

**Breaking the Silos:
Coordinating Approaches to Address Gender Inequality,
Gender-based Violence and Rights in Asia and the Pacific**

Speakers Biographies
In order of appearance



Jacqueline McPherson, DrPH, Regional Director, Asia Pacific Regional Office, FHI 360, has over 25 years of experience in international health and development in Asia and the US. In her current post as Regional Director for FHI 360's Asia and Pacific Region she is responsible for strategic direction, representation, business development and partnerships, program management, scientific and technical quality, and administrative support to FHI 360's country and regional programs. She has extensive experience in program and project design, management, and evaluation; strategic information management and planning; institutional and organizational

development; and training and facilitation. She currently oversees a broad and increasingly integrated portfolio including communicable and vector-borne diseases, maternal and child health, nutrition, clinical and non-clinical research, social marketing and communication, work force development, education, mobile technologies, digital financial services, gender and gender based violence, and other development areas.



Maura Barry Boyle, Director, General Development Office, USAID Regional Development Mission Asia, serves as the Office Director of the General Development Office (GDO) in the Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) in Bangkok, Thailand. In this role she oversees programs that engage with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Secretariats in support of regional integration, security, disaster management, human rights, trade, food security and other regional issues. She manages the provision of regional services and thought

leadership through a team of special advisors in areas including private sector engagement, resilience, gender, infrastructure development and local capacity development. Prior to this, Ms. Boyle served as Regional Advisor for Local Capacity Development at RDMA, where she supported USAID efforts to improve local capacity development in the region and provided guidance for incorporating capacity development into strategies and projects. She worked in Afghanistan as the Deputy Office Director for USAID's Office of Democracy and Governance from 2011 – 2012, and has served as USAID East Africa's Office Director for the Somalia. In addition to her 15 years of USAID experience, she worked for four years with the United Nations Development Program and six years with CARE International. Ms. Boyle holds an MPA in public and Non-profit Management from New York University and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya.



Mary Ellsberg, Ph.D., Director, Global Women's Institute, George Washington University, has more than 30 years of experience in international research and programs on gender and development. Before joining George Washington 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. She holds a Ph.D. in Epidemiology and Public Health from Umea University in Sweden and a B.A. in Latin American Studies from Yale University.



Maryce Ramsey, Senior Gender Advisor, Gender Department, FHI 360, has served as Senior Gender Advisor at multiple organizations where she provided overall gender and youth technical guidance to the home and country offices. She has led organizational gender and youth capacity building, conducted program-level gender assessments/analyses, and provided technical assistance on gender integration into core tools and processes. She has served as a gender advisor on multiple USAID global projects with a recognized sub-specialty in youth, including expertise in developing life skills programs for pre- and adolescent girls and boys. Previously, she was the Project Director for the Safe Schools project addressing school-related gender-based violence and she co-authored four curricula for the Go Girls! Initiative addressing girls' vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. Most recently, she spent four months working with FHI 360's programs in Asia, including three months in Papua New Guinea supporting the integration of gender-based violence services into program supported clinics. Ms. Ramsey holds a M.A. in Public Health from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.



Roselyn Nopa, Gender Officer, FHI 360, Papua New Guinea, has seven years of health experience, beginning her career as a clinical officer in various health facilities. She has worked in the fields of Leprosy and Tuberculosis Surveillance, Medical Research and Gender Based Violence and worked with PNG National Department of Health (NDoH), World Vision International, Medecins Sans Frontieres and now with FHI 360. For the past two years, she has worked as a Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Officer assisting survivors with the provision of comprehensive medical care, facilitating

referrals to other service providers, i.e. safe shelter, legal, etc., assisted with setting up of facilities to roll out SGBV services, trained health workers on medical and psychosocial care for SGBV survivors, carried out outreach and sensitization activities and programs in the communities, with service providers and in schools and advocated about GBV. She was part of the Gender Technical Working Group (TWG) working in partnership with the NDoH and other stakeholders in addressing GBV issues. In her role as a Gender Officer with FHI 360, Ms. Nopa is responsible for integrating GBV into the current HIV/STI services, assisting with shelter activities, ensuring clinical staff, service providers and community members are trained and sensitized on GBV response, and overseeing the phone counselling services. She is part of the Gender team working closely with NDoH and other stakeholders in GBV coordination and advocacy. Ms. Nopa holds a Diploma of Health Sciences – Health Extension from Divine Word University (College of Allied Health Sciences then) and various SGBV training certificates from Médecins Sans Frontières.



Manisha Dhakal, Executive Director, Blue Diamond Society, Nepal, is a transgender (male to female) LGBT rights activist from Kathmandu. She has been involving in Nepal's LGBT rights movement since 2001 through various projects on HIV/AIDS, human rights activism, constitutional campaigns, advocacy, capacity building, and academic research. Ms. Dhakal is currently the Executive Director of Blue Diamond Society (BDS), Nepal's leading LGBT rights organization. BDS is one of Nepal's largest non-governmental organizations with over 750 full-time staff and 53 offices. Ms. Dhakal is also the president of the board of the Federation of Sexual and Gender Minorities Nepal, which is the network of all LGBT rights organizations. Regionally, she is one of the founding members of the Asia-Pacific Transgender Network representing South Asia, and was a member of the Country Coordination Mechanism of the Global Fund (CCM). Recently she was elected as Co Chair of ILGA Asia Board. She was awarded the "Nai Ram Laxmi" National award in 2010 for her contributions to the LGBT movement in Nepal. On 21 December 2007, the Supreme Court of Nepal issued a landmark verdict directing the government to enact laws enabling equal rights to LGBT citizens, and she was involved in court pleadings on this case on behalf of LGBT people before the Supreme Court. Ms. Dhakal holds a Masters degree in finance from Shanker Dev Collage, Kathmandu.

Pok Panhavichetr, Executive Director, Cambodian Women's Crisis Center, Cambodia, has more than 20 years of experience working as a senior officer and executive director of various development national and international organizations in Cambodia. Ms. Panhavichetr has been working towards the promotion of women's rights and gender equality in Cambodia, and holds a Masters degree in Social Science from the International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, the Netherlands.



James Lawrence Lang, Regional Advisor, Gender-Based Violence and Rights for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Development Programme, has nearly 20 years of professional experience working with international organizations on the issues of gender equality and social justice. His work has focused on research, project design and management, policy advocacy and facilitation of learning processes in the areas of gender-based violence, violence prevention and engaging boys and men in gender justice. Mr. Lang is an active researcher, writer and trainer and has published numerous papers and studies on gender-based violence. Previous to his current role, he helped to create and lead Partners for Prevention, a UN joint programme focused on gender-based violence prevention in Asia-Pacific. Over the years, he has also worked for various NGOs and UN agencies including Futures without Violence and Oxfam GB. He currently serves as a member of the Coordinating Group for the global Sexual Violence Research Initiative and as a member of the Asia Development Bank's External Forum on Gender. Mr. Lang contributed to recent publications including:

“From working with men and boys to changing social norms and reducing inequities in gender relations: a paradigm shift in prevention of violence against women and girls.” *The Lancet*. November 2014, and

“Why Do Some Men Use Violence Against Women and How Can we Prevent It? Quantitative Findings from the United Nations Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific” *UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV*, 2013.



Jean Kemitare, Program Manager, GBV Prevention Network, Raising Voices, Uganda, is in charge of the regional Gender-Based Violence Prevention Network. She has over 10 years of experience working in the non-profit sector in Uganda specializing in community development, research and advocacy. Ms. Kemitare is passionate about human rights and finding approaches and strategies that lead to the real empowerment of African women and the protection of their rights. She holds a bachelors degree in Social Work from Makerere University and is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Social Sector Planning and

Management from the same university.



Emma Fulu, Ph.D., Founder and Director, The Equality Institute, Australia, has a Ph.D. from the University of Melbourne and is a global expert on violence against women and girls. She is the founder and director of the Equality Institute which works to advance all forms of equality and prevent violence against women through scientific research, innovation and creative communications. Most recently Dr. Fulu was the Programme Manager for What Works to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls – a DFID-funded global programme investing an unprecedented £25 million over 5 years to the prevention of violence against women and girls across Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Before that Emma worked at Partners for Prevention: a joint UN programme, and was the Principal Investigator for the ground-

breaking United Nations Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence. She has presented widely on the issue of violence against women and girls, and been published widely in a number of high-level journals including *The Lancet*. Dr. Fulu is the author of the book *Domestic Violence in Asia: Globalization, Gender and Islam in the Maldives* and also blogs for the Huffington Post UK on gender issues.



Andrea M. Bertone, Ph.D., Director, Gender Department, FHI 360, has 20 years of international development and related research experience on girls' education, human trafficking, gender integration and mainstreaming, and girls' and women's empowerment. She has managed projects, developed tools on girls' education, and conducted research about women and gender. She has co-authored two girls' mentoring guides and authored several peer-reviewed articles on human trafficking. Dr. Bertone is the Director of FHI 360's Gender Department where she provides strategic programmatic and technical leadership; coordinates gender integration across technical sectors and geographic locations; and consults on technical program implementation issues. Concurrently, she serves as Adjunct Professor at George Washington University where she teaches graduate courses on human trafficking and gender and development. Dr. Bertone holds a Ph.D. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park.



Patty Alleman, Senior Regional Gender Advisor, USAID, Regional Development Mission Asia, is based in Bangkok at the USAID/Regional Development Mission Asia (RDMA). In this position since May 2013, she supports RDMA and bilateral USAID country missions in Asia to identify, develop, monitor and report high quality and innovative strategies and programming to reduce gender disparities in all development outcomes, prevent gender-based violence, and increase voice and visibility of women and girl leaders. She also fosters regional partnerships across a wide range of stakeholders, including colleagues in host country governments, U.S. government, development partners, multilaterals, and the private sector. Some of her most recent work has focused on advancing gender lens investing in Asia. She has been with USAID since 2009, and in prior positions worked in the non-governmental and academic fields. Ms. Alleman has Masters degrees in anthropology and public health, with a strong background in governance and policy, strategic partnerships, and research.



Beth S. Paige, Mission Director, USAID, Regional Development Mission Asia, was appointed USAID Mission Director for USAID's Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) in August 2015. She is a Senior Foreign Service Officer with over 25 years of experience with the Agency. Prior to this assignment, Ms. Paige served as Mission Director for Jordan, one of the Agency's most high profile Missions. Ms. Paige served as Director of USAID's provincial office in Lahore, Pakistan. From 2009-2010, she represented USAID at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., where she served a dual role as the USAID senior adviser to the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute and as professor for international development. Ms. Paige also served as USAID Mission Director for Nepal during a critical time in that country's peace process. Her other overseas tours include Bangladesh, El Salvador, Kenya, Mali and Egypt. Ms. Paige received a BA in political science and a Masters degree in agriculture from Southern Illinois University.



Susan Ferguson, Counsellor Gender and Sport, Australian High Commission, Papua New Guinea, is currently on an Australian Government posting to Papua New Guinea where she is the Counsellor of the Gender and Sport program. She has been a gender specialist for 10 years and has worked as an international development practitioner for close to 15 years. She started her overseas career in South Africa where she lived for three years working on a local governance capacity building program. She then moved to Papua New Guinea to work within the PNG Electoral Commission where she managed civil society engagement and provided communications advice to help the Government introduce a new voting system. She was the gender adviser to the PNG Australian aid program in PNG and then moved to Solomon Islands where she worked with the aid program and the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) for a year. She served as a gender specialist in Canberra providing technical skills across many country programs within the Australian aid program including Myanmar, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Philippines. Ms. Ferguson was a key instigator of the flagship Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Program and is proud to be able to implement the PNG commitments of this program directly through her current job. She has a Masters of International and Community Development.



Anne-Charlotte Malm, Counsellor and Head of Development Cooperation, the Embassy of Sweden Embassy in Bangkok, is responsible for the Swedish Regional Development Cooperation in Asia. She has more than 20 years experience in development cooperation, mainly with Asia and Africa, and she has been based at the Swedish Embassies in Afghanistan and Vietnam. Her previous positions include Assistant Director General at Swedish International Development Association and Department Director for Infrastructure and Economic Cooperation. She has also worked as analyst and advisor at the Swedish embassy's development cooperation

section in Bangkok. Ms. Malm holds a M.Sc. in Civil Engineering from Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology.



Roberta Clarke, Regional Director, UN Women Asia Pacific, representing UN Trust Fund for Ending Violence Against Women, is an Attorney-at-Law with specialization in human rights law.



Jane Sloane, Vice President of Programs, Global Fund for Women, was previously Vice President of Development with Women's World Banking in New York; and Executive Director of International Women's Development Agency, supporting women's rights organizations across Asia and the Pacific. In this role she led a breakthrough women, faith and development initiative that generated \$1.2 billion in new funds for women and girls. Ms. Sloane's commitment to women's human rights has been recognized with an Advance Foundation Global Ambassadors Award; an Asia Pacific Business Women's Council Woman of Distinction Award; a Churchill Fellowship; a Vietnam Women's Union Humanitarian Medal; and a Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Fellowship. Ms. Sloane serves on the Board of the Women's Funding Network, on the Advisory Board of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the London School of Economics and is a Patron of Marie Stopes International. She is also one of the original 75 Australian climate change presenters trained by Al Gore. Her blog is janeintheworld.com. She holds a Masters degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Sydney and a BA (Hons) from the University of Adelaide.



Caitlin Wiesen, Chief, Regional Policy and Program Support for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, has over 25 years' experience in development, working on issues of poverty reduction, governance, civil society empowerment, gender, sustainable human development, HIV, health and strategic partnerships. Ms. Wiesen was Regional Manager of the UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Center from 2013-2014. Prior to this she was the Country Director of UNDP India, and has held a variety of positions at UNDP in policy, strategic partnership, Asia and Africa Bureaus. Before joining the India office in 2010, Ms. Wiesen was Regional Practice Leader and Programme Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific on human rights, gender inequality and the human development dimensions of HIV, based in Colombo Sri Lanka. She was Senior Advisor on Poverty and Sustainable Human Development for Africa (1993-1998) and Director, Civil Society Division in the Bureau of Strategic Partnerships (1999-2002). Between 2003 and 2006, Ms. Wiesen was the Senior Advisor and Deputy



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Director HIV, in the Bureau of Development Policy. Ms. Wiesen has worked in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, North America and Europe. She holds a Masters in International Finance and Energy Policy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, United States.



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