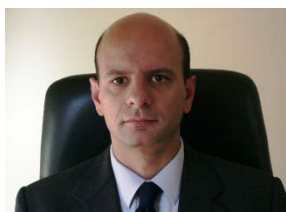


Gherardo Casini, Head of Office, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA)



Graduate of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Rome La Sapienza, Gherardo Casini worked as economist in the private sector and later joined the NGO sector to work in Ecuador at the University of Azuay.

Since 1994, he has been serving in the United Nations Secretariat in different positions on governance-related issues. In 2001, Mr. Casini moved to Rome to head the Office of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in Italy. In this capacity, he has worked on e-government and e-governance initiatives with several partners around the world. Currently, he also acts as the Secretary to the high-level Board of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, a joint initiative of the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union launched in 2005 and inspired by the outcome of the UN World Summit on the Information Society.