BIOGRAPHIES

REFERENCE GROUP
The Reference Group is co-chaired by Gillian Triggs, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Susanna Moorehead, the elected Chair of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC). It is composed of critical actors in the international protection, humanitarian policy and research spheres, who will provide strategic advice to the evaluation team about the policy context and approach to ensure it delivers high quality evidence which are relevant to needs of decision-makers.

Gillian Triggs, UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Co-chair of Reference Group
Gillian Triggs is UNHCR’s Assistant High Commissioner for Protection. She was appointed on 9 August 2019. Triggs is a highly renowned expert in international law who has held a number of eminent appointments in service to human rights and the refugee cause, including most recently as the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Vice-Chancellor’s Fellow and Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne.

Triggs oversees UNHCR’s protection work for millions of refugees, internally displaced, stateless and other people of concern. An Australian national, she has previously held a number of leadership roles, including as President of the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal, Chair of the UN Independent Expert Panel of Inquiry into Abuse of Office and Harassment in UNAIDS, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney and as Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in London. Triggs has been closely associated with a number of not-for-profit organizations throughout her career, including most recently as Chair of Justice Connect, an organization that connects 10,000 lawyers to provide pro bono advice to asylum-seekers and others in need of legal support in Australia. She is also the author of many books and papers on public international law. In July 2021 Gillian was awarded a Ruth Bader Ginsberg Inaugural Medal of Honour in recognition of her fight for the rule of law and gender equality.

Susanna Moorehead, Chair of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC), Co-chair of Reference Group
Susanna Moorehead was the British Ambassador to Ethiopia and Djibouti and UK Permanent Representative to the African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Over a 30 year career in international diplomacy and development, Moorehead has held senior executive, strategic, policy and operational roles - from the Board of the World Bank to famine relief in rural Africa. Moorehead served as the UK’s Executive Director on the Board of the World Bank; was Director of West and Southern Africa at the UK Department for International Development (DFID); and Head of DFID India, when it was the UK’s largest development programme. She directed field-based famine and rehabilitation programmes in rural Mali for Save the Children and was Deputy Director of the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex until 1997. Moorehead has a BA from the University of York, an MSc (Econ) and PhD from the London School of Economics, as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of York.
Kareen Jabre, Director of the Division of Programmes, Inter-Parliamentary Union

Kareen in her role as Director is responsible for directing the organisation’s various programmes of support and policy guidance to parliaments. These include standard setting work for democratic parliaments, strengthening parliament’s institutional capacities in emerging democracies and post-conflict societies, enhancing their ability to embody and advance gender equality, to empower youth, to promote sustainable development and health and to tackle climate change. Previously and for 13 years, she managed the Gender Partnership Programme of the organisation. She is also currently in charge at the IPU of work on international humanitarian law and refugee protection. Before working for the IPU, Kareen Jabre worked at UNESCO in its women and gender equality coordinating unit. She holds a Masters in political science and in English.

Claus Lindroos, Deputy Director General, Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Claus Lindroos is the deputy director general of the department for Africa and the Middle East in the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs since October 2020. Between 2015 and 2020 he served as director for humanitarian assistance and policy. He is a career diplomat and has been working in the Finnish diplomatic service since 1997, mainly on issues related to Africa and the United Nations. He has served in Finnish diplomatic missions in Nairobi, Dublin and Brussels.

Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head of the International Migration Division, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD

Jean-Christophe in his role as Head of the International Migration Division oversees the OECD’s annual flagship publication on migration; International Migration Outlook and numerous publications on the economic impact of international migration, as well as on migration management and the labour market integration of immigrants and their children in OECD countries. He joined the OECD Secretariat in 2000 to work on international migration issues. He has also worked on migration and development issues and on the international mobility of health workers. He holds a PhD in development economics from the University Paris IX-Dauphine and was a research fellow at Laval University, Quebec, Canada.

Manisha Thomas, Geneva Representative, Women’s Refugee Commission

Manisha Thomas has been working on humanitarian issues for over 20 years and has been a consultant working with a range of organisations since October 2016. She is the part-time Geneva Representative of the Women’s Refugee Commission. Previous positions included Coordinator of the Emergency Appeals Alliance (EAA), Interim Director of the Association of International Development Agencies (AIDA) in Palestine, and the Head of Secretariat for the Solutions Alliance. She also worked in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (ASC) secretariat and held various positions at the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), including supporting NGO coordination in Sudan and Haiti. She has an M.A. in International Affairs, Development Studies from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA), Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.
Dr. Helen Durham, Director of International Law and Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Helen in her role as Director oversees a large global network of international lawyers, policy advisers, armed forces delegates, weapons specialists, sociologists, diplomats, researchers and academic experts who work towards the respect of international humanitarian law (IHL). She regularly represents ICRC at the UN Security Council and in bi-lateral engagements with Minister, senior government officials and military decision makers. In the last few years, she has led a range of IHL multilateral negotiations in Geneva. Admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and High Court of Australia, she has an Arts and law degree with honours (Melbourne University) and a PhD (Melbourne University with research at New York) in international law, with a focus on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and international criminal law. Previously she has been a legal adviser for ICRC in the Pacific Region, Head of Office for ICRC in Australia and held a range of roles in Australian Red Cross.

Kathrine Starup, Head of Protection Unit - Global Protection Advisor, Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Kathrine Starup has more than 25 years of experience with humanitarian and displacement work. Kathrine is specialised in Protection, including Community-Based Protection, Legal Aid, Solutions to refugee and IDP displacement, Protection Information Management and mixed migration. Kathrine has worked with the UN and international and local NGOs in the field and at headquarters and has field experience from Africa and Asia. Prior to joining DRC, she worked with UNHCR. Kathrine sits on the Executive Committee of Joint IDP Profiling Service (co-founded by DRC) and on the ICRC-led Advisory Group for the ‘Professional Standards for Protection Work’. She is also the co-founder of the Protection Information Management - PIM Initiative (co-lead by DRC & UNHCR) and is long-time member of the International Advisory Board to the Forced Migration Review.

Anila Noor, Managing Director, New Women Connectors

Anila is a policy influencer for inclusion, diversity and social justice, feminist ecosystem builder, activist, TEDx Speaker and researcher based in the Netherlands. She recently became the member of European Commission Expert Group and evaluator for AMIF calls. As an advisor and expert consultant, she works with different institutions on designing engagement projects related to inclusion and diversity. She initiated New Women Connectors, a movement striving for mainstreaming the unheard voices of migrant and refugee women living across Europe. She is also the co-founder of European Coalition (GRN), Global Independent Refugee Women Leaders (GIRWL), part of Advisory of UNHCR Taskforce for PoCs, member of Kaldor Centre of Emerging Scholars Network Australia and core team member of steering committee of Global Refugee Led Network. Noor has presented working papers in academic dialogues at Oxford University, Bristol University and Erasmus University.
Dr. Vladimir Cuk, Executive Director, International Disability Alliance

Dr. Vladimir Cuk has 20 years of a progressive and diverse career in implementing the rights of persons with disabilities and international development as well as personal experience of disability. Vladimir started his career in war-torn Yugoslavia by establishing a grassroots organization of young people with disabilities. He continued at the University of Illinois at Chicago as a researcher, and finally serves as the Executive Director of the International Disability Alliance. He received his PhD from the University of Illinois at Chicago in Disability Studies, together with seven awards in recognition for his academic achievements. Vladimir has published a book, several articles and encyclopedia entries.

Najeeba Wazefedost, Founder of Global Refugee Network, Asia Pacific Network of Refugees

Najeeba is a former refugee from Afghanistan who has graduated from B. Medical Science. She is the Founder of Global Refugee Network and the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees. Najeeba has been actively involved in the development of refugee-led networks at both the regional and global level, which focuses on bringing together refugee and migrant-led organizations and refugee change-makers from around the world to gather to discuss their lived experiences and propose solutions for more effective and sustainable refugee policy. She is an advocate, educator, public speaker, and researcher with strong qualitative and quantitative skills. She has worked throughout policy and program cycles from design, implementation, review and evaluation. Through all her work, she prioritises and amplifies the voices, experiences, and aspirations of those most directly impacted. She has been a gender audit to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and ensuring Gender equality and the empowerment of refugee and migrant women remains a top priority commitment.

Barthelemy Mwanza, Co-Chair of the UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Council

Barthelemy is the co-chair and delegate of the UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Council (GYAC) where he represents the voice of youth at various UNHCR events such as the High Commissioner Dialogue and annual UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs. He works as a Protection Monitor with the UNHCR Harare community where he amplifies the refugee voices and connects them to relevant stakeholders to help refugees report issues related to protection and development. A journalism student by profession, he is multilingual and is proficient in four languages: English, French, Swahili and Lingala. As GYAC delegate, he took a wide range of responsibilities including engaging in consultations with communities; advocating with States; identifying good practices; networking; and programming, for instance by identifying and supporting projects and programs. In addition to GYAC, he has been also involved in Community-based Child Care Worker for Terre des Hommes, which is an international company promoting education, fighting against Sexual Gender Based Violence and child abuse and providing psycho-social support.
Dany Bahar, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution

An Israeli and Venezuelan economist, Danny was previously a David M. Rubenstein Fellow at Brookings and also an associate at the Harvard Center for International Development, and a research affiliate both at CESifo Group Munich and IZA Institute of Labor Economics. His research sits at the intersection of international economics and economic development. In particular, his academic research focuses on the diffusion of technology and knowledge within and across borders, as measured by productivity, structural transformation, exports, entrepreneurship and innovation, among other factors. His research has focused on migrants and refugees as drivers of this process, alongside trade and capital flows.

Bilal Siddiqi, Director of Research at the University of California, Berkeley’s Center for Effective Global Action

Bilal is an economist who studies poverty, institutions, and conflict in low- and middle-income countries, using applied microeconometrics and experimental methods to understand the causal impacts of policy interventions. He has worked primarily in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Pakistan, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Croatia, and the Philippines. Prior to UC Berkeley, Dr. Siddiqi spent five years as an Economist at the World Bank, where he worked with governments to embed impact evaluation into their operations and oversaw global research programs on justice reform and digital ID systems. His research has been published in the Quarterly Journal of Economics, Science, Lancet, and others, and covered by the New York Times, the Washington Post, NPR, CBS, New York Magazine, Voice of America, Le Monde, the Hindustan Times, and several other outlets. Dr Siddiqi has been a Minerva Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University and an AMID Scholar at the Institute for International Economic Studies at Stockholm. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

Jane McAdam, Scientia Professor of Law, Director of the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW Sydney

Jane is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. She is also a Research Associate at Oxford University’s Refugee Studies Centre, an Associated Senior Fellow at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Norway, and a Senior Research Associate of the Refugee Law Initiative in London, and was previously a non-resident Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at The Brookings Institution in Washington DC (2012–16) and a Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School (2019). Jane publishes widely in international refugee law and forced migration, with a particular focus on displacement in the context of climate change and disasters. Some of her books include Climate Change, Forced Migration, and International Law (Oxford University Press, 2012). In 2017, she was awarded the prestigious international Calouste Gulbenkian Prize for Human Rights for her work on refugees and forced migration, becoming the first Australian recipient of the award.
Vittoria Zanuso, Executive Director, Mayors Migration Council (MMC)

As the MMC’s Executive Director, Vittoria Zanuso oversees the organization’s efforts to help cities influence international deliberations and ensure that migration and refugee policy both reflects and helps cities address realities on the ground. In her role, Ms. Zanuso sits on the Steering Committees of the U.N. Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Migration MPTF) and the Mayors Mechanism of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and serves on the Advisory Committee of the Platform for Disaster Displacement. Prior to joining the MMC, Ms. Zanuso held multiple positions at the Rockefeller Foundation’s 100 Resilient Cities initiative (100RC), liaising with mayors, senior officials and private sector leaders to address natural and human-made disasters, from climate change to rising global inequality. Ms. Zanuso began her career in the field of strategic communications, first at the Spokesperson’s Office of the Vice-President of the European Commission in Brussels and then on the Communications team of the Clinton Global Initiative in New York City. Originally from Milan, Italy, Ms. Zanuso holds an MPA in International Policy and Management from New York University’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and a BA in Politics from Queen Mary University of London.

Dr. Santino Severoni, Director of the Global Health and Migration Programme, WHO

Dr. Severoni since 2000 has held senior positions at the World Health Organization European Office. He is a medical doctor, health economist, epidemiologist, and experienced system management. He has over 24 years of experience as an international senior technical advisor and executive, worked for governments, multilateral organizations, NGOs, and foundations in Eastern Africa, Balkans, Central Asia and Europe. He has dedicated his work to global health during his professional career, focusing on health sector reforms, health system strengthening, health diplomacy, aid coordination/effectiveness, management of complex emergencies, and a WHO Representative in Albania and Tajikistan. In 2019 he was appointed EURO Special Representative on health & migration and Director on health systems and public health.

Mark McCarthy, Chief (Information Management & Data Analytics), UN Human Rights

Mark started his career working with early web-based technologies at the SunSite lab in 1994 and ever since has dedicated himself to helping organizations find and leverage the value of their data. He is motivated by the belief that Information Drives Prevention when data is structured to inform analysis. His experience in corporate, United Nations and academic environments involves defining and implementing strategies and building partnerships in international contexts covering humanitarian, development and human rights situations. This is exemplified by some of his previous roles as Technical Project Manager for ReliefWeb (2006-2012) in Geneva and the Data Coordinator/Manager for the Humanitarian Information Centre for Darfur (2004), Niger (2005), and Lebanon (2006).
MANAGEMENT GROUP

The evaluation is managed by the Evaluation Units of UNHCR, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Governments of Colombia and Uganda, and the humanitarian system network and chaired by the UNHCR,

David Rider Smith, Senior Evaluation Coordinator, UNHCR and Chair, Management Group

David has over twenty years of experience in evaluation, research and performance monitoring. He has previously worked as the head of evaluation capacity and quality at the UK Department for International Development (DFID); as an advisor to the Government of Uganda in the Office of the Prime Minister and with United Nations. At UNHCR Evaluation Service, he leads on key strategic corporate evaluations, building the decentralized evaluation function in UNHCR and is the deputy to the Head of Evaluation. David has a strong record in research and publications on performance assessment, evaluation and socio-economic research, working for three years at the Water, Lands and Ecosystems Research Programme of the CGIAR (2014-17) and four years at the Natural Resources Institute (1999-2003). Geographically, David has lived and worked extensively in sub-Saharan Africa, including nine years in Uganda and two in Mozambique.

Timothy Lubanga, Commissioner for M&E, Prime Minister’s Office, Uganda

Timothy has 15 years of experience working on social protection. His work involves among other things, overseeing and ensuring effective generation and use of information. He led several teams in designing and implementing social protection programs in Uganda and other African Countries in the region. He is currently the head of the Directorate of M&E and has been central in the growth and development of the National Monitoring and Evaluation systems and reforms in Uganda. He has been the driver of programmes like the partnership with The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), CLEAR AA- and Twende Mbele in Uganda, which aims to ensure evidence informed decision making in Government (EIDM) in policy and management.

Sanna Pulkkinen, Senior Evaluation Officer, Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Master of Social Sciences, has been working in development cooperation and policy for more than 15 years. Currently she is Senior Evaluation Officer in the Development Evaluation Unit in the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Over the years she has accumulated knowledge and experience of development cooperation and policy as well as political relations as Programme Manager in Vietnam and Mekong teams. Her career in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs includes posts in Central America and Peru.

Olga Lucia Romero, Director of M&E of Public Policies, DSNP Colombia

Economist and Masters in Economics from the Universidad de los Andes in Colombia. Master in Public Administration and International Development from the Harvard Kennedy School. Her main areas of work are the evaluation of public policies and social programs. At the moment she is the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Policies of the National Planning Department. She was Director of Evaluation of the Secretary of Education of Bogota. She was Technical Manager and consultant of Econometría S.A. She worked as a consultant in the World Bank's Poverty and Gender Unit for Latin America in Washington.

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Susanna Morrison-Metois, Senior Research Fellow and Team Lead (Evaluation, Learning and Accountability), ALNAP / ODI

Susanna Morrison-Metois is a committed humanitarian and is passionate about improving the effectiveness of humanitarian action and taking a human-centred approach to evaluation and learning. She oversees ALNAP’s research work and events on monitoring and evaluation. Susanna previously represented Ireland in the OECD Development Assistance Committee and in the OECD Development Centre’s governing board. Prior to that, she worked at the OECD as a policy analyst focused on development evaluation and broader development policy issues. Prior to her research and policy roles, she worked for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and NGOs as a programme manager and evaluator in a variety of settings. Susanna’s previous humanitarian work focused on delivering aid in armed conflict situations, forced displacement, food security and livelihoods, and primary health care.

THE SECRETARIAT

As the evaluation falls under the auspices of the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition, the DAC Network on Development Evaluation (EvalNet) Secretariat is providing technical, communication, analytical and logistical support to the evaluation process.

Megan Kennedy-Chouane, is Head of Evaluation Unit in the Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD,

Jenna Kouassi-Smith is the Evaluation Policy Analyst for the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition in the Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD.

Ludhiya Johnson, is a Junior Policy Analyst in the Evaluation Unit of the Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD.