

**Professor Margaret Kobia, PhD, CBS
Chairperson Public Service Commission, Kenya.**



Professor Margaret Kobia graduated with a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed, Hons) Degree from the University of Nairobi followed by a Master of Education (MED) Degree from Kenyatta University in 1991. As a Leadership Grant Scholarship recipient, she enrolled at the University of Illinois; Urbana Champaign where she received her Ph.D. in Human Resource Education and Entrepreneurship in 2003. She later joined Strathmore University, Nairobi, in 2003 as a Senior Lecturer in management, entrepreneurship and research methodology and simultaneously served as a management training consultant.

In 2005, she was appointed as the Director of the then Kenya Institute of Administration (KIA). In 2011, she was awarded an associate professorship for her outstanding teaching, research and publication work while serving as the Director of KIA. In 2012, when KIA became the Kenya School of Government (KSG), Professor Kobia served as its first Director General and oversaw its successful transition. Following her exemplary and outstanding work at KSG, Professor Kobia was named Chairperson of the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Kenya in December 2012, a position she holds to date.

In recognition of her distinguished service and contributions, she has received a number of prestigious awards including the Order of Grand Warrior (OGW), the First Class order of Chief of Burning Spear (CBS) and, the Commonwealth Gordon Draper Award. In October 2014, she was elected as the Vice President and board member of Commonwealth Association of Public Administration and Management (CAPAM). Prof. Kobia is a fellow at the Kenya Institute of Management and the Institute of Certified Public Secretaries, Kenya.

Neil Levine

Director of the Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID.



Neil Levine is the Director of the Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG Center) within the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance at USAID.

Neil has just returned to USAID from an assignment as Assistant Professor of Strategic Leadership at the National Defense University Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy, honing his passion for leadership, teaching and unlocking excellence. Neil brings with him a long history and deep knowledge of democracy, human rights and governance programming. He served as Director of the Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation from 2008-2013 and as Chief of the Governance Division in the then Global Bureau Democracy and Governance Center from 2000-2007.

Professor Olive Mugenda

Professor Olive Mugenda obtained a Bachelor of Education (1st Class Honours) from The University of Nairobi, Masters and PhD degrees in Family Studies, Education and Research Methods from Iowa State University as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree from the Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI).

Over the years, she has had an illustrious career in Kenyatta University rising through the ranks to become the Vice-Chancellor. She has spearheaded major operational and academic improvement programmes, new research initiatives as well as expanding access to higher education.

Prof. Mugenda has built an international reputation as a University administrator, professor and researcher. She has supervised Masters and PhD theses, won several research grants and served as technical advisor and resource person to numerous workshops. She is an active participant in the e-Learning collaboration project between the University of Arkansas and Kenyatta University. She has published numerous scholarly papers and books and has received several awards. Her current research on “improving Performance on Girls in Science and Mathematics in Secondary Schools” has been nominated for the Commonwealth Education Award.

See <http://www.effectiveinstitutions.org/en/> for more information and contact details.