

ONLINE
OPEN TO ALL
FREE TO ATTEND



THE GLOBAL GOALS



2024 SWIDN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

17 OCT

10AM - 1730PM BST

Join us for another year of free, online learning and networking opportunities as we listen, learn and connect around key themes in the UK's international development sector and celebrate global solidarity in the South West.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

This year's annual conference will continue its focus on equity in our sector, with a focus on locally-led development.



SWIDN

South West International
Development Network

Delivered with support from the UK Government

"A fantastic opportunity to connect with peers, learn from experts and reflect on best practice."
Previous Conference Attendee

SWIDN ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

FREE, ONLINE, OPEN TO ALL

Join SWIDN for our 2024 Annual Conference focusing on the shift towards Locally-led Development. Listen, Learn and Connect with the international development sector at this free, open access conference for professionals in the South West and beyond.

Day 1

Thursday 17 October 2024

- **1000 - 1100:** Locally-led Development: What is the vision and how do we get there?
- **1130 - 1230:** Whose change is it? Local Goals for Global Solidarity
- **1300 - 1400:** How to Diversify your Board: Training with Sophia Moreau
- **1500 - 1600:** Learning from SWIDN Members: Practical Examples of change towards Locally-led Development
- **1630 - 1730:** A Different Image for Storytelling: Photographic Exhibition of the work of Angèle Etoundi Essamba (Online Networking)

Day 2

Friday 18 October 2024

- **1800 - 2000:** In-person networking for collaboration
The Rummer, All Saints Lane, Bristol BS1 1JH



South West International
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LOCALLY-LED DEVELOPMENT: WHAT IS THE VISION AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

1000 - 1100

In the first session of the SWIDN Annual Conference, we will hear from three leaders in our sector as they share their roadmap for how the UK's international development sector can move more effectively and equitably towards a practice of solidarity that is locally-led. This panel will address decolonisation in practice, what aid as reparations might look like, and how UK organisations can learn from local activism to improve impact. There will be time for Q&A after short panel presentations and an opportunity to connect with peers.



PRIYA LUKKA, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Priya Lukka is an economist in international development working globally to understand alternative realities and perspectives to neoliberalism through raising awareness of communities working for repair and reparations, which is also the focus of her PhD enquiry. Priya has most recently worked as Macroeconomist, covering the region of Asia, at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the United Nations, and as Chief Development Economist for Christian Aid.



DESIREE ACHOLA, UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

Desiree has over 15 years of experience at non-profit and international development organizations in North America, Africa, and Europe. She focuses on education, global public health, and cultural & ethnic diversity. Having worked with both small and large organizations, Desiree has been responsible for strategic planning, program implementation, organizational management, communications, research, and policy analysis across a variety of different sectors.



EDWARD MUTEBI, LETS WALK UGANDA

Edward Mutebi is a human rights activist and the founder and executive director of Let's Walk Uganda. He is a founding member of both PenBerlin and Queer Nothilfe Uganda. With a master's degree in social work and human rights, Edward is committed to advancing equality and justice for marginalised groups of people, with a special interest in academic research on human rights violations that are barely researched or given much attention in the academic arena.

WHOSE CHANGE IS IT? LOCAL GOALS FOR GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

1130 - 1230

In the second panel discussion of this year's conference, we will hear from three experts on their perspectives of what local goals look like, and if and how they differ from global goals, such as the SDGs. The SDGs are widely criticised for locating accountability with donor governments instead of local communities. Can our sector shift this location of power and, if so, how? What do local goals for tackling poverty and inequality look like? There will be time for Q&A after short panel presentations and an opportunity to connect with peers.



GILDE TAHINDRAZA, BLUE VENTURES

Gilde's area of interest and specialisation is community based marine resource management, having worked for Blue Ventures since 2016 supporting coastal communities in South west Madagascar to rebuild their fisheries. His experience includes working on organisational and governance aspects of supporting small-scale fisheries. As an ethnic Vezo, Gilde has a strong understanding and knowledge of the lifestyles and social structure of the Vezo fishing communities that Blue Ventures supports and is passionate about marine conservation.



WARADAS THIYAGARAJA, UNIVERSITY OF BATH

Waradas is a peace and conflict studies scholar with particular focus on the intersection between sexual and gender justice movements and identities and armed conflict and post-war transitions. His research work includes conflict negotiations, peacebuilding and queering transitional justice in Sri Lanka. He spends time organizing marginalized segments of the LGBTIQ+ communities in Sri Lanka to decentralize the sexual and gender justice landscape. Waradas is also a professional language interpreter in Sinhala, Tamil and English.



GRACE MAINGI, KENYA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Grace is a highly regarded leader in Kenya's development sector, with a wealth of experience in driving locally-led initiatives that prioritise community empowerment and sustainable change. Under her leadership, KCDF has been instrumental in promoting inclusive development through locally owned strategies that address key areas such as education, livelihoods, governance and environmental sustainability. Grace's passion for ensuring that development goals reflect local realities and aspirations aligns perfectly with the theme of 'Whose goals, are they? Locally led visions for justice beyond the SDGs'.

HOW TO DIVERSIFY YOUR BOARD

1300 - 1400

In the training session of this year's SWIDN Annual Conference we will hear from Sophia Moreau on practical tips to diversify your board of trustees. The Charity Governance Code calls for board diversity to create more balanced decision-making and to centre and include the people charities serve, not just to improve impact but also to improve legitimacy. In this 1-hour training session, expert consultant Sophia Moreau will take us through practical steps to diversify charity boards with tips that also apply to diversifying teams in organisations beyond charities.



SOPHIA MOREAU

Sophia Moreau is a multi-award-winning diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant and charity leader. She was named the Burberry British Diversity Awards 'Campaigner of the Year' 2022, and one of Charity Times 'Leaders to watch in 2023'.

Drawing on 12 years experience in DEI and her own lived experience of discrimination, Sophia works directly with organisations to tackle inequality and ensure everyone has a seat at the table. She recently authored Getting on Board's practical guide on 'How to diversify your charity board'. Sophia provides advice, auditing, coaching and training to build inclusive workplaces, leadership teams and boards. She regularly acts as an employment law coach and a trauma-informed mediator. Outside of work, Sophia is completing a masters in Law.

This training session is offered free by SWIDN with support from the UK Government. Places are limited to 25. Please arrive promptly on the conference link to participate.

www.swidn.org.uk

LEARNING FROM SWIDN MEMBERS: PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF CHANGE TOWARDS LOCALLY LED DEVELOPMENT

1500 - 1600

In the first Working Group session, we will hear from SWIDN members on practical changes they have taken to move towards locally-led development. How do we move away from 'locally led development' as just a buzzword and start to effectively change the balance of power in our work to end global poverty and injustice? We hear examples from across the South West, with opportunity to learn from peers and connect together.



CHERIO ONACHA AND LUCY JAMES, CHILD.ORG

Cherio Onacha is [Child.org](https://child.org.uk)'s Programmes Manager. She oversees the implementation of a groundbreaking maternal and neonatal health program which leverages community group support to improve the health outcomes for women and their newborns. Cherio has a decade of experience as a Public Health Professional in International and National NGOs, and is particularly passionate about advancing women's health and bridging gaps in healthcare access. Cherio also holds a Bachelor's in Nutrition and is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Health.



Lucy James is the Income Manager for [Child.org](https://child.org.uk) and leads the charity's fundraising operation. Lucy has worked in the International Development sector for 8 years, specialising in helping INGOs to develop their income, profile and reach. Lucy also holds an MA in Conflict, Security and Development, where her research focused on critical investigation of impact-based funding mechanisms.



TOM WILLIAMS OBE, STAND (FORMALLY LEGS4AFRICA)

Tom Williams is the founder of STAND, an organisation born from a life-changing experience in The Gambia. During a trip to the country, Tom met a family whose father had lost his leg due to diabetes. Through some fortunate events, he was able to secure a prosthetic leg for his new friend. This act of kindness sparked a journey that has since led to the rescue and redistribution of over 18,000 prosthetic legs to those in need across Africa. His commitment to making mobility accessible to all continues to drive STAND's mission forward.

LEARNING FROM SWIDN MEMBERS: PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF CHANGE TOWARDS LOCALLY LED DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED...)

1500 - 1600



MIKE PEARSON, DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Mike is currently a Senior Policy Analyst at Development Initiatives, and has worked in various analysis and programme management roles in the humanitarian and development sectors. Most recently, he worked for the Government of Denmark at their Representative Office in Ramallah, as well as UNICEF (Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility), Plan International and Street Child across a range of contexts. Mike has also worked as a consultant for various NGOs, such as Save the Children and the Norwegian Refugee Council, and also set up a website focusing on humanitarian funding ([Humanitarian Funding Forecast](#)).



DR NILA JACKSON AND SHAENNA LOUGHNANE, BRIDGE2AID

Nila has been Bridge2Aid's strategic partner in Tanzania for a number of years and is now a Trustee of the organisation. He is supporting the work of The Ministry of Health to eradicate the practices of Infant Oral Mutilation in the country. He has managed the IOM education workshops since 2021. Nila is a dentist and owns and runs The Sibaba Dental Clinic. He has worked in the role of Regional Medical Officer in Mara, and is on the Management Committee of the Tanzania Dental Association.



Shaenna first started working with Bridge2Aid as a volunteer in 2006, and joined the team in 2011. She is now their CEO working on a part-time basis, with the rest of her time split between being a Freelance Consultant for small charities, being the Chair of Trustees for a small UK-based community charity and being on the Interim Advisory Board for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's faculty for Remote, Rural and Humanitarian Healthcare. Prior to working with Bridge2Aid she co-owned and managed 2 large dental practices in Gloucestershire.

A DIFFERENT IMAGE FOR STORYTELLING: ONLINE NETWORKING

1630 - 1730

In the second Working Group and final session of this year's annual conference, we'll meet for an informal networking session structured around discussions of imagery in our sector. Can the stories we tell and the images we use ever be separated from the colonial history of development? Is there a way to 'make' instead of 'take' images that can be locally-led? We're delighted to be able to show some of the art work of photographer Angèle Etoundi Assamba, whose art focuses on challenging stereotypes and representations. The images we will view come from Angèle's 'Africa' exhibit.

This session will be structured around connecting with peers. After viewing Angèle's work, we'll join breakout rooms for informal discussion themed around areas of work.



ANGÈLE ETOUNDI ASSAMBA

Angèle Etoundi Essamba is a committed artist involved in a reflection on the identity of the black woman.

"The Black woman is at the heart of my artistic expression. She remains an inexhaustible source of inspiration, she is the bearer, the guardian and the transmitter and I celebrate her naturally."

"My work challenges and breaks with stereotypical representations of Black women who are often depicted by western media as submissive, passive, dependent, exotic, and confined to certain roles.

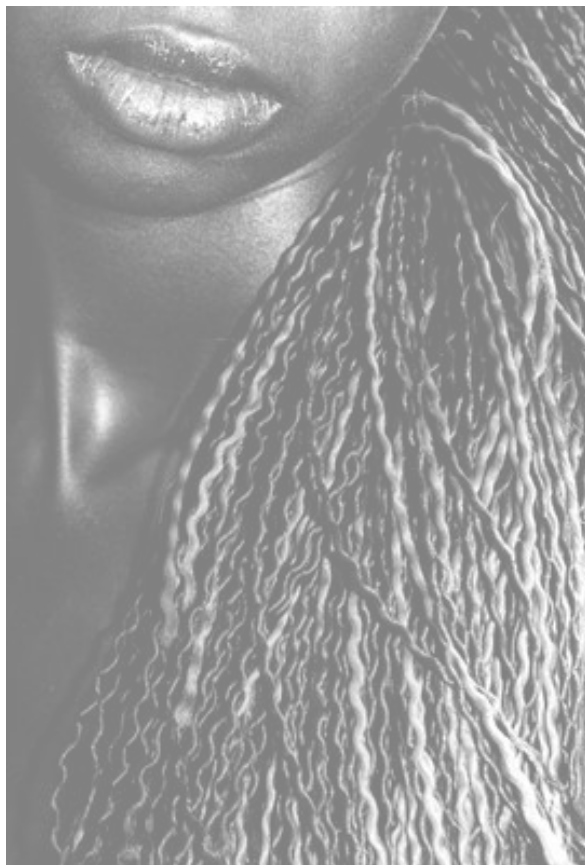
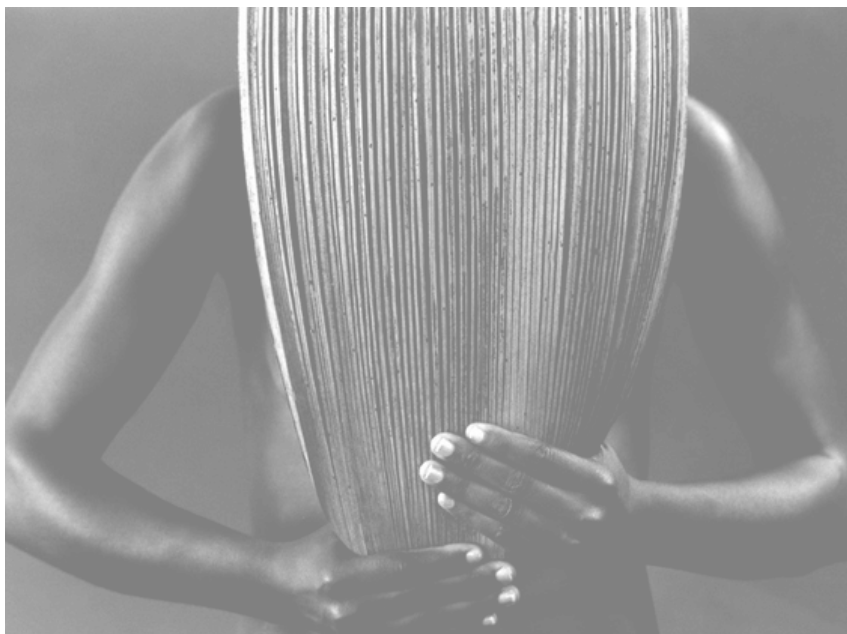
"Instead, I use the camera to reappropriate the Black body and to deconstruct and break these stereotypes by showing active, proud, and determined women who take up daily challenges, show their place and their role in society, take charge of their own narrative and rewrite history."

Essamba's work lies at the intersection of the social/gender and the artistic field. She uses photography to bring her message across in a creative way. Her varied background (Cameroon, France, the Netherlands) and various travels have not only profoundly shaped her eye, but also mean her vision is simultaneously aesthetic, idealistic, realistic, and societal.

Keywords for Essamba's work are pride, strength and awareness.



FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY
ESSAMBA
A • R • T





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NETWORKING DRINKS

Join SWIDN in Central Bristol for our conference social.

Meet other international development professionals in person.



**18 OCTOBER 2024
6PM - 8PM**

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Email Emma at
info@swidn.org,uk with
any questions

2024

SWIDN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THANK YOU

We are grateful to our generous contributors, our network of members, our board of trustees, our advertisers and our wider community for their support in the SWIDN Annual Conference 2024.

Desiree Acholla
Priya Lukka
Edward Mutebi
Rachel Haynes
Gilda Tahindraza
Waradas Thiyagaraja
Grace Maingi
Sophia Moreau

Tom Williams
Mike Pearson
Lucy James
Cherio Onacha
Shaenna Loughnane
Nila Jackson
Janet Whitelaw-Jones
Angèle Etoundi Assamba



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**WE ARE THE MEMBERSHIP NETWORK
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PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS
WORKING TOWARDS THE SDGS
FROM ACROSS THE SOUTH WEST**

WE OFFER:

Free and ticketed professional development courses and working groups / In-person and online networking opportunities across the region / Access to SW meeting room facilities / Opportunities that connect our members and encourage collaboration/ Sharing sector news to link people and ideas / The biggest list of international development jobs in the South West / A platform to promote you or your organisations work



**ONLINE AND IN-PERSON
NETWORKING AND
LEARNING EVENTS TO
CONNECT, REFLECT AND
SHARE KNOWLEDGE
AND INNOVATION**



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TO SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS TO
STAY RELEVANT, ATTRACT
TALENT AND GROW THEIR
CAPACITY**



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RESEARCHERS &
PRACTITIONERS PURSUING
COLLABORATION, GREATER
IMPACT AND BEST PRACTICE**



THE GLOBAL GOALS



JOIN NOW

WWW.SWIDN.ORG.UK/JOIN

EVENTS IN 2024

NETWORKING EVENTS

- 19 FEB - SWIDN Members Drop in: General Election Planning (Online)
- 7 MAR - Int'l Women's Day - Learning from Grassroots Women's Rights Groups (Online)
- 20 MAR - Int'l Day of Happiness - Members only event (Bristol)
- 10 JUL - SWIDN Summer Social - Open event (Bristol)
- 18 OCT - SWIDN Annual Conference Social - Open event (Bristol)
- 27 NOV - SWIDN Festive Social - Open event (Bristol)

WORKING GROUPS

- 8 FEB - Feminist Leadership - Members only (Online)
- 17 APR - LGBTQI Rights Discussion Group - Members only (Online)
- 24 APR - World Earth Day Climate Justice Event - Members only (Online)
- 26 SEPT - Writing an Anti-Racism Policy - Open event (Online)
- JUL- DEC (Monthly) - Swahili Language Learning - Members only (Online)

CONSULTANTS WORKING GROUP

- 18 JAN - Members only (Online)
- 19 JUN - Members only (Online)
- 3 OCT - Members only (Online)
- 6 NOV - Members only (Online)

INGO DIRECTORS WORKING GROUP

Monthly - First Monday of the Month 1-1.45PM

TRAINING COURSES *(additional ticket prices apply)*

- 6 MAR - Financial Management for Small Org Leaders (Online)
- 18 APR - Locally-Led Development Training (Online)
- 13 JUN- Well-being Training (Online)
- 20 JUN - Safeguarding Training (Online)
- 25 SEPT - Safeguarding Training for Trustees (Online)
- 24 OCT/31 OCT/7 NOV - Finance Training Series (Online)
- 21 NOV - Writing for Impact (Online)
- 28 NOV - Climate Fresk Workshop (Online)

SWIDN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- 17 OCT - Locally-Led Development - (Online)

For more information about our events please look at www.swidn.org.uk/events

SWIDN MEMBERSHIP FEES 2024

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	ANNUAL FEE
INDIVIDUAL/ INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT	£50
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION WITH INCOME UNDER £50K	£50
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION WITH INCOME £50K - £250K	£100
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION WITH INCOME £250K - £1M	£200
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION WITH INCOME £1M - £5M	£300
NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION WITH INCOME £5M+	£500
UNIVERSITY/ ACADEMIC RESEARCH ORGANISATION	£800
CORPORATE/ BUSINESS/ CONSULTANCY ORGANISATION	TIERED AGAINST PROFIT- from £500- £1,100

SWIDN MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION WHO STATE THEY ARE WORKING ON THE SDGS. SWIDN IS NOT A REGULATORY BODY AND IT DOES NOT MONITOR, REGULATE OR ENDORSE THE ACTIONS, OUTPUTS OR VIEWS OF ITS MEMBERS.

“I’m just absolutely inspired by the fact that you have this network, it’s growing strong and you’re taking time out of your lives to do the work that you’re doing. Thank you so much for everything you’re doing.’

Preet Kaur Gill, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development (2020-23)

“SWIDN is a vibrant and active network which offers small, medium and larger NGOs working in International Development across the SW a way of coming together to tackle the biggest issue affecting the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.”

Tom Skirrow, CEO, TreeAid (SWIDN member)





FESTIVE CELEBRATION

You are invited to a networking celebration for the
international development sector in the South West

ENGINE SHED, BRISTOL

WED 27 NOV 2024

5.30PM - 8PM

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Special Offer for SWIDN Members: The first 50 sign-ups from the SWIDN conference by October 28th, will enjoy **Free Access (usual cost £400 per year)** to GrantsAI until the end of December 2024. Discover how GrantsAI can revolutionise your approach to fundraising. It's our way of helping you secure more funding, with less hassle.

For more information visit: <https://promo.grantsai.co.uk/swidn>
or email: info@grantsai.co.uk



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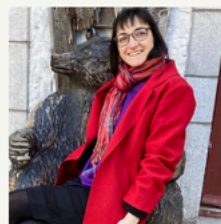
MEDIATION SERVICES

"Reena and Jen's mediation sessions were invaluable during a sensitive period for our team. Their empathetic approach eased tensions and paved the way for constructive dialogue."

TOM WILLIAMS, FOUNDER OF STAND



REENA AGARWAL



JEN CHINEMBIRI

ABOUT US

ReJenerate offers facilitated conversations and mediation to organisations facing difficult, emotional discussions

Founders Reena and Jen, experienced in International Development & Relations, assist organisations and individuals in navigating conflict for transformation and reconciliation. We provide a safe space for people to speak and be authentically heard.

This secure environment fosters open dialogue, leading to co-created solutions that address the interests of all involved.

Our process effectively prevents recurring issues, boosts morale, inspires creativity, enhances efficiency, and strengthens teams. We have worked on themes such as power imbalance, race relations, structural inequalities, and personal conflicts between individuals or groups.

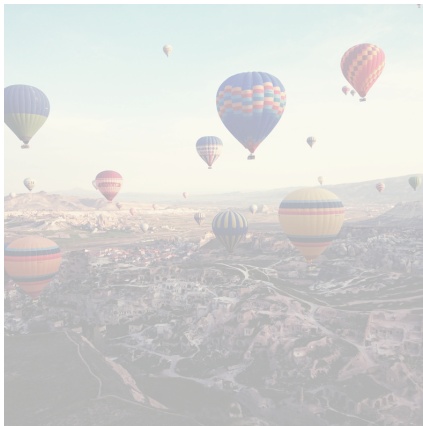
We can hold these sessions **online or in person** depending on what is required.

If you want to talk, share, or work together please contact us on info@rejenerate.org or call us on 07791248466.

WWW.REJENERATE.ORG / INFO@REJENERATE.ORG / (+44) 07791 248466

WE WANT YOUR

FEEDBACK



PLEASE TELL US
HOW WE'RE
DOING

HERE

THANK YOU