



ABE-ACCESS and USAID ECCN Launch Meeting Speakers

January 29, 2015

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Clare Lockhart



Clare Lockhart is co-founder and Director of ISE which works with a range of countries aiming to make transitions out of fragility. She is co-author of *Fixing Failed States* (2008) and has authored and co-authored numerous articles on security and institution-building. Ms. Lockhart was selected as a Young Global Leader in 2011 and as Chair of the Fragile States Council in 2011-2012 for the World Economic Forum. She serves on a number of boards including the Asia Foundation, SOLA Afghanistan, the Women's Regional Network for South Asia, Equality for Peace and Democracy, and the Developmental Leadership Program. Ms. Lockhart is a Senior Fellow of the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs at Yale, and also serves on several task forces related to security and development.

Charles North, USAID Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator



Charles North joined USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment (E3) in February 2013 as Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator. A Senior Foreign Service Officer, North most recently served as mission director in Russia, overseeing a \$60 million program. He has also held numerous Washington leadership positions, including as senior deputy director of the Agency's Afghanistan and Pakistan Task Force, and adviser to the assistant administrator for the Bureau for Asia. In his task force position, North supported two of USAID's largest programs, with a combined 2010 budget of \$4.8 billion.

Previously, North served as director of the Policy Office in the Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination (2004-2006), and as regional director for the Western Hemisphere in the State Department's Office of the Director of Foreign Assistance (2006-2008). As regional director, he coordinated a \$1.5 billion annual assistance budget across federal agencies, and helped launch the \$1.6 billion dollar presidential initiative to support Mexico and Central America in battling organized crime and drug trafficking.

North joined USAID in 1987 and has worked for more than 17 years in overseas posts, including missions in Kenya, Sudan, Mozambique, El Salvador and Russia. North is a graduate of Wesleyan University, and

holds master's degrees in management from Yale University and in national security strategy from the National War College.

Dean Brooks, INEE Director



Dean Brooks has over two decades of international education experience working in complex emergencies, conflict, disaster and development contexts. Initially, he worked in international schools as a primary teacher, middle-school teacher, and a teacher for deaf and hard-of-hearing children. For the past 14 years he has focused his work on education in emergencies and child protection in a number settings including: Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Guinea, Sudan (Darfur), Albania, Armenia, Indonesia (Aceh), Afghanistan, Lebanon, and the occupied Palestinian territories. Most recently, he has worked as a Special Advisor on Education for the Norwegian Refugee Council, providing support to country programs in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East and West Africa. Dean

has been an active member of INEE since 2001. He is based at the International Rescue Committee in New York.

EMAIL: dean.brooks@ineesite.org

Andrew Blum, USIP VP for Program Management and Evaluation

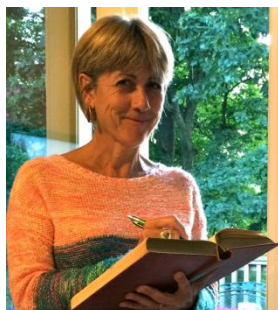


Andrew Blum leads USIP's efforts to become a true learning organization through improving the Institute's ability to monitor, evaluate, and learn from its programming. He started this work when in February 2012, he was appointed to be USIP's first Director of Learning and Evaluation. Since February 2013, he has served on USIP's leadership team as Vice-President for Program Management and Evaluation. He joined USIP in September 2008 as a program officer for the Grant and Fellowship program. In 2010, in partnership with the Alliance for Peacebuilding, he designed and launched the Peacebuilding Evaluation Project, an initiative designed to improve

evaluation practice in peacebuilding field as a whole. Prior to joining USIP, he was assistant director of the University of Maryland's Center for International Development and Conflict Management, where he was the director of the Project on International Communication and Negotiations Simulations (ICONS) and oversaw the undergraduate minor in conflict management. Earlier he served as academic director for the Institute for International Mediation and Conflict Resolution and field representative for the Carter Center in Georgetown, Guyana. In the field, he has worked on peacebuilding programs in Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Estonia, Guyana, and Turkey. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and holds a doctorate from the University of Southern California, School of International Relations.

EMAIL: ablum@usip.org

Yolande Miller-Grandvaux, USAID Office of E3/Office of Education, USAID ECCN COR



Dr. Yolande Miller-Grandvaux has dedicated her professional life to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and its Office of Education. She focuses her work on education in vulnerable countries around the world, working tirelessly to ensure the Agency gets the best return on its investments.

After obtaining her PhD from Princeton University, Miller-Grandvaux spent 10 years working in Africa as Chief of Party for multiple USAID-funded education projects. Passionate about understanding community-based education, she has authored a number of publications on the role of NGOs in education in Africa. She has also focused her efforts on developing a vision for capacity building in fragile states, which led her to co-found the Interagency Working Group on Education and Fragility. This working group now spearheads the global policy dialogue on education sector planning and research in conflict-affected environments. While co-founding the interagency working group, she developed the agenda for education in fragile states. From Timbuctoo to Kabul, she continues to lead the USAID Education strategic goal of increasing access to education for 15 million learners in conflict and crisis-affected countries.

In her spare time, Yolande Miller-Grandvaux is an avid runner, often taking her seven-pound dog with her on the running trails. You can follow her on Twitter at [@YMGrandvaux](https://twitter.com/YMGrandvaux).

EMAIL: ymiller-grandvaux@usaid.gov

Luther Luedtke, EDC President and CEO



Luther Luedtke is President and CEO of Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC), headquartered in Waltham, MA. EDC began as the Physical Science Studies Committee at MIT and, since becoming independent in 1958, has grown into a global non-profit research and development organization with 1200 staff throughout the US and in 25 countries specializing in education, public health, and workforce development. Before joining EDC in 2006, Luedtke spent 13 years as President of California Lutheran University and two decades as professor of English, director of American Studies, and director of the School of Journalism at the University of Southern California. He has been a Fulbright lecturer in Germany, Distinguished Fulbright Scholar and Director of the American Studies Research Centre in Hyderabad, India, and a scholar in residence with the USIA. Luedtke has consulted widely for the U.S. Department of Education, the Council for International

Exchange of Scholars, and other private and governmental bodies, has served on numerous for- and non-profit boards, and is widely published in the fields of American literature, history, and comparative cultures. His books include *Nathaniel Hawthorne and the Romance of the Orient* (1988) and *Making America: The Society and Culture of the United States* (1992), which has been widely translated and is a primary text for American studies abroad. He did his undergraduate work at Gustavus Adolphus College and has a Ph.D. in American Civilization from Brown University.

Panel Moderator

USAID OFFICE OF EDUCATION/OFFICE OF E3



Nina Papadopoulos, USAID Senior Field Technical Advisor and ABE-ACCESS COR, is a fifteen-year veteran of promoting the right of education in conflict and crisis with a diverse range of organizations. She currently holds the position of Senior Field Technical Advisor with USAID/E3/ED team supporting USAID missions to ensure the effective implementation of USAID's Education Strategy, particularly the agency goal of increased equitable access to education in crisis and conflict environments. She is the co-author of the Education Cluster Coordinator Handbook, and authored a background paper for the 2011 EFA Global Monitoring Report titled: Achievements and challenges of the Education Cluster in the occupied Palestinian territory, Somalia and Sri Lanka. For the past three years she

has been an adjunct at Georgetown University in the Program on Justice and Peace Studies. Nina also represents USAID on the INEE Steering Group.

As a doctoral candidate at the Center for International Education at the University of Massachusetts her work and research interests include exploring the conflict sensitivity construct and how it affects education stakeholders' ability to conceptualize, articulate, design, and implement education programs that reduce conflict and increase equitable access to education.

In her spare time Ms. Papadopoulos enjoys making short documentary and fictional videos with her two sons. You can follow her on twitter @Nina_aristea for updates and discussions on #crisisEd.

EMAIL: npapadopoulos@usaid.gov

Panel Speakers

CREATIVE ASSOCIATES CONSORTIUM

Joy du Plessis is a Senior Associate at Creative Associates International where she supports Creative's Reading and Access to Education programs. Ms du Plessis was the Education Director for the Yemen Community Livelihoods program from 2012-2014, leading the inception and scale up of the Yemen Early Grade Reading Approach as well as the program's interventions to increase access to education particularly in areas in the south of the country affected by the conflict with AQAP. She served as a

senior technical advisor on Creative's Building Education Support Systems for Teachers (BESST) program in Afghanistan. Ms du Plessis has also worked on USAID funded education programs in South Sudan, Zambia, post-conflict Namibia and post-conflict Ethiopia. She is interested in the nexus of education reforms and stability in conflict/post conflict contexts.

EMAIL: Joyd@creativeduc.com

EDC CONSORTIUM

Susan Ross is an education and development program management specialist with 25 years of experience furthering economic, social and community development around the globe. She has designed and directed international education and development programs aimed at improving livelihoods and mobilizing communities to become active participants in the education and local system change process. Ms. Ross is a flexible and responsive leader who has successfully managed large scale programs in many diverse and challenging contexts. As a development leader, with experience in crisis response, Ms. Ross has provided vision, direction, human resource and organizational capacity building, and emergency response support for program portfolios with up to a \$50 million annual budget. Her understanding of the challenges in Crisis/Conflict-Affected and Fragile Environments (CAFEs) is evident in her role as project director for the USAID-funded Package to Improve Educational Quality in the DRC, where she provided overall technical and administrative management to the program during the program's successful realignment to the USAID Education Strategy. Ms. Ross also served as Chief of Party for the USAID funded New Schools Program in Egypt, which effectively expanded education opportunities for girls in remote communities. Prior to that, Ms. Ross directed large multi-sectoral portfolios of development and humanitarian programs while with CARE USA in Haiti and Bangladesh. She served as Deputy Director of CARE USA's global Basic and Girls' Education Team where she provided technical support to basic education programs primarily in Asia and Latin America and also served as project director for several USDOL funded programs seeking to end child labor. Ms. Ross has a Master of Public and Private Management from Yale University and Masters of Art in Teaching from Emory University.

EMAIL: cross@edc.org

FHI 360 CONSORTIUM

Mary Mendenhall is a Lecturer in the International and Comparative Education Program at Teachers College, Columbia University. She is also the Chair of the University's Working Group for Peace, Education and Conflict. Her research interests include refugee education, teacher professional development, and the quality, relevance and sustainability of education support provided by international organizations to displaced children and youth in conflict-affected states in Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Mendenhall served as the Network Coordinator for the Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) from 2005-2007. She later served as the Director of the Education in Emergencies program and partnership between the International Rescue Committee and the University of Nairobi from 2009-2013. The initiative sought to build and strengthen the capacity of students, faculty and practitioners to respond to the educational needs of children and youth affected by crisis in East Africa through a graduate program in Education in Emergencies. In this work, Dr. Mendenhall led and

facilitated curriculum, faculty and research development initiatives across multi-member international teams. Dr. Mendenhall earned her Doctor of Education in International Educational Development with a specialization in International Humanitarian Issues from Teachers College, Columbia University.

EMAIL: mendenhall@tc.edu

IBTCI CONSORTIUM

Steven Hansch, MPH, has over 30 years of experience designing and implementing humanitarian aid efforts and leading, designing, and evaluating performance and impact of programs in operational field programs in conflicts, including the Middle East, Balkans, Caucasus, Somalia, Rwanda, Uganda, Central America, Burma/border, Sudan Liberia and Sierra Leone. He has worked in environments affected by both conflicts and natural disasters. In the 1990s Mr. Hansch began researching the operational dimensions of education in crises, and in 1998 organized an international conference on the topic at the World Bank. Currently, he is serving as Senior Evaluation Specialist at International and Business and Technical Consultants Inc., (IBTCI) a U.S. based international consulting firm. He has been an active member of the boards of trustees/directors of Relief International, which has run numerous education programs in countries like Somalia and Lebanon. For 15 years, Mr. Hansch has taught graduate-level courses at several area graduate schools, including Johns Hopkins, Georgetown, George Washington University and American University.

EMAIL: shansch@ibtci.com

LOUIS BERGER CONSORTIUM

Rachel Surkin is Deputy Director and Sr. Technical Advisor for IREX's Education Programs Division. Ms. Surkin provides leadership, oversight, and technical support to a portfolio of youth, education and leadership development programs and oversees new business development. She is also the Chair of IREX's Youth Community of Practice and provides technical design support and input to IREX's education, youth development and youth leadership programs around the globe. Ms. Surkin is co-chair for the Alliance for International Youth Development's Effective Practices Working Group and actively contributes to a number of youth development associations. From 2010-2013, she served as the co-chair for the Society for International Development – Washington's Youth in Development Workgroup. Prior to IREX, Rachel worked as the Programming and Training Officer for Peace Corps Azerbaijan, where she developed education, youth, and community economic development programs and all related training for Peace Corps Volunteers. Previously, she held several positions in Peace Corps/Washington and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tonga, as well as teaching at the secondary level and in adult education programs. Rachel holds a master's degree in International Education from George Washington University.

EMAIL: rsurkin@irex.org

SOCIAL IMPACT CONSORTIUM

Dr. Sarah Edith Jones is a Senior Evaluation Technical Advisor at Social Impact and has over 15 years of experience in research and evaluation of education reform programs domestically and internationally. She has dedicated her career to investigating development programs aimed at improving outcomes for

at-risk children and youth using rigorous quantitative and qualitative research methods. Her primary objective is to increase learning and improve programming to better meet the needs of youth in conflict and other unstable environments, and improve educational, economic and health outcomes, and increase social stability globally. Dr. Jones has worked in and on a number of challenging contexts with a history of conflict, including serving as the qualitative research lead for baseline studies of USAID Food for Peace Title II programming in Northern Uganda, providing technical guidance on the evaluation of OTI programming for transition in Yemen, undertaking research on effective education approaches for displaced populations of youth (including refugees). She also served a lead researcher on evaluations for the US Department of Labor to assess the viability of a variety of education interventions in the reduction of the worst forms of child labor in Egypt, Bolivia, Nepal, and Togo. Domestically, Dr. Jones has examined the influence of education programming on social, emotional and behavioral outcomes of children and youth in the United States. Dr. Jones has a Masters and PhD in Sociology, and a Post-Doctorate in Education from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has also undertaken course work in pursuit of an additional Master's degree in International Policy and Practice (MIPP) at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University.

EMAIL: sjones@socialimpact.com