



# 2022 Higher Education Global Evidence Summit

May 3-4 • May 10-11 • May 17-18

All session content will be presented in English



All times are listed in U.S. Eastern Standard Time

VIEW: [WEEK ONE](#) • [WEEK TWO](#)

## WEEK THREE DAY I - MAY 17, 2022

## PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

9:00 – 9:30 AM

### OPENING PLENARY

#### 5 Key Words to Build Trust, Make Friends, and Strengthen Academic and Industry Collaborations

Establishing strong linkages between higher education institutions (HEIs) and the private sector are critical to support higher education's role in innovation and employability. To be effective and relevant, development assistance in higher education needs to address the fundamental but complex relationship by working with HEIs, the private sector, and governments. Framed around five keywords, this Fireside Chat will explore what successful higher education and industry collaborations look like and how governments and development assistance can support these initiatives. This session will spotlight higher education industry collaboration in the Philippines.



#### Rafaelita "Fita" M. Aldaba

Undersecretary for the Competitiveness and Innovation Group  
Philippine Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)



#### Mir Tillah

Senior Education Advisor  
USAID/Philippines

9:35 – 10:30 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Research and Practice 55 min. Presentations)

#### University Student Engagement With Agro-Processing MSMEs; Implications for Higher Education Training

This session shares lessons learned from a project that enhances the practical skills of Undergraduate Students in the Agricultural Engineering, Food Science, and Nutrition Majors at Makerere University in Uganda through their engagement with Agro-processing MSMEs. The students and processors are empowered alike mainly by ensuring the MSMEs meet Quality Standards for Local, Regional, and International Markets and by harnessing opportunities to improve the Processing/Manufacturing capacities of the MSMEs. This session uniquely incorporates video clips of students and processor success stories and two brainstorming sessions to mitigate already unearthed challenges, the major one being inadequate processing facilities. The brainstorming sessions will allow participants to share innovative financial models that Agro-processing MSMEs can utilize to alleviate the challenge(s) identified and training models in institutions of higher learning that can allow for the Integration of on-the-job practical skills in the Curriculum.

*Emmanuel Baidhe, Project Administrator, Makerere University*

*Julia Kigozi, Senior Lecturer, Makerere University*

*Stella Ssendagi, Project Administrator, Makerere University*

#### Hard Lessons from a Decade of MCC's TVET Investments

Since 2007, the Millennium Challenge Corporation has invested over \$340 million in TVET programs in seven partner countries. Independent evaluations of these programs' "first generation" revealed that MCC failed to achieve the intended labor market outcomes. More recent programs that operationalize private sector involvement, including in Georgia, have shown more promise. Key lessons include:

- A Demonstrated Skills Gap Should be a Precondition for Investment in TVET
- TVET Should Have Two Primary Goals: Placing Graduates in Jobs with Improved Incomes and Providing the

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Private Sector with In-Demand Skills

- Focus First on Short-Route Accountability— Especially between Employers and Service Providers
- Don't Forget to Strengthen Long-Route Accountability... Especially When You Can't Address the Short Route
- TVET Interventions Alone are Unlikely to Resolve Pre-existing Inequalities in the Labor Force, but TVET Has a Role to Play

*Evan Borkum, Principal Researcher, Mathematica*

*Ryan Moore, Director, Monitoring and Evaluation, Millennium Challenge Corporation*

*Ira Nichols-Barrer, Senior Researcher, Mathematica*

*Marcel Ricou, Associate Director, Human, and Community Development, Millennium Challenge Corporation*

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### **Meaningful Partnership for Context-Driven Knowledge Production: Evaluating USAID Inclusive Education Projects**

Research in development contexts can be fast-moving and complex. This pace is often at odds with the functioning of academic institutions and the generation of evidence-driven knowledge and research. The *Multi-Country Study on Inclusive Education* presents an innovative approach for conducting evaluative research in partnership with small businesses, organizations of persons with disabilities, and academia. These partners can harness lived experience and international and national expertise in inclusive education. This presentation will explore how to partner meaningfully with local organizations and persons with direct and lived experience with disability to produce context-driven and actionable knowledge for development actors and academia. Participants will be able to ask questions and contribute to the presentation throughout the session to generate meaningful dialogue on the “how” we partner and “how” we produce significant and evidence-based findings in the field that are relevant for both local and international actors.

*Christopher Johnstone, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota*

*Valerie Karr, President, Inclusive Development Partners*

*Raj Poudyal, Assistant Professor, Kathmandu University*

*Mean Vidbol Ratanak, Senior Project Officer, Cambodia Disabled Persons Organization*

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### **Demystifying Private Sector Engagement: Lessons Learned From USAID's Partnering Processes**

As a private sector organization, have you felt frustrated communicating with and understanding the needs and processes of the development partners? As a development actor or academic institution, have you felt stuck in starting or keeping private sector partners engaged in addressing development challenges in the education sector? We aim to shed some light on the different ways in which the private sector can be formally engaged:

- to provide a systematic starting point to co-designing these engagements such that theories of change incorporate the private sector's perspectives, and
- to provide actionable recommendations on managing partnering experiences.

Participate in this engaging session as we discuss research findings from a three-year study of USAID's private sector partnering process grounded in 8 field-based, private sector engagement experiences of different partners across sectors and geographic regions.

*Priyanka Brunese, Research Scientist, Purdue University*

*Tatiana Pulido, Senior Director of Evidence, Learning, and Data, Private Sector Engagement Hub, USAID*

*Susan Ross, Senior Private Sector Engagement Advisor, USAID*

*Yuehwern Yih, Professor, School of Industrial EngineeringPurdue University*

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### **Engaging Private Sector to Develop Skills for 4th Industrial Revolution**

In this session, you will learn how the advent of the fourth industrial revolution and accompanying transformation in the nature of work, employers are increasingly demanding higher-order thinking skills applied to automation, remote sensing, and networking technical skills that are not adequately developed through traditional teaching methods. The International Youth Foundation (IYF) and Development Alternatives International (DAI) will present, through a case study from Chihuahua, Mexico the Skills for Prosperity Program's innovative approach to aligns interests and curricula to ensure young people are prepared with the technical and 21st-century skills good jobs require. The session concludes with an interactive, design-thinking workshop to identify the skills gap in our own sector.

*Miguel Primo Armendariz, Team Leader, Development Alternatives International (DAI)*

*Felix Ramirez, Program Manager/Relevance Lead for Skills for Prosperity Program, International Youth Foundation*

*Elizabeth Vance, Program Director, Systems Change for Workforce Development, International Youth Foundation*

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### **LISA 2020 Network Innovations For Building Statistics and Data Science Capacity**

The goal of the Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis (LISA) 2020 program was to create a network of 20 statistical collaboration laboratories (“stat labs”) in developing countries by 2020. Having exceeded this goal by 15, the network spread across higher education institutions in Africa, South Asia, and Brazil has become the engine of transformation in their respective domains. This session will give a panorama view of the operations, activities, and sustainability of these 35 stat labs. After presenting the results of 30 independent sustainability experiments in the network, speakers from two top-performing LISA 2020 stat labs in Nigeria and Ghana will share lessons learned from their statistical collaboration projects with participants. They will also reflect on how they have employed the power

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of statistics and data science to find solutions to local development challenges.

**Atinuke Adebajji**, Director, KNUST, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) LISA  
**Olusanya Olubusoye**, LISA 2020 Network Coordinator, University of Ibadan Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis (UI-LISA)  
**Tonya Pruitt**, LISA 2020 Network Coordinator, Virginia Tech

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10:30 – 10:45 AM BREAK

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10:45 AM – 12:00 PM GENERAL SESSION PLENARY

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

### Conversations Outside of the C-Suite

There is a widespread push for higher education to become more relevant through collaboration with the private sector. Despite the rhetoric, many higher education institutions (HEIs) struggle to find ways to engage in such collaboration. Evidence on “what works and what doesn’t” would be valuable to both HEIs and to donor agencies seeking to nurture higher education-private sector linkages. In this panel, we will hear from three different private sector industries who have collaborated with higher education institutions and USAID about the who, what, where, when, and how of successful collaborations. This panel will focus on how these companies have approached these collaborations, why they engage, and how they think about this collaboration in the context of their other business goals.

#### Moderator



**Evelyn Rodriguez-Perez**  
Country Representative  
USAID/Paraguay

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#### Panelist



**Muffy Koch**  
Senior Regulatory Affairs Manager  
J.R. Simplot Company



**Sibusisiwe Makhanya**  
Research Scientist and Manager  
IBM



**Roeland Roelofs**  
Global Marketing Head Heart Failure  
Novartis

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## DAILY REFLECTIONS

### Synthesis



**Angélica Natera**  
Executive Director  
Laspau  
Member, USAID Higher Education Learning Network Steering Group

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## Youth Reflection



**Mike Hernandez**  
International Affairs Officer  
Universidad Autonoma de Santa Ana

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12:00 – 1:00 PM

NETWORKING ACTIVITY

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All times are listed in U.S. Eastern Standard Time

**WEEK THREE DAY 2 - MAY 18, 2022**

**CONVERGENCE**

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8:00 – 8:45 AM

NETWORKING PRE-SESSION

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9:00 – 10:30 AM

OPENING PLENARY

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### Getting to the Roots of Higher Education in Conflict and Crisis Affected Settings

Higher education students, faculty/staff, and institutions face numerous challenges in settings of conflict and crisis. How can higher education and education in emergencies communities develop a shared understanding of the needs to better address existing gaps? USAID's Higher Education Learning Network (HELN) and Education in Crisis and Conflict Network (ECCN) have joined forces to offer this session. Individuals with personal and professional experience in this space will articulate three problem trees, which will allow us to analyze some causes and effects of common problems related to higher education in conflict and crisis settings. The conversation will be a starting point for a future technical workshop where we will explore the critical roles played by different actors and innovative ideas for making higher education a reality for all students, regardless of geography or circumstance.

#### Moderator:



**Barbara Moser-Mercer**  
Visiting Professor, University of Nairobi  
Professor Emerita, Université de Genève

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#### Analyzers:



**Qusai Ahmad Al-Ma`ani**  
Azraq Refugee Camp



**Erin Buisse**  
Senior Consultant  
Erin Buisse Consulting



**Jennifer DeBoer**  
Assistant Professor of Engineering Education  
Purdue University

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**Josephine Gitome**  
Senior Lecturer, Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Kenyatta University



**Shahriar Kibriya**  
Co-Founder of the USAID Higher Education Solutions Network Laboratory  
Texas A&M University



**Valerie Lima**  
Student & Membership Chair, Prytanean  
University of California, Davis



**Grace Muvunyi**  
Dadaab Refugee Camp



**Priscilla Ndegwa**  
Lecturer  
Kenyatta University



**Olawale Samuel**  
Africa Regional Hub Coordinator, USAID Leading Through Learning  
Education Development Center (EDC)

10:30 – 10:45 AM

BREAK

10:45 – 11:45 AM

GENERAL SESSION PLENARY

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Higher Education’s Impact on Social Movements and Long-Term Citizen Activism**

Higher education has been called one of America’s greatest exports - advancing the value of a liberal arts education and the concepts of academic freedom and expression. But how can these institutions promote and strengthen a culture of collective action and activism, support activists, and nurture the long-term participation of citizens in civic life? This session seeks to better understand how higher education institutions can strengthen democracy in the Year of Action following the 2021 Summit for Democracy. Panelists will explore the role of higher education in promoting and sustaining democratic social movements around the globe from historical and present lenses.

**Moderator**



**Rosarie “Ro” Tucci**  
Director, Center for Democracy, Human Rights, Governance  
USAID

**Panelist**



**Arzak Khan**  
Activist  
Innovation for Change Network



**Marshall Ganz**

Rita E. Hauser Senior Lecturer in Leadership, Organizing and Civil Society  
Harvard Kennedy School of Government

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**Clare Robinson**

Advocacy Director  
Scholars at Risk

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**DAILY REFLECTIONS**

**Synthesis**



**Uzma Anzar**

Senior Education Specialist  
FHI360  
Member, USAID Higher Education Learning Network Steering Group

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**Youth Reflection**



**Maymoona Abu-omir**

Positive Youth Development and Educational Access Advocate, Middle East and North Africa

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**11:45 AM – 12:30 PM GENERAL SESSION PLENARY**

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**Higher Education Learning Network (HELN) Launch**

The USAID Higher Education Learning Network (HELN) is a community built *by and for* its members - dedicated to connecting higher education stakeholders to the ideas, evidence, practices, and people that can help them improve their work and make an impact in their communities. In this session, HELN will officially launch its 2022 Call for Concept Notes which will allow members to shape the HELN's work over the next year. Participants will also learn how HELN creates opportunities for members to learn from each other through the generation, capture, and dissemination of evidence in support of the [USAID Higher Education Learning Agenda](#) and how members can be part of this exciting new initiative. HELN is part of USAID's Leading through Learning Global Platform, a learning system of global networks and regional hubs designed to improve educational practice around the world. All Summit participants are invited to join the network before the session by visiting the HELN website: <https://edu-links.org/HELN>

**A group photo will be taken during the launch, please have your HELN graphic ready to show during the photo.** You can change your virtual background in Zoom to the HELN background image or print the HELN sign and hold it up during the photo. You can download the virtual background, printable sign, and social media graphic images here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZrFw7V14bNR-0Z-O-0katZTsG8I1wjO3?usp=sharing>

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