

Side event on promoting self-reliance and inclusion of refugees

The Poverty Alleviation Coalition (PAC) and the graduation approach

**Regional NGO Consultations for the East, Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes (EHAGL)
29 June 2021**

Annotated Agenda

The specific focus of the side event will be to:

1. Discuss the graduation approach, how it is implemented in different contexts, and its impact.
2. Consult with the participants to further understand how UNHCR can support accelerating and expanding the graduation approach for refugees, from the advocacy perspective, implementation, technical support, resource mobilization and partnerships.

The expected outcome will be a set of suggestions and recommendations from NGOs that will help UNHCR further understand their perspective and provide the needed support.

The side event will be a two-hour session on 29 June from 14:30 to 16:30, co-moderated by Hanadi Tutunji, Financial Inclusion Officer, and Regional PAC Coordinator/ UNHCR Regional Bureau in Nairobi, and Sarah King, co-Chair of the [regional economic inclusion working group](#), and Regional Livelihoods & Food Security Adviser at the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
14:30 – 14:35	Opening Remarks	Anna Gaunt, Senior Livelihoods Officer/ UNHCR
14:35 – 14:50	The graduation approach, description, application, and key learnings.	Rose Wilder, Uganda Program Manager-Trickle up
14:50 – 14:55	Q&A	
14:55 – 15:35	Panel Discussion: Implementation in different contexts including Uganda and Somalia, and resource mobilization opportunities and challenges, and links to GRF and durable solutions	Moderator: Sarah King, Co-Chair/ Regional Economic inclusion working group <u>Panel:</u> Rita Larok- Chief of Party, AVSI-Graduating to Resilience, Uganda
15:35 – 15:45	Q&A	Maureen Kapiyo-Deputy Programme Director, Concern Worldwide, Somalia Liz Corbishley- Chief Scaling Officer/, Village Enterprise, Kenya
15:45 - 16:00	Consult with the participants through participatory questions to gather inputs	Hanadi Tutunji, FI Officer and Regional PAC Coordinator/ UNHCR
16:00 – 16:15	Monitoring and impact with displacement affected populations	Colin Andrews, Program Manager, The World Bank- Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI)
16:15 - 16:20	Q/A	
16:20 – 16:30	Results of inputs, recommendations Summary and next steps.	Hanadi Tutunji, and Cian O'Brien- Associate Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion Officer

Co-moderators' and Speakers' bios

UNHCR



Anna Gaunt is a Senior Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Officer at the UNHCR Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes (EHAGL). Anna is the co-chair of the [Economic Inclusion Exchange East Africa](#). The forum includes members of regional INGOs, UN agencies, IFIs, CSOs, and research institutes and stimulates discussions, research, and sharing of best practices related to the livelihoods and economic inclusion of people forced to flee and their host communities. Anna has more than 18 years of experience working with the implementation of international donor-funded humanitarian and development programmes focusing on the economic inclusion of vulnerable populations in the Middle East and Africa. She holds a MA in Development Studies from SOAS, London.



Hanadi Tutunji is the Financial Inclusion Officer and PAC Regional Coordinator at the UNHCR Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes. Before joining UNHCR in 2021, Hanadi worked with the IFC as Transformation and Crisis Manager based in Beirut, Lebanon. Hanadi has more than 20 years' experience in financial inclusion. She was the investment and innovation Specialist with UNCDF in New York focusing on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Her work also included supporting global advocacy initiatives, such as setting up the office of Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands- the UN Secretary General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development (UNSGSA). Hanadi worked with Microfinance Institutions in multiple senior management roles especially in displacement and conflict settings. She also worked with international NGOs on market research, training, and staff development, as well as evaluation and rating of MFIs. Hanadi holds an MBA from the University of Paris IX, Dauphine and has worked in MENA, Asia and Africa.



Cian O'Brien is the Poverty Alleviation Coalition's Global Project Manager Associate Economic Inclusion Officer) based in UNHCR Geneva. He also oversees issues related to global, regional and country level strategic direction for UNHCR's economic inclusion efforts and livelihoods programmes. Prior to working with UNHCR, Cian has held positions with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs focusing on the MENA-region; and within the private financial sector. Cian holds a MSc in Economic History from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and a BSc in Business and Philosophy from Copenhagen Business School (CBS).

Norwegian Refugee Council



Sarah King- Co-Chair of the economic inclusion working group, and co-moderator. She has 20 years of experience with international relief and development, in both management and technical roles. She has worked extensively across Eastern and Southern Africa, particularly in remote, conflict and displacement affected areas. In her current role as the East Africa and Yemen Regional Adviser at the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Sarah supports ten countries with the design, development and quality of their livelihoods, food security, nutrition, self-reliance, resilience, and natural resource management programmes. She is also the co-chair of the monthly Regional Economic Inclusion Exchange group which brings a wide variety of UN, NGO, academic and private sector stakeholders together to discuss and share learning, with a focus on displacement affected populations.

Trickle up

Trickle Up goes further to create breakthrough opportunities for the world's poorest people. We've been working nonstop for more than forty years to help resourceful but marginalized people start and run profitable businesses. Our unique approach helps people in poverty turn their passion into profit so they can build better lives for themselves. We focus on reaching vulnerable people that others leave behind—women, indigenous people, refugees, and those affected by displacement, and people with disabilities. Our dedicated staff comes from all over the world. We have teams based in Guatemala, Uganda, and India, so we're always close to the communities we serve.



Rose Wilder is an international development practitioner with nearly 10 years' experience providing management and technical assistance provision to development and humanitarian initiatives, predominantly in the East and Horn of Africa. This work has spanned a range of sectors, including social protection, early childhood development, economic inclusion, gender mainstreaming, and human rights. A social scientist by training, she is passionate about ensuring culture and context-specific knowledge are integrated within program design, implementation, and evaluation to maximize impact and cost-effectiveness. She holds a Master's degree in Intercultural Relations and Bachelor's degree in International Relations. Rose is currently the Uganda Program Manager for Trickle Up's engagement in the Graduation to Resilience Activity and World Bank EQUALS project with AVSI Foundation in Uganda.

AVSI Foundation

AVSI Foundation is an international NGO, founded in 1972, with headquarters in Italy and operating in at least 31 countries globally. AVSI has been working in Uganda since 1984 starting in the Northern Uganda region intervening during the Lord's Resistance Army conflict and expanding to at least 70 districts in all regions with headquarters in Kampala, regional offices in the districts of Gulu, Kitgum, Mbale, Mbarara, Arua, and field offices to support operations in Pader, Lira, Agago, Kotido, Kamwenge, Hoima Districts. AVSI is a prominent provider of development and humanitarian assistance around the world and brings strong management and innovative strategies to programs in various sectors including health, food security and nutrition, agriculture, disability, education including early childhood care and development, protection including child protection and psychosocial support programs, economic recovery and livelihoods, water and sanitation, environment and energy. AVSI's donors in Uganda include USAID, the EU, the Italian and Dutch Government, UNICEF, Olympic Refugee Foundation, Education Cannot Wait, the private sector and other individual donors.

Graduating to Resilience is a 7 year USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance funded activity led by AVSI Foundation in partnership with Trickle Up and IMPAQ International with the goal of graduating 13,200 extremely poor refugee and Ugandan households in Kamwenge from conditions of food insecurity and fragile livelihoods to self-reliance and resilience. The Graduating to Resilience consortium also seeks to test three variations of the Graduation Approach to identify the most effective and efficient approach to reach ultra-poor conflict-affected populations.



Rita Larok is a public Health specialist with a social work background. Rita has worked with in both the development and humanitarian settings for over 16 years - starting off as social worker and serving various positions spanning; Program Manager, Technical advisor, Chief of Party and Director of Programs. Rita is currently the Chief of Party for the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance Graduating to Resilience Activity in Uganda that aims to graduate extremely poor refugee and Ugandan households from conditions of food insecurity and fragile livelihoods to self-reliance and resilience. Rita has specialized training and programming experience in various themes including; Graduation programs, Livelihoods including saving groups and asset financing, social protection including consumption

support, Food security and Nutrition, Protection and psychosocial support, mental health, Parenting, life skills, HIV care and treatment, and Monitoring, evaluation and learning

Concern Worldwide

Concern Worldwide (Concern) is a non –governmental, international, humanitarian aid organization dedicated to the reduction of suffering and working towards the ultimate elimination of extreme poverty. Founded in Ireland in 1968, Concern implements humanitarian and long term development/resilience programs and works in 23 of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East. Concern has been operational in South Central Somalia for over 30 years, and in Somaliland for a decade. Concern implements programs in Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Education, Health & Nutrition, Emergency Response and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) – directly as well as through a strong network of local partners. We operate in four States across seven regions: Banadir (Mogadishu), South West (Bay; Lower Shabelle), Jubaland (Gedo), and in Somaliland (Maroodijeex; Awdal, Togdheer).



Maureen Kapiyo is the Deputy Program Director, Program Quality for Concern Worldwide Somalia/Somaliland Country program. She also oversees cross cutting issues of Equality, Protection and Conflict Sensitivity. Maureen has been working in the humanitarian and development sector for over 15 years; and in Somalia since January 2019. She is passionate about working with communities and being part of teams that endeavour to bring just and lasting change to communities. Maureen holds a Masters’ in Education, Health Promotion and International Development

from the University of London.

Village Enterprise

Village Enterprise's mission is to end extreme poverty in rural Africa through entrepreneurship and innovation. We are an African-led team which envisions a world free of extreme poverty, where people have the means to sustain their families. Our cutting-edge organization is driven by data, consistent evaluation of our programs, and commitment to improving our program through human-centered design and lean impact approaches.



Liz Corbishley is Chief Scaling Officer at Village Enterprise and is responsible for developing and overseeing their growth strategy, which aims to lift 20 million people out of extreme poverty by 2030. She builds partnerships with scale collaborators, secures funding for strategic expansion, and manages a technical assistance team. Most recently, Liz has led the design and proposal process for 'DREAMS', which has secured \$10M+ from the Larsen Lam ICONIQ Impact Award to implement graduation programming in Ugandan and Ethiopian refugee camps.

Liz has worked in East Africa for the past 10 years, has 15+ years experience in the non-profit sector, and holds an MBA specialising in Corporate Social Responsibility.

The Partnership for Economic Inclusion

The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global partnership helping governments develop, implement, and scale [economic inclusion programs](#) to sustainably increase the income, assets, and economic resilience of [extreme poor](#) and [vulnerable people](#). Our work is guided by the Sustainable Development Goal to “end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030.” PEI is a global network that includes national governments, policymakers, development partners, and non-governmental and research organizations. It is hosted by the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice at the World Bank. PEI published the [State of Economic Inclusion Report 2021: Moving to Scale](#), a landmark publication that identified 219 economic inclusion programs and documents and shares the latest information on program design, costing, research, and future directions.

Of the 219 total economic inclusion programs included in the report, 60 programs included displaced people among their program participants. More recent research has revealed that in the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region, there are 26 economic inclusion programs that include displaced people, 10 led by governments, and 16 led by nongovernment organizations. PEI is beginning to explore these programs in greater detail to better understand how programs are customizing their economic inclusion programs to meet the unique needs of this population.



Colin Andrews is the Program Manager of the Partnership for Economic Inclusion, hosted at the World Bank Group. He has over 15 years of experience working in social protection across Africa and South Asia and at the global policy level. Colin has led and supported the development of several national social protection and jobs programs including Ethiopia, Malawi, South Sudan, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Botswana, Bangladesh and Pakistan. In the field of social protection, he has published widely on several flagship publications covering program impacts, costing and public expenditure effectiveness. He was recently a lead author of the “The State of Economic Inclusion Report 2021: The Potential to Scale”. He has worked broadly across several sectors including agriculture, education, and health. He has previously worked with the UN, Concern Worldwide and European Commission.