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WOMEN AT THE HELM OF SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE THREATS

Monday, 21 March
10:00 am - 11:30 am EDT
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm CET



CONCEPT NOTE

According to research, gender inequality aggravates the effects of climate change on women's health. In addition, complex relations among socioeconomic, cultural, and physiological factors amplify gender-based vulnerabilities and health disparities, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

There is a need for gender-responsive, inclusive and accessible holistic health care services that address these barriers in protecting women's health and responding to climate change. Moreover, empowering women as agents of social change and including their needs and voices will improve sustainable adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction policy interventions, while ensuring that women's rights are respected.

SPEAKERS

KEHKASHAN BASU KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Founder-President, Green Hope Foundation

NICK NEWLAND

Advocacy Director, Associated Country Women of the World

GABRIEL TRIPURA

Executive Director, Kothowain

TABAN SHORESH

Representing Giving Women, CEO the Lotus Flower

EDWARD C. CARLSON

Chief Executive Officer, Odyssey House Louisiana

MARÍA VICTORIA ESPADA MODERATOR

Representative to the UN, Dianova International

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Kehkashan Basu

Winner of the 2016 International Children's Peace Prize, Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M. is an iconic global influencer, environmentalist, champion of women rights, TEDx speaker, author, musician, peace and sustainability campaigner. A Forbes 30 Under 30, Kehkashan is a United Nations Human Rights Champion, a National Geographic Young Explorer, the Regional Organizing Partner for North America for the NGO Major Group and one of Canada's Top25 Women of Influence. Kehkashan is the Founder-President of global social innovation enterprise Green Hope Foundation, which works at a grassroots level in 26 countries. She has spoken at over 300 United Nations and other global fora. She is the youngest Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions and Co-Lead of the Generation Equality Forum Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice.

Nick Newland

Nick Newland is ACWW's Advocacy Director and Chief Privacy Officer. He represents the organization as Focal Point at the Commission on Status of Women and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and attends meetings at FAO, UNHRC, CEDAW, and UNESCO to ensure that ACWW's members are heard on the international stage. Originally trained as a musician, Nick was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Society of the Arts in 2014. Passionate about education, Nick spent five years lecturing in historical musicology at Goldsmiths, University of London and was awarded a Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy in the UK.

Gabriel Tripura

Gabriel is the Executive Director of KOTHOWAIN (Vulnerable Peoples Development Organization) in Bangladesh, a member organization of the Dianova Network. He has been working on development for more than 19 years in the region. He belongs to the Ethnic minority/Indigenous community and serves for these communities on community livelihood development, human and indigenous rights, good governance, health and education, women's and children's empowerment, youth and adolescents, climate change, emergency response (forcedly displaced peoples called Refugees Communities), community empowerment, social awareness raising, and advocacy and networking.

Taban Shores

A former child genocide survivor, Taban is the founder of the Lotus Flower, a non-profit that supports female conflict survivors and refugees in Kurdistan, Iraq. With a political activist father during Saddam Hussein's regime, Taban was imprisoned with her family aged just four, and they narrowly escaped being buried alive. After a year, they were finally flown to the UK by Amnesty to start a new life. Taban later worked within an investment firm in London, but in April 2014, as she saw ISIS waging another genocide in her homeland, she returned to Kurdistan as an aid worker. Back in the UK, she launched the Lotus Flower in 2016. She has received a Bravery Award from Hearst media company and was a finalist in Red magazine's Women of the Year awards. Taban is also a One Young World ambassador.

Edward C. Carlson

Edward has been the Chief Executive Officer of Odyssey House Louisiana, Inc. (OHL) since January 2005, bringing over 35 years' experience in human services and addiction field. Under his tenure, he has expanded OHL from a small, singular treatment program to a multi-program social service continuum of care, growing OHL into the largest and most comprehensive substance abuse treatment facility in Louisiana. Mr. Carlson has been responsible for the implementation and operations of over 39 treatment programs over his career and is a dedicated advocate for the substance abuse field.

María Victoria Espada

María Victoria is a Master's Degree Economist with vast professional experience in different countries and institutions. Her areas of expertise include sustainable development, cooperation for development, public finance, and strategic partnership building. María Victoria is currently representing Dianova International at the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS). She also serves the NGO Major Group as Global Organizing Partner. María Victoria is a proud advocate of the promotion, protection and strengthening of civic society space, particularly in international organizations.