

Jenny Perlman Robinson

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PROFILE

- International development expert on education practice and policy, with a focus on systems reform, gender, youth and crisis-affected contexts
- 20+ years experience researching and analyzing education policies and programs, designing and leading advocacy campaigns, conducting participatory applied research and managing programs and partnerships with UN, civil society and academia
- Successful track record influencing programmatic, policy and funding decisions at international and local levels
- Field experience in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Jordan, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, Thai/Burma Border, India, Cuba, Bolivia, Honduras and Peru
- Publications include book chapters, research studies, policy briefs and articles in peer-reviewed journals

RESEARCH and POLICY INTERESTS

- Increase international attention and support for quality education policies and programs for marginalized children and young people
- Strengthen young women and girls' agency through appropriate education and skills building programs
- Elevate education and conflict-affected populations on the international development agenda
- Strengthen the link between humanitarian and development policies and programs

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

Brookings Institution, WASHINGTON, DC

11/10 – present

Fellow, Center for Universal Education (CUE)

- Leading multi-year *Millions Learning* project that identifies where and how large-scale gains in learning have been achieved among difficult to reach populations to inform future policy, practice and investment decisions around scaling quality education and systems change.
- Researched and wrote seminal publications, including on scaling quality education in developing countries and a global policy agenda that identifies key policy priorities to improve learning opportunities and outcomes for marginalized girls and boys, contributing to shift in global education agenda from access to access *plus* learning.
- Mobilized and led an international broad-based constituency to develop a shared agenda on learning, including writing background analytical papers, assembling global advisory group and moderating meetings.
- Served as secretariat of Task Force to develop the UN Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative, including developing vision document and establishing Youth Advocacy Group.

Women's Refugee Commission, New York, NY

Senior Program Officer, Children and Youth

1/09 – 11/10

- Developed and managed global research and advocacy project to improve education and job training programs for conflict-affected youth.
- Influenced humanitarian programs, policy and funding to expand educational opportunities for displaced youth. Campaigns contributed to increased attention to needs of youth in global frameworks, such as the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Education Cluster and Inter-Agency Network for Education in

Emergencies (INEE), in donor funding practice, such as the World Bank and UNICEF and in programs, such as Norwegian Refugee Council.

- Conducted applied research in 10+ conflict / post-conflict countries (including Afghanistan, Darfur, Uganda and Jordan) to identify programs and policies required to prepare young people for safe, dignified work.
- Developed and implemented a monitoring system to capture learning and track progress towards meeting advocacy objectives.
- Established a youth advisory board comprised of 15 young women and men from various conflict-affected countries to provide ongoing feedback to the youth project.
- Supervised team, including program manager and 10+ consultants.

Program Officer, Education in Emergencies Initiative

4/05 – 12/08

- Co-developed and implemented strategy to promote education as part of humanitarian response in emergencies.
- Authored reports, training tools, policy papers, news articles and other advocacy materials, including handbooks for literate and non-literate audiences on the right to education during displacement.
- Provided assessments and recommendations to Congress, US Administration, other governments, UN, donors, NGOs and displaced communities to advance advocacy objectives. Served as invited speaker on panels and convened roundtables, including at the Clinton Global Initiative.
- Strengthened the capacity of youth organizations in Northern Uganda resulting in long-term funding.
- Increased awareness and utilization of global education standards in Darfur. Field research and advocacy led to funding for education programs in Darfur and securing \$250k to conduct a qualitative and quantitative research study on children, protection and education in Darfur.

Program Manager, Women's Protection and Participation Project

7/03 – 3/05

- Increased capacity and supported advocacy efforts of local women's groups in conflict-affected countries.
- Managed \$235k Afghan women's fund: reviewed proposals, ensured accurate reporting and financial disbursements, compiled case studies and gathered lessons learned to inform grant-making to the region.
- Co-created and co-facilitated workshops in Afghanistan and Pakistan on advancing the UN Millennium Development Goals among displaced populations.
- Represented the Women's Refugee Commission at inter-agency working groups and at the UN's Commission on the Status of Women, produced advocacy briefs, brought women from conflict-affected areas to speak at UN and secured stronger language in UN outcome documents.

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, New York, NY

7/03 – 2/04

Acting Coordinator

- Developed priorities and led activities to promote implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security; served as a bridge between women's human rights defenders working in conflict-affected situations and policy-makers at UN Headquarters.
- Organized two roundtables with the UN Security Council on implementing Resolution 1325, resulting in the development of a checklist to mainstream gender in the Security Council's work.

The Hunger Project, New York, NY

8/01 – 7/03

Program Associate, Research and Communications / Coordinator, Latin America Programs

- Managed programs to support grassroots organizations in Mexico, Bolivia and Peru to address underlying factors contributing to hunger.
- Developed strategic initiatives on women's rights, local democracy, microcredit and HIV/AIDS.

- Crafted global communications, including newsletters, concept papers, program reports and speeches.
- Led workshop on HIV/AIDS and gender inequality in Uganda.

World Bank, Washington, DC

11/00 – 5/01

Consultant, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network (PREM)

- Analyzed gender-based differences in HIV/AIDS programming to inform World Bank funding in Africa.
- Conducted field research to assess gender dimensions of a World Bank HIV/AIDS project in Kenya.

Trickle Up, La Paz, Bolivia

6/00 – 8/00

Field Representative

- Monitored and evaluated microfinance program throughout Bolivia.
- Conducted business training workshops on financial recordkeeping, marketing and needs assessment with local women's organizations.

Office of the Vice-President of Bolivia, La Paz, Bolivia

11/98 – 3/99

Consultant, Encuentro Nacional de Mujeres

- Organized and secured funding for workshops designed to empower female leaders in Bolivia.
- Served as a liaison between international donor community and local project.

Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), Washington, DC

6/96 – 6/98

Program Assistant, Central America and Cuba Team

- Advocated to the US Administration, Congress and World Bank to improve human rights and social justice in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Cuba.
- Conducted research to identify and document human rights abuses, including field research in Cuba.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), New York, NY

1999 – 2001

Master of International Affairs (MIA) in Economic and Political Development

- Coursework in Gender, Human Rights, Project Management and Development
- Honors: Full-tuition scholarship serving as first SIPA student to be a Teacher's Assistant for Economics

Colgate University: Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, Hamilton, NY

1992 – 1996

- Phi Beta Kappa honor society; high honors in Latin American Studies and Peace Studies
- Honors: Charles A. Dana Scholar, Dag Hammarskjold Award, Dean's Award all semesters
- Semester Abroad: School for International Training (SIT), Chile

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Alpar, S. and Perlman Robinson, J. (2009) "Hope and Opportunities for Young People". *Forced Migration Review*. Issue 33. September 2009. University of Oxford. Refugee Studies Centre.

Anderson A. and Perlman, J. (2005) *Education in Emergencies: A Precondition for Meeting the Millennium Development Goals*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Anderson, A., Kirk, J., Heninger, L. and Perlman, J. (2006) "Ensuring a Gender Perspective in Education in Emergencies". UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

- Anderson, A., Martone, G., Perlman Robinson, J., Rognerud, E. and Sullivan-Owomoyela, J. (2006) "Standards Put to the Test: Implementing the INEE Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crisis and Early Reconstruction". *Humanitarian Practice Network Paper*. Number 57. December 2006. United Kingdom: Overseas Development Institute.
- Berg, C., Perlman Robinson, J. and Willet, N. (2008) *Too Little for Too Few: Meeting the needs of youth in Darfur*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Buscher, D., Perlman Robinson, J. and Young, J. (2007) *Building from the Ground Up: Education and Livelihood Needs in South Sudan*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Johal, R. and Perlman, J. (2004) *Advancing UNHCR's Commitments to Refugee Women and the UN Millennium Development Goals*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Lloyd, C., El-Kogali, S., Perlman Robinson, J., Rankin, J. and Rashed, A. (2010) *Schooling and Conflict in Darfur: A Snapshot of Basic Education Services for Displaced Children*. New York: Population Council.
- McKenna, M. and Perlman Robinson, J. (2006) *Education in Darfur: A critical component of humanitarian response*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- McKenna, M. and Perlman, J. (2006) "The Conflict Effect: Challenges and Opportunities for Girls' Education". *EQUALS: Beyond Access: Gender, Education and Development*. Issue 17 April –July 2006.
- Perlman, J. (2006) *Right to Education During Displacement: Resource for Organizations Working with Displaced People*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Perlman, J. (2007) *Your Right to Education: A handbook for refugees and displaced communities*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Perlman, J. (2002) "Mobilizing the Resources of Rural Africa's Poor Farmers." *Monday Developments*. November.
- Perlman Robinson, J. and Young J. (2007) *Listening to Youth: The Experiences of Young People in Northern Uganda*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Perlman Robinson, J. (2008) "Listening to Youth: The Experiences of Young Women in Northern Uganda." *Girlhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. Vol 1 (1).
- Perlman Robinson, J. (2008) *Living in Limbo: Burma's youth in Thailand see few opportunities to use education and vocational skills*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Perlman Robinson, J. (2008) *Country at a Crossroads: Challenges Facing Young People in Sierra Leone Six Years after the War*. New York: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
- Perlman Robinson, J. (2009) *Living in Limbo: Iraqi Young Women and Men in Jordan*. New York: Women's Refugee Commission.

Perlman Robinson, J. (2010) *Life in the Promised Land: Resettled Refugee Youth Struggle in the U.S.* New York: Women's Refugee Commission.

Perlman Robinson, J. (2011) *A Global Compact on Learning: Taking Action on Education in Developing Countries.* Washington, DC: Brookings Institution.

Perlman Robinson, J. and Winthrop, R. (2016) *Millions Learning: Scaling Up Quality Education in Developing Countries.* Washington, DC. Brookings Institution.

SELECT TEACHING, PROFESSIONAL SPEAKING and TRAINING EXPERIENCE

- Financial Education Program Launch Event. Central Bank, Ministry of Education and INJAZ. Amman, Jordan. December 2016. Speaker and moderator.
- Aflatoun High-Level Policy Forum 2016. The Hague, The Netherlands. November 2016. Keynote speaker.
- UK Launch of Millions Learning. London, England. October 2016. Speaker and moderator.
- UNICEF and Results for Development Journeys to Scale launch. New York, NY. October 2016. Panelist.
- mEducation Alliance Symposium 2016. Washington, DC. October 2016. Keynote panelist.
- University of California at Berkeley. The Science of Scaling: Building Evidence to Advance Anti-Poverty Innovations. September 2016. Panelist.
- Central America Donors Forum 2016. Antigua, Guatemala. September 2016. Keynote speaker.
- Partnership for Strengthening Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education East Africa Convening. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. June 2016. Presenter.
- Center for Universal Education Annual Research and Policy Symposium. Washington, DC. April 2016. Presenter and panelist.
- World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE). Doha, Qatar. November 2015. Keynote speaker and panelist.
- UKFIET International Conference on Education and Development. Oxford, UK. September 2015. Panelist.
- Guest lecturer at annual classes and seminars on international affairs, humanitarian policy and education in emergencies at New York University, Columbia University's Teachers College, Columbia University's School for International and Public Affairs and George Washington University.
- World Affairs Council. Salt Lake City, Utah. March 2015. Keynote speaker.
- Comparative and International Education Symposium. Vancouver (2016), Washington, DC (2015), Toronto (2014), New Orleans (2013). Panelist.
- Brookings Institution. *A Global Compact on Learning.* Washington, DC. June 2011. Presenter and panelist.
- International Center for Research on Women. *Adding It Up: An Expert Consultation on Leveraging Education to Facilitate Girls' Empowerment and Transitions to Adulthood.* Washington, DC. May 2011. Presenter.
- Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies' Global Consultation on Education. *Strategies to Improve Education and Skills Building Opportunities for Displaced Youth.* Istanbul, Turkey. April 2009. Chair.
- Bellagio Livelihoods Conference. *Introduction to Market Assessment Toolkit for Vocational Training Providers and Youth.* Bellagio, Italy. November 2008. Presenter.
- Making Cents International Youth Micro-Enterprise Development Conference. *Bridging the Gap: Linking youth livelihood programs to the market in post-conflict settings.* Washington, DC. September 2008. Panelist.
- Clinton Global Initiative. New York, NY. September 2007 and 2008. Education Table Facilitator.

- International Organization for Migration's International Youth Conference. *Lessons learned in working with and for youth*. Geneva, Switzerland. December 2007. Panelist.
- Gender and Peacebuilding Working Group Panel. *The Challenges and Opportunities for Girls' Education in Conflict and Post-Conflict Transition*. Ottawa, Canada. March 2007. Panelist.
- U.S. State Department's annual Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop. *Minimum Standards on Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction*. Washington, DC. October 2006. Trainer.
- Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies' North America Training of Trainers on the Minimum Standards on Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction. Washington, DC. May 2006. Selected participant.
- Minimum Standards on Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction trainings in North and South Darfur, Sudan. November 2005. Trainer.
- International Education Association at George Washington University. *Education in Emergencies: A Human Right During Conflict*. Washington, DC. September 2005. Panelist.
- UN Annual Youth Summit. *Education = Peace and Development*. New York, NY. August 2005. Panelist.
- Netaid's Annual Global Citizen Corp Summit. *Education in Emergencies: Case Study from Northern Uganda*. New York, NY. August 2005. Featured Speaker.
- UN Department of Political Affairs Gender Training. *Findings from UN Security Council Roundtables*. New York, NY. January 2004 and March 2004. Trainer.
- NYU Center for Global Affairs. *Women Shaping A Global Agenda*. New York, NY. March 2005. Guest Speaker.
- UN Commission on the Status of Women. *Understanding UNSC resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security*. New York, NY. March 2004 and March 2005. Trainer.

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS, ADVISORY ROLES AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- UNESCO and Pearson Initiative for Literacy: Improved Livelihoods in a Digital World. Expert Group (February 2017—present)
- MasterCard Foundation Transferable Skills Project Advisory Committee Member (2016)
- Fiver Children's Foundation: Board Member (2012—2016)
- MIT Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab: Post-Primary Education Initiative Review Board (2013)
- Plan International Because I Am a Girl Report: Steering Committee Member (2012)
- Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict: Steering Committee Member (May 2006—November 2010)
- Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE): Youth and Adolescent Task Force Co-Chair (May 2009—November 2010)
- United Nations InterAgency Standing Committee (IASC): Education Cluster Working Group Member (August 2009—November 2010)
- United Nations Graca Machel 10+ Year Review of the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children: Advisory Group Member (2007)
- Alliance for International Youth: Working Group Member (2009—2010)
- Population Council: Research Advisory Group Member on adolescent girls and education publication (2009)