

Nardos Bekele-Thomas

Resident Coordinator of the United Nations (UN)
in South Africa



Last three positions previously held:

- Senior Director of the Office of the Secretary-General
- UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Republic of Kenya.
- UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Republic of Benin from November 2008 to September 2013; before then she served for over four years in Kenya as Deputy Resident Representative.

Areas of expertise:

- Promotion of human development; anchored on the principles of economic, social and political rights for all.
- Private Sector Policy Adviser responsible for the promotion of trade and investment in African countries through private/public sector partnerships in the United States.
- She served in the technical and advisory capacity in which she helped initiate and conceptualize a pro-poor programme on the Social Dimensions of Development.

Achievements:

- Member of the Group of African Eminent Women.
- Recipient of the prestigious AU/DAF Award of “2015 Woman of Excellence” along with the President of Liberia and former President of Malawi.
- Recipient of the Living Legend Achiever’s Award in recognition of her service and leadership role in the promotion of sustainable human development globally, particularly in Africa.

Qualifications:

- She holds a Master’s Degree and a Ph.D. Candidate Certificate in Economic Development, Monetary Economics and Econometrics from New York University (NYU). She is the author of several papers and monographs and she is fully bilingual in French and English.