



THE 1818 SOCIETY QUARTERLY

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

The main event in the last quarter was our Annual Meeting in Washington on October 24th and 25th. It was the 40th anniversary meeting of the Society. The meeting was well attended, with some 150 or so members participating in person or by Livecast. A summary of the proceedings is being presented separately in this issue. Video recordings of the sessions have been posted on the website.

As I reported in my remarks at the Annual Meeting, the state of the Society continues to be good. 2018 was a rather uneventful year for the Society, which is exactly the way I would have wished! We continued to build on various ongoing initiatives that included: focus on the normal bread and butter issues of health insurance and pensions; various Society-sponsored extracurricular activities of hiking, yoga and overseas trips; supporting members through our Members Helping Members (MHM) initiative; and, most importantly, knowledge sharing through various Thematic Groups. As I mentioned in my remarks at the Annual Meeting, I believe we are now in a 'steady state' of activities and our strategy should be to continue to consolidate and build on these. Needless to say, all of these activities can only be possible because of numerous volunteers we are fortunate to have.

The day before the Annual Meeting I participated in a meeting of the heads of retiree organizations from other international organizations where we each made presentations on our respective organizational structures and activities. I can honestly say that our Society is by far the best conceptualized, with a structure that has endured over 40 years. The founders of the Society, I believe, made very wise choices in how we should operate.

Let me conclude by wishing you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year. May we all continue to enjoy blessings of family, friends and old colleagues.

Inder Sud
President



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Few if any of you could have missed what was far and away the most important news item in the last few months: the report in October of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>.

Given the overwhelming importance of this subject, several items in this issue of *The 1818 Society Quarterly* focus on World Bank activities on the inter-related issues of resource depletion and climate change. It is a complex subject, about which much has been written. A good primer is *Limits Revisited: A Review of the Limits to Growth Debate*. It was written to mark the launch of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on the Limits to Growth. The report outlines the contents of the Club of Rome's report, traces the history of responses to it and dispels some of the myths surrounding it. See <http://limits2growth.org.uk/revisited/>.

Of special note is an article later in this issue on the establishment of The 1818 Society on November 15, 1978, re-published here in celebration of the 40th anniversary of The 1818 Society.

Chuck Ziegler
Editor

Guidelines for Contributors

Letters to the Editor: members may submit comments (up to 200 words) on any issues of interest, including matters related to the Society.

Members' News in Brief: members may submit short pieces (up to 200 words) of any developments in her/his life – family, travels, new assignments, publications, new interests, etc. – short pieces that tells fellow members what has been lately happening in their life.

Members Corner: members may submit short essays (up to 1,000 words), especially accounts of post-Bank activities, and commentaries on Bank-related internal and external events.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Sanjivi Rajasingham

You made an interesting observation on the rules governing the location of the Bank and Fund HQs ["From the Editor's Desk", <https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/1818-Quarterly-Fall-2018.pdf>].

However, it's unlikely that the HQs will shift -- it's more likely we'll become less relevant.

As a practical matter, several original (legacy) members of the institutions have historically been slow to dilute or relinquish their shareholdings to adequately recognize the growth of China and more broadly the increasing share of the developing world in the global economy.

China recognizes this and has chosen to set up parallel organizations -- the AIIB and the New Bank, headquartered in Beijing and Shanghai, respectively.

So in a sense, rather than shareholders diluting their holdings, the institutions themselves are being 'diluted'.

From Peter P. W. Morris

Under the heading World Bank History – 25 years ago, on pg 27 - the bulletin includes a box highlighting the construction of the new main complex. The following changes are required:

The first name of the director in charge was incorrect and should be Ernesto.

Also, the article was incomplete and did not reflect the successful completion of the construction.

Consequently, I have suggested a few changes. I have cleared this with my friend and ex-colleague, Ernesto Henriod, and would appreciate the 1818 Society making the necessary changes to the records.

Response from the Editor

The corrections suggested by Mr. Morris have been incorporated into the amended version that appears below. This information has also been transmitted to the World Bank Group Archives.

November 19, 1993, Preston Memo on Cost Overruns in Main Complex Rehabilitation Project

President Preston sends a memo to all staff concerning cost overruns in Main Complex Rehabilitation Project. The project was now estimated to be \$100 million over the initial budget. Cost overruns were due to unrealistically low budget estimates, which were based on inadequate site investigation and detailed design, and lack of attention by senior management, but not to financial impropriety. A set of actions to correct the situation was described (including the creation of a special department, headed by Ernesto Henriod) to manage the completion of the project. The Project was completed on schedule within the Board approved revised budget of \$327 million.

1818 SOCIETY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE 1818 SOCIETY

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the World Bank on October 24-25, 2018. This meeting marked the 40th anniversary of the formation of The Society.

As has been customary for the past few years, the first day of the meeting was devoted to presentations by relevant World Bank teams on the state of Staff Retirement Plan (SRP) and Retiree Medical Insurance Plan (RMIP). On the second day, after a recorded message from Jim Kim, who regretted not being able to attend in person because of travel, we had two interesting talks by our fellow alum Andrew Steer, now president of the World Resources Institute, and Shanta Devarajan, Senior Director of DEC. Andrew spoke on the current state of affairs on climate change, and Shanta gave a thought-provoking talk on the state of the world, and linking it to economic thinking in the World Bank. There was a customary Business Meeting at the end of the day, capped by a wonderful cocktail reception.

For those who were unable to attend the meetings, video recordings of the presentations have been posted on the 1818 Society website www.wbgalumni.org: the SRP and RMIP presentations in the respective password protected tabs under 'Member Resources' (because these are meant for members only and not for external dissemination); and remarks by Jim Kim, and presentations by Andrew and Shanta on the Home page under 'About the Society'. A brief overview of each of the presentations follows.

Staff Retirement Plan

As already reported, the Plan returned 13.7 percent in real terms in 2017, well above the long-term return objective of real 3.5 percent. The team cautioned, however, that while the returns were indeed exceptional, fluctuations in market are normal and it is not uncommon for periods of higher return to be followed by low/lower returns as has already happened this year. Thus, their investment strategy continues to aim at achieving the appropriate balance between risk and returns and on long-term stability. It was also reassuring to hear that Plan assets are more than enough to meet all current accrued obligations to retirees and current staff.

The seminar included discussion of the Retired Staff Benefits Plan (RSBP), which is the funding vehicle for the retirement life and medical insurance programs. The RSBP functions much as the Pension Fund; the assets are held in a trust and contributions are irrevocable. The financial management of the RSBP and the returns are very similar to the Pension Fund.

Questions about net plan administration, including optimal option choices and eligibility at different points in its implementation, is an area of interest as more staff retire under the net plan. The 1818 Society Pension Committee will discuss net plan questions in future meetings. The 1818 Society Pension Committee is also looking at ways the Society can work with the Bank, Staff Association and Credit Union to educate staff about their choices, retirement planning, and financial literacy.

Retiree Medical Insurance Plan

This year's session covered Plan's finances and the justification of the proposed premium increase in 2019, information about some additional coverage and questions and answers from HR and representatives of AETNA, Cigna and Silver Script. Daryl Lucas, Director responsible in HR, and Fons Marcelis co-chaired the session.

Costs and premium: projected is that total funding for 2018 (WBG contributions and premiums combined) will be \$96.3 million, slightly above costs of \$95.2 million. For 2019, however, funding (without adjustment) is projected to come out at about 95.3 million, below the expected costs of \$101.7 million. Higher costs result mainly from an expected rise in medical costs by about 6.6%. An increase in contribution from WBG and participants is required to meet the shortfall. However, applying the expected small savings over 2018, WBG has decided to limit the premium increase to 5% (identical to the increase for active staff).

Coverage: new in 2019 will be the removal of limits to reimbursement of therapy related to autism (as medically necessary); an increase in visits for physical, speech and occupational therapy without 'medically necessity' review from 60 -> 75 visits; and coverage for gender reassignment surgery.

The session on the Staff Retirement Plan included an explanation how the World Bank Group is making sure that funds for the 'employer's contribution' to the retiree medical insurance are set aside for years to come.

An important development in 2018 was the work by WBG HR Insurance Team and the 1818 RMIP Committee on updating the 'Summary Plan Description' (SPD). The current version is about 10 years old, so an update was overdue. The SPD deals with what is covered under the medical insurance, who can participate, how are premiums set, how to appeal in case of a problem, etc. The update is now for clearance with WBG management. Going forward, the SPD will be kept current on-line.

The Insurance Team also gave some examples of the differences in costs charged by treatment providers and emphasized the importance of being cost aware, ask treatment providers about costs and what will be covered, especially when going 'out of network', to avoid unwelcome surprises.

These and other issues have also been addressed in the 1818 Society information sessions on the RMIP that were introduced this year. They have been very well attended and received and we intend to continue these events – check the website for news on upcoming information sessions.

Andrew Steer on Climate Change

Andrew Steer was an engaging and compelling speaker, and as reflected in the following Q&A session, the audience reacted very positively to his presentation, with many questions and comments.

Andrew started his talk with the bad news about climate. Global warming continues to grow. The Earth is already almost a degree warmer than it was in the 1970s. He explained that 16 of the 17 hottest years in recorded history have happened in the 21st century. The year 2017 was the hottest ever "non-El Niño" year. In this period, we have also witnessed the largest humanitarian crises since WWII, in that 83 million people needed emergency food assistance. This was the direct result of record hurricanes, forest fires in northern Europe and California, and sea level rise all over the world. Climate Change is real and there is no room for complacency. We will need to make major efforts at controlling carbon emissions if there is any hope of maintaining global warming to under 1.5 degrees by 2050. Incremental change just won't do.

On a more optimistic note, Andrew noted that despite setback in the U.S., the rest of the world is moving on. The potential danger that climate change poses is understood at the highest levels in the business community, so much so that hundreds of CEOs of international corporations believe that man-made environmental disasters are the main danger facing the world's economy.

Andrew believes that incremental change is not the optimal course of action. What is needed is disruptive change: swift action to decarbonize energy, design our cities differently and reduce carbon consumption by 60%. Corporate commitments to move in that direction are on the increase, but inertias and vested interests will always oppose change.

Shanta Devarajan on “State of the World (Bank)”

Shanta started his presentation by demonstrating the declining trend for the numbers of people in extreme poverty since 1990, which are today half of the level of 1990. At the same time, dissatisfaction with economic conditions and the lack of popular democracy has led to more conflicts, extremism targeted at minorities, and a major crisis of migration. The migration crisis is larger than anything seen since World War II.

At the same time, poverty in Africa is still high and even rising in several fragile states, the majority of which are in Africa. Developing assistance appropriate for fragile states is difficult, given political instability, terrorist activity and insurgencies. The Bank now has an IDA Fragile States window, and a Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group. However, the current organization of economic work makes it hard to define priorities. Instead of one senior level economist helping the country director define a strategy, economists are divided into 13 global practices, where each becomes an advocate for his/her sector. Given the limited capacity of fragile state governments, it becomes essential for the Bank and other donors to focus on only a few critical sectors. At the same time, the share of the Bank's budget on analytical work has fallen.

Added to this situation is the fact that income and wealth inequality are rising in many countries. Elite capture means that ruling groups are receiving most of the benefits of growth. Shanta cited the case of Tunisia, which under the Ben Ali family used the state to establish family-owned monopolies in many sectors that led to enormous profits. The abuses of the Ben Ali family contributed to the “Arab Spring” in 2011, and their removal from power after 23 years in office.

In Shanta's opinion, the Bank needs to do more analytic work on elite capture and make this work available not only to government officials, but to the public. Since the publication of the Doing Business Indicators, these indicators show steady improvement, probably as a result of governments trying to improve their scores and avoid bad publicity.

Business Meeting

Inder Sud gave members an overview of the activities of the Society. He highlighted the valuable role played by the SRP Committee chaired by Board Member Dirk Mattheisen, and the RMIP Committee chaired by Board Member Fons Marcelis, in ensuring that the Society maintains an ongoing dialogue with the Bank on these and attending to issues that arise from time to time. He also highlighted the important role of various overseas chapters, thematic groups, the Members Helping Members Group, and various other activity groups.

Inder expressed his gratitude to the numerous volunteers who make sure that all these groups continue to be proactive in their respective tasks. His overall assessment was that The Society overall continues

to serve the members well, and probably is at the limits of its capacity. The possible new areas for the coming year would include seminars in personal finance and health insurance.

As in the past, members stood in silence to pay respect to those colleagues we lost in the previous 12 months. It is always sad to see names of colleagues from your past on the list.

Shawki Barghouti (Chair) and Pat Neill (Member) presented the report of the Nominating Committee. As recommended by the Committee, Xiaofeng Hua and Zoe Kolovou were elected to the Board to replace the vacancies by the departure of Christine Wallich and Nadereh Chamlou. In addition, Hadi Abushakra, Anabel Bracher, Norman Hicks, and Bill McGreevy and Hadi were re-elected for a second two-year term.

The meeting also endorsed the view of the Nominating Committee (NC) that when it has to cajole and persuade qualified members to agree to be considered for the Board, absent sufficient number of volunteers, it is entirely appropriate to not require contested elections. The meeting also endorsed the proposal that there should be flexibility in the current limit of two-terms for Directors if the NC considers it appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

The meeting approved two changes in the By-Laws: 1) when there are more than five newly-elected Directors in any year (as was the case this year because of a resignation), the number in excess of five could be offered a three-year term following a certain process. 2) Amendment to the By-Laws may be made by a super majority of Directors (75 percent) but ratified in the Annual Meeting that follows. The changes have been reflected in the By-Laws that are on the website.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the volunteers, Board Members, and particularly our two office staff – Luz Hurlburt and Brenda Bermudez.

A wonderful cocktail reception followed the meeting. Jonmin Goodland, widow of our dear departed colleague Robert Goodland, played a few classical pieces as a wonderful backdrop!

Enjoy browsing selected pictures from the Annual Meeting appearing in the *Quarterly*!

At the Registration/Information Tablesand Meet and Greet.





November 15, 2018 marked the 40th anniversary of the establishment of The 1818 Society. The January-February 1979 issue of "Bank Notes" carried a report on this event.

Bank Retirees Form a Society

"The 1818 Society" came into being on November 15, 1978, the day its Charter and Bylaws were approved and declared operational by a Working Group. The Society has been formed by and for the benefit of people who have retired from the World Bank. The Working Group comprised retirees who volunteered their services to form such an organization after a proposal, circulated last May to all retirees, met with an enthusiastic response.

The new Society will provide a link through which its members will be able to maintain contact with their former colleagues throughout the world. It will conduct such social, fraternal, educational, humanitarian, and other activities as may be desirable.

Membership in the Society is open to all retirees of the World Bank who are recipients of pension payments under the Bank Staff Retirement Plan. Associate membership is open to widows and widowers of retirees who are recipients of such pension payments. To become a member in either category, a person must send notification of intent to the Society's Secretary and pay dues. However, all those eligible will be considered members until and including the Society's first Annual Meeting, now planned to be held in September or October 1979. No dues will be assessed until their amount and commencement date are determined by the membership at that Annual Meeting.

A Board of Directors and Officers have been appointed to serve for one year or until the first Annual Meeting of the Society, whichever occurs first. The Board of Directors will have basic responsibility for the affairs of the Society and set its policy. It consists of: J. Burke Knapp, Luis Machado, Donald D. Fowler, Agnes L. Maher, and Joseph C. Reamy. The Officers are: Joseph C. Reamy, President; Garrick Lightowler, Vice President; Marie E. Linahan, Secretary; and Mildred Warford, Treasurer.

Three of the earlier proposals which met with wide approval—issuance of identification (ID) cards, publication of a Directory, and establishment of a special office within the Bank complex—have already been acted upon.

A special ID card has been designed and is available to all retirees. However, because a current picture is required, one must apply in person at the Bank's Headquarters. Appointments may be arranged through the office of Staff Relations I, telephone: 676-1424. An ID card entitles a holder to:

- Use Bank cafeterias and snack bars.
- Purchase travelers checks without service charge and cash personal checks at the World Bank branch of the American Security Bank.
- Use the Joint Library. While associate members are not eligible to receive ID cards, this should not deter them from sharing in the activities of the Society to which they can make a valuable contribution. A Directory containing the names and addresses of retirees, and widows or widowers of retirees, has been prepared and is available on request to members of the Society. It excludes a few who have specifically requested that their names be omitted.

A special office has been designated for the use of retirees on their visits to the Bank: N-202, 801-19th Street, N.W., (opposite Peoples Drug store) This office will not be manned except by volunteers from the Society.

Throughout the formation period of the Society, Bank officials have been generous with their support and cooperation. Of particular note have been the good offices of Yolanda Gilmore and Mary Wolfe. The Bank's support has enabled the Society to waive dues assessment while concentrating on plans to further its aims. It is hoped that Bank premises and facilities will be available for Board meetings, organization of social gatherings, transmittal of informational material, and the Annual Meeting.

As might have been expected, selecting a name for the new organization was one of the most difficult decisions for the Working Group, which realized that to solicit suggestions from some 500 retirees would be impractical and time-consuming. Everyone felt that it should have some connection with the World Bank. "The 1818 Society" was a late proposal and the one that was unanimously accepted. It has a familiar ring to everyone associated with the Bank throughout the world, but it also, as Luis Machado commented, is easy to translate.

As this goes to press, the Society has under way plans for its first social gathering, early in 1979. Since there are about 200 potential members in the Washington area, it should attract many who are nostalgic for the good old days when everybody knew everybody else.

For more on the establishment of The 1818 Society, see Sverrir Sigurdsson's history of The Society here: <https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/1818-Society-History.pdf>

See also the April 1989 issue of "The 1818 Society Newsletter" here: [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/1818SOCIETY/Resources/444066-1360004382454/33 APRIL 1989 NO 33.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/1818SOCIETY/Resources/444066-1360004382454/33%20APRIL%201989%20NO%2033.pdf)

RETIREE MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN

2018 closed on a high note with the conclusion of the Retiree Medical Insurance Plan Summary Plan Description 2018 (SPD 2018), after a year of work by RMIP Committee members together with the HR Insurance Team and HR management.

This is also the basis for the slightly updated SPD 2019, which removes restrictions on medically necessary treatments related to Autism; increased the maximum for number of treatments for Physical, Speech, and Occupational Therapy (PT/ST/OT) from 60 to 75 before medical review is required; and now includes gender reassignment surgery. It also includes the relatively modest increase in the RMIP Premium by 5% (same as for current staff). See for details the message you received from HR Operations by the end of November 2018. Both SPD documents will be posted on line. We will share the link in the next update and on the 1818 Society website.

Member of the Pension Committee and RMIP Committee participated in a session with John Gandolfo, Director, Pension and Endowments Departments, Treasury and several members of his team. The Treasury team explained the setup of the reserve fund for the employer contributions to the Retiree Medical Insurance – an important provision to make sure the Plan will be funded for many years to come. This fund is held in trust and subject to similar governance rules as the pension plan itself. Treasury aims to provide information in the future on this reserve fund as part of its annual reporting on the status and health of the World Bank Group's retirement and retiree medical plans.

Some U.S. national and Permanent Resident (PR) retirees - worried after receiving the annual onslaught of commercial offers for so-called 'Medicare Advantage' plans - requested advice on the necessity of enrolling in such plans in addition to Medicare and RMIP. The HR Insurance team confirmed that WBG U.S. and PR resident retirees can ignore such offers, given coverage provided by Medicare and RMIP combined.

Finally, more good news: following the invitation during the Annual Meeting to express an interest in volunteering for the RMIP Committee, two new members joined our ranks, with a third possibly to follow. This is important to regularly bring new perspectives and for continuity. New members include Mark Warner (former Chief Counsel) and Zoe Kolovou (also former Lead Counsel, and also 1818 Board Director). We wish all former and current World Bank Group colleagues and their families and clients a very healthy 2019!

Fons Marcelis, Chair
amarcelis@ajmarcelis.net

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS (MHM)

MHM is well into our third year in operation. We are happy that so many 1818 members know that MHM exists to help support our members as we age and find ourselves with new and different needs as we “manage our longevity”.

So far, over 120 members have offered to provide support to members, and about sixty members have asked MHM for some form of support (e.g., help implementing a transition to a retirement home; becoming updated on 1818 activities; finding a companion to and from a medical procedure or in an emergency; locating retirees with a similar medical, legal, financial or aging concern; or in a few—thankfully rare—cases, providing very concentrated support during a period of crisis and transition).

MHM’s primary goal is to ‘be there’, for members and their families (sometimes a listening ear is the most welcome help of all); to respond to specific requests as ‘non-expert volunteers’ when this is possible; and to help provide information or referrals when we cannot provide help directly.

New MHM sign-ups are always welcome! By signing up you can join our ‘e-mail group’ and stay informed about MHM activities, and we can call on you when a need fits your profile. It is also possible to both offer and request help according to your needs and capacity. Fortunately, our supply of informal helpers far outstrips the requests for help right now, so only a few members have been called upon to help. But none of us knows what is ahead, so the-not-yet-tapped offers of help are a huge asset to our retiree community.

MHM is particularly active in the following ways:

The Checklist for preparing for end of life is now posted to the 1818 website at <https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Handbook-Checklist-Revised-9-2018.pdf>. The Checklist is a working draft of course, and as members use it, we hope you will share suggestions and ideas too. We **encourage all members and their loved ones to please read the Checklist and ‘become prepared’** both for the foreseeable challenges ahead as well as for unforeseeable challenges that are much better managed when we have planned ahead. And we are especially grateful to the Checklist team for catalyzing this important work. Please provide comments and suggestions as you use the Checklist to Christine Allan at cferrierallan@gmail.com, Annabel Bracher at ambracher@aol.com and Pat Neill at pat.e.neill@gmail.com.

To support retirees in preparation for end of life, MHM arranged with the World Bank Group Library for Helena Dolny, author of the book “Before Forever After”, to speak on November 1. Her talk was very well received and will be posted to the 1818 website. Meanwhile, you can google her name to see her helpful reflections and advice on preparing for end of life by focusing on Love, Legacy and Dignity.

“Conversation Circles” Our first “circle” took place on November 13, facilitated by MHM under the overall leadership of Lesley Shneier. The first topic was intentionally broad: “What we love about retirement”. Those attending expressed interest in several topics of importance to members. The next circle event will focus on the topic of “Living Alone”. Stay tuned for further information in the new year! The circles are an open and informal initiative that will be guided by the interests of participants, and each event will be facilitated by a volunteer. So if you have a subject of interest that you would like to share with others, please e-mail Lesley at lsheier@1818alumniwbg.org.

MHM also operates an ‘information sharing network’ in which members notify MHM if they seek, or if they wish to recommend, a professional service provider for estate planning, tax services, immigration services or assisted living facilities.

The 1818 society does not endorse any recommendations, but we are willing to connect those who recommend service providers with those who seek recommendations with the clear understanding that these only reflect individual experiences. Please submit your recommendations or requests for recommendations to Khalid Siraj: ksiraj@1818alumniwbg.org .

Remember, MHM is here for all of us as needs arise. Be sure to let your family know that MHM is an active part of The 1818 Society and that they are also welcome to contact us and to participate.

Co-chairs: William (Bill) McGreevy, mcg1938@gmail.com;

Lesley Shneier, lshneier@1818alumniwbg.org;

Khalid Siraj ksiraj@1818alumniwbg.org

Personal Investing Seminar: November 1, 2018

I have long marveled over the number of instances of very smart World Bank alumni and the mistakes they have made in their personal investing. Having a Ph.D., especially in economics, is no guarantee of financial wisdom, in fact, it might make us blind to our own shortcomings; we are not as smart as we think we are (and I am counting myself in this group).

In that vein, and with the support of the 1818 Society Board and the Credit Union, we organized a seminar called “The Biggest Mistakes in Personal Investing”. We had about 80 people at the seminar, which suggests we were on the right track. We invited three financial advisors (aka stock brokers) from three firms. For those who could not make the seminar, I give a list of the 11 biggest mistakes that were identified.

1. Failure to diversify – strive for blend of stocks and bonds, and a mix of markets;
2. Failure to rebalance the portfolio to get back to the original target allocations;
3. Not knowing the product you are investing in – ask questions;
4. Letting emotions get in the way, especially panic selling;
5. Allowing the herd mentality to take over portfolio design – avoid fads;
6. Underestimating personal weaknesses/ overestimating one’s ability;
7. Thinking “This Time is Different”;
8. Letting the tax “tail” wag the investment “dog”;
9. Trying to time the market;
10. Out of balance time horizon(s) for assets that are invested; and
11. Believing that cash is a safe, long term investment.

We intend to have further seminars on financial matters, also with participation of the Credit Union. The next one will be in January or February on Estate Planning. Please let me know if there are other topics you would like to see discussed.

Norman Hicks

1818 Society Board member

Transport Sector World Bank Retirees’ Monthly Lunch-Time Meeting

As is their custom, World Bank Transport Sector Retirees in the greater Washington, D.C. area are invited to meet for lunch on Thursday, January 17 at the Irish Inn, Glen Echo, MD—and likewise on the third Thursday of subsequent months. Recent retirees are particularly welcome to attend.

ACCESSING THE 1818 SOCIETY'S WEBSITE

Instructions for logging in to 1818 website: www.wbgalumni.org

- Go to Member Login on top right-hand corner.
- If logging in for the first time or if you have forgotten your password, click on **Forgot your password? Click here to reset it.**
- Enter your user ID which is letters followed by your UPI number without the leading zeros (e.g. wb123 or wb45678) or e-mail (Note that the e-mail must be the one that is in your member profile in the Society's database)
- Click on 'Reset Password'

You will receive an email on your Society registered email with a link to reset the password (check your spam folder if you do not see the e-mail. It will be there). Click on the link and set your password that should be at least 8 characters long, preferably with letters and numbers to make it secure.

If you get the message 'Invalid Key', it means that the user ID or the email that you entered does not match your email in our database. Double-check and try again.

Caution: It takes 2-3 minutes for the link to appear in your e-mail. Do not click on Forgot Password multiple times. It may disable the link and you will have to wait for 24 hours to try again.

If you still have difficulty, please feel free to email 1818 office at 1Society@worldbank.org with your name, UPI number and email.

After logging in, we recommend that you check and update your "Account" that has your membership details, check under Email Subscriptions all groups from which you are interested in receiving information on their activities; and, if you wish to participate, complete your Skills Profile and upload your CV.

WORLD BANK GROUP NEWS

Year in Review: 2018 in 14 Charts

By: [Donna L. Barne](#) and [Divyanshi Wadhwa](#)

As 2018 comes to an end, extreme poverty is at the lowest level in recorded history but is expected to become increasingly concentrated in one region. A record number of people have been forcibly displaced from their homes, and an influential new report confirms we're running out of time to limit global warming. Yet, innovation and disruptive technologies are helping to bring clean energy to millions and connecting hundreds of millions of people to the financial system. [These 14 charts tell a story about the challenges we face -- and the actions needed to create a more inclusive, sustainable world.](#)

The World Bank Addresses Climate Change

The World Bank Group (WBG) is more committed than ever to helping countries meet the climate challenge. We are actively working with countries to help them deliver on and exceed their Paris ambitions, including through financing, technical assistance, and knowledge sharing.

- [The WBG Climate Change Action Plan](#) lays out ambitious targets to be met by 2020, including helping client countries add 30 gigawatts of renewable energy, put in place early warning systems for 100 million people, and develop climate-smart agriculture investment plans for at least 40 countries.

- The WBG has also committed to increasing climate financing to 28 percent of the Bank Group's portfolio by 2020, in response to client demand.
- More than 135 developing and middle-income countries have submitted national plans for climate action under the Paris Agreement – the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The WBG is now actively working with countries to help them deliver on and exceed their Paris ambitions, including through financing, technical assistance, and knowledge sharing.
- In partnership with the UN, the WBG has launched a new platform for climate action, Invest4Climate designed to bring together national governments, financial institutions, investors, philanthropies, and multilateral banks to support transformational climate investments in developing countries.
- All World Bank projects are now screened for climate and disaster risk to ensure that they build the resilience of people on the ground.
- Since FY18 all applicable investment lending projects incorporate shadow price of carbon in the economic analysis. The Bank's recommended shadow prices of carbon were updated in December 2017 and are consistent with achieving the core objective of the Paris Agreement of keeping temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius.
- The WBG is working together with the other multilateral development banks (MDBs) on common approaches to monitor and track their climate finance flows to client countries, as they increase their climate financing in mitigation and adaptation. The MDBs are continuing to align their financial flows with the Paris Agreement, supporting the implementation of the NDCs and facilitating activities that transition development towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient development.

See also <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/climatechange/overview#3>

CHAPTER NEWS AND UPDATES

Note: Most Chapters maintain websites that can include details of their activities. These individual Chapter website can be accessed at www.wbqalumni.org/chapters/. Contacts for Chapter heads are indicated at the end of the Quarterly.

Brazil Chapter

A group of six members of the Brazilian Chapter met on November 22 for a visit to two art exhibits in Rio de Janeiro: a major collection of the works of Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960-1988) and a retrospective of Athos Bulcão (1918-2008).

The Chapter is now four years old and has some 30 members spread throughout Brazil. It has been meeting about twice a year and welcomes participation of family members and common friends. It has also received the occasional visit of colleagues from Washington.

We send special greetings to Eugene McCarthy, who encouraged us to form the Chapter back in 2014.

Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter will organize various events through March 2019, to date:

NE (Jacksonville): Eduardo Somensatto is organizing a luncheon at 12 noon, Saturday, February 9, 2019 in the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club (www.pontevedra.com/), near Jacksonville. If you wish to join, please contact Eduardo at somensatto@gmail.com, 571-319-6850.

NW (Sarasota): Anthony Measham will host a luncheon from 12 noon, Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at the Field Club in Sarasota. The Field Club is an historic club in Sarasota, and a winter home for the Cosmos Club. There will be three menu options at a cost of \$43 without drinks, or \$50 for the meal with 1 alcoholic drink. If you wish to join, please email Tony at ameasham003@gmail.com.

SE (Boca Raton): Karin Nordlander organizes almost monthly lunches/events. If interested to join, email karin@nordlander.com.

SW region (Naples): I will organize a jazz brunch in Naples in January and another 'day cruise' to the nearby islands in mid-February 2019, this time to Cabbage Key Island.

For further information and directions, please see emails sent to the Chapter distribution and/or the Florida Chapter website. As always, all 1818 members and their partners are welcome and if any of you would like to organize a lunch or an event in your area, please e-mail to:

Sandra Hadler, sachadler@gmail.com

French-Speaking Chapter

The French-Speaking Chapter held its Annual Meeting in June 2018, resulting in the designation of a new Board. The president, Joelle LeVourc'h informed the participants of her intention not to seek the renewal of her mandate, while continuing as an *ex-officio* member of the Board in her capacity as former President. Participants unanimously expressed deep appreciation for Joelle's contribution to the Chapter during her presidency.

The Board then met in November 2018 and elected Olivier Lafourcade as the new president. At that meeting, the new Board decided to initiate a process of consultation among its members, and beyond, with the view to define better what is expected from the French-Speaking Chapter in the future, given the changes in the general environment, with regard to the Bank in particular, but also more broadly in the world of development. This process is getting underway.

German-Speaking Chapter

The German Speaking Chapter is planning to hold its Annual Reunion on the weekend of September 6-9 in western Switzerland. The central location of the Reunion will be the university city of Fribourg, which by itself is worth visiting and is an ideal starting point for excursions to places of cultural interest and natural beauty. The event will also include the customary Annual Meeting of the Chapter.

More specific information on the program and accommodation is expected to be available by the turn of the year. It will be distributed via email to members of the Chapter. Information will also be available in one of the forthcoming issues of *The 1818 Society Quarterly*, and will be posted on the Chapter's website www.kreis-1818.de.

Iran Chapter

The Iran Chapter held its second election for the Board of Directors on October 19, 2018. Two members, Mohammad Farhandi (President) and Shahrokh Fardoust, had expressed a wish to step down after their current term. The Chapter thanked them for their valuable contribution to build the Chapter and to bring the community together.

The composition of the new board is as follows: Nicolas Gorjestani (President), Nadereh Chamlou and Yasmin Saadat (Vice Presidents), Ahmad-Reza Sartip (Treasurer) and Ferial Galadari (Secretary). The new Board is effective as of November 1, 2018 for a two-year term.

Japan Chapter

The 12th Annual Meeting of the 1818 Society Japan Chapter was held at the restaurant KOKIDEN (Chinese cuisine) of New Takanawa Prince Hotel Tokyo on July 20, 2018 with participants of 25 Chapter members, including M/S Takahashi & Abe, former Chapter Presidents.

After the normal reporting of activities during year 2017-2018 and the approval of budget for year 2018-2019, a guest speaker, TAKASHI MATSUMOTO, former Ministry of Finance official and Deputy Minister of Cabinet Office, gave a short speech on “KOREKIYO TAKAHASHI and International Finance Market in 1930s”. We, at Japan Chapter, enjoyed a cheerful get-together this year, as always.

On August 7, 2018 at the workshop, Mr. Hiroaki Suzuki (the Bank consultant living in Washington) gave us a lecture about his research paper on the lending program of the Bank to Japan during the 1950s-1960s. At the second workshop on October 2, 2018, Mr. Shinji Asanuma, Vice Chairman of Japan Chapter, gave a lecture on his recent book entitled *The Face of ODA Tomorrow: End It or Mend It*. On November 14, 2018 at the third workshop, Mr. Jean-Eric Aubert, former Bank staff and consultant, gave us a presentation on “Climate Change: Impacts and Issues”.

As Japan Chapter’s membership rules are more liberal than the 1818 Society’s rules in terms of eligibility, we are always happy welcome you as a new member. Please contact our administrator through e-mail: 1818societyjapan@gmail.com for details.

THEMATIC GROUP NEWS AND UPDATES

Note: All Thematic Groups maintain a page on the Society’s website where they post presentations and discussion summaries. These can be accessed <https://www.wbqalumni.org/thematic-groups/> (login required). Contacts for Thematic Group Chairs/Co-Chairs are indicated at the end of the “Quarterly”. Members are invited to send the TG Chairs suggestions for topics/speakers.

Agriculture and Rural Development Thematic Group

The Aggies alumni recently held one social event and two in-depth presentations. The social get-together was held on October 23, 2018, when about 20 of us with spouses and guests met on the roof of the White House Hyatt for a sunset happy hour enjoyed by all. The group included 1818 members Usaid Hanbali; Kevin and Maria Cleaver; Patrice Harou; Massoud Moussavi (that’s when the idea of the December 12 presentation—below—was spawned); Del Fitchett; Fatima El Maliki; Jewell Bailey-Diggs; and many others. Next: we still hope to have a volunteer help with the organizing of more regular relaxed social gatherings such as this one...but in a warmer place now that winter is upon us.

On November 1, 2018, our own Chandra Ranade gave a presentation suggesting that “India needs (more) vertical integration. He set the stage by highlighting the increase in income inequality at the same time that India’s GDP jumped after the 1991 economic reforms. His presentation can be seen on the Agriculture and Rural Development web site at <https://www.wbqalumni.org/thematic-groups/agriculture-sector> .

More recently, on December 12, 2018, Massoud Moussavi (1818 Society) and his colleague at Research Triange Institute, Luis Crouch made a presentation in front of a “full house” in the MC building on the

use of models for diagnosing (principally) complex development situations and also the design of policy interventions. Learning from failures (many) and successes (notable, but few) of modeling, the Speakers developed a typology of models that can be applied for various circumstances. In particular, they found that "heuristic" models (interactive, iterative, helping to understand complex systems etc.) they had applied in education could be adapted to agriculture. From there, the speakers propose that these types of models can also be adapted to climate-smart agriculture. The Discussants (our own Shawki Barghouti and the Bank's Dorte Verner) agreed on the need to carefully choose the types of models and had suggestions to extrapolate from modeling agriculture to modeling agriculture within a climate-change context. In particular, the need to ensure that the social/human factor is integrated in any of these tools was highlighted. The Chair (Practice Manager Lou Scura) reminded the attendance of the three objectives of CSA (adaptation; mitigation; income) and of the potential synergy between what was being presented and current World Bank priorities (preparation of 10 CSA investment plans (CSAIPs) as part of IDA 18 requirements). Following the presentation, about 20 of the participants continued the debate (as well as less serious discussions) in the MC cafeteria over late lunch. This session was another example of potential concrete and mutual benefits from shared knowledge between present Bank teams and alumni. No follow-up steps were defined for now. This session was co-organized with the Economics TG.

Energy Thematic Group

As another year is about to end, we extend Season's Greetings to all our members.

We start on a sad note- and belatedly. **Ramon Lopez Rivera**, a Honduran national, passed away on September 15, 2016. Ramon, as he was known by friends and colleagues, was a Hydro engineer with a vast experience across the world, starting with Harza engineering, IDB, and the World Bank. At the Bank, Ramon was the mentor of many generations of Task Managers. Something unknown to many is that he kept attending continuing education programs offered by the US Army Corps of Engineers and other institutions until late in his career. Ramon is survived by four children and 11 grandchildren.

We had one presentation in the Fall: on November 15, 2018, co-sponsored with the 1818 Economists' Group. Despite a snowfall overnight, the presentation went ahead and was well attended. The subject of the presentation was the new book entitled: **"Extractive Industries: The management of resources as a driver of sustainable development"**, edited by Tony Addison and Alan Roe, both of whom came to the Bank to make this presentation. Norman Hicks, who heads the 1818 Economics Group, provided a very good summary below of the issues addressed in this book.

"Natural resource wealth has often turned out to be a 'curse' rather than a 'blessing' for developing countries. Growth based exclusively on natural resources—such as oil, gas, and minerals—is often of a very narrow kind which lacks opportunities for including the poor. This condition—also called 'the natural resource curse'—has a long history in thinking on economic development. Experience shows that natural resource wealth needs to be carefully managed if inclusive growth is to be achieved in low- and middle-income countries. Natural resources can also negatively affect the democratic process—the sector has often been associated with corruption and the non-transparent use of resource revenues for private gain instead of national development. The seminar focused on the implications of natural resources and their management for economic development—aiming to find ways in which resource wealth could be managed successfully developing countries."

As a New Year is about to begin, we are planning two presentations in the Spring:

- (i) First week of **February, 2019**, Senior VP, AES, Bernard da Santos, will speak on **'Recent Energy Developments in Chile'**

- (ii) In early **April, 2019**, Marianne Haug, who gave the 3rd presentation to our group in March, 2007, has agreed to return and speak on the following topic:
‘The Energy Transition-is this time really different?’

We also look forward to welcoming recent energy retirees to our group-among them Kari Nyman, Arturo Rivera, and others. We will be in contact with each of you soon.

Global Finance Thematic Group

December 3, 2018

Fifth Anniversary Luncheon event at the Metropolitan Club, 1700 H St. NW.

Moderator: Wolfgang Schaffer

Speaker: George Richardson, Director, Capital Markets Department, World Bank

(<http://www.worldbank.org/en/about/people/g/george-richardson>).

Topic: Accessing Capital Market via Innovation

Details of the events are to be found on our webpage: [GFG page](#)

Governance Thematic Group

Save the date: The Governance Thematic Group will be organizing a talk on **"Do Constitutions Matter in the 21st Century?"**. The background is that recent political developments in USA and other countries raise questions about what roles the constitutions will, can and should play in countering nationalistic and autocratic tendencies. Against this background, former Bank staff Frank Vibert will discuss these questions, drawing on his latest book *Making a 21st Century Constitution*. The event is scheduled for 28th February 2019. Watch for more information on the 1818 website.

Health, Nutrition & Population Thematic Group

This marks the first newsletter in which Maryse Pierre-Louis and Lynn Brown take up the reins as co-representatives of the Health, Nutrition & Population (HNP) Thematic Group. Last summer, our previous leader Kees Kostermans decided to step down after years of meritorious service! As your new representatives, we are still fathoming out how to fill the very big shoes he left, and how to serve with the same dedication as he did. So, thank you Kees for all you did.

First a little about us. Maryse is a Public Health Specialist, who dedicated 25 years of her career within the Bank, spearheading public health work in Africa, MENA and coordinating/shaping public health action across the six operational regions of the Bank during her last three years of service, placing particular emphasis on multi-sectoral action to improve health outcome. Lynn is a food policy economist, who mainly worked out of agriculture in the Bank but also managed a nutrition program under HNP in the health sector SWAP in Bangladesh. Lynn was a fence sitter in the Bank straddling Agriculture and HNP, never a comfortable place to sit! She is an active member of the 1818 Agriculture group as well and so we will see more crossover activities especially in the area of food systems and health and nutrition.

More about the recent activities of the HNP Thematic Group can be found on their web site <https://www.wbgalumni.org/hnp-sector/> under the title **BRANDING THE 1818 HNP RETIREE GROUP**.

1818 Society World Bank History Thematic Group

On November 28, 2018, Pieter Bottelier gave a presentation on “The Significance of China’s Entry into the World Bank and McNamara’s Management of the Entry-Process.” It is based on his newly-published book *Economic Policy Making In China (1949-2016)*. Mr. Bottelier has authored many articles and book chapters on China’s economy. He also serves as an adviser on China to the Conference Board, an independent membership organization that conducts and disseminates research on management and the marketplace.

The change in China’s representation in the Bretton Woods institutions (from the Republic of China (ROC = Taiwan) to the People’s Republic of China (PRC = China) in 1980 was a critically important event in the history of both institutions. As many may have forgotten, the timing of this transition was related to the “normalization” of diplomatic relations between the USA and China on 1 January 1979. Membership in the World Bank came at the beginning of China’s economic “*reform and opening-up*” policies under Deng Xiaoping and toward the end of McNamara’s World Bank Presidency. China used the Bank well, and the Bank was effective in supporting the country’s economic reforms and development.

His presentation can be accessed here:

<https://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Bottelier-HTG-presentation.pdf>

Urban and Water Thematic Group

On October 19th, Xavier Devictor, Practice Manager, for the Bank’s Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group gave a presentation on the global issue of forced displacements worldwide, which now exceeds 65 million. His presentation highlighted the scope of the challenge to the forcibly displaced and their hosts in the developing world. His presentation included examples from the World Bank’s experience with forced displacement. The meeting was held in the recently opened Bank Visitor Center in the J Building. For many of the 42 members who attended, it was their first visit to the Center.

On November 16th, we held another of our Social Get-Togethers with the theme “Life After the Bank”, where we invite members to share interesting vacations, new careers, future plans, books authored and technical papers on any subject. We had two presentations on the 16th. Our first presentation was by Tony Bigio, who retired from the Bank as an Urban Specialist in 2013. He is now an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University. Tony described the course he teaches each semester titled “Planning Resilient and Low-carbon Cities.” He has agreed to return in the future to speak on selected topics from his course. Slides from his presentation are posted on the Urban and Water Thematic Group page of The Society’s website.

Our second presenter, Art Bruestle, retired from the Bank in 1995 as a Principle Environmental Engineer. Art was accompanied by his wife Maggie, who spoke also. In 2009, Art and Maggie started making specialty pillows at home and selling them to friends and neighbors. The business grew, and the bulk of their sales now are from their website, ComfyComfy.com and Amazon (Search “ComfySleep Rectangular Buckwheat Hull Pillow.”). Their millennium children help with web design, internet technologies and advertising on social media.

Future **planned events** of the Group include:

- (i) January 9, 2019, “Remembering Donald Strombom,” who passed away on September 5, 2018; and

- (ii) January 23, 2019, **“Water and Food Security”** by Dr. Uma Lele, organized in collaboration with the Bank’s Water and Agriculture Global Practices and the Society’s Agriculture & Rural Development Thematic Group.



MEMBERS’ NEWS IN BRIEF

Don Strombom: A pioneer of urban development

Donald Strombom (August 1931-September 2018) passed away in Venice, Italy on September 5th. He was a remarkable person, a wise and caring leader, and for those fortunate to work with him, a mentor and friend. Don’s dedication to the mission inspired all around him.

Don was a pioneer recruit of the World Bank’s Urban Sector, guiding and leading its initial decade. He gives a thoughtful account of those first years in his fascinating article “How the World Bank Tackled the Urban Dilemma”. <http://www.wbgalumni.org/1818/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Strombom-Urban-Note.pdf>

Don went on to be Chief of Procurement Policy, leading reforms such as standardized procurement guidelines and the World Bank’s approach to fiduciary safeguards for procurement.

Don left the Bank in 1987 to establish International Development Business Consultants (IDBC), to advise the World Bank and others in the public and private sectors on procurement policies. IDBC, an associate of the Centennial Group, worked in 30+ countries. Don was an innovator in policies and procedures and was active internationally in anti-fraud and corruption measures.

Those who knew Don will remember him in many ways: kind, brilliant, thoughtful, caring, astute, and a wonderful friend.

Submitted by Praful Patel

Learn to Speak Mandarin – Improve Wellbeing

A New Book by Guido J Deboeck

活到老学到老 Huó dào lǎo xué dào lǎo. which means “You are never too old to learn”, or in Albert Einstein terms “Once you stop learning you start dying”! Learning to speak Chinese Mandarin can have beneficial effects on your health, especially your mental health, hence your overall wellbeing. This book makes learning Chinese Mandarin really easy because it uses an approach that children use to learn their mother tongue. Since one sixth of the world population lives in China or other countries with Chinese minorities, learning to speak Chinese Mandarin can improve your relations with a vast number of people. This is of increasing importance in a world that is more and more intertwined with economic and social networks and is dependent on them to keep the world peace.

“...This book is highly original, distilling from the author’s personal, lengthy and tortuous path of mastering Mandarin and Chinese culture, an efficient and novel didactic that is both fulfilling and fun!”

This book which is 390 pages with **ISBN No. 978-0-359-24176-7** can be ordered from <https://www.lulu.com> and will soon also be available at Amazon and Barnes & Nobel. It is also available via the Lulu Global Distribution network.

The Political Economy of Reforms in Egypt: Issues and Policymaking Since 1952
by Khalid Ikram

This book, published by Cairo University Press, deals with the interplay of economics and politics that shaped the principal economic policies adopted by Egypt since 1952. It starts from the premise that the fundamental objective of the government is to provide a better life for the country's citizens and, in view of Egypt's history, to make it less vulnerable to external pressures. It addresses the issue of why reforms directed at those ends have been entered upon slowly, haltingly, and often unsuccessfully. The book includes results of discussions with numerous Egyptian ministers, members of think tanks and civil society, and representatives of aid-giving countries. Professor John Waterbury in a review for *Foreign Affairs* called it an "outstanding book," while Ursula Lindsey in *Al-Fanar Media* described it as "a rare thing;... a book about economics for the general public that is easy, useful and pleasant to read." Perhaps writing all those reports for the World Bank does teach one a thing or two. The book can be purchased on Amazon.

For a review of the book in *Foreign Affairs*, see:

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/capsule-review/2018-10-16/political-economy-reforms-egypt-issues-and-policymaking-1952>

Job Announcement: Executive Director, IDRF

India Development and Relief Fund (IDRF) is a Washington-based charity established in 1988 by a retiree, Vinod Prakash, focused on empowering marginalized people through local NGOs in India. During the past 30 years, it has raised over \$36m from a donor base of about 1000 individuals. In 2017, it raised \$2.1m and disbursed grants totaling \$1.9m to 45 NGOs engaged in a variety of programs including education, health, eco-friendly development, women's empowerment, good governance and disaster relief. Because of its excellent governance and results, IDRF has consistently received the highest ratings from the various rating agencies, including **Great Non-Profits**, **Charity Navigator** and **Guidestar**. IDRF is an approved charity under the WBCCF.

The core of the Executive Director's job will comprise: donor relations and fund raising; program management and communications with partner NGOs; and oversight of accounting and administrative functions. The ideal candidate would have good understanding of India's socio-economic conditions; knowledge of effective fund-raising strategies; experience in working with NGOs; strong written and oral communication skills; ability to handle multi-tasking; and excellent inter-personal skills. Above all, the candidate must have the passion and commitment for serving the poor. While IDRF has considerable flexibility in tailoring the job to make it professionally satisfying, the monetary compensation it can offer will necessarily be modest. Accordingly, this would be a job for a financially secure individual seeking new professional challenges.

To know more about IDRF, please visit www.IDRF.org. For further details on the job, please contact Prem Garg at [301-461-2389](tel:301-461-2389).

WORLD BANK HISTORY

Rejoinder to *The Limits to Growth*

The World Bank engaged early in the discussion of issues concerning the environment. The famous study on the *Limits to Growth*, sponsored by the Club of Rome and conducted by an MIT team of systems analysts appeared with great fanfare in March 1972. The study immediately commanded world-wide attention but raised a storm of controversy all around. Two weeks before the study was formally released, Professor Hollis B. Chenery suggested that work should be undertaken in the Bank "to assess the arguments set out in the study". Accordingly, a task force was set up with the responsibility of preparing a report on the set of issues raised in the *Limits*. The report can be accessed here:

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/313611468336648762/pdf/702220WP00Offi0rowth00September01972.pdf>

ORAL HISTORY

Another of our continuing series of excerpts from transcripts of the World Bank Group Oral History Program:

James Lee, the World Bank's First Environmental Adviser

In this excerpt Dr. Lee discusses the famous Club of Rome report, "The Limits to Growth".

I think it's safe to say that during the period 1945 to say, 1970, the Bank, not unlike many other institutions, did not have a great concern for the environmental impact or environmental consequences of the work that it was doing. To the best of my knowledge, along about late 1968 we began to see, here in North America particularly and in the United States most specifically, the beginnings of what we called the "Environmental Movement." McNamara was a man who himself felt quite strongly about what was happening to the environment. His family and his children particularly were very much concerned, and I think they influenced on his own thinking in these matters.

The Club of Rome report of 1972, which was carried out under the general direction of Aurelio Peccei, who at that time was the chief executive officer for FIAT Company and who founded the Club of Rome. He was a good friend of Mr. McNamara's, too. It was under his general direction that they carried out this study, which was the first study where they tried to use the computer and to develop a world model.

It was Dennis Meadows and Carol Wilson and those types of people that were involved in the technical work. Actually, the work was begun in about 1970-1971 so modeling wasn't all that far advanced. They were trying to advance it by quantum leaps by doing it on a world scale. So there were many questions asked about whether that was a valid way to approach it; whether the model was indeed all that accurate.

I think the most important things about the report when it came out were the shocking revelations that it contained. It was something of a "doomsday" type of report. I think it served the purpose though, at that point in time, of warning political leaders and world leaders that indeed something was wrong and that we needed to pay attention to what was happening to the biosphere and what was happening to the environment that supports all of us.

The Bank's response, incidentally, was very interesting. There was a great deal of skepticism voiced within the Bank about the report's accuracy, and a very careful critique of it was made under the direction of Mahbub ul Haq

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/313611468336648762/pdf/702220WP00Offi0owth00September01972.pdf>. The Bank went into the report in some depth and while it did criticize the report in many respects, I think that on balance it agreed with the general thrust, namely its predictions of such things as the impact of overpopulation--the possibility that the growing populations in Africa would so denude their environment as to bring about the problems of drought and famine. And so I think the Bank subscribed to the general thrust of the report, although it found "technical faults" with the preparation of it.

The entire interview is available at <https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/person/lee-james>. This excerpt has been lightly edited.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Indonesia and the World Bank: Partners Through Time

Fifty years ago, in 1968, Robert McNamara chose Indonesia for his first overseas trip as president of the World Bank Group. This was a strong signal of his special interest in the country—right from the start of his presidency—and marked the beginning of greater engagement between Indonesia and the World Bank. During his visit, McNamara sought to learn how the World Bank Group could help Indonesia, both in the short and long term, and he finalized discussions surrounding a permanent mission in Jakarta, which would open a little over a year later.

Within a few months of his visit, the funding for the first World Bank Group project in Indonesia was approved, the Irrigation and Rehabilitation Project. This marked the beginning of a major effort in the agricultural sector of Indonesia, providing support to a range of areas from irrigation and fertilizer production to agricultural extension and oil palm. Soon after, projects would be approved in other sectors including transportation, electricity, telecommunications, and education. As new issues emerged in the coming years, the World Bank and Indonesia worked together to address them.

The 1970s saw the development of Indonesia's tourism sector. The Bank became involved in that too, providing funding for the Bali Tourism Project, including infrastructure for a new tourism estate on Nusa Dua, on the island of Bali, including road access to the estate and training facilities for hotel staff. This helped attract private investors to the area while maintaining the island's unique social and cultural life.

In the 1980s, as environmental concerns around the globe were becoming more prevalent, the Indonesia – Forest, Land and Water: Issues in Sustainable Development report was released. This was the first World Bank report to focus on the environment in the context of Indonesia's development efforts. The report recommended that unsustainable practices be identified early on and emphasized that resources such as forests, land, and water have important ecological functions which are not easily measured in economic terms.

Twenty years ago, in 1998, the Kecamatan Development project was approved. It provided block grants to villages based on proposals selected through the sub-district council – or kecamatan – of village heads. In addition to building and improving public infrastructure, the project strengthened kecamatan and village government institutions while raising rural incomes. The initial project was piloted in 25 villages.

Within nine years, it was renamed as the National Program for Community Empowerment, expanded to all rural communities, and with its urban sister program (the Urban Poverty program), it formed the


government's national flagship poverty reduction program becoming one of the largest community-driven development programs in the world. It reached more than 70,000 villages and urban wards and created over 31,000 roads, 8,000 bridges, 9,000 clean water supply units, 9,000 irrigation systems, 3,000 new or improved health posts, and 5,000 new or rehabilitated schools.

Just days after the massive earthquake and tsunami that hit south eastern Asia on December 26, 2004, the World Bank made funds available to address the crisis. The Bank remained a close partner in the following months and years, helping the affected communities by providing funding and collaborating with other multilateral organizations to rebuild Aceh.

World Bank Group Timeline

Indonesia

Search Timeline




The Kertamanah tea factory, visited by Executive Director Eugene Black in 1948 (1769300; Credit: The World Bank).

JUNE 4, 1948

World Bank mission visits Indonesia

The World Bank mission team, led by United States Executive Director and future World Bank president Eugene Black, makes the trip at the request of the Netherlands government to what was then the Netherlands East Indies.

[Learn More](#)



Visit the [interactive timeline](#) showcasing evolution of World Bank Group's relationship with Indonesia.

Throughout this time, the [World Bank Group Archives](#) has been protecting the institutional memory of the World Bank Group's relationship with Indonesia and all our partners around the globe. Through the Access to Information policy, the Archives have been providing public access to the records, helping to share the history of the World Bank. Anyone can view the [Archives Holdings](#) catalogue and [request access](#).

With such a deep and rich history, it is especially appropriate that the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s [Annual Meetings](#) were held in Indonesia last year. It marked the 50th anniversary of three important events in the relationship with the country: President Robert McNamara's first trip as World Bank Group president to Indonesia; the approval of the World Bank's first loan to Indonesia; and the opening of a resident mission in Jakarta. As we look to the next 50 years of the World Bank's partnership with Indonesia, we hope it will continue to be filled with groundbreaking initiatives that help the country develop and prosper – we will be there along the way, documenting their progress.

October 2, 2018

ACTIVE RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE-Z

Gaumarjos

By Tom Blinkhorn

The 1818 Society tour to the Republic of Georgia in October was, by all accounts, a great success. Or, as the Georgians would proclaim in their inimitable way when toasting with wine: “Gaumarjos” (roughly “Cheers”).)

Georgia is a small country (population almost 4 million) with a unique language and ancient cultural heritage, famed for its traditions of hospitality, music and cuisine. It is bookmarked, so to speak, by the majestic Caucasus mountains on one side, the Black sea on the other. Russia borders Georgia on the north and east, Turkey and Armenia on the south.

The country has an astonishing collection of churches, monasteries and fortresses dating back centuries. There are about 300 in total, scattered across the country in towns, remote valleys and in the mountains. These remnants of ancient Georgian culture were the main draw for the 13-member Society tour, along with visits to vineyards, artisans, music, theatre. And a wonderful briefing by World Bank-IFC staff at the Bank’s office in the capital Tbilisi. This was arranged with the kind assistance of Mercy Tembon, Regional Director for Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. A surprise visitor to the briefing was now-retired former Georgia Country Director Roy Southworth. He and wife live part of the year in Georgia.

Tour organizer and leader was an American musicologist, John Graham. He speaks fluent Georgian and lives in Tbilisi with his Georgian wife and two children. John is an expert in Georgian polyphonic chant, with a doctorate from Princeton. He performs alone or with friends and groups in churches, restaurants, vineyards.

My role was simply to help coordinate the tour, answering questions from interested participants via e-mail, telephone or in person on occasional visits to the Society offices in DC. I live in Hanover, New Hampshire.

I fell in love with Georgia in the mid-1990s during my first visit leading a Bank reconstruction and rehabilitation mission. It had been requested by then President Eduard Shevardnadze in a letter to Bank President Jim Wolfensohn. At the time, Georgia was trying to recover from a civil war and a shattering earthquake. The situation was dire, with no electricity, reliable water, a devastated economy. But the amazing thing to me was the astonishing kindness, resiliency and hope of the Georgian people. That has stayed with me.

So it was a special treat to return after many years. And, best of all, to reconnect with old Bank friends that I had not seen in so long: Wafik Grais, retired Country Division Chief when I worked on Georgia; he and his wife Gianfranca Grais-Crameri were on the tour, as was Michelle Riboud, retired Country Economist for Georgia, and Feliciano Iglesias. Another old friend, Amnon Golan, and wife Sue enlivened the group. Retired Bank lawyer Barbara Santos participated, along with husband Sam, who used to work at IFC. Lesley Shneier, an active Society member, friend and former ballerina, was in the group along with a new friend, Maria Gomes, who used to work in the Bank’s senior management offices. Rounding off the group was the ebullient Mary Jane Balicki and her talented husband Jo, a practicing archeologist and expert photographer.

The experience was so well received that John and I have proposed a tour to Armenia and eastern Georgia in October 2019. Details are on the 1818 Society website.

Gaumarjos!

Tom Blinkhorn worked at the Bank for 30 years, mainly in operations (Africa, India, countries of the former Soviet Union including Georgia. After retiring he moved to Hanover, New Hampshire where he currently lives.



1818 Hiking Club – Local and International Hikes

Local hikes in and around Washington: Our local hikes continue to be organized on a monthly basis. **Click here for the 1818 Hiking Club** web page.

- **2018, Hike # 9:** 22-September-2018, repeat of the Rocky Mountain Loop, Shenandoah National Park, VA – [View Pictures](#)
- **2018, Hike # 10:** 21-October-2018, Duncan Knob-Strickler Knob loop, George Washington National Forest, VA - [View Pictures](#)
- **2018, Hike # 11:** 18-November-2018, Catoctin Mountain Park, MD – [View Pictures](#) (*password is 1818hike*)

International Hiking:

Trekking in France — Mercantour Park, Alpes de Haute Provence

On September 18, the 1818 Hiking Club organized a slide presentation of a seven-day hike by nine members of the Hiking Club in France. The hike was organized in collaboration with the National Forestry Office (Office National des Forêts) the in the National Park of Mercantour (dans le Haut Verdon et Parc du Mercantour), Alpes de Haute Provence. The hike started and finished at the train station of Thorame Haute in the valley of the Haut-Verdon, in the Department of “Alpes de Haute-Provence”, reached via the airport at Nice. The hike from June 21-27, 2018 traversed through the Mercantour Park,

which is a UNESCO Heritage site dedicated to preserving the cultural and ecological patrimony of the park. The nine trekkers stayed in forestry houses between 1,580m - 2,133m although the hikes crossed higher elevations and rewarded them with majestic views of snow-capped mountains. The photographic presentation and introduction was made by Maryvonne Plessis-Fraissard, with support from other group participants to share their hiking experience and offer a Q&A for those who are interested in future hikes.

Future International Trekking Trips: ([CLICK HERE](#) for more details)

- El Camino de Costa Rica: March 6-16, 2019. This hike will include walking through rain forests, as well through muddy, jungle terrain and higher, cooler elevations as the trail traverses the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. *Three places are still available.* Because of the long days of hiking each day, preference will be given to regular hikers. If you are interested, send an e-mail to the hiking club coordinator, Anis Dani (adani@1818alumniwbg.org) who will put you in touch with hike organizer and 1818 member Conchita Espino in Costa Rica.
- Trekking in Corsica: April 20-27, 2019. This hike will consist of daily hikes of up to six hours with elevation gains ranging from 250m to 900m as the group walks along mountain trails to traditional villages perched on rocky peaks down to fishing villages on the island. The hike will offer stunning views of both coasts and allow the group to experience the culture of this relatively less-traveled part of France. The hike is classified as Medium Difficulty and is designed for those who enjoy hiking and are in reasonable shape. See more details on the website. Those interested should send an email to Anis Dani (adani@1818alumniwbg.org) and Maryvonne Plessis-Fraissard (mplessisfraissard@gmail.com). *This hike is full. At this time we are accepting names for the waiting list only.*
- Nepal/Tibet High Altitude Trek: June 2-30, 2019. This consists of an acclimatization hike to Trisuli / Gosaikund in Nepal, followed by a 3-week trek to Mt. Kailash and four river sources, in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, China. This trek is being organized by Sacred Summits (P) Ltd. *This hike is fully booked.*
- Walking in the Cotswolds, UK: July 19-26, 2019. The Cotswolds is easy walking in some of the most beautiful and historic parts of England, with close proximity to London, Oxford, Warwick, Stratford-upon-Avon. There is convenient train transport from London. The tour will be led by 1818 member and Florida Chapter Head, Sandra Hadler, and organized by a well-known UK organization, HF Holidays. *This hike has filled up quickly. Two more couples can be added to the group.* For further information, contact Sandra Hadler, sachadler@gmail.com.
- Heli-hiking adventure in Canada's Rocky Mountains: July 30 – August 5, 2019.

This trip offers a unique opportunity for people of all ages and physical abilities to have a hike among scenic mountain peaks, glaciers, lakes and streams, forested valleys and flowering meadows. Daily excursions are tailored to guests' abilities and range from easy walks to more challenging, strenuous hikes. The helicopters do most of the hard work of getting you up from comfortable lodges to the trailhead, and you are accompanied by the best trained and friendliest guides in Canada. If you are interested, please e-mail the trip leader: Gail Davenport Davenport.gail@gmail.com with a copy to Anis Dani, the chair of the 1818 Hiking Club, Adani@1818alumniwbg.org.



MEMBERS' CORNER

World Bank L Building the New Main Complex

By Ernesto Henriod

Close to the end of the Second Millennium, the Bank found it needed a better home; the old buildings, one dating from the 1940's, were impractical. New communications systems could not be installed, the buildings were full of asbestos, the basement leaked heavy oil...and so on. New buildings were necessary; what steps should be taken?

The process began with a competition among architects for the design of the new Bank buildings. A design was chosen and the successful architects were engaged to develop the project drawings and specifications (<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/772671468914479100/Banks-World> pp.7-8). There followed a process of formal detail design and estimated costing on the basis of the chosen building shape. Once completed to a suitable stage, tender documents prepared by the architects and their supporting engineering and surveying consultants were issued; several construction companies presented bids. As a Senior Procurement Advisor, I participated in the evaluation of the bids, strictly on the basis of the bidding documents – the task did not involve reviewing the very extensive detail design drawings and specifications, relying on the experience of the architects and their supporting technical team.

The bidders' experience was ascertained and so was the completeness of their bids based on the tender documents. Hyman Construction, a Washington-based firm, was awarded a contract for about \$180 million. Demolition of older buildings and construction of the first phase of the new buildings started in the late

1980s

(<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/976491468915618424/Banks-World> pp. 3-6). Staff from two different Bank departments were appointed to manage the contract, as two different Owner's Representatives.

By late 1992, the Project was becoming intractable; the Hyman team seemed dedicated to amassing a huge number of variation claims ("change orders", in American terms) arising out of a number of omissions in the architects' construction documents. For example, the First Stage (replacing the old B Building), was built without slab penetrations to provide the spaces for vertical pipes and ducts throughout: these had been omitted in the construction drawings and it was necessary to cut penetrations through the prestressed concrete slabs.

On site there was a feeling that the new demands of the contractors and the lack of suitable response by the resident architect and the Bank's representatives were developing into a major dispute. The Hyman project manager was playing one Bank representative against the other, and the total cost kept escalating as claims followed claims without suitable response.

By late 1992, I was the Regional Procurement Advisor for the East Asia/Pacific Region, deeply involved in the huge hydroelectric and transportation projects that fast-developing China needed. It was exciting work, with several projects in the multi-billion-dollar range, and they were being successfully tendered and managed. I suddenly got a call to take over management of the contract for the new

buildings and asked to report to the President's office. I met Lew Preston in the lift of the E Building and told him what I was being asked to manage. He laughed, leaned on the lift wall, and said, "You poor bastard!" There was no way I could now refuse the job, and simply had to "jump in the deep end".

We had to start with a total restructuring of the Bank's management team, followed by a formal reassessment of the cost to completion. I met Ernie Stern, then a Managing Director, and agreed to establish a new department, staffed with professionals with construction experience, to replace the ineffectual two-handed Bank's representatives. I became the Director of the Headquarters Construction Department (HQC).

Early in 1993, HQC took over a whole floor of the N Building across Pennsylvania Avenue and started recruiting my staff, starting with a capable civil engineer with U.S. experience in construction, followed by a U.S. architect, an accountant, and support staff; we also engaged a U.S. lawyer specialising in construction contracts, and specialist consultants in project management and construction costing.

Our first task was to defuse the unfriendly, controversial atmosphere of the contracts: Hyman was asked to change the unsuitable site management – and I established a direct line of communication with the company President. We then agreed to hold a meeting involving empowered representatives from all the participating entities—the Bank, architects,

contractors and other support groups—to start with a discussion of "the stones in the road" and how to remove them by open, non-aggressive discussion. The result was a very successful "partnering" agreement and the system of communications that made it work, all the way to the successful completion of the job.

The key first task was to review the contract cost in light of the (then) completed construction drawings, starting by clearing the accumulation of about 6,000 variations claimed by the contractor. These were sorted out at a price agreed by all parties, as a first step, while our specialist cost assessors did a thorough analysis of the bidding (and later completed) documents and determined a fair and workable price for the whole project.

The reassessed contract value, \$327 million, was presented to the Board, suitably supported by detailed documents. It was approved and it became a fair, tangible and feasible goal to achieve. In fact, three years later we finished the job, having saved \$7 million, and completed the contract without pending disputes in the courts of law.

I was greatly honoured to present the completed contract to the Board, sitting beside Jim Wolfensohn, then President, with all members of my team in attendance. The whole Board stood to applaud us! It was the most treasured experience of my life as a civil engineer, and a great way to finish my 18 years in the Staff of the World Bank.

W(h)ither Economics at the World Bank?

By Hans Wyss

Last spring, after Shanta Devarajan, Acting Chief Economist, World Bank Group, gave a presentation on this subject at the 1818 Society Economics Thematic Group, I prepared a follow-up note "from a former economist who looks back on very few but deeply-felt professional anxieties he had during his 37 years with the Bank". Shanta found the note, here edited to fit

the Members' Corner, "valuable to us as we attempt to put together a knowledge strategy for the World Bank".

Research: I was fortunate to spend the first few years, starting 1959, in the Bank's economic research unit. The major research product I was associated with was *Economic Growth and*

External Debt by Dragoslav Avramovic *et al.*, probably one of the few original *basic* economic research efforts ever made by the Bank. It responded to a widely-shared concern about the capacity of developing countries to service their external debt. Looking again at Drag's book, I find it very different from the vast economic research I saw over subsequent decades that relates mainly to the Bank's copious operational experience. Perhaps it was too basic and abstract for many.

My hope is that the Bank would, *from time to time*, come up with a major piece of economic research comparable to the most outstanding and recognized research in the economic profession. Discussing the draft Avramovic book with Paul Rosenstein-Rodan, then at MIT, was a high point for me as a young Bank economist. I hope economists could be attracted to do some *basic* research on today's top development-related problems. Sixty years after Drag's effort, the Bank is open to a much wider range of development issues and thus seems to offer exciting new basic research opportunities. Perhaps a non-conventional subject that always intrigued me: Kindleberger's theorem *The importance of being unimportant* (K. referred to "unimportant" countries in the context of international trade; the theorem has deeper roots, going back to Mill, Marshall, Hicks and others). It would be interesting to dig into the significance for many (most?) countries of their "(un)importance" for trade and development.

Economists and Bank Lending: My few major concerns about *the role of economists in Bank lending* relate to the ease with which quite some of them, at every level, have compromised on basic economics. The two experiences that left me with considerable anxiety concerning the damaging effects of (i) subsidized interest rates, and (ii) excessive balance of payments lending.

During my initial years, quite a few economists argued that the subsidized IDA terms should be

passed on to the final beneficiary. Fortunately, there was sufficient resistance from some senior officers, and eventually the Board, to a policy that would have provided perverse incentives fostering capital-intensive production methods in countries with a large pool of available labor. Most likely, it would have helped IDA countries' richer people.

Probably more important were the failures by many (most?) Bank country economists to recognize explicitly negative impacts of policy-based lending. To my knowledge, it was only in 1989 when Stanley Fischer (who had come *from the outside*) pointed out that "...we greatly underestimate the danger of aid or external dependence," and "...that in providing external resources we appreciate the exchange rate and slow the development of exports" My concern with the problem that Stanley pinpointed related mainly to small economies assisted by relatively massive balance-of-payments aid from a multitude of donors, frequently coordinated by the Bank.

These two major occasions are reminders that *the Hippocratic Oath* should apply to development economists as well: *First do no harm*. At the very least, all economic effects need to be determined *explicitly* and spelled out quantitatively wherever possible whether at the macro- or at the micro-economic level – as is generally done on the technical, social and environment aspects. Perhaps you can do something about basic economic rules!

What Type of Economists? I understand that you are looking for sector-/project-specific economists to be versatile and able to function across sectors. I couldn't agree more. I also like to postulate that they have a basic understand of micro- *and* macro-economics in order to appreciate the interface between their sector/project work and their countries' macro-situation. The overspecialized training on either side of the spectrum of economics was one of my main frustrations as an operational manager. I hope your look at the Bank's

economic work as a continuum from macro- to project activities will leave its mark.

Perhaps I should add: I left the economist stream after five years in research and three years as a country economist (during the Alliance of Progress years) to become an operational manager, eventually Director of a Projects (and other) Department(s). Betraying economics to support Bank lending was never acceptable, but neither betraying engineering and other professions (e.g., lowering standards for a road, or using inappropriate conversion rates for agriculture inputs, just to meet an acceptable economic rate of return).

Closing Remark: Here is an unforgettable experience regarding “Bank economist and lending”: After China (PRC) joined the Bank, an economic mission studied the country in 1980. In early 1981, the Country Programs Division Chief and I, then Assistant Director of Projects,

followed up with discussions in Beijing on an initial lending program. The Chinese team was fully aware of the potential for adjustment lending for their major reform programs. Most important, it had a clear borrowing strategy: use loans for maximizing access to the most modern technologies in fields in which the country had fallen behind and management methods, at the lowest possible cost (maximize access to IDA). Borrowing, for the Chinese, was a means to achieve well-prioritized physical and intellectual (software) projects in support of their manifold socio-economic objectives. Moreover, they found the Bank provided them with excellent free advice on economic policy matters through its economic work – there was no need to go into debt just for adopting appropriate economic policies. Who could have any doubt that this approach was the beginning of an extraordinary success story, both for China and the Bank?

TRANSITIONS

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome!

We welcome the following World Bank Group retirees/alumni to The 1818 Society. *Country of intended residence other than the USA has been added after their names.*

Wolfram Anders
 Susan Aquino
 Gertrude Banda
 Matthew Bauer
 Mierta Capaul
 Alison Cave
 Anil Chandramani
 Cheryl Chesser
 Lin Chin
 Julian Clarke
 Luis Constantino
 Gerardo Corrochano
 Marie Dahall, **Mauritius**
 Kirstine Damkjaer
 Leonora Davies
 Jose De Luna Martinez, **Mexico**
 Antonella Di Lernia
 Kanny Diaby
 Matar Fall, **Senegal**
 Khatija Fazel
 David Fretwell
 Dipankar Ghosh
 Caroline Goldie
 Gaio Gonzalez
 Julie-Anne Graitge, **Australia**
 Chantal Grosdidier de Matons
 Lynn Gross
 Theresa Guirgis
 Jean-Michel Happi
 Massoud Hasrat
 Jose Luis Irigoyen
 Paivi Koljonen
 Kris Koomson
 Konstantinos Krouskas, **Greece**
 Stephen Malpezzi
 Berhane Manna

Eugenia Marinova
 Shuchi Marwaha
 Ajay Marwaha
 Yuriy Maslyukov
 Peter Moll
 Dante Mossi
 Sui Cher Nah
 Carlos Neves
 Rose Nguelie Djieya
 Irina Niederberger
 Samuel Otoo
 Olufunke Oyewole
 Alka Pandit
 Paula Panton
 Suhas Pavgi
 June Remy
 Horacio Rivera-Piza
 Tim Ryan
 Patricio Salgado
 Manuel Santiago
 Sandra Siles-Teran
 Elspeth Joy Singh
 Shamsheer Singh
 Anjana Singh
 John Speakman
 Randeep Sudan, **Thailand**
 Luiz Tavares
 Timothy Thahane, **Lesotho**
 Klaus Tilmes
 Vera Wilhelm
 John Wille
 Maureen Williams
 Salman Zaheer, **Canada**
 Fares Zaki
 Judy Ann Zinnemann



Despina B. "Dessy" Seal

The previous issue of *The 1818 Society Quarterly* noted the passing of Despina B. Seal at age 94 on August 16, 2018. It is worth noting that "Dessy" joined the World Bank on May 17, 1946 and was thus one of the original World Bank employees, pre-dating the Bank's official opening for business on June 25, 1946. As time goes on, fewer and fewer of that small band of original employees of the Bank remain. We should pause and reflect on their pioneering work and note with gratitude their efforts in establishing the World Bank on sound foundations.

Chuck Ziegler



**We regret to inform you of the following deaths
based on information provided by the Pension Administration Division.
We extend our sincere sympathy to the families.**

David B. Blelloch, 95, of Bethesda, MD, on November 3, 2018. Mr. Blelloch retired from the Bank in 1988.

Victor C. Chang, 99, of Kensington, MD, on December 5, 2018. Mr. Chang retired from the Bank in 1983.

Florence Czok, 98, of Bedford, VA, on November 10, 2018. Ms. Czok retired from the Bank in 1967.

Paul R. Deuster, 76, of Fairfax, VA, on November 20, 2018. Mr. Deuster retired from the Bank in 1984.

Kenneth H. Ewing, 97, of Ontario, Canada, on November 25, 2018. Mr. Ewing retired from the Bank in 1983.

Ernst Gabriel Frankel, 95, of Brookline, MA, on November 18, 2018. Mr. Frankel retired from the Bank in 1985.

Balwant Garcha, 84, of Falls Church, VA, on November 4, 2018. Mr. Garcha retired from the Bank in 1996.

Thomas Gerald Gossen, 83, of Salt Spring Island, B.C., Canada, on December 16, 2018. Mr. Gossen retired from the Bank in 1989.

Nicole Hamon, 66, of Arlington, VA, on November 19, 2018. Ms. Hamon retired from the Bank in 2014.

Patrick D. Henderson, 91, of London, UK, on September 30, 2018. Mr. Henderson retired from the Bank in 1975.

Shigeteka Ijichi, 79, of Washington, DC, on October 11, 2018. Mr. Ijichi retired from the Bank in 1999.

Minori S. Imamura, 72, of Arlington, VA, on September 22, 2018. Ms. Imamura retired from the Bank in 2007.

Joanna Karolczuk, 84, of Mississauga, Canada, on October 27, 2018. Ms. Karolczuk retired from the Bank in 2000.

Zeyneb Lange, 80, of Washington, DC, on November 19, 2018. Ms. Lange retired from the Bank in 1995.

Eugenio F. Lari, 84, of McLean, VA, on October 10, 2018. Mr. Lari retired from the Bank in 1992.

Donald A. Mclsaac, 76, of Ontario, Canada, on October 28, 2018. Mr. Mclsaac retired from the Bank in 2003.

Vadeem Misyukovets, 58, of Minsk, Belarus, on October 5, 2018. Mr. Misyukovets retired from the Bank in 2017.

Mervin E. Muller, 90, of Dublin, OH, on December 2, 2018. Mr. Muller retired from the Bank in 1985.

Eric R. Nelson, 73, of Kensington, MD, on October 24, 2019. Mr. Nelson retired from the Bank in 2007.

Tillman H. Neuner, 91, of Washington, DC, on November 2, 2018. Mr. Neuner retired from the Bank in 1988.

Hassan Oteifa, 85, of Fairfax, VA, on October 1, 2018. Mr. Oteifa retired from the Bank in 1988.

Kanok Pranich, 95, of Bangkok, Thailand, on October 31, 2018. Mr. Pranich retired from the Bank in 1987.

Gladys Schaeffer, 78, of Arlington, VA, on November 18, 2018. Ms. Schaeffer retired from the Bank in 1982.

Thirukodikaval Srinivasan, 85, of Washington, DC, on November 11, 2018. Mr. Srinivasan retired from the Bank in 1980.

Sun Vithespongse, 64, of Nonthaburi, Thailand, on November 2, 2018. Mr. Vithesponse retired from the Bank in 2010.

Vijay S. Vyas, 87, of Jaipur, India, on September 12, 2018. Mr. Vyas retired from the Bank in 1989.

Nicole Wautiez De Blaye, 77, of Harwood, MD, on September 1, 2018. Ms. Wautiez De Blaye retired from the Bank in 2003.

Jan Wijnand, 78, of White Stone, VA, on November 19, 2018. Mr. Wijnand retired from the Bank in 1997.

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Thematic Groups	<p>Agriculture & Rural Development Nadim Khoury (Chair), <i>nadimkho@gmail.com</i> Masood Ahmad, <i>Mahmadwb@outlook.com</i></p> <p>Economics Norman Hicks, <i>nhicks4@cox.net</i></p> <p>Education Larry Wolff, <i>larrywolff@live.com</i>; Helen Abadzi, <i>habadzi@gmail.com</i> Steve Heyneman, <i>s.heyne@vanderbilt.edu</i></p> <p>Energy Eugene McCarthy, <i>emccarthy@1818alumniwbg.org</i> Mohammade Farhandi, <i>mmfarhandi@yahoo.com</i></p> <p>Gender & Development Nadereh Chamlou, <i>nchamlou@gmail.com</i> Dominique Lallement, <i>Dominique.lallement@gmail.com</i></p> <p>Global Finance Ismail Dalla, <i>dallaismail@hotmail.com</i>; Yasmin Saadat, <i>ysysaadat0@gmail.com</i>; Grace Sawh, <i>grsawh@comcast.net</i></p> <p>Governance Vinay Bhargava, <i>vinaybhargav@gmail.com</i> Akbar Khawaja, <i>akhawaja@1818alumniwbg.org</i></p> <p>Health, Nutrition & Population Maryse Pierre Louis, <i>annempierrelouis@aol.com</i> Lynn Brown, <i>Lynnrbrown1@me.com</i></p> <p>Social & Environment Anis Dani, <i>adani@1818alumniwbg.org</i>, John Redwood, <i>jredwood@1818alumniwbg.org</i></p> <p>Transport and ICT Graham Smith, <i>smith.grahamr@gmail.com</i></p> <p>Water & Urban Richard MacEwen, <i>RmacEwen@alum.mit.edu</i> Catherine Farvaque-Vitkovic, <i>cfarvacque-vitkovic@hotmail.com</i> Alain Locussol, <i>alocussol@1818alumniwbg.org</i></p> <p>WBG History Chuck Ziegler, <i>chiegler1@hotmail.com</i></p>

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