



# NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

In Support of the United Nations & Communities Globally

*"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"*

<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>

**Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 – 2 PM to 4 PM**



**Professor Jan W. Dash, NGOCSD-NY Lead Adviser on Climate Change and Managing Editor of the Climate Portal website.** Professor Dash is the Editor of the Climate Statement: Summary and Recommendations to Governments of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY delivered to leaders at COP23 in Bonn, Germany. He is a Matchmaker for the Climate Science Rapid Response Team providing scientific responses to media questions. He is the author of the "one-liner" responses to climate contrarian fallacies. He has worked for years in risk management and wrote a book about it. The 2nd edition of his book contains a chapter on Climate Risk Management. He is the editor for a forthcoming Encyclopedia on Climate and Finance, Economics, Policy. He did the math behind the Bloomberg Climate Clock, which won a 2016 NY Press Club Award. He was on the Working Group on

Scenarios for the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures. He attended the Copenhagen and Paris Climate Conferences and was on a Paris Conference panel and is on the Unitarian Universalist Green Sanctuary Advisory Board plus he helped start the national network of UU Climate Action Teams (CATs). He held the position Directeur de Recherche at the Centre de Physique Théorique in Marseille France and published over 60 scientific research papers. Subsequently, he worked for many years as a professional risk manager, was the head of Ph.D quant groups, and the author of many quantitative risk papers. He was Visiting Research Scholar at the Fordham Graduate School of Business and Adjunct Professor with the Courant Institute (NYU). He is President of J. Dash Consultants LLC. He is now a consultant at Bloomberg LP in Enterprise Risk. In addition, Prof. Dash was the Backstage Conductor and Chorus Master for the New York Grand Opera. Finally, he has two grandsons and wants to help make the world liveable for them and all children, which is why he has worked hard on climate issues for many years.



**Ms. Rosedel Davies-Adewebi, Senior Manager, Innovation, United Nations Global Compact.** Ms. Davies-Adewebi brings together leading companies, governments, and UN entities to evaluate emerging technologies and the business models they enable and build sustainable solutions that accelerate the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She has over 10 years of experience as an innovation manager, shaping unstructured ideas into products and services that generate commercial and social value across several industries, particularly in the financial services, health and social impact industries. Her expertise includes designing new business models with startups and social enterprises, establishing partnerships with multinational corporations, and connecting startups to sources of debt and equity financing. To date, Ms. Davies-Adewebi has helped such companies qualify for over \$4 million in seed funding. Passionate about growing start-ups,

she serves as a mentor at the Mentor Capital Network. She has been recognized for her contributions to social innovation initiatives as a recipient of the StartingBloc and United Way Emerging Leader Fellowships. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and International Relations from Boston University and an MBA from the University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business.



**Ms. Mahrinah von Schlegel, Executive Director of Embassy2.0,** Ms. von Schlegel is a High Tech Entrepreneur with a diverse background in anthropology, finance, sustainable development, strategy, fine arts dance, and alternative energies. Her NGO Embassy2.0 focuses on policy advisement on entrepreneurship and emerging technologies and facilitating global opportunities for high-growth, high-potential entrepreneurs in the ITC sector. She has built digital projects and communities since 2001 and developed nearly \$1B in real estate, predominantly in Southern California. Ms. von Schlegel received her education at the University of Pennsylvania and Wharton School of Business. A Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholar who was named "America's Promising Youth Leader" by Secretary of State Colin Powell. She has had a longstanding commitment toward works with a humanist basis and extensive board involvement. In 2012, she founded Cibola, the first diversity-focused technology

incubator in Chicago. It serviced over 30 companies and held over 52 events in the first 6 months of operation with groups ranging from The White House, The United States Department of State, Google, Microsoft, Groupon and EchoNest. She is a mentor for Tetuan Valley, TechWadi, LOFT Institute, is an international public speaker on topics surrounding high tech entrepreneurship and ecosystem development. She is also Partner at I365, a Strategy Consultancy that specializes in launching companies, products and services into new markets, with principal focuses on international clients entering the U.S. market and domestic companies scaling into new cities. Her clients range from startups to large-scale global entities having built and launched over 40 companies and projects who represent over \$100M in annual revenue.

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**Mr. Isaac Reshad, Managing Director of Global Access Partner, LLC.** Mr. Reshad is a versatile and tactical entrepreneur with over 20 years of international venture experience. He brings a proven track record of leadership, international project management, trade financing, global sales and marketing, international joint venture, cross-cultural communication and venture capital experience to each engagement. Mr. Reshad began his career as a small business consultant, specializing in international sourcing, production and import/export operations. His projects concentrated in emerging markets and countries with United States free trade opportunities. These projects focused on the infrastructure, real estate, and textile industries. Currently, Mr. Reshad as the Managing Director of Global Access Partner, LLC (GAP), which assists companies identify and monetize global business opportunities. GAP

integrates the private sector, government agencies, and key stakeholders to secure and manage deals. The company specializes in Global Business Development, Project Acquisition and Management, Infrastructure/PPP, Government Relations, Impact Investing, and Strategic and Capital Raise Consulting. Gap plans to invest in Small Island Developing States in several sectors such as, but not limited to sustainable infrastructure, Climate Change industry and innovation, renewable energy and agriculture. Prior to GAP, Mr. Reshad Co-founded and Managed Sybaris Consulting Group LLC (Sybaris), which strategized with clients to identify opportunities for investment in post-conflict emerging markets and frontier markets. Sybaris provides full-cycle advisory services ranging from business development planning for project structure, leading negotiations with funding sources, evaluating local partners, and designing a sustainable and secure path for infrastructure projects. Mr. Reshad deployed his political and financial expertise to secure funding through his expansive network of equity, grant, loan, and risk insurance providers. Sybaris focused geographically in Central and Southern Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. He also serves on the boards of numerous professional and charitable organizations, while developing partnerships to support the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.



**Ms. Anita Mary Thomas, Chair of the NGO Committee on Financing for Development; Board Member and Representative of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund at the UN.** The NGO Committee on Financing for Development is a substantive Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CoNGO). For the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, Ms. Thomas focuses on financing for development issues impacting the economic empowerment of women and girls. Her extensive experience with both domestic and international Non-Governmental Organizations include advocating on the rights of girls as the Representative of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts at the UN for over ten years, and management roles with the Conference of NGOs, Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation and consultancies in the areas of project management,

and finance. She holds a Master's Degree in Finance from the Simon School of Business, University of Rochester, s Master's Degrees in Public Affairs and Politics from Rutgers University and a Master's Degree in Economics from Madras Christian College, India. She is a Fellow of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.



**Mr. Ari Zoldan is the CEO of Quantum Media Group, a Digital Marketing Agency based in New York City.** Mr. Zoldan is a regular on FOX, CNN, CNBC, and NBC, provides expert commentary on technology, media and emerging trends. He serves as a frequent source for journalists and is quoted regularly in The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Fox News, Bloomberg, and CNN Money. He writes for a variety of media outlets including The Huffington Post, Inc., FoxNews.com, TheStreet.com and The IBM Think marketing platform. Mr. Zoldan graduated from Yeshiva University and Sy Syms School of Business. An early adopter of next generation technology, he founded Launch 3 Communications, Inc. The company utilized the innovative voice over internet protocol (VoIP) to build voice and data networks in over 140 countries around the world. In 2003, he co-founded Launch 3

Ventures, LLC acquiring assets from distressed technology and telecommunications companies. He is an avid traveler who spends time in emerging countries such as South Sudan, India, Uganda, Kenya, Nicaragua, Guinea, China, Haiti, Korea, Thailand, Burma, Colombia, Jordan and Egypt. Through his experiences he developed a strong belief in the doctrine of social entrepreneurship and spends part of his time donating technology to unserved countries. Mr. Zoldan is Chair of the Media and Development committee of The Zahn Center for Innovation at City College. He is an active board member for a variety of media and technology companies. He is a principal of a news wire in Washington, DC with press booths in the White House, Senate and the Pentagon. He holds press credentials on Capitol Hill and the United Nations and is a member of The National Press Club.

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**Professor Juan Elias Chebly, Lead Adviser on Partnerships and Outreach to the UN Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Environment Programme and Head of the UN Environment Management Group. He is the Founder of Voipebox.com and giveme5.org.** Prof. Chebly holds a BS in Management, a minor in International Business, a Finance MBA degree from St. John's University in Queens, NY and a Ph.D in Sustainable Development from Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela. At age 24, he became St. John's Tobin College of Business youngest professor in 2010. In 2009, he founded Voipebox.com, a telecom startup introducing innovative and pioneering VOIP telephony solutions in South America and the US. Since 2013, he has been tasked to serve in different capacities as a report writer, researcher, programme manager, public speaker, strategic adviser, and community builder at the UN, at the juncture between academic research, policy-making, and inclusive governance through partnerships and global outreach.

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