

# “Accountability to Communities: Need for a Boost”



## PANEL & ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

*For the last 20 years accountability to communities has been an increasingly important concern for professionals involved in humanitarian, development and peace-building work, through the design of more effective approaches, tools and methods.*

*However, we continue to struggle to deliver better outcomes as those in positions of power do not always listen the users and communities.*

*We are at a critical point, with lots of policies, knowledge and tools but far less strategic willpower reflected into field implementation.*

*The people who should benefit from well-functioning accountability mechanisms still struggle to make their voice being heard.*

*In a fast evolving and complex world, it is time therefore to shift powers and demonstrate that we comply collectively with our commitments.*

*We should remind ourselves of the importance of effectively putting people at the center of our work and giving voice to those whose voices will never be heard unless we do principled work effectively.*

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November, Bangkok**

Programme:

**8.30 to 12.30**, followed by lunch

Venue: **Windsor Suites Hotel**

10/1 Sukhumvit Rd, Phra Khanong, Khlong Toei

----- REGISTRATION AT 8.30 -----

9.00 - 10.30 **Panel Discussion** – Moderator: Sylvie Robert, Independent Consultant, with Community World Service Asia

**Panel Experts:**

- ✚ Ms. Aninia Nadig, **Sphere**, Policy and Practice, Switzerland
- ✚ Mr. Takeshi Komino, **Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)**, Secretary General, Japan
- ✚ Ms. Tanya Wood, **Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance**, Director, Switzerland
- ✚ Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, **Coastal Association for Social Transformation (COAST Trust)**, Executive Director, Bangladesh
- ✚ Ms Smruti Patel, **Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP)**, Switzerland

**“Accountability to Communities: Need for a Boost”**

**PROBLEM STATEMENT** - What are the blockages in implementing accountability to communities?

**WHAT SOLUTIONS?** What opportunities can we leverage? What are we ready to do collectively to boost and enforce accountability to communities?

**WAY FORWARD** - As a community of practice involved in implementing true accountability to communities: Can we commit to joint statements for 2020 and review those in one year time?

----- BREAK & NETWORKING AT 10.30 -----

11.00 - 12.00 **Roundtable Discussions** – Moderators: Roundtable Rapporteurs

Participants will join parallel discussions focusing on accountability in practice:

1. **Quality and Accountability for Project Cycle Management** - Community World Service Asia (CWSA)
2. **Ground up Leadership: Engaging Displaced and Host Communities** - Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)
3. **Using Standards to Strengthen Accountability** - Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and CHS Alliance
4. **Building Organizations for Local Leadership and Accountability** - Bongo HR
5. **Improving Accountability and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment** – ICVA

12.00 - 12.30 **Plenary Feedback and Wrap Up**

----- LUNCH AT 12.30 -----

## Panel Discussion

### Panel Moderator



#### **Ms. Sylvie Robert - Independent Consultant on Quality and Accountability to Affected Populations**

Sylvie has over 25 years' experience in the humanitarian - development sector and remains passionate about improving the quality of humanitarian response, and enforcing Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Prevention of/ Protection from and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Sylvie is an experienced facilitator and a team leader, while task and problem-solving oriented. She particularly enjoys working with and in networks developing strategies to improve humanitarian - development collective responses worldwide.

### Panel Members



#### **Ms. Aninia Nadig - Sphere, Policy and Practice, Switzerland**

Aninia supports organisations and processes that want to work more directly with standards and engages in select standards advocacy. She coordinates the Humanitarian Standards Partnership (HSP), a network of 7 Standards Handbooks (including Sphere) that work toward a broader uptake of humanitarian standards. Aninia was heavily involved in the revision of the Sphere Handbook 2018 edition. Prior to joining Sphere, Aninia was Country Analyst for the Horn of Africa at the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). Her earlier work focused on forced migration and asylum policy, mostly in the Netherlands.



#### **Ms. Smruti Patel - Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP), Switzerland**

Smruti is the founder of Global Mentoring Initiative (GMI), she has over 25 years of experience in the humanitarian sector. She accompanies organisations and teams to create a more conscious culture on accountability and safeguarding in humanitarian operations. She is a member of the IASC AAP/PSEA Results Group 2 Task Team and leading on mapping local networks and more meaningful participation of local and national actors in global processes. She is a member of International Convening Committee of Alliance for Empowering Partnership, an advocacy network promoting equitable partnerships.



#### **Ms. Tanya Wood - Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance, Director, Switzerland**

Tanya Wood is the Director of the CHS Alliance, a network of more than 150 organization making aid work better for people, through application of the Core Humanitarian Standard. She brings more than 20 years management and leadership experience in the international humanitarian sector, predominantly in international membership organisations.



#### **Mr. Takeshi Komino - Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) & CWS Japan, Secretary General, Japan**

Takeshi serves as General Secretary of Community World service (CWS) Japan, Co-chairperson of Japan Platform, Regional Steering Group member for World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), joint secretariat of Japan CSO Coalition for DRR (JCC-DRR), and chair of Japan Quality and Accountability Network (JQAN).



#### **Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury - Coastal Association for Social Transformation (COAST Trust), Executive Director, Bangladesh**

Reza has more than 30 years of development management experiences started as a grass root field worker on mobilizing poor people on 'education for conscientization'. Together with COAST, Reza is involved in various networking in local national and international level and active in localization campaign in Bangladesh as well as in Rohingya response. Reza is a member of IASC - OPAG (Inter Agency Standing Committee - Operational Policy Advocacy Group) as a representative of NGOs from developing countries for the next two years.

## Roundtable Discussions

Please select your preferred topic and register here: <https://forms.gle/t6eureWqqMShgRdF7>

<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Quality and Accountability for Project Cycle Management</b>  <i>Facilitated by: Community World Service Asia (CWSA)</i></p> <p>This session will discuss a new user-friendly booklet aiming to support field practitioners with a range of practical tools and approaches that will help improve levels of quality and accountability. It provides an overview of humanitarian principles, commitments and standards, with specific guidance for their application throughout the project cycle. The booklet also highlights requirements for proper contextualization as well as the need for a collective and holistic approach that links humanitarian - development - peace-building interventions.</p>
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Ground up Leadership: Engaging Displaced and Host Communities</b>  <i>Facilitated by: Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)</i></p> <p>Successful interventions fundamentally depend on substantive and meaningful engagement with affected populations - not only to survey needs, but also to identify viable, effective, and sustainable solutions. This roundtable discussion will prioritise the perspectives of participants with displacement experience and will explore what ‘substantive and meaningful engagement’ really means, what structural and institutional obstacles exist for engaging affected populations, and the possibilities and challenges that arise from ground up approaches.</p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Using Standards to Strengthen Accountability</b>  <i>Facilitated by: Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and CHS Alliance</i></p> <p>This roundtable offers the opportunity for discussion on standard setting for quality and accountability in humanitarian response, and the broader work of civil society. What do the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and the Global Standard have in common, and where are their points of difference? Will greater coherence in our approach to standard-setting actually make us more effective? Join us for an in-depth discussion on standard-setting in our region.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Building Organizations for Local Leadership and Accountability</b>  <i>Facilitated by: Bongo HR</i></p> <p>Locally-led humanitarian action is recognised as key to supporting a faster, more cost effective, more relevant and more accountable response, but despite myriad initiatives in support of this, progress has been slow. Too often difficult questions about what this means for our own organisations and the transformation of current practices are dodged or deflected, with responsibility placed elsewhere. Bongo HR has a tool to support all organisations regardless of their size or mandate, to consider the internal transformative implications of locally-led humanitarian action and to take practical steps towards this. The Round Table discussion will offer an opportunity to learn more about this tool, provide your input and join this important conversation.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Improving Accountability and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment</b>  <i>Facilitated by: ICVA</i></p> <p>The humanitarian community has been showing a renewed commitment to PSEAH and many different tools and policies have been or are being developed individually or collaboratively, trying to put survivors of PSEAH at the centre. This roundtable gives us the opportunity to discuss the latest developments in the work on PSEAH, present different tools NGOs can benefit from and see how you can access and influence the discussion and development of future tools and policies. It will also be an occasion to exchange on good practices and challenges from your reality and provide input on global processes and how to bring them from policy to reality.</p>