

2021 UN High Level Political Forum, Urban Cluster Parallel Event Post COVID-19: Essential Actions for a Sustainable Future



Oli Henman, is an Organising Partner of the NGO Major Group and the Global Coordinator of Action for Sustainable Development. Oli leads the global advocacy and engagement with multilateral bodies such as the UN and other international institutions. He has considerable experience of working with civil society participation and governance in South America, Europe and around the world. In his previous role at CIVICUS he led key advocacy on the SDG negotiations, including leading roles in the 'Sustainable Development 2015' and Action/2015 projects, and he contributed regularly to policy developments on citizen participation in the UN and EU decision-making. Prior to CIVICUS, he was Head of Partnerships & International at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (UK); he was also a co-drafter of the Council of Europe's 'Code of Good Practice on Civil Participation'. He is half-Brazilian and started his career working on participatory budgeting in the cities and rainforests of Brazil.



Maitreyi Bordia Das is the Practice Manager in the Urban, Resilience and Land Global Practice of the World Bank. Maitreyi, oversees several global programs. Previously, she was the Bank's first Global Lead on Social Inclusion. Based in Washington DC, Maitreyi leads a talented group of professionals who work on urban development, resilience and inclusion. She has long-standing research and policy experience in human development and infrastructure related sectors. Of these, urban development, water and sanitation, demography, health, social protection and social development, stand out. She is the lead author of several publications, including *Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity*. Having started her career as a lecturer in St Stephen's College, University of Delhi, Maitreyi has also been a MacArthur Fellow at the Harvard Center of Population and Development Studies and an advisor to the United Nations Development Program. She has a PhD in Sociology (Demography) from the University of Maryland. Before joining the World Bank, Maitreyi was in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS).



Helen Holden Slottje, Esq., Slottje Law, and the 2014 Goldman Environmental Prize Winner for North America. Helen was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for her pioneering legal work that successfully defended New York communities from environmentally destructive fracking (high-impact industrialized extraction of natural gas from solid rock). In the face of a state statute that prohibited local regulation of the oil and gas industry, and a state-wide regulatory agency with the mission of promoting the oil and gas industry, Helen was undaunted. She developed an innovative strategy that employed constitutionally protected local land use planning powers to prohibit fracking. With the help of her husband David, Helen worked tirelessly to ensure that communities could refuse to host fossil fuel extraction through enacting local laws. With the Slottjes' help, over 150 communities across the state organized and passed local measures to stop fracking. These local laws faced heavy opposition and ultimately litigation from powerful entrenched interests that sought to have the laws declared unenforceable. In a major victory for the people, the New York courts upheld these local fracking bans. Ultimately this community-based resistance led to an unprecedented state-wide ban on fracking, a true David and Goliath victory. Helen continues to bring her unique insights and legal advice to purpose driven businesses that seek to incorporate sustainable development goals into their culture. Helen is an Honorary Advisor of the NGOCS-D-NY.
https://www.goldmanprize.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2015_HelenSlottje_ouroboros.jpg



Amrita Gautam, Civil Engineer; Doctoral Researcher at TH Koeln, Germany, President of SI Koeln Kolumba, Germany and Founder of drinkPani, Nepal. Amrita is an RiSWP Global Ambassador and a Civil Engineer, pursuing her doctoral research in Technical University of Cologne (TH Koeln), Germany, with special focus in Hydro-Informatics: Water Supply Engineering and Management, having work experiences from various 'United Nations (UN) Organizations and Research Projects' in Nepal, Germany, Mozambique, Brazil, Canada & USA. As a Young Water Professional, Amrita has been involved in World Youth Parliament for Water; International Water Association; Soroptimist International; Youth for the Rhine; and Girls in Tech – Nepal. She was awarded with 'Women with Vision 2018', received Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) Scholarship Award in 2019 and got selected as an Ambassador of Rising Smart Water Professionals (RiSWP/SWAN) in 2021. Her ongoing doctoral research is about "Water Supply and Quality Monitoring via Emerging Technologies", and the case study area is Pokhara Metropolitan City (PMC), Nepal. She has founded a research initiative - drinkPani (www.drinkpani.net), which refers to 'Drinking Water Information Kit' and believes in "Shaping Digital Water Future."



Theodore Liebman, FAIA, a Principal at Perkins Eastman, a global architectural firm, a Board Member and Vice President, Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU). A member of the NGOCSD-NY Executive Board and the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster, member of the General Assembly of Partners and Senior Fellow, Global Urban Development (GUD). His work concentrates on issues of housing, lifestyle, and culture in the urban environment and a comprehensive view of long-term sustainability that challenges the limits of density in urban communities. Liebman was Chief of Architecture - NY State Urban Development Corporation 1970-75. In 1975-77, posted in Iran with the Harvard Institute for International Development (HIID), Architecture and Urban Design Advisor. In 1995-96, Mr. Liebman was the Land Development Manager for the World Bank funded Russian Federation Housing Project in Russia.

Past president of the NY Chapter of the AIA, Recipient of the Andrew J. Thomas Pioneer in Housing Award. In 2005, he received the Ratensky Lecture, Liebman received B. Arch. from Pratt Institute, M. Arch. from Harvard University, GSD, Rome Prize Fellowship in Architecture. In 1970-71, awarded the Wheelwright Travelling Fellowship in Architecture from Harvard to Study "Criteria for Housing at High Densities". Attended UN Habitat I, II, III and WUF 9, 10. Adjunct Professor of Affordable Housing at NYU. Lectured and served on architectural juries in the United States, Europe, Asia, Africa and South America. Liebman engages in dialogue with governments, investors, developers, and students to shape the environment and sustain cities.



Dr. Eugénie L. Birch FAICP, RTPI (Hon), Co-Director of Penn Institute for Urban Research and President of the General Assembly of Partners. Dr. Birch holds the Nussdorf Chair for Urban Research, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania where she chairs the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning. Founding co-director, Penn Institute for Urban Research, she is also co-editor of Penn Press's *The City in the 21st Century* series and co-editor of the *SSRN Urban ejournal*. Dr. Birch's most recent publications include *Slums: How the Informal Real Estate Markets Work* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016) and "A Midterm Report: Will Habitat III Make a Difference to the World's Urban Development?" *Journal of the American Planning Association* (82:4 2016 398-411) In New York City, Dr. Birch has served as a member of the New York City Planning Commission, and on the jury to select the designers for the World Trade Center

site. She has also served as a member of the US delegation to Habitat III. Dr. Birch, who lives in New York City, holds a PhD and Master degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University.



Mary Muia, Soroptimist International UN Environment Rep, Nairobi. Kenya Public Health & Social Entrepreneur. Mary is a 2019 Evolution Business Council (EBC) Membership Award nominee as an emerging global leader and is the first EBC member in Africa. She lives in Nairobi, Kenya East Africa region. Mary is passionate about environment, climate change, gender equality, food security, water and sanitation. She champions for rights and access to adolescents and youth reproductive health, family planning, maternal neonatal child health and access to basic services and livelihoods for women and girls living in informal settlements and rural settings. Mary is a founder director of WEMA, a community-based organization working to transform the lives of adolescent girls and young women to access education, prevent gender-based violence, early child

marriages, teenage pregnancies, female genital mutilation (FGM), and other harmful practices through social entrepreneurship and economic resiliency initiatives. My vision is to influence as a speaker, trainer, and coach in leadership as a tool to empower those working with girls and young women in vulnerable environments in Africa. A soroptimist, wife and a mother, Mary is the Immediate past Chair and President who helped bring Soroptimist International Africa Federation (SIAF) to its inauguration in June 2020, following many years of its formation journey. Mary was recently appointed to serve as a director for Soroptimist International (SI) Board starting January 2021. and a member of NGOCSD-NY Executive Board member and of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Amanda Entrikin is the Director of Global Affairs and Advocacy at Habitat for Humanity International in Washington, DC. Amanda's responsibilities include monitoring, analyzing and influencing development policy within the US government and United Nations on HFHI's core global advocacy objectives. Prior to joining HFHI, Amanda worked in government relations with Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), focusing on strategic engagement with the US government and the United Nations. Amanda graduated from The New School in New York City with a Masters in International Affairs with a focus on urban development, and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada in International Development and Business. A member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



David Michael Terungwa, Founder and Executive Director of Global Initiative for Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP) based in Nigeria. He is the African Regional Coordinator for Citizens Climate Lobby, the West Africa Coordinator for The African Climate Reality Project & the volunteer coordinator 350 Nigeria. He advocates, educates and mobilizes communities to build resilience and take action on climate change. He is a highly efficient & dedicated individual with over 10 years' combined experience in Leadership for environmental sustainability, climate change and sustainable development in Africa. Passionate about environmental management, sustainable agriculture and renewable energy, dedicated to enabling sustainable development particularly in Sub Saharan Africa. David's personal mantra "Thou shall not pollute the Earth," he applies a degree in Agricultural Engineering with a specialization in Soil and Water Management and a post graduate

certificate in Renewable energy from TERI University New Delhi. His passion is training people, young and old, in best practices for sustainable land management, food production and environmental conservation. One of his initiatives is the #SolarForIDPCamps which is aimed at providing clean energy access to nearly 2 million persons taking shelter in different Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps across Nigeria by lighting up the IDP camps with Solar. Africa Regional Coordinator for Citizens Climate Lobby with 20 active groups spread across 15 countries in Africa teaching young people how to respectfully engage and lobby policy makers in their respective countries to make laws for environmental sustainability and climate change. Head Energy and Mitigation; Nigeria Civil Society Framework on Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. He is proud to be on the NGOCDSD-NY Executive Board and a member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Jane Katz is Board Vice-Chair and Washington DC Representative to Global Urban Development (GUD), and she represents the UN New Urban Agenda and General Assembly of Partners (GAP) on the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction/Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Advisory Group (SEM).

She coordinates its policy/advocacy strategy as an international urban and housing advisor to the UN and other global organizations. She provided expertise in global housing policy, urban, and land-related issues and campaigns as Director of International Affairs and Programs in Habitat for Humanity International's Office of Government Relations and Advocacy for close to twenty years. Her work has included advocating for housing policy and land tenure issues for the Sustainable Development Goals and Habitat III-the New Urban Agenda and successfully influenced inclusion of these issues in those global agreements. She led Habitat's Global Housing Policy Indicators assessment tool. Previously, Ms. Katz worked in the public and private sectors at Fannie Mae and in United States government agencies, including the Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD) and Federal Home Loan Bank Board. She received her Master of Arts degree in Government and Politics in urban affairs and public administration from the University of Maryland and Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Affairs from the University of Cincinnati. She serves on advisory boards and coalitions, including Co-Chair of the GAP Civil Society Constituent Group; UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign; and a member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Beverly Bucur, Director of Advocacy for Soroptimist International and Advisory Board Member of the South Suburban Family Shelter. Beverly has served in many leadership roles in Soroptimist International of the Americas and Soroptimist International. She currently serves, working with the Soroptimist International team of 22 UN Representatives in seven UN Centres and the Soroptimist Advocacy Committee. Our current International Appeal, *The Road to Equality*, focuses on issues that hold women and girls back from achieving their full potential including domestic violence, trafficking, child marriage, Female Genital Cutting, migration, and older women. At the Soroptimist club level, Beverly has coordinated partnerships between local clubs in the Chicago area to provide food, clothing, school supplies, gift cards and scholarship opportunities for survivors of Domestic Violence. She is a member of the Advisory Board of South Suburban Family Shelter, an agency providing comprehensive and coordinated domestic violence services in the the suburban south Chicago area. Services include: a hotline, counseling, emergency shelter,

medical advocacy, court advocacy, transitional housing, community education, and abuser intervention. Beverly has 40 years of experience in Education as a teacher and administrator. She is a National Board Certified Master Teacher, and has a MA in Educational Administration, a MA in Reading, and a BS in Elementary Education and a certificate in Bilingual Education. She is a member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Dr. Andrise Bass, BSCJ, MBA, Ph.D President and Founder of Humanitarian Focus Foundation, Vice President of ASPAFrique, and a Mentor/Leader at Al Gore's Climate Reality Project. Dr. Bass is a Transformational Strategist Coach, Entrepreneur, and Philanthropist with over 28 years of experience in the business industry. She has been a community organizer, for grassroots movements, an author, a keynote speaker, a business entrepreneur for business start-ups and a business strategist for non-profits. Her passion is helping men and women become leaders in their communities. Over the past 11 years, she has trained and mentored thousands of corporate professionals and entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds and varied industries across the globe. Every day, she looks forward to helping her clients transform their lives, so they can create wealth and have a long-lasting sustainable legacy. In 2011, she was honored as a social ambassador for her humanitarian work and her positive fight on social justice in Haiti. She has a Bachelor in criminal justice, MBA in Organizational Psychology and Ph.D. in public policy and administration. Working

with Al Gore she is a Mentor/Leader at Climate Reality Project and Vice President of ASPAFrique a non-profit. As President and Founder of Humanitarian Focus Foundation she is continuously working to support education, poverty alleviation, human rights, climate action, and sustainable development. Dr. Bass' goal is to educate women to become leaders in being of serve to their communities. She is a Vice Chair of the NGOCDSD-NY and a member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Aaron Etra, Chair, of UNA-USA Council of Organizations. Aaron holds a J.D. degree from Columbia University, a LL.M. from New York University and a B.A. from Yale University. He was a founding Lecturer on Law at the Institute of Public Administration and Member of the Senate of the University of Malawi. His public service activities include having been Membre de Cabinet of the Director-General of the International Labor Organization, founding Chair of the African Affairs Committee and a member of the Middle East and North Africa and UN Committees of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Vice-Chair of the United Nations NGO/DPI Executive Committee, Vice-Chair of the Council on UN Affairs of B'nai B'rith International, an officer of the UN CoNGO Committees on Human Rights and on Sustainable Development, serving on the President's Council of the Sea Research Foundation and the International Boards of Governors of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (which awarded him an Honorary Fellowship) and the Bezalel Academy of Arts & Design in Jerusalem. He is Chair of the Executive Committee of the Council of Organizations, Co-Chair of its UN75 Committee and a Member of the National Council of the United Nations Association of the U.S.A. (UNA-USA), a Vice-President of the World Council of Peoples for the United Nations (WCPUN) and has been a Representative at the UN of the Mexican Academy of International Law (Academia Mexicana de Derecho Internacional), the WCPUN and the World Development Foundation. He is proud to be an Honorary Advisor of the NGOCSD-NY and a member of the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster.



Jeffery Huffines is Senior Advisor of the Coalition for the UN We Need and Together First. Since 2017 the civil society-led UN2020 initiative had facilitated discussions with member states, UN officials and civil society advocates on the need for a robust, well prepared 75th anniversary commemoration for the UN in 2020, one that includes a meaningful process of stocktaking, review and strengthening of the organization. In December 2020, the UN2020 campaign was renamed the Coalition for the UN We Need. Together First is a network of individuals, civil society organizations, practitioners, parliamentarians, business leaders and activists from all regions of the world committed to fair, open and inclusive solutions to improve global governance. Jeffery had previously represented CIVICUS as UN Representative (NY), where he was an organizing partner of the UN DESA NGO Major Group (2011-2016) responsible for guiding multi-stakeholder engagement of NGOs in the lead up to Rio+20 through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. He was Chair of the 65th UN DPI/NGO Conference, "2015 and Beyond: Our Action Agenda", UN HQ NY, 27-29 August 2014.

He was also Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee (2007-2011), helping to organize the annual UN DPI/NGO Conferences hosted abroad in Paris (2008), Mexico City (2009), Melbourne (2010) and Bonn (2011). Jeffery was previously UN Representative (NY) for the U.S. Baha'i Community (1996-2009) where he led a number of NGO initiatives as Co-Chair of the Faith and Ethics Network for the International Criminal Court (FENICC); Chair of the UN Association/USA's New York Council of Organizations; President of the Committee of Religious NGOs; and co-founder of the Tripartite Forum on International Cooperation for Peace.



Margo LaZaro, President and Chair of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY. She is Co-Founder & CSO of the SDG Impact Awards Community. Margo is a Coalition Partner of the Coalition for the UN We Need and the Director of UN Relations for Global Family, and Chair of the Board of Advisors for Youth for a Better World/Montessori Model UN, Youth Impact! Forum and she represents the Huairou Commission at the UN. She is proud to be a Board member of Soroptimist International Metro New York Chapter and a Climate Reality Project Leader. She is the Convener of the NGO Major Group Urban Thematic Cluster, as well as a member of the Women's Major Group for the UN High Level Political Forum. Margo is a Designer and Artist with a career in Film, Theatre & TV production. In addition, she is an activist dedicated to supporting the causes related to the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. She has worked within the UN Community as a Chief Developer of meetings, conferences and Special Events with over thirty years of experience at the United Nations. She collaborates with all stakeholders in developing inclusive and impactful

programs and projects. The NGOCSD-NY has been proud to be a Partner of the UN Secretary General's UN75 Anniversary Dialogues and the UN Friends of World Oceans Day/Month initiatives. Margo is mainly focused on connecting all areas of the 17 UN SDGs. She passionately champions SDG 17 on Building Partnerships and she believes in the NGOCSD-NY motto: *"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change."* Margo brings entrepreneurs of all ages and the private sector into the United Nations discourse to foster investing in the SDG solutions to support the success of the UN2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, so we *"Leave No One Behind."*

Partners: NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, PVBLIC Foundation, NGO Major Group Urban Cluster, Coalition for the UN We Need, SDG Relief Fund, Together First, SDG Impact Awards Community, Global Family, Soroptimist International, World Federalist Movement-Canada, Humanitarian Focus Foundation, Salvation Army International Social Justice Commission, Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, COVIDxNOW, Empower-a-Billion-Women-EBW, Debate for Peace, Huairou Commission, Youth for a Better World:/Montessori Model UN, Youth Impact! Forum, General Assembly of Partners, Global Family for Love & Peace, ICW, CoNGO, and UNA-USA Council of Organizations.

"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"

<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>

