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Ndongo Samba SYLLA (PhD) is a Senegalese Development Economist. He is currently employed by the International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) as the Research and Policy Director for Africa (Dakar). He authored The Fair Trade Scandal. Marketing Poverty to Benefit the Rich (Pluto Press & Ohio University Press 2014) and co-authored Africa’s Last Colonial Currency: The CFA Franc Story (Pluto Press 2021). He is a co-editor of Economic and Monetary Sovereignty for 21st century Africa (Pluto Press 2021).

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Colin Besaans is a South African development economist working on the intersection of alternative development models, climate science, and energy systems. He is the Program Manager for African Energy Transition at Power Shift Africa, a member of the Independent Expert Group on Just Transition and Development, and a research scholar at the Global Institute for Sustainable Prosperity.

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Amr Adly is assistant professor in the department of political science at The American University in Cairo (AUC) and the Principal Investigator at the “Pathways from Neoliberalism: Voices from MENA” project. He worked as a researcher at the Middle East directions program at the European University Institute and as a non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Middle East Center, where his research centered on political economy, development studies, and economic sociology of the Middle East, with a focus on Egypt.

Leonida Odongo
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Leonida Odongo is a social justice activist and community organiser from Kenya. She organises community action through an initiative called Haki Nawiri Afrika which focuses on the intersection of food justice, climate justice, gender justice, and youth engagement. Leonida amplifies community experiences through community dialogues, interviews, and article writing. She is a member of the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism for Relations with the UN Committee on World Food Security and a featured Changemaker at World Pulse.

Shereen Talaat
MenaFem Movement for Economic Development and Ecological Justice
Shereen Talaat has been working with local communities around the MENA region for 17 years as a filmmaker and campaigner, monitoring the policies of international financial institutions and holding them accountable on social, economic, climate and gender justice. She co-founded and co-directed the Arab Watch Regional Coalition in 2018, the #EndAusterity campaign in 2020, and in 2023 founded the MenaFem Movement.