

Speakers and moderator Bios

Session: Socio-Economic Inclusion of refugee in COVID context access to education, health and socio-economic opportunities for refugees

Date 21 June 2021, 15:00-16:00 BKK time

Moderator	
<p>Betsy Lippman has worked on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons for 30 years with UNHCR, UNDP, the U.S. Department of State, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the American Red Cross. She is currently Chief of Section for Development Partnerships, Analytics and Research in UNHCR’s Division of Resilience and Solutions. Her current focus is in operationalizing the Global Compact on Refugees, through building partnerships with development partners and building and using the evidence base for inclusion, resilience and solutions.</p>	
Speakers	
 <p>Rachael Fermin, Regional Adviser for Education in Emergencies, Save the Children’s Asia Regional Office</p>	<p>Rachael Fermin is the Regional Adviser for Education in Emergencies at Save the Children’s Asia Regional Office and a part of the Asia Pacific Humanitarian Technical Team. Rachael’s role in the HTT is to ensure quality education program during humanitarian response and build the capacity of country offices in Asia Pacific region to embed education in their response to various emergencies. Part of her function also is to support country offices and advocate for Save the Children to fulfil its commitment as a Global Cluster Lead Agency for Education.</p> <p>Rachael has been involved in humanitarian work in the Asia region since 2014. In her role in HTT, she supported the Central Sulawesi Earthquake and Tsunami response in Indonesia (2018), Rohingya refugee response, Afghanistan humanitarian response, and Save the Children’s Cyclone emergency response (2019) in Mozambique. She currently supports the education in emergencies initiatives in Save the Children’s COVID-19 response in the region, and the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar and Thailand.</p> <p>Rachael is a special needs teacher by profession and training. She is based in Metro Manila, Philippines.</p>



KAM Morshed, Senior Director,
BRAC

KAM Morshed, a Senior Director, leads the advocacy, innovation, and migration (AIM) cluster of BRAC, one of the largest anti-poverty organisation in the world. In addition to his programmatic roles, he facilitates engagements with external partners, including the government, non-government and multilateral/bilateral agencies, to advance the goal of a more networked BRAC. Morshed, one of the first responders to the latest Rohingya refugee crisis of Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh, regularly represents BRAC in various committees related to the Refugee crisis.



Damla Taskin, Senior Regional
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion
Officer, UNHCR Asia Pacific

Damla Taskin is the Senior Regional Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Officer for Asia Pacific Countries in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. She oversees the employment, entrepreneurship, skills building training programmes related to labor market integration of refugees, returnees, stateless and the internally displaced persons with the overall objective of self-reliance. Previously she held the positions of Livelihoods Officer for Turkey and Regional Livelihoods Officer for Turkey, Middle East and North Africa. She has started her career in the private sector as an entrepreneur in Turkey, United States and the Netherlands and has dedicated more than half of it to development challenges. She worked for various United Nations agencies and donor funded projects in countries such as Turkey, Kuwait, Egypt, Azerbaijan and Austria throughout her work experience of 28 years.

She prepared the United Nations Post 2015 Development Agenda - Engaging with the Private Sector, Turkey Country Report for Sustainable Development Goals, after extensive consultations and is the author of various publications. Damla Taskin is a graduate of Hacettepe University, Middle East Technical University and İstanbul Bilgi University.



Mitra Khakbaz, Deputy CEO, Host International

Mitra Khakbaz is the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of HOST International and leads the organisation's work across the Asia-Pacific region. Mitra has over two decades of experience working with refugee and asylum-seeking communities. She successfully lead projects centred on regional humanitarian settlement, economic participation, community inclusion and well-being, youth engagement, case work and child protection.



Joshua Ericsson, Country Manager, Host International Foundation, Malaysia

JOSHUA ERICSSON HOST INTERNATIONAL Joshua Ericsson is currently the Country Manager for HOST International Foundation, Malaysia. Among the projects that he manages at present are the implementation of a community based child protection project for refugee children in the context of Covid-19 in Malaysia; and the implementation of a livelihoods project to establish a social enterprise for refugee communities in Malaysia and Thailand. His previous work experience includes working with the Child Protection Unit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Malaysia; and the Law and Treaties Division of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM). He has a vast range of experience relating to human rights advocacy and research with both Government and Civil Society, in particular on child rights and rights of persons affected by migration including refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons in Malaysia. Joshua Ericsson has a Bachelor's in Law (LLB) (Hons) from the University of London (External Program) and a Master's in international law (LLM) (Hons) with a specialisation in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law from the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM). He is fluent in English and Malay