

Meet the Sphere Handbook Revision Steering Committee

Sphere Handbook

Revision 2026-2028



Avianto Amri



 Indonesia

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Avianto Amri is the CEO and Co-Founder of PREDIKT, Chairperson of the Indonesian Society for Disaster Management (MPBI), and Co-Chair of the Indonesian Humanitarian Coordination Platform. With more than 20 years' experience, he works at the intersection of disaster risk management, humanitarian coordination, inclusive preparedness, education in emergencies, and humanitarian quality and accountability. He has supported humanitarian, disaster risk reduction, and resilience initiatives in Indonesia and internationally, including in Haiti, Pakistan, Nepal, the Philippines, the Pacific, and Central America. His areas of expertise and interest include inclusive humanitarian action, gamification, child-centred approaches, risk communication, and community-based disaster risk reduction. He holds a PhD and Master of Research from Macquarie University, Australia.

Axel Schmidt



📍 Germany

Axel Schmidt is not too smart and a bit naïve, because he still believes that a power shifting, people-centred and inclusive humanitarian approach can make a difference. He often fails but tries his best as ASB's Emergency Response Coordinator and full hearted HUMANitarian. Knowing that those who are closest to the problem are usually also closest to the solution he tries to look not only at needs but capacities of people.

Aya Yagan



Aya Yagan is the Technical Director at NSDation. She is a certified CHS and Sphere trainer, with expertise in monitoring and evaluation, applied research, and capacity strengthening for humanitarian organisations. Aya has led research and evaluation projects focused on partnerships, localisation, and community participation, examining how local and international actors collaborate, share power, and support inclusive, locally driven responses. She works closely with humanitarian agencies in crisis-affected contexts to design accountable, evidence-based programmes that respond to local priorities. Aya also leads capacity development initiatives using interactive, context-driven approaches that go beyond traditional training, promoting sustainable growth and local leadership. She holds a master's degree in Global Development from SOAS, University of London.

Beatriz Corral



 Argentina

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Norma Beatriz Corral is President of Fundación delALTO (Argentina) and holds a master's degree in International Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance. She serves as Argentina's National Sphere Focal Point and teaches in university postgraduate programmes on disaster risk management. Her work focuses on humanitarian action, disaster risk management, climate change, and territorial resilience. She has extensive experience implementing and promoting the Sphere Standards, working with Indigenous communities, strengthening local capacities, and fostering collaboration among governments, academic institutions, and international organizations.

Jeremy Wellard



 Australia

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Jeremy Wellard heads the Humanitarian Coordination team of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, the leading global network of non-governmental organizations supporting principled and effective humanitarian action. He prioritises connecting NGO coordination from global to local levels, including by representing the ICVA membership in the IASC Emergency Directors Group. Building on his experience in coordination, community engagement and network development, Jeremy is a strong advocate for NGOs in interagency humanitarian coordination, policy and advocacy mechanisms. He has over a decade of humanitarian experience including global and regional roles with ICVA and UNOCHA. Prior to this, he worked for 15 years in sustainable development with government, NGO and private sectors across Asia-Pacific region and in his home country of Australia. He holds a master's degree in International Development Studies and a degree in Behavioural Science.

Jess Camburn



 United Kingdom

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Jessica has over 20 years of experience in global humanitarian and charity sector leadership. Jess is CEO of Cerebra, the leading UK charity for children with neurodevelopmental conditions. She previously served as the founding CEO of Elrha, where she built internationally acclaimed programmes that reshaped how research and innovation are used in crisis response. Her career is defined by a bold commitment to equity, evidence, and impact. Based in Wales, Jessica balances her professional leadership with being a proud mum to three ambitious young girls. This fuels her deep passion for championing female leadership and creating space for women to thrive in decision-making roles. She is a vocal advocate for inclusive systems change and a trusted advisor across philanthropic, academic, and policy sectors. Jessica leads with purpose, empathy, and a relentless drive to make a difference.

Joumana Souaid



Joumana Souaid is the Programmes Technical Director with World Vision International's Global Disaster Management Team. She supports humanitarian responses globally through technical leadership in programme strategy, grant acquisition and management, capacity strengthening, and humanitarian quality. She has held senior leadership roles across multiple emergency contexts, including Lebanon, DRC, Venezuela, Chad, Niger, Somalia, and Ukraine. Joumana is committed to strengthening humanitarian standards, accountability, and locally led responses through collaborative partnerships and evidence-based practice.

Laura Valencia



Laura Valencia is the Strategy and Partnerships Coordinator at the Global Refugee Youth Network, based in Ecuador, bringing both lived experience of displacement and extensive experience advancing youth leadership and inclusive participation in global decision-making spaces. Her journey as a displaced young person has deeply shaped her commitment to justice, representation, and creating and strengthening spaces where young people with lived experience can meaningfully shape policy, influence decision-making, and lead conversations that affect their communities. Professionally, Laura has engaged in high-level international advocacy spaces including the ECOSOC Youth Forum, the High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM), the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), global refugee consultations in Ecuador and Geneva, among others. As a founding member of the Global Youth Advisory Council and through her role at the Global Refugee Youth Network, she has worked at the intersection of strategic partnerships, stakeholder engagement, communications, and youth advocacy, helping strengthen collaboration across sectors and ensuring that participation moves beyond symbolic inclusion toward genuine leadership and systems change.

Osas Aizeyosabor Agho



 Nigeria

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Osas is an internationally recognized Humanitarian Advisor and Public Health Specialist with over a decade of frontline experience leading and monitoring large-scale, multisectoral programmes across Africa and Eastern Europe. His work has supported internally displaced persons, migrants, refugees and vulnerable communities affected by conflict, displacement and public health emergencies. In 2026, he became the 25th recipient of the prestigious Robert Burns Humanitarian Award. He advances principled humanitarian action grounded in human dignity, quality and accountability.

Rita Rhayem



Rita Rhayem is a public health and humanitarian expert with over 15 years of experience in health systems strengthening and humanitarian response. She currently serves as Head of Country Health Systems at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, supporting the design, implementation, and performance of country health system investments, with a particular focus on fragile and conflict-affected countries. Previously, she held senior leadership roles with Caritas Lebanon and Caritas Internationalis and served as President of the Sphere Standards Board. A pharmacist by training, she holds an MBA in Health Management and a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies. She is committed to advancing equitable, resilient, and people-centred health and humanitarian systems.

Sarah Henly-Shepard



 United States

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Dr. Sarah Henly-Shepard is a global leader in nature-based solutions for disaster risk reduction (DRR), resilience, and climate adaptation, with over 25 years of experience across humanitarian, development, and government sectors. Her work centers on locally driven, nature-based solutions to strengthen climate-smart risk reduction and environmental resilience, particularly in crisis-affected settings. She holds degrees of a PhD in Natural Resource & Environmental Management and Disaster Resilience (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa) with a certificate in Urban and Regional Planning, a Master of Public Health in Humanitarian Assistance (Johns Hopkins University) with a certificate in Human Rights, and a BA in Latin American Studies & Environmental Health (University of Texas at Austin). Her expertise includes designing and implementing donor-aligned assessments, tools, and operational frameworks that translate complex data into actionable strategies. With a multidisciplinary background - spanning social science, urban planning, and natural resource management - Sarah supports partners to uphold the highest standards of sustainability, inclusion, and impact.

Shamiso Moyo



 Zimbabwe

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Shamiso Alice Moyo PhD is a Public Health and Nutrition Specialist with over 23 years of experience in health systems strengthening, humanitarian programming, programme evaluation, and implementation research across Africa and Asia. Her expertise spans RMNCAH-N and multisectoral approaches to improving population health outcomes. She has led and contributed to high-level evaluations and research assignments for organizations including UNICEF, FAO, IFAD, WFP, CGIAR and USAID/BHA-funded programmes. Her work is characterized by systems thinking, evidence synthesis, and translating complex findings into practical recommendations for policy and programme improvement. She has extensive experience working with governments, UN agencies, development partners, and communities to strengthen the quality, effectiveness, and accountability of health and humanitarian programmes.

Tushar Wali



📍 Belgium, India

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Tushar Wali is the Disaster Risk Management Director at CBM Global Disability Inclusion. He is a humanitarian practitioner with extensive experience in disaster risk management, humanitarian response, resilience, and disability inclusion. He has supported the development and promotion of humanitarian standards through engagement with the Humanitarian Standards Partnership and related initiatives. He has contributed to the development of Humanitarian Inclusion standards for older people and people with disabilities, 2018 and IASC guidelines for inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action, 2019. His work focuses on advancing quality, accountable, and inclusive humanitarian action globally.