



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division for Inclusive Social Development

Addressing Inequalities through Youth Entrepreneurship

20 February 2019

Conference Room 12, 1.15 – 2.30 pm, UN Headquarters, New York

COMMISSION for
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Headquarters, New York

BIOS OF SPEAKERS

MODERATOR

Mr. Francesco Candelari



Mr. Francesco Candelari is the director of Entrepreneurs for Social Change, an independent program to help young social entrepreneurs around the world. In his career, he worked in the United Nations system for over 10 years, serving in UNICRI, UNAOC and UNIDO.

In 2011, he took a break, first using his journalist background to document the Arab spring in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and Syria, then as director of IFOR, an international network of NGOs working on conflict resolution. As a result of those experiences, he founded the program Entrepreneurs for Social Change. He co-authored three books.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Ms. Daniela Bas



Ms. Daniela Bas was appointed Director of DESA's Division for Inclusive Social Development on 9 May 2011. A politologist specialized in international politics, human rights and social development, Ms. Bas has most recently served as Senior Consultant designated by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as expert on human rights to Institutes that operate internationally. She has also provided her expertise on anti-discrimination issues at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Ms. Bas has worked for close to 10 years for the United Nations as a Professional Officer in social development and human rights, traveling around the world on behalf of the UN and also as

a speaker at international conventions. She has also held a number of other significant assignments including as Special Adviser on “Fundamental Rights” for the former Vice President of the European Commission; as the Italian representative designated by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on the topic “Tourism for All” to the European Commission; and as journalist and broadcaster for Italian Radio and TV. Ms. Bas is a Board Member of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and of the Committee to Promote non-Armed and non-Violent Civil Defense of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.



SPEAKERS

Ms. Kelly Lovell



Ms. Kelly Lovell, President of Lovell Corporation and founder of MyEffect, is globally recognized for her expertise on "BridgingTheGap" to the next generation. A 16-time award-winning entrepreneur and speaker, Lovell is an expert ranked among the top 0.1% of online influencers for youth-led innovation, future skills training, and preparing for the future of jobs. Through her global youth consultancy and innovation firm Lovell Corporation, Kelly helps organizations adapt to the changing workforce to recruit, retain and develop emerging talent. Putting principles into practice to bridge the widening skills gap and youth unemployment, Lovell created MyEffect to track and regulate the assessment of lifelong learning experiences outside of the classroom—a solution that makes future skills education accessible to all.

An active champion for the Sustainable Development Goals, Kelly holds numerous advisory roles for the SDGs including: director of youth-led innovation for the Blockchain for Impact group, founding chair of the Youth2030 Challenge, member of the Volunteer Groups' Alliance and Volunteer2030 committee, Impact2030 Toronto Council and Canada's Alliance 2030. Kelly is also a three-time TEDx speaker and have spoken at numerous UN forums including the High-Level Political Forum, ECOSOC Youth Forum and the 72nd President of the General Assembly's young dialogue, where she shared her "Young Entrepreneurs' Guide to Success". As a future of work policy advisor, she is member of the a G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance, and the youngest advisor for the W20 Digital Disruptors team and the Government of Canada's Talent Cloud initiative—which aims to investigate the applications of disruptive technologies like Blockchain and AI to support talent mobility and bias reduction in the workplace. In recognition of her continued impact and dedication to creating youth prosperity, Kelly received the Queen's Young Leader award—a prestigious distinction personally bestowed by Her Majesty at Buckingham Palace to exceptional young people under 30 from Commonwealth who are using their skills to leave a legacy of change. Social media Twitter: [@kellyalovell](#) Instagram: [@kellyalovell](#)



Ms. Victoria Alonsoperez



Ms. Victoria is an Electronics, Telecommunication, and Electrical Engineer, Entrepreneur, Inventor, and is a United Nations Young Leader for the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2012 she invented Chipsafer, a patented platform that can track cattle remotely and autonomously. Thanks to Chipsafer in 2012 she was the winner of the International Telecommunication Union Young Innovators Competition and in 2013 she won the Best Young Inventor Award from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In 2014 the Inter-American Development Bank selected Chipsafer as the Most Innovative Startup of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the MIT

Technology Review selected Victoria as the Innovator of the Year - Argentina & Uruguay. In 2015 Chipsafer got second prize in Chivas Regal Global Competition The Venture and the BBC selected Victoria as one of the 30 female entrepreneurs under 30. In 2017 she was invited to present Chipsafer at the Solutions Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York during the UN General Assembly.

In terms of interests, my biggest passion has always been space. In 2011 I attended International Space University, where I co-designed a medical experiment for astronauts that won the Barcelona ZeroG Challenge, and the next year I served as the Space Engineering Department Teaching Associate. From 2014 till 2016 I was Chair of Space Generation Advisory Council, a global NGO in support of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. In 2014 I was also co-managing editor of a book named "Small Satellite Program Guide". From 2015 till 2017 I was part of the Board of the Space Foundation. In 2016 the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) awarded me the Young Space Leader Award and I served as Special Advisor to the IAF President from 2016 to 2018.



Mr. Kartik Sawhney



Mr. Kartik Sawhney is passionate about universal access to education. He was born blind but excelled in science and technology – until he was 15, when he discovered that blind students in India are prevented from continuing science. It took him dozens of letters, meetings and petitions before Kartik was able to enroll as India's first grade 11 blind science student, thereby paving the way for thousands of other blind students across the country interested in science education. He faced similar challenges at university level but advocated and got the leading technical institutions in the country to provide reasonable accommodations to blind students. Due to these efforts, there are over 15 blind students studying at top engineering colleges across the country today and

many more who are now working at leading technology companies. To continue his passion for technology and equity, he took up a scholarship at Stanford University where he completed his bachelor's and Master's in Computer Science in 2017.

In 2013, Kartik founded Project STEMAccess to encourage blind students to study and pursue a career in the sciences. Launched initially as a programme to provide hands-on sessions and workshops, the project now includes technical training, mentorship for blind science students, hands-on activities such

as hackathons, outreach initiatives across India and work with the government of India to ensure a better experience at tech schools. Now known as I-Stem, the project also includes other non-profit organizations which collaborate to help achieve a more accessible Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education in India and more broadly the developing world. Simultaneously, NextBillion.org, an organization Kartik co-founded in 2016 continues to provide similar opportunities for students with disabilities in North America and has completed nearly 90 mentorships so far.

Besides these organizations, Kartik also serves on the boards of several nonprofits, and was elected to the 25-member Expert panel on technology and innovation by Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education alongside six former heads of states and four Nobel laureates. The commission provides feedback on best technological solutions to improve global literacy for all. Further, in recognition of his disability advocacy efforts, he was selected as a member of UNICEF's Youth Council and represented India at the conference of State Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the UN headquarters in 2015. He also addressed the 70th session of the General Assembly, focusing on technology and innovation, especially as it relates to empowering youth to innovate. His work has been published in several national and international journals, including UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report.

In recognition of his technical skills and social initiatives, Kartik has been honored with several national and international awards and scholarship including the Queen's Young Leaders Award 2016 presented by Her Majesty the Queen (60 young leaders from across 53 commonwealth countries), UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals 2018 (17 youth from around the world), Dalai Lama Fellowship, Google Lime Scholarship (for excellence in computer science), among others. He is determined to continue his efforts to promote an equitable education for all, particularly people with disabilities across the world.



Ms. Tiffany Lo



Ms. Tiffany Lo is a gender rights activist and a developer. She serves as part of the Executive Team of Chayn, an award-winning global community of skilled volunteers (including survivors of abuse) who work to empower women against violence by building technology platforms and tools. All of Chayn's projects are crowdsourced and built with, not just for survivors of abuse.

Chayn's community has grown to cover US, Pakistan, India, the UK, UAE, Lebanon, amongst many others. From a young age, Tiffany was taken by the world of tech and is a passionate believer in using technology to do good. Tiffany

lives in New York.



Mr. Richard Lorenzen



Mr. Richard Lorenzen is an American entrepreneur, speaker and investor. He is the founder and CEO of Fifth Avenue Brands, a New York-based public relations firm. Born as the child of a New York City fireman and a journalist, Richard developed an interest in entrepreneurship and technology at a young age, which led him to start his first online business venture at the age of 15. His early dive into the emerging space of digital marketing allowed him to build a fast-growing marketing agency which became a launch pad for his career ever since.

Richard is regularly cited as one of the most influential millennial entrepreneurs in America. He has been featured in CNBC, Fox News, Forbes, Entrepreneur Magazine, AdWeek and more. Inc. Magazine named him one of the most inspirational entrepreneurs of 2017, while Entrepreneur Magazine ranked him as one of the top 50 people in digital marketing. He received an award for Entrepreneur of the Year at the Smart Hustle Conference in New York in 2018.

Richard is a frequent keynote speaker on the topics of entrepreneurship and foreign policy and is very active in mentoring youth entrepreneurs through organizations such as Junior Achievement. He has spoken at universities such as Lake Forest College, Ottawa University, Wells College and Baruch College; more than a dozen US high schools; and business conferences across North America, Europe and Asia. He is a member of the foreign policy organization Concordia, the Young Entrepreneur Council and a founding member of the Forbes Agency Council. In 2016, Richard authored a book for youth entrepreneurs titled Surge. In 2017, he delivered a TEDx talk about empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs.



Mr. Pietro Fochi



Mr. Pietro Fochi is an enthusiast Italian, European and World citizen – social entrepreneur currently serving as Youth Delegate of Italy to the United Nations.

Getting in touch with a variety of cultures and people through experiences in Europe and around the World, enhanced his will to contribute to the internationalization of Italian youngsters by taking part in and setting up a variety of civil society initiatives. In the past years he has worked with different entities spreading the culture of International Organizations and the value of dialogue among People. He firmly believes that Change toward a more equitable and sustainable world shall begin from young people, and that their creative power should be the vehicle for the concrete implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In this spirit he co-founded EDUACTIVE, social enterprise tackling the social issues of youth struggle to access labour market on one hand, and of lack of internationalization in the learning/early-working path of youth in Southern Europe.

EDUACTIVE promotes youth empowerment through different EDUactions: activities on international relations, diversity and inclusion; entrepreneurial and academic experiences worldwide, and building

bridges among youth, private and public sector. Recently the enterprise has been internationally recognized by being included in two cross-borders mentorship programs.

