



*Please Join Us for a CAO Event at
the World Bank Group Annual Meetings*

The Role of Effective Mediation in Achieving Sustainable Development

**Thursday, October 12, 2017, 9:00AM - 10:30AM
World Bank, I Building, Room I-2-220**

The session will feature a short film about an effective company-community mediation process that is helping sugar cane workers, the private sector, and inter-governmental agencies in Nicaragua address particular issues related to chronic kidney disease. The film will be followed by a discussion about the use of mediation in development disputes, with views from the private sector, CSOs, and mediation professionals.

Facilitator: Gina Barbieri, Principal Specialist Ombudsman, CAO

Featuring: Kristen Genovese, Senior Researcher, The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)

Rob Carss, Petroleum Geologist, Opal Consulting Limited

Yves-Renee Jennings, Co-Founder, Partners for Sustainable Peace



About CAO: The Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) is the independent accountability mechanism for the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), members of the World Bank Group. www.cao-ombudsman.org

FEATURING



Gina Barbieri, Principal Specialist Ombudsman, CAO

Facilitator

Gina Barbieri manages CAO's Dispute Resolution function and is a South African human rights lawyer and dispute resolution professional. Before joining CAO she ran a legal practice specializing in mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). She is a co-founder of the African Institute for Mediation and served as the Deputy Head of the Africa Center for Dispute Settlement, Stellenbosch University Business School. She has mediated numerous disputes in the employment, commercial, and community realms.



Kristen Genovese, Senior Researcher, The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)

Panelist

Kris specializes in supporting communities and workers who are seeking remedy for corporate-related human rights abuses through non-judicial grievance mechanisms. Kris has worked with sugarcane workers in Nicaragua affected by chronic kidney disease, and mining-affected communities in Colombia, Guatemala and Bolivia. Prior to joining SOMO in 2014, Kris was the director of the People, Land, and Resources Program at the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), and was international counsel at Defenders of Wildlife where she led a campaign to improve environmental protections in the US-Peru Free Trade Agreement.



Robert Carss, Opal Consulting Ltd

Panelist

Rob is a petroleum geologist and consultant with 30 years' experience in the upstream oil and gas industry. Rob has worked and managed oil-related health, safety, social, and environmental issues in numerous countries including Canada, Argentina, Qatar, and Chad. He most recently worked as the Corporate Vice President for Banker's Petroleum Ltd in Canada. Rob also served as Country Manager for Bankers in Albania, where he led the company's interactions with the IFC and EBRD, including working with the CAO office related to complaints received from local land owners concerning company operations.



Yves-Renée Jennings, Co-Founder, Partners for Sustainable Peace

Panelist

Dr. Jennings is a scholar-practitioner and international consultant in peace and conflict resolution which designs and conducts mediation training, collaborative processes, and facilitation sessions for numerous government agencies including the Dominican Republic Ministry of Education and U.S. Institute of Peace Haiti Program. Her prior experience included working at the World Bank for over 20 years and in Haiti's private sector for over 10 years. Dr. Jennings holds a Ph.D. from George Mason University School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution and has taught in several universities in Latin America and the United States.