

Education, Gender & Maternal Health: Social & Public Goods

Parallel Event at CSW 58 - March 12, 2014

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. - CCUN Tillman Chapel



As the global community continues to make great strides in reducing **preventable maternal deaths**, a holistic approach to improving maternal health is critical for sustainable development. Women continue to face both structural and cultural barriers to maternal health care that impede not only their physical health, but also their ability to receive education, engage in meaningful work, and lead productive lives. **Primary education for all, especially girls**, is a solid foundation to prepare them for healthy and meaningful adolescent and adult lives. Ensuring the human rights, access, and security of women and girls requires a justice-focused response to inequalities in maternal health policies and outcomes.

This session will explore the intersections of **human rights, justice and sustainable development** as they pertain to maternal health, to education of women children and youth, and the empowerment of girls, women and mothers. Experts from the fields of advocacy, on education, gender justice and health implementation will present on lessons learned from the ground and opportunities for partnership. The **role of faith-inspired and community-based organizations** in maternal health and education advocacy and direct service will also be a focus. The discussions will intersect with the overarching concern about the **Millennium Development Goals** and what sustainable development goals should be like post-2015.

Speakers

- Mercedes del Carmen Acevedo Alvarez (Dianova Nicaragua)
- Elizabeth Ketels (Vice Pres., Private Wealth Management Group/Goldman Sachs / Freedom from Fistula Foundation)
- Shannon Trilli (Director, Global Health Initiatives, United Methodist Committee on Relief)

