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PROFILES

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ANGGA D. MARTHA, 27

Indonesia

*UN Youth Advisor for SDG Implementation in Indonesia,
UNFPA Indonesia*

ANGGA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Prioritizing sustainable development innovation through youth-led engagement"

THE ISSUE: The SDGs Youth Hub addresses two issues: (1) creating space for youth to participate and innovate in shaping the implementation of the SDGs, and (2) making the SDGs youth-friendly, especially at the grassroots level.

THE APPROACH: The SDGs Youth Hub focuses on five main values: inclusivity, future-oriented solutions, meaningful youth participation, youth-led engagement, and prioritizing innovation. The SDGs Youth Hub provides a space where different stakeholders, including young people, government leaders, representatives from civil society, business corporations, philanthropic organizations, and technology advocates discuss issues affecting young people and ways to solve them. This platform focuses on key development areas, identified in the four pillars of the Indonesian national priorities for the SDGs based on the Presidential Decree No. 59/2017 on the Implementation of the SDGs.

Angga is a recent graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and recipient of the SDG-focused Blakeley Foundation Fellowship, the 2017 Fletcher School Honos Civicus Civic Engagement Award, the 2017 Tufts University President's Awards for Civic Life, and the 2016 Indonesian Ambassador's Award for Excellence by the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S. He is currently the UN Youth Adviser for the Sustainable Development Goals in Indonesia, the liaison between the government and the UN country team in coordinating and mobilizing youth around awareness and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Angga is part of the CIVICUS Youth Action team, a group of youth leaders from around the world that are ensuring that youth are key stakeholders and active participants in shaping future development. He was also selected as one of ten young Southeast Asian Leaders to participate in a roundtable discussion on youth with former President Obama in 2018.

- » SDGs Youth Hub was endorsed by the United Nations Inter-Agency Network of Youth Development (UN-IANYD) Indonesia, a network consisting of UN entities whose work is relevant to youth.
- » SDGs Youth Hub is supported by the government of Indonesia through the Ministry of National Development Planning, the Executive Office of the President, and the Ministry of Youth and Sports.
- » SDGs Youth Hub will be supported by a coalition of youth networks in Indonesia.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: According to Angga, "teaching young people in rural areas is a challenge as many are dealing with a rise in populism and religious fundamentalism," and knows that, "many perceive the SDGs as a foreign agenda." He also often faces ageism, through comments like "you are too young" and "your experience is not enough," since he serves in his adviser role at a young age. However, he has remained stalwart in his efforts to get more Indonesian youth engaged in the SDGs.



ANNUM SADIQ TAWAB, 30

Pakistan

Co-founder and Chief Education Officer, EDKASA

ANNUM'S VISION FOR 2030: "Educating youth to liberate them along the lines of gender and income"

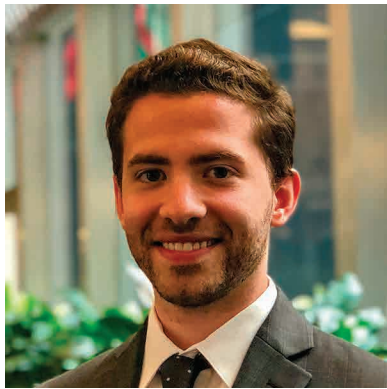
THE ISSUE: In 2010, Pakistan had 5.1 million children out of school, the world's second highest number.¹ A major reason for this figure is the insufficient number of secondary schools; only 1 in 9 government schools is a secondary school. In addition, of those who do attend secondary school, nearly two-thirds do not graduate. EDKASA's vision is to leapfrog the Pakistani constraints of secondary education: too few secondary schools, the shortage of qualified teachers, and the lack of resources to help students pass their examinations. UNESCO estimates that the global poverty rate can be halved if all adults complete secondary education. EDKASA wants to leverage technology to provide a cost-effective way to increase access to quality secondary education, thereby unlocking economic opportunities that can positively impact the poverty rate.

THE APPROACH: EDKASA is an educational technology company specializing in test preparation services for students from middle to low income backgrounds. EDKASA's vision is to make quality education accessible to help students graduate from high school and pursue higher education. Annum believes that receiving quality education will directly result in an increased likelihood of gainful employment. As a 2016 Fulbright scholar, 2017 Education Pioneers Graduate Fellow, and 2018 UKAID grant recipient, Annum leads the education delivery at EDKASA and provides support on curriculum design and live lecture delivery for the online platform. She has seven years of experience with education policy in Pakistan and the United States, in the Chelsea Public School District, at USAID, and as a World Bank consultant in the Punjab Education Sector Reform Programme.

- » EDKASA has two educational solutions: EDKASA Edupreneur and EDKASA Direct.
- » Through the Edupreneur model, EDKASA makes live, online teaching available to community-based entrepreneurs, called Edupreneurs, for a monthly subscription fee. These Edupreneurs screen EDKASA's content in physical classrooms using smart projectors and provide access to students in the community for a low-monthly cost.
- » EDKASA Direct enables students with access to a smartphone or an internet enabled device to directly connect to EDKASA's online learning platform for a monthly subscription fee and enroll in remedial classes.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: By 2019, nearly 90% of the population in Pakistan will have access to high-speed internet via 3G/4G services. EDKASA's online learning platform is geared towards connecting this vast population to top quality learning solutions. The platform can potentially connect hundreds of thousands of students at a reduced cost. Student learning is also tracked and gamified through the teaching process to ensure that learning is active. One of the challenges EDKASA faces is developing trust with parents and students in online education and to have them believe that virtual teaching and learning can significantly improve educational outcomes.

¹ https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/sites/gem-report/files/EDUCATION_IN_PAKISTAN__A_FACT_SHEET.pdf



ANTHONY BUCCI, 24

United States


Lead Coordinator, 2030 Today

ANTHONY'S VISION FOR 2030: "Streamlining efforts to make tangible and lasting impact on the Global Goals"

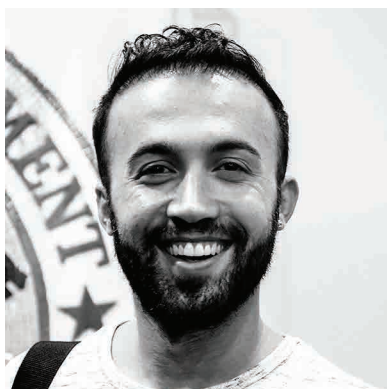
THE ISSUE: Anthony has two main goals: to promote SDG-awareness outside of the "UN bubble" and to generate tangible action related to each SDG. He insists on an integrated approach: "we need to be able to empower the father who takes his children to a beach cleanup, the teenager involved in scouting activities, and the businesswoman who contributes to her company's corporate social responsibility efforts—so that their contributions fit into a global framework." He believes that everyone has a role to play in addressing the SDGs, and we must make the goals accessible to the average person.

THE APPROACH: Anthony is using his leadership and activism positions to divide his SDG work three ways: his personal service projects, his government work, and his religious service.

- » 2030 Today is a forthcoming, bi-weekly 5-10 minute introductory, multilingual, and interactive web series featuring celebrities, high-level UN, NGO, business, academic, and religious leaders, that aims to inspire and connect youth, SDG Advocates, and everyday citizens together to learn about the UN. This idea was inspired by the 2017 Vatican Youth Symposium co-hosted by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Pontifical Academy of Sciences which charged participants to "give us an idea for SDG action and we will fund it."
- » Anthony was recognized for his integration of the SDGs into the New Jersey Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation (HOBY) Leadership Seminar, the largest annual state-level HOBY conference that trains over 300 students annually on personal, team, and community leadership. His seminar improvements were also integrated into the organization's international programs that train over 10,000 high school sophomores annually.
- » While at the State Department as a Presidential Management Fellow, Anthony led SDG policy and managed the interagency SDG working group, culminating in the High-Level Political Forum in July 2018.
- » As head of the Parish Pastoral Council of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in the "mother church" of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., Anthony is focused on environmental and social justice efforts through SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 13, as well as promoting interfaith dialogue and gender equality through SDG 5. Specifically, he is working with LGBTQ Catholic groups and the Archdiocese staff to ensure the Archdiocese is a welcome home to all Catholics. For his dedication, Anthony received the St. Francis Medal, the highest honor available to a Franciscan layperson, and the Volunteer Service Recognition Award from the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.



THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: For 2030 Today, Anthony believes that the greatest challenges will be consistently generating high-impact, interesting action items that continue to engage the world in a meaningful way. He shares that one great opportunity is the there is “no shortage of content and organizations that need support.” He resolves to “work with organizations that focus on SDG-related issues to develop 2030 Today episodes, content, and action items to direct the audience’s attention and action to where the need is greatest.”



AYAZ KADO, 27

Iraq


Deputy Director, Rasan Organization

AYAZ'S VISION FOR 2030: "Codifying the importance of LGBT+ rights, women's rights, and equal citizenship in Iraq"

THE ISSUE: Regardless of nationality, religion, or gender, all people should have a say in the development of the Global Goals. Ayaz envisions an Iraq where LGBT+ and women's rights are equal.

THE APPROACH: Rasan is a nongovernmental organization working with women and LGBT+ individuals in Iraq regardless of nationality, religion, or gender, with the goal of supporting gender equality. Established in 2004, Rasan is guided by five objectives: (1) protection, (2) awareness, (3) research and monitoring, (4) lobbying and alliances, and (5) women's capacity building and empowerment. Ayaz is a Youth Action Net Fellow, an AMENDS Fellow, a Y-Peer Fellow trainer, and an alum of the U.S. Institute of Peace program called Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars or SUSI. As Deputy Director of Rasan, Ayaz has remained resolute in his mission for equality and has built partnerships that are making a difference for the women and LGBT+ citizens of Iraq.

- » Rasan has handled numerous LGBT+ cases, supported more than 1,520 women survivors of gender-based violence and released several movie projects including "Men for Equality" which has had 17,895 views.
- » With Ayaz's help, Rasan recently created a women's empowerment program providing survivors of gender-based violence education on human rights, teaching them English and Arabic, economically empowering them with small funds for projects, and distributing hygiene kits.
- » Rasan's partnership with COC Netherlands has created a career center that helps LGBT+ individuals with psychological, legal, and social support through job placement and emergency shelter. These activities are directly connected to the SDGs on poverty, health, education, and gender equality.
- » Rasan holds a partnership with the Give a Dream Foundation that focuses on the rights of the transgender community. It includes awareness sessions for trans cases specifically for doctors, police, government officers, school managers, university staff, and faculty.
- » Rasan's project with AllOut focuses on delivering ideas on gender equality through art and large murals in the cities of Iraq.
- » Rasan held the first public LGBT+ workshops ever in Iraq, called Community Forums Leaders Workshops. They were held with the presence of community leaders from different sectors in the government, including the local Director of Health, the General Director of Education, the UNHCR, the Director of Rehabilitation Center of Woman and Juvenile in Suleymaniyah, the Directorate of Endowment and Religious Affairs, business men, lawyers, and even Imams.
- » Rasan's Imam allies released an article on the official website of their ministry calling people to respect LGBT+ individuals, to stop harassment and to hold seminars on women and LGBT+ at their colleges.

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- » The Art for Equality Campaign, the first campaign ever of its kind in the country, allowed Rasan to paint the walls of schools in the city of Sulaimanyah with pictures of LGBT and gender equality. This campaign reached an estimated 800,000 people.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: The main challenges endured by Ayaz and his team are culturally entrenched extremism, a lack of knowledge, and normalized verbal and physical abuse. Ultimately, Ayaz knows that, “the opportunities are inside the challenges.” Ayaz notes that when, “religious men refused our work and existence, we invited them to our workshop and made them allies,” showing his stalwart commitment to Rasan’s mission.



BENSON KIBITI, 31

Kenya

National Advocacy Coordinator, Caritas Internationalis Regional Advocacy Representative on SDGs

BENSON'S VISION FOR 2030: "Strengthening inclusivity and accountability through grassroots participation"

THE ISSUE: In the past, many have conflated economic growth with shared and equitable development for all in Kenya. It is now apparent that this growth has not been either inclusive or resulted in reduced poverty, nor has it created jobs for the burgeoning youthful population. Kenya has experienced mixed economic growth (GDP) since the 1960s ranging from as low as 1% to as high as 10%. The high growth has, however, not translated into significant reductions in poverty, especially among the poor.² Inequality still persists and an estimated 45.96% of the population live below the poverty line with regional disparities.³ Kenyans demanded greater inclusion in public decision-making which resulted in the creation of 47 counties the governments of which are now responsible for certain functions in agriculture, health, early childhood education, water, sanitation services, markets, and county public works.

THE APPROACH: Caritas Kenya uses three main strategies: (1) strengthening inclusion and accountability of those pushing for progress, (2) advancing partnerships on the SDGs by adopting good practices, and developing partnerships for shared prosperity while harnessing creativity, innovation, and (3) technology to solve the most pressing issues facing grassroots communities. As the National Advocacy Coordinator of Caritas Kenya, Benson has also been recognized by the international community as an innovator and leader.

- » In 2017, Benson was appointed as the Regional Representative for Caritas Internationalis SDGs Working Group (CI-SDGs WG) which supports global advocacy on SDG implementation plans and facilitates reflection and learning of the UN. The group is comprised of regional representatives (2 members from Africa, 2 from Europe, 1 from Oceania, 1 from MONA, 1 from North America, 1 from Asia, 1 from Latin America and the Caribbean).
- » Caritas Kenya is ensuring citizen participation and empowerment by convening community-based "Leave No One Behind Dialogues" with the purpose of raising awareness and collating local views on key priorities among the 17 goals.
- » Caritas Kenya was shortlisted by the UNLEASH Innovation Lab 2017, a global initiative that brings together 1,000 young academics, intrapreneurs, entrepreneurs, and tech experts annually. Caritas Kenya was named among the top ten global innovators on SDG 7.
- » Caritas Kenya nurtures partnerships with data-oriented development actors such as Development Initiative (DI) and DataShift, a CIVICUS initiative, which analyzes and presents citizen-generated data. These initiatives provide reality-checks that keep development efforts sustainable, governments accountable, and special interest groups relevant.

² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15689Kenya.pdf>

³ https://www.un.int/kenya/sites/www.un.int/files/Kenya/vnr_report_for_kenya.pdf

- » In 2016, Benson was appointed by the Ministry of Devolution and Planning to represent faith-based organizations as a Member of the Advisory Committee of the Implementation Inter-Agency Technical Committee (IATC) on SDG implementation in Kenya.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Caritas Kenya is tackling macro level challenges at the community level with the “Leave No One Behind Dialogues.” Frequent topics include the lack of inclusivity at the decision-making table, inequality & extreme poverty, food insecurity, human trafficking, illiteracy, corruption, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss, gender inequality as evidenced in gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls, youth unemployment, energy poverty, lack of safe water and adequate sanitation, and finally, marginalization of persons with disabilities. Benson knows that the SDGs will not be met if the poorest and most marginalized people continue to be left behind by progress.



DAKOTA GRUENER, 28

United States

Executive Director, ID2020


DAKOTA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Unlocking opportunity for billions with portable, privacy-protecting digital identity"

THE ISSUE: The ability to prove one's identity is a fundamental human right, yet over 1 billion people lack any form of identification.⁴ Without identity, people cannot access essential services, such as healthcare and education, participate as citizens or voters, or transact in the modern economy. For the most vulnerable people and those affected by conflict, a portable digital identity system can be a step toward regaining their identity, providing them with self-reliant opportunities, and improving their participation in the social and economic life of their host community.

THE APPROACH: The ID2020 Alliance is a global public-private partnership committed to improving lives through digital identity. Dakota's ID2020 team advocates for personal, portable, persistent, and private digital identity with the development of technical and ethical standards and the implementation of pilot projects. Portability is necessary so that individuals, whether refugees or international travelers can assert their identities across institutional and national borders, and across time. Privacy and user-control ensures that individuals can uniquely collate their personal data, and then selectively and granularly share only the data necessary for a transaction. Decentralization ensures that everyone—including those excluded from national identity programs due to marginalization, statelessness, or privacy concerns—is afforded this basic right. Furthermore, accurate systems of identification are not only beneficial to the individual but also necessary for accountability and governance. Digital identity will ensure that community resources are efficiently distributed and that development aid and protection is directed to those most in need. For example, by enabling the accurate collection of community demographics.

- » As a public health professional, Dakota was honored with the 2018 KNOW Identity Award for Greatest Social Impact Through Identity: Non-Profit and featured in Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella's "The People and Projects that Inspired Me in 2017" blog post.
- » The ID2020 Alliance informally launched in 2016 at the United Nations.
- » In 2017, the ID2020 Alliance formally launched with funding from The Rockefeller Foundation and Accenture. This global public-private partnership now also includes Microsoft, Mercy Corps, Kiva, and Gavi, and provides a mechanism for collaboration, pilot implementation, and transparent governance.
- » In November 2017, the ID2020 Alliance co-hosted a workshop with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) that resulted in a commitment from UNHCR to move forward with planning a joint digital identity pilot project.
- » The ID2020 Alliance is gearing up to host the third annual ID2020 Summit: Towards "Good" Digital Identity on September 14, 2018 in New York City.

⁴ <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2017/10/12/11-billion-invisible-people-without-id-are-priority-for-new-high-level-advisory-council-on-identification-for-development>



THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Dakota understands that current approaches to digital identity are not working. Siloed funding for projects leads to disjointed, non-interoperable digital identity which leads to large, centralized databases provide insufficient individual protections. “Proof of identity,” Dakota emphasizes, “is an essential tool in everyday life; it is required to access basic services (healthcare, education), to open a bank account or purchase a SIM-card, and to enable women with the protections and opportunities necessary to advance gender equality.” Dakota believes, “legal identity is a prerequisite for achieving many of the SDGs.” ID2020’s unique alliance model allows for pooled innovation and collaboration to bring private, portable digital identity to scale, unlocking opportunities at the individual and global level.



EDWARD KARGBO, 32

Sierra Leone

Head of Production, BBC Media Action Sierra Leone

EDWARD'S VISION FOR 2030: "Transforming journalism by deepening civil engagement in a way that encourages people to get involved, act, and promote change"

THE ISSUE: Edward is using media and communications to increase the number of girls, women, and persons with disabilities engaging in democratic discourse in Sierra Leone. His aim is to inform, connect, and empower people by helping to reduce poverty and support people in claiming their rights.

THE APPROACH: Edward's current project is called Engage Salone. It is a collective of Sierra Leonean journalists and activists focused on governance, accountability, the environment, and service delivery in health, education, and social welfare. The aim of the collective is to go beyond the borders of traditional news reporting by adopting a model that informs citizens, inspires action, and ultimately contributes to effecting change. Edward is working through media, communications, and training to help reduce poverty and support people in claiming their rights. As Head of Production at BBC Media Action Sierra Leone, Edward works with a team of talented radio and social media producers who are influencing a shift in perceptions and behaviors that bar women and persons with disability from participating in democratic processes in Sierra Leone. Aside from his BBC Media Action work, Edward is forging ahead with his own programming.

- » In February 2018, Edward helped design a radio show episode that challenges citizens to take action against Malaria, one of the biggest killers in the country. Engage Salone aims to influence behavioral change in a way that empowers citizens to not only hold their service providers accountable but also gives them the right information that helps them make choices for a healthier life.
- » The Engage Salone will cover female and disabled candidates in the recent March elections as social constructs continue to fuel negative attitudes and perceptions that bar women and persons with disabilities from participating in democratic processes.
- » In January 2018, Edward created a partnership with Independent Radio Network (IRN) over the elections period to ensure that the BBC's coverage did not only capture women's voices but also created a platform for women and girls to set the agenda and to talk about the issues that matter to them. It broadcasts across a network of 30+ radio stations serving Sierra Leone.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Edward shares that, "the main challenge for the advancement of the rights of marginalized groups is a lack of awareness and discriminatory mindsets." The current social and political structures are also a major challenge. As a journalist, Edward works to influence a shift in behavior and attitude. These barriers collectively pose a serious challenge. Continued production of well-informed radio and multimedia content, along with community engagement, have the potential to help influence a shift in behavior and attitudes. In the area of health communication, similar challenges exist. Edward observes that, "perceptions and myths have a serious influence on how people behave."



EMILY BOVE, 34

France/Britain

Former Executive Director & Women's rights and gender equality advocate, Women Thrive Alliance


EMILY'S VISION FOR 2030: "Using the global goals to transform the world into a more grassroots-led, impact-driven, bottom-up equalizer"

THE ISSUE: In 2016, Women Thrive conducted the first-ever survey of grassroots women's rights advocates on knowledge of, and involvement in the national level implementation of the Global Goals. SDG 5, "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" was a special focus. The results showed that while grassroots advocates knew about the framework, they were consistently being left out of SDG-era national decision making. More than 70% of them had not been consulted by their government regarding the National Action Plan for the SDGs.

THE APPROACH: The Women Thrive Alliance collected data from 150 grassroots women's rights organizations on their SDG implementation processes. These data are used to further dialogue in countries such as Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, and Tanzania. Through her work at Women Thrive Alliance, Emily designed a model that focused on creating new local, national, and global level SDG access points for grassroots decision-makers. The Alliance pioneered SDG accountability models by highlighting the struggle of women advocates and women-led non-profits to be part of the decision-making process. As Executive Director of the Women Thrive Alliance, Emily was honored in January 2018 with the Global Award for Feminist Leadership in International Philanthropy and continues to bring dynamic leadership to the furthering of the SDGs at a global scale. The Women Thrive Alliance addresses women advocates using three parallel strategies: training, evidence-based advocacy, and data sharing.

- » The Women Thrive Alliance launched Speak the SDGs, an SDG literacy-training course for women-led non-profit organizations offered in both English and French. Understanding of national SDG implementation among participants went from just 36% before the course to 100% after the course. In total, 41 advocates from 18 countries benefited from "Speak the SDGs."
- » The Women Thrive Alliance produces the National SDG Scorecard, an annual evidence-based advocacy resource recording data on grassroots women's rights advocates in SDG-era policymaking. This resource is shared with governments and Alliance members invested in advancing gender equality agendas around the SDGs.
- » The #InTheRoom campaign called for greater SDG implementation that resulted in over 11 million online impressions in just two weeks.
- » The Women Thrive Alliance shares all collected data with its 150 grassroots women's rights organizations as they implement the SDGs locally including in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, and Tanzania.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Despite the importance of the Leaving No One Behind campaign, there is still very little investment in building the capacity of grassroots women's rights groups and leaders to hold their governments accountable to the promise of the global goals. Emily believes that "investments have been targeting the implementation of the goals but not the actual process itself." She



goes on to observe that, “we are seeing little to no funding to ensure that the way we implement these goals not only ends poverty but also boosts participatory and grassroots-led development, strengthens citizens’ capacity to be actors in their country’s development journey, and includes women in a meaningful and transformative way.”



HAMZA ARSBI, 27

Jordan

Director, The Science League

HAMZA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Cultivating the new generation of problem solvers through skills training and knowledge generation"

THE ISSUE: Hamza is preparing underprivileged and minority students to become problem solvers through scientific education. He understands that Jordan needs more problem solvers to work on the most pressing issues plaguing his nation—low energy reserves and scarce water. The Science League's mission is to increase access to quality education and prepare youth with skills needed for today's challenges. The Science League is preparing Jordan's youth with the skills needed for the job market with courses inclusive of gender, orientation, and disabilities.

THE APPROACH: The Science League champions science, entrepreneurship, and mindfulness through hands-on, project-based learning. The League also develops curricula in-house, including experiential learning activities through three main topics: Science, Entrepreneurship, and Mindfulness. Hamza has leveraged his fellowships with international organizations such as Stanford University, the International Youth Foundation, and the Prince's Trust International to support The Science League. His organization sees the SDGs as a valuable tool to increase awareness of global challenges and provide the indicators on which problems need urgent attention.

- » Seventy percent of all The Science League's educational programming is conducted in underprivileged communities outside of the capital, Amman. In six years, the organization has reached approximately 6,000 students ages 5-16, operated in seven cities and established three permanent clubs across Jordan.
- » The Science League has been recognized as a success story by the Hult Prize, awarded funding from the Shoman Foundation (Arab Bank), and recognized by His Majesty King Abdullah II as a Jordanian success story.
- » The Science League's courses are not only traditionally educational but also prepare students with skills for the job market, aiming for economic growth and equity.
- » The Science League has recently established The Mind Lab, a Research and Development Center, to test their curriculum.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Hamza highlights three challenges: governmental challenges, financial challenges, and internal capacity. Though the challenges of educational entrepreneurship are daunting, the opportunities for Jordanian society have greatly increased as civil society has shifted toward self-reliance and entrepreneurship. As for opportunities, Jordanian society is very youthful with a relatively small population. This means that access to communities and creating national shifts in culture is possible. Since the 2012 uprisings, there has been a shift in culture that previously supported reliance on the government to solve problems. Hamza observes, "today, entrepreneurship and self-reliance are becoming more desirable."



JULIA BLOCHER, 30

United States

Project Manager, United Nations University, Delta 8.7 (the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform)

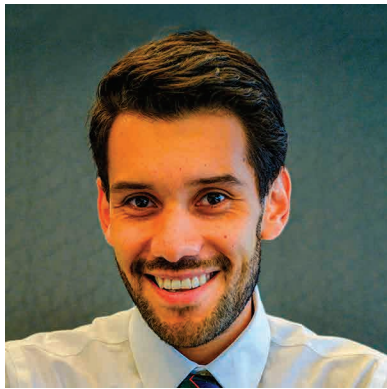
JULIA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Employing data and research to improve policies to end modern slavery"

THE ISSUE: One in 184 people alive in the world today are in a situation of modern slavery. Forced labor, child labor, human trafficking, and other forms of exploitation exist in every country in the world. Delta 8.7 Knowledge Platform (Delta87.org) is an forthcoming online knowledge platform from the United Nations University helping eradicate the worst forms of child labor and exploitation. This platform will bring special attention to Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, UN member states committed to "...take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery, human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor."

THE APPROACH: By tackling Target 8.7, the Delta 8.7 Knowledge Platform will feature global, regional, and country data dashboards that visualize and track multiple quantitative and qualitative indicators. This resource will help policymakers and leaders identify the best practices, creating more collaboration and momentum to end forced labor. As United Nations University Project Manager, Julia is building a platform that will streamline the efforts of policymakers and UN member states worldwide. The mission of the Platform is to facilitate research-to-policy translation, catalyze evidence-based conversations around modern slavery research, and strengthen the ability of policy actors to evaluate and use evidence to inform policy decisions that will ensure delivery on the 2030 Agenda.

- » Due to launch in September 2018 at the UN General Assembly, the Delta 8.7 Knowledge Platform project has raised nearly USD 3 million for the project, built a team of five, launched the prototype of the platform, and in June launched the beta version of the platform.
- » The Knowledge Platform has been introduced at numerous meetings of the global Alliance 8.7. These include an official intervention at the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly as part of the United Nations' Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons; an official intervention at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour in Buenos Aires in November 2017; inclusion in the summary report of the Alliance 8.7 Global Coordinating Group at the Buenos Aires conference; inclusion in a thematic paper by UNODC, "Countering Trafficking in Persons in Conflict Situations" (April 2018); and inclusion in a forthcoming white paper authored by Jessie Brunner (Stanford, expected 2018).

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Julia characterizes the anti-slavery field as "dynamic and growing, resulting in divergent terminology and quality of information." A study by United Nations University reported that more than 2/3 of professionals working to eradicate modern slavery had less than four years of experience working in this field. Additionally, Julia notes, "more than half of these professionals were not familiar with statistics and stated that limited time to find and digest available research was the primary barrier to bringing research and data into their work." Increasing scientific literacy and improving program evaluations are core to improving efforts to achieve Target 8.7 and related SDG anti-trafficking targets, especially SDGs 5, 16, and 17.



LUIS GOMEZ CHOW, 31

Mexico

*Civil Society and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Deputy Director,
PartnersGlobal*


LUIS' VISION FOR 2030: "Strengthening civil society and maximizing growth in critical regions"

THE ISSUE: Civil society in Latin America and the Caribbean is rapidly evolving but also facing serious challenges. Growing disenchantment with new political systems makes the SDGs more important than ever. PartnersGlobal, an international nonprofit organization, is raising the awareness of the 2030 Agenda in the LAC region through research, multi-stakeholder dialogue, consensus-building sessions, and awareness-raising campaigns. Luis' goal is to use each of these tools to support sustainable growth in this critical region.

THE APPROACH: PartnersGlobal facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue to monitor and advocate for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Argentina, Mexico, and Slovakia. The organization is enriching environments for civil society and making advances in Latin America and Central Europe through research, multi-stakeholder dialogue, consensus-building sessions, and awareness-raising campaigns. As Deputy Director for Civil Society and LAC Programs, Luis seeks to bring peace and bolster political discourse for positive social change through SDGs 16 and 17.

- » Luis published a report on "The Importance of Ensuring an Enabling Environment for Civil Society as it Relates to the Sustainable Development Goals" that outlines some of the main challenges of closing space and the potential windows of opportunity afforded by the SDGs.
- » Luis contributed to the Global Alliance, an SDG-related organization that creates curriculum on how to convene inclusive consultations. He has supported these structured meetings in Slovakia, Argentina, and Mexico around the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- » Luis also helped establish a broad coalition of human rights activists in El Salvador and co-designed and co-facilitated a consensus-building process that resulted in the "Roadmap for Dignity and Human Rights," a common advocacy agenda to improve human rights systems in El Salvador.
- » Luis led the "Islands of Integrity in the Northern Triangle and Nicaragua" program, a UK-funded regional anti-corruption program in Central America that focused on bringing a non-confrontational approach to preventing and addressing corruption at the municipal level, working hand-in-hand with municipal authorities and civil society actors.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: The shrinking of political space, increasing threats, and attacks on civil society are just some of the challenges in the Latin American, Caribbean, and Central European regions. Luis believes that, "the 2030 Agenda is an unparalleled opportunity to collaborate at a global level." Luis is encouraged to know that, "people, governments, the private sector, and other actors can coalesce around this common agenda, have more constructive engagements, and build stronger and long-lasting alliances." Luis wants to see the world take full advantage of this moment; "this opportunity should not be taken lightly, as there are few spaces where such interactions can occur." Through personal



experience, Luis knows that the implementation of Goal 16 has been particularly tricky, as organizations working on peace, justice, good governance, and human rights have continued to focus their efforts on building “stronger” platforms, such as the Inter-American and Universal Human Rights Systems. He posits that such platforms “have on many occasions dismissed the relevance of the SDGs due to their lack of enforcement mechanisms.”



MICHAEL SANI, 35

Britain

CEO, Bite The Ballot (BTB)

MICHAEL'S VISION FOR 2030: "Emboldening youth and communities through play"

THE ISSUE: "The most disenfranchised and discouraged from civic participation are those most affected by injustice and inequality," says Michael. He is gamifying civic and community engagement to embolden communities and enliven creative solution finding through the international social enterprise, Bite the Ballot. His mission is to move people from disengaged to engaged and from engaged to active.

THE APPROACH: Bite the Ballot has identified a four-step program of engagement for the communities most impacted by public policies and least likely to become involved in their creation. BTB is expanding its impact in a variety of countries, such as Columbia and France, and unconventional spaces such as prisons and detention centers. As a 2015 Ashoka Fellow, a Nesta New Radical, and a LEGO "Re-imagination Learning" Fellow, Michael is committed to making civic engagement more accessible to those most in need. Michael believes his framework and theory of change allow for rich collaborations and co-creations.

- » The DeCafe (Democracy Café), a reinvigorated 17th century tradition, brings together diverse community members to discuss and debate relevant issues. Over 2,000 individuals have been exposed to creative discussions on poverty, the environment, education, conservation, social justice, mental health, and well-being.
- » BTB is developing play-based, SDG-themed learning experiences for children ages 4 – 11 with Lego. Children in up to 25 countries will access these games through Lego channels and will explore different topics as they create their own Lego Island. The games will be independently evaluated by the Play in Education, Development and Learning Team at Cambridge University. BTB and Cambridge University are looking at a longitudinal research study where children explore some of society's most pressing issues and ethical dilemmas through play.
- » BTB is collaborating with Verto, a mobile application, to evaluate these games from the perspective of children, teachers, and parents. Verto offers a rich platform for collating data and its partnerships and collaborations explore the concepts of message and messenger. Unilad, one of Verto's partners, has 31 million millennial and zillennial followers. Collaborations have brought socially conscious content to those on this network and BTB is able to measure sentiment, attitudes to change, and the issues people are keen to see change.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Michael admits that the most daunting challenges for BTB are exposure to the SDGs, working with available resources, and harnessing both traditional and non-traditional youth engagement strategies. He also believes in the potency of experiential learning and created BTB to foster collective responsibility. Michael is aware that "empowerment without a mission can be viewed negatively." He also knows that "reminding citizens of their potential creates stronger communities and nations." He believes that "it is essential to ensure our local and national governments are playing their role in the SDGs" which he says "will only come [about] when citizens are engaged with these issues and are playing an active role."



NABILLA ARIFFIN, 30

Malaysia

Community Impact Director, SquashSmarts, Inc.

NABILLA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Bridging the socio-economic gap for Philadelphia's underserved youth through the sport of squash"

THE ISSUE: SquashSmarts is located in the fourth poorest zip code in Philadelphia County. There 69% of children age 5 to 18 years are obese.⁵

SquashSmarts predominantly works with students of color (60% African American and 32% Hispanic). A majority of them come from single-family households that live below the poverty line. Low literacy and numeracy proficiency rates persist in this area. Intensive academic, leadership, and fitness training are the tools SquashSmarts is utilizing to change outcomes. Nabilla's mission is to bridge the economic and achievement gap between different demographics, to promote racial inclusion, to advocate for healthier lifestyles, and to create better education and career pathways for underserved youth from the Philadelphia public school system.

THE APPROACH: SquashSmarts is a free, after-school community program providing daily squash lessons and academic support to underserved public school youth in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. Through SquashSmarts, Nabilla is illuminating a path toward quality education, wellness training, and personalized mentorship from 6th grade to 12th grade. As the Community Impact Director, Nabilla manages data, operations, and external relations. Since 2016, Nabilla has served on the leadership board of Young Involved Philadelphia, as well as the Mayor's Task Force on Sport-Based Youth Development. She is a StarFinder Youth Soccer Foundation mentor with the Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaboration Peer Mentoring Program.

- » In 2018, SquashSmarts became the official provider of squash to Philadelphia Public Schools.
- » In 2016, SquashSmarts received the GlaxoSmithKline Impact Award as one of the outstanding non-profit programs working to address critical community health challenges.
- » SquashSmarts boasts a 100% grade-to-grade matriculation, 100% high school graduation rate, and a diverse network of alumni and advisors that led to its selection as a member on Philadelphia Mayor's Task Force on Sport-Based Youth Development, a citywide public/private initiative focused on positive youth development.
- » SquashSmarts' work extends beyond high school and continues to support participants with 70 alumni enrolled in post-secondary schools. SquashSmarts supports workforce and leadership development: six out of 14 of SquashSmarts staff are alumni of the program and an alumna now serves on the organization's board.
- » SquashSmarts promotes racial inclusion and works to diversify the landscape of Squash. Currently, 96 out of 283 junior squash players in Pennsylvania are previously underrepresented racial minorities and come from SquashSmarts' programs.

⁵ <https://www.stateofobesity.org/files/stateofobesity2014.pdf>

- » SquashSmarts hosts regular family nights. It notifies parents about student accomplishments—both in and out of school—in order to make SquashSmarts a place of gathering and bonding for families.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Student retention, parental engagement, school partnership, and transportation have proven serious obstacles during each student’s seven-year matriculation, but SquashSmarts has never turned families or students away. By diversifying the landscape of squash players, this organization is reducing inequalities and creating better life outcomes for students. The biggest challenge faced by the organization is retaining underserved youth for a seven-year commitment. One hurdle is the lack of parental engagement. Nabilla is aware that a majority of the students come from single-family households. Most of their parents work multiple jobs, leading to limited opportunities to participate in their children’s extracurricular activities. However, Nabilla believes that student success comes from the commitment of their parents. Day after day and year after year, students return because of their passion for the game and love for each other. SquashSmarts’ goal is to develop youth who are healthier and have equal access to education and career pathways through permanent, meaningful, and intentional programs.



NICOLAS LAINO, 34

Argentina


*Federal Public Defender, Office of the Federal Public Defender of Argentina,
Member of International Network of Legal Aid Providers (ILAN)*

NICOLAS' VISION FOR 2030: "Advocating for the most vulnerable people to understand their rights"

THE ISSUE: Pervasive poverty in communities across Latin America and the Caribbean leaves those affected by it more vulnerable to other social challenges and marginalization. Understanding that the most vulnerable people often do not know their rights or are too burdened by various factors to access them, Nicolas set out to develop a solution. Strengthening independent legal aid institutions, he believes, can facilitate greater access to fundamental rights, such as social security, food, and housing.

THE APPROACH: The International Network of Legal Aid Providers (ILAN) connects public defenders seeking to make lasting global impact. Since 2014, the ILAN has helped members exchange best legal practices including those with and without legal aid systems in their countries and states. Nicolas' work focuses on SDG 16 "Advancing Peaceful, Just and Strong Institutions," and particularly Target 16.3 "Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all." As a Public Defender, Nicolas was an early adopter and advocate of the SDGs within the Argentine government. He uses his influence and status to be a champion for equal access to justice through several initiatives, committees, and networks.

- » Office of the Federal Public Defender of Argentina has represented almost 20,000 women in civil and criminal court while also coordinating with other Latin American offices, through different associations of public defenders such as the La Asociación Interamericana de Defensorías Públicas (AIDEP), promoting the independence and functional autonomy of Public Defenders to ensure full exercise of rights.
- » While the ILAN network formed before the adoption of the SDGs, Nicolas was appointed to represent the Office of the Federal Public Defender of Argentina at the First International Conference on Access to Legal Aid, held in South Africa in June 2014.
- » In 2017, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) highlighted the work of the ILAN and the network co-hosted an event at the 26th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice (CCPCJ).
- » Nicolas represented Argentina in the Commission on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice in Vienna and was appointed by the Defender General as a watch guard of justice.
- » Nicolas was appointed to the First International Conference on Access to Legal Aid.
- » Nicolas organized the Second International Conference on Access to Legal Aid, held in Buenos Aires in November 2016 hosted by the Ministry of Justice of Argentina, UNODC, UNDP and the International Legal Foundation.

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- » Nicolas has developed national rights dissemination campaigns for the rights of women, children, and the imprisoned called Reglas Mandela.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Nicolas understands that “at the international level, the biggest challenge is arriving at a common understanding of what legal aid is, and how to ensure its quality in order to satisfy the client’s fundamental rights. At the local level the main challenge within my office is making rights accessible for the most vulnerable.”



NINO MACHARASHVILI, 27

Georgia

Co-founder and Director, ForSet

NINO'S VISION FOR 2030: "Combining data and storytelling to tell compelling stories about sustainable development"

THE ISSUE: Data-driven, evidence-based decision making is a key component of sustainable development. As a newly democratic nation, Georgia is in need of the civic tools that ForSet is building to support data-driven storytelling through implementing educational programs to raise data literacy.

THE APPROACH: Nino co-founded ForSet to elevate data-driven storytelling through educational and community-building programming. After just one year of operation, the organization is making great strides in the data analysis community. They have established data-centered projects around gender-based violence, environmental issues, and responsible consumption. As Co-Founder and Director, Nino is empowering the next generation of data enthusiasts to solve the greatest issues of our time.

- » ForSet is sharing the importance of the SDGs with thousands of Georgians through data-driven communications campaigns featuring infographics and animations.
- » ForSet founded the largest international convening of data analysts and enthusiasts in the South Caucasus called DataFest Tbilisi. The fest brought together like-minded individuals from Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and former Soviet states in order to share knowledge and ideas, network, and launch partnerships to elevate the SDGs.
- » ForSet created a mobile gaming application recognized by the International Center for Journalists, called Quack Hunter that challenges players to decipher fact from fiction at varying levels of difficulty.
- » ForSet has cultivated 50+ storytelling partnerships with local and international NGOs, state agencies, local governments, communities, and private businesses bringing national awareness and local ownership to the 2030 Agenda.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Lack of openness and limited data resources pose the greatest threat to ForSet and its mission of compelling data storytelling. Nino observes that, "adequate data analysis tools are also scarce in supply." The international data storytelling community demands more open data from their governments. Nino believes, "we have the opportunity to build a strong community that will utilize technology in solving the ongoing challenges of tomorrow."



NORA WILHELM, 25

Switzerland

Catalyst & CEO, collaboratio helvetica

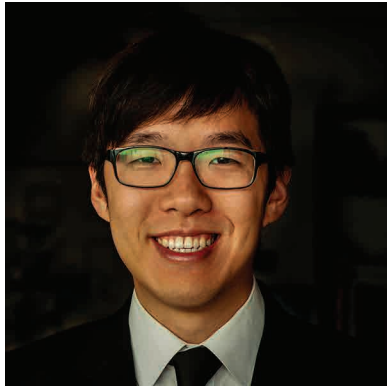
NORA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Empowering change makers, stakeholders, and citizens to unleash their collective power to co-create the world we want to live in through collaboration"

THE ISSUE: The SDGs are systemic issues that can only be achieved by working together. However, collaboration can be challenging and dialogue between different stakeholders can be difficult. Recognizing the lack of spaces and platforms for citizens to connect meaningfully, Nora began working to help local communities understand their collective power to solve key issues. Nora believes that collaboration poses both the biggest challenge and best opportunity for making progress on the Global Goals.

THE APPROACH: In 2017, Nora co-founded collaboratio helvetica, an initiative with the goal of deepening social impact for a better Switzerland through open spaces for dialogue, experimentation, and collaboration. By regenerating a culture of dialogue and broadening the channels of collaboration for all sectors, collaboratio helvetica has created several initiatives. The organization is empowering thinkers to unpack perceived differences through collaboration, experimentation, and dialogue. As Catalyst & CEO, Nora is using her leadership in the European Youth Parliament and her speaking skills to cultivate and empower attitudes of change.

- » collaboratio helvetica hosts dialogue evenings throughout Switzerland, raising awareness about the SDGs and using dialogue as a powerful tool to leverage the strength of local ecosystems to design their own environment and address societal issues sustainably.
- » collaboratio helvetica created two Social Labs that are advancing the conversation on pressing issues in Switzerland. The Gender Lab (SDG5) and Beyond Waste Lab (SDG12) are aiming at systemic change by taking a diverse pool of participants through a process that enables them to understand the root causes of the issue and to design prototypes to address them.
- » collaboratio helvetica is a platform and community of change makers already working to advance the SDGs in Switzerland. For them, it is a space to connect, share, learn, and collaborate on existing or new projects and deepen their impact. Innovative tools, such as collaborative finance mechanisms, are experimented with to gain insights needed to build a future different from the past.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Nora's greatest concern is leading by example to keep her organization true to its principles and living the vision today while planting seeds for tomorrow. collaboratio helvetica has been described as "the missing piece," a space where "people meet across organizational boundaries and yet still have a strong feeling of shared purpose," as well as "a source of hope and inspiration for all."



PHIL CHOW, 30

Hong Kong

Humanitas Technologies, CEO

PHIL'S VISION FOR 2030: "Elevating youth-centric initiatives at the intersection of philanthropy and artificial intelligence"

THE ISSUE: Too often, fear gets more attention than goodwill. Humanitas is a for-profit, online platform that will positively impact every young person in the world by leveraging artificial intelligence to rewrite system incentives for international development.

THE APPROACH: Humanitas' goal is to understand and measure nuanced changes through societal impact. Phil and his team work at the intersection of youth development, philanthropy, and artificial intelligence. Humanitas is positioned as a third party provider that brings everyone together from government, to non-profit, and grassroots organizations. Humanitas' youth-centric work overlaps with a few of the SDGs and fundamentally works to build out the digital infrastructure of international development.

- » Humanitas has deployed two products: a social good video app and an analytical dashboard.
- » Humanitas recently gained its first foundation client and will focus on helping it understand the intrinsic needs and interests of the 50,000 youth with whom it works.
- » Humanitas' pilot was featured in the Stanford Social Innovation Review.
- » Humanitas will have operations across Jordan, Lebanon, UAE, and KSA by September 2018.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Phil views his main challenge as building products that even the most traditional development or grassroots organization will immediately adopt. He knows there are tremendous opportunities in the sustainable development community, in addition to leveraging artificial intelligence to do good. However, he cautions "there is so much wastage in this space," and envisions, "evidence-based giving being harnessed for philanthropy to shift from being a luxury good to a commodity, thereby unlocking a lot more potential financial and non-financial resources to assist everyone that needs it."



RAGNHILD FRENG DALE, 29

Norway

PhD candidate, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge


RAGNHILD'S VISION FOR 2030: "Ending traditional energy dependency for a brighter future"

THE ISSUE: Norway is currently making difficult choices for future sustainability versus path-dependency on further oil exploration. Ragnhild wants to help her country make this transition without compromising the lives of others, within and beyond the country's borders.

THE APPROACH: Ragnhild is focused on systems change to end fossil fuel dependency through research, writing, art, and activism. In her work, Ragnhild is addressing Norway's dependency on fossil fuels, and highlighting the transition of local and indigenous rights in Norway. Specifically, she focuses on those who inhabit the traditional Sami land, which is under heavy pressure from different forms of infrastructural development.

- » Ragnhild is a Gates Cambridge Scholar (2014-2018) for PhD studies at the University of Cambridge.
- » Ragnhild was Assistant Director for "Trial of the Century" with traavik.info, which received the National Critic's Association Award for Best Theatre Production 2016/2017.
- » Ragnhild recently won the Vice Chancellor's Award for Public Engagement with Research at the University of Cambridge, in recognition of bringing her research themes to a wider public.
- » Ragnhild was the first recipient of the annual Sjur Holsen Memorial Award (2016), for outstanding contributions to public debate in Norway.
- » Ragnhild was selected to participate in the Arctic Frontiers: Emerging Leaders (2016) program with funding from the Research Council of Norway.
- » Ragnhild was recognized for fieldwork on the oil industry in Northern Norway by the Scandinavian Studies Fund from Cambridge University in 2015.
- » Ragnhild was a driving force behind the Fossil Free campaign at the University of Bergen, which successfully raised a national debate on the ethics of petroleum research and sponsorship in academia.
- » Ragnhild is involved in the Norwegian Bridge to the Future-Alliance, which includes parts of the labor movement, and is championing a growing demand for 100,000 climate jobs, and acts as a forum for rethinking and changing Norway's fossil fuel dependency.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Ragnhild believes that the "green shift" away from oil is not occurring fast enough. She finds it a challenge to figure out how to best use her position as a PhD researcher to speed this shift up and to build coalitions to make it happen. "Norway, as a country with a hydrocarbon dependent economy, has a special responsibility to avoid further carbon lock-in and lead in a transition." Ragnhild says she urgently wants to see a shift in the political consensus to halt further oil exploration, and to secure a transition to a sustainable economy and energy system. At the same time, she is also



concerned that “green” energy and can coincide with land grabbing or expropriation, particularly from indigenous peoples. The indigenous Sami in northern Scandinavia are resisting proposed mines, power grids, wind farms, and other encroachments, and Ragnhild argues that Norway “must do better to respect the right to informed consent and also to say ‘no’ when infrastructural development jeopardies other livelihoods.” For Ragnhild, this work starts at home across sectors from academia, politics, unions, business, and civil society, and is stronger when linked with the experiences and demands of others.



SAIF KAMAL, 34

Bangladesh

Founder, The Toru Institute of Inclusive Innovation

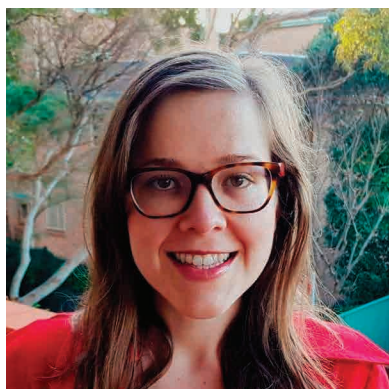
SAIF'S VISION FOR 2030: "Training empathic innovators to address social challenges"

THE ISSUE: Empower and build capacity of youth to address social challenges through innovation and civic leadership as entrepreneurs or intrapreneurs in public, private, and civic sector. Saif believes that everyone can be an innovator and is dedicated to shaping mindsets for innovation and impact. He wants to nurture high impact innovators, not only to build and scale innovations as entrepreneurs but also to transform them to become empathetic role models working on becoming public policy leaders. Saif wants to inspire Bangladeshi youth to amplify the impact on the lives of millions.

THE APPROACH: The Toru Institute is an institution for the future of learning & innovation for inclusive growth in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The Institute is making an impact at the intersection of education, innovation, and entrepreneurship. They are developing a newer learning system in the Global South that will nurture minds and help individuals become innovators, thinkers, and value driven social leaders. Saif was a Davos50 Cohort 2017 participant, one of fifty emerging leaders selected by the World Economic Forum. He was a 2015 New Champion at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of New Champions in Dalian, China. He was also named a 2017 Emerging Leader by Transformational Change Leaders, an initiative of The Rockefeller Foundation. The Toru Institute is a force multiplying institution that works with a handful of innovators and system thinkers to achieve excellence. The Toru Institute is focused on three main outcomes:

- » First, incubating early stage social innovators to design and develop the services to address a specific social challenge.
- » Second, nurturing high potential innovators who show signs of impact, business sustainability, and leadership to reach greater heights.
- » Third, cultivating the skills of learning, innovation, and impact among university students and jobbers to collaborate on a common thread of holistic sustainability.
- » Fourth, harnessing the ripple effect of their success to nurture a culture of possibility, leadership, and system change among youth, policy makers, private sector, and academic institutions. Over last 3 years, the Institute has worked with the Government of Bangladesh, the University of Dhaka, BRAC University, Microsoft, Standard Chartered Bank, Renata Pharmaceuticals, Mohammadi Group, and the Levi Strauss Foundation.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Saif identifies four challenges: (1) moving the focus towards indigenous social entrepreneurs and away from those parachuting in from the Global North; (2) creating access to knowledge, networks, and funds for social entrepreneurs; (3) shifting mindsets of traditional development funders; and (4) dealing with rigid education systems opposed to alternate learning underpinned by facilitation and innovation.



VERONICA PIATKOV, 29

Australia

International Affairs Officer, World Bank Group

VERONICA'S VISION FOR 2030: "Building strong multi-stakeholder partnerships to translate the global goals into local, city-level policy objectives for improved accessibility"

THE ISSUE: Few people understand what the delivery of the 2030 Agenda means, how to contribute to it, or how institutions at various levels can help countries prioritize the SDGs.

THE APPROACH: Veronica is working to deliver the SDGs through her role at the World Bank Group and as an influencer of both global institutions and local communities. As an International Affairs Officer for the World Bank Group, Veronica works to promote, build awareness, and strengthen cross-institutional relationships in support of the 2030 Agenda. She is currently supporting the Office of the Senior Vice President for the 2030 Agenda to establish a trust fund for SDG implementation in the World Bank Group, promoting an ongoing awareness building campaign for the SDGs, and the role of Multilateral Development Banks in this agenda. Veronica's efforts encompass her professional and organizational work including:

- » Helping deliver the first report on behalf of the World Bank Group on its work to date on the 2030 Agenda ahead of the 2017 United Nations High Level Political Forum.
- » Helping to create the foundations of a Trust Fund platform for financial support for the 2030 Agenda within the World Bank Group.
- » Promoting partnerships in support of SDG implementation across multilateral institutions including the World Bank Group, United Nations, private sector, and civil society.
- » And as a post-graduate student at the University of New South Wales, helping cultivate city level understanding of the SDGs and identify entry points for integrating the SDGs into sub-national, sub-state targets, and frameworks. Her work has also focused on getting the 2030 Agenda on the radar of professors at the University to the point where it can be taught in class.

THE CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES: Veronica notes that one of her key challenges is overcoming bureaucratic barriers and bringing skeptics on board. "The pushback often comes," she observes, "from a lack of exposure and fear of competition for limited resources." Veronica believes that "it will take time and patience to help people realize that we are in fact on the same page and will require frank discussion about the best use of resources."