



Speakers bios

Session: UNHCR Partnership (Side Event)

Date 29 June 2021, 14:30-16:00 BKK Time

Speakers	
 <p>Katharina Thote, Head of Operational and Partnership Management Unit</p>	<p>Katharina Thote, Head of Operational and Partnership Management Unit, Division of Strategic Planning and Results in UNHCR HQ in Geneva. Katharina has been working with UNHCR since 2002, in operations in Africa, MENA and Latin America, as well as at Headquarters.</p>
 <p>Armando Castro Figueredo, Senior Implementing Partnership Management Officer</p>	<p>Armando Castro Figueredo Senior Implementing Partnership Management Officer UNHCR Division of Strategic Planning and Results Implementation Management and Assurance Service</p> <p>Has more than 20 years of Operations Management with a proven record in areas such as Finance, Programme, and Partner Management as well as Donor Relations and Risk Management in the UN system and other multilateral organizations, including the European Commission. Through the years, he succeeded in diverse multicultural environments, including in the MENA region, the Americas, Europe, and Africa. Since June 2018, serves at UNHCR's HQ with a global purview providing leadership to the Projects & Partners Management Team based in Budapest overseeing Policy, Compliance and Capacity Building to ensure and promote sound governance for implementing with Partners and development of related policies and procedures.</p> <p>Before being reassigned to his current position he was at the Regional Representation for the USA and the Caribbean in Washington DC and earlier at the Regional Representation for Southern Europe in Rome. Currently, he is part of UNHCR's Emergency Response Team with previous deployments to Egypt and Angola.</p>

Moderator



Mahmoud Awad, Inter-Agency Coordination Officer, External Engagement and Partnerships Service, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

Mahmoud Awad is an Iraqi national who joined the United Nations in 2010 as a Local Economic Recovery Officer with ILO/UNOPS in Iraq. In 2013, He joined the UN Agency for Refugees (UNHCR) during the Syrian refugee influx to Iraq, in the capacity of National officer, acting as head of a field unit. He worked in Iraq, Serbia, Greece, Turkey, and at the RB in Bangkok, Thailand. Most of his career was in response to different emergencies or covering a specific crisis in the field. Before joining UNHCR, he was an internally displaced person with his family for some time. They again found themselves internally displaced in 2014 when terrorists took a large area of their country. Thus, working for UNHCR is not a mere career; he believes in what the agency is doing to protect the forcibly displaced people. He graduated in 1996 with a BA degree in Arts. He worked in the public sector, mainly as an English teacher in secondary schools and later in the university, before joining the International NGOs in 2007. He is married and has four children, and they live together in Bangkok.