



Protecting People and Planet: Supporting Implementation of the Future Plastics Treaty

Wednesday 21 May 2025, 12:30 - 14:00 CEST
Auditorium Ivan Pictet, Geneva Graduate Institute, Maison de la Paix and online on Webex

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Opening remarks

Ellen Rosskam

Coordinator, International Geneva Global Health Platform, Global Health Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute



Dr Ellen Rosskam is the Coordinator of the International Geneva Global Health Platform, convening global health stakeholders to discuss, collaborate, capture lessons, and seek scalable solutions to complex global health challenges.

She holds a PhD from the University of Lausanne, School of Management; a Master in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Health; and a Bachelor degree in Third World Development Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

With more than 30 years experience, Ellen has worked in over 50 countries as a global public health policy and technical specialist, as a researcher, and as a university professor, for various international organisations and universities, and as a Senior Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Ellen has been the Principal Investigator on a number of large-scale research projects including on access to medicines to prevent and treat postpartum hemorrhage to reduce maternal mortality. She also managed the mercury and health portfolio at WHO for more than 2.5 years responding to WHO's obligations under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. She is widely published and has received a number of awards.

Ellen is Senior Strategist for Research & Global Public Health and Advisory Board Member for the Center for Social Epidemiology; member of Women in Global Health Switzerland and of GENDRO; and serves on the advisory board of various journals.

Maria Neira

Director, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health, World Health Organization



Dr Maria P. Neira is the Director of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health at the World Health Organization. Prior to that she served as Under-Secretary of Health and President of the Spanish Food Safety Agency.

Dr Neira began her career as a medical coordinator working for Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). She then spent several years working in different African countries during armed conflicts.

Dr Neira is a Medical Doctor by training, specialized in Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases in Paris, France, Master of Public Health and a University Diploma in Human Nutrition, Epidemic Preparedness and Crisis Management.

Among many distinctions, she has been awarded the Médaille de “L'Ordre National du Mérite” by the Government of France and received an “Extraordinary Woman” award by HM Queen Letizia of Spain. In 2019, she was nominated among the top 100 policy influencers in health and climate change.

Albert Magalang

Head of Delegation to the INC, Chief Environmental Management Specialist, Climate Change service, DENR Central Office, Philippines



Albert Magalang is the Head of the Climate Change Office of the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and currently represents the Philippines at meetings of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop a legally-binding instrument to end plastic pollution and at the sessions of the UN Environment Assembly. He is a regular member of the Philippine delegation to the sessions of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and as the country representative in the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change. Prior to this, he was appointed as the pioneering Executive Director of the project management office of the then Presidential Task Force on Waste Management, now the National Solid Waste Management Commission.

Giulia Carlini

Manager & Senior Attorney, Environmental Health Program, Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

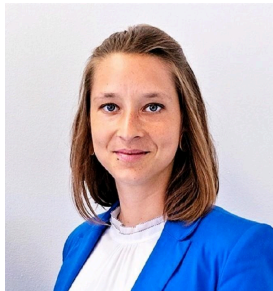


Giulia Carlini is a manager and senior attorney in CIEL's Environmental Health program, protecting communities and the environment from toxic exposure. Her work focuses on regulating hazardous chemicals, particularly endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs), engaging in international negotiations on chemicals and waste, and exposing the health risks of plastic. Giulia serves as the co-chair of the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) Toxic Plastics Working Group, and has been collaborating with European and international

organizations, such as the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the French National School of Administration (ENA), in providing training on toxics regulations to government officials.

Andrea Zbinden

Senior Policy Advisor and National Focal Point for UNEP and INC Plastic Pollution, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment



Andrea Zbinden is a Senior Policy Advisor and National Focal Point for the INC Plastic Pollution Treaty negotiations at the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN). Andrea obtained a Master of Laws (LLM), with an emphasis on international and European law from Bern University, and additional diplomas mediation and conflict from the University of Fribourg, and in civilian peacebuilding from SwissPeace and the University of Basel.

Moderator

Jane Muncke

Managing Director and Chief Scientific Officer, Food Packaging Forum



Dr. Jane Muncke is the managing director and chief scientific officer at the Food Packaging Forum. She is an environmental toxicologist, focusing on chemicals and their impacts on health, primarily in food packaging and other types of food contact materials. She is a full scientific member of the Society of Toxicology (SOT), the Society for Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology (SETAC), the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the Endocrine Society, and has participated throughout the process to develop an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution as a member of the Scientist's Coalition for an Effective Plastics Treaty (Scientists' Coalition). She also has extensive experience in science

communication and in systematic mapping, and she teaches workshops on effective live presentation for scientists at all career stages.

Closing remarks

Carolyn Deere Birkbeck

Founder and Executive Director of the Forum on Trade, Environment & the SDGs (TESS)



Dr. Carolyn Deere Birkbeck is the Founder and Executive Director of the Forum on Trade, Environment & the SDGs (TESS), housed at the Geneva Graduate Institute. TESS was launched to support the multilateral dialogue, inclusive international cooperation, and policy action necessary to align trade and trade policies with the urgent need

for environmental action, sustainable development, and just transitions. Carolyn has been active for over 25 years in providing thought leadership and fostering inclusive dialogue on a more sustainable and equitable global economy, engaging with a broad diversity of governments, stakeholders, and experts.

In 2022, Carolyn played a leading role in the creation of the [Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate](#), which brings together a diverse group of 64 ministers, co-led by the trade ministers of Ecuador, the European Union, Kenya, and New Zealand. Carolyn is also an advisor to the [High Ambition Coalition to End Plastics Pollution](#), which brings together over 50 ministers of environment, for which TESS has been engaged by the co-chairs Rwanda and Norway to support the Secretariat. In addition, Carolyn participates in the Advisory Group of the [Business Coalition for an Ambitious Plastics Treaty](#).

Participatory Mapping Activity

Cressida Bowyer

Associate Professor in Arts and Sustainability, Deputy Director, Revolution Plastics Institute



Cressida is a biological scientist by training and having previously worked in the arts, the primary purpose of her research is to address global problems such as air quality and plastic pollution using transdisciplinary and participatory approaches. Cressida often use arts-based methods, such as music, theatre, storytelling and visual arts, to engage communities and find solutions to global issues in line with United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.