustainable development. He served for five years as Senior Open Data Officer at Natural Resource Governance Institute leading the deployment of global data platforms and designing programs to use data to inform policy in countries such as Ghana, Myanmar, and Tunisia. Prior to that he served at Open Knowledge Foundation, and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. As a researcher, he uses emerging technologies and open data to shape evidence-based advocacy and policy priorities. He has advised on the development of global data standards and serves on the program committee for the International Open Data Conference.

Sarah Cohen, data journalist, author, Knight Chair, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University

Sarah Cohen holds the Knight Chair in Journalism at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism in Arizona. She has worked as a reporter and editor for The New York Times and The Washington Post, where her work was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting and most other major national journalism awards. Cohen has also served as the elected president of the 5,000-member Investigative Reporters and Editors and as a judge of local and international investigative and data journalism awards. She previously held the Knight Professor of Practice in Computational Journalism at Duke University and was a beat reporter in Florida.
Ashwell Jenneker, Deputy Director General, Statistics South Africa (SA)

Ashwell Jenneker is responsible for all statistical operations at Stats SA, including coordination of household surveys and censuses, provincial operations and data processing. His career at Statistics SA spans 22 years. He has a masters degree in Urban and regional sciences from the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa.

Catherine Gicheru, Knight Fellow, Director Africa Women Journalism Project, International Centre for Journalists

Catherine Gicheru is an International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) Knight Fellow currently spearheading the Africa Women Journalism Project which is driving the coverage of underreported gender, health and development issues affecting marginalized groups and strengthening the voices of women journalists by helping them to become innovators in their newsrooms. A veteran journalist with two of the leading media organisations in the region, Catherine co-founded East Africa’s first budget and public finance fact checking and verification initiative, PesaCheck. She is a Nieman Fellow, a Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism Fellow and an IWMF Courage in Journalism award winner.