

## European Humanitarian Roundtables 2016 – West

31 March 2016 – Royal Irish Academy

Academy House, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin, Ireland

### Participants & Speakers Bios

#### **Judith Barna**

*Policy Officer, Unit for Strategy, Co-ordination and Inter-Institutional Relations, European Commission, Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*

Ms Barna has been the focal point for the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid in the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) since January 2015. She also supports the ECHO focal point on the WHS. Her background is in humanities from which she moved on to complete an MBA and study international development and international child studies. Prior to joining ECHO, she worked on development cooperation policy at the Policy Department of the Directorate-General for External Policies of the European Parliament.

#### **Sophie Borel (facilitator)**

*NOHA General Manager*

Ms Borel has worked 15 years in the field in the human rights and humanitarian action sectors, managing a wide range of projects and programmes. From DRC, to Lebanon, Yemen, Cambodia and Jordan, Ms Borel has worked with a number of governmental and non-governmental organisations, of which the United Nations, Save the Children and the European Commission. More recently, she managed The Carter Center's operations in DRC. She specialises the development of training programmes in the human rights and humanitarian sectors, with a focus on local civil society strengthening. She has designed, coordinated and implemented a wide range of training and capacity building programmes based on state of the art adult learning methodologies for humanitarian and human rights actors. Ms Borel is currently the General Manager of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA).

#### **Inge Brees**

*EU Advocacy Officer, Care International*

Ms Brees has over 10 years of experience in the humanitarian and development sector and is currently leading the advocacy work for CARE International at EU level, with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment. She has previously worked as Advocacy Officer for the VOICE network, uniting humanitarian NGOs across Europe. She holds a PhD in Political Science, which was focused on livelihoods, integration and transnational activities in protracted refugee situations, with Burmese refugees in Thailand as a case study. She started her career with UNODC in Myanmar

#### **Brian Casey**

*Project Manager, Irish Consultative Process to the WHS*

Mr Casey is an independent humanitarian consultant and the Project Manager for the Irish Consultative Process to the World Humanitarian Summit. Brian has over 16 years' experience designing, managing and monitoring emergency programmes and has worked in over 20 disaster affected countries across a broad spectrum of natural and human made crises. He was formally the Head of Humanitarian Programmes with GOAL where he worked for 11 years and had overall responsibility for the organisation's emergency operations. As part of the Centre for Humanitarian Action in UCD, Brian is managing Ireland's contribution to the World Humanitarian Summit. Separately, Brian advises INGO's on how to establish humanitarian programmes efficiently and effectively; provides outsourced business development advice and lectures and trains nationally and internationally on the management and implementation of aid programmes in complex environments. Brian

holds a first class Master's degree in Humanitarian Action from UCD and is qualified management accountant.

**Cristina Churucca**

*NOHA Director, University of Deusto*

**Silvia Croes**

*Directorate of Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium*

**Dominic Crowley**

*Head of Emergency Unit, Concern Ireland*

**Raphael De Prado**

*AECID*

**Lisa Doherty**

*Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland*

**Rory Downham**

*Director of Operations and Development, Institut Bioforce*

Mr Downham has been committed to capacity building in the humanitarian sector for over 20 years. Rory holds a Masters degree in Adult Learning and has specialised in developing learning and development programmers specific to the needs of the sector. He is currently the Director of Operations and Development at the Bioforce Institute, a French NGO specialised in capacity building for the humanitarian aid and development sectors. The Institute, founded over 30 years ago and a reference in the sector, offers a wide range of competency based learning programs including diploma courses, bespoke training, certification and coaching. He has had a strong involvement in the mainstream quality and professionalisation initiatives in the humanitarian sector, namely, Sphere, CHS, the Quality and Accountability group, HHR (Humanitarian Human Resources forum and seminar), ELRHA and the Humanitarian Passport Initiative.

**Siobhán Foran**

*Senior Officer for Gender and Diversity, IFRC*

Ms Foran is the Senior Officer, Gender & Diversity with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva. Siobhán has 15 years' humanitarian experience and holds a Master's Degree in Equality Studies from University College Dublin where her final thesis was 'When Sexism Kills: Conflict-Related Gender-Based Violence'. She has worked for a number of NGOs at HQ and field levels, including in Kenya, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Sierra Leone, South Darfur and Iraq. Between 2007 and 2012, Siobhán worked as an interagency adviser with the IASC GenCap project in C.A.R., Iraq, Geneva (with the Global Clusters), Pakistan, Somalia, Afghanistan and South Sudan. Between 2012 and 2013, Siobhán was the head of UN Women's Humanitarian Unit in New York before joining the IFRC where she holds the gender, diversity and gender-based violence prevention and response files. As GenCap Adviser with the Global Clusters, Siobhán was the gender focal point on the revision of Sphere Handbook and the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies' Minimum Standards for Education.

**Patrick Gibbons**

*Director, Centre for Humanitarian Action, University College Dublin*

Pat Gibbons PhD is Director of UCD's Centre for Humanitarian Action (CHA). He is a member of the World Humanitarian Summit Team on Humanitarian Effectiveness and Chairperson of the Irish Humanitarian Summit Steering Committee. Pat worked for more than a decade on both humanitarian and development programmes, in Africa and Ireland, before returning to UCD in 1997 to manage the Master's Programme in Humanitarian Action under the auspices of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA). He served as President of NOHA

between 2007 and 2013, and then became founder member of UCD's CHA. His experiences in a range of aid sectors including public, private, NGO and academia have provided the determination to develop improved modus operandi for collective responses in aid programming from Ireland. His research interests include: humanitarian principles, urban vulnerabilities and risk; impact assessment; and the interface between humanitarian action and reconciliation.

### **François Grunewald**

*Executive Director, Groupe URD*

Mr Grunewald is an engineer in agriculture science and specialised in rural economy, François Grunewald spent 35 years in development, emergency and post disaster rehabilitation projects in Africa, Asia, Central Europe, and Central/Latine America, as well as at HQ levels. He worked with NGO, UN and ICRC. In 1997, he became chairman of Groupe URD (Urgence-Rehabilitation-Developpement). He wrote several books and articles on complex emergency and the management of socio-natural disasters. François Grunewald has been, among others, team leader for the of the Post Mitch inter NGO evaluation from 1999 to 2001; of the DFID UNICEF evaluation of the response to the Darfur Crisis, of the evaluation of the French response to the Tsunami, of the IASC evaluation of the International response to the crisis in the Horn of Africa and of many evaluations after the Haiti earthquake and more recently in Sahel and Mali. He carried out several pieces of work on Ebola in 2014, 2015 and 2016. F. Grunewald is currently team leader of the evaluation of the European response to the Syrian crisis. He wrote numerous articles and contributed books and specialized publication on aid, including "War in cities, cities at war" and a series of articles on humanitarian aid in urban settings.

### **Atish Gonsalves**

*Global Learning Director, Humanitarian Leadership Academy*

Mr Gonsalves is a social technologist and the Global Learning Director of the Humanitarian Leadership Academy based in London. Prior to the Academy, Atish was the Executive Director of DisasterReady.org and has worked for many years with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) where he led the learning technology team. With a strong background in technology and human-computer interaction (HCI), Atish's experience includes a combination of private sector and humanitarian assignments, having moved between the two sectors over the last 16 years in Asia, Australia, Europe, US and Africa. Mr Gonsalves is a global citizen, has lived in six countries (India, Australia, Switzerland, Hungary, US and UK) and has travelled to over 30 countries and graduated from RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia.

### **Joost Herman (speaker)**

*NOHA President, NOHA Groningen Director*

Joost Herman is professor of Globalisation studies and humanitarian action. He studied History and International Law in Leiden and conducted PhD research at the Institute for Human Rights at the University of Utrecht into the protection of minority groups in Central and Eastern Europe. He joined the University of Groningen in 1995, became University Reader in International Relations and International Organization in 2003, and professor in 2012. Mr Herman is Director of the Institute for Globalisation Studies Groningen (GSG).

### **Thea Hilhorst**

*Professor in Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction, WUR/Partners for Resilience; President of the International Humanitarian Studies Association*

### **Michiel Hofman**

*Senior Humanitarian Specialist, MSF*

Mr Hofman has worked for MSF in field missions between 1993 and 1998 as Emergency Co-ordinator and Head of Mission for MSF in Liberia, DRC, Bosnia, Burundi, Sri Lanka, Brazil, South Sudan and Kosovo, returning to his former career as freelance journalist in between missions. Between 1999 and 2001, Michiel co-founded The Antares Foundation, a Dutch non-profit organisation which supports local NGOs in providing psycho-social

support for staff working in high-stress environments. Michiel returned to MSF in 2001 working as Country Director in Russia and Operations Director in Amsterdam and Country Director for Afghanistan. Since 2011 Michiel works as senior humanitarian specialist for MSF based out of Belfast, concentrating on research, training and operational support as well as publications in the humanitarian field.

### **Bram J. Jansen**

*Assistant Professor, Wageningen University*

Dr Jansen is assistant professor with the department of Sociology of Development and Change at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He was trained as a cultural anthropologist and lectures and publishes on humanitarian, conflict and refugee issues. In the past ten years he conducted ethnographic fieldwork in East and the Horn of Africa, mostly in Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan. He has done extensive ethnographic fieldwork on the social organisation and governance of protracted refugee situations in Kenya and humanitarian governance and decision-making processes in relation to insecurity in South Sudan.

### **Artur Malantowicz (facilitator)**

*NOHA Operations Manager*

Mr Malantowicz is a geographer and political scientist, with his interests focused on the Middle East and its socio-political crises. He has worked in academic, governmental and NGO settings and since 2012 is professionally involved in humanitarian sector, primarily engaged in projects aiming at its professionalization (e.g. EUPRHA – European Universities on Professionalization on Humanitarian Action, EUHAP – European Humanitarian Action Partnership). Currently works as Operations Manager of the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA) and serves as Middle East Expert at the Warsaw-based think tank Centre for International Initiatives.

### **Salome Mbugua**

*Founder and Head of Mission, Wezesha*

Ms Mbugua is a native of Kenya and has lived in Ireland since 1994. She has over 20 years' experience of working with underrepresented groups in particular women, children, and the youth, in Kenya, Uganda, DR. Congo and Ireland. Her background is in Social Work, International Development and Philosophy. Salome is the founder, former CEO and currently the president of AkiDwA - the migrant Women's network in Ireland. She is the co-founder and head of mission of Wezesha - an African Diaspora led development organisation in Ireland working with African women and children that are affected or are likely to be affected by violence, war, conflict and poverty. Salome holds a Master's degree in Equality studies from University College Dublin (UCD) and she is currently a PhD student undertaking a Doctorate research on participation of women in peace building and reconciliation and focusing on Congolese women at the University of Dublin, Trinity College.

### **Martin McCann**

*Director, RedR UK*

Mr McCann has been Chief Executive of RedR UK since 2007. He is also presently the Chair of the Sphere Project. He has been involved in international development and humanitarian work for over 30 years, ranging from a two-year volunteer posting in West Africa to seven years as Program Director of one of world's largest NGOs. Martin also worked at Practical Action and was the founding Chair of the pan-agency Hope for African Children Initiative. Martin also serves as an Independent Member of the Governing Council of the University of Sussex, and has served as a member of the Steering Group of Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance, a trustee of WarChild and of Engineers Without Borders and as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Council on Social Welfare. He holds an MA in Rural Development from the University of East Anglia.

### **Reiseal Ni Cheilleachair**

*Trocaire*

**Francisco Rey**

*Co-director, Researcher, and Consultant, IECAH*

Mr Rey is co-director, researcher and consultant at the Institute of Studies on Conflicts and Humanitarian Action (IECAH) in Madrid from 2000. He is a founder and member of the Board and is in charge of Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction activities at IECAH: research, training courses at different Universities, co-operation with humanitarian NGO's, consultancy for different institutions in the field of policy, humanitarian action, post-conflict rehabilitation, DRR, evaluation and training in this areas. He is also a member of the Board of INSPIRE Consortium working with DG ECHO on policy issues and training. He previously worked with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, where he has developed different responsibilities from 1986 to 2001. He also conducts research and teaching activities in some Spanish and European Universities and has taught in universities in Colombia. He has published extensively in the fields of humanitarian action, DRR and evaluation issues. In the last years, he has focused some of his research and consultancy on Colombia, through the cooperation with OCHA and the IEH, on issues related to the humanitarian aspects in the peace process. He is a Member of ALNAP, the Centre of Studies of International Humanitarian Law of Spanish Red Cross, the Board of the Humanitarian Studies Institute in Colombia. Mr Rey has a Diploma on Sciences with a specialisation on Public Health and a Master Degree on International Relations.

**Dualta Roughneen**

*Plan International*

**Hilde Sagon**

*Legal Adviser to the EU, NATO, and Kingdom of Brussels, ICRC*

Ms Sagon is Legal Adviser with the Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to the EU, NATO and the Kingdom of Belgium in Brussels, working on European Justice and Home Affairs issues, such as terrorism, migration and asylum or data protection. Previously, she worked as ICRC Restoring Family Links Delegate in Nepal in the aftermath of the April 2015 earthquake and as Teaching Assistant in International Law at the KULeuven. She has also worked as ICRC Detention Delegate in the Democratic Republic of Congo (2013-2014), and as Legal Adviser for the ICRC Brussels delegation (2009-2013). Ms Sagon holds a law degree (KULeuven) that included an exchange to the Stellenbosch University in South Africa, and a Masters (LL.M.) of Advanced Studies in International Humanitarian Law (ADH, Geneva).

**Manuel Sanchez Montero**

*Advocacy and Institutional Relations Director, Acción Contra el Hambre*

**Kathrin Schick**

*Director, VOICE*

Ms Schick has an educational background in Social Anthropology and Business Administration from Oslo University. She worked in Norwegian organizations such as the Norwegian Red Cross and Norwegian People's Aid, as well as for the Directorate for Immigration of Norway, focusing on refugee issues and programs in South America. She subsequently gained field experience in Guatemala as Protection Officer for the UNHCR and consultant for CARE International. As Deputy Secretary General of the SOLIDAR network, Kathrin Schick worked for seven years mainly on EU development policies and education campaigns. In 2001, Kathrin became VOICE Director, her current position.

**Tim Seal**

*Learning Design Manager, Humanitarian Leadership Academy*

**Robert Smith (speaker)**

*Head of the World Humanitarian Summit Secretariat's Geneva Office*

Robert Smith is the Head of the World Humanitarian Summit secretariat's Geneva office, leading the WHS Global Consultation and other European-based parts of the process. Previously he was chief of OCHA's Common Humanitarian Action Planning Section, which coordinated strategic humanitarian response plans and monitoring for the major humanitarian crises. Before joining OCHA, he worked with Oxfam, CARE, IRC, WaterAid and other NGOs in emergencies and development for 10 years, mostly in Africa (DR Congo, Mali, Mozambique, Zambia, Congo-Brazzaville and Angola, plus Brazil). Robert completed a Ph.D. in Development Studies at the University of London, researching land tenure issues, and has published three peer-reviewed articles in top social-science journals. He comes originally from Boston, USA.

### **Claus Sorensen**

*Senior Adviser, European Political Strategy Centre*

For the past four years Mr. Sørensen has been the Director General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO). Before that he held the post of Director General of Communication in the European Commission. Mr. Sørensen is a career diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. His first posting from 1981 was in Paris, at the Danish Delegation to the OECD. Between 1988 and 1989 he was trade and finance councillor at the Danish Permanent Representation in Brussels. The following year he joined the Cabinet of Vice-president Henning Christophersen working on the EURO, relations with Eastern Europe, the Enlargement with Sweden, Austria and Finland as well as the European Social dimension and Environmental issues. As Sweden acceded to the EU in 1995 he became a member of their first Cabinet dealing notably with the fight against transnational organised crime, social and labour market issues and the further enlargement of the EU to the East. Between 1999 and 2011, Mr. Sørensen had management positions within the European Commission, most notably Director for International Environmental issues, Head of Cabinet for the Commissioner for Agriculture and later Head of Cabinet for the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian assistance. Mr Sørensen has a Master of Economic Science and is regularly lecturing at the University of Lund, York and Copenhagen.

### **Sandrine Vanhamme**

*Directorate of Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium*

### **Jan Weuts**

*Emergency Aid Coordinator, Caritas International*

Mr Weuts is Caritas International Belgium Emergency Aid Coordinator since 2006, overseeing worldwide disaster response of the Caritas network. He is a member of the Humanitarian Commission of Caritas Internationalis (coordinating body of the Caritas Federation), and represents Caritas Internationalis in the Sphere Project Board. He lectures on humanitarian management at the Catholic University of Louvain. Before joining Caritas, he worked for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Belgium for fifteen years, where he started in logistics on the field (RDC, Iran, Iraq, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan) worked in headquarters in logistics, then operations department (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Guinée) and finally coordinated the "Emergency Pool" of MSFB. Jan is still a member of MSF Belgium's Board, and of MSF Supply.

### **Will Wright (facilitator)**

*NOHA Project Officer*

Mr Wright is a current Project Officer at the General Secretariat of the Network on Humanitarian Action. In 2015, he completed the NOHA Masters course at the Ruhr-University Bochum and University College Dublin, focusing his thesis and research on the political legitimacy of non-state armed groups and their compliance with IHL. He is a graduate of the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. with a degree in International Affairs. He has experience working with international and national NGOs in the United States focusing on civic and political engagement and capacity building.