

Action for Sustainable Development Facilitation Group 2018-2020

Africa:

- Regional network representative (Africa CSO Working Group): Salina Sanou
- Elected representative from African members: Mina Ogbanga

Middle East & North Africa:

- Regional network representative (Arab NGO Network for Development): Zahra Bazzi
- Elected representative from MENA members: Jamil Derbashi

Latin America & the Caribbean:

- Regional network representative (Mesa de Articulacion): Liliana Rodríguez
- Elected representative from LAC members: Alvaro Andrade

North America:

- Regional network representative (Gray Panthers): Jack Kupferman
- Elected representative from North American members: Laveza Khan

Europe:

- Regional network representative (SDG Watch Europe): Leida Rijnhout
- Elected representative from European members (only eligible candidate): Robert Križanič

Asia:

- Regional network representative (Asia CSO Partnership for Sustainable Development): Zia Ur-Rehman
- Elected representative from Asian members (only female candidate): Dian Kartika Sari

Pacific:

- Regional network representative (Pacific Island Association of NGOs): Emele Duituturaga
- Elected representative from Pacific members (only candidate): Drew Havea

Thematic constituency representatives:

- Youth representative: Vincent Ocen
- Older Person's representative: Roseline Kihumba
- Rural environmental group representative: Adrian O Watson
- Women's representative (only candidate): Elaine Ho
- Indigenous People's representative (only candidate): Lahoucine Amouzay
- Persons with Disabilities representative (only candidate): Mosharraf Hossein

Global network representatives:

- CAN representative: Sarah Strack

CIVICUS representative: Mandeep TiwanaForus representative: Rilli Lapalainen

- GCAP representative: Beckie Malay



Profiles of new FG members Africa

Salina Sanou

Salina Sanou is a renowned pan-African expert on education and gender with a particular focus on women, small scale farmers in rural and in conflict settings. She is the Head of Policy and Advocacy at the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), heading a pan African advocacy programme mirroring four thematic areas: livelihoods, particularly right to food; conflict transformation and peacebuilding; gender justice and women's rights and the right to health. She is also currently the focal point for the post 2015/SDGs agenda process within the organization.

She has more than 17 years' experience in women's rights advocacy, research and project management. Prior to joining ACORD, she has worked across the African continent with various organisations including FAWE, CARE, Oxfam and the UN Millennium Project. She has authored many publications and position papers including Pastoralist Education in Mali and Niger; Pastoralist schools in Mali: Gendered Roles and Curriculum Realities and Beyond Access: Transforming Policy and Practice for Gender Equality in Education. She is a graduate of both the University of Nairobi, Kenya and McGill University, Canada.

Mina Ogbanga

Dr. Mina Ogbanga is a multiple award winning development actor and a Ford Foundation Fellow who served at the School of Public and Environmental affairs at the Indiana University, Purdue University. She has served across numerous boards and committees in the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals. Her vision for the millennium development goals led to immense achievement of many targets within her catchment area which is the Niger delta region. She is the National Coordinator for Partnership, Projects and Policy of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, a lead in the Ebafosa project, and an unrepentant optimist in the possibility of achieving the SDGs when all work together.

Today Mina Ogbanga has evolved with the emergence of the SDGs and set up the first SDG Club across Africa called the club17africa (www.club17africa.org). A project which started with one school is today leading a strategy to ensure the message of the SDGs reach the core youths in and out of schools. Over one million youths in and out of schools are now aware of the SDGs and are working to take action at their various intervention areas. Reaching out to youths is a great passion that has equally won her several awards of excellence.

Recently, she has taken a leading role in the Civil Society coalition on Sustainable Development in Nigeria (www.cscsdev.org). This coalition has over 500 Nigerian and regional Civil Society Organizations that are committed to achieving the SDGs across various sectors. The coalition held the first and landmark SDG Regional Policy dialogue to mark the #act4sdgs, all details can be found on #CSCSDSouthSouth on twitter or other social media handles.



Asia

Zia Ur-Rehman

Zia ur Rehman, is a mathematician turned to social activism since his young age when he founded, AwazCDS-Pakistan in 1995. He works for the socio-economic development and political empowerment of young people and women. He is a well known as a development advocate and lobbyist, community level civil and political rights activist, writer and poet in the development sector especially in Asia. He has conceived and conducted many studies on women, girls and young peoples' rights in Pakistan.

Currently he is serving as a board member of the Punjab Government's Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), Global Co-Chair of Transparency, Accountability and Partnerships –TAP Network, Global Council member of Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), Asia Development Alliance (ADA) and Facilitation Group member of Action 4 Sustainable Development (A4SD). He was nominated as one of the finalists for Nelson Mandela Graca Michael Innovation Awards 2016 in recognition of his struggles for youth engagement in democratic process and restoration of local governance in Pakistan. He also led the Leave No One Behind Campaign for the implementation of SDGs in Pakistan, the campaign was among the finalists of SDG Actions Award in 2018. He has represented Pakistan and spoken on behalf Pakistani and Asian CSOs many times in various local, national, regional and global conferences including at a number of UN events.

Dian Kartika Sari

Dian is the Secretary General of Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia untuk Keadilan dan Demokrasi (Indonesian Women's Coalition for Justice and Democracy) for the years 2014-2019. She has over 20 years experiences in the women's movement, mastering the issue of women's rights, gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting, women's participation in politics and gender in the SDGs.

She is a lawyer by training and sits on the Chief Board of INFID; the Working Group on Rehabilitation for the victims of Trafficking and Violence of the Ministry Social Affairs; and is a Member of the Association of Indonesian Advocates (PERADI). She has been very active nationally including in legal drafting, for key gender policies including: incorporating a special chapter on human rights in the Indonesian Constitution; a Bill on combating trafficking; Gender Mainstreaming; incorporating special issues on women and vulnerable groups in the bill of handling social conflict.

She also has significant experience of UN advocacy including: participating in the UN Sustainable Development Summit 25-27 September 2015; advocacy to integrate Gender and women Human Rights in the SDGs 2012-2015; advocacy to integrate a gender perspective in corruption issues, joint with UNODC (2012-2014); advocacy to integrate Gender and Democracy perspectives for ending hunger; contribution to CSO Alternative Report in CEDAW; and a member of the Indonesian Team advocacy on UN Reform.



Pacific

Emele Duituturaga

Emele Duituturaga is Executive Director of the Pacific Island Association of Non Government Organizations (PIANGO), from 2009 to date. In this role, she has been instrumental in PIANGO's reemergence as a regional and global civil society development actor. Emele is a gender and CSO expert, social policy analyst and a keen political observer with a wide and varied background in public sector management, social policy, community development, organisational development, research and training; gender and development, business administration and corporate management, development banking, with experiences in the public, private and civil society sectors.

Emele was one of the founding Global Co-Chairs of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) based in the Philippines; she is the Pacific representative on the Global Executive Council of Forus based in Paris; and she has also been appointed as one of the 10 member Global Advisory Group for Bread for the World, based in Berlin.

Prior to joining PIANGO she was a Research Associate at the University of the South Pacific from 2007-2009 and the Fiji Government CEO from 2004 to 2007 for the ministry of Women, Social Welfare, Poverty Alleviation and Housing. Before that, Emele worked in the Pacific region for over two decades as a development consultant on projects in adolescent reproductive health, public sector reform, social welfare reforms, NGO Capacity building, evaluation of donor funded projects and programme evaluation.

Drew Havea

Mr. Siotame Drew Havea has extensive experience working with communities and the Civil Society Sector. A founding Member of the Tonga National Youth Congress, Tonga National Leadership Development Forum and has been very instrumental in setting up the Civil Society Forum of Tonga. In 2017 Mr. Havea was honored with the Harris Wolfford Global Citizen Award by the United States National Peace Corps Association recognizing his extensive work in supporting youth, democracy, civil society and leadership in Tonga,

Mr. Havea was a Board Member of the Pacific Island Association of Non Government Organizations (PIANGO) for twelve years of which eight years he was Board Chair serving the region for a better Pacific, advocating for space and dialogue and the elimination of poverty in the Pacific. Mr. Havea is a Trustee of PIANGO and currently represents the Pacific in the Commonwealth Foundation Board of Governors in London advising on matters of Civil Society.

Mr. Havea is passionate about Community Development looking at communities from inside, promoting local governance and resilience. He currently works with farmers and youth farmers to promote organic practices with a vision for the Kingdom to be fully certified organic by 2030. He is also active in setting up Social Enterprises for the export market in organic virgin coconut oil and organic vanilla to provide employment for young people in the Kingdom.



Middle East & North Africa

Zahra Bazzi

Zahra is the Programs Manager at the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) since November 2011. Her work mainly entails research coordination and project management focused on development, governance and human rights policies. She is engaged in networking and cooperation with national and global civil society organizations and other development actors.

She worked previously as Program Associate at the UNDP-Program on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR) and UNDP project on Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Arab Countries (UNDP-ACIAC) from 2007 till 2011. She holds a Masters degree in International Trade Law from Beirut Arab University and a BA in Law from the Lebanese University.

Jamil Derbashi

Jamil Derbashi is the Executive Director of Iradah, the First Businesswomen Incubator in Palestine, Hebron, Palestine. He is responsible for the many of the key tasks of the organisation including general supervision of staff, preparing executive plans in participation with local community, preparing and writing project proposals, representing the organization to donors, media engagement and field activities follow-up. He also closely follows the implementation of the Sustainable Development Plan in Palestine.

He was previously the Executive Director of the Palestinian Center for Communication and Development Strategies (PCCDS), Hebron, Palestine. There he managed a project team which implemented 52 projects on rural development, human rights and good governance. He also conducted M&E for all the project implemented by PCCDS and prepared an M&E guidebook. He has also had experience as the coordinator of the Rural Development Committees (RDC) in Hebron, Palestine.



Latin America & the Caribbean

Liliana Rodríguez

Liliana is a professional in economics and a specialist in international resource management. She currently holds the position of Executive Director of the Colombian NGO Confederation (CCONG). She previously served as coordinator of the NGO Network for Transparency. She has knowledge in the formulation and management of projects, and has experience in processes of participation and coordination and in the design and implementation of processes of institutional strengthening of social organizations through the application of a methodology of strategic planning and institutional development.

Alvaro Andrade

Alvaro is a trained economist from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (PUCE), with a Masters in Development Economics from the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales – FLACSO. He has experience in analysing Budget policies, efficient functioning of public services, education, multi-level planning and territorial development.

He is the coordinator of the project 'ODS Territorio Ecuador' and the Civil Society Coalition for the SDGs, including the report on 'Actions to Leave No One Behind', in Ecuador.

Grupo FARO, in Ecuador, is an independent centre of investigation and analysis of public policies, it is non-partisan and secular; it aims to support the government, private sector and civil society to promote public policies which will lead to a society that is more inclusive, democratic and sustainable. Recent projects include:

ODS Territorio Ecuador, an initiative which aims to support the delivery of the SDGs by ensuring their inclusion in national and local policies, as well as strengthening civil society and local government. The initiative includes 3 components i) multisectoral spaces for dialogue and participation, ii) citizen monitoring of the SDGs iii) capacity development programme.

Civil Society Coalition for the SDGs, Ecuador: this group presents recommendations for Ecuador to Leave No One Behind in the 2030 Agenda. They have organised workshops, with at least 14 Ecuadorean CSOs. This work is supported by A4SD.

Citizen-generated data for the SDGs: This initiative aims to strengthen the monitoring of the SDGs in Ecuador through generation of citizen data that can be scaled up to respond the challenges faced by Ecuador in measuring the SDGs.



N America

Jack Kupferman

Jack is the President of Gray Panthers NYC, an organization with a storied history of ensuring the rights and programs for all who are aging, especially older persons themselves. In addition to overseeing daily operations, he leads and/or participates in numerous important initiatives, such as ensuring that the concerns of older persons are included in numerous global frameworks at the United Nations (Sustainable Development Goals; Human Rights of Older Persons; Innovative approaches for older persons in the least developed countries); working toward better enforcement of violations against nursing homes; addressing explicit and institutional manifestations of ageism; reminding emergency planning efforts (at the local and global level) to include older persons; working toward intergenerational solidarity, and much more. Proudly, he serves as an active member of the Facilitation Group of Action for Sustainable Development.

Jack received his college degree from Colgate University and his law degree from Brooklyn Law School. A New Yorker by birth and choice, his childhood was spent at the family owned and run rest home for the elderly in Rockland County, NY. This is where the seeds of his passion were sown.

Laveza Khan

Laveza's work allows her to engage civil society, private sector and multiple levels of government to work collectively to advance sustainable development in Alberta, Canada and around the world. She completed her postgraduate studies at Humber College in International Development and has an Honours BA from McMaster University in Labour Studies and Sociology. Her work exists at the intersection of community development and sustainability. She is passionate about gender equality, education, social justice and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. With a particular interest in grassroots mobilizing, gender and international development, Laveza has had the great privilege of spearheading campaigns for organizations like Engineers Without Borders Canada and Change.org. Earlier this year, Laveza was selected for the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program and is committed to advancing gender equality and women's rights both locally and globally.

In her current role at the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC), she has represented CSOs in provincial, federal and international settings. She was selected as an official CSO representative for the Canadian delegation at the High Level Political Forum for the reporting of Canada's first Voluntary-National Review in July 2018. She has also been heavily invested in cultivating the "Together" movement in Canada. Together 2017 was hosted in Calgary, Alberta where over 300 leaders, thinkers and doers convened for the first-ever national multi-sector dialogue on the SDGs. In November 2018, delegates from diverse sectors will reconvene to reflect on the achievements since 2017, identify the challenges that exist as well how innovative solutions and partnerships will assist in advancing the SDGs in Canada and around the World. The Together 2017 Symposium was a finalist for the UN SDG Action Awards in Bonn, Germany.



Europe

Leida Rijnhout

Leida is a Dutch national and has a background in cultural anthropology with more than 30 years of experience in international development cooperation and sustainability. For many years, she has played a key role in facilitating and coordinating the global NGO community to realise their active engagement in United Nations processes on Sustainable Development (Rio Process) and Environment (UNEA-Nairobi). She runs the consultancy "Leapfrog2SD" helping CSOs to integrate systemic and holistic thinking into their long term strategies.

She is an expert in environmental justice and system change thinking towards sustainability. She initiated a broad EU alliance of civil society organisations <u>SDG Watch Europe</u> and is member of the Steering Group. As representative for this alliance she is also member of the EU Multi Stakeholder Platform on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, chaired by EU Vice President Frans Timmermans.

Leida was also coordinator of an international think tank on ecological debt and environmental justice. She is a full member of the Club of Rome, EU Chapter. She is a member of the advisory committee of Future Earth (an international think tank) and member of the SSCP group, working on macro economics. She is a board member of The Crowd Versus, a crowdfunding organisation to help environmental defenders that need legal support. She always combines scientific research work, activists' approaches, field experiences and policy work. She has written many articles and chapters of books on strong sustainability and speaks Dutch, English and Spanish.

Robert Križanič

Robert has over 20 years experience in the international development and humanitarian field. He is the founder and director of the Institute Povod, based in Slovenia. He has extensive experience on monitoring and promoting the global sustainable development agenda, actively since the year 2000 with the launch of the MDGs.

He has extensive experience of the situation across Europe, particularly in new EU members states where he lives. He is the chair of the board of the Slovenian national platform of development and humanitarian NGOs 'Sloga' and he represents Slovenian civil society in several European and global constituencies like CONCORD Europe and the Anna Lindh Foundation, he is also a stakeholder in a number of international programmes like 'Make Europe Sustainable Again'. He is also active within the SDG Watch Europe platform.

He works on a daily basis on projects between the local, national and global level. On all levels he is also active in the combination of programmes in the field and advocacy toward the public and decision makers. He has a very good overview of national and EU strategies toward the implementation of the SDGs. He thrives by working within expert and devoted teams which can support his daily work also support the mission of A4SD.



Youth

Vincent Ocen

Vincent Ocen is a 30-year-old self-driven, result oriented Ugandan legal and Information Technology professional with proven ability to work under multidisciplinary settings. He has spearheaded a number of successful projects. For instance, Civic empowerment under Teso Anti-Corruption Coalition (TAC), Skills Development under world Vision Uganda, Land rights under SDA etc.

Vincent has served in various leadership positions. For example, Chairman Electoral Commission of Uganda Christian University, Guild member of parliament of Uganda Christian University, Guild speaker, Speaker Teso Students Development Association, Team Leader cohort 25 of Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) Uganda Chapter, Chairperson Board of Youth Council Uganda Red Cross Society Katakwii Branch, where he has been recognized as the most outstanding leader.

He has also participated and been recognized in various regional and international events. For instance; The 2018 UN Global Festival of Action for Sustainable Development in Bonn Germany, Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) fellowship for African young leaders (18-35 years) in Nairobi, Kenya, Pan-African Debate Championship in Cape Town, South Africa, SDGs conference in Yaoundé, Cameroon, Youth Citizen Entrepreneurship Competition in Berlin Germany, Common Wealth Youth Mock Debate in Kampala, Uganda, Advocates for International Development Probono project among others.

Furthermore, Vincent has 11 years of experience in the community development sector, specifically focusing on Civic rights, peacebuilding and Democratic governance. Currently, Vincent is a Founder and Executive Director for Sugur Development Agency (SUDA), a Ugandan NGO where he focuses on initiating, designing, managing, implementing and evaluating community based programmes and projects. For example, The Youth Parliament project in Uganda, Entrepreneurship project etc which are intended for the attainment of sustainable Development. In conclusion, Vincent is driven by his commitment to Social justice and economic development and one day he hopes to witness a Just, Peaceful and Democratic society in Uganda in particular and Africa in general.



Older people

Roseline Kihumba

Roseline Kihumba is a passionate advocate for older people's rights with over 15 years' experience in international development working on in-depth international development and program/project issues within inter-disciplinary and multi-cultural contexts. Roseline has worked on older people's rights in a wide range of sectors including health, network development, social protection, rights and discrimination, emergencies, advocacy and policy influencing while working with diverse vulnerable groups and a wide range of stakeholders including government ministries, Africa Union, International NGOs and national and local organizations.

Roseline has been a leading figure in debates on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), data revolution, UN convention for older people rights and AU human rights at national, regional and international levels, advocating for age inclusive policy development and implementation while providing technical capacity and facilitating older people and their supporting institutions to engage at all levels.

She is a nominee of HelpAge International and the Stakeholder Group on Ageing. HelpAge International is the secretariat of a global network of members dedicated to promoting the rights of older people to lead dignified, healthy and secure lives. The HelpAge Global Network has 127 member and more 300 partner organisations across 77 countries. HelpAge International consists of four hubs – in Chiang Mai, Thailand for Asia; Nairobi, Kenya for Africa; Amman, Jordan for Eurasia/Middle East; and London, UK for global campaigns, learning and coordination – as well as a network development office for Latin America and Caribbean in Bogotá, Colombia. While the Stakeholder Group on Ageing (SGA) is a global coalition bringing together individual and institutions promoting age inclusion in Sustainable Development Goals. HelpAge is Co-chairing the coalition and I am one of the global steering committee member and the Africa focal person. In Africa, HelpAge is also Co-chairing the coalition of older people's organizations engaging the Africa Major Groups and Other Stakeholders coordinating mechanism, a space created in the 2018 Africa Forum for Sustainable Development.

She is currently leading the HelpAge network's advocacy and policy influencing engagements on age inclusion in SDGs & Agenda 2063, ratification and implementation of the AU Protocol for Rights of Older People and galvanizing support in Africa for a new UN convention on the rights of older people. She holds a Master in Development Management and a Bachelor degree in Agriculture and Home Economics.



Women

Elaine Ho

Elaine is a specialist in gender and development. From 2012-2013, she organized women and girls in a remote Maasai community in Kenya, who now earn their own income selling beadwork via their cooperative at a local resort. She joined the Climate Reality Leadership Corps in 2014 and has useful experience organizing events throughout the last 11 years (attendance 30-250+). Between 2013-2016, she started three successful small businesses while simultaneously producing meaningful research; her first publication, rooted in her master's thesis on youth-led change in Canada, has remained on the 'most downloaded' list in the publishing journal since publication in 2015.

In May 2018, she represented the Faculty of Environment (University of Waterloo) at the launch of Canada's Sustainable Development Solutions Network. Her PhD research at University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada) strives to align freshwater monitoring with SDG 6. She also attended the HLPF in July 2018, where she contributed to policy documents related to women's rights under SDG 6, represented the Women's Major Group during the opening plenary and presented an intervention on accountability (side event by MGoS and UN DESA).

In November 2018 she launched the *Generation SDG Blueprint* at the Together 2018 Conference in Edmonton. The *Blueprint* is a resource she co-authored for moving Canada forward on the SDGs. On the launch panel she discussed intergenerational and inclusive engagement of diverse stakeholders – particularly youth and women. Attendees tweeted about her reframing of the 'marginalization' conversation and the Waterloo Global Science Initiative (which led the development of the *Generation SDG* resource) is reshaping inclusivity work around her message.

As the Women's representative on A4SD's Facilitation Group, I would look forward to respectfully highlighting content accessibility using a gendered lens and championing inclusivity for excluded demographics in general.



Rural Environmental organisations

Adrian O Watson

Since graduating in 2012 from the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica with a dual B.Sc. degree in Geography and Zoology, Adrian has six (6) years of experience in environmental, biodiversity and climate change advocacy at the local community, national, regional and international levels. He has been working in the community mobilization and youth development space for approximately fourteen years.

In 2012, he founded a social enterprise, Honai Beez Apiary, that focuses on urban beekeeping and training new beekeepers. Through his efforts with Global Youth Biodiversity Network, he has influenced international policy in regards to pollinators and how water affects this sector through the UN Convention on Biodiversity Conference of the Parties to increase protection and research for these organisms.

He went on to serve as a Climate Change Facilitator under the Jamaica Rural Economy and Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change (JaREEACH) Project where he has taught the science of Climate Change and project proposal writing to over 60 people to which two groups were awarded projects namely the Old Harbour Youth Coalition and the Knox Community College Environmental Science Cohort. Both these groups went on to win projects for their respective local areas as a result of the Climate Change Action Agent Training to help their community to adapt to climate change.

He has played a leadership role in a number of youth groups such as the Caribbean Youth Environment Network Jamaica Chapter where he served as National Coordinator, Junior Chamber International Kingston where he served as Ambassador and Director in 2014, with the mandate of training, recruitment and retention of members. He is now General Legal Counsel for the Junior Chamber International Kingston 2015 board where he oversees the legalities of the meetings, constitution review and resident advisor to the board. He brings the experience of Jamaica and the Caribbean region, especially being Small Island Developing States with limited natural resources, to Action for Sustainable Development.



Indigenous People

Lahoucine Amouzay

Lahoucine is a Researcher at the Language Planning Center, Royal Institute of Amazighe Culture in Morocco. His research focuses on questions relating to rural development and how national organisations can put in place policies which foster inclusive, integrated, sustainable rural development.

His research into the current legal situation of some indigenous communities in Morocco reveals that the permanence of legal rules is closely linked to the resistance of certain local institutions. Today, the basic unit of social organization, at the village level for example, is still alive but is increasingly competing with the administrative structures and the individual stakes of its own members. The areas concerned by collective management according to the rules of indigenous local law such as access to agricultural resources (irrigation, harvest, rangelands, etc.) and places of worship are located in the social space still administered by the local assembly.

The main purpose of his research, which is part of the 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals, is a brief description of some of the rules and practices that traditional Amazigh communities still used until recently or continue to use in the organization of collective management of the resources of their territories and in the administration of their area of social life. It is particularly concerned with the presentation of the way in which the localities are administered and are managed including the common buildings, the methods of crop surveillance and the organization of the agrarian calendar: ploughing, sowing and harvests. The same is true of the legal regime of the ownership of the waters, the techniques used for their circulation to the irrigated parcels and the maintenance of the technical system. The law and the rules governing the use of collective lands and rangelands are of primary interest to the agents of collective affairs. In his research, it's about understanding the management modalities according to the rules of traditional community law.

He is a member of IPACC - Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee. He is also a Member of the national committee "No hate speech movement Morocco"; and a member of the Mediterranean Forum for Youth organization.



Disability

Mosharraf Hossein

Mosharraf Hossain is a passionate advocate for disability rights and inclusion. He is Director of Global Policy Influencing and Research of ADD International, where he leads the global policy, influencing and research programmes based in London, UK. He influenced the negotiation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda for the inclusion of disability in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. He was one of the global speakers in the Sustainable Development Summit at the UN in New York in 2015. He influenced the UN System, DFID and the Commonwealth Secretaries for the implementation of the global commitments on disability. He has also been a consultant of UNDP, UNICEF and DFID.

Mosharraf founded the Bangladesh Country Program of ADD International; as Country Director, he led the country programme for 20 years empowering persons with disabilities throughout the country, implementing the UN CRPD and developing the disability rights and protection act. He mobilised grassroots persons with disabilities and empowered them to establish a nationwide network of DPOs to raise voice and participate in the policy dialogue for rights and justice. He worked from the grassroots to the global level - it is his life goal to work on this agenda.

Mosharraf has a Masters Degree in Public Administration, MPA, from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, USA and another Master's in Economics from Dhaka University. He was the Mason Fellow and the recipient of Gleitsman Leadership Fellowship in the Centre for Public Leadership of Harvard Kennedy School. He attended the executive programs in Harvard and Stanford Business Schools, and cross registered for Social Entrepreneurship Programme in MIT Media Lab.

He is a person with a disability using wheelchair. Born in Bangladesh, he resides in London, the UK.



Global Networks

CAN International- Sarah Strack

Sara is the Deputy Executive Director of Climate Action Network (CAN) International. She helps to manage the organization and its development, and oversees the Network Development and Outreach, the Communications and the Operations departments. Sarah joined the CAN International team in October 2013. From her previous positions with the International Civil Society Centre, Transparency International and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, she brings substantial experience working with a wide range of international and local NGOs, networks and other actors and coordinating multi-stakeholder projects and initiatives. Her expertise also spans organisational and capacity development in diverse settings.

Sarah holds a Master's in Public Management and Governance as well as a Master's in International Humanitarian Action from the Universities of Aix-en-Provence, France and Uppsala, Sweden. Having long been a passionate advocate for stronger action linking climate change and sustainable development, Sarah is thrilled to be able to support the CAN family and its partners to work together to protect the global climate while addressing inequalities and promoting social justice.

CIVICUS- Mandeep Tiwana

Mandeep Tiwana is the chief programmes officer at CIVICUS, the global civil society alliance. He specialises in legislation relating to the core civil society freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly. Since joining CIVICUS in 2008, Mandeep has engaged in efforts to advance civil society participation in decision making and to protect civil society freedoms globally. He has written extensively on the intersection between civil society, development and international affairs.

Previously, Mandeep advised the New Delhi Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross. He has also worked with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, and has published a compilation of landmark Indian Supreme Court decisions and National Human Rights Commission guidelines on human rights and policing and has co-authored modules on human rights for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and a citizen's handbook explaining the mandate and practical functioning of human rights commissions in India. Mandeep has also drafted two annual reports for the Punjab State Human Rights Commission and has worked on projects related to good governance and women's empowerment in Punjab, India.

Forus- Rilli Lapalainen

Rilli is the Director of Advocacy and Policy at Fingo, the Finnish development NGO platform. He was previously the Secretary General of Kehys, the former Finnish Non Governmental Development Education platform to the EU. He serves as Vice-Chair of Forus, the network of national NGO platforms and is founder & chair of the Bridge 47 network on development education and the SDGs.

He is also active at the European level in CONCORD; as a member of the policy director's committee, and is a former board member. He is also the CONCORD representative in the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe. His interest areas include: policy coherence for sustainable development (he is the CSO representative in multistakeholder group led by UNEP developing global indicator for



Policy Coherence in Sustainable Development), global citizenship education, capacity development and systemic change.

Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)- Beckie Malay

Beckie serves as the Chair of the GCAP Global Foundation. She has worked with the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement for more than 20 years during which time she has worked with farmers, fisherfolk, women, and youth implementing integrated sustainable development programmes. She is in charge of policy, advocacy and campaigns on issues such as political and electoral reform, debt, trade, climate justice, and the nexus between human rights and sustainable development at the local, national and global levels. Beckie studied development economics and enjoys good music and good food.

Since 2015 she has been active in the SDG-related UN processes such as the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the UN High Level Political Forum. She is the Regional Organising Partner for Asia for the NGO Major Group.