

Biography of Sofie Blakstad



Sofie Blakstad, author of "Fintech Revolution: Universal Inclusion in the New Financial Ecosystem" and CEO of hiveonline, is a respected authority on blockchain, CBDCs, digital assets and tokenomics. She advises international organisations on emerging technology for impact and chairs the FI and Fintech Industry Advisory Committee for the Edinburgh Futures Institute. As Founder of hiveonline, a multiple award-winning blockchain-based community finance platform, Sofie has hands-on experience supporting unbanked farmers in several African countries. Previously, she built financial technology and businesses for eight major international banks in over 60 countries, including launching new banking businesses.

Sofie's work includes analysis of regulations, market developments, customer behaviour and women's inclusion in sub-Saharan Africa, giving her extensive knowledge of market opportunities, constraints and challenges on the continent. She has written multiple research papers on blockchain and DLT for humanitarian and sustainable impact.

Prior to joining the World Bank Group through its Young Professionals Program in 1996, Mr. Pimenta worked for the Treasury Department of the French Ministry of Finance, as well as for the Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP).

A Portuguese and French national, he holds an engineering degree from the École Polytechnique, Paris, and a post-graduate degree from the École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris.