

Agenda

Connecting Social Entrepreneurs: Promising Practices in Virtual Exchange July 10, 2019

11:30am Opening Remarks

Henry Shepherd, Assistant Director of Research and Design, The Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute, [@StevensInit](#)

11:40am Panel Discussion

Tala Khlaf, Founder and President, Min ila

Meghan Neuhaus, Senior Project Manager, William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan (WDI), [@wdi_michigan](#)

Nathan Rauh-Bieri, Senior Program Administrator, William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan (WDI), [@wdi_michigan](#)

Henry Shepherd, Assistant Director of Research and Design, The Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute, [@StevensInit](#)

12:10pm Participant Q&A

Panelist Bios

Tala Khlaf is the founder and president of Min ila, an non-governmental organization that promotes citizenship education, especially among marginalized youth and communities in Lebanon. Tala leads the development of the NGO's strategic plan, as well the design, coordination and implementation of more than 10 running projects. For the past eight years, Tala has worked as a consultant in several international organizations such as the World Bank, Solidar Suisse, the European Union and the Italian Cooperation. Her main sectors of interest are youth, education, community development and employment. Tala holds a Master's degree in Social Work and a university diploma in Social Entrepreneurship from Saint Joseph University in Beirut. She has a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the American University of Beirut. She recently completed an executive leadership program at Duke University in the United States.



Nathan Rauh-Bieri, a Senior Program Administrator at WDI, supports international training programs and researches educational practices and models. He is experienced at collaborating with instructors and partners to develop learner-centered curricula and connect learners via appropriate forums (such as ExtendEd, WDI's learning management system). He recently served as technology and learning specialist for the M²GATE program. Nathan is passionate about optimizing the conditions for personally and socially transformative learning.

Meghan Neuhaus is a Senior Project Manager for Grants Management at WDI. She also works with WDI's Education Sector. Meghan has experience in curriculum and program design for e-learning programs, and a passion for connecting diverse populations through virtual exchange. She recently earned certification in e-learning instructional design from the University of Washington. Prior to joining WDI, she interned at the Peace Corps headquarters and worked at Grand Valley State University, promoting international programs and working with incoming international students. Neuhaus holds two bachelor's degrees, one in international economics from Krakow University of Economics, and one in international relations with a minor in nonprofit administration from Grand Valley State University.

Henry Shepherd is Assistant Director of the Stevens Initiative. Prior to joining the Aspen Institute, he was a student in the Master of Science in Foreign Service program at Georgetown University, where he was research assistant to former Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker. Earlier, he coordinated the volunteer training program at Soliya, a New York-based organization that facilitates virtual exchange between young people in Western and predominantly Muslim societies. As an undergraduate at Brown University, he helped launch Strait Talk, an international initiative that conducts youth dialogue across the Taiwan Strait. He is from Boston.

Join the Conversation! **@StevensInit #worldclassconnection**

The Stevens Initiative is an international effort to build global competence for young people in the United States and the Middle East and North Africa by growing and enhancing the field of virtual exchange: online, international, and collaborative learning.