



# Global Technical Advisory Group Member Biographies

Supported by:



## **Sarah Cornish-Spencer, International Rescue Committee**



Sarah Cornish-Spencer works for the IRC as Women’s Protection and Empowerment Senior Technical Advisor within the Violence Prevention and Response Technical Unit. Sarah is a social worker (MSW) with over two decades of experience directly implementing, and providing technical support to, programming reaching women and girls in humanitarian crises. Sarah’s current focus is leading global work addressing GBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse of women and girls, through a women’s movement building and feminist approach, and with her team of technical advisors she supports WPE programming across 17 African countries. Sarah also represents the IRC as co-chair of the GBV AOR Minimum Standards Task Team and on many other global initiatives, such as the Humanitarian Innovation Fund GBV Challenge. Prior to joining the IRC, Sarah worked as a social worker in Asia and Africa, led organizational change efforts addressing gender equality, and led GBV programming for the ARC in South Sudan.

## Olga Ege, ActionAid Denmark



Olga Ege works for ActionAid Denmark as Senior Program Manager advising and coordinating youth-led initiatives on social justice, political participation and women's rights in various contexts. She is part of the humanitarian team in the organisation and thus works to strengthen synergies between humanitarian crisis and longer-term development initiatives, the nexus. Previously, Olga was the GBV & Protection Manager for CARE International in Lebanon where she designed and coordinated a large number of projects and initiatives promoting protection, gender equality and rights for refugees and marginalised host communities affected by the Syrian crisis, including Empowered Aid. Olga has profound experience both as manager, trainer and coordinator on an extensive range of development and humanitarian issues, including gender equality, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (PSEA), protection, as well as human rights-based approaches. She is a certified trainer in Protection Mainstreaming. Olga holds a master degree in International Development Studies from Roskilde University in Denmark.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Biography added in July 2020.

## Emily Galloway, Global Communities



Protection Advisor for Global Communities, with whom I have worked for the past 7 years in the Humanitarian Assistance team. As Protection Advisor, I provide technical support and guidance to humanitarian protection programs, including Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence. I am also responsible for leading protection mainstreaming efforts within Humanitarian Assistance and the broader organization, including Safeguarding and PSEA. Prior to this role, I served as Protection Manager for our Syria portfolio, where I was responsible for implementing protection, CP and GBV programming and also supported efforts to improve our prevention of and response to SEA at the country office level, supporting capacity building, conducting investigations, and reviewing policies and practices. I am passionate about protection, with over 10 years' experience in various roles – UN and NGO, HQ and field operations, including in Somalia implementing child protection programming with former child soldiers and with refugee resettlement in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Biography added November 2021.

## Diane Goodman, UNHCR



Diane Goodman works for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as Senior Coordinator on Prevention and Response to Sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH), a position she has held since 2018. In this capacity she is responsible for leading and coordinating UNHCR’s wide-ranging efforts to tackle sexual misconduct, and, in particular, ensuring the implementation of a victim/survivor centred approach in UNHCR’s prevention and response measures.

Diane has over 25 years of experience working in refugee protection, with a particular expertise on women and children’s rights. Prior to becoming Senior Coordinator, she was Deputy Director of UNHCR’s Regional Bureau for Europe (2013 – 2018) and Head of Operations for the European refugee and migrant crisis (2015 - 2017). Diane has also worked with UNHCR in Nepal as Deputy Representative, in Sudan as Assistant Representative, in Geneva with the Division of International Protection and in Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya as a Protection Officer. She has also worked for the United Nations in Haiti and Cambodia.

Diane has also held positions with civil society organizations including Human Rights Watch as Refugee Policy Director, the Women's Refugee Commission as Liaison Officer and was a research fellow at the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights and at the Institute of Women’s Rights at the Faculty of Law of the University of Oslo.

A Canadian national Diane holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Western Ontario and Bachelor and Masters of Law degrees from the Faculty of Law of the University of Toronto, and is married with two children.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Biography added in October 2021

## Christine Heckman, UNICEF



Christine Heckman works for UNICEF as a Gender-based Violence in Emergencies Specialist. She has more than a decade of experience working on GBV-related issues, including domestic violence, human trafficking, and conflict-related sexual violence. In her current role, Christine supports multiple elements of UNICEF’s global GBViE portfolio, including development of technical guidance on GBViE, policy and advocacy work, and direct support to UNICEF country offices and regional

offices. Prior to joining UNICEF, she worked for the GBV AoR Rapid Response Team and UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict. Christine is a graduate of the University of California, Davis and Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Biography updated July 2020.

## Alexandra Hileman, International Organization for Migration



Ms. Alexandra Hileman is the PSEA Project Coordinator for the International Organization for Migration, managing IOM's dedicated project to support in-country PSEA Networks and senior leadership on their PSEA programs. In 2015, she joined the IASC's project to pilot inter-agency Community-Based Complaint Mechanisms (CBCMs) in Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, working with the field teams operating those mechanisms to learn good practices on the design and implementation of joint PSEA initiatives. After drafting the resulting [Best Practice Guide on inter-agency CBCMs](#), she has spent the last 4 years developing and delivering contextualized trainings globally on behalf of the IASC to share these lessons learned and good practices with country colleagues, and bringing new practices back to the UN and IASC community. She now offers technical assistance to field teams both remotely and by deployment on establishing PSEA Networks and ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate assistance, as well as on establishing and/or strengthening joint complaint mechanisms. Ms Hileman came to the humanitarian field with a background in international prosecutions on crimes of sexual violence.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Biography updated July 2020.

## Lyndsay Hockin, World Vision



Lyndsay Hockin is the global UN Humanitarian Representative and Senior Humanitarian Policy Advisor for World Vision, focusing primarily on the Children and Armed Conflict agenda thematically, but also more broadly within the technical sectors on child protection and GBV in humanitarian action, particularly as GBV affects young children and adolescents, and the intersections of the CAC and CRSV agendas. Lyndsay is now based in New York. Prior, Lyndsay's background is humanitarian work, focused on operations, management and technical areas of work in GBV and CP in humanitarian settings, in field posts.



## Vahid Jahangiri, Deputy Director of International Lifeline Fund



Since joining Lifeline in 2006, Vahid has successfully launched multiple operations to include Lifeline programs in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Sudan, Congo and Haiti. Vahid is a key contributor to the SAFE initiative and served on the Strategic Advisory Committee for UNHCR's Global SAFE Strategy. Vahid has extensive knowledge in program implementation, fuel technologies design, testing and M&E in both refugee and post conflict settings. Additionally, Vahid has performed consultancy work for several UN agencies such as WFP and UNDP, working to evaluate fuel technology programs, designing implementation strategies and formulating country energy strategies throughout Eastern Africa and in Haiti.

Vahid received his B.A. in International Management from the University of Baltimore and holds a Masters Degree in International Public Policy from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). In his spare time, Vahid enjoys traveling to exotic locations around the world in search of new spices and culinary delicacies.

## Emily Krasnor, UNFPA



Emily Krasnor has spent over 15 years working on international human rights, development and humanitarian response at the United Nations and with NGOs. Emily is a skilled technical writer who has conducted quality research and authored numerous guides, toolkits, and training material/curricula. She has led capacity building activities on GBV in emergencies, on integrating gender equality in donor policies and on gender in humanitarian response. She has also managed strategic planning processes and led numerous evaluations for the UN that contributed to organizational effectiveness and improved programming. Emily Krasnor graduated from Emory University and received a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).

## **Georgina Lund, CARE International**



Georgie is currently the Safeguarding Coordinator, based in CARE International Secretariat. Prior to joining CARE, Georgie was the Child safety and Safeguarding Advisor War Child UK where she co-wrote and led on the roll-out of the safeguarding policy, procedures and mechanisms. As part of the roll-out, socialisation and embedding of the policy, Georgie created tools and guidance based on sector wide best practice. This included inputting into risk registers, leading on mainstreaming safeguarding into safer programming – including creation of Child Safety Checklists, integrating safeguarding standards into media & communications, establishing reporting mechanisms and focal point networks, child friend feedback mechanism, leading investigations, creating and delivering safeguarding training, and embedding a safety and safeguarding culture in numerous humanitarian contexts (particularly the Middle East and central Africa).

She continues to be engaged in numerous safeguarding forums and forms of external representation relevant to the humanitarian sector. She is an independent advisor to the FCDO, sitting on the reference group for PSEA. She is also part of the Advisory Group for the IASC Independent PSEA review and represents CARE as part of the ISCS Thematic Experts Group and the IVCA PSEA Focal Points group. Georgie was also asked to act as a ‘subject matter expert’ for the Humanitarian Leadership Academy to design an online sector-wide training for safeguarding and PSEA – ‘Safeguarding Essentials. Most recently, Georgie led on the creation of guidance of communicating safeguarding and PSEA messages, and ensuring communities had access to safe reporting mechanisms during COVID-19, particularly when people movement is limited, as part of a global network of safeguarding leads.

Prior to working at War Child, Georgie worked with Save the Children UK and Save the Children International in a variety of roles, including Child Safeguarding in Emergencies, working in across East Africa and the Middle East.

## **Robyn Mildon, Centre for Evidence and Implementation**



Robyn Mildon PhD is the founding executive director of the Centre for Evidence and Implementation (CEI). Robyn is an internationally recognised leader with a long standing career focused on the implementation, mainstreaming, and scaling-up of evidence to achieve social impact for children, families and communities in a range of health and human service areas. She has lead several national, ongoing initiatives aimed at improving the selection, and use of, evidence to in real-world service and policy settings. In addition to her Australian-based work, Robyn has built a portfolio of projects collaborating with both government and non-government agencies in countries such as Singapore, Norway, Sweden, the USA, the UK and New Zealand, and has been a keynote speaker at multiple events around the globe. Robyn was the co-chair of the Global Evidence and Implementation Summit 2018, was the founding chair of the Scientific Program Committee for the first and second Australian Implementation Conference (AIC), and co-chair for the third Biennial Australasian Implementation Conference. She is also the founding co-chair of the Knowledge Translation and Implementation Group with the Campbell Collaboration. Robyn holds an honorary Associate Professorship with the University of Melbourne.

## **Anny Modi, Afia Mama**



Anny Tengandide Modi is a Congolese activist whose areas of intervention are in the promotion of the rights of women and girls who are survivors of gender based violence as well as those living with HIV/AIDS in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Southern Africa.

She is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Afia Mama (Women's Health), an organization committed to the reproductive health and access to justice for women, as well leadership development, economic empowerment, legal assistance and social development for young women. Afia Mama's primary objective is around eradicating stigma and discrimination living with HIV/AIDS or who are survivors, and promoting their well-being. She also currently coordinates the Congolese Young Women's Movement, this is a network of almost 400 organizations across the country, that supports young women's integration in decision making positions, peacebuilding processes, and development and humanitarian interventions at all levels.

She was the capacity building manager for the DFID Project in Kinshasa, where she supported the establishment of a girl lead research unit, which used innovative girl led research methods to generate evidence on the needs and barriers faced by adolescent girls in the DRC.

## **Wairimu Munyinyi-Wahome, Coalition on Violence Against Women**



Wairimu Munyinyi-Wahome is an advocacy and policy specialist, with over 16 years of international experience, including in Namibia, Somaliland, Sierra Leone and, more recently in Kenya. In these countries, Wairimu has served in various roles including Advocacy Advisor, Mainstreaming Coordinator with Concern Worldwide, Country Advocacy Manager with Oxfam where she also briefly served as an Acting Country Director. In Kenya, Wairimu has served with the Norwegian Refugee Council as the Regional Advocacy, Protection and Communications Advisor for Eastern and Horn of Africa and Yemen. She served with Oxfam in Kenya as the Programmes Director.

Wairimu is passionate about gender and development issues and is keen to see that laws and policies in development accord women and girls their rightful place in the mainstream agenda and that their rights are secured and respected as they pursue their potential as equal citizens. She believes strongly that for African countries to move to the next frontier of development, they must firmly embed the rights of women and girls in their interventions, by ensuring that they are protected and safe to contribute to development processes in their personal and public spaces. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Sciences from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, an Honors Degree in Development Studies from the University of South Africa and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Management from the Strathmore Business School. She is a proud alumna of Loreto High School, Limuru.

## **Gry Tina Tinde, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**



Tina Tinde is IFRC's Advisor on Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. She chairs a Task Force that developed IFRC's PSEA policy adopted in June 2018. She supports Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies globally in developing their own PSEA policies and ensuring a survivor-centred approach. In 2016-18 she was Gender and Diversity Coordinator at the IFRC. She served in two UN peacekeeping operations (Cambodia and Ex-Yugoslavia) and her background covers protection from sexual and gender-based violence in emergencies, development of anti-harassment policies, Code of Conduct training, communications and other international cooperation fields. She was the first Diversity Advisor in human resources at the Inter-American Development Bank, Washington D.C., 2009-12, and Special Advisor on Gender Issues to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Geneva, 2004-09. At UNHCR she co-drafted the UN Secretary General's Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (2007) and chaired an IASC working group on awareness raising and training on PSEA.

# GWI & EMPOWERED AID TEAM

## **Mary Ellsberg, Global Women's Institute**



Dr. Mary Ellsberg is the Executive Director and Founding Director of the Global Women's Institute at the George Washington University. Dr. Ellsberg has more than 30 years of experience in international research and programs on gender and development. Before joining the university in August 2012, Dr. Ellsberg served as Vice President for Research and Programs at the International Center for Research on Women. Dr. Ellsberg's deep connection to global gender issues stems not only from her academic work, but also from living in Nicaragua for nearly 20 years, leading public health and women's rights advocacy. She was a member of the core research team of the World Health Organization's Multi-Country Study on Domestic Violence and Women's Health, and she has authored more than 40 books and articles on violence against women and girls. Dr. Ellsberg earned a doctorate in epidemiology and public health from Umea University in Sweden and a bachelor's degree in Latin American studies from Yale University.



## Alina Potts, Global Women's Institute



Alina Potts is a Research Scientist with the Global Women's Institute at the George Washington University, where she aims to center women and girls in asking and answering questions around how to better address gender-based violence (GBV) in humanitarian settings. Previously, Alina coordinated violence prevention research at UNICEF and explored intersections between GBV and child protection in emergencies. As a practitioner, Alina led GBV programming for the International Rescue Committee in a number of humanitarian responses over the last 10+ years—including Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar), Lebanon, Syria, DR Congo, Kenya (Dadaab) and Sudan (Darfur). Her experience in forced migration extends to refugee resettlement in the US; asylum advocacy in Europe; and addressing grave violations in conflict settings.

Alina holds a BA in Anthropology and International Development from Boston University and a Master's of Public Health in Forced Migration and Health from Columbia University. She welcomes opportunities for shared learning, and teaches graduate classes on GBV in complex emergencies.

## Elizabeth Hedge, Global Women's Institute



Elizabeth Hedge currently serves as the Empowered Aid Research Associate at the Global Women's Institute, directly supporting the project lead and country partners. Prior to joining the Global Women's Institute, Elizabeth was the Policy & Resource Mobilization Specialist in UN Women's Washington, D.C. Liaison Office. As part of her role, she supported advocacy, outreach, and partnership building with the U.S. Government and the Washington, D.C. based foreign policy community. Elizabeth also served as Gender Specialist for the Program on Gender Equality in International Affairs at the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, working closely with the Program Director to mainstream gender in curriculum, scholarly research, events, and career guidance in the Elliott School of International Affairs. Throughout her career and scholarly work, Elizabeth has taken part in multiple research and policy efforts on violence against women and girls in humanitarian settings and the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. Elizabeth received an MA in International Affairs with concentrations in Global Gender Policy & Conflict from the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, and a BA in History and Political Science, from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. Originally from New Zealand and England, Elizabeth spent her childhood living in Asia until beginning her university studies at Loyola Marymount University.