

The audience is encouraged to tweet comments, questions and information using [@SciDevNet](#) or [#makeitcount](#).

We will be filming and recording the event and the highlights will be hosted on www.scidev.net.

Speakers

Brad Parks



Brad Parks is Co-Executive Director of AidData and Research Faculty at the College of William and Mary's Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations. He previously administered the Millennium Challenge Corporation's annual country selection process and managed anti-corruption and judicial reform programs in Indonesia and the Philippines. He is also an author of several books and articles on aid allocation, aid effectiveness, and development theory and practice.

Martin Hilbert ([@martin_hilbert](#))



Martin Hilbert created and coordinated the Information Society Programme of the United Nations Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which works on assisting Latin America & Caribbean countries in the implementation of the Regional Action Plan eLAC2007. His research on the digital revolution has been published in recognized academic journals such as Science, Psychological Bulletin, Complexity, World Development, and Technological Forecasting and Social Change.

Alison Kennedy



Alison Kennedy is Executive Director of the Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre – the supercomputing centre based at the University of Edinburgh. Since its foundation, the EPCC's stated mission has been to accelerate the effective exploitation of novel computing throughout industry, academia and commerce.

Jacqui Taylor ([@jacquitaylorfb](#))



Jacqui Taylor has 25 years of experience deploying technology change across the world. After implementing a banking regulatory change programme with Web 3.0 tools she co-founded Flying Binary – a business that provides data analytics and cloud computing solutions and services. Jacqui trains Advanced Analysts on the Science of Data Visualisation and is a regular speaker on Cloud Adoption, Big Data, Smarter Analytics and Profiting from the Web.

Claire Melamed ([@clairemelamed](#))



Claire Melamed is the Head of the Growth, Poverty and Inequality Programme at the Overseas Development Institute. She was previously the Head of Policy at ActionAid UK. She has also worked for Christian Aid, the United Nations in Mozambique, and taught at the University of London and the Open University. Claire's work focuses on progress towards the current MDGs and on the post-2015 development agenda.

William Shubert ([@WillieShubert](#))



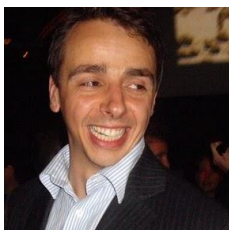
Willie Shubert is the Senior Project Coordinator for Internews' Earth Journalism Network. As a coordinator of a global network of environmental journalists, Willie helps make tools that enable people to connect with each other, find material support, and amplify their local stories to global audiences. In his previous position at National Geographic Magazine, he coordinated translation for the magazine's 32 local language partners.

Chris Albon ([@chrisalbon](#))



Chris Albon is a political scientist and the Director of Data Projects at Ushahidi. He is leading Ushahidi's work around the use of data in natural and man-made crises. Prior to Ushahidi, Chris was Director of the Governance Project at FrontlineSMS.

Andrew Rzepa



Andrew Rzepa is a Senior Consultant, responsible for Gallup's Government division in Europe. Andrew develops research-based, data-led solutions for global organisations within the private, public and nongovernmental spheres. Andrew sits as secretariat for the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, "Voices of the Hungry- Experience Based Measures of Food Insecurity technical advisory group" and is a member of The Office for National Statistics "Measuring National Well-Being technical advisory group".

Tim Wheeler



Tim Wheeler is currently Professor of Crop Science at the University of Reading and Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser for the UK Department for International Development. For more than 20 years he has published extensively on how climate change could impact on the sustainability of agriculture and food.

Laurent Elder ([@laurentelder](#))



Laurent Elder leads the International Development Research Centre's (IDRC) Information and Networks program, which aims to better understand how information networks can be used to promote open, inclusive and rights based information societies in the South. From 1999 to 2004, Laurent worked with the Acacia initiative, a program looking into the impact of information and communication technologies in Africa.