

GPC Members Meeting 2018: Building Trust for Philanthropic Impact

Asia Society, 725 Park Avenue, New York, NY

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

9:00 am – 4:30 pm



Speaker Bios

Conversational Breakouts – Round 1

TOPIC A: Refugees and Migration

Becca Heller, Director, International Refugee Assistance Project

Marie-Christine Nibagwire, Founder, Saferefugerwanda

Becca Heller is the director and co-founder of IRAP and a visiting clinical lecturer in law at Yale Law School. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her work with IRAP, including The Charles Bronfman Prize, a Skadden Fellowship, an Echoing Green Fellowship, a Gruber Human Rights Fellowship, and a Dartmouth College Martin Luther King Jr. Emerging Leader in Social Justice Award. She was also named one of the Christian Science Monitor’s “30 under 30” change makers, and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Becca’s interest in the legal challenges facing refugees began on a trip to Jordan during the summer after her first year in law school. During her stay, she visited with six different refugee families; each of them identified legal assistance as their most urgent need. Having just completed her first semester in Yale Law School’s Immigration Legal Services clinic doing asylum work, Becca believed that law students could assist refugees applying for resettlement. She returned to Yale and, together with Jon Finer, Mike Breen, Steve Poellot, and Kate Brubacher, founded IRAP in 2008.

Becca received her J.D. from Yale Law School in May 2010. During law school, she participated in the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic, the Immigration Legal Services Clinic, and the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic. She served as an Articles Editor for the Yale Journal of International Law, and received a Coker Fellowship to teach legal writing to first year law students. She also received the Charles G. Albom Prize for excellence in the area of judicial and administrative appellate advocacy in connection with a Law School clinical program.

Prior to law school, Becca lived and worked in Sub-Saharan Africa for two years, including one year as a U.S. Student Fulbright Scholar in Malawi. She graduated summa cum laude from Dartmouth College in 2005. While in college, she was also the recipient of Campus Compact’s National Student Humanitarian Award.

Marie-Christine Nibagwire is the founder of Saferefugerwanda, a Christian Organization to help refugees and survivors of the Rwandan genocide, who live in Western Europe and North America rebuild their lives. Nibagwire is a survivor of the genocide of Rwanda who arrived in the United Kingdom in 1998 after being in three other countries, seeking asylum without success. She worked with the Tracing Agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross, on the program of Rwanda, helping Rwandan refugees to trace their relatives, communicate with them or facilitating their family reunions. Marie-Christine has qualifications on

counseling and mentoring refugees and she has travelled in most Western European countries, Canada and in eighteen states of America, mentoring and counseling survivors of the genocide of Rwanda. Her knowledge of five different languages (Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Kiswahili, French, English) help her to communicate with many refugees or to be a voice for them.

TOPIC B: Impact Investing

Christian Lorentzen, Impact Investor

Christian Lorentzen has had two years of experience at Vinci Partners, a large asset management company in Brazil, and one year at New Steel an Iron ore technology company. Christian's past experiences also include work at Aracruz Celulose, currently Fibria, a paradigm shifting Pulp and Paper Model based on the fast growing eucalyptus plantations, and icon of environmental sustainability. He is currently the CEO of a new invested company trying to develop a new technology to produce biofuels in Brazil.

Christian belongs to the third generation of the family in the Business, Grupo Lorentzen, and has worked for the past 4 years in New Business Development, overlooking new opportunities and implementing new projects. Grupo Lorentzen is a family owned industrial Conglomerate with activities in Forestry/Bioenergy, Maritime Transportation, Iron Ore Processing technologies and IT Applications. Entrepreneurial by nature, Grupo Lorentzen Starts-up or invests in early stage companies in its innovation oriented portfolio, building them to scale and long term sustainability. Their Business Strategy is driven by focus on Natural Resources and Materials, where Brazil presents a Global Competitive Advantages.

TOPIC C: Shifting the Food System

Richard McCarthy, Executive Director, Slow Food USA

Alessandro d'Ansembourg, Founder, di Nigo Consulting

Richard McCarthy embodies the phrase "think globally; act locally." He joined Slow Food USA as Executive Director in January 2013, having previously served as Executive Director of Market Umbrella, an internationally recognized non-profit mentor organization for farmers markets, community building and sustainable economic development. After Hurricane Katrina, Richard played a key role in restarting the local agricultural economy in the New Orleans area, aiming to help provide returning residents with a sense of normalcy and resilience through the revival of farmers markets.

From 2005-2007, Richard served as a founding President for the Farmers Market Coalition, the national voice for farmers markets, which contributed to the development of the US Department of Agriculture Farmers Market Promotion Program, yielding \$32 million over seven years to farmers market innovation and professionalism.

Richard was named a "Hero of the New South" in 2012 by Southern Living Magazine and a "Public Health Champion" in 2004 by the Tulane University School of Public Health. He earned his master's degree at the London School of Economics and his bachelor's degree at Richmond, The American University of London. When he's not dreaming up new projects, he enjoys playing squash, gardening and cooking vegetarian meals with his family at home.

Alessandro d'Ansembourg, GPC Member, experience in strategic consulting for non-profits stems out of more than a decade of experience in international development, humanitarian aid, and philanthropy. Thanks to his experience, Alessandro has been able to successfully consult and guide implementation for clients, both in a small and large scale, in the non-profit and commercial sectors. In 2015, Alessandro launched di Nigo Consulting, a strategic consulting firm that solves problems for non-profits and social impact organizations.

Alessandro's broad involvement with non-profit organizations across a range of issues has given him insight on a strategic capacity and on the tactical deployment of resources. He has been involved in running The Santa Maddalena Foundation's writers retreat in Florence, Italy since 2000, and has been the Secretary of the Board of Trustees since 2006. In addition, he lived in Damascus, Syria working with the United Nations (UNRWA) on social services for Palestinian refugees. During this time, he co-founded and directed Offline:Media, a non-profit dedicated to the promotion of the original work of media professionals from conflict regions. He is also a member of the Family Council of the Flora Family Foundation since 2006 and a fellow of the Institute for Philanthropy. Alessandro is also on the Board of Slow Food USA. As of 2016, Alessandro is on the Board of Advisors of Amigos de las Americas, and the Institute of Play.

Alessandro holds an M.A. in International Affairs and Non-Profit Management with a focus on Media and Culture from The New School University in New York, and a B.A. in Social Anthropology from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. He speaks Italian, English, French, Spanish, and Dutch, and is passionate about photography.

TOPIC D: Next Gen Philanthropy

Leah Hunt-Hendrix, Founder, Solidaire

Thiciana Zaher, Vice President, Instituto SEB

Thiciana Zaher, GPC Member, is 34 years old and holds a degree in business administration. She lives in the Brazilian northeast state of Bahia and loves to travel and explore new things. She had always been part of the family business and explored different branches within the company, but did not feel like she fit in to the more business-oriented part of the group. However, when the idea of the Instituto SEB (SEB Institute) came along, as well as her participation in the Synergos' Bridging Leadership for Social Investment program, she discovered her purpose. She is vice president of Instituto SEB and held an active role in its creation. She currently supports its strategic, tactical, and operational sectors.

Instituto SEB focuses on human development and innovative education for children and young adults, enabling them to become protagonists of a more sustainable society. Through the Institute, Thiciana launched Projeto NAU (NAU Project) in 2017, an initiative that seeks to expand opportunities in the workplace for young adults.

Conversational Breakouts – Round 2

TOPIC A: Bridging Leadership

Daniel Domagala, Director, Synergos

Daniela Nascimento Fainberg, Senior Advisor, Global Philanthropists Circle

Daniel Domagala, who works with Synergos Senior Fellows, Bridging Leadership Program and the GPC, joined Synergos in April 2004. He is primarily responsible for programming for the Synergos Senior Fellows and

Bridging Leadership Programs for various Synergos audiences. He also works to support some of Synegos' multi-stakeholder partnerships, most recently an effort for education reform in Brazil's Amazonian state of Pará.

Daniel is dedicated to supporting local leaders as agents of development. He is passionate about issues of democracy, human rights and civic participation. He is particularly interested in civil society's role in improving government and shaping more just and equitable public policy.

He is an honors graduate of Hunter College and received a Master's degree in public and nonprofit management with focus on policy analysis and program evaluation from New York University.

Daniela Nascimento Fainberg, GPC Senior Advisor, founder of Instituto Geração, co-founder of Public Transformation Network, and philanthropy and social investment advisor for high net worth individuals. She advises individuals and families in their philanthropic strategies, creating structures, processes, strategic planning, programs, selecting, monitoring and evaluating social projects. She also works for families on their intergenerational dialogue, helping them aligned their values to their social legacy. Donor education programs and building bridges to different social contexts were always part of her work.

Ms. Nascimento Fainberg has nineteen years of experience working in promoting philanthropy and social investment in Brazil. She started her career in philanthropy in 1997 working at São Paulo office of W.K.Kellogg Foundation monitoring the Latin American projects. From 2000-2004 she moved to IDIS — Institute for the Development of Social Investment — where she created and managed their Family Philanthropy Program, advising families on their social investments.

In 2005, as a social entrepreneur Daniela created the New Generation Program, a social initiative to foment privileged youth between 25 to 40 years old with philanthropy and social engagement. In 2007 she founded the Instituto Geração (Generation Institute), the first Brazilian non-profit organization to encourage and support the new generation of privileged individuals in re-thinking their role and practices towards social change. She directed Instituto Geração until 2012, when she move to the Board and started her consultancy company. From 2009 to 2012 she was also the executive of GBM (Geração Brasil Melhor) a network of the next generation of fifteen large Brazilian families

Ms. Nascimento Fainberg is a professor at Fundação Dom Cabral, leading business school in Latin America, for its Family Business Program for owners and heritors. She is on the Board of Akatu Institute for conscious consumption in São Paulo, Brazil. In 2010 she co-founded Rede de Transformação Pública a network from young leaders form Rio and São Paulo to influence public transformation. She is a fellow of Americas Business Council Foundation, a international organization that provides a platform for Latin American emerging leaders, and also a fellow of the Rising Talents Program, and initiative from the Womens Forum.

She received her degree in Social Sciences from the University of São Paulo, Brazil.

TOPIC B: Collaborative Leadership and Partnerships for Sustainable Impact

Abera Tola Gada, Synergos Regional Director, Ethiopia

Kasee Ithana, Synergos Country Director, Namibia

Abera Tola Gada, Synergos Regional Director, is the Regional Director of Oxfam America for the Horn of Africa Program. Abera joined Oxfam America in 2000 first as a consultant, country director and now as a regional director. As the Horn of Africa region is one of the most poverty stricken and conflict suffering areas in the world, Abera leads these agency challenges for change in the life of the poor and marginalized. Prior to this role, Abera was the founder and executive director of one of the renowned and credible local development organizations called HUNDEE. He worked for the Canadian International Development Agency as a consultant to evaluate its Good Governance and Democracy Fund distributed to government, INGOs and NGOs in Ethiopia. Abera was a senior program officer for Inter Africa Group, a regional NGO dedicated to peace and development in the African continent. He also worked as a coordinator for the advocacy network (Adnet) of six local NGOs, which was formed for promoting democracy, civic education and election monitoring in Ethiopia. Abera created a consortium of civil society organizations to coordinate the first Ethiopian election in 1995 and dispatched more than two thousand election monitors to all parts of the country. Abera received his B.A from Addis Ababa University in Business Administration, Certificate from Open University in Management of Non-profit Organizations and his MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Kasee Ithana, Synergos Country Director, Namibia, is a seasoned leader with 25 years of experience of working in the development sector. She leads Synergos' efforts to strengthen the public health system in Namibia through working across government, civil society and the private sector to ensure that quality healthcare services are available to all.

Ms. Ithana is a passionate leadership development facilitator and has provided learning infrastructure and coaching support to the Ministry of Health & Social Services' senior leadership and its executive committee in their quest to transform the healthcare system of the country. More recently, she is currently leading Synergos' work in the Kunene region, where she is working with community health extension workers in indigenous communities to bring a healthcare facility to the Epupa constituency.

TOPIC C: Refugees and Migration

Becca Heller, Director, International Refugee Assistance Project
Marie-Christine Nibagwire, Founder, Saferefugerwanda

TOPIC D: Impact Investing

Henri van Eeghen, Social Investor and Senior Director, Mercy Corps

Henri van Eeghen, GPC Member, after working abroad for more than twenty years on three continents, he became C.E.O. of the Van Eeghen Group in 2004, the oldest still family run business in The Netherlands (established in 1662) - an international producer and distributor of food ingredients. He also worked in the printing, communication and paper industry. The family business has two philanthropic foundations. The last 6 years he has been C.O.O. of The Netherlands largest NGO, Cordaid. In that period he helped transform the organization into a social enterprise, where innovation, renewal, increased transparency and new ways of working became common practice; thereby responding and reinventing itself within the new context of development work. Social impact combined with strong financial sustainability, including the establishment of an investment fund, and delegated responsibilities are cornerstone of the new Cordaid. Today Henri works for Mercy Corps, a US based network organization with 45 offices around the globe. Specific responsibilities entail representing Mercy Corps at key fora and to high level government, civil society and private sector stakeholders, raising both the organization's profile and ability to influence on issues around

fragile states, private sector partnerships and economic development. He also spearheads the expansion of partnerships with select strategic donors (including the private sector) and develops and supports implement a Mergers and Acquisitions strategy. Henri has developed a strategy to secure new, non-traditional funding streams, which may include establishing a for profit entity, a joint venture or social enterprise.

Henri is also board member of The Dutch Association of Investors for Sustainable Development and was board member of the Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW). He presently sits on the board of three foundations and two companies and also sits on the steering group led by PWC & the Dutch Accounting Association on the Introduction of Integrated Reporting in the Netherlands and advises a microfinance organization. Henri has four children and two extra children and is married to Carolien Wijnia.