
NEW DIRECTORS JOIN ADARA DEVELOPMENT GLOBAL BOARDS



Sydney, Australia
28 April 2021



From left to right: Dr Cyril Engmann, Dr Peter Waiswa, Ms Yangchen Lama.
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The Chair of the Adara Group, Audette Exel AO, today announced the appointment of three new directors to the global boards of Adara Development.

Ms Exel said: “On behalf of our boards and our teams, I could not be more proud or delighted to welcome Dr Cyril Engmann, Dr Peter Waiswa and Ms Yangchen Lama to the Adara boards. Each has achieved at the highest levels on a global stage. They bring a wealth of experience in service delivery and impact in low-resource settings, including a deep understanding of care to mothers and babies at-risk, and of the complexity of remote service delivery. Their involvement will lift our thinking and our international development work to the next level in the years ahead.”

Adara Development is an international non-government organisation partnered with two embedded ‘for purpose’ corporate advisory businesses, which were established to fund the core support and administration costs of Adara Development. Adara has expertise in maternal, newborn and child health, and remote community development. It delivers service through centres of excellence in Uganda and Nepal, and deepens impact through knowledge sharing.

The appointment of these three new directors marks a significant step forward for Adara as it marks its 23rd anniversary. Their expertise will guide Adara as it scales its work and touches many more lives.

Dr Peter Waiswa has joined the board of Adara Development Uganda. Dr Cyril Engmann and Ms Yangchen Lama have joined the board of Adara Development USA.

Dr Peter Waiswa is a leader in maternal and newborn health both in Uganda and globally. Dr Waiswa is an Associate Professor of Health Policy Planning and Management of the School of Public Health at

Makerere University College of Health Sciences. He has training in medicine and in Public Health, and a PhD and Postdoc. Dr Waiswa is a founder and leader of initiatives that build capacity and generate evidence for maternal, newborn and child health in low- and middle-income countries. He started the Makerere University Maternal Newborn and Child Health Centre of Excellence and the INDEPTH Network Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Research Group. Globally, Dr Waiswa is a member of the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of Experts (STAGE) for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition. He has also participated regularly in an advisory role to WHO, UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, International Pediatric Association, East African Community, African Academy of Sciences, and more.

Ms Yangchen Lama is a Senior Vice President of Wealth Management, Portfolio Management Director and a Family Wealth Director at Morgan Stanley Beverly Hills office. Ms Lama was born in Humla, where Adara has worked since their operations began. Her village is 17,000 feet above sea level. She was raised with no electricity or running water. At age 12, she moved to the United States as an exchange student and graduated from Cornell University where she received a BA in International Relations and an MA in Public Administration with a focus on International Finance. She also has a Certified Portfolio Manager designation from Columbia University and a Certified Financial Planner designation from the College of Financial Planning. Ms Lama was recognised as one of the Top Female Wealth Advisors in the US by Forbes in 2020 and 2021, and also as the Top Wealth Advisor Moms in the US by Working Mothers Magazine in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Dr Cyril Engmann is the Senior Director of Quality and Program Impact, and Institutional Official at PATH, an international health non-profit organisation driving transformative innovation to save lives in more than 70 countries. Prior to joining PATH in 2014, Dr Engmann led the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Newborn Health Strategy where he designed and oversaw a portfolio of grants totalling \$200M. He also remains an active, practicing physician and academic at the University of Washington Schools of Medicine & Public Health where he is Attending Neonatologist and Professor of Pediatrics and Global Health.

Widely regarded as a global leader in the field and with extensive experience in the research, policy, advocacy, and program spheres, Dr Engmann is credited with initiating and holding leadership roles within several global efforts adopted by all 194 signatory countries of the United Nations, including the Every Newborn Action Plan, the Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development Framework, the Global Preterm Research Consortium, and the Maternal Immunisation Consortium. He sits on the United States National Institute of Health Expert Panel that advises on all US-Government-sponsored COVID-19 trials and serves on the Washington Research Foundation postdoctoral fellowship program.

Full biographies can be found [here](#).

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