



WEBINAR

Preparing for the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2017

June 28 2017, 9:00 – 10:30am (NY time)

SPEAKERS

<p>Benjamin Rae, UN DESA</p>	<p>Benjamin Rae is a statistician at the United Nations Statistics Division, DESA, where he works in the Sustainable Development Goal Monitoring Unit. This unit produces the Secretary General’s annual progress report towards the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals Report. The unit also serves as secretariat for the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals (IAEG-SDGs), the group tasked with developing and implementing a global indicator framework to monitor progress on the SDGs. Prior to joining UNSD, he worked for three years at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the economic development division.</p>
 <p>Arelys Bellorini, World Vision (Together 2030 Core Group)</p>	<p>Arelys Bellorini is currently United Nations Representative (Child Rights and Sustainable Development) for World Vision in New York. Most recently, she led World Vision NY-engagement on the post-2015 development agenda. In addition, she manages the organization’s relations and partnerships with key UN agencies, in particular UNICEF as well as the inter-governmental relations and civil society partnerships. She has worked in Plan International, the Swedish Agency for Development Cooperation in Nicaragua, the Norwegian Agency for Cooperation Development, the Nicaragua Foreign Affairs Ministry, among others. Arelys is a sociologist graduated from Columbia University in New York and holds Graduate degrees from New York University and the Nicaraguan National Autonomous University.</p>
 <p>Rachel Jacobson, IWHC</p>	<p>Rachel Jacobson joined the International Women’s Health Coalition in April 2016 as a Program Officer for International Policy. She is also a Global Organizing Partner for the Women’s Major Group. Prior to joining IWHC, Rachel advocated for women’s and young people’s human rights with Human Rights Watch, the Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS, and the Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights. Rachel holds a BA in Women’s Studies and Human Rights Studies from Barnard College and a Masters in Public Health from the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University.</p>



Ivonne Lobos Alva, IASS

Ivonne Lobos Alva is the Research Coordinator of the Global Soil Week at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) and Project Coordinator at TMG Think Tank for Sustainability in Germany. She is an environmental engineer from Guatemala and specializes on agroecology and environmental governance. Her work includes the development of strategies to address natural resource degradation in global policies, with a focus on soil and land. Ivonne has over a decade of work experience with international development organisations such as the Canadian International Development Agency and the European Commission in rural development, disaster risk reduction and natural resource management projects.



**Philipp Schönrock, Cepei,
(Together 2030 Core Group)**

Over the last fifteen years, Philipp Schönrock has been the Director of CEPEI. He has also worked as a Program Officer for the Ecole de la Paix in Grenoble and has served as an adviser to the Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation in Paris, France. In the public sector, he has been an advisor for the government of Colombia, Mexico, Dominican Republic and Peru, among others. Over the past few years, he has conducted numerous targeted research projects and proposed policy strategies. This work is grounded in research developed in over 20 countries, in 4 continents, based on data and assessments from the field. As a consultant, he has worked with UNDP, GIZ, World Bank, Interamerican Development Bank, Ford Foundation and the King's College in London. Philipp has published numerous essays in Latin America, Europe and the United States and writes periodically in the Latin American press. He is also a guest-lecture at various universities across the LAC region.



Mari Ullmann, Consultant

Mari Ullmann has more than a decade of experience working in international and domestic advocacy and policy, with a particular focus on the rights of children and youth and the SDGs. Most recently she served as Director of Sustainable Development with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) at UN Headquarters in New York. She has also held positions with civil society organizations such as Plan International, the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA), the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution, and Save the Children. She holds a master's degree in international education from New York University, where she was awarded the E. George Payne Memorial Award for leadership, academic achievement, and humanitarian spirit. She earned her bachelor's degree in anthropology from McGill University in Montréal, Canada.



**Naiara Costa (Moderator),
Together 2030**

Naiara Costa is an International Relations Analyst who currently leads the International Secretariat of the Together 2030 Initiative. She was the Advocacy Director of Beyond 2015, a global civil society campaign. Prior to that, she worked as an Advisor on Gender, Social and Economic Rights at the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom in New York as well as a development advisor at the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in Brazil. Naiara has served the UN for more than a decade, working as a National Programme Officer at UNAIDS. She has also served the government of Brazil as an advisor at the Presidency of the Republic (National Anti-Drugs Secretariat) and the Ministry of Finance. Naiara worked as UN Public Affairs and Policy Advisor for the World Animal Protection. She holds a master on International Relations at the University of Brasilia (Brazil) and a MBA on Projects from Getulio Vargas Foundation (Brazil).



**John Romano,
Coordinator, Transparency,
Accountability and
Participation (TAP) Network**

John Romano is the Coordinator of the Transparency, Accountability & Participation (TAP) Network, where he guides a network of over 300 CSOs working around SDG16 and accountability for the 2030 Agenda. John has worked to coordinate wide-ranging civil society and global advocacy campaigns around the 2030 Agenda and UN Climate Change negotiations, and has helped develop several advocacy resources guides for civil society – including the TAP Network’s Goal 16 Advocacy Toolkit and Access to Justice Toolkit. He has previously worked with the UN Secretariat UNDESA’s Division for Sustainable Development, where he helped facilitate the engagement of civil society in the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development and coordinated all social media outreach for the conference.