

breakout session one

11:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Room 1

Transforming the Use of Data for Locally Led Development

Transformation in humanitarian and development systems includes a significant focus on digital technology, data use, and localization—but the use of the first two on advancing the latter is not well understood. In this session, we unravel the untapped potential of data and evidence in advancing localization efforts. Discover diverse approaches designed to empower local institutions in addressing community challenges and unlock new insights on using data to move locally led development needle.

Room 2

What Does it Take to Make Public Private Partnerships Work?

What's the ROI for the private sector to partner with the aid community? Is the localization principle of "shifting power" aligned with public-private partnerships? And, how can private sector partners better measure their objectives to ensure they're prioritizing the right projects? These are not easy questions but ones that are key to the future of effective public-private partnerships. In this session, you'll learn how NGOs market-based and enterprise-driven approaches are weaving local and private sector actors into a development landscape that's yielding new ways of working between public and private sectors and local partners. And together, we'll brainstorm and discuss, "What does it take to make PPPs work?"

Room 3

Brainstorming Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Diverse Programming

Creative thinking and collaborative planning will expose you to new ideas in this fast-paced session. After a brief presentation and real-world examples of adapting humanitarian work to a changing climate, participants will separate into teams and battle a set of climate risk challenges across sample programs encompassing a broad range of contexts.

Room 4

It's All About the Climb: Shifting Power to Youth Advocates

Everyone knows Chutes and Ladders! The premise (and the catch!) lies in the player's inability to predict whether their next move will be positive or negative. Unfortunately, that precariousness is the reality many young people face when engaging with NGOs in advocacy initiatives. It begs the question: how can we consistently guarantee a safe and inclusive space for young people to participate meaningfully? Join an honest intergenerational conversation exploring the setbacks and triumphs in youth advocacy and receive concrete steps to "level up" transformative partnerships with youth.

Room 5

Crushing the Power Imbalance at the Program Design Level

Knowledge through observation cannot match knowledge through experience. If the voices of communities who interact with aid organizations are not incorporated into program design, then the power imbalances which enable gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) will never be addressed. Discover the power of participatory data collection, where shared insights shape a better future, and join for a data mapping exercise.

breakout session two

1:30 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Room 1

Advancing Localization Through Partnership and Trust

After conducting research in Malawi, Bangladesh, Syria, DRC, and Somalia, Concern Worldwide is ready to share key learnings on localization. Through interactive discussions and real-world examples, participants will gain practical guidance on fostering mutual trust, effectively sharing risks with local partners, and overcoming procedural barriers.

Room 2

Social Cohesion in Multisectoral Programs: A Measurable Force Multiplier

How can NGOs foster social inclusion, reduce social divisions, and build positive relationships among diverse communities while implementing multisectoral programming? Using examples from Niger, South Sudan, and the DRC, this session explores how integrating social cohesion into multisectoral programming improves development outcomes and identifies lessons to guide future nexus interventions and foreign assistance. Best practices for sequencing, layering, and measurement will be discussed, along with strategies for developing staff capacities and leadership buy-in to responsibly integrate social cohesion in humanitarian and development initiatives.

Room 3

Climate and Youth

A new global survey from UNICEF illustrates how young people today view climate change. Findings validate the media's portrayal of eco-anxiety among young people but also show the majority of youth have feelings of optimism. This session explores how young people, fueled by both eco-anxiety and eco-optimism, are taking charge in the climate change movement. Global youth leaders and decision-makers identify and illustrate youth engagement mechanisms through the lens of their own experiences, highlighting their respective mechanism's successes and challenges, particularly as it relates to climate change and climate action.

Room 4

Disability-Led Development and Humanitarian Relief

This riveting session on disability-led development and humanitarian relief is where concepts come to life through real-life examples. Get ready for lightning talks packed with key learning insights and impactful "calls to action" from dynamic presenters. In a unique Wants/Needs Exchange format, you can connect with like-minded individuals, discover resources to support disabled leaders, exchange expertise, and foster collaborations for a future that champions disability-led development and humanitarian action.

Room 5

Political Attacks on Aid and Development and the Solidarity Response

Solidarity is a powerful tool in the face of attack to lend a credible voice to the debate and demonstrate a united front. It can take a variety of forms, including the use of secular or faith-based allies, depending on the nature of the attack and the intended messaging. How does the success of interfaith solidarity in countering anti-Muslim smear campaigns translate into



rebutting political attacks on aid and development programming around gender, race, sexual orientation, and other issues that have been weaponized against NGOs? Join this invigorating session and have the opportunity to share questions and suggestions on how this model can be applied to an evolving political landscape.

breakout session three

2:50 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Room 1

Thinking Big and Small: Localizing and Scaling Environment, Climate, and Conflict Interventions

While recognition of the environment, climate change, and conflict (ECCC) nexus is gaining momentum, cross-sectoral efforts to build resilience and sustainable peace in response to ECCC security threats face serious challenges. This session identifies multisector solutions to two pressing challenges in the ECCC nexus: localization and scaling local interventions. Participants will collaborate to develop best practices for localizing humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding (HDP) coordination around ECCC policies and programs to prevent violent conflict, promote resilience, and build sustainable peace.

Room 2

Harnessing Data for Resilience

Discover the power of agile systems in transforming food security interventions on a global scale! This session will cover a cutting-edge collaboration between Catholic Relief Services, Cornell, and the World Bank. Learn about forecasting, anticipatory action, and targeted responses, enhancing the impact and cost-effectiveness of interventions amidst mounting global crises.

Room 3

Solutions at the Climate Health Nexus

Climate change is the biggest threat to public health today and is likely to reverse many of the advances of the last century. What will help prepare us for the persistent health challenges caused by the climate crisis? Come ready for an interactive breakout session that explores the complex and critical relationship between climate change and health. Discuss the building of comprehensive, efficient, and resilient health systems in complex environments; take a deep dive into the co-design process for water, sanitation, and hygiene-related programs; and hear about building local capacity in conflict zones.

Room 4

The Hidden Impacts of Disasters: Addressing Mental Resilience

In the face of disaster, it is crucial to recognize the emotional trauma and psychological challenges faced by the affected individuals. Mending such invisible wounds takes time and patience. Individuals start by practicing self-care and eventually learn ways to process their emotions, develop effective coping strategies, and foster healthy social connections. Find out different mechanisms to build mental preparedness in disaster-prone communities, learn about mental health support during a crisis, and discover what a recovery support plan could look like.