

RADHA KULKARNI

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Radha is a seasoned leader with experience across the United Nations, Government, Private Sector, and Academia. Her areas of expertise are Strategy, Finance, Policy, and Innovation, with a robust focus on Partnerships and Multi-stakeholder engagement. She has a proven track record in leading high-performing teams to deliver transformative solutions, including the first of its kind UNICEF's Child-lens Investing Framework, recognized by TIME in the Best Global Inventions List 2024. Prior to moving to the Government and Multilateral space, Radha did Strategy at the Piramal Foundation, Pre-Sales and Strategy at Tata Consultancy Services (Banking and Financial Services Domain), and Assurance at KPMG. Additionally, Radha is an Adjunct Faculty at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) on Development Finance and received Columbia SIPA's Emerging Leader Alumni Award in 2023. Academically, Radha is a Chartered Accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from Institute of Management Technology, and Master of Public Administration from Columbia University.

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - School of International and Public Affairs **New York, USA**
Master of Public Administration - Economic and Political Development

- Teaching Assistant - Taught graduate level course 'Cost-Benefit Analysis' to Master of Public Administration students
- Awarded Merit-based Teaching Assistantship for Year 2
- Elected President - Columbia South Asia Association; Selected Peer-Advisor & Mentor for incoming Columbia Class

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY **Nagpur, India**
Post Graduate Diploma in Management - Finance and Marketing

- Awarded scholarship for standing first in Marketing in Year I

INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA **Mumbai, India**
Chartered Accountant

MUMBAI UNIVERSITY - Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics **Mumbai, India**
Bachelor of Commerce (Distinction)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY **New York, USA**
Lecturer (Part-time) **2024 – Present**

- Teaching Masters course 'Innovations in Development Finance' at the School of International and Public Affairs

UNICEF **Helsinki, Finland | New York, USA | Geneva, Switzerland**
2020 – Present

Lead, Innovative Financing, Innovative Finance Hub **2022 – Present**

Innovative Finance Hub aims to reimagine financing US\$4TN SDG gap by unlocking global capital in support of children across 190 countries & building thought leadership that serves as catalyst in bringing a new paradigm in financing development worldwide

- Supported set-up of the Hub in 2022 including strategy formulation and developing multi-year proposal.
- Led development of first-of-its kind-in-the-world Child-lens Investing Framework, together with team and partners, in consultations with 100+ diverse global stakeholders in record 11 months, to guide global capital markets to invest with children's considerations. Child-lens Investing was recognized in TIME's Best Global Invention List 2024.
- Managed the Hub's technical team supporting on \$80MN Child-lens Investing Private Equity/Debt Fund and \$100MN ESG Fund.
- Led the child-lens pillar in the UNICEF-UNDP Joint Financing Flagship Initiative and led UNICEF-UNCDF partnership on digital literacy outcome fund.
- Supported Regional Offices and Country Offices on innovative financing mechanisms.
- Positioned UNICEF as a thought-leader in Impact Investing by featuring on podcasts, leading roundtables, representing UNICEF at global conferences such as the Global Impact Investing Network, SOCAP, WEF, as an expert panelist at Asia Venture Philanthropy Network, amongst others.
- Appointed as Mentor at IMD University, Switzerland's course 'Driving Innovative Finance for Impact' alongside partners from WEF, ICRC, and appointed as UNICEF Ethics and Culture Champion from 2022-2024.

Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Generation Unlimited (Stretch Assignment)**2024 - 2024***UNSG's global multi-sector coalition for 1.8BN young people across 50 countries hosted by UNICEF*

- Led GenU's Innovative and Alternative Financing Strategies, and supported GenU Global Strategy 2026-2030.
- Managed governance of GenU Global Leadership Council and GenU Board comprising Heads of States, Ministers, Global Private Sector CEOs, leaders from Civil Society, and Academia.

Innovative Finance Specialist, Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division, Directors Office**2021 – 2022**

- Supported multi-stakeholder engagement including with Private Sector, Multilaterals, Academia, and positioned the work at key global platforms and networks such as UNGA, WEF, amongst others.
- Supported Vaccine Financing and Country Office Sustainability Revolving Fund.
- Developed capacity building sessions for country offices, regional offices, and national committees.

Resource Mobilization Manager, Programmes Division, Generation Unlimited**2020 – 2021**

- Supported GenU's resource mobilization strategy including through financing and shared value partnerships across multi-stakeholders such as private sector, governments, multilaterals, non-profits, civil society, and academia.
- Speaker at UN's 75th Anniversary hosted by UN Office at Geneva on Multilateralism of the Future, Speaker at World Academy of Art & Science and UN Office at Geneva's conference on Youth Strategy in the 21st Century, Speaker at Young Global Changers for UN75 on Young Voices on the Future of Multilateralism, on behalf of YoungUN.

UNDP**Bangkok, Thailand | New York, USA | Paris, France | Singapore | Jakarta, Indonesia****2015 – 2019, 2021-2022****Private Sector Partnerships, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (Remote)****2021 – 2022**

- Led operationalization of UNDP-UNICEF Joint Partnership on Youth across 36 countries.
- Led shared value partnerships with the private sector, resulting in pipeline of US\$2MN within the first few months.

Project Advisor, Tax Inspectors Without Borders & Development Finance, Policy Bureau**2017 – 2019***Strengthened public financing of country governments worldwide through UNDP-OECD Joint Initiative (Tax Inspectors Without Borders) and collaborated on other development financing initiatives for SDGs*

- Led operationalization of UNDP-OECD Initiative on public financing with 75 programmes in 46 countries, raising US\$480MN
- Led technical events at international financing conferences, workshops, webinars, represented UNDP at international forums, including as an expert finance panelist in Germany, France, Mozambique, and moderated a session with 73rd President of the UN General Assembly on the Future of Diplomacy, on behalf of YoungUN.
- Spearheaded capacity building for country and regional offices.
- Contributed to publications such as UN's Inter-agency Task Force Report on Financing for Development 2018 and 2019, co-authored reports such as with the Caribbean Development Bank on Blue Economy, G-20 report on Innovative Financing under Japan's Presidency, and authored UNDP blogs on blue economy, innovative finance, taxation and illicit financial flows.

Strategy & Policy Consulting, Global Center for Public Service Excellence**2016 – 2016**

- Led designing of a country assessment framework for UNDP's government consulting for public sector reforms.

Project Leader, Strategy & Policy Consulting**2015 – 2016**

- Led six-member Columbia University team on designing of multi-stakeholder driven framework for SDGs to be adopted by the National Government, leading to better accountability and effective governance of SDGs in Indonesia.

CHIEF MINISTER OFFICE (CMO), GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**Mumbai, India****Strategy & Policy Consulting****2016 – 2016**

- Re-engineered CMO's Citizen Communication Department using data analysis, leading to reduction in Government Response Time to Citizens by 129 days.
- Part of CMO's newly set-up war room team focusing on key large-scale projects.

PIRAMAL FOUNDATION**All across India****Chief Manager, Strategy****2013 – 2015***US\$10MN yearly investments in WASH, Health, Education, and Rural Livelihood impacting 47MN lives across 22 Indian states*

- Led strategy formulation leading to Foundation's Vision 2020.
- Facilitated change management in organizational processes, including monitoring annual investments in Health, WASH, Education, and Rural Livelihood through dashboards.
- Spearheaded management analysis to support the Board of Directors for data-driven decision-making, such as divestment from an investment leading to repurposing of yearly US\$1MN.
- Organized India Philanthropy Initiative 2014 (Event was co-chaired by Mr. Bill and Melinda Gates on Shaping of Policy in India)
- Led branding through awards and recognition, resulting in winning six prestigious national/international awards.

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Manager - Pre-Sales, Strategy and Solutions (Banking and Financial Services Domain)

Mumbai, India

2009 - 2013

- Led relationship management for key account with deal size of US\$10MN
- Led Process Reengineering, delivering annual client savings
- Supported winning new business of US\$2.9MN and identified new business opportunities valued at US\$2.5MN
- Led management analysis for C-suite executives' data-driven decision-making.

KPMG

Chartered Accountancy Associate

All across India

2004 - 2007

- Assurance for KPMG's top global clients across sectors such as Pharma, Telecom, Logistics, Consumer Goods, Media and Financial Services, giving an opinion on their financial statements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Diploma in Event Management
- Diploma in Fine Arts (Indian Classical Music)
- Certification - Six-Sigma Green Belt
- Skills: High Proficiency - MS-Word, Excel, Power Point
- Pro-bono Filmmaker & Photographer for non-profits. Photograph taken at the Israel-Gaza Border was displayed at UN, New York
- Avid Backpacker having visited 70 countries
- Languages Fluent: English, Hindi, Marathi, Basic: Sanskrit, Konkani, Gujarati, French