

# End Violence Against Girls

SUMMIT ON FGM/C



December 2, 2016

Get to know the speakers at the  
**End Violence Against Girls**  
Summit on FGM/C



## Summit Overview

Equality Now, Safe Hands for Girls, the U.S. Institute of Peace, and the U.S. Network to End FGM/C, with support from Wallace Global Fund and Human Dignity Foundation have organized the first End Violence Against Girls: Summit to End FGM/C in the U.S.. This creative, positive and engaging event brings together domestic and international thought leaders - survivors, civil society, front line professionals, and government to discuss how we can together end FGM/C by 2030.

The Summit will facilitate a cross-sectoral approach, in the U.S. and internationally, to ending FGM/C. Subject matter experts will share top-line recommendations across sectors, including: survivor/activists, child protection, education, health care, community and faith-based groups, law enforcement and government to respond to and eliminate FGM/C.

## Summit Goals

- Share best practices in ending FGM/C and supporting FGM/C survivors.
- Advance a comprehensive multi-sectoral approach to ending FGM/C and providing services to those affected, including healthcare, child protection, education, and law enforcement.
- Foster increased coordination and collaboration among government, front line professionals, religious and community leaders, and activists focused on protecting girls from violence and eradicating FGM/C by 2030.
- Launch inclusive and vibrant U.S. End FGM/C Network.
- Strengthen international movement to End FGM/C.

# Agenda

- 8:00 am** — **Registration, Leland Atrium**  
Coffee and light breakfast
- 9:00 am** — **Welcome & Keynote Remarks**  
Nancy Lindborg; President, U.S. Institute of Peace // Catherine Russell; U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues // Shelby Quast; Director, Americas Office, Equality Now // Jaha Dukureh; Founder & Executive Director, Safe Hands for Girls // Video Address from Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon // Lakshmi Puri; Deputy Executive Director, UN Women & Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations // Senator Harry Reid; U.S. Senate (D-NV), Minority Leader // Video: FGM/C 101 by the Guardian // Kathleen Kuehnast; Senior Gender Advisor, U.S. Institute of Peace.
- 9:30 am** — **Panel 1: Activists & Youth**  
Moderator: Maryum Saiffee; Policy Advisor, U.S. State Department  
Participants: Aissata Camara; Co-Founder, There Is No Limit Foundation // Domtila Chesang; Regional Coordinator, Guardian Global Media to End FGM // Leyla Hussein; Lead Campaigner, Psychotherapist & Consultant // Her Story, Uncut; Written & Directed by Katie Cappie-Ilo, featuring members of the GoodCapp Arts ensemble: Nikita Bleyer, Odley Jean, Jasmine Niang.
- 10:15 am** — **Networking Break, Leland Atrium.**
- 10:45 am** — **Panel 2: Role of Educators**  
Moderator: Angela Peabody; Executive Director/Founder, Global Woman PEACE Foundation  
Participants: Kakenya Ntaiya; Founder & President, Kakenya's Dream // Djessou Kouyate; Senior Project Officer, Inter-African Committee-U.S.A // Alison Milofsky; Director of Curriculum and Training Design, U.S. Institute of Peace // Sami Ullah; Events & Development Director, Integrate Bristol.

- 11:25 am — **Panel 3: Medical & Service Providers**  
 Moderator: Dr. Ranit Mishori, Director of Global Health Initiatives, Georgetown University Medical Center  
 Participants: Comfort Momoh, MBE; Midwife and FG-M/C and Public Health Specialist, Guys and St Thomas' Hospital, London // Dr. Marci Bowers, Physician & Surgeon, Mills-Peninsula & Mt. Sinai // Dr. Crista Johnson, Founding Director, Refugee Women's Health Clinic // Dr. Nawal M. Nour, Director, African Women's Health Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital.
- 12:00 pm — **Buffet Lunch**, Great Hall
- 1:15 pm — **Video: Trailer for Jaha's Journey**, Introduced by Maggie O'Kane, Global Media Campaign to End FGM
- 1:25 pm — **Panel 4: Law Enforcement & Child Protection**  
 Moderator: Susan Masling, Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice  
 Participants: Kathleen O'Connor, Deputy Chief, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice // Christine Nanjala, Assistant Director, Director of Public Prosecutions Office // Maria Saine, Programmes Manager, Safe Hands for Girls // Gerry Campbell, former Detective Chief Superintendent, Scotland Yard.
- 2:05 pm — **Panel 5: Religious and Community Leaders**  
 Moderator: Manal Omar, Associate Vice President, Center for Middle East and Africa, U.S. Institute of Peace.  
 Participants: Pastor Immanuel Bamba // Imam Alas Jawne // Arsalan Suleman, Acting U.S. Special Envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, U.S. Department of State // Imam Baba Leigh.
- 2:40 pm — **Video: Address from The Right Honorable Priti Patel**, UK Secretary of State for International Development

- 2:45 pm — **Networking Break**, Leland Atrium.
- 3:15 pm — **Panel 6: International Sustainable Development Goals**  
Moderator: Lyric Thompson, Director of Policy and Advocacy, International Center for Research on Women  
Participants: Susan Markham, Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) // Dr. Morissanda Kouyate, Executive Director, Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices // Nafy Diop, Coordinator for the UNFPA/UNICEF Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting // Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell, Global Director, The Girl Generation // Mary Wandia, Global Program Manager, End FGM, Equality Now.
- 3:50 pm — **Congressman Joseph Crowley**, U.S. House of Representatives (D-New York)
- 3:55 pm — **Panel 7: Best Practices and Solutions**  
Moderator: Shelby Quast, Director, Americas Office, Equality Now.  
Participants: Activists and Youth - Jaha Dukureh, Founder & Executive Director, Safe Hands for Girls // Healthcare - Ranit Mishori, Director of Global Health Initiatives, Georgetown University Medical Center // Education - Angela Peabody, Executive Director/Founder, Global Woman PEACE Foundation // Immigration - Dr. Nina Smart, Founder, SWF International // Foreign Policy - Lyric Thompson, Director of Policy and Advocacy at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) // Law Enforcement – Jeanne Smoot, Senior Counsel for Policy and Strategy, Tahirih Justice Center.
- 4:30 pm — **Closing Remarks Reception** - light refreshments available; Leland Atrium.

# Keynote Remarks



## Nancy Lindborg

President, U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP)

@nancylindborg



@USIP

Nancy Lindborg is President of the United States Institute of Peace, an independent institution founded by Congress that brings practical solutions to prevent and resolve conflict. Working in the world's most fragile regions,

Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) at USAID saw Ms. Lindborg lead responses to the Syrian Crisis, droughts in Sahel and Horn of Africa, the Arab Spring, Ebola and other crises. She also presided over Mercy Corps for 14 years and has served as co-president of the Board of Directors for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition; co-founder and board member of the National Committee on North Korea; and chair of the Sphere Management Committee. She is a member of Council on Foreign Relations. She holds a B.A. and M.A. in English Literature from Stanford University and an M.A. in Public Administration from Harvard University.

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## Ambassador Cathy Russell

Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, U.S. State Department



@AmbCathyRussell

As the U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, Cathy Russell leads the State Department's efforts to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls around the world, focusing on addressing gender-based violence, promoting women's full participation in society, investing

in adolescent girls, and integrating women's issues into U.S. foreign policy. She also serves as co-chair of the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council and the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council, and as a board member for Thomson Reuters Foundation's Trust Women initiative, the Wilson Center's Women in Public Service Initiative, and the Alliance for Artisan Enterprise. Prior to this role, she served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden, while coordinating the development of the Administration's strategy to prevent and respond to gender-based violence globally. She has also served as Staff Director of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Senior Counsel to Senator Patrick J. Leahy. She received a B.A. in Philosophy from Boston College and a J.D. from George Washington University.

## Lakshmi Puri

Assistant Secretary-General of the UN  
and Deputy Executive Director of UN  
Women



Ms. Lakshmi Puri is Assistant Secretary-General of the UN and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

She is directly responsible for the leadership and management of the Bureau for Intergovernmental Support, United Nations Coordination, and Strategic Partnerships. Throughout her career, Ms. Puri has promoted the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda in various capacities in the context of peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. She has extensive experience in economic and development policy-making covering trade, investment, migration and labour mobility, financial flows, environment and climate change, energy, agriculture and food security, universal access to essential services, intellectual property rights, and traditional knowledge, among other issues.

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## Jaha Dukureh

Founder and Executive Director,  
Safe Hands for Girls

@JahaENDFGM



@Safehands4girls

Jaha Dukureh is the founder and executive director of Safe Hands for Girls, a non-profit organization working to protect young women and girls who are at risk for FGM. Ms. Dukureh's work has led to policy changes both

in The Gambia and U.S. and helped to create a law in the U.S. that made it illegal to transport girls out of the country for purposes of FGM. She successfully advocated to President Obama's administration and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to take the essential first step of commissioning a report on the prevalence of FGM in the U.S. The CDC released its findings last year, estimating more than 503,000 young women and girls are either living with or at risk of FGM in the U.S. For her outstanding work as a global campaigner to end FGM and promote women's rights, she was featured in the L'Oréal Paris Women of Worth campaign and was named to TIME Magazine's 100 Most Influential People for 2016.

## Shelby Quast

Director, Equality Now

@ShelbyRQuast



@equality now

Shelby Quast is the Director of Equality Now, a collaborative organisation that works to advance human rights for women and girls and to inform U.S. foreign and domestic policy. Shelby has worked internationally for over three decades in a broad range of disciplines and, earlier in her career, practiced law at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, D.C. She participates

in numerous coalitions and working groups, including the Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace and Security; Anti-Trafficking Advocates Network; Girls Not Brides U.S.A; International Violence Against Women Act; and the Coalition for Adolescent Girls. Shelby speaks widely on human rights and authored numerous reports on Gender Justice for the UN and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Prior to her time at Equality Now, Shelby co-founded both the International Legal Assistance Consortium for post-conflict legal reform and the Partners for Gender Justice, a network of UN agencies, member states, and civil society organizations. Shelby is a recipient of the Fulbright award and holds a J.D. from Columbus School of Law at CUA and a B.A. in International Business from the University of Oregon.

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## Senator Harry Reid

U.S. Senate



@SenatorReid

Harry Reid is the senior United States Senator from Nevada, having served since 1987. A member of the Democratic Party, he has served as the Senate

Minority Leader since January 2015, and has previously served as Majority Leader, Minority Whip, and Majority Whip. Previously, Reid was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Nevada's 1st congressional district, and served in Nevada local and state government as city attorney of Henderson, a state legislator, the 25th Lieutenant Governor, and chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission. In 1970, Reid became the youngest Lt. Governor in Nevada history, winning the election at age 30.

## Kathleen Kuehnast

Senior Gender Advisor, U.S. Institute of Peace



@kathkuehnast

Dr. Kathleen Kuehnast is the senior gender advisor at USIP. As a sociocultural anthropologist, Kuehnast has focused on the different gendered impacts of violence and conflict on both men and women. In addition, her efforts have focused on the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325, including the critical role women should play in all aspects of

peacebuilding. Prior to USIP, Kathleen worked with the World Bank as a senior social scientist, focusing on such thematic streams as women and poverty, social capital and community driven development in fragile and post-conflict societies. Kathleen's regional expertise is Central Asia, where she lived for several years in the country of Kyrgyzstan completing her doctoral dissertation research on the impact of post-Soviet transition on Muslim women. Dr. Kuehnast is a recipient of the Mellon Foreign Fellowship at the Library of Congress, a former Kennan Institute Fellow at the Wilson Center, and the 2015 recipient of the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award of the UN Association of the National Capital Area. She is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Kathleen holds a doctorate in sociocultural anthropology from the University of Minnesota.

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## Congressman Joe Crowley

U.S. House of Representatives



@repjoecrowley

Joe Crowley is the U.S. Representative for New York's 14th congressional district. He is a member of the Democratic Party and is the Vice-Chair of the Democratic Caucus, the fifth-highest

ranking position in House Democratic Leadership. Joe's efforts in Congress are focused on building strong communities, creating jobs, increasing access to health care and housing, protecting seniors' hard-earned benefits, and opening up educational opportunities for working families. His seat on the prestigious Committee on Ways and Means allows Joe to work directly on issues of importance to the residents of the 14th District – keeping Medicare and Social Security strong, improving healthcare for all Americans and creating a fair and equitable tax code for American families and small businesses.

# Panel 1: Activists and Youth

## **Maryum Saifee - Moderator**

U.S. State Department Office of Global Women's Issues



@swordy786

Maryum Saifee is an American diplomat currently posted in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues. She has also served overseas in U.S.

Embassies in Cairo and Baghdad, as well as Consulates in Alexandria and Erbil. Prior to joining the State Department, she worked and consulted for a variety of philanthropic and international development organizations including the Ford Foundation, United Nations Development Program, Human Rights Watch, Microfund for Women, and Acumen Fund. She also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Jordan and worked for a Seattle-based South Asian domestic violence organization as an AmeriCorps Volunteer. Maryum is a graduate of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and a term member with the Council on Foreign Relations.

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## **Aissata Camarad**

Strategic Relationships Manager and Program Director for NYC Junior Ambassador Program, NYC Mayor's Office for International Affairs



@ThereIsNoLimitF

Aissata serves as the Strategic Relationships Manager and Program Director for the NYC Junior Ambassadors program in the New York City Mayor's Office for International Affairs. Prior to this role, she co-founded There Is No Limit Foundation, an international non-profit organization empowering women, children and communities through entrepreneurship and education. For her work as a social entrepreneur and advocate to end FGM/C, she was featured in The Guardian and PBS and is a recipient of the Jo Ivey Boufford Award for Innovative Solutions to Public Service Challenges.

## Domtila Cheseng

Regional Coordinator in Kenya,  
The Guardian Global Media Campaign  
to End FGM



@CDomtila

Was born and still lives in the mountains of Western Kenya, in a place called Kapenguria. She is a trained high school teacher who sacrificed her profession to campaign for an End to FGM in her community, the Pokot, and other ethnic communities in Kenya. Domtila has rescued several girls from FGM as well as helped them re-enter school. She uses the media to train other activists and journalists about the dangers of FGM.

## Leyla Hussein

Psychotherapist and founder of the  
Dahlia Project



@leylahussein

Leyla Hussein is a Psychotherapist and international lecturer on FGM and gender rights. Her work has been presented at esteemed academic institutions such as Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Harvard, Georgetown, George Washington Universities and University of Pennsylvania university. She founded

the Dahlia Project, a specialist psychotherapist/counselling service for survivors of FGM. Leyla writes columns and regular features for the Huffington Post, Cosmopolitan magazine and The Guardian, and has published articles in Newsweek, Mumsnet, Stylist magazine and other media outlets. Leyla was named as Cosmopolitan's Ultimate Campaigner Women of the Year Award 2010, included in the BBC 100 women list of 2013, voted 6th in the Woman's Hour 2014 Power List, named RedLine magazine women of the year 2014 and Debbets 500 list of Most Influential in the UK. Leyla was the recipient of the Emma Humphrey Award, Lin Groves Special Award, and the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation's True Honour Award, and the World Peace and Prosperity Foundation's Award 2013. She is also a Global Ambassador for the GirlGeneration and Sisterhood magazine.



## Panel 2: The Role of Educators

### **Angela Peabody – Moderator**

Founder and Executive Director of Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation



@PeabodyAngela

Angela Peabody is the founder and executive director of Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation, an organization founded on the principles of eliminating

violence and injustices against women and girls. The mission of the organization is to empower women and girls through education to eradicate gender based violence with emphasis on FGM/C. After a celebrated career as a television broadcast journalist in Liberia, and Special Press Secretary to the country's first woman Minister of Agriculture, Angela immigrated to the United States, following the bloody and brutal coup d'état in her native Liberia. Angela developed the passion as an advocate for women and girls against injustices and violence after her sister was killed by her husband in an act of domestic violence. She is also the first Liberian woman to ever pen and publish a full-length novel.

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### **Kakenya Ntaiya**

Founder, Kakenya's Dream



@KakeynaN

@KakenyaCenter

Kakenya Ntaiya, founder and president of Kakenya Centre for Excellence believes that education will empower and motivate young girls to become agents of change

in their community and country. The Center, a girls' primary boarding school in Enosaaen, Kenya, opened in May 2009 and currently has 170 students in grades four through eight. Kakenya has been a recipient of the Feminist Majority Foundation's Global Women's Right Award and a Vital Voices Global Leadership award. She has been recognized by Women in the World as a "Woman of Impact," a Top Ten CNN Hero, a National Geographic Emerging Explorer, one of Newsweek's "150 Women Who Shake the World," and counted as Women Deliver 100: The Most Inspiring People Delivering for Girls and Women.

## Djessou Kouyate-Conteh

Senior Project Officer, Inter-African Committee, U.S.



Djessou Kouyate-Conteh is the Senior Project Officer for Inter-African Committee U.S., an organization that works to end violence against women and children. Djessou has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from University of Maryland and a Certification of Project Management from Georgetown University. She is also Co-Founder of Vacances Sans Excision (Summer without FGM/C), Summer Camp.

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## Alison Milofsky

Director of Curriculum and Training Design, U.S. Institute of Peace



@USIP

Alison Milofsky is the director of curriculum and training design in the Institute's Academy where she oversees the Institute's conflict management training program for peacekeepers in partnership with the State Department's Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance program (ACOTA). Through this program, USIP has provided

training in negotiation, mediation and protection of civilians to more than 3000 peacekeepers from 15 African countries deploying to 7 UN/AU missions. In addition, Allison teaches USIP's facilitation course as well as intergroup dialogues on race and gender at the University of Maryland. She trains young leaders through the Institute's Generation Change program and has led dialogue trainings in Afghanistan, Kenya and Rwanda as well as conducted programs for educators in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Central Asia, and Africa. Allison previously served as associate director of the Anti-Defamation League's Washington, D.C. regional office, and she served in Peace Corps/Slovakia as a teacher trainer. Allison holds a bachelor's degree from McGill University and a doctorate in education policy, with a specialization in curriculum theory and development, from the University of Maryland.



## **Sami Ullah**

Events and Development Coordinator,  
Integrate Bristol UK



Sami joined Integrate Bristol, a charity that empowers young people to raise

awareness of gender based issues, such as female genital mutilation, child sexual exploitation and radicalisation through media projects and peer education sessions, in 2013, playing a lead role in their stage production, My Normal Life. Since then, he has been trained to be a lead outreach worker, delivering peer education sessions, and FGM safeguarding to front-line professionals. As Events and Development Coordinator, he coordinates all outreach work conducted by Integrate UK and as of January 2017, Sami will be one of two leads on work against honour crime and forced marriage.

## Panel 3: Medical and Service Providers

### **Dr. Ranit Mishori – Moderator**

Director, Family Medicine's Global Health Initiatives, Georgetown University School of Medicine



@ranitmd

Ranit Mishori, MD, MHS, FAAFP is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine, and the director of the Department of Family Medicine's Global Health Initiatives, where she founded the residency program's Global Health Scholars track. Dr. Mishori is also the director of the department's

new Health and Media fellowship and the nascent Center for Media, Health & Primary Care and the director of Georgetown's Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN) CAPRICORN and is the co-founder and co-chair of MedStar Health Institute's Primary Care Research Collaborative (PCRC). She has been a consultant for The World Bank and for Physicians for Human Rights, and participates in training, curriculum design, and research in their Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones program. Previously, she was the Family Medicine Clerkship Director at Georgetown University for two years. Dr. Mishori is the recipient of several academic awards, including the John Eisenberg Memorial Career Development Award, The STFM-NE Emerging Leader Award, The Georgetown University School of Medicine International Programs Award, the Natural Medicine Recognition Award, and two Residency Teaching Excellence Awards.

## Comfort Momoh, MBE

Founder and Director, African Well Woman's Clinic at Guy and St. Thomas' Foundation Trust



@comfortmomoh

Comfort established and runs the African Well Woman's Clinic at Guy and St. Thomas' Foundation Trust in London, a support service for women and girls who have undergone FGM/C. The clinic provides counselling, advice, support, infor-

mation and surgical reversal of FGM/C. As a result of this work, Comfort was named as the first ever nurse/midwife of the year by the Trust in 2003. Comfort is a public health specialist and a staunch campaigner for the eradication of FGM/C. An expert in the field, she is well known both nationally and internationally, providing training, workshop, seminars and conferences on FGM/C. Comfort has been a consultant for the WHO, is Chairperson for the Black Women's Health and Family supports organisation, and is vice president for EURONET. In June 2014, Comfort was a recipient of the Nigerian Centenary Awards' 100 Outstanding Nigerians that are currently living or who have lived in the United Kingdom over the past 100 years for her contribution to public service.

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## Dr. Marci Bowers

Pelvic and Gynecological Surgeon



@Bowers\_MD

Dr. Bowers is a pelvic and gynecological surgeon with nearly 25 years' experience in women's healthcare. She received her medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School and comple-

ted an OB/GYN residency at the University of Washington in Seattle. Following residency, she remained in Seattle where she practiced as an OB/GYN at the Polyclinic and Swedish Medical Center, followed by practice in Trinidad, Colorado before relocating in to the San Francisco Bay Area. Dr. Bowers has become an international authority on clitoral reconstruction for women who have suffered FGM/C as one of few surgeons worldwide performing functional FGM/C reversal. She has been the subject of numerous documentaries, articles and features including appearances on the Oprah Winfrey Show, CBS Sunday Morning and Discovery Health, Newsweek, The Guardian and the Times of London. Dr. Bowers is a devoted women's healthcare advocate and provider.

**Dr. Crista Johnson-Agbakwu**  
OBGYN and Founder and Director of  
Refugee Women's Health Clinic, Maricopa Integrated Health System



Dr. Crista Johnson-Agbakwu is an Obstetrician/Gynecologist at Maricopa Integrated Health System, Phoenix, AZ, where she is founder and director of the Refugee Women's Health Clinic (RWHC). Dr. Johnson-Agbakwu has

presented nationally and internationally on refugee women's health, and the challenges faced by healthcare providers in the care of women who have experienced FGM/C. She is a Fellow of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH) where she also serves as Chair of Online Services. Her current research incorporates CBPR to address health disparities among refugee women across many facets of health including women's reproductive, preventive, sexual, and mental health. Through the RWHC, Dr. Johnson-Agbakwu has implemented a best practice model of care that is improving healthcare access and utilization, health literacy, community engagement, and health care provider cultural competency towards improved health outcomes for refugee women.

## Video: Trailer for Jaha's Journey

**Maggie O'Kane**

Coordinator of the Global Media  
Campaign to End FGM



@maggie\_okane

## Dr. Nawal Nour

Director of the African Women's Health Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital



Dr. Nawal Nour, MD, MPH is the director of Brigham and Women's Hospital's African Women's Health Center, where she actively researches the health and policy issues regarding FGM/C. Committed to the eradication of FGM/C, she travels throughout the country conducting workshops to educate African refugees and immigrants on the medical complications and legal issues of this practice. She served on

a FGM/C task force for the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and was the primary author of *Female Genital Cutting, Clinical Management of Circumcised Women*, published by ACOG. Dr. Nour is a board certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist and is the Director of the Ambulatory Obstetrics Practice at the Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. This work has been covered by the Associated Press, New York Times, Washington Post, NPR, O and Essence magazine and CNN Espanol. In 2008, Dr. Nour became the Director of the Global Obstetrics and Gynecology Division at BWH. Born in the Sudan and raised in Egypt and England, Dr. Nour came to the United States to attend Brown University. She received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1994 and completed a chief residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA in 1998.

Founded by the Guardian-a growing movement of major media organisations around the world, dedicated to using the media on an international and community level to speed an end to FGM.

From the Guardian, to the Nigerian Times, to the smallest community radio in West Pokot Kenya the media campaign persuades journalists to take up the cause and also teaches activists how to own the airwaves, amplify their ongoing work, make contacts, create media content and hasten the end of the practice.

## Panel 4: Law Enforcement & Child Protection

### **Susan Masling - Moderator**

Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, U.S. Department of Justice



Susan Masling is a senior trial attorney at the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) of the U.S. Department of Justice. HRSP is the section within DOJ which has responsibility to enforce the federal law against FGM/C and “vacation cutting.” Masling is active in the inter-agency working group on FGM/C education and prevention.

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### **Kathleen O’Connor**

Deputy Chief of the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, U.S. Department of Justice



Kathleen O’Connor serves as a career prosecutor for the Department of Justice. She began her career as an Assistant United States Attorney for the United States Attorney’s Office in Washington, D.C. where she served as lead counsel in over 50 criminal trials. Subsequently, Ms. O’Connor served in several management positions in the United States Attorney’s Office, including Chief of the Grand Jury and Intake Section, and Chief of the Third District Major Crimes Section. In 2005, Ms. O’Connor accepted a position with the Criminal Division supervising the Division’s Iraq rule of law capacity building efforts.

## Christine Nanjala

Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions,  
Office of Director of Public Prosecutions  
(ODPP) Kenya



@ODPP\_KE

Christine is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya. At ODPP, she heads the Children Victims and Witness Support Division which includes prosecution of child marriage and FGM cases. Previously she worked with Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs under the National Legal Aid Awareness Program. She has been instrumental in the development of the bill on legal aid, the Abandonment of FGM Policy. She holds a Masters in Program Management-combining the law with/making it applicable to real life issues. She is driven by the passion for protection of children's rights and access to justice where their rights have been violated.

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## Maria Saine

Law Student and Program Manager,  
Safe Hands for Girls in The Gambia



@Ms\_Saine

Maria Saine is the program manager for Safe Hands for Girls in The Gambia, and is also a final year law student at the University of The Gambia. She has led successful activities geared towards raising awareness of the effects on FGM/C and the national policies and laws governing FGM/C, targeting youth, religious leaders, medical practitioners, lawyers and circumcisers.

## **Gerry Campbell**

Deputy National Lead for HBA, Forced Marriage, and FGM/C, National Police Chiefs' Council, United Kingdom



@MrGerryCampbell

Gerry Campbell is the United Kingdom's National Police Chiefs' Council's (NPCC)

Deputy National Lead for Honour Based Abuse, Forced Marriage and FGM/C. He authored the NPCC's Policing Strategy to tackle HBA in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2015 - 2018). DCS Campbell is a published author, having co-authored a book entitled Honour-Based Violence: Policing and Prevention and has written several other associated articles. Gerry has over 29 years police service, having joined the Metropolitan Police Service, London in 1986. Gerry currently has lead responsibility in London for engaging with London's diverse communities and for the police service response to tackling all forms of hate crime and honour based abuse and harmful practices.



## Panel 5: Religious and Community Leaders

### **Manal Omar - Moderator**

Associate Vice President, Center for Middle East and Africa, U.S. Institute of Peace



Manal Omar is the associate vice president for the Middle East and Africa Center at USIP. Previously, she served as regional program manager for the Middle East at Oxfam - Great Britain, where she responded to humanitarian crises in Palestine and Lebanon. Manal worked with Women for Women International as regional coordinator for Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan and also served as an international advisor for the Libya Stabili-

zation Team in Benghazi in 2011. Manal started her career as a journalist in the Middle East in 1996 prior to UNESCO recruiting her to work on a lead assignment in Iraq the following year. Manal spent more than three years with the World Bank's Development Economics Group and has carried out training programs in Yemen, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Kenya and many other countries. Manal's work has been profiled by the Washington Times, the Los Angeles Times, the BBC, NPR, Glamour, the London Times and Newsweek. Her articles and opinion pieces have appeared in the Guardian, the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, Azizah Magazine and Islamica Magazine. Now, she was named among Top 500 World's Most Influential Arabs by Arabia Business Power in 2011 and 2012, and among the 500 Most Influential Muslims in the World by Georgetown University and The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre in 2009.

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### **Pastor Emanuel Bamba**

Vice-Commissioner, Conakry World Book Capital North America

Born and raised in Guinea, Pastor Bamba is the father of two girls and a boy. He teaches adult Sunday Bible school in Silver Spring, Maryland since 2013 and served as the deacon of Silver

Spring Assembly Church from 2012 to 2014. Pastor Bamba is also a federal government contractor and Vice-Commissioner for Conakry World Book Capital North America since February 2016. He has a degree in computer software development.

## **Imam Elhadj Saidou Nour Sylla**

Imam and member of the African Muslim Association

Born and raised in Guinea, Imam Sylla attended Franco-Arabic school and at the age of 17, he travelled to France, where he earned a degree in theology.

Today, Imam Sylla lives and works in the United States where he is a member of the African Muslim Association. He gives Koranic lessons to children and members of the community wanted to learn the Quran, and has worked on the issue of FGM/C in Guinea and in diaspora communities in the U.S.

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## **Arsalan Suleman**

Acting U.S. Special Envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, U.S. State Department



@Arsalan\_Suleman

Arsalan Suleman is the Acting U.S. Special Envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) at the U.S. State Department. He engages with the OIC and its member countries, and with relevant civil society on key foreign policy issues. As acting Special Envoy, Arsalan works to deepen and expand partnerships in areas of mutual interest, such as human rights, countering violent extremism, health, education, entrepreneurship, and science and technology. Arsalan previously

served as Deputy Special Envoy to the OIC and as Counselor for Multilateral Affairs in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, where he focused globally on human rights policy related to Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion, and regionally on the Middle East, North Africa, and South and Central Asia. Arsalan has a degree in International Security Studies from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service with a Certificate in Muslim-Christian Understanding. As a George Mitchell Scholar, he earned a Master's degree in International Peace Studies from Trinity College, Dublin. He holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he published several articles on national security and the law, and he was a Fellow with the Harvard Negotiation Research Project. After law school, Arsalan clerked for Judge Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, and worked as a litigation associate at the law firm of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP.

## Imam Baba Leigh

Imam

Imam Baba Leigh is a prominent imam and cleric that has worked on the issue of FGM/C for decades. He has traveled to villages to talk to communities about the dangers of FGM/C and

how it has nothing to do with Islam. He asserts that the practice is cultural, traditional, and deeply-rooted in culture but it is not religious.. Imam Leigh believes FG- M/C is a violation of human rights.

## Panel 6: International Sustainable Development Goals

### Lyric Thompson - Moderator

Director of Policy and Advocacy,  
International Center for Research  
on Women



Lyric Thompson is the Director of Policy and Advocacy at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), where she leads the institution's formulation of evidence-based policy recommendations and manages ICRW's advocacy efforts with the U.S. government and internationally. Lyric serves as co-chair of the Girls Not Brides U.S.A advocacy coalition, on the steering committee of the Coalition to

End Gender-Based Violence Globally, the board of the UN Association of the National Capital Area, the Executive Committee of the Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace and Security and the board of the Community Center for Integrated Development of Cameroon. Previously, Lyric served for five years as a primary expert and strategist for Amnesty International U.S.A's women's human rights program, as senior policy manager at Women for Women International, and as a project manager for overseas development contracts at DAI. In 2012 she served as a leadership and empowerment expert on the selection committee for the Women Deliver Top 50 Innovations and Ideas that Deliver for Women. In 2011, Diplomatic Courier Magazine named her among the Top 99 Under 33 Young Professionals Impacting Foreign Policy. In 2016, Lyric was awarded with the Excellence in a Campaign for Women Serving Women Award by Professional Women in Advocacy.

## **Susan Markham**

Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID



Susan Markham is the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. In

that role, she works to improve the lives of people around the world by advancing equality between females and males, and empowering women and girls to participate fully in and benefit from development of their societies.

USAID recognizes that promoting gender equality and female empowerment is fundamental to our mission to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity. As Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Susan works with senior leadership and mission staff to fully integrate gender equality and female empowerment into USAID's policies, programs and strategies.

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## **Dr. Kouyaté**

Executive Director, Inter-African Committee on Harmful Practices



Dr. Morissanda Kouyaté is Executive Director of the Inter-African Committee (IAC) on Traditional Practices, a regional and international non-governmental organisation affiliated with the United

Nations, the African Economic Commission, and the African Union. He has held this post since 2011, having spent the previous 9 years as IAC's Director of Operations. Born and trained as a paediatrician in Guinea, Dr. Kouyaté subsequently obtained diplomas in infertility treatments and HIV/AIDS at Johns Hopkins University and in Health Services Management and Behavioral Change Communications at Clark Atlanta University. He has received numerous awards and international recognition for his work combating the practice of FGM/C worldwide, an issue to which he has dedicated his professional life for decades, including a Certificate of High Appreciation from the U.S. Peace Corps and an Award of Excellence from the World Bank.

## Nafissatou Diop

Coordinator, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C



@NafissatouDiop

Nafissatou J. Diop is the coordinator of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C, the world's largest programme promoting the abandonment of FGM/C within a generation. Before joining UNFPA, Ms. Diop conducted operation research to test and evaluate

programs addressing FGM/C, such as the Conversion of Excisors in Mali and the Effectiveness of Using Health Providers in the FGM/C Campaign. In 2006, she led the qualitative study of the long-term evaluation of the Tostan Holistic Programme in Senegal, which provided important evidence for the validity of the holistic social change approach being supported by the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C. Beyond the issue of FGM/C, Ms. Diop has directed and managed initiatives to improve community access to quality reproductive health and HIV/AIDS services in West Africa. Ms. Diop has a Ph.D in Demography from the University of Montreal, a Masters in Socioeconomics of Development and a Masters in Sociology from the University of Nanterre.

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## Mary Wandia

End FGM Program Manager, Equality Now



Mary serves as the End FGM Program Manager at Equality Now. She is a feminist Pan-Africanist with over 16 years of experience working with

regional, international and civil society organizations on women's and girl's rights, grant making and management, regional integration and governance. Prior to joining Equality Now, she was the Regional Program Officer for the Open Society Foundation's Africa Regional Office. She also worked as the Pan African Gender Justice Lead for Oxfam Great Britain's Pan Africa Program; Regional Women's Rights Coordinator-Africa for ActionAid International; and an Advocacy Officer for the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET). Mary holds a Bachelor of Education from Kenyatta University and a Masters of Arts in International Studies from the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

## Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell

Global Director, The Girl Generation



@fmwangipowell

Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell, MSc, Ph.D. serves as the Global Director for The Girl Generation, providing strategic direction, business development and technical oversight for the initiative's global activities. Faith is a public health expert and senior manager of complex public health programs in Africa with more than 18 years of experience in

leading, managing, implementing, health programs. Her experience includes working as the founding Executive Director of the African Palliative Care Association and supporting palliative care global advocacy and services development in over 20 African countries. Dr. Powell has also worked as the University Research Company's (URC) Chief of Party for the USAID ASSIST Project, where she provided technical leadership and managerial oversight for the design and implementation of project strategy in HIV Care and Treatment, Maternal Newborn and Child Health, Orphans and Vulnerable Children and malaria. She has also worked in palliative care global advocacy and financing with the Public Health Program of the Open Society Foundations, based in New York and provided strategic leadership around palliative care advocacy, accountability and resource leveraging.

## Panel 7: Best Practices and Solutions

### **Nina Smart**

SWF International



Dr. Nina Smart is a non-violent human rights activist, sociologist, and author who educates people about FGM/C

and works to eradicate the practice in Sierra Leone. In 2004, Dr. Smart founded SWF International, a Los Angeles based non-profit organisation that raises awareness about FGM/C through lectures for students, immigrants and socially conscious groups. She works with local SWF partners on effective solutions to end FGM and her book *Wild Flower* educates audiences worldwide about the fear and secrecy associated with FGM/C. Chosen as 2016 'Woman of the Year' for her nonprofit work by Senator Mendoza of California, Dr. Smart was also honored by the United States Congress.

## Jeanne Smoot

Law Enforcement



@tahirijustice

Jeanne Smoot serves as the Senior Counsel for Policy and Strategy at the Tahirih Justice Center, where her principle focus is on leading the development of legal and policy proposals to address forced marriage in the United States. Prior to moving into to her role as senior counsel, Jeanne led Tahirih's public policy team for over a decade, fighting to reduce vulnerabilities of immigrant women and girls and to

empower them as survivors. Among other achievements, Jeanne helped draft and secure enactment of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act (IMBRA) to prevent the abuse and exploitation of so-called "mail-order brides," helped galvanize recognition of forced marriage as a domestic human rights problem in the United States with a ground-breaking national survey and the launch of a new Tahirih initiative, helped draft legislation to fix aspects of the broken asylum system that harm women and girls fleeing gender-based persecution and co-wrote a report to bring attention to the steep path that women face to receive asylum protection in the United States. Jeanne most recently helped lead successful efforts to defend and expand protections for immigrant survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and in the passage of a Senate bill to reform immigration laws.



## More about the Organizers

### Equality Now

Founded in 1992, Equality Now is an international human rights organization dedicated to ensuring that women and girls around the world can live their lives free from violence and discrimination. Combining grassroots activism with international, regional and national legal advocacy, we envision a world in which women and men have equal rights under the law and full enjoyment of those rights. With partners and supporters in nearly every country in the world, Equality Now advocates to advance Legal Equality and to end FGM/C, Sex Trafficking and Sexual Violence – all with a special focus on championing Justice for Girls.

[www.equalitynow.org](http://www.equalitynow.org)

### Safe Hands for Girls

Safe Hands for Girls is an Atlanta-based, survivor-led 501(c)(3) organization focused on ending FGM/C and all other forms of Gender Based Violence worldwide. Founded and led by survivor Jaha Dukureh, Safe Hands for Girls has succeeded in saving at least one hundred girls from FGM/C.

[www.safehandsforgirls.org](http://www.safehandsforgirls.org)

### United States Institute of Peace

The United States Institute of Peace works to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict around the world. USIP does this by engaging directly in conflict zones and by providing analysis, education, and resources to those working for peace. Created by Congress in 1984 as an independent, nonpartisan, federally funded organization, USIP's more than 300 staff work at the Institute's D.C. headquarters, and on the ground in the world's most dangerous regions.

### Human Dignity Foundation

Human Dignity Foundation (HDF) is a private, Swiss philanthropic foundation established in 2004 and governed by a Board of Directors. Guided by its vision of a world where all children and young people are living with dignity, HDF supports organizations to expand and improve their work in Africa and Asia in ensuring children grow up safe at home and in the community. HDF employs a holistic and engaged approach to grant-making, with a focus on harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C and Child Early and Forced Marriage and Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation. The foundation has a limited lifespan and will end its grant-making in 2021.

Contributing to HDF's strategic focus on supporting work towards ending FGM/C to date, HDF has provided approximately \$8 million in grants to 12 organisations in Kenya, the Gambia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, United Kingdom, United States and the EU. The type of programmes HDF supports to end FGM/C range from advocacy for policy reform, coalition building amongst activists, media campaigns, support services for Diaspora survivors, and re-granting mechanisms to the grassroots and community based organizations.

Mary Healy is the Executive Director of Human Dignity Foundation. Prior to working with HDF, Mary worked with several international organisations in Ethiopia, Cambodia and Somalia as well as short missions in over 15 countries. She is a nurse-midwife with a Masters in Community Health from Trinity College Dublin.

### **Wallace Global Fund**

The Wallace Global Fund, a private foundation based in Washington, D.C., is guided by the vision of the late Henry A. Wallace, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and 33rd Vice President of the United States under Franklin D. Roosevelt. The Fund's mission is to promote an informed and engaged citizenry, to fight injustice, and to protect the diversity of nature and the natural systems upon which all life depends. The Fund's women's rights and empowerment program includes efforts to rid the world of FGM/C including mobilizing resources and policy support, catalyzing grassroots action, backing advocates and survivors, and mobilizing resources in support of community-led processes of social change. FGM/C has been a pillar of the Fund's women's rights grant-making since its inception, beginning with Dr. Gordie Wallace's pioneering FGM/C advocacy in the 1970s-1990s.

Susan Gibbs is a philanthropic advisor to the Wallace Global Fund, where she manages the Fund's grants portfolio on women's rights and empowerment, with a current focus on FGM/C and women's economic participation. Prior to launching her philanthropic consulting practice, she held program positions at The Summit Charitable Foundation, the Pew Global Stewardship Initiative, and the Pew Charitable Trusts. She has also consulted for the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Garfield Foundation. She has held previous positions in international education, development and humanitarian relief in Switzerland, Pakistan, India and Egypt. She also serves as the executive director of the SS United States Conservancy, a maritime preservation organization dedicated to saving "America's Flagship," the SS United States. She holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and a Bachelor's degree magna cum laude from Brown University.



