

Moderator



Ms. Elaine Green is Head of Influencing, Public Affairs and Campaigns at Leonard Cheshire. Her team aims to influence policy and decision makers around the world to enable persons with disabilities to live, learn and work as independently as they choose. A committed advocate for human rights, Elaine has over 20 years' experience of influencing international development, including 10 years as an active member of the disability sector. Elaine has worked extensively on community engagement with people living with HIV/AIDS, including three years in Bangkok as the Regional HIV/AIDS

Advisor for Save the Children. She also played a leading role in influencing donor and multilateral agencies to prioritise more and better funding for health systems in low and middle-income countries. She has worked directly and indirectly with a wide range of governmental, non-governmental and multilateral stakeholders including Sightsavers, the International Disability Alliance, the World Bank, WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO, DFID and USAID.

Speakers



Ms. Maki Katsuno-Hayashikawa is the Chief of Section for Inclusive Quality Education since April 2016. She oversees UNESCO's regional programme in the Asia-Pacific in the fields of education policy and planning, ICT in education, learning quality, and inclusion and gender in education, from early childhood to secondary education. She is also the Regional Coordinator for the SDG4-Education 2030 and the Gender Focal Point. Prior to Bangkok, Maki was based in UNESCO Headquarters in Paris looking after UNESCO's global programme on ECCE, inclusive education, gender and education, learning assessment

and teacher education. Maki has nearly 25 years of development work experience, mostly working in the Asia-Pacific region with UNESCO, UNICEF and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Maki holds a BSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics, an MA in Education Planning from the UCL-Institute of Education, University of London, and an M.Ed in Early Childhood Education from South Australia University.



Ms. Barkha Henry is based at Leonard Cheshire East Asia & Pacific Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand, and responsible for raising Leonard Cheshire's profile, engagement, influencing and income in the region. She has worked in the development and disability sector for more than 17 years in Asia and the Pacific region. Prior to Leonard Cheshire, she has worked extensively with various national, international organisations and the corporate sector on a diverse set of development issues. With a background in international relations and humanitarian law, her work brings strong expertise in programme management in inclusive education, economic inclusion of persons

with disabilities, youth empowerment, advocacy and strategic partnership development. She has been a strong advocate for disability rights, children, youth and women empowerment.

Speakers



Ms. Erin Tanner is an Education Specialist currently working with the UNICEF Regional Office for East Asia and Pacific. Her work focuses on issues of education quality and equity in primary school, including issues of learning assessment and curriculum. She also works on issues of inclusive education for children with disabilities, multi-lingual education and digital learning platforms and oversees coordination of the South East Asia Primary Learning Metrics, which is the first regional comparative assessment in Asia. Prior to joining the East Asia and Pacific region, Ms. Tanner worked for UNICEF in Rwanda and the Regional Office

for Europe and Central Asia. She has two master's degrees in Education.



Mr. Tolhas Damanik pursued his bachelor's degree in education from Jakarta State University, and his master's degree in education from Ohio University, USA. Tolhas has 16 years' professional experience advocating for and providing technical advice for the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly related to education, employment, political participation, human rights, and social protection. Tolhas worked for several disability inclusive projects with several international organizations in Indonesia such as Helen Keller International (HKI), International Labour Organization

(ILO), International Foundation for Electoral System (IFES), and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). He is currently serving as Disability Inclusion Advisor for the IFES-ASEAN project. He is also a Founder and Executive Director of Wahana Inklusif Indonesia Foundation. In 2013, Tolhas received the Inclusive Education Award from the Indonesian Ministry of National Education for his dedicated work on supporting the development of the inclusive education system in Indonesia.

Speakers



Mr. M. Abdus Salam is a development practitioner in Bangladesh and has more than 30 years working experience in the development field. He has participated in different training, capacity building initiatives both as facilitators and participants in more than 50 countries. He is the Founder and Chief Executive of Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK) which is a community led non-government development organization established in 1985. GUK is working in 15 districts in Bangladesh covering more than 150000 direct programme participants with more than 2000 workforces. GUK has longstanding experience to implement projects relating to education, food

security, livelihood, capacity building, women empowerment, human rights, skills development for youths, health, nutrition & WASH, disability inclusive development, good governance, disaster management & climate change. The organization is working to ensure rights of persons with disabilities and to improve their overall livelihood condition. Over the years, the organization has gained well reputation for working on disability issue and received Award from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in 2016 for outstanding contribution in this field.



Ms. Leila Areola is an educator, a former Schools Division Superintendent and the current Director IV of the Bureau of Learning and Delivery of the Department of Education in the Philippines. She is a staunch champion for the special learning and inclusion of Filipino learners. She is also one of the most sought Resource Persons invited by many organizations discussing the topic on how students cope with their studies in the new normal environment. Director Areola holds a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Educational Management, Master of Arts Degree in Teaching and Bachelor of Science Degree in Education.

Speakers



Ms. Nantanoot Suwannawut is a researcher at the Bureau of Special Education Administration, Thailand Ministry of Education where she has been working on the issues of inclusive education and access technologies for persons with disabilities. She also guides academic researchers and practitioners in areas of disability employment and barrier-free society and inclusion. Dr. Suwannawut is one of the key leaders of Thailand Association of the Blind and has served in several advisory committees such as The Promotion of information access for persons with visual impairments and print disability program. Moreover, she has been appointed to help with many

projects, such as digital TV and telecommunications for persons with disabilities. Her areas of specialization are information accessibility, especially educational media production and Human Computer Interaction (HCI). In addition, she is joining the team of Thailand Safe School network and got involved in DRR projects. She also has been elected as the ASEAN sub-regional chair of the World Blind Union.



Ms. Sunanda Mavillapalli is an International Development professional with over 25 years' experience in programme design and management, disability inclusion with specific technical expertise in Inclusive education and economic inclusion of people with disabilities. She has extensive experience of working across Africa and Asia and delivering small and large-scale programmes and has delivered on high value and strategic partnerships with diverse stakeholders globally. Specifically, Sunanda has been leading teams on developing digital innovation in inclusive education and employment in middle- and low-income contexts and has previously led a global campaign of youth with disabilities.