



United Kingdom
National Commission for UNESCO



Commonwealth Secretariat

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

UK INPUT INTO THE 2011 GLOBAL MONITORING REPORT ON EDUCATION IN VIOLENT CONFLICT

Tuesday, 26th January 2010

Marlborough House, Commonwealth Secretariat, Pall Mall

Laura Brannelly, CfBT Education Trust

Laura Brannelly's background is in policy, strategy and research relating to education financing and delivery. A focus of Laura's work has been on how aid, public finance and public-private partnerships can be used to effectively deliver education services and support the achievement of the Education For All (EFA) goals.

This has included research on donors' engagement in education in fragile and conflict-affected states which led to presenting the framing paper at the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) Policy Roundtable on effective financing in situations of fragility as well as co-authoring a joint CfBT Education Trust, IIEP-UNESCO book and policy brief. Laura has also been involved in research on community contributions to education provision in post-conflict situations, and more generally the role of non-state actors in supporting education delivery.

Other areas of work have included issues of teacher compensation and utilisation, grade repetition, school bursaries schemes, and reviews of programmes of technical assistance and grants in both Cambodia and Macedonia. She has recently worked with the Ministry of Education in Rwanda to develop financing options for Rwanda's post-basic education strategy and to support the development of the education sector strategic plan and financing framework.

Graham Brown, University of Bath

Graham Brown is Senior Lecturer in the Politics of Development at the University of Bath, and Research Associate at the Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity at the University of Oxford. His research focuses on the political economy of identity and mobilization, including violent conflict, and he has consulted extensively for UNDP in New York, Jakarta and Dili, for DFID, OHCHR, and for the World Bank.

Kenneth Bush, International Conflict Research Institute, University of Ulster

Kenneth Bush is the Research Coordinator of INCORE (the International Conflict Research Institute) at the University of Ulster. He received his Ph.D. in International Relations and Comparative Politics from Cornell University.

Between 2004 to 2009, he was a founding professor of the Conflict Studies Programme at St. Paul University, Ottawa, Canada and has held teaching positions at Queen's University (Kingston, Canada), Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada), and Bilkent University (Ankara, Turkey). Dr. Bush has worked with a broad spectrum of development and humanitarian organizations in the Global North and South. He is currently the independent member of the Monitoring Committee of the PEACE III Programme (2007-2013). He was Special Advisor

on Humanitarian Issues to the Canadian Government when it served on the UN Security Council (1998-2000).

Dr. Bush has published widely on issues of peace building, identity-based conflict, and bad governance. Current activities include: developing and mainstreaming practical tools and processes that anticipate, monitor, and assess the peace and conflict impacts of development projects in conflict zones; the peace and conflict dimensions of diasporas; and work on the commodification of peace building or the conflict-generating impacts of "peace building" initiatives; and the role of local government in peace building.

Dr Indrajit Coomaraswamy, Commonwealth Secretariat

Dr Indrajit Coomaraswamy was an official in the Central Bank of Sri Lanka from 1973-1989. He worked in the Economic Research, Statistics and Bank Supervision Divisions. He was also seconded to the Ministry of Finance and Planning (1981-89).

Indrajit was employed by the Commonwealth Secretariat from 1990-2008. During that time he held the positions, inter alia, of Director, Economic Affairs Division and Deputy-Director, Secretary-General's Office. He was brought back to the Commonwealth Secretariat to head the Social Transformation Programme Division, as Interim Director.

Dr Coomaraswamy completed his undergraduate degree at Cambridge University and obtained his Doctorate at the University of Sussex.

Lynn Davis, Centre for International Education and Research, University of Birmingham

Lynn Davies is Professor of International Education in the Centre for International Education and Research (CIER) at the School of Education, University of Birmingham. Her major teaching, research and consultancy interests are in education governance internationally, particularly in relation to democracy, human rights and citizenship.

She takes a specific focus on conflict and education, in terms of the contribution of education to conflict and to peace. Related work has been in Angola, Sri Lanka, Kosovo, Bosnia, Palestine, Malawi and the Gambia, as well as with UNICEF on their Rights Respecting Schools. Current research projects are on school improvement in post-conflict Angola; education for peace and social cohesion in Sri Lanka; and educational strategies for preventing violent extremism in UK. Her book, *Education and Conflict: Complexity and Chaos* (2004) was awarded the Society for Education Studies prize for the best book of 2004. Her most recent book is *Educating Against Extremism*, (Trentham, 2008). Lynn is a member of the Education Committee, UK National Commission for UNESCO, as well as the Chair of ASPnet.

Sally Gear, Department for International Development

Sally Gear is an Education Adviser for the Department of International Development (DFID) currently based in the Education Team within DFID's Policy Division, based in London. Her current areas of responsibility include gender and education, education in conflict and fragile states and inclusive education. Sally has previously worked as Regional Education Adviser (Sub-Saharan Africa) for the British Council, Education Adviser for VSO and a Lecturer in Social Development at the University of Manchester.

Seamus Hegarty, UK National Commission for UNESCO

Seamus Hegarty is Chair of the EFA Working Group, UK National Commission for UNESCO, and member of the Education Committee. He is Chairman of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) and visiting professor at four universities. He served as Director of the National Foundation for Educational Research for twelve years until his retirement in 2005. He is founder editor of the European Journal of Special Needs Education, now in its 25th year. He has written or co-authored more than 20 books and numerous papers. He has advised UNESCO and other international bodies on special needs issues for close on 30 years and served as Principal Academic Adviser for the Salamanca World Conference. He sits on the Irish National Council for Special Education where he holds the research and communications portfolio.

Mario Novelli, University of Amsterdam

Mario Novelli is a Senior Lecturer in International Development and Education at the University of Amsterdam. His broad field of interest explores the relationship between globalisation and education in low-income countries. He is particularly interested in the relationship between education and conflict and is currently carrying out research on political violence against educators in Colombia and is collaborating with a range of institutions which includes UNESCO and Education International, on issues relating to the increase in attacks on education systems worldwide.

Brendan O'Malley, Freelance Journalist

Brendan O'Malley is a freelance journalist specialising in reporting on education, development and conflict. He works as an independent consultant for UNESCO and Education International, carrying out research and producing publications on issues related to Education for All and education under attack.

He is author of *Education Under Attack 2007* - a global study on targeted political and military violence against education staff, students, teachers, unions government officials, and institutions. He is in the process of completing a larger more comprehensive follow-up study on another edition of *Education Under*

Attack, in 2010. This publication will be launched at the United Nations in New York on 10th February 2010, followed by a presentation in Washington DC.

Brendan was invited to address the UN General Assembly thematic debate on Education in Emergencies in March 2009 on his work on *Education Under Attack*.

A former international editor of The Times Educational Supplement, he has reported first hand on education in many developing and conflict-affected countries worldwide. As an author he was shortlisted for the Orwell prize for political writing in 1999.

He is a member of the UK National Commission for UNESCO Education Committee and also of its Education For All Working Group.

Dr Pauline Rose, UNESCO Global Monitoring Report

Pauline Rose is a Senior Policy Analyst with the Education for All Global Monitoring Report (GMR) based at UNESCO in Paris. She joined the GMR team in April 2008 on leave from the University of Sussex, where she is Reader in International Education.

Her research is mainly concerned with educational policy and practice aimed at improving equity in education, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. She has published on a range of issues including financing and governance, non-state provision, conflict, democratisation, and the role of international aid in shaping the education agenda.

Kabir Shaikh, Consultant

Kabir Shaikh was, between 2002 and July 2009, the Director of Education for UNRWA/ UNESCO (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees), providing education to half a million Palestinian refugee children based in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Gaza and the West Bank, and had a staff of over 22,000.

For over 38 years he worked in the UK on Education, holding various posts including: Director of Education for Bournemouth, LEA; Chief Inspector for Education in London; and Chair of the Association for Science Education's National Working Party on Science for a Multicultural Society. Kabir has served on several national committees in various capacities such as Chair of the Partnership Board for Leicester City Education; Member of the Advisory Forum to the Royal Naval School of Educational Training and Technology; Chair of the Local Education Authorities for the Provision of Science Services; Vice President of the Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Education. His work has involved the Commonwealth Secretariat, UNESCO, Development Education and the British Council. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

In 2003 Kabir was awarded a CBE for services to Education in England.