



Broadcasting GEOSS: Key Issues in Spectrum Management and Earth Observations

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Speaker Biographies

Dr. Halilu Ahmad Shaba

Director, Strategic Space Applications, National Space Research and Development Agency

Dr. Halilu Ahmad Shaba is the director of strategic space applications at the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) in Nigeria. He has a master's and a Ph.D. in remote sensing applications to hydrology with research in the areas of underground water and dam sedimentation.

Dr. Halilu has worked as a cartographer with the National Population Commission; as lecturer with the Federal University of Technology Minna; and as head of geospatial information systems (GIS) and deputy director of planning research and forecasting with the National Emergency Management Agency, also located in Nigeria.

Mr. David Hartshorn

Secretary General, Global VSAT Forum

David Hartshorn is secretary general of the Global VSAT Forum (GVF). Mr. Hartshorn leads the Forum's efforts to facilitate the provision of satellite-based communications solutions throughout all nations of the world. In particular, Mr. Hartshorn works closely to support national-, regional- and global-level policy makers as they formulate state-of-the-art satellite regulatory frameworks. He is also responsible for creating greater awareness of the commercial, economic, political and technological advantages that satellite-based communications provide. Mr. Hartshorn also currently serves on various public and private-sector advisory boards, committees, working groups, and project teams where he is involved in facilitating satellite-enabled disaster preparedness, community engagement, financially sustainable business, health, education and more.

He is an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors of the Society of Satellite Professionals International, and is founder of its UK Chapter. Mr. Hartshorn has worked in the satellite communications industry for more than 20 years, serving in sales, business development, publishing, and association offices based in North and Southeast Asia, North America, and Western Europe. He has been published in hundreds of editions of magazines and newsletters, and has spoken and chaired at conferences and seminars in every major region of the world.

Ms. Renée Leduc Clarke

Founder and Principal, Narayan Strategy

Ms. Renée Leduc Clarke brings nearly 20 years of experience in government and the private sector to her work helping clients connect with key audiences on highly technical topics. Her experience using space technology to build understanding of environmental issues began nearly 20 years ago in Botswana when she worked with rural leaders to use Landsat satellite data to track land changes due to large elephant herds. Her passion for science and technology as tools to advance sustainable development later grew as a Fulbright research scholar working on climate adaptation projects in Malawi and Zimbabwe.

Ms. Leduc Clarke's focus on climate and weather began in earnest as a Presidential Management Fellow in the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), where she worked to make NOAA satellite information more accessible to policy makers in developing countries. She later served as an advisor to two NOAA administrators on the agency's satellite programs. She built a reputation for her clarity in communicating complex issues in partnership with industry and government. Since 2011 Ms. Leduc Clarke has been managing projects and leading government affairs activities in the private sector. Most recently she led a major component of the NASA-USAID SERVIR Project, leading the effort through a major period of transition in collaboration with partners in Kenya, Nepal, and Panama.

Ms. Leduc Clarke is an active member of the American Meteorological Society, serving as the incoming chair of its International Committee on Weather and Climate Strategies and on its Boards on Global Strategies and Enterprise Economic Development. She is an advisory council member to the Millersville University Department of Earth Sciences and a member of the Bates College Alumni Council. She completed her undergraduate studies at Bates College and her Master of Public Policy at American University.

Mr. David Lubar

Radio spectrum management specialist in the GOES-R Program Office, The Aerospace Corporation

Mr. David G. Lubar is The Aerospace Corporation radio spectrum management specialist in the GOES-R Program Office, supporting the program system engineer and his deputy. He has been working spectrum management issues for NOAA space programs for over 13 years.

Prior to joining The Aerospace Corporation, Mr. Lubar was the manager of regulatory affairs for the Joint Polar Satellite System Common Ground System for the Raytheon Company of Aurora, Colorado. Mr. Lubar's 38 years of engineering experience includes over 25 years in spectrum management.

He holds a B.S. in electrical and electronic engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana and a Master of Engineering in engineering management from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Mr. Lubar is a member of the American Meteorological Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.