breakout session one
11:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Central Hub

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 using the first two to advance the latter is not well understood. In this session, we unravel the untapped potential of data and evidence in advancing localization efforts. Discover approaches designed to empower local institutions in addressing community challenges and unlock new insights on using data to move the locally led development needle.

Speakers:

Khyatee Tewari (Moderator) is a Program Manager at Development Gateway. Over the past 8 years, Khyatee has been working with international organizations and other specialized firms on projects focused on tech for social impact across multiple sectors. Her work has included the design and implementation of low-cost, user-friendly technology to solve problems faced by communities around the world. At Development Gateway, she oversees projects in a variety of areas including education, workforce development, and governance. Khyatee holds a law degree and a master’s in public administration with a focus on science and technology policy.

Carol Manyele (Virtual Panelist) is the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) manager at Grassroots Soccer (GRS) Zambia. With over 7 years of professional experience in adolescent sexual reproductive and mental health programming, Carol is responsible for the management and improvement of GRS Zambia’s MEL processes and systems. She provides technical support to staff and partners on MEL quality assurances in relation to data collection and utilization. She played a key role in the design and translation of implementation research activities into social and emotional learning intervention strengthening through the Youth Excel program.

Brian Batayeh (Panelist) is an Implementation Research Technical Advisor for the Youth Excel Global Program at IREX. Brian leads initiatives that strengthen evaluation and research capacities of youth-led and youth-serving organizations. Prior to joining IREX, he served as a researcher and analyst across several projects in social epidemiology and gender-based violence. Brian has also worked with sports for development and peace programs in Lebanon aiming to integrate Palestinian and Syrian refugee youth. He received his master’s of public health in global epidemiology with a focus on socio-contextual determinants of health from Emory University. Brian’s work experience expands to Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Jesus Melendez Vicente (Panelist) is a Senior Technical Advisor for Data and Digital Development in IREX’s Center for Applied Learning and Impact. He helps the organization advance the ideation, design, and integration of data-driven products, digital technologies, and related strategies across programs, practices, business developments, and partnerships. Before IREX, he worked for Mercy Corps and as an independent adviser to nonprofits, multilateral organizations, and social impact organizations. Prior to that, Jesus spent 16 years working across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East in the private telecommunications sector. Jesus has a master’s in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.
Forum North

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 stated objectives to ensure their prioritizing the right kinds of 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?”

Speakers:

Madden Manion is CARE’s Executive Director of Corporate Partnerships. In her role, she works to achieve CARE’s humanitarian, development, and innovation work through strategic private sector partnerships with a focus on cause marketing and public private partnerships (PPP). Madden has established more than 40 strategic partnerships with private sector companies, including major companies like AB InBev, Bank of America, Boeing, Lululemon, Tiffany & Co., and Twilio. She has also led multiple PPP initiatives, including several with USAID. Notable initiatives include RISE: Reimagining Industry to Support Equality, a partnership aimed at scaling impact and accelerating equality for women workers in global garment, footwear, and home furnishings supply chains, and Partnership for Central America, an economic development PPP that supports financial inclusion, women’s economic empowerment, improved agricultural outcomes, and reductions in gender-based violence.

Michael Ingram is a Senior Manager in Accenture Development Partnerships. He has spent the last 20 years consulting in the international development and banking sectors. Early in his career, he consulted for large U.S. banks with engagements focused on credit operations, retail delivery systems and process redesign, often following large mergers. Within the international development sector his focus has been private sector and financial sector development. He has conducted both quantitative and qualitative assessments of the business enabling environment for the World Bank and USAID, respectively. Michael has managed teams of experts on large knowledge products, such as USAID’s mobile payments risk work focused on East Africa. He has also managed a network of researchers and practitioners focused on SME and Entrepreneurship Policy research at Innovations for Poverty Action. Michael was also an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University’s McCourt School of Public Policy, teaching the course, Private Sector Development and Entrepreneurship in Emerging Markets.

Prudence Masako is the Country Director of CARE Tanzania. She possesses over 19 years of experience in leadership and project management, partnering with governments, private organizations, and NGOs to design programs that create supportive environments for women. Before CARE, she worked with EngenderHealth as the Country Representative. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Home Economics and Human Nutrition from the University of Sokoine, Tanzania; a post graduate diploma in Public Health in Developing Countries (MPH) from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, U.K.; and a Master of Science in Public Health in Developing Countries from the University College of London. Ms. Masako is a recipient of several prestigious fellowships, including the International Ford Foundation Fellowship for Social Change and the Kofi Annan Fellowship for Global Health Leadership Program. Ms. Masako has also been recognized with several women leadership awards, including: the East Africa Woman Leader Award (2019); the 50 Top Women in Management in Tanzania from Women in Management, Africa (2020); the Top 100 Career Women in Africa (2023); and The Most Inspiring Women Leaders in Tech 2023 by Victory Magazine.
Mandeep Jangi serves as Managing Director of the Private Sector Engagement (PSE) Hub's Communities and Influence unit at USAID. The unit has two primary responsibilities. The first focuses on building the Agency's capacity to position USAID's value proposition as a strategic collaborator to the private sector in a commercially-resonant manner, promote development-positive corporate behavior, and listen to and learn from private sector feedback. The second is strengthening the effectiveness and impact of the Agency's internal Community of Practice, which includes the network of dedicated PSE Points of Contact in Washington D.C. and each USAID Country Office globally. Prior to this, he has worked in financial services, environment, social, governance (ESG) consulting, and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia. Mandeep received his MBA from Esade Business School and B.S. from Penn State University. He is also a SASB Fundamentals of Sustainability Accounting (FSA) credential holder.

North Hub

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 with a set of climate risk challenges across sample programs encompassing a broad range of contexts.

Speakers:

Chioma Okafor is a Senior Technical Advisor for Local Capacity Strengthening at Global Communities. Chioma's professional and educational background is in global health, health behavior, and project management. Chioma has over 10 years of experience in global public health working on programmatic and policy initiatives in the United States, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia. She previously worked as a team lead for global technical assistance at a business consulting firm supporting the CDC's global immunization initiatives. She has also provided programmatic and technical oversight to PEPFAR/USAID HIV/AIDS projects in multiple African countries and served as a Research Fellow on the CDC's Climate and Health Team supporting domestic climate resiliency projects.

Rado Ravonjiarivel, PhD is an Environmental Compliance and Climate Integration Program Manager at Catholic Relief Services. Rado is experienced in WASH, the environment, and resilience with over seven years of experience in humanitarian and development work. He has studied in Madagascar, Canada, and France and holds degrees in geology, hydrology, and a PhD in Diplomatic Studies from CEDS. He enjoys travel and kite boarding and can't say no when his kids ask for another pet.

Forum South

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.
Speakers:

**Maham** (Moderator) is a Plan USA Youth Advisory Board Member and an undergraduate student at Rice University, pursuing a B.S. in Biosciences and a B.A. in Social Policy Analysis on a pre-med track. On campus, she is an Emergency Medical Technician, a research assistant at a cardiovascular lab, and a board member of her campus' Planned Parenthood branch. She has experience in health equity research through Smith Research and Consulting, a health equity consulting firm, and Stanford School of Medicine's California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative. As a Youth Advisory Board member, Maham has represented Plan in front of the White House Gender Policy Council and at the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women youth forum. She has also worked on Plan's 3-year advocacy strategy, helped develop their sexual and reproductive health campaign, and coordinated Plan's Youth Leadership Academy.

**Kamila** is a Plan El Salvador Champions for Change Youth Activist. She is 16 years old, lives in the department of La Libertad, and is in her first year of high school. Since Kamila was 10 years old, she has participated in different projects with Plan International such as Champions for Change and School of Political Leadership for Gender Transformation. She has also been part of the Movimiento Nacional de Niñas y Adolescentes Juntas por el Cambio y Justicia de Género (National Movement of Girls and Adolescents Together for Change and Gender Justice) where she seeks to promote the rights of adolescents.

**Varina Winder** is the Chief of Staff for the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues (S/GWI) at the Department of State, where she leads the office’s policy development, interagency coordination, and strategic operations. Prior to returning to the Department, she served as the Senior Manager for Global Partnerships and Strategic Engagement at Family Planning 2020, a partnership housed at the United Nations Foundation. She was previously its Chief of Staff. She rejoins the government having served previously as Senior Policy Advisor in S/GWI. She has worked in the office of the Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, at the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, and on the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration’s Gender and Youth team. Varina holds a master’s degree in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and bachelor’s degrees in English and Spanish from Georgetown University. She speaks fluent Spanish.

**Justin Fugle** is Head of Policy at Plan USA and holds leadership positions in policy coalitions including the Big Ideas Gender Coalition, InterAction, and the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network. Fugle has 20 years of experience designing and implementing participatory community development programs in 35+ countries across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Fugle led Plan’s rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Central America and the Caribbean following Hurricane Mitch and Hurricane Georges and directed Plan’s Regional Quality Learning Program, which was implemented in 1,100 schools across six Central American and Caribbean nations. While living in Bolivia, he led the design and implementation of Plan Bolivia’s Country Strategic Plan. Fluent in Spanish, he holds a master’s degree in International Development Studies from George Washington University and bachelor's degree in International Relations and Political Science from Syracuse.

South Hub

**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.
Speakers:

**Loujine Fattal** (Virtual panelist) is a women’s rights activist and humanitarian worker. She is currently a research consultant with the Global Women’s Institute at George Washington University working on the Empowered Aid project. She is a graduate of Political Science and International Affairs with a specialization in Human Rights Law and has more than 9 years of experience in the humanitarian field focusing on protection and gender issues.

**Jessie Weber** is a Research Associate with GWI, who prior to joining the team worked with various grassroots efforts to support displaced populations in northern France. Within the U.S., she has seven years of experience supporting immigrant populations across the northeast and has a professional background in legal and psychosocial support for veteran populations, including two years working with the Center for Integrated Healthcare. Her professional interests center on bridging gaps of accountability to and collaboration with affected populations in research and programming, and on the inherent right of all people to accessible, individually-adapted health services, including mental health and psychosocial support.

**Amal Hassan** is a Research Assistant at the Global Women’s Institute (GWI), supporting the institute’s conflict related gender-based violence (GBV) programs, the Building GBV Evidence Program, and the Empowered Aid Project. Amal’s experiences as a first-generation Somali American woman has guided her interests in the intersection between health equity, GBV, and survivor-centered social justice. Amal hopes to continue her work on GBV research and safeguarding in humanitarian contexts utilizing culturally sensitive and trauma-informed approaches in her postgraduate career. Amal is pursuing a Master in Public Health concentrating on Maternal and Child Health at the Milken Institute of Public Health at the George Washington University.

**Nigusu Zelelke** has 14 years of experience in program design, monitoring, evaluation, and accountability systems. He is the Design Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist for the Evidence and Learning, Program Quality, and Impact Division in the International Programs Group (IPG) of WVS and Program Lead for the Empowered Aid 2.0 project based in Washington D.C. Before WVS, Nigusu worked at FHI 360, UNFPA, Save the Children International, Medical Emergency Relief International, Socal Impact, and BRAC International. Nigusu has ample experience as a principal investigator in coordinating and conducting research in the development and humanitarian emergency programs, health, protection, GBV, WASH, and nutrition sectors. Nigusu has a master’s degree in Public Health, MA in Sociology and Social Anthropology, and master’s in International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.