

SWANI R. KEELSON — DOCTORAL STUDENT

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Contact

Email:
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URL:
www.globalwaterpromise.org

Location: Baltimore, MD

Education

-Master's Degree-
International public
Policy

-Master's Degree
Government Legal
Studies

-Certificate
International Relations

Expertise

- WASH

-International
Development

-Gender
Development

-Policy
Implementation

OVERVIEW

I am an experienced professional in the fields of global health and sustainable development. I take great pride in having established Global Water Promise, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing clean water to underprivileged countries through borehole drilling. My academic achievements include a Master's Degree in International Public Policy from Johns Hopkins University, as well as a Master's degree in Government with a focus on Legal Studies. I am currently pursuing a doctorate in International Affairs at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

I have led various development projects, with a particular focus on gender studies, human rights education, and civil society engagement. My expertise in international research and civil society involvement in sustainable development has taken me on missions to Haiti, Bolivia, Belize, and Ghana, where I have raised awareness about global water poverty.

As an advocate for sustainable development, I strongly believe that access to clean water is a fundamental human right that is vital to achieving global development goals. I am eager to collaborate with industry experts to develop and implement policies that ensure access to clean water for all and ultimately create a world where everyone can enjoy a healthy and productive life.

Apart from my role at Global Water Promise, I am committed to addressing issues related to water insecurity and gender equality aligned with United Nations. Access to clean water is a basic human right that is essential to achieving gender equality and sustainable development goals.

I had the honor of being a speaker at the 2023 United Nations Water Conference, where I discussed the link between water insecurity and period poverty. My presentation highlighted the urgent need to address period poverty, which affects millions of girls and women worldwide who lack access to clean water and sanitation facilities. I emphasized that improving access to clean water and sanitation facilities is critical to addressing period poverty and ensuring that girls and women can manage their menstrual hygiene with dignity. By working together to address these issues, we can create a world where everyone has access to clean water and can live healthy and productive lives, regardless of gender or socio-economic status.



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EDUCATION

- Doctorate of International Affairs- Doctoral Candidate, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies May 2025
Doctoral Thesis- Global Water Governance—Gender and Inclusive Development
- Master of International Public Policy, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, International Public Policy May 2020
- Master Certificate-International Development/International Relations, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, International Development May 2015, International Relations/Developing Nations
- Master of Arts/Legal Studies, Johns Hopkins University Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Legal Studies/Government May 2010
Thesis: Water Privatization in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Caribbean

EMPLOYMENT

- Global Water Promise (WASH-Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), Founder, Water Specialist 2015-Present
- Led the development and implementation of a borehole for a remote village in the Greater Accra region 2018
 - Lead on water and sanitation initiatives for remote villages in developing nations
 - Oversees management and implantation of borehole drilling projects in Haiti and Accra, Ghana
 - Coordinates WASH projects with other non-governmental organizations, national and local governments
 - Water sector investment and planning in rural and urban areas
 - Participates in missions on sustainable development issues in Haiti, Ghana, and Bolivia
- Guides and supports international team on borehole projects
Gender training on water, sewage regulations in the Greater Accra Region

EMPLOYMENT

- Johns Hopkins Hospital-Regulatory Compliance. Data Systems Support to Multidisciplinary, tertiary level teams, 2000-Present
- Data analysis and computer/database management; liaison to network administrators and provides training to staff in the proper use of software.
 - Supports the policy and procedure development for the division.
 - Assists with oversight of Johns Hopkins Hospital Compliance with the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) with national and international transplant recipients

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- Executes standard validation and quality assurance queries and/or reports for compliance and data - Performs audits with external data sources within defined periods and reconciles any data discrepancies.
- Reviews or audits to ensure that compliance procedures are followed by The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients.
- Responsible for providing statistical analytic support to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) for purposes including the formulation and evaluation of organ allocation and other OPTN policies.
- Policy formulation and evaluation, system performance metrics, economic analysis, and preparation of recurring and special reports.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Certificate 2017- United Nations Peace Operations Training Institute Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution on the women, Peace, and Security Agenda in Asia and the Pacific
- Certificate 2015- United Nations Peace Operations Training Institute Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution on the women, Peace, and Security Agenda in Africa
- Certificate 2015- The Global Citizens' Initiative Sustainable Resources and Development
- PHI-THETA NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY/WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN JUNIOR COLLEGES 2005-08
- JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY BALTIMORE SCHOLAR'S FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP 2008-10

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Thesis, Water Privatization Sub-Saharan Africa and South America 2010
Advisors: Dorothea Wolfson. PHD and Benjamin Ginsberg
- Water Scarcity in Developing Countries/Accomplishment/Project
 - Global Securities/Policy Management/International Development
 - Legal Studies in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
- Global Water Promise 2015-Present
Founder/CEO
- Provides technical guidance for programs related to clean water in remote villages.
 - Provides water, sanitation, and hygiene education, development, and infrastructure in developing nations.

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GirlCode Global Present

Founder/CEO

- Provides educational outreach to teen girls in the Central Region of Ghana
- Provides menstrual hygiene products to girls in the resource-poor communities in the Central Region of Ghana.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Abokobi, Ghana (Nsawman Village) January 2018 to July 2018

Global Transformation towards Gender Equality and Agenda 2030-Research

(A global forum discussing innovative approaches to break the cycle of violence against women)

Organization-Global Water Promise

- Ongoing field research on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in the Abokobi village district in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana
- Conducted research addressing the challenge of vulnerability to violence in relation to access to water and sanitation in development and humanitarian emergency contexts
- Development of gender mainstreaming strategy for the inclusion of women in policymaking and water management
- Strengthening women's leadership and participation in decision-making

Port Au Prince, Haiti August 2013, August 2016 and December 2017

Water Sanitation and Hygiene-Researcher

Organization-Global Water Promise

- Examined cholera dynamics in two remote villages in Mirebalais City, Haiti
- Provided water filtration systems to families in remote towns
- Conducted supplementary seminars for public health and hygiene for women and children; Public Health
- Helped facilitate and oversee medical clinic for more than 1,000 people

Chochabamba, Bolivia January 2018 to July 2018

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene-Researcher

Organization-Hospitals of Hope

- Collaborated with health educators in Cochabamba, Bolivia, on reproductive health and vaccination programs;
- Participated in project evaluations and assisted in the analysis of results to assess project impact and effective use of resources; Water and Public Health Researcher

- Conducted supplementary seminars for public health and hygiene for women and children; Public Health

Orange Walk Town, Belize June 2015

Outreach, Public Health Coordinator

Company Praying Pelican Missions

- Collaborated with health educators in Belize to help provide housing assistance to local communities

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- Built homes for impoverished communities
- Coordination and supporting the work of volunteers
- Management of community development programs

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Dubuisson, S.R., Liquid for Life Water Privatization in Sub-Saharan Africa, United States: Amazon, 2010.

Journal Publications

2018, Transplant Information Electronic Data Interchange Form Completion Compliance Reporting for All Solid Organs for UNOS (United Network for Organ Sharing- Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center.

https://hpo.johnshopkins.edu/hopkins/policies/133/36777/policy_36777.pdf?_=0.630217120822

2015, Compliance Reporting and Productivity in Solid Organ Transplantation- Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center. The United Network for Organ Sharing.

<http://docplayer.net/48383706-Abstracts-unos-transplant-management-forum-san-diego-ca.html>

2014 Regulatory Compliance in Solid Organ Transplantation- Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center.

2011. Increasing Patient Safety Compliance through medical informatics- Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center. The United Network for Organ Sharing.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

2023 United Nations Water Conference, Speaker- Water Insecurity, Period Poverty and Transactional Sex -Water Security and Vulnerability in a Changing Climate: Challenges, Opportunities, and Solutions-Water Insecurity, Period Poverty and Transactional Sex

Research Presentation, “Women Gender and Equality in the Sokabisi Village,” Moving Towards Gender Equality 2030”, September 2018. The Network of Scholars on Gender, Sexuality, and the Law (ALAS), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the Center for Human Rights & Humanitarian Law at American University Washington College of Law, and the Centre for Human Rights at the University. September 2018. Mexico City, Mexico.

Invited Lecturer, “Fundamentals of Nonprofits and Nonprofit Management,” Johns Hopkins University Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, June 2018.

keynote Speaker Moderator, “Water-Oil of the 21st Century,” United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA), 2011.

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Moderator, “Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT),”
USAID/Maternal and Child Integrated Program, 2011.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

United Nations, General Assembly Participant, 2018, 2023

High-level meeting on tuberculosis (TB) to accelerate efforts in ending TB and reach all affected people with prevention and care.

World Affairs Council-Washington DC, Member 2016-Present

Engagement in international affairs, exchange of ideas, knowledge, and understanding of global issues.

World Bank Civil Society Policy Forum, 2011-Present

Dialogue and exchanging views with World Bank Group and IMF staff, NGOs and government delegations, and other stakeholders on a wide range of topics that affect civil society policy concerns.

United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, 2000-Present

Human Rights Committee and Director-At-Large.

LANGUAGES

English: Native Language

Spanish: Intermediate Listener, Novice Speaker