

Title: Faith-based Partnerships: vehicles for Achieving the SDGs

Organisers: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN & the UN Interagency task force on religion and Development in partnership with the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities

Date & time: 12 July 2017, 13:15-14:30

Room: CR 11

Speakers: Ambassador David Donoghue, Irish Mission (co-moderator)
Dr Azza Karam, UN IATF (co-moderator)
Marielle Ali, Director of Social and Humanitarian Affairs, UN Association
Jamil Ahmad, Deputy Director, UNEP New York Office
Charles Badenoch, Vice President, Global Advocacy & Justice for Children, World Vision International
Jean Duff, Coordinator, JLIFLC
Anwar Khan, CEO, Islamic Relief USA

Attendance: 70 approx.

Summary: This event engaged with three main questions:

1. What milestones have FBOs achieved since the launch of the 2030 Agenda?
2. How has the UN System developed partnerships with FBOs?
3. What are the ongoing challenges for partnerships between FBOs and the UN around the SDGs?

The speakers addressed these three questions, and highlighted that a diversity of FBOs need to be engaged to support the SDGs. They all agreed that the SDGs are relevant to the work of FBO, they they contribute to the achievement of the SDGs on the ground particularly as they have access to groups who are harder to reach and that they are able to mobilise resources for the SDGs. However, they also cautioned that FBOs should not be thought of as 'representing the faith of all members of their religion' and they shouldn't be treated only as a funding source by the UNS. In summary, the Chair of the UN IATF highlighted that when examining what makes partnerships with FBOs be successful, it is important to match what you're seeking to achieve with the right FBO, and to ask *how* the work will be carried out – *how it is done* and not *what is done* is crucial when implementing the SDGs.

Title: Ending Poverty for Women: Building an Inclusive Economy from the Grassroots

Organisers: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN & NGO CSW New York

Date & time: 18 July 2017, 08:15-09:30

Room: CR 11

Speakers: Ambassador David Donoghue (moderator)
Maria Luisa Mendonca, Project Director, Rede Social de Justiça e Direitos Humanos
Radhika Balakrishnan, Faculty Director, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Rutgers University
Isabel Ortiz, Director, Social Protection, ILO
Cristina Diez, UN Representative, International Movement ATD Fourth World
Gabriella, Computer Science Student from Brooklyn

Attendance: 90 approx.

Summary: Addressing the intersections between SDG1 on poverty and SDG5 on gender equality, this event discussed how action at the grassroots could prevent women from living in poverty and develop a more inclusive economy. With speakers from academia, civil society and international organisations, the event presented a range of perspectives. Key issues raised during the event included the impact of GBV on income, the use of technology to address food insecurity experience in poverty, how the economy can be managed to address discrimination against women and the feminization of poverty, and the importance of social protection floors. In conclusion, the moderator highlighted the need to engage young people like Gabriella in creating solutions which work for their community. (Gabriella and her friends developed an app which connects food insecure families in New York with food outlets with excess food.)