High-Level Webinar

Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: from walking to running

December 7, 2017, 9:30 – 11:00am (NY time)

SPEAKERS

Ms. Rosemary Kalapurakal, Lead Advisor, 2030 Agenda, UNDP

Rosemary Kalapurakal leads the work on strategic policy issues relating to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development in UNDP’s Bureau for Policy and Programme Support. Previously, she was the Deputy Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme. In addition, Rosemary has extensive experience of UNDP’s work in different regions, serving as Chief of the Policy and Operations Support Unit of the Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS at UNDP and as Programme Advisor in the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, covering South East Asian and Pacific countries. She was also the head of the UNDP Lao PDR Governance team as Assistant Resident Representative. Rosemary joined UNDP in 2001 through the Leadership Development Programme. Rosemary holds a doctorate in Business (Marketing) and a Master’s degree in Economics from the Ohio State University (USA), and completed a post-doctoral fellowship from the London Business School (UK).

Hannah Cole, Head of Unit for Communication and Transparency, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

Hannah Cole has worked on development policy at the EU for over 10 years, including on communications, working with West Africa and more recently with Latin America. She is now leading the communications team in the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development at the European Commission.
Mitchell Toomey is the Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Action Campaign (UN SDG Action Campaign), formerly known as the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC), and he leads in the effort to use citizen-led, data-driven story-telling to empower people everywhere to take action in supporting their government with SDGs implementation. Prior to becoming Director of the UN SDG Action Campaign, Mitchell held the position of Senior Adviser of the Knowledge, Innovation and Capacity Group in UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy. He has led groundbreaking work using digital media and technology to engage the public and civil society organizations around the world in collaborative crowdsourcing of development solutions focused on bringing vital services to the poorest and most vulnerable populations.

Amanda Rives is the Director, External Engagement, Child Protection and Participation for World Vision International. She represents World Vision globally in selected networks, associations, and boards; ensuring the organization effectively collaborates with partners, influences decision-makers, and mobilizes resources to contribute to Agenda 2030 and ending violence against children. Prior to this role, Amanda served as Regional Advocacy and Mobilization Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, responsible for the regional advocacy agenda, campaigns and public engagement, as well as child protection, child and youth participation, and volunteer programs in the LAC region. Originally from the US, Amanda began her career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras and has spent most of her life working on social justice issues and Latin America, seeking to mobilize civil society, children and youth, governments and policy makers, as well as the media and private sector.

Sowmyaa Bharadwaj has worked in the development sector for the last decade and a half, with key expertise across issues of poverty, sanitation and hygiene, gender, urban and rural development and rights. An experienced facilitator and practitioner of participatory approaches, she has been involved in numerous capacity building initiatives with a range of communities and for several organizations as well as led participatory research studies, monitoring designs, assessments and evaluations. In the context of global development goals, she has facilitated several ground levels panels as well as community led monitoring processes for measuring SDG progress among various marginalized groups.
Minh-Thu Pham is the Executive Director for Policy at the United Nations Foundation, where she develops and leads strategic initiatives to strengthen the UN’s ability to solve global problems and brings together governments, civil society and other leaders to help broker global agreements. She recently taught international policymaking at Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School. She served in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General for Kofi Annan and Ban Ki-Moon as policy adviser in the Strategic Planning Unit, leading initiatives to strengthen the UN and improve relations between the U.S. and the UN. Minh-Thu has high-level experience delivering the MDGs, implementing the peace accord in Bosnia and advancing refugee and humanitarian issues in Ethiopia, Vietnam and Washington, DC. She has a background in documentary work and was once a crew photographer for the BBC series Planet Earth.

She holds an MPA from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and a BA in History from Duke University.

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 in Brazil. 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.