

# "Communities & Local Leadership Take On the SDGs & Climate Action"

Thursday, May 30, 2019 from 2PM – 4PM



**Ms. Hana AlHashimi, Senior Adviser on Environment, Climate Action, Sustainable Energy, Frontier Technologies, Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) for the Office of the President of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly.** Hana also serves as the liaison with the Group of 77 and China. Hana previously served as Happiness Representative, Sustainable Development and Digital Cooperation Expert at the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to the United Nations in New York from 2015 to 2018. During her time at the Mission, she supported the co-facilitation of the 10 year review of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10). She also served on the bureau of the preparatory conference for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) in 2016. As a delegate to the Second Committee, she coordinated the Group of 77 and China on ICTs for Development and Sustainable Energy, and facilitated Women in Development. She also chaired the Happiness Committee at the UAE Mission. Her prior experience includes

project development for sustainable energy accelerators at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna, Austria, as well as management consulting for social businesses at Munich Advisors Group in Germany. Hana holds a Masters of Sciences in International Relations and Diplomacy from Leiden University and the Netherlands Institute for International Relations (Clingendael), and a Bachelors of Commerce in General Management and the Social Context of Business from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She speaks English, Arabic, German, French and basic Urdu.



**Mr. Dan Shepard, UN Information Officer for the United Nations Department of Global Communications: Climate Change Focal Point.** Mr. Shepard continues to support the UN system's efforts on climate change, which he has been engaged on since the Bali Conference in 2007, through the 2014 Climate Summit, the Paris Climate Conference and the ratification of the Paris Agreement. He is presently working to raise global ambition and action on climate change through the promotion of the UN Secretary General's 2019 High Level Climate Action and SDGs Summit during the UN74<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. In addition to climate change, he works on a range of sustainability issues including biodiversity loss, food security, livable cities and water—all issues that involve economics, quality of life, and the environment. He has also served as editor of the United Nations Development Programme magazine, CHOICES, and also, for UNDP, worked on advocacy issues that included small arms and the rebuilding effort that followed the 2004 tsunami.



**Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Special Representative to the UN and Director of the International Labour Organization Office for the United Nations.** Mr. Pinheiro is from Brazil and has been based in New York, since the 1st of February 2016. He is the leading official responsible for issues related to the world of work at the UN. His portfolio includes the areas of employment and decent work, social protection, labour migration, youth employment, child and forced labour, gender economic empowerment, working conditions and labour rights. Mr. Pinheiro was the ILO lead negotiator in the UN deliberations on the post 2015 development agenda and on financing for development. He represents the ILO in numerous UN and UNDG working mechanisms. He is the co-chair of the UNDG Task Team on South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the Executive Secretary of the Social Protection Interagency Coordination Board. Before moving to New York, Mr. Pinheiro served as senior social protection adviser to the ILO Director General in Geneva since 2009. He was part of the ILO G20 Sherpa Team from 2009 to 2013 and acted as Executive

Secretary of the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group, headed by Ms. Michele Bachelet, which led to the adoption of the ILO recommendation on social protection floors. He was also the Director General Cabinet's focal point for the preparation of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) and its follow up. Mr. Pinheiro is an Economist and holds a master degree in Political Science from the University of Brasília and specializations in Public Administration and Public Policies (National School of Public Administration, Brasília), in Evaluation of Social Programmes and Projects (ILPES-ECLAC, Santiago de Chile); Pensions Schemes (Harvard International Institute for Development, Cambridge) and Leadership in the Public Sector (Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge). He taught in the Economics Department of the University of Brasília (1994 – 1996) and authored various articles in the area of pensions and social protection.



**Ms. Hawa Taylor-Kamara Diallo serves as Chief of the Civil Society Unit within the Civil Society, Advocacy and Special Events Section of the United Nations Department of Global Communications.** Ms. Diallo began her United Nations career in 1986 with the UN Department of Public Information (now Department of Global Communications) in New York, where she worked in various public information capacities. From 1992 to 1994, she served in two United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Cambodia and Somalia, respectively. In 1994, Ms. Diallo joined the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General until moving to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi, as an Associate Human Settlements Officer. She later served as a Partners and Youth Programme Officer until moving to UN-Habitat's New York Liaison Office in 2010. Currently, she is Chief of the Civil Society Unit within the Civil Society, Advocacy and Special Events Section of the Department of Global Communications, where she manages United Nations and civil society partnerships activities. She has extensive experience in designing

and implementing United Nations communications and outreach programmes to foster civil society partnerships, with an emphasis on youth and women's organizations. Ms. Diallo is a national of Sierra Leone and the United States of America.

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**Ms. Christine Clarke, Candidate for State Assembly in New Jersey's 26th District, a Climate Action & SDGs advocate.** Christine is a mother of four and running on a platform of creating renewable energy jobs, protecting clean air and water, improving healthcare and addressing climate change. She is the Chairwoman of the Jefferson Township Democratic Committee, a trained Climate Reality Leader, and a steering committee member of the Jersey Renews coalition. She was on the steering committees for the 2018 NJ March for Science and the 2018 NJ People's Climate Movement rally in Morristown. She is the former Environmental Director at Action Together New Jersey and created ATNJ Environment's #ClimateVoter video series, hosting Facebook Live broadcasts with New Jersey members of Congress to talk about climate change and environmental policy. Christine organized grassroots calls to action, free public educational forums and live streamed events bringing people together around renewable energy and environmental conservation. She was an early organizer with NJ 11th For Change as well. Now she's

running for Assembly to advocate for us in the New Jersey Legislature, and needs your support. Christine is proud to be an NGOCS-D-NY Honorary Adviser on Climate Action.



**Ms. Tara DePorte, Executive Director and Founder of The Human Impacts Institute.** Tara is an award-winning educator, artist and public figure who creates opportunities for social and environmental action. Born and raised in the Washington, DC area, Tara has lived in Brooklyn for many years and considers New York City as her "base" for exploration. She has also lived in Brazil, France, and the Netherlands, and traveled throughout the world. As an educator, Tara has developed hundreds of workshops for the public, primary and secondary schools, universities, private companies, and government bodies--using creativity and hands-on learning as central tools. She has developed and taught courses at higher education institutions such as Columbia University, the New School, Webster University (Leiden), and Syracuse University. She provides consulting services to a wide array of clients, including the United Nations Development Program, L'Oreal, Citibank, and VF Sportswear on issues, such as employee engagement, communication strategies, environmental education, and social justice. Tara's public speaking inspires audiences to creatively engage

in the issues of our times, as she's presented alongside global leaders from Vice President Al Gore to UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon to Bill McKibben, as well as cultural icons, such as Renee Zellweger. As an artist, Tara's work has been exhibited and performed on three continents. No matter where she is, Tara strives to contribute to her community, believing whole-heartedly in "keeping one foot in the local and one foot in the global". Through both her environmental and social teaching and her artistic work, Tara balances local actions with broader-reaching work. In 2011, Tara founded the Human Impacts Institute, a think-and-do tank transforming the art and science of inspiring positive impacts through creative communication, hands-on education, and curated actions for you. Learn more at [TaraDePorte.com](http://TaraDePorte.com)



**Ms. Trisha Sheehan is the National Field Manager for Moms Clean Air Force,** a community of over 1,000,000 moms and dads united against air pollution – including the urgent crisis of our changing climate – to protect our children's health. Trisha manages field staff and volunteers across the country to develop and deploy strategic plans to increase grassroots advocacy on key environmental issues at the local, state and federal level. Trisha also works with our elected officials to advocate for strong policies at every level of government to protect our children's health from toxic chemicals, air pollution and the impacts from climate change. Trisha has a Masters of Business Administration with a B.S. in Marketing and serves on the board for the Columbia Center School of Public Health in NYC. Trisha lives in New Jersey with her three young sons. Trisha joined Moms Clean Air Force 7 years ago, after her own sons were poisoned from the toxic chemical, vinyl chloride, following a train derailment in a nearby community. Trisha's now 9 year old has experienced lingering health impacts from his exposure to the carcinogenic neurotoxin, including severe

nose bleeds, short term memory loss and speech delays. Trisha's experience inspires her to work every day to ensure we have strong laws that protect our children from toxic chemicals, air pollution and climate change.



**Ms. Colette Denali Montoya-Sloan, Librarian, City University of New York's Guttman Community College and a member of the Pueblo of Isleta tribe of American Indians** and a descendant of the San Felipe Pueblo has a demonstrated and ongoing commitment to the preservation of Native American Storytelling and history. A librarian working at Adelphi University's Manhattan Center and CUNY's Guttman Community College, she is also a fellow at the Indigenous Digital Archive, a project of the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Colette's recent article, "*Visual Representations, Liminal Identities, and Archival Homes: Giulia Nazzaro & Colette Montoya-Sloan in Conversation,*" appeared in *Hemisphere: Visual Cultures of the Americas*. She is a coordinator of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, where she manages the Spoken Word Project. She is a recent member of the Indigenous Womxn's Collective NYC.

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**Ms. Alexandria Villaseñor is a 14 year old Climate Activist Leader living in New York City. Founder and Executive Director of Earth Uprising International.** Frustrated by the lack of progress at COP 24, and inspired by 16 year old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, Alexandria began her own solo weekly school strike for climate in front of the United Nations Headquarters on December 14, 2018 and has now been on strike for 25 weeks. Soon after she began, Alexandria became a national and international Fridays for Future organizer for the first ever global youth climate strike which occurred on March 15, 2019. This historic strike mobilized 1.6M youth from 123 countries to demand climate action from their world leaders. For her work, Alexandria was awarded the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival's "Disruptor," "The Common Good Foundation Changemaker Scholarship, the Earth Day Network 2019 Youth Climate Leadership Award and recently she made Politico's list of the top 100 people influential in climate change policy. Today, Alexandria continues to organize national weekly Fridays for Future climate strikes and is a leading organizer for the ongoing global Fridays for Future Climate Strikes. She is also the founder and executive director of her own nonprofit "Earth Uprising" where she is working

to bring accurate climate change education into schools and helping youth mobilize for direct action. Personally, Alexandria stands for a 50% reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, as outlined in the October 2018 IPCC Special Report and intends to continue her school strikes, climate activism and direct action until this goal is reached. Alexandria is an Honorary Adviser for the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY and a NGOCD-NY Youth Leader on the SDGs & and Climate Action.



**Ms. Kristin Hogue is a writer for the Earth Institute's website: GlacierHub & Chair of the Board for Earth Uprising International.** Kristin is a graduate student at Columbia University in the M.A. in Climate and Society Program. Previously, Kristin attended UC Davis where she was a fellow for the UC Office of the President's Carbon Neutrality Initiative and created humanities based climate change curriculum for undergraduates. Kristin is an adult advisor for the youth climate movement This Is Zero Hour and the Board Chair for Earth Uprising International, a nonprofit focused on youth led climate education and direct action mobilization. Kristin is proud to be a member of the NGOCD-NY and her youth climate activist daughter is Alexandria Villaseñor.



**Mr. William Sosinsky, Founder and President of Energime University, CEO, Energime Sustainable Technologies, LLC and Co-Founder of Sustainable Planet Pilot Education Project.** William is an original pioneer in Integrated Sustainable Design (ISD) and Energime University is a not-for-profit charitable organization and a Partner member of the United Nations Academic Impact. He has spent a lifetime dedicated to studying and solving the issues of resource management and sustainable economic development as they relate to environmental stewardship. With an extensive background in science and economics, William has traveled the world gaining firsthand insight of the critical issues humanity will face as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. During those trips William has developed hundreds of close relationships with governmental and community leaders as well as some of the worlds most esteemed and knowledgeable scientists, technology developers, educators, and sustainability visionaries. This experience has provided the base of knowledge that he has used to develop strategies and solutions to address the specific and complex issues facing different regions of our planet in regards to their long

term sustainability. It is the result of that exposure which has given William a unique perspective as to the path we must take to ensure the future health of our planet and the survivability and prosperity of future generations. The author of "The World We Leave Our Children," an accomplished lecturer, speaker, and consultant, as well as the Creator and Visionary behind the Sustainable Planet experiential education gaming platform. Additionally, William is a board member with a number of organizations whose missions address sustainability, resource management, environmental protection, economic development, and education.



**Dr. Andrise Bass, BSCJ, MBA, Ph.D is President and Founder of Humanitarian Focus Foundation, Vice President of ASPAFrique and Vice Chair of the NGOCD-NY. Dr. Bass is a Mentor/Leader for Al Gore's Climate Reality Project.** She is a Transformational Strategist Coach, Entrepreneur, and Philanthropist with over 28 years of experience in the business industry. She has been a community organizer, for grassroots movements, an author, a keynote speaker, a business entrepreneur for business start-ups and a business strategist for non-profits. Her passion is helping men and women become leaders in their communities. Over the past 11 years, she has trained and mentored thousands of corporate professionals and entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds and varied industries across the globe. Every day, she looks forward to helping her clients transform their lives, so they can create wealth and have a long-lasting sustainable legacy. In 2011, she was honored as a social ambassador for her humanitarian work and her positive fight on social justice in Haiti. She has a Bachelor in criminal justice, MBA in Organizational Psychology and Ph.D. in public policy and administration. Working with Al Gore she is a

Mentor/Leader at Climate Reality Project and Vice President of ASPAFrique a non-profit. As President and Founder of Humanitarian Focus Foundation she is continuously working to support education, poverty alleviation, human rights, climate action, and sustainable development. Dr. Bass' goal is to educate women to become leaders in being of serve to their communities.



**Ms. Margo LaZaro, is the President and Chair, the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY and Director of UN Relations for Global Family, and Chair of the Board of Advisers for Youth for a Better World: Montessori Model UN, Youth Impact! Forum and she represents the Huairou Commission at the UN.** She has over thirty years of experience at the United Nations working in the UN Community as a Chief Developer of meetings, conferences and Special Events with all stakeholders developing impactful events and projects that include the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She is a member of the Habitat Civil Society Work Group, the General Assembly of Partners, the NGO Major Group and the Interim Coordinator of the NGO Major Group Urban Thematic Cluster, as well as a member of the Women's Major Group for the UN High Level Political Forum. Her experience as a Designer in the Entertainment Industry gave her a good foundation for taking on issues and producing solutions. Ms. LaZaro's work is mainly focused on connecting all areas of the 17 SDGs. She passionately champions SDG 17 on Building Partnerships and she believes in the NGOCD-NY motto: "Turn Your Passions into Actions for

Change." She has most recently focused on bringing entrepreneurs and the private sector into United Nations discourse to foster support for the success of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, so we "Leave No One Behind."

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