

Inter-religious engagement for Zero Hunger

WFP HQ, Rome



Special Guest Biographies

Moderator



Joshua DuBois

Joshua DuBois leads a consulting firm, Values Partnerships, that creates community and faith-based partnerships for the public, private and non-profit sectors and he is a frequent media commentator. DuBois led the White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships in President Obama's first term; *Time Magazine* called him the President's "Pastor-in-Chief". He spearheaded the White House's work on responsible fatherhood, grassroots community partnerships, and religion in foreign affairs, and brought together community and religious leaders from across the ideological spectrum to tackle America's biggest challenges. DuBois is the author of the bestselling book, *The President's Devotional: The Daily Readings that Inspired President Obama*, a compilation of the devotional meditations he shared with the President and narratives of faith in public life. DuBois received his Master's Degree in Public Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School and his Bachelor's Degree from Boston University. A former associate pastor at a small Pentecostal church in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he came originally from Nashville, Tennessee and currently lives in Washington, D.C.

Panelists

Swami Agnivesh - Social activist and member of the board of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue

Swami Agnivesh, an activist based in New Delhi, India, is a leader of Arya Samaj, and Board member of KAICIID (King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue). He was awarded the Right Livelihood award, known as the Alternative Nobel, in 2004, for his work for social justice. He is called a cyclonic swami, reflecting his dynamism and the diversity of his activism. He was born as Vepa Shyam Rao in 1939, the grandson of the Diwan (Chief Minister) of a princely state called Shakti, now in Chattisgarh, and part of an Orthodox Hindu family. Later on he obtained Law and Business Management degrees, became a lecturer in Calcutta, and practiced law. In 1968 he became a full-time worker of the Arya Samaj, a Hindu reformist movement, and two years later became a sanyasi, renouncing worldly possessions and becoming, in the process, Swami Agnivesh. He has worked on many social issues, including child and bonded



labor, inclusion of "untouchables" in Indian religious society, women's rights, and religious tolerance and reconciliation. He is a strong advocate of interfaith action for social justice.



Mohamed Ashmawey – Management Consultant and Senior Advisor, Humanitarian and Development Organizations

Mohamed Ashmawey joined Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) as CEO in early 2012, completing his term in 2015. He led the Islamic Relief family in over 40 countries around the world and, while addressing ongoing crises, he transformed Islamic Relief into an impact-led and rights-based development INGO that helps people lift themselves out of poverty. His many years of corporate management expertise in process re-engineering and organizational restructuring helped to change the way that IRW works across the world. Ashmawey was formerly CEO of Islamic Relief USA and held senior roles in the corporate sector including as a Vice-Chairman and Country-Head for Electronic Data Systems where his clients included ABN Amro and General Motors. He has served on the boards of bodies including the Islamic Society of North America. He received his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1988 and continued there as a visiting professor.

David Beckmann - President, Bread for the World and the Alliance to End Hunger

David Beckmann is the President of Bread for the World. World Food Prize laureate David Beckmann is one of the foremost U.S. advocates for hungry and poor people. As president of Bread for the World, he leads large-scale and successful campaigns to strengthen U.S. political commitment to overcome hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world. Bread for the World is a U.S. Christian advocacy movement to end hunger.



Beckmann is also president of Bread for the World Institute, which provides policy analysis on hunger and strategies to end it. He founded and serves as president of the Alliance to End Hunger, which engages diverse U.S. institutions—Muslim and Jewish groups, corporations, unions, and universities—in building the political will to end hunger. Beckmann currently serves on the US President’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, USAID’s Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, the U.S. Trade Representative’s Advisory Committee on Africa, the Executive Committee of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network, and the Council on Foreign Relations. His latest book is *Exodus from Hunger: We Are Called to Change the Politics of Hunger*. Beckmann is a Lutheran pastor as well as an economist. Prior to joining Bread, he worked at the World Bank for 15 years, overseeing large development projects and driving innovations to make the bank more effective in reducing poverty.



Kevin Jenkins - President and CEO, World Vision

Kevin Jenkins has been President and Chief Executive Officer of World Vision International (based in London, UK) since October 2009. He leads the Christian relief, development and advocacy organization in its mission to achieve meaningful, lasting change for the world's most vulnerable communities, with a focus on children. He previously served the organization as a volunteer board member with World Vision Canada. Jenkins' 25 year career in business included serving as President and CEO of Canadian Airlines, President and CEO of The Westaim Corporation (turning technological innovations into marketable products), and a Managing Director of TriWest Capital Partners (a private equity firm). Jenkins is a champion of the Sustainable Development Goals, engaging the global faith community on the moral imperative to end extreme poverty in our generation. Memberships in global organizations include the World Economic Forum. Central themes include sustainable improvements in well-being for the world's most vulnerable communities, increased effectiveness of civil society, and excellence in governance. He is a board member of the International Civil Society Centre and serves on the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, which represents the largest agencies that respond to relief crises. Jenkins has a law degree from the University of Alberta and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Azza Karam - Senior Advisor on Culture at UNFPA, chair of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Faith-Based Organisations

Azza Karam serves as the Senior Advisor on Culture at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), where she coordinates Fund-wide outreach with faith-based partners and chairs the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on FBO partners on the MDGs and development. Her experience spans the fields of multi-religious collaboration, international gender issues, democratization, human rights, conflict, and political Islam. Before she joined UNFPA, she was the Senior Policy Research Advisor at the United Nations Development Program in the Regional Bureau for Arab States. Karam also worked as Special Advisor on Middle East and Islamic Affairs and Director of the Women's Programmes at the World Conference of Religions for Peace and as a Senior Program Officer at the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. She has served as Lecturer at the University of Amsterdam and as the Programme Manager at the Centre for the Study of Ethnic Conflict at the Queens University of Belfast. She served as consultant to international organizations in the Arab region, Central Asia, and Europe. Her publications include *Transnational Political Islam* (2004) and *Islamisms, Women and the State* (1998). She has a Ph.D. from the University of Amsterdam, a Masters degree from the Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam and a BA from the American University of Cairo.





***Gunisha Kaur* - Director, Global Health Initiative, Weill Cornell Medical College**

Dr. Gunisha Kaur is an anesthesiologist specializing in international health and is leading the Department of Anesthesiology’s Global Health Initiative at the Weill Cornell Medical College. The Initiative takes an innovative approach to international health education, research, and solution building. The Punjab Institute works with hospital systems, social activists, and non-profit organizations to affect long-term change on the ground in India. She also serves as the Program Director for the Anesthesia Global Health Fellowship. She is the co-director of a course on global health in the College of

Human Ecology, Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University. Dr. Kaur holds a Master’s in Medical Anthropology from Harvard University. In 2008, she published the book, *Lost in History: 1984 Reconstructed*, which documents human rights violations in South Asia. Dr. Kaur earned her B.S. from Cornell University in 2006, graduated from Weill Cornell Medical College in 2010, and completed her Anesthesiology Residency training at Weill Cornell Medical College/New York Presbyterian Hospital in 2014.

Special invitees

***Waseem Ahmad* - Director of International Programmes, Islamic Relief Worldwide**

Waseem Ahmad is the Director of International Programmes for Islamic Relief Worldwide. Ahmad’s 15 year journey within the humanitarian sector includes working with Tearfund, Oxfam, and LEPRO Health in Action. He initially joined the Islamic Relief family in Pakistan as a Programme Officer in the Balochistan region. Prior to his appointment as Director of International Programmes in 2016, Ahmad was the Head of Programme Funding and Partnerships, a role that involved responding to major crises across the globe, including the East Africa drought, Pakistan earthquake and the Indian Ocean Tsunami. As the delivery arm of the organisation, the International Programmes Division is a critical function and Ahmad has played a significant role in forming and strengthening partnerships with international organisations and bilateral donors. With a special interest in community mobilisation and infrastructure, Ahmad received an MSc in Project Planning and Management from the University of Bradford, as well as an MSc in Economics from Arid Agriculture University in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.



***Mustafa Ali* - Secretary General, Global Network of Religions for Children, Director, Arigatou International**

Mustafa Ali is the Secretary General of the Global Network of Religions for Children, and Director of the Arigatou International – Nairobi. He previously served as Secretary General of the African Council of Religious Leaders –

Religions for Peace, based in Nairobi and the Africa Representative for Religions for Peace International (RfP) headquartered in New York. Dr. Mustafa is an expert in conflict transformation, and focuses on Interfaith Dialogue, pre-Mediation, Media, Diplomacy and Conflict Prevention. he has contributed to the de- escalation of the violence as well as de-legitimization of ideologies that fuel violence in a number of countries in Africa, especially

mis-use of religion and targeting children and youth in the Horn of Africa. He has been engaged in efforts to reduce or end situations that lead to the misuse of religion to justify violence and conflicts, including terrorism around the world. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom; Master of Arts Degree in Diplomacy and International Studies from University of Nairobi, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Sciences from Moi University.

Jonathan Duffy - President, Adventist Development and Relief Agency



Jonathan Duffy was elected President of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA International) in 2013. Prior to joining ADRA International in America, his humanitarian career began as the CEO of ADRA Australia. There, he helped to secure a broad supporter base and to establish a strong relationship with the church. Under his direction, more than 25 percent of the churches in Australia became engaged in ADRA projects. Duffy's career comes with a strong health background, having worked and held leadership in the public health sector for 28 years. As the Director of Health for the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, he was published in the Medical Journal of Australia and developed a health promotion DVD entitled *Taking Charge of Your Health*. This DVD went on to become a successful outreach tool throughout many Divisions. Building on his knowledge of health he has acted as a consultant to a number of international corporations in the area of healthy lifestyles for their staff and change management. Duffy received a Master of Public Health degree from Deakin University, Australia, a Graduate Certificate of Occupational Health Management from the University of Sydney, and a Bachelor of Education from Flinders University, Australia. His passion is seeing the real change that comes to people's lives through ADRA's humanitarian ministry and he is also an accomplished corporate presenter, educator, and chairman.



Porter Delaney - Founding Partner, Kyle House Group

Porter Kyle DeLaney founded the Kyle House Group in 2010 after more than a decade of senior level work in the political and international relations spheres. He possesses a strong background in legislative politics, having advised a broad spectrum of corporate clients, trade associations, non-profit organizations and coalition groups on authorizing and appropriations strategies before the U.S. Congress. He also has substantial experience working on development assistance and global health issues, and represented several high-profile foundations, NGOs, coalitions and celebrities on political strategies that resulted in multi-billion dollar funding increases for U.S. development assistance programs, and the bipartisan passage and signing into law of major development legislation. DeLaney has advised a number of fortune 500 companies on their community development and corporate social responsibility programs around the globe. He maintains an active portfolio of pro bono work, serving as a senior advisor to former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's Hope Through Healing Hands Foundation and to Peace Players International. He serves on the Political Advisory Committee of Bono's advocacy organization ONE and on the Board of Directors of Bread for the World, a leading anti-hunger advocacy organization; Airborne Lifeline Foundation, a non-profit air medical services provider in Sub-Saharan Africa; Blood Water Mission, a non-profit HIV/AIDS and clean water service provider in Sub-Saharan Africa; and

the Board of Advisors for the Institute for the Management of Conflict, an advisory group composed of retired military Special Operations professionals.

Mauro Garofalo - Director International Relations, Community of Sant'Egidio

Mauro Garofalo has served as head of international relations for the Community of Sant'Egidio since 2014 and is involved with the secretariat for inter-religious and ecumenical dialogues. He has worked with Sant'Egidio in various capacities since 2006. Since 2008, Garofalo has worked primarily as a Conflict Resolutions Unit officer and has supported international emergency operations, notably in Afghanistan and Senegal. He has participated in and contributed to various peace initiatives across Africa, the Middle East, and Far East Asia. Garofalo has also supported several development cooperation projects. He has been active with the Community of Sant'Egidio since 1992 beyond his international work, involved with various grassroots service initiatives. He holds a Ph.D. and second level master's degree; he is an historian of arts and a trained archeologist.



Rev. Nicta M. Lubaale - General Secretary, Organization of African Instituted Churches

Nicta Lubaale has served as General Secretary of the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC) since January 2007. He was earlier the Director for Development and the HIV/AIDS Programme of the OAIC and a Pastor with the Centre for Evangelism in Uganda for 13 years. Rev. Lubaale has been involved in mobilizing and training church leadership from OAIC member churches to participate in holistic mission - where the church responds to development issues in the context of mission. He has a longstanding interest in the challenges that hunger presents and gave leadership to the OAIC's first major consultation on Food Security themes, *Growing the harvest*, that brought together actors from 18 countries including the OAIC member churches, leaders of farmers' organizations, the UNDP, and the UNMC. He gave leadership to the Development of *Redeeming the Harvest* which is the OAIC's Framework for responding to hunger through the improvement of small-scale agriculture. Through this framework the OAIC is working towards mobilising 30,000 church congregations and farmers' organisations. He convened -together with leaders from other faith organisations- the Africa Interfaith Initiative on the Post 2015 Development Agenda-a platform that mobilised Africa's faith communities to participate in the shaping and implementation of the SDGs and designed a project on mobilizing citizen engagement in the shaping of the delivery of public services. He holds an MA in development studies from the University of Reading (UK).

***Saliou Mbacke* - Mouride leader, President, Cadre des Religieux pour la Santé et le Développement**

Sheikh Saliou Mbacké is President of the CRSD (Religious Association for Health and Development), a Senegalese organization, and an international consultant. He served as the continental coordinator for Inter-faith Action for Peace in Africa from 2003, based initially in Geneva, then Nairobi, and then in Dakar. He has been engaged in interfaith work including a focus on nutrition and on defamation of religion. He is an advisor to the World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD) for a family health project in Senegal. A spiritual leader of the Mouride family, a core institution of Senegalese Sufi Islam, he has lived within that tradition since birth. Sheikh Mbacké was educated in Touba in the Islamic Qur'anic tradition, then at the University of Tunis and University of Salamanca. He worked as a journalist in Spain, a collaborator and translator for Amnesty International in Tunisia, and taught languages (French, Arabic, and English) in Tunisia and in Spain. He is a member of the International Selection Committee for the Niwano Peace Prize.



***Rebecca Middleton* - Chief Operating Officer, Alliance to End Hunger**

Rebecca Middleton is Managing Director of the Alliance to End Hunger. She joined the Alliance as Chief Operating Officer in 2013 and became Managing Director in 2016. As Managing Director, she develops organizational strategy and leads overall operations for the Alliance as it continues its mission of engaging diverse institutions to build the public and political will to end hunger at home and abroad. Middleton has 15 years of legislative and lobbying experience. She worked for Congressman Frank Wolf (R-VA, Ret.) from 1997 to 2002 as a Senior Legislative Assistant. She also assisted in running Rep. Wolf's campaign as Campaign Director (1998) and Campaign Manager (2000). Between 2002 and 2013 she was a Vice President at the public affairs firm Cassidy & Associates. In addition to her work at the Alliance, Middleton serves on the Advisory Committee of the Community for Zero Hunger and as a co-chair of the Vote to End Hunger coalition. Middleton earned her BA at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, VA, with a double-major in Political Science and English.

***William, Moore* - Executive Director, Eleanor Crook Foundation**

William Moore is Executive Director of The Eleanor Crook Foundation, an Austin, Texas based philanthropy for international nutrition and food security. He was formerly Chief Storyteller at the United Nations Millennium Campaign, where he helped coordinate UN country office engagement plans for the Sustainable Development Goals. Also a photographer and writer, Moore generated a photo-narrative series for the UN's MY World Campaign that was displayed at the UN General Assembly in 2014, and has been exhibited in museums and at development summits around the world. Moore has worked on numerous statewide election campaigns in North Carolina, as well as for US Senator Kay Hagan. Moore serves on a number of boards, including the anti-hunger advocacy organization Bread for the World. A North Carolina native, Moore graduated with top marks from Columbia University with a degree in American Studies.





Matt Reed - CEO, Aga Khan Foundation (UK), Aga Khan Development Network

Matt T. Reed is Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan Foundation UK. He oversees strategic partnerships, long-range business development, and project management with European and Asian governments, corporates and foundations, and multilateral institutions. Between 2013 and 2016, Matt Reed led the Foundation’s work in India as its CEO, focusing AKF on the needs of marginalised communities, establishing significant new relationships, and launching multi-state programmes in education, financial inclusion, livelihoods, and water and sanitation. Earlier, he held the position of Director of Programmes for the Foundation in the UK. Previously, he worked at the Salzburg Seminar, the MacArthur Foundation, and Keck Graduate Institute at the Claremont Colleges. Matt Reed’s focus is on expanding AKF’s partnerships in the UK and Europe and building greater public awareness about the work of the broader Aga Khan Development Network. He has a Ph.D. and M.A. in European History from Claremont Graduate University in Los Angeles.

Michel Roy - Secretary General, Caritas Internationalis

Michel Roy has been the Secretary-General of Caritas Internationalis since 2011. Prior to this role he served as Director of International Advocacy at Secours Catholique/Caritas France. Mr. Roy has worked with Secours Catholique for 30 years. Since 1988 he has managed the international action of the organization, travelling the world to support and advocate for the poor. Caritas Internationalis is at the same time a confederation of over 160 national Caritas organizations and an institution of the Holy See dedicated to the fight against extreme poverty and the promotion of social justice, educating the faithful to solidarity. Mr. Roy has spent many years developing grassroots networks around the world advocating for the protection of human dignity.

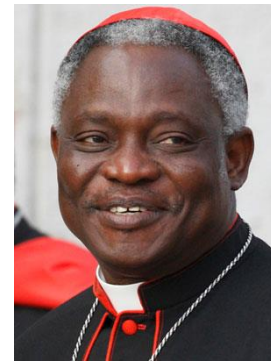


Sulak Sivaraksa - International Network of Engaged Buddhists

Sulak Sivaraksa is a Buddhist spiritual leader and humanitarian best known for his social criticism and grassroots organizing that uses spiritual models to advocate for sustainable change to better the lives of poor, rural Thais. For his activism and writings, he has been exiled from Thailand (1976-77 and 1991-94), jailed four times, and been accused of defaming the Thai monarchy. Born in Thailand in 1933, he studied law in the United Kingdom. Returning to Thailand in 1961, he taught at Chulalongkorn University, founded the *Social Science Review* (Sangkhomsaat Paritat), and initiated social and ecological organizations such as the Spirit in Education Movement (SEM), and the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB). Sivaraksa has been a visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Hawaii, and Cornell, and he was awarded the Right Livelihood Award (1995), the UNPO Human Rights Award (1998), the Millennium Gandhi Award (2001), and the Niwano Peace Prize (2011).

***Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson* - President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace**

Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson has served as President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace since 2009. He was Archbishop of Cape Coast from 1993 to 2009, and also served as president of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference (1997-2004). He was a member of Governing Council of the University of Ghana, Legon (2001-2006) and of the Board of Directors of Central Region Development Commission (CEDECOM) (2002-2006). He served as treasurer of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM) (2007-2009) and presently serves as Vice President of the Association of Episcopal Conferences of Anglophone West Africa (AECAWA). He was Chairman of the Ghana Chapter of the Conference of Religions for Peace (2003-2007) and Ghana National Peace Council (2006-2010). Cardinal Turkson attended St. Teresa's Seminary from 1962-1969 in Amisano and St. Peter's Regional Seminary in Pedu from 1969-1971. He continued his studies in Rome at the Pontifical Biblical Institute, earning a license in Sacred Scripture (1976-1980), and then began work on his doctoral thesis (1987-1992). He also holds master degrees in Theology and Divinity from St. Anthony-on-Hudson, Conv. Franciscan Seminary, New York. He was created and proclaimed Cardinal by the Bl. John Paul II in the Consistory of 21 October 2003, of the Title of S. Liborio (St. Liborius).



***Rev. Canon Flora Winfield* - Anglican Communion Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva**

The Rev'd Canon Dr. Flora Winfield is the Anglican Communion Permanent Representative to the United Nations Institutions in Geneva. One of the first women ordained in the Church of England, Dr Winfield has served as Assistant Secretary General of Religions for Peace, as the International Relations Secretary for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and at Lambeth Palace as the Archbishop of Canterbury's Secretary for Anglican Communion Relations.

Project managers

***Arnhild Spence* – Director of Partnership and Advocacy Coordination Division, World Food Programme**

Ms Arnhild Spence currently serves as Director of Partnerships, Coordination and Advocacy for the World Food Programme (WFP). Her humanitarian experience spans the Red Cross Movement (IFRC), UN (UNOG, OCHA, WFP) and NGOs (NRC). Her experience in the field of foreign and security policy includes NATO's Political Affairs Division - working on crisis management in the Balkans and Afghanistan, and the Norwegian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense. She did her post-graduate degree in International Relations at University of Oslo in 1992, after which she worked for the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, publishing of EU foreign policy. Her academic work also includes the management of a research project leading to the adoption in 2001 of the EU Strategy to combat the illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons.

***Katherine Marshall* - Consultant**

Katherine Marshall has worked for over four decades on international development. A senior fellow at Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs and Professor of Practice in the School of Foreign Service, she is the executive director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD), whose mission is to bridge gulfs that separate the worlds of development and religion. Her current policy research touches wide-ranging issues involving international development and religion. Much of her career was at the World Bank, in many leadership assignments focused on Africa, Latin America, and East Asia; inter alia she led the Bank's agricultural projects in many African countries. From 2000 – 2006, she was counselor to the Bank's president on ethics, values, and faith in development. Board positions include the World Bank Community Connections Fund, AVINA Americas, Trustee of Princeton University, the Washington National Cathedral Foundation, the Opus Prize Foundation, and the International Selection Committee for the Niwano Peace Prize. A graduate of Wellesley College ('67) and Princeton University (MPA), her publications include *Global Institutions of Religion: Ancient Movers, Modern Shakers* (Routledge in 2013) and *Women, Religion, and Peace: Illuminating the Unseen*, coedited with Susan Hayward, 2015.