



THE ALLIANCE
FOR CHILD PROTECTION
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

SPEAKER & PRESENTER BIOS

2020 ANNUAL MEETING FOR CHILD
PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION:
INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS
& THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

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Keynote Speakers

Gillian Triggs



Gillian Triggs is UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection. Triggs is a renowned expert in international law who has held a number of eminent appointments in service to human rights and the refugee cause, including as the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Vice-Chancellors Fellow and Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne. Triggs oversees

UNHCR's protection work for millions of refugees, internally displaced, stateless, and other people of concern. An Australian national, she has previously held multiple leadership roles, including as President of the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal, Chair of the UN Independent Expert Panel of Inquiry into Abuse of Office and Harassment in UNAIDS, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney, and as Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in London. Triggs has been closely associated with various not-for-profit organizations throughout her career, including most recently as Chair of Justice Connect, an organization that connects 10,000 lawyers to provide pro bono advice to asylum-seekers and others in need of legal support in Australia. She is also the author of many books and papers on public international law.

Dr Najat Maalia M'jid

Dr Najat Maalla M'jid, a medical doctor in paediatrics, has devoted her life to the promotion and protection of children's rights over the last 30 years. She was Head of the Paediatric Department and Director of the Hay Hassani Mother-Child hospital in Casablanca. Dr M'jid is a member of the Moroccan National Council on Human Rights and founder of the non-governmental organisation Bayti, the first programme



addressing the situation of children living and working in the streets of Morocco. From 2008 to 2014, she served as United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography. Dr M'jid also works as an Expert-Consultant for national and international projects, strategies, and policies relating to child rights' promotion and protection. She has participated in the development of national policies on child protection and has worked with several governments and non-governmental and inter-governmental

organisations. She also works as a lecturer in Moroccan and international universities on child rights' protection, promotion, programming, and monitoring, as well as social and development policies. A member of several regional and international non-governmental organisations and networks working for children's rights, Dr M'jid is involved in the training of social workers, law enforcement, teachers, judges, and medical staff. Dr M'jid holds a Doctorate of General Medicine from the University of Rabat, with a specialization in paediatrics and neonatology from the University of Bordeaux II, and a Master of Human Rights degree from the Human Rights Institute, Geneva.

Roberta Petrucci

Roberta Petrucci is a paediatrician working with Médecins Sans Frontières as a paediatric advisor and leader of the International Paediatric Working Group. After completing medical school and training in Paediatrics, she received her Master of Paediatric Tropical Medicine degree from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, where she also worked as a research assistant on diagnostic tools for paediatric tuberculosis. Since 2008, Petrucci has worked for Médecins Sans Frontières on projects related to paediatrics, neonatal care, and malnutrition with field missions in sub-Saharan Africa (Ethiopia, Niger, Central African Republic, Niger, DRC- Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, South Sudan, Tanzania, Chad, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burkina Faso), Latin America (Haiti, Honduras, Colombia), the Middle East (Iraq, Syria, Yemen) and Europe, (Italy, Switzerland), both as a clinical paediatrician and medical coordinator. She also worked in infectious diseases outbreak response in several contexts, including Ebola epidemics in western Africa and DRC, Measles in DRC and South Sudan, Dengue in Honduras and Burkina Faso, Meningitis in Niger, and COVID-19 in Switzerland. Since 2010, Petrucci has been part of the MSF International Paediatric Working Group, of which she took the leadership in 2019.



Yasmine Sherif



Yasmine Sherif is the Director of Education Cannot Wait (ECW), a global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crisis, established at the World Humanitarian Summit and hosted by UNICEF. A human rights lawyer with 30 years of experience in international affairs, including 20 years in management and leadership, she graduated with an LLM from Stockholm University in 1987 and joined the United Nations in 1988. She has served in New York, Geneva, and in crisis-affected countries in Africa, Asia, Balkans, and the Middle East. She has in-depth knowledge and first-hand experience of the UN humanitarian, development, and political system, crisis/post-crisis and the humanitarian-

development nexus. She has also served with NGOs and as Adjunct Professor at Long Island University. In 1992, she led the investigation into political prisoners during the UN held-elections in Cambodia (UNTAC), resulting in the release of 20 political prisoners. In the mid-1990's, she led the first repatriation of Bosnian refugees for UNHCR, post-Dayton Peace Accords. At the end of 1990s, she led the establishment of UN OCHA's Protection of Civilians agenda. In the 2000's, she established the UN's largest rule of law programme in Sudan and access to justice for girls and women in Darfur. In the mid-2000's, she led the establishment and rapid expansion of UNDP's Global Rule of Law, Justice & Security work in over 40 crisis countries, increasing resources to US\$450 million. As the Deputy Special Representative for UNDP/PAPP, she oversaw development in crisis. She increased annual delivery by 50% in 2011 and led the development of a new strategy and resource mobilization at \$180 million. Yasmine Sherif is a public speaker and author of *The Case for Humanity: An Extraordinary Session*, launched at the UN in New York in 2015 - now a best-seller at the UN bookshop. In 2017, she received "Sweden's UN Friend Award." She is married with two children. Motto: Dive deep, dream, dare, do.

Cornelius Williams

Cornelius Williams is Associate Director and Global Chief of Child Protection for UNICEF's Programme Division. For over 30 years, Cornelius has managed child protection programmes with UNICEF and Save the Children. He has been involved in advocacy that led to improved protection of children from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian settings, reduced recruitment and use of children by armed forces, and increased access of children to identity documents/birth certificates and social assistance. Cornelius represents UNICEF on the Advisory Boards of the WePROTECT Global Alliance to End Child Sexual Exploitation Online, ID4Africa, CPC Learning Network, and Changing the Way We Care. Mr Williams is a national of Sierra Leone and holds a master's degree from the University of East Anglia, UK.



Dr Michel Yao



Dr N'da Konan Michel Yao is an Ivorian/Canadian citizen born in Côte d'Ivoire. He graduated in Medicine as a Medical Doctor (MD) with a specialization in Disaster and Emergency Medicine from the University of Abidjan and Paris V. In 2001, he obtained a master's degree in Community Health from the University of Montreal where he also started a PhD in public health (health systems). Dr Yao has more than 23 years of experience in public health, mainly in health emergencies and humanitarian responses. He started his humanitarian carrier in 1995 when he joined the Red Cross Emergency Team as Chief Medical Officer and then Coordinator of the Refugee's Health Program until 1999. Between 2001 and 2004, he was a Research and Teaching Assistant at the University of Montreal. In 2004 he joined WHO where he worked in most African countries and at headquarters level, assuming various leadership roles, including Senior Technical Adviser based in HQ and WHO Country Representative in CAR in 2014. On many occasions, he led WHO response teams in major emergencies, including the last Ebola outbreak in Eastern Congo and as Incident Manager for AFRO in the COVID-19 pandemic from March to mid-August. Based on his extensive experience in crisis response reinforcement, training, and support to public health response in emergencies, he was appointed head of WHO's Emergency Operations Programme in the African region in July 2017. From there, he took up his position as WHO Director for Strategic Health Operations. In 2014 Dr Yao was decorated Commander in the Order of Central African Republic Recognition by the Head of State due to his outstanding humanitarian action and public health contribution in the CAR's health system. As a member of the WHE/AFRO team, he was also awarded with the DG Award for 2018.

Presenters

Riyad Al Najem

Between War and Pandemic: Activating the Agency of Syrian Teens through a Participatory Study of Resources and Needs

Born in 1991, Riyad's interest in human rights in general, and in children's rights in particular, began when he volunteered at the Center for Creative Activities for Children at the Syrian Red Crescent in 2008. Riyad played a key role in transforming HRS from a community initiative into a registered non-profit organization with links to other child protection organizations around the world. Riyad believes that protecting children's basic rights is the basis of any healthy society and that children's rights ARE human rights. Riyad is married and is the father of two children.

Pilar Arispe

Strengthening Municipal Protection Systems during COVID-19 in Bolivia

Pilar Arispe is from Bolivia and is an anthropologist, specializing in human rights, children's rights, child protection, and gender. She has more than 12 years' experience working in child protection in emergency situations and protection development programs, and has worked in regional spaces for the protection of children in emergencies and Safeguarding Policy. She has previously worked in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Bolivia. Currently she is the Protection and Participation Officer of Plan Bolivia.

Sunil Banra

Strengthening Community-Based Protection Services for Children during COVID-19

Sunil Banra is a Manager-EVAC for Save the Children (India Member Office) based at the National Country Office. He has more than 18 years of experience of working with children, young people, and the community in various parts of India in the areas of child rights and protection, child safeguarding policy, child development, gender, and non-discrimination, etc. Currently, he is working as an EVAC lead which is one of the key thematic verticals of Child Protection. He is focused on strengthening child protection systems; building child protection portfolios specific to EVAC; building technical capacities of the child protection team on EVAC; designing innovative interventions; generating evidence from the programmes on the ground, and creating and using knowledge products for policy engagement to create wider impact. Sunil is a firm believer in social justice and a rights-based approach to development and endeavours to enhance the capabilities of government and national and international organisations working on child development and protection.

Anna Belt

Coping with COVID-19: Supporting Adolescents and Their Parents/Caregivers during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Anna Belt has worked with Plan International since 2016, first as Humanitarian Program Officer and since 2019 as Child Protection in Emergencies specialist. She has worked with Lotte on the development of life skills and parenting interventions for adolescents and their parents/caregivers, including the Coping with COVID-19 package.

Lucia Castelli

Child Protection Interventions during COVID-19

Lucia Castelli graduated with a degree in Medicine and Surgery in 1981. She specialized in pediatrics and nutrition sciences and earned a master's degree in Health Education. Castelli worked in Italy as pediatrician both in hospital settings and as a medical practitioner with families and in schools. In 1994 she started her collaboration with AVSI working in many countries: in Africa until 2012 as coordinator and manager of emergency intervention projects for children in conflict situations, in particular with war traumatized children in Rwanda and child soldiers in Uganda, and in the Middle East from September 2016 to August 2018, in the capacity of head of a consortium project for the school reintegration of Syrian children in Lebanon and Jordan, funded by the European Union. She is currently the Senior Child Protection Advisor for AVSI world-wide.

Lotte Claessens

Coping with COVID-19: Supporting Adolescents and Their Parents/Caregivers during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Lotte Claessens has worked with Plan International since 2013, first as CPiE specialist and since 2018 as technical advisor for adolescents in emergencies programming. She has led on developing Plan International's global programmatic framework for working with and for adolescents in crisis settings and developing new methodologies, including life skills and parenting interventions for adolescents and their parents/caregivers.

Susanna Davies

Localization in Child Protection Coordination: Shifting Norms and Facing Challenges and Opportunities in COVID-19 Responses

Susanna Davies is the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator, Child Protection for Save the Children. She leads Save the Children's work in localization and humanitarian coordination with initiatives in seven countries in the Middle East and Africa. She has more than 13 years'

experience in child protection in humanitarian action. Susanna also co-leads the Child Protection Minimum Standards Working Group for the Alliance.

Daniel Delgado

The Protection of Children in Times of Pandemic

Daniel Delgado is the National Coordinator of Mobilization at World Vision Colombia.

Jezreel Hannah Domingo

The Power of Joint Advocacy for the Protection of Children in Times of COVID-19

Jezreel Hannah Domingo is the Child Protection Manager for World Vision Philippines.

Amarbayasgalan Erdenebileg

Mongolia Adapts Child Helpline Services to COVID-19 Crisis to Identify and Support Children at Risk

Amarbayasgalan, Amaraa for short, was born in Mongolia. She graduated from the 33rd school of Ulaanbaatar city and completed her bachelor's degree in Sciences at Campbellsville University, Kentucky, USA. After graduating, she enrolled at the Northern Illinois University, Illinois, USA and received her Master of Public Health, Health Services Management degree in 2015. She returned to Mongolia and worked at the World Health Organization before joining World Vision Mongolia in 2019. She lives with her husband and son in Ulaanbaatar.

Clare Feinstein

Child Protection 'Catalogue of Innovations' from COVID-19

Clare Feinstein is currently Deputy Director, Child Protection in Save the Children, a role she has held since 2017. She has worked in the field of child rights, child participation, child protection, and child safeguarding since 1992.

Katherine Gambir

The Implications of COVID-19 on the Drivers of Child Marriage in Emergencies

Katherine Gambir is a research advisor at the Women's Refugee Commission. She designs, implements, and evaluates programs and research projects using precise and participatory-based data collection and analyzes rigorous data and testimony from crisis- and conflict-affected individuals to inform programming and advocacy.

Erica Hall

Fear and Isolation: The Compound Impact of War and Epidemic on Children in Conflict-Affected Settings

Erica Hall is a qualified lawyer and advocacy expert specialising in child protection, gender, and international criminal law. Erica has spent more than 15 years working for NGOs and the United Nations on child rights policy and programming in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Uganda, amongst other countries. She is a deployable civilian expert on gender-based violence and international criminal law for the UK Government's Stabilisation Unit and a deployable child protection expert for Justice Rapid Response. Erica's previous experience includes work for UNICEF, UNDP, and the OSCE.

Fatuma Ibrahim

Localization in Child Protection Coordination: Shifting Norms and Facing Challenges and Opportunities in COVID-19 Response

Fatuma Ibrahim is the Senior Localisation Specialist, Child Protection Area of Responsibility. She has more than 25 years' experience in child protection in humanitarian action, mainly in Eastern and Western Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Nawjeet Karmacharya

Does Mobile Phone Save Children's Lives?

Nawjeet is a Bachelor in Law and holds a University Degree in Sociology. He started his professional career as a lawyer in 1990 to serve vulnerable and marginalized people. In 1996 he shifted to development work with different agencies and has more than 25 years of experience in working with national and international NGOs, in the areas of children and women's right. For 12 years, he has been providing methodological, strategic, and technical support on child protection with different capacities in different delegations of the Asia region. He had been contributing to developing global, regional, and national strategies and advocacy in the region in addition to monitoring projects relating to child protection while he was working as a protection advisor in Asia. Before joining War Child's Iraq mission this year in 2020, he was contributing to Rohingya response as a child protection program manager in Cox's Bazar for two years.

Guillaume Landry

Now is the TIME!: Justice for Children in Emergencies

Guillaume Landry is the Director General of the International Bureau for Children's Rights, an international organisation established in Montreal since 1994 with the mandate to strengthen child protection systems around the world. He is a child protection specialist, with professional and academic experience in over 50 countries. He has been involved with various prominent organisations, such as UNICEF in Quebec, ECPAT International in Thailand, the UN peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers in West Africa. Author of numerous texts and publications, he regularly provides strategic guidance and technical support to UN agencies, international NGOs, and donors around the world.

Carine Le Borgne

Building Resilience of Children and Young People during COVID-19

Carine Le Borgne is a lifelong advocate for the rights of children and a world-class researcher on the operationalisation of children's participation at the community and national levels and violence against children. She has 18 years of experience in the non-profit sector with a focus on governance, programme, and policy on children's rights in India, Philippines, Egypt, Chile, Uganda, Niger, Canada, the United Kingdom, and France.

Megan Lees-McCowan

Localization in Child Protection Coordination: Shifting Norms and Facing Challenges and Opportunities in COVID-19 Response

Megan Lees-McCowan is the Head of Africa Programmes for Street Child and leads strategy, resourcing, and impact across ten countries in Africa. She has over ten years' experience in field and HQ positions across humanitarian and development settings in Africa and has worked for Street Child since 2011.

Judy Ann Lubiano

The Implications of COVID-19 on the Drivers of Child Marriage in Emergencies

Judy Ann Lubiano is a field manager and consultant at Transforming Fragilities, a consulting agency providing support to research, monitoring and evaluation, and learning processes of development agencies. She specializes in qualitative research methods, has an academic background in feminist research and gender and religious nationalism in the Philippines.

Niyoshi Mehta*Family-Based Care and Relief Support during COVID-19*

An experienced Global Program Director, Niyoshi Mehta has worked with the Miracle Foundation since 2012. As a child protection and child rights social impact leader, she spearheads collaboration between Miracle Foundation's international team to successfully develop sustainable, scalable, and measurable programs based on the United Nations Rights of the Child. Niyoshi is knowledgeable in the field of family-based and alternative care, monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), creating technology solutions, education, and in building teams, programs, and partnerships to bring quality services to children around the world. She holds a master's degree in Education from Texas State University and received her Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Indiana University.

Marion Mwebi*Provision of Alternative Care during COVID-19: Response in Tanzanian Refugee Camps for Burundian and Congolese Populations*

Marion Mwebi has 13 years of experience working in both development and humanitarian/protracted emergency settings, primarily in CPIE, SGBV, and MHPSS interventions. Previous experience includes the establishment and coordination of GBV working group, 6 years' experience supporting in Dadaab refugee complex response in Kenya/Somali Border, including implementation of durable solutions for children at risk in close collaboration with UNHCR, and experience as a Family Tracing and Re-unification Specialist for Save the Children International in South Sudan co-leading coordination with UNICEF and 31 Child Protection organizations. Marion currently works with Plan International Tanzania in the Kigoma Region supporting the Burundian and Congolese response across three refugee camps.

Pauline Ochoa Leon*The Protection of Children in Times of Pandemic*

Pauline Ochoa Leon is the Protection and Gender Manager at World Vision Colombia

Georgina O'Hare

Children's Health, Learning Rights, and Protection during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Global Research Study

Child Protection 'Catalogue of Innovations' from COVID-19

Georgina O'Hare currently consults in the Research & Evidence Advisor role for the global Child Protection team in Save the Children. She has ten years' experience in international development with a particular focus on child protection research, monitoring, and evaluation. She has a master's degree in International Studies from the University of Queensland.

Daniela Ritz

Children's Health, Learning Rights, and Protection during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Global Research Study

Daniela Ritz has 15+ years of international programme management experience, including leading programme design, management, monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning in both humanitarian and development contexts worldwide. She joined SCUK eight years ago and has since worked on a variety of child protection projects and programmes across Africa and Asia. Ritz provides technical advice in designing and operationalising MEAL frameworks and systems, qualitative and quantitative field research, as well as enhancing child protection programme knowledge, learning, and the use of evidence. Additionally, she has been supporting the Save the Children Child Protection thematic team in developing global impact measures and analysing global child protection programming results. Daniela holds an MSc in International Social Development from UNSW Sydney and is a fully qualified lawyer in Germany.

Jacob Sarker

Preparing for Unaccompanied and Separated Children in Health Facilities in Cox's Bazar

Jacob Sarker has around 30 years of child protection experience working with INGOs and the UN. Jacob is the lead of Save the Children's Child Protection Programme in Cox's Bazar, covering 22 camps, ten host community locations across six Upazillas. The team consists of approximately 200 staff members and 450+ volunteers. Jacob is a key member of the Child Protection Sub-Sector Strategic Advisory Group and recently led on key pieces during COVID-19 around remote case management, developing a para-social worker scheme, and increased community engagement.

Deepesh Paul Thakur

Building Resilience of Children and Young People during COVID-19

Deepesh Paul Thakur is a Director for Local to Global Advocacy & Impact at World Vision International. He has over 20 years' experience in national and international development, with extensive experience leading and supporting strong development and advocacy programmes specifically working for children and protection of their rights. As a Director for Local to global advocacy and impact, he provides overall strategic leadership for ensuring that WVI's advocacy and external engagement (A&EE) is joined-up from the local, national, and regional levels through to the global level. He also provides oversight to regional advocacy in six regions across Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, and Middle Eastern and European countries. In his past roles he has provided advocacy, strategic guidance, and oversight to 18 countries where World Vision's focus is predominantly programme implementation and advocacy. He has worked in Nepal, Mongolia, and the Philippines.

Sara Valerio

Preventing Abuse at Home during COVID-19 through an Integrated Child Protection and Education Response for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

Sara Valerio is a child protection specialist with context-specific expertise in the Middle East.

Ulrike Julia Wendt

Integrated Child Protection Emergency Response to the Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) from 2018 to 2020

Ulrike Julia Wendt is the Child Protection Coordinator of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and has closely worked on IRC's Ebola response since January 2020. Previously, Julia worked in several countries around the world (South America, the Middle East, North Africa, and in Africa) with national and international organizations on child protection and youth engagement related matters.

Miho Yoshikawa

Adaptation and Provision of Multi-Tiered Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Children, Parents, Caregivers, and Frontline Workers during COVID-19

Miho Yoshikawa is a Child Protection Specialist (Scale, Innovation, and INSPIRE) in UNICEF Cambodia. Since 2016, Miho has been working on violence prevention and response, with particular focus on taking key interventions to scale, using innovations and applying the global frameworks in collaboration with multiple sectors such as education, health, and communication for development. Before that, Miho worked for UNICEF India, as well as the

Government of Japan, and research institutes and NGOs in Ethiopia, Japan, Philippines, and Rwanda. Miho is a national of Japan and holds a Master of International Development degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia.