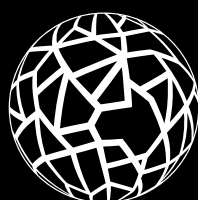


2023

# Conference Wrap-up

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT 2.0 - DISRUPTIVE  
DYNAMICS, INSPIRED IDEAS.



AUSTRALIAN  
COUNCIL  
FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

# Acknowledgements

ACFID would like to acknowledge and thank the Bedegal and Gadigal people, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the 2023 ACFID Conference was held.

We express special thanks to Aunty Maxine Ryan for delivering the Welcome to Country.

THE 2023 ACFID CONFERENCE WAS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY



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# A Message from the ACFID Conference Organisers

After three years of delivering a virtual conference, the Australian Council for International Development was delighted to finally welcome delegates back to The Roundhouse UNSW. Building on the success of past years that had increased our diversity of speakers and attendees from around the globe, we moved things up a notch with a hybrid conference that has proven to be a wonderful way to keep the conference inclusive and accessible to a wider audience.

This year, as words like permacrisis and polycrisis rang out, we turned your attention to 'what's next' for the global development sector. Amidst the many concerns in our world, it is more important than ever to look to the passion, the expertise, and the energy that can be found around us. As the conference opened, our sector was grappling with the crisis unfolding in Gaza and the outcome of the referendum in Australia, and we are grateful to have been around colleagues and friends to share, support each other and continue to grow and learn.

"Global Development 2.0 – Disruptive Dynamics, Inspired Ideas" delivered an impressive lineup of speakers. Of the ten amazing keynote speakers, four were international guests. Three riveting panels were delivered, and 92 people were involved in the delivery of 16 in-person concurrent sessions and 14 virtual concurrent sessions. Along with our conference dinner, networking events such as the interfaith breakfast and the climate dialogue breakfast allowed delegates time to reflect and catch up with each other. All of this was attended by 494 delegates from 179 organisations and 22 countries. Graciously guiding us through the days were two incredible emcees from within the membership. Day one was hosted by Zahra Al-Hilaly, Co-CEO of Oaktree and day two was covered by Sureka Goringe, CEO of Uniting World.

ACFID would like to extend our warmest thanks to everyone who made the event possible. From our energising speakers and supportive sponsors to our engaged delegates and fabulous venue and event staff. Please enjoy looking through this wrap-up and reminding yourself of what was covered. All content, except for the in-person concurrent sessions, is available to be viewed on the conference platform for the next 12 months, so take advantage of this additional benefit.

Plans for ACFID Conference 2024 are already underway, so stay tuned for more information. We look forward to welcoming you back next year!

## CONFERENCE ORGANISERS



Conference organisers (from left to right) Anne Fitzpatrick, Jocelyn Condon, Moti Goode, Raewyn Lans, Shweta Tank, Will Devine, Lizzie Howie, (absent - Aarti Betigeri).



Emcees (from top to bottom) Zahra Al-Hilaly, Co-CEO of Oaktree and Sureka Goringe, CEO of Uniting World.

Please be aware that some of the links to conference talks throughout this document will take you to our designated conference platform. Unless you registered for the conference, you will not be able to access the recordings. You can, however, access the virtual concurrent recordings.

# Keynote Addresses



## OPENING KEYNOTE:

# Sharan Burrow



“Existential crises threaten human existence, but corporate power is still a barrier to human progress.”

Sharan Burrow

Opening conference, Sharan Burrow, former General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation and global advocate for human rights, climate action and Just Transition, delivered a hard-hitting keynote focusing on the new economic thinking and global reform required to address the permacrisis that is on our doorstep.

Emphasising the urgency for a new social contract and place-based development that addresses issues like inequality, climate emergency, and geopolitical conflicts, Sharan stressed the importance of national and international solidarity, particularly in the context of addressing poverty, reshaping debt cycles, and providing social protection. This would also include the development of a Just Transition to a zero-carbon economy where the inclusion of workers and communities in decision-making processes ensures a just transition. Referencing the Bridgetown Agenda proposed in 2022 by Mia Mottley, the Prime Minister of Barbados, which focuses on emergency liquidity, debt relief, and private-sector involvement for climate

mitigation and reconstruction, Sharan quotes, “We must also lay the path towards a new financial system that drives fundamental resources toward climate action in the sustainable development goals”.

Sharan's keynote also touched on the erosion of democracy, authoritarianism, and the resurgence of military coups in various regions, criticising the failure of promises made by global powers and stressing the need for genuine implementation of reforms. Citing the COVID-19 pandemic as a missed opportunity for shifting our approach to global health security and development, she highlighted the broken trust felt around the world.

Concluding with a call for political will to reduce inequality, share wealth and rebuild trust, Sharan shared her vision for a future with a new model of development where economies are restructured for a zero-carbon future, with an emphasis on clean energy, circular economies, ethical AI and inclusive economic thinking.



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/politician-keynote>

### CONNECT

Follow Sharan on Twitter/X: @SharanBurrow

## OPENING KEYNOTE:

# Sara Sinada



“It is essential for global North governments, as well as INGOs and humanitarian actors, to recognise the influence and significance of diaspora groups in humanitarian efforts.”

Sara Sinada

The second keynote of day one was delivered by Sara Sinada from Plan International Australia, a Sudanese Australian directly affected and involved in the Sudanese crisis. Her emotive address began with a reflection on recent global events, including the Gaza-Israel crisis and the Voice referendum and, stressing the need for humanitarian efforts and unity in the face of challenges.

Sara's story illustrated the resilience of the human spirit amid adversity and grief, emphasising the challenges faced by displaced persons and refugees. She highlighted the struggles of Sudanese Australians and their efforts in humanitarian response, showcasing the diaspora's ability to mobilise quickly and advocate for change.

Despite successful initiatives, including securing \$10.4 million from the Australian government, Sara stressed the underfunding of the Sudan crisis and the ongoing need for humanitarian assistance.

The address concluded with a call to recognise the influence of diaspora groups in humanitarian efforts and left delegates with a question about how we ensure humanitarian responses preserve human dignity, enable individuals to thrive in adversity and challenge development actors to seek innovative and compassionate solutions for a more just and compassionate world.



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/opening-keynote>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

<https://www.plan.org.au/news/emergencies/disaster-risk-expert-sara-sinada-on-sudan/>

Twitter/X: @PlanAustralia

## POLITICIAN KEYNOTE:

# The Hon. Pat Conroy MP



Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Pat Conroy MP began by expressing gratitude for the extensive consultation and contributions from various stakeholders into Australia's new international development policy, which he believes reflects Australia's values of fairness and equality and recognises the global challenges of poverty, climate change, gender equality, and disability equity. He stressed the importance of putting development at the heart of Australia's approach, emphasising the nation's role in advancing national interests, shaping international perceptions, and contributing to peace and stability.

Minister Conroy went on to say that partners such as NGOs, civil society, and academia are crucial in delivering outcomes and called for organisations to trial new ways of working.



Supporting sustainable development across the region is a collective effort. It is a collective responsibility. And it is something that will benefit us all."

Minister Conroy



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/q-and-a-with-the-hon-pat-conroy-mp>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Twitter/X: @PatConroy1  
<https://www.dfat.gov.au/development/new-international-development-policy>

## INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE:

# Bapon Shm Fakhruddin



The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest climate multilateral fund dedicated to supporting developing nations to mitigate and adapt to climate change. With over 200 partners, GCF is delivering a growing portfolio, with 228 projects in more than 130 countries. Currently, the GCF provides 34% (\$4.3 Billion) of its global portfolio to the Pacific region.

In his address, Dr Fakhruddin, an esteemed hydro-meteorologist and climate leader from the GCF, discussed the current situation and future plans for harnessing climate financing for the Pacific, with opening remarks from Henry Gonzalez, GCF Deputy Executive Director.

Mr Gonzalez emphasized that the Pacific continues to face the most severe effects from climate change and is a central area of focus as well as a partner and collaborator in climate action. He brought attention to a recently-funded community-based adaptation project in Vanuatu, in collaboration with Save the Children Australia and the Government of Vanuatu, that is part of a larger advocacy agenda to address the welfare of children and youth in the Pacific islands.

Dr Fakhruddin went on to acknowledge Australia's pledging to rejoin the GCF to support overall climate action. He then continued to provide a significant overview on the GCF, how it works and its focus, including increased resilience of livelihoods; health, food and water security; infrastructure and the built environment; and ecosystems and the services they provide.

Dr Fakhruddin highlighted the importance of community-led initiatives and partnerships, and concluded by calling for collective agency to address the climate crisis, emphasising the importance of inclusivity and collaboration for meaningful impact.



The way the climate is changing and emerging situations happening, we need to come out of the box."

Bapon Shm Fakhruddin



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/opening-ignite>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Green Climate Fund presentation:  
[https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID\\_Day1\\_Bapon.pptx](https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID_Day1_Bapon.pptx)  
Twitter/X: @shmshfakhruddin @theGCF  
<https://www.greenclimate.fund/>



## INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE:

# Dylan Mathews



Dylan Mathews, CEO of PeaceDirect, a UK-based NGO that focuses on working with local peacebuilders globally, delivered the opening keynote for Day 2, covering a topic of much debate over recent years – the shifting power dynamics and the localisation of aid and development. After many years of research and interviewing practitioners from around the world, they produced three key reports, with the third one being the focus of his keynote.

Dylan first outlined the four main problems as seen by agencies in the Global South around partnerships: the lack of clarity in defining partnerships, that most are technical and transactional partnerships rather than transformational, that racism is still prevalent and finally, that there is still a reluctance to openly discuss power dynamics in the sector, leading to hidden power imbalances.



The hidden dimension of power and how it is entrenched in certain groups of people at the exclusion of others is really limiting the ability to have really meaningful relationships.”

Dylan Mathews

He then went on to outline that whilst the Global South was eager to develop partnerships, they needed to be equitable and based on the principles of trust, mutuality and reciprocity, humility, and respect. He stressed that whilst these values all seem reasonable – what we should be taking from this is that these local organisations thought they didn’t currently exist in the partnerships they were engaged in.

Their work resulted in a conceptual framework to begin developing transformative, equitable partnerships. This can be found within the “Transforming Partnerships in International Cooperation” publication.

Dylan concluded by challenging the delegates to unpack four areas or questions:

1. Assessment of Partnerships: Reflection on the extent to which current partnerships are being evaluated for their quality. Are they transactional or transformative?
2. Trust Issues: Local partners believe that Global North actors don’t really trust them. What are the implications of this mistrust for collaborative goals and the overall success of the work?
3. Power Imbalances: Power imbalances are identified as a significant barrier to effective communication. Consider ways to relinquish power to create more equitable partnerships.
4. Mindset Shifts: There is an urgent need for uncomfortable conversations about mindset shifts within the Global North. Without changes in mindset, efforts to establish equitable partnerships may not succeed.



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/keynote-dylan-mathews>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Dylan Mathews presentation:  
[https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Day2\\_dylan\\_mathews\\_virtual.pptx](https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Day2_dylan_mathews_virtual.pptx)  
Twitter/X: @Dylan\_Mathews  
<https://www.peacedirect.org/transforming-partnerships/>  
<https://www.civicus.org/>

## INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE:

# Pius Sunday



Joining us from The Leprosy Mission Nigeria, Mr Pius Sunday delivered an address discussing efforts to influence electoral reform in Nigeria for people affected by leprosy and disabilities. He highlighted the stark contrast between Australia's inclusive voting system and Nigeria's systemic barriers, where millions, including those with leprosy, are disenfranchised and not able to participate due to issues like fingerprint requirements during voter registration.

Pius outlined the journey of The Leprosy Mission's collaborative efforts with disability organisations to bring about electoral reform in Nigeria. They faced challenges such as the fear of leprosy infection among electoral officers and a lack of political will to review the Electoral Act. Using strategic approaches, including leveraging partnerships with the Australian High Commission and occupying INEC offices to demand action, resulted in outcomes including gaining approval from the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to train all staff on demystifying leprosy misconceptions, the development of an inclusive framework, and modifications to registration and voting systems to accommodate people with disabilities. The result positively impacted thousands of individuals with a disability who voted for the first time during the 2023 elections, experiencing a newfound sense of dignity and self-worth.



This is a testament that with the right collaboration, we can bridge every gap and make the world a better place for all."

Pius Sunday



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/fighting-stigma-and-discrimination-the-case-of-electoral-reform-in-nigeria-by-the-disability-lobby-and-leprosy-mission>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Twitter/X: @piusogbusunday  
<https://leprosymissionnig.org/>

## POLITICIAN ADDRESS:

# The Hon. Michael McCormack MP



Shadow Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Michael McCormack MP, delivered a short address outlining his thoughts on what he has learnt from the last 15 months as Shadow Minister. He highlighted his keenness to listen, learn and collaborate, including in a bipartisan manner, noting that the expertise regarding development comes from the organisations on the ground.

He applauded the transparency that ACFID members adhere to and is supportive of the elements in the new development policy that talk to strengthening the tracking and transparency of development dollars. In line with funding, he noted innovation in finance was crucial, and initiatives around blended finance and bringing the private sector along were important to ensure all areas of the public see value in supporting aid and development.



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

<https://youtu.be/KIVFTLiweX8>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Twitter/X: @M\_McCormackMP





# Panels





PANEL:

# Feminists Fighting Back!

DISRUPTING THE ANTI-GENDER MOVEMENT AND  
SECURING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL



There are great ideas about how to live harmoniously with diversity coming out of all kinds of countries. And so supporting the organic debate within those countries and cultures, is really important..”

Emily Dwyer

Our first powerful panel was developed by individuals from the ACFID Gender CoP and brought together advocates and allies for gender equality, LGBTIQ+ rights and sexual and reproductive rights from both civil society and government. Moderated by Helen Dalley-Fisher from the Equality Rights Alliance, she was joined by Menka Goundan from ARROW, Ni Luh Eka Purni Astiti from IPPA Bali, Emily Dwyer, CEO of Edge Effect and Larissa Burke from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Helen hit the ground running with a warning for all those working in the sector, stating that the challenges and pushback being faced by vulnerable, marginalised groups, such as LGBTIQ+, will arise in other areas across the SDGs if it hasn't already. Emily expanded on this, emphasising the need to recognise and address the sophisticated strategies employed by well-funded and organised anti-trans and anti-gender groups worldwide. These groups are tied to antidemocratic, anti-rights movements and a deeply patriarchal worldview, threatening any progressive humanitarian and development work. Emily drew parallels between the anti-LGBTIQ+ playbook and tactics used in anti-abortion lobbying, emphasising the manipulation of language, such as using words like family and children to gain support. Both Eka and Menka spoke of information being withheld from young people around reproduction and sexual rights and cultural sensitivities being used to prevent 'Western' ideologies from infiltrating.

Larissa agreed that the pushback is resulting in a regression of some hard-fought and hard-won actions in this space and emphasised that advocacy on human rights both domestically and internationally is a priority for the government, along with partnerships and collaborations with leading agencies in the space, civil society and bi-lateral relationships.



Eka highlighted the importance of addressing risk, especially in countries such as Indonesia, where laws are in place to criminalise people who disseminate information to under-18-year-olds about accessing the tools or methods for preventing pregnancy. Choosing the right entry point for strategic conversations is also critical. Ensuring flexible funding gets down to grassroots organisations is also key, according to Menka. The final call to action was delivered by Helen to close the panel, calling on everyone to consolidate and amplify voices in support of human rights.



## WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/feminists-fighting-back-disrupting-the-anti-gender-movement-and-securing-human-rights-for-all>

## CONNECT

Twitter/X: @ekapurni  
Twitter/X: @MenkaGoundan  
Twitter/X: @eraaustralia  
Twitter/X: @sogiesc



PANEL:

# The Role of Technology in a Strong and Vibrant Charity Sector



Through skillful and meaningful use of social media for social impact, we can foster a community dedicated to achieving a better world."

Amonge Sinxoto

Moderated by Mat Tinkler, CEO of Save the Children Australia, this panel featured Amonge Sinxoto, Co-Founder of Blackboard Africa, and Dr Tanya Petrovich, Manager Business Development Dementia Australia and Dave Lyndon, Founder of Dataro.

This panel delved into the importance of technology to help sustain a strong sector. Tanya delivered a detailed presentation on the 12-year journey that Dementia Australia has had with innovative technology – from app development to virtual reality to artificial intelligence-driven avatars like "Talk with Ted". Their use of technology has meant their reach to all parts of

Australia has increased and also that ordinary people and care-givers can have a greater understanding of what it is like for people with dementia. She stresses that you need to convince people to take a leap of faith when wanting to develop new technology application.

Dave went on to explain artificial intelligence in all its forms and its prevalence in everyday products. Delving into the application of AI in not-for-profit fundraising, he highlighted the use of machine learning for accurate donor behaviour predictions, enabling more efficient and tailored fundraising campaigns.

Amonge focused on the impact of social media, especially on young people. Acknowledging the concerns about technology's influence on youth, the speaker highlights the transformative role of social media in global social activism. She spoke of the concept of the three As—Amplify, Assemble, and Activate—as a framework for harnessing the power of social media intentionally.



## WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
[https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID\\_Day2panel\\_Dave.pdf](https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID_Day2panel_Dave.pdf)

## LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Dave Lyndon presentation:  
[https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID\\_Day2panel\\_Tanya\\_2.pdf](https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID_Day2panel_Tanya_2.pdf)

Dr Tanya Petrovich presentation:  
[https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID\\_Day2panel\\_Tanya\\_2.pdf](https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/ACFID_Day2panel_Tanya_2.pdf)

Twitter/X: @a\_mongi

Twitter/X: @TinklerMat

Twitter/X: @DementiaAus

<https://dataro.io/>

<https://www.dementia.org.au/>

<http://www.blackboardafrica.com>



The key thing to take away is that right now, AI is having a moment in the sector, doing good stuff."

Dave Lyndon



## PANEL:

# From Band-Aid Solutions to Systems Change



Moderated by Negaya Chorley, CEO of Results International Australia, this panel featured Thenu Herath, APAC Summit Campaign Manager from Global Citizen, Anthea Spinks, Director of Programs at Oxfam Australia, Gershon Nimbalkar, National Director Common Grace and Jane Slone, Senior Gender Director, The Asia Foundation, who joined virtually from Indonesia.

This rousing panel closed the ACFID Conference 2023. After two full days of discussing the global poly-crisis - climate chaos, growing inequality, conflict and democratic and economic decline, it provided a space to re-think how we achieve systems change. It began by asking if our sector is fit for purpose, thinking less about our unique value propositions and more in terms of our joint mission.

After detailing which social movements have inspired them most, Thenu went on to discuss the challenges of securing funding for initiatives focused on systemic change, emphasising three key points. First, the prevalent output-based approach centered on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and strategies tends to overlook downstream impacts. Second is the inherent

risk aversion in funding systemic change projects. Unlike traditional projects with quantifiable outcomes, systemic change initiatives come with uncertainties, making it challenging to guarantee specific, measurable results. The third point revolves around the need for increased collaboration among organisations in the sector. The speaker argues that systemic change requires a collective effort, making it difficult for individual organisations to claim a singular impact. To address this, the speaker suggests a shift in perspective – organisations should focus on their unique contribution to a larger ecosystem, and donors should have faith in playing a small part in a broader transformative process.

Adding to this, Jane emphasised the importance of long-term funding to empower entities in advocating for effective laws and policies and that requires increased efforts to democratise philanthropy and foster cross-organisational partnerships for justice, citing the global women's funding movement as a successful example. She underscored the importance of trust-based philanthropy, acknowledging that communities closest to the issues are best positioned to identify solutions.



Anthea then went on to address the role of citizen-led advocacy in building healthy democracies and what that means in light of the shrinking space for civil society. Citing examples like the international campaign to abolish nuclear weapons, she emphasised the importance of longevity and commitment in citizen-led advocacy. She also stressed that we must remain conscious of our role, especially in restricted spaces, either to step up or step back as required.

Finally, the question of the future role of social justice movements and advocacy organisations in the global north as the shift to decolonizing aid continues, was addressed by Gershon. He challenged the conventional view that the primary contribution of organisations in the global North is the development and delivery of programs in the global South. Drawing parallels with the Australian context, Gershon referenced the bruising experience of the Referendum and highlighted the Uluru Statement of the Heart's call for structural reform first as a form of system change rather than a need for more programs and resources. He believes true value lies in the global North's understanding of and connection with supporters, political processes and, engaging with decision-makers and leveraging the support to bring about the necessary systems change for sustainable development, aligning with the vision shared by all involved.



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/from-band-aid-solutions-to-systems-change>

### LEARN MORE AND CONNECT

Twitter/X: @ThenuHerath

Twitter/X: @Gershon\_N

Twitter/X: @RESULTS\_AU

Twitter/X: @Asia\_Foundation

Twitter/X: @OxfamAustralia



I think we need to be prepared for what it means to be disruptive. I don't think a lot of organisations are prepared to do what it takes to truly disrupt the system. That means not only looking at individual organisational revenue and impact models, but how can we, as a whole sector, make the impact we are looking to make?"

Thenu Herath

# Ignite Sessions

## IGNITE SPEAKER

# Mozhgan Moarefizadeh



Mozhgan, a political refugee from Iran who sought refuge in Indonesia 10 years ago, detailed the work of the Refugee and Asylum Seekers Information Centre (RAIC) that she founded to address the lack of culturally appropriate support services for refugees in Indonesia. She noted the challenges faced by displaced populations globally and the need for new approaches, emphasising the marginalisation of displaced people and the lack of meaningful inclusion in decision-making within the humanitarian system.

As a founding member of the Resourcing Refugee Leadership Initiative, they are driven by the importance of transferring ownership and resources to refugee-led organisations (RLOs) and, as such, have created the world's first RLO to RLO fund. The Coalition employs strategies like sustainable funding, strengthening programs, advocating for refugee leadership, and generating evidence. They highlight the impact of raising over 11.2 million for RLOs in the past year, emphasizing transformative outcomes and culturally sensitive assistance benefiting over 800,000 community members.

Mozhgan finished by outlining RAIC's vision to create a world where forcibly displaced people have agency and live with dignity and encouraged partners and allies to stand with refugee leaders, participate in RAIC's initiatives, and support their movement for refugee-led organisations globally.



Refugee-led organisations are even a subset of local organisations. We are receiving just a fraction of that funding. Power and control of the direction of the refugee response continues to be with just a few major institutions of power, rather than being refugees themselves."

Mozhgan Moarefizadeh



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/ignite-4>

### LEARN MORE

<https://raicindonesia.org/>



IGNITE SPEAKER:

## David Roach



David Roach, CEO of Catalpa International, delivered a jam-packed Ignite session focusing on the transformative role of digital technologies in the sector. Drawing on their work in Timor and other countries, David highlighted the need to apply digital tools contextually that address real needs.

Stressing that the digital space is no longer emerging but fundamental to effective development, the three main areas include growing the digital ecosystem, including programs that support enabling environment, policy, governance and cyber security, data for decision making and digital tools for improved service delivery.

David believes that for our sector, digital is all about amplifying intent and impact, and he encouraged a shift in mindset among development practitioners to embrace the creative potential of digital technologies and align them with positive social and structural change.



The challenges we are trying to address are too complex to address without an integrated digital strategy to expand our reach, to expand networks, to expand the cost-effectiveness of initiatives."

David Roach



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/ignite-3>

### LEARN MORE

<https://catalpa.io/>  
<https://catalpa.io/blog/digital-transformation-development-sector/>

IGNITE SPEAKER:

## Emeline Siale Ilolahia



Siale Ilolahia, Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of NGOs, spoke to Pacific 2050 Strategy and PIANGO's involvement in ensuring the implementation plan and architecture clearly spell out how civil society will be engaged. She then detailed the journey of developing a CSO accountability framework that worked for the Pacific context, discussing the shift from contractual obligations to a more principled and ethical approach, addressing gaps between policy and practice. She acknowledged that interest is already growing in her region for private sector engagement and adoption of the accountability principles.

Siale highlighted that it was crucial for civil society to keep reminding leaders of historical issues such as discrimination, land rights, and nuclear legacies.

"...the CSO accountability framework is actually being built around how civil society works... putting in actions that that support civil society institutions, so we are able to shift the conversation from just service delivery to monitor and call for accountability from our government."

Siale Ilolahia



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/ignite-5>

### LEARN MORE

<http://www.piango.org/>  
<https://www.csostandard.org/>  
2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent:  
<https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PIFS-2050-Strategy-Blue-Pacific-Continent-WEB-5Aug2022.pdf>

IGNITE SPEAKER:

## Amonge Sinxoto



Drawing on Alderfer's ERG theory, Amonge Sinxoto delivered an emotive closing Ignite session on the power of storytelling in affirming existence, stimulating relatedness, and promoting growth opportunities. She shared personal anecdotes and urged everyone to lean into their shared humanity, emphasising that stories connect, inform, and allow for greater impact than imagined. She also introduced us to her work with Blackboard Africa, a not-for-profit organisation that focuses on equipping youth with mentorship and leadership training, supporting them to find their voices and celebrate their identity.



As we continue to consider what we want our shared future to look like and how we are acting to realise it, I urge you to lean into the humanity."

Amonge Sinxoto



### WATCH THE FULL ADDRESS

Follow the link and log in to the conference platform to view:  
<https://acfid.arinex.one/talks/ignite-2>

### LEARN MORE

Twitter/X: @a\_mongi @blackboard\_africa  
<http://www.blackboardafrica.com>  
[https://www.instagram.com/blackboard\\_africa/](https://www.instagram.com/blackboard_africa/)  
[https://www.instagram.com/a\\_monge/](https://www.instagram.com/a_monge/)

## Concurrent sessions





# In person sessions

## NAVIGATING THE IMPOSSIBLE: THE CASE OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN AFGHANISTAN

Taking Afghanistan as a case study, the panel explored some of the moral and practical challenges that humanitarian and development actors can confront, and ways in which they can navigate these difficult waters in such a way as to allow them to assist the vulnerable without empowering those whose behaviour gives rise to the relevant vulnerabilities in the first place. The panel shared their insights and experiences of supporting and working with diverse local partners in Afghanistan prior to and after the fall of Kabul to the Taliban in August 2021.

### SPEAKERS

**William Maley**, Emeritus Professor of Diplomacy, the Australian National University

**Matthew Maury**, Chief Executive Officer, Tearfund Australia

**Vichithrani Gunawardena**, Country Impact Manager, World Vision

**Ali Reza Yunespour**, Volunteering Partnership Coordinator, Indigo Foundation Australia

**Stav Zotalis**, Executive Director, Indigo Foundation Australia

## WHEN TOMORROW COMES: HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S COMING

This session focused on innovation capability to enable responsiveness and set the foundations for a program or organisation to thrive and withstand whatever the future might bring. The session discussed a case study from the Australian Volunteers Program and The Australian Centre for Social Innovation, and shared innovation approaches that organisations can use now.

### SPEAKERS

**Anna Trahair**, Innovation Hub Manager, Australian Volunteers Program, Australian Volunteers International

**Chris Vanstone**, Chief Innovation Officer, The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI)



Embrace more experimentalism. We need to be prepared and explore remote forms of volunteering."

Chris Vanstone, TACSI

## FINANCING FEMINIST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS: HOW FEMINIST FUNDING MODELS CAN DISRUPT THE CLIMATE FUNDING ECOSYSTEM

Women on the frontlines of the climate crisis are leading inclusive solutions in their communities but they continue to be marginalised from decision making and funding opportunities. This session explored the limitations of the patriarchal climate funding ecosystem and how feminist funding approaches can get funding into the hands of the women leading gender transformative climate action.

### SPEAKERS

**Belinda Morrissey**, CEO, English Family Foundation

**Carolyn Kitione**, Learning Coordinator, Shifting the Power Coalition

**Michelle Higelin**, Executive Director, ActionAid Australia

**Flora Vanu**, Country Program Manager, ActionAid Vanuatu



Climate change is not gender neutral, and the voices of women, girls and marginalised people need to be at the forefront of decision making."

Flora Vanu, ActionAid Vanuatu



## HOW YOUTH DECOLONISE THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

This insightful discussion explored the crucial role young people play in disrupting traditional systems of power within the international development space, driving change across the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. They discussed practical approaches to engage young people in decision-making at local, regional, and global levels, and emphasised the importance of adopting practices of decolonisation in professional environments. The panellists also provided insights into how young people can work within systems and their structures to drive positive change.

### SPEAKERS

**Lucie Tolhoek**, Co-CEO, Oaktree Foundation Australia

**Ava Rego**, Oaktree Foundation Australia & International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)

**Jahin Tanvir**, CEO, Australian School of Entrepreneurship

**Angelica Ojinnaka**, Former Australian Youth Representative to the United Nations and Youth Affairs Leader



This session challenged me to think differently about how we are engaging young people in my organisation."

Participant feedback

## WHAT DOES ALL ELEMENTS OF STATECRAFT MEAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

The new development policy is the latest government document to outline the need to use "all tools of statecraft" in Australia's foreign policy, following on from the Federal Budget announcement and Defence Strategic Review. This engaging, roundtable style session unpacked the 'all elements of statecraft' concept and explored what it means for the development sector.

### SPEAKERS

**Bridi Rice**, CEO, Development Intelligence Lab

**Melissa Conley Tyler**, Director, Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue

**Tom Barber**, Program Manager, Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue



This work is critical. Build the capacity of our local leaders to be the transformational change we need in this space. It's essential to our success that we mobilise and own the process of PSEAH."

Filipo Masaurua



### LEARN MORE

AP4D Website: <https://asiapacific4d.com/>

Use All Tools of Statecraft in Practice: AP4D Paper: <https://asiapacific4d.com/idea/all-tools-of-statecraft/>



## BEST PRACTICES IN CURRENCY PROCUREMENT

This session explored how to leverage the power of local currency to ensure the most effective procurement of funds whilst minimal financial wastage. It looked at the hidden costs of transferring funds internationally and the best practices when it comes to the procurement of foreign currency.

### SPEAKERS

**Michael Stachowiak**, Head of Business Development AU&NZ Global Payments, StoneX

**Niels van Duinen**, Chief Executive Officer, Asia Pacific, StoneX

**Ingrid Henley**, Chief Financial Officer, CBM Australia



Use the local currency, where possible, to maximise value of your funds and provide certainty to your partners.”

Michael Stachowiak, StoneX

## REWEAVING THE ECOLOGICAL MAT: A HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE FOR OCEANIA

What does a locally-owned and led response to the ecological crisis facing Pacific Island Nations look like? This session explored the Pacific Churches’ answer to this question by introducing participants to Reweaving the Ecological Mat (REM), an alternative development framework based on socio-cultural, indigenous, and biblical-theological perspectives. Delegates heard about developing a holistic index for living, bringing in concepts like ‘whole of life’ and the common good, as well as economics. ACFID is grateful to the ACT Alliance PANZ Forum members and Caritas Australia for support for the attendance of Rev Bird and Wilfer Rigamoto.

### SPEAKERS

**Dr Sureka Goringe**, National Director, UnitingWorld

**Wilfer Rigamoto**, Pacific Conference of Churches,

**Rev Dr Cliff Bird**, Pacific Conference of Churches / United Church in Solomon Islands



It’s a mat where everyone is invited, where everyone and all of creation might experience fullness of life.”

Wilfer Rigamoto, Pacific Conference of Churches



### LEARN MORE

Reweaving the Ecological Mat Framework:  
<https://acfid.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Reweaving-the-Ecological-Mat-Framework-final-Web-version.pdf>

## CREATING A LOSS AND DAMAGE COMPASS: NAVIGATING OUR WAY THROUGH COMPLEX ACCOUNTABILITY AND FINANCE

This important session unpacked Loss and Damage, how it relates to humanitarian and climate adaptation and how the new Loss and Damage Fund coming out of COP27 can reach climate affected communities.

### SPEAKERS

**Julie-Anne Richards**, Strategy Lead, Loss and Damage Collaboration

**Flora Vano**, Country Program Manager, ActionAid Vanuatu

**Dr Damian Spruce**, Associate Director Advocacy and Government Relations, Caritas Australia

**Melissa Bungcaras**, Climate Justice Lead, Oxfam Australia

**Spohie Hardefeldt**, Policy and Research Manager, ActionAid Australia

**Maina Talia**, Co-Coordinator, Kioa Island Community Organisation



We need \$400 billion per year [for loss and damage] by our mid-point of 2030. But that doesn’t even come close to the profits of the fossil fuel industry – it’s not half of those. It is not insurmountable. We found funding for COVID, we found funding to bail out the banks, we can do this.”

Julie-Anne Richards, Loss and Damage Collaboration



## GENDER AND CLIMATE JUSTICE: HOW THESE ISSUES INTERSECT AND WAYS TO PROBLEM SOLVE THEM

This engaging learning lab explored gender-based issues and climate justice as they overlap. Using an experiment framework, participants took part in context-based conversations, learning new problem-solving strategies to tackle these issues in work.

### SPEAKERS

**Jacinta Harford**, Gender Justice Focal Point, Australian Lutheran World Service

**Suzanne Waldron**, Behavioural Change Facilitator, Interviewer, Consultant

**Sunitha Bisan**, Professor, University of Ottawa

**Carolyn Kitione**, Learning Coordinator, Shifting the Power Coalition / Pacific Island Feminist Alliance for Climate Justice



Find new patterns and new causations through different lens... interrupting and shaking up allows us to get new experiences.”

Suzanne Waldron





## LET'S TALK ABOUT LOCALLY LED ACTION – WHY AND HOW IT CAN HAPPEN

Organised by ACFID's Development Practice Committee, this workshop explored how Australian-based NGOs can better consider and practice locally-led action. It provided an overview of what this means in the context of revisions to the ACFID code and work over the last few years that has informed these changes. Within the workshop, tools being developed to support locally-led action were trialed, enabling participants to provide valuable feedback.

### SPEAKERS

**Dr Keren Winterford**, Research Director, Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS

**Gemma Porter**, Head of International Program Management, Oxfam Australia

**Ai Leen Quah**, International Programs Lead, Quaker Service Australia

**Dr Tracy McDiarmid**, Environment, Disability and Gender Equality Manager, World Vision Australia

**Caitlin Dixon**, Assistant Director, Design and Program Advice, DFAT

**Kirsten Hawke**, Director, Lead Specialist Design, DFAT



## UNLOCKING NEW CAPITAL AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE INGO SECTOR THROUGH IMPACT INVESTMENT

There is growing interest from iNGOs in innovative finance, but few have taken the step to innovate their funding. Embracing investment opportunities and looking for new innovative funding solutions was the focus of this informative session.

### SPEAKERS

**Pete Horsley**, Founder, Remarkable

**Julianne Wilkin**, Head of Impact Investment, Save the Children Australia

**Scott Walters**, Chief Executive Officer, Opportunity International

**Claire Hanratty**, Director, GoodWolf Partners



There's financial expertise in the [NGO] sector, it's just not being used."

Julianne Wilkin

## COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: PARTNERSHIPS TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES IN MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH IN UGANDA

Over the past two decades, Uganda had made significant strides in reducing maternal and under-five mortality. However, the long-lasting impact of COVID-19 threatens to reverse progress. This informative session unpacked the complex situation in Uganda, discussed the changing dynamics of partnerships and looked at collaboration between organisations to share resources, knowledge and help overcome challenges.

### SPEAKERS

**Rebecca Lloyd**, CEO, Love Mercy Foundation

**Caitlin McGrath**, Senior Programmes Manager, Adara Development

**Madeline Vaughan**, CEO, Adara Development



## MEANINGFUL REFUGEE PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP: CREATING SPACES FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DISPLACEMENT

This session explored how people affected by displacement have been marginalised, recent research on the contribution of refugee-led initiatives to protection and the restrictions they face, and how to create spaces leadership and participation in policy-making, programs and systems for protection and solutions.

### SPEAKERS

**Najeeba Wazefadost**, Asia Pacific Network of Refugees and Global Refugee-led Network

**Dr Tristan Harley**, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW Sydney

**Brian Babour**, Act for Peace

**Adama Kamara**, Deputy CEO, Refugee Council of Australia



We cannot sit in an ivory tower drafting policy briefs without the views of refugees."

Adama Kamara

## BUILDING CIVIL-MILITARY COORDINATION CAPACITY ACROSS THE PACIFIC

This important session from the Australian Civil Military Centre (ACMC), looked at the Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Relief (HADR) training and exercises conducted within the Pacific region over the past 18 months to build the civil-military coordination capacity of key agencies.

### SPEAKERS

**Damian Eaton**, Assistant Director Preparedness, Australian Civil-Military Centre



#### NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE: MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE OUTCOMES IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING

An inspiring session that explored the climate-development nexus, and how high-integrity NbS approaches can help communities “use the power of nature” to build their resilience and achieve their development aspirations. The session focused on lessons learned by Climate Resilient by Nature partners who are currently piloting nature-based solutions projects in the Pacific.

##### SPEAKERS

**Nat Burke**, Head of Regenerative Climate, WWF Australia

**Barnabas Koroa**, Project Manager,  
World Vision Solomon Islands

**Flora Vano**, Country Manager, ActionAid Vanuatu

**Dr Prahlad Lamichhane**, Climate Change and  
Environmental Protection Lead, Caritas Australia



Integrating traditional knowledge into nature-based solutions is essential to the success of projects.”

Nat Burke, WWF



LEARN MORE

<https://www.climate resilient by nature.com>

#### TACKLING POVERTY THROUGH REDISTRIBUTION: WHAT'S TAX GOT TO DO WITH DEVELOPMENT

Providing new insights into the scale of wealth concentration, inequality and their causes, along with the latest analysis on the policy solutions that can mobilise funds for international development and climate change programs, this session was highly popular and challenged delegates to think about how to mobilise for a more equal future.

##### SPEAKERS

**Josie Lee**, Policy and Advocacy Lead, Oxfam Australia

**Anthea Spinks**, Director of Programs, Oxfam Australia

**Clancy Moore**, Chief Executive Officer,  
Transparency International Australia

**Richard Denniss**, Executive Director,  
The Australia Institute



We spend 11 billion each year on fossil fuel subsidies. We give more aid to the fossil fuel lobby than we do to the Pacific.”

Richard Denniss, The Australia Institute



LEARN MORE

Oxfam - Can taxes help solve the climate, poverty and inequality crises? - Google Slides

## Virtual sessions



## INNOVATIVE FUNDING AS A PATHWAY FOR RESILIENCE FOR LOCAL ACTORS

The hybridisation of for-profit financing models for non-profit social causes is becoming increasingly popular. This session highlighted case studies from local actors in Cambodia and the Philippines on their journey towards income diversification, highlighting how Australian development actors support partners in exploring innovative financing as a pathway to localisation.

### SPEAKERS

**Joseph Kodamanchaly**, Regional Adviser for Strategy and Partnership, Caritas Australia

**Jing Rey Henderson**, Head of Communications and Partnership Development, Caritas Philippines

**MAO Sophany**, Director, SPOONS Cambodia Organization



The session gave me insights into other ways of raising funds, and practical information of sources of funding in Cambodia.”

Delegate feedback



### WATCH THE RECORDING

[https://youtu.be/IE\\_otzHenSk](https://youtu.be/IE_otzHenSk)

## IS THE GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN SYSTEM FIT-FOR PURPOSE?

This session focused on the question, is the international humanitarian cluster and UN system fit-for purpose in an era of uncertainty and insecurity? If so, how can we make the sector fit-for the times?

### SPEAKERS

**Joshua Hallwright**, Associate Professor, Centre for Humanitarian Leadership

**Oz Katerji**, Ukraine Correspondent, Journalist and Foreign Policy Analyst

**Adelina Kamal**, Southeast Asian Women Peace Mediators, Overseas Development Institute, Centre for Humanitarian Leadership

**Sesimani Lokotui**, National Coordinator, Civil Forum of Tonga



Neutrality doesn't have to be a barrier, if you're standing in solidarity with local women's groups for example, but how does this practically run up to the formal system when it comes to requirements.”

Joshua Hallwright

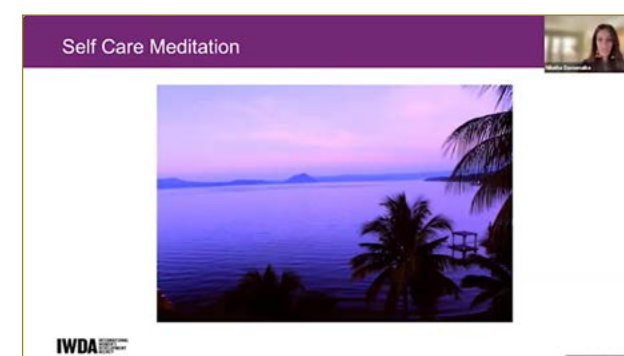
## FEMINIST TOOLKITS FOR DISRUPTING THE STATUS QUO

The session explored two of International Women's Development Agency's (IWDA) feminist toolkits, including how they can be used to embed and strengthen feminist principles and values within your organisation. Facilitators used interactive activities to support learning and reflection, while incorporating practices such as meditation to support self and collective care.

### SPEAKERS

**Clara Bradley**, Advocacy Advisor, IWDA

**Nilusha Dassenaik**, Intersectional Feminist Workshop Coordinator, IWDA



Power is at the heart of feminist strategies for transformative change. Understanding power and how to change it is fundamental to advancing gender equality.”

Clara Bradley, IWDA



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/2T0glWmwbrc>

### LEARN MORE

Feminist Organisational Capacity Strengthening Toolkit

<https://iwda.org.au/resource/feminist-organisational-capacity-strengthening/>

'Plan Your Power Toolkit (IWDA)':

<https://iwda.org.au/resource/plan-your-power-toolkit/>

Tricia Hersey: On Rest and Resistance – Podcast

Recommendation: <https://soundcloud.com/publicprograms/tricia-hersey-on-rest-as-resistance>

## POINTS OF DISRUPTION: LEARNING FROM PACIFIC EXPERTS ON SYSTEMS CHANGE

This session explored disruptions to existing structures and systems which lead to positive transformational change. Delegates heard from three Pacific disrupters as they shared their experiences and spoke about strengths-based approaches, prioritising traditional knowledge and climate risk integration across development and humanitarian activities.

### SPEAKERS

**Setareki Macanawai**, CEO, Pacific Disability Forum

**Salanieta Kitolelei**, University of the South Pacific

**Gaylyn Puairana**, Solomon Islands Climate Advisor, Australia Pacific Climate Partnership

**Dr Keren Winterford**, University of Technology Sydney, Institute for Sustainable Futures



We do not want to be the problem, we want to be part of the solution.”

Setareki Macanawai, CEO, Pacific Disability Forum



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/5v0x5pAuFF0>

CONSULTING SURVIVORS, STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS: GRASSROOTS APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

International Justice Mission (IJM) has partnered with the Philippine Government, international law enforcement and civil society to combat the online sexual exploitation of children, in particular the trafficking of children to create new child sexual abuse materials. This session explored the value of consulting survivors in the design of research methodology and the efficacy of civil society partnerships in providing locally led solutions, through examining a case study of IJM's strong network of care in the Philippines.

SPEAKERS

- Dolly Rubia, Director, National Aftercare Development, IJM Philippines
- Joy (\*pseudonym), Survivor Consultant, International Justice Mission Philippines , Global Survivor Network
- Liberty (\*pseudonym), Survivor Consultant, International Justice Mission Philippines, Global Survivor Network
- Samson Inocencio, National Director, IJM Philippines



If the rule of law exists at the local level then the prevalence of violent crimes reduces significantly."

Samson Inocencio



WATCH THE RECORDING

[https://youtu.be/\\_oF8y7NoQC4](https://youtu.be/_oF8y7NoQC4)

STRENGTHENING INCLUSIVITY THROUGH FINANCIAL LITERACY IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Despite a large and expanding economy, the benefits of Papua New Guinea's growth are not being distributed equitably, with traditionally marginalised communities left behind. Financial Literacy training is one tool challenging this development. This session discussed the real impacts of financial literacy training for marginalised groups, the challenges involved in delivering the training, and why it's important these communities are included in any international discussions about the country.

SPEAKERS

- Susan Virani, CFL Lead Trainer, Cufa
- Jarred Sferruzzi, PNG and Bougainville Program Manager, Cufa
- Marlene Dutta, Pacific Regional Manager, Good Return
- Janine Aringa-Garap, PNG Program Coordinator, Good Return



Our end goal is providing inclusive financial services for all, including those that are currently excluded."

Marlene Dutta, Good Return



WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/ghhFTK8h39w>

LEARN MORE

<https://goodreturn.org.au/financial-capability>



FROM INCLUSION TO EQUITY: ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARD REALISING DISABILITY RIGHTS

This session discussed the shifts taking place in the disability space - moving from inclusion to equity, from CRPD adoption to implementation - with a particular focus on how to protect the gains made and continue advances to equity in the context of the climate crisis and likely ongoing instability.

SPEAKERS

- Nelly Caleb, Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association
- Conor Costello, Head of Policy and Advocacy, CBM
- Jabis Manaika, Co-Chair, Pacific Disability Forum
- Abia Akram, CEO, National Forum of Women with Disabilities Pakistan



People with disabilities are the best advocates of their rights."



WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/ZgRZvFCFdQo>

POVERTY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT: THE INDELIBLE NEXUS

This session, organised by the Urban Community of Practice explored how building community capabilities to secure essential infrastructure and housing can lead ordinary people in PICs out of poverty and progress toward a better quality of life.

SPEAKERS

- Christopher Govers, Head of International Programs, Habitat for Humanity Australia
- Kirsten McDonald, Consultant
- Dr Sarath Mataraarachchi, Visiting Research Fellow, University of New South Wales
- Stephen Alchin, Director, SD Alchin Advisory Pty Ltd



Built environment determines poverty or prosperity."

Dr Sarath Mataraarachchi, UNSW

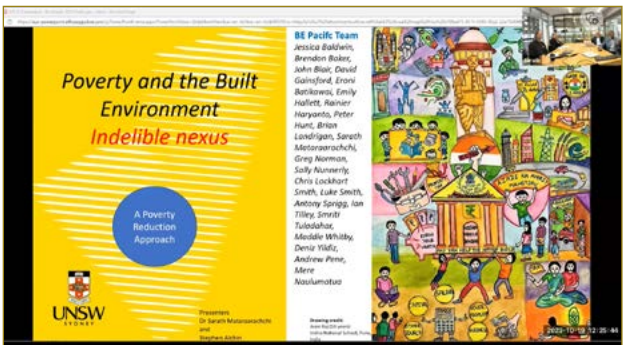


WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/sjlsEBPDQ9M>

LEARN MORE

Poverty and the Built Environment - An Indelible Nexus: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375502441\\_Poverty\\_and\\_the\\_Built\\_Environment\\_-\\_An\\_Indelible\\_Nexus](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375502441_Poverty_and_the_Built_Environment_-_An_Indelible_Nexus)





## ADVANCING INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN THE AUSTRALIAN INGO SECTOR: REFLECTIONS FROM THE REVIEW OF CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION PRACTICES

Many Australian NGOs operate across national and linguistic borders, collaborating with culturally diverse partners both onshore and offshore. However, English remains the lingua franca to communicate with partners and the dominant language of NGO documentation. This session presented the key findings of a recent review of Caritas Australia's translation and interpretation processes and reflected on the need to turn our attention towards more deliberate and inclusive intercultural communication practices.

### SPEAKERS

**Dr Margherita Angelucci**, Research Fellow, Monash University

**Nitasha Akerman**, Program Coordinator for Myanmar and Nepal, Caritas Australia

**Koreen Cueto**, Program Coordinator for Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines, Caritas Australia



English Speakers hold a lot of power. Interpretation and translation is a great opportunity to give power back."

Survey respondent, Monash University research on better practices for intercultural communications



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/tEjXGqFlxPc>

## HUMANITARIAN ON THE FRINGES: NEW INNOVATIONS, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

The Humanitarian Sector is constantly seeking research and utilise emerging technologies in order to harness collective impact in a rapidly changing sector. This session unpacked research on new innovations and systems, ranging from the field of Palliative Care in humanitarian contexts to innovative technology-based solutions.

### SPEAKERS

**Dr Eyal Mayroz**, Senior Lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Sydney

**Claire Cayzer**, Legal Adviser, Australian Red Cross

**Dr David Hammond**, Institute for Economics and Peace

**Dr Rachel Coghlan**, Centre for Humanitarian Leadership



New and emerging fields, such as data and AI, as well as long standing concepts, such as international humanitarian law, have very important roles to play in future years."

Natasha Chabbra, Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy Lead, ACFID



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/OWbbqLTgiv0>

## REGREENING FRAGILE CONTEXTS: LOCALLY LED CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED CONTEXTS

Natural resources play a role in a high proportion of conflicts globally. In any year between 1946 and 2006, they have triggered, funded or sustained a minimum of 40% of intrastate conflicts, and sometimes as much as 60%. This session discussed how community-led climate adaptation and landscape restoration can be successfully undertaken in locations experiencing natural resource conflict.

### SPEAKERS

**Dr Erica Rose Jeffrey**, Director, Peace and Conflict Studies Institute Australia

**Dr Joanne Millar**, Consultant, Rural Livelihoods Consulting

**Dr Thu-Ba Huynh**, Team Leader for Climate Action and Resilience, World Vision Australia

**Christine Lindell**, Conflict and Fragility Technical Advisor, World Vision Australia



Enable collective action by building joint problem solving and planning skills."

Joanne Millar, Rural Livelihoods Consulting



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/7iPMRMu1bRU>



Both men and women desire to change gender work patterns."

Rapid Care Analysis findings, Timor-Leste



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/0OMBVFRMcE>

## CARE MATTERS – ADVOCATING FOR AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL

The undervaluing of work carried out essentially by women worldwide is a significant driver of poverty and inequality. This session took a deep dive into tools developed by Oxfam that help generate context specific data to influence governments and companies to actively recognise, value and invest in all care work.

### SPEAKERS

**Adi Alani Tuivucilevum**, Network Coordinator, Women in Fisheries Network Fiji (WiFN -Fiji)

**Therese Johnson**, Gender Justice Senior Program Manager, Oxfam in Timor-Leste

**Anila Schroers**, Strategic Lead, Gender Justice, Oxfam Australia

## MAKING GENDER SENSITIVE DATA AVAILABLE TO ALL, EQUALITY INSIGHTS DATA PORTAL

This interactive session introduced the Equality Insights data portal – a new platform that presents gender-sensitive data about multidimensional poverty in a user-friendly and accessible format.

### SPEAKERS

**Megan Carroll**, Data Analyst, IWDA

**Lupe Moala Tupou**, Principal Statistician, Tonga Statistics Department



Poverty is about more than just money. It's about lived experience."

Megan Carroll, IWDA



### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/rLVsXKyhUkM>

### LEARN MORE

<https://equalityinsights.org/data-portal/>

## CLOSING THE LOOP – ENSURING COMMUNITY USE AND ACCESS TO EVALUATION FINDINGS

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is a key pillar of any humanitarian and development programming, yet the people who are least likely to hear about the results of M&E processes are the affected communities themselves. This session discussed best practices, challenges and a way forward on how agencies commissioning evaluations can maximise their M&E processes and improve the experiences of communities in shaping the use and outcomes of evaluation.

### SPEAKERS

**Zaki Ullah**, Chief Executive Officer, GLOW Consultants,

**Pamela Combinido**, Leader, Humanitarian Advisory Group



Often we would hear from respondents 'I don't know what's happening with the information I shared...' the sector is supposedly supporting communities to bounce back from crises but if our processes aren't helping that, how can we affect any real change?"

Zaki Ullah



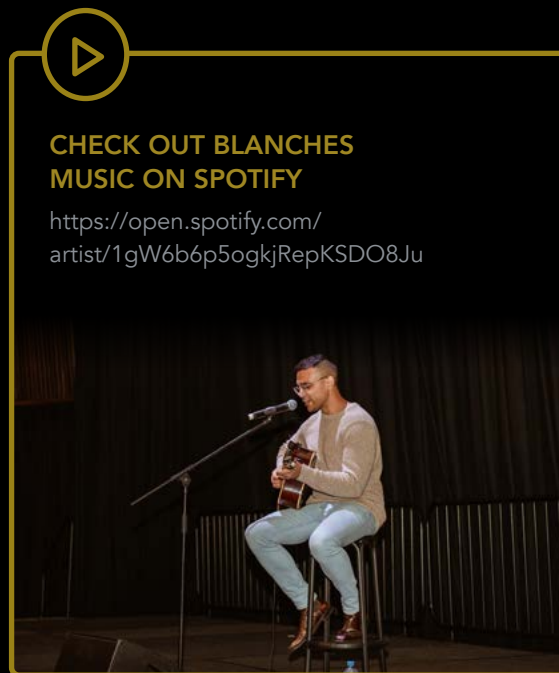
### WATCH THE RECORDING

<https://youtu.be/faK48jANyuM>

# Conference Dinner & ACFID Awards







#### CHECK OUT BLANCHES MUSIC ON SPOTIFY

[https://open.spotify.com/  
artist/1gW6b6p5ogkjRepKSD08Ju](https://open.spotify.com/artist/1gW6b6p5ogkjRepKSD08Ju)



The ACFID Conference dinner took place on the evening of the first day. Hosted by ACFID Vice President Jane Edge, guests enjoyed having time to sit and talk together after a three-year absence as they listened to the beautiful music from local Wiradjuri man, Blanche.

We heard from freelance journalist Karen Percy, as she delivered a heartfelt address about the current state of the world, including the recent referendum for The Voice and situation in Gaza. As an advocate for public interest journalism and ethical reporting that supports democracy, she also spoke to the age of misinformation and disinformation that we currently face.

Presented after dinner, the ACFID Awards provide an important opportunity to recognise the achievements of those who have made an impact and difference to our sector over the last year.

The ACFID Media Award was presented to Stephanie March from the ABC for her reporting on the famine crisis in Somalia, including the ABC TV Foreign Correspondent story 'Surviving in Somalia'. This story showcased the daily reality of life for the chronically hungry, and gave a human dimension to a crisis that many of us in the sector have been working hard to draw attention to.

The Outstanding Contribution to the Sector Award was given to Jaki Adams, Director of Social Justice and Regional Engagement within the Office of the CEO at The Fred Hollows Foundation. As Jaki was taking some time off to be with family on country, the award was received by her daughter, Serena Barton. Jaki received the award for her long-term commitment to serving Australia's Indigenous communities, and using her drive and passion to champion for health equity, elevating the voices of Indigenous peoples around the world, supporting strategic eye care relationships in Australia and across the Pacific, and helping drive the agenda of the Allies for Uluru Coalition.

The Sir Ron Wilson Human Rights Award was awarded to Australians for Indigenous Constitutional Recognition (AICR) and The Uluru Dialogue for the Yes23 Campaign. Indigenous peoples across the world continue to experience the consequences of historical colonisation and invasion of their territories and First Nations peoples remain the most disadvantaged and marginalised group in Australia. Whilst significant work was done in the years leading up to the Yes23 campaign, they fought volumes of misinformation in the lead up to the referendum, which was ultimately, unsuccessful. In respect of the week of silence, the award was delivered at a later date.

# Delegate Feedback & Takeaways



I loved the session using the tools for localisation developed by ACFID. Having this practical session mixed in was fantastic. Really can't say enough good things about the content or the speakers. Thanks so much for putting on a fantastic conference! Can't wait for next year."

Feedback from Conference Delegate



Great, diverse range of sessions and speakers, very informative and well-run, thank you! The concurrent workshop sessions were very engaging."

Feedback from Conference Delegate



Participating in this conference has profoundly impacted my professional growth, exposing me to new ideas and approaches to sustainable development and helping me connect with like-minded individuals on the topics of climate change, gender and climate justice and just transition."

Feedback from Conference Delegate



I really enjoyed all the speakers, and the breakout sessions were also fantastic."

Feedback from Conference Delegate



MC for Day 1, Zahra Al Hilaly, was brilliant and very articulate!"

Feedback from Conference Delegate



A standout for me was hearing from representatives from Pacific Island countries about Nature Based Solutions for Climate, particularly how traditional knowledge can be used in the co-creation of solutions."

Feedback from Conference Delegate



Common findings across sessions I attended was the need to invest in innovative funding models as well as strengthening networks and voices of people who are fighting and working towards upholding human rights and gender equality."

Takeaway from Conference Delegate



Let's continue this important conversation and work towards a world where every voice is heard!"

Feedback from Conference Delegate



After the conference: feeling refreshed and motivated to continue working in this difficult space but with the intention to take time out to reflect and regain energy."

Feedback from Conference Delegate





# Sponsors & Exhibitors



Catalpa is a not-for-profit international development organisation using design thinking, agile processes and technology for social impact. Catalpa designs and implements digitally-enabled programs that improve oversight, understanding, analysis, access, engagement, and collaboration across a range of sectors in the Asia Pacific region. They are specialists of digital transformation in complex environments, experienced in evolving legacy paper-based management systems and fragmented digital approaches. By assisting partners to effectively embrace digital technologies, they equip governments and organisations to make data-driven decisions and gain the accurate oversight required to meet their mandates; and ultimately increase quality of life, opportunities, and safety for communities now and in the future.



## LEARN MORE

Visit the Catalpa International website at:  
<https://catalpa.io/>



ACMC brings together Australian Government, civil society and international partners to strengthen collaborative preparedness and response to domestic and international crises, including conflict and disaster management. Their principal activities include:

**Engagement:** Working with Australian Government agencies, Indo-Pacific partners and civil society to build best practice civil-military-police expertise.

**Preparedness:** Supporting interagency exercises, training and events to strengthen national and regional crisis preparedness and response capabilities.

**Lessons:** Supporting the coordination, identification and collection of lessons from civil-military-police interactions during crisis responses to improve multi-agency decision-making and coordination.

**Research:** Undertaking research that contributes new knowledge, addresses knowledge gaps, identifies good practice and provides applied outcomes to inform policy and support practitioners.

The ACMC is staffed by officials of relevant Australian Government departments: Defence, DFAT, AFP, National Emergency Management Agency, an ACFID adviser and a New Zealand Government representative.



## LEARN MORE

Visit the ACMC Website:  
<https://www.acmc.gov.au/>



The Payments division of StoneX provides clients with payment services, specialising in transferring funds to the developing world. It provides customised foreign exchange and treasury services to a number of customers, including international aid and development organisations, UN agencies, government agencies, NGOs, religious entities, multinational corporations and financial institutions. StoneX Financial Ltd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of StoneX Group Inc, a Fortune 100 publicly-traded company on the NASDAQ (SNEX). StoneX, including its subsidiaries, provides clients across the globe with a comprehensive array of customised financial services and tools to help them protect their margins and manage volatility. A pioneer in specialised financial services, StoneX opens markets for clients underserved by other financial institutions with insight, guidance and transparency.



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The Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue (AP4D) is a tripartite initiative – hosted by ACFID and funded by the Australian Civil-Military Centre and DFAT – that creates a new dimension in Australia's international policymaking, by bringing together the development, diplomacy and defence policy communities. As a platform for practical, future-facing ideas, AP4D combines the skills and experience of each to achieve new insights, develop new ideas, and promote strategic collaboration around shared interests.



## LEARN MORE

Visit the AP4D Website:  
<https://asiapacific4d.com/>



OSKY is a web systems specialist in fostering and producing the development of complex and custom web applications. Their goal is to create innovative digital applications that enable organisations to provide more value to their customers and members with lower administrative costs by leveraging modern open source technologies.



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#### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (PECC)

The PECC's primary objective is to unite ACFID members to engage the public and campaign for better Australian international development. The PECC aims to achieve this objective through championing the work of the ACFID membership and the impact of the Australian Development program to the Australian public.

At ACFID's conference 2023, the PECC launched its new campaign focus, 'Safer World for All', which aims to address multiple intersecting and compounding global crises.



#### LEARN MORE

Visit the ACFID's website:  
<https://acfid.asn.au/about/governance/committees-and-cops/>  
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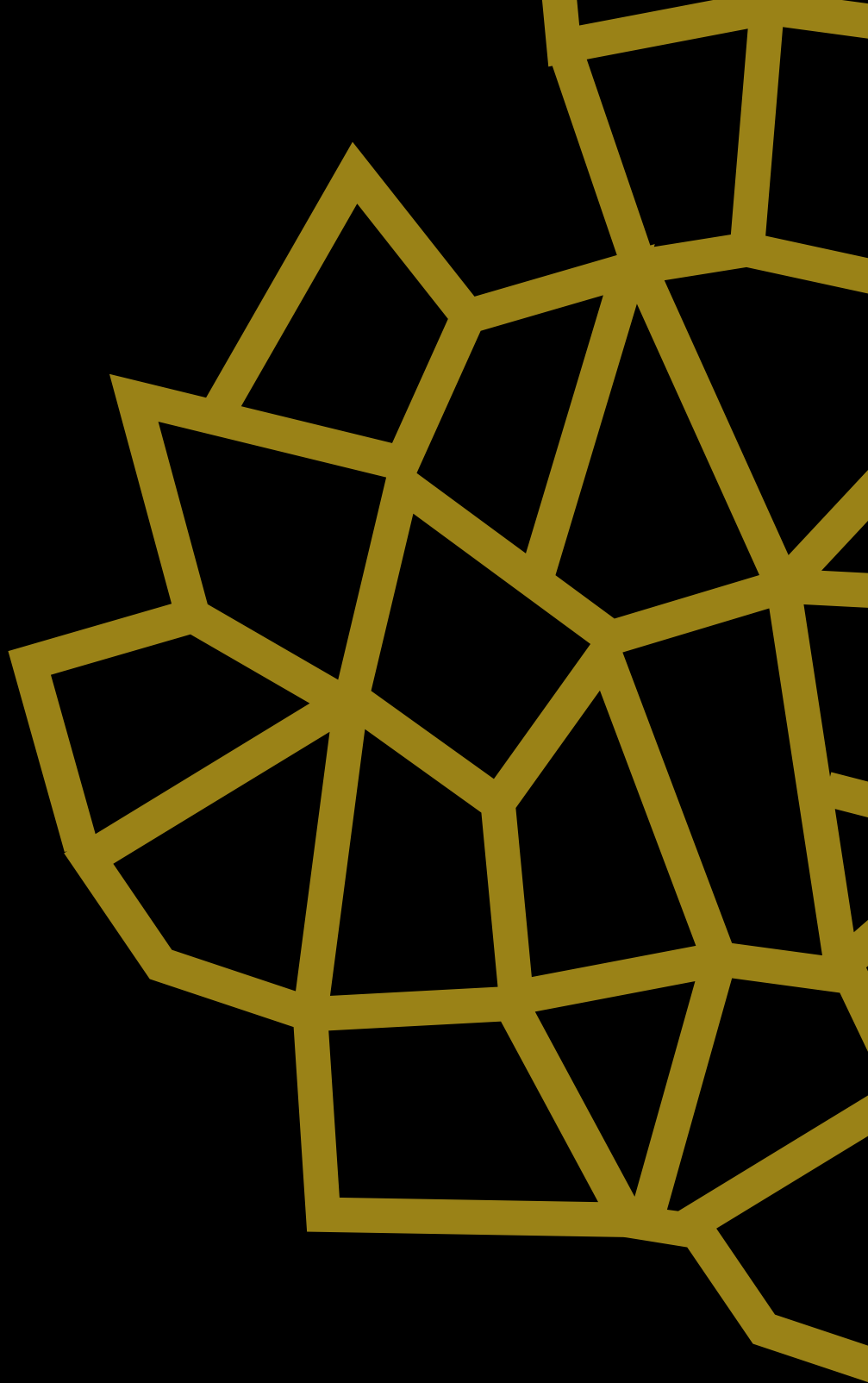
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