

THE ROUND GROUP

DEDICATED TO A HEALTHIER, MORE EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



Capabilities Statement

Helping Leaders Evolve Complex Socio-Economic Systems.

ABOUT

The Round Group brings together experienced leaders from across sectors and areas of expertise.

We are focused on partnering with leaders in the public and private sectors who are working towards more equitable and sustainable access to health, nutrition, and economic development opportunities

CONTACT

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ENTITY

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CAGE: 9FGDS

Scaling systems-thinking and multi-disciplinary approaches.

Strategic Planning	Stakeholder Engagement	Implementation
Systems-thinking and multi-disciplinary scenario planning to address complex social policy issues.	Mapping relationships and incentives to ensure effectiveness, feasibility, and reach.	End-to-end execution support to continuously optimize resource allocation.
Effective Interventions For Resilient Outcomes	Wide Support Base for Sustained Momentum	Quality Delivery of Strategic Initiatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mapping eco-system dynamics, underlying structures, and mental models.Policy analysis and multi-perspective challenges to identify blind spots and leverage points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Joint capacity building and development workshops.Co-design, feedback management, and conflict resolution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Program design & performance management.Evidence-based resources.Omni-channel experience design.

Providing support for individual stages or end-to-end initiatives.

CERTIFICATIONS

WOSB self-certified

EDWOSB self-certified

LSBRP Certified, Montgomery County, MD

NAICS CODES

Management Consulting Services **54161**

Other Scientific and Technical Consulting Services **541690**

R&D in the Social Sciences and Humanities **541720**

All Other Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services **541990**

Team

The Round Group is a small, women- and minority- owned business that brings together experienced leaders from multiple disciplines including Healthcare, Economics, Public Policy, Impact Financing, Academia, and Food Systems.

Fiorella Bianchi, MPH

Fiorella co-founded the Round Group to bridge the gap between knowledge and action to effectively apply evidence into policy and practice. As the Research & Academia Lead at The Round Group, Fiorella directs research and analysis to develop evidence-based approaches for client partners, ensuring predictable and sustained outcomes at scale. With a master's degree in public health in Developing Countries from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Fiore brings broad experience and expertise in research and analysis on a variety of public health issues and emerging trends, as well as a comprehensive understanding of IP, policies, and regulations in the areas of medicines, nutrition, and the environment. She approaches research and analysis with thorough organization, quantitative and qualitative capabilities, and writing mastery. Since 2019 she has focused on building expertise in global health policy while sharpening her skills in strategic communication and strategy development. Fiore is passionate about improving maternal and child health and volunteers her time at ICU Baby, an NGO providing emotional, financial, and informational support to families with NICU needs.

Maria Eugenia Schwermer, MPH

Maru is a global health consultant with nearly two decades of experience in public health policy and a strong scientific background. She co-founded The Round Group to tackle systemic health and equity issues and empower future generations of women and minority leaders. As the Policy & Stakeholder Partnerships Lead, she applies systems thinking and mental models to design and implement cross-sector engagement strategies. She has delivered successful projects for various clients, such as the WHO/EURO, PAHO, the CDC Foundation, and the biotech & pharmaceutical industry; and is a member of the UNICEF Roster of Experts on leadership, management, coordination, and strategic planning and of the U.S. Pharmacopeia's DEIB Expert Panel. During her extensive leadership role in a health policy consulting firm, she oversaw the company's performance, growth strategy, and talent development, as well as managed a diverse project portfolio across multiple countries and policy areas. Her background includes microbiology & biotechnology laboratory research, including on HIV and infectious animal diseases; social marketing and health communications work for USAID-funded programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, including an avian and pandemic influenza strategy, an AMR initiative, and an Amazon malaria initiative; and policy analysis and advocacy, with a focus on strengthening health systems, enhancing equity and quality in healthcare, and advancing cross-sector partnerships.

Carolina Peña-Alarcón, MSc., PMP

Founder of Terra Solutions LLC and Sustainability Lead at The Round Group, Carolina is a seasoned professional in sustainable development with extensive collaboration with international agencies. Her work has been instrumental in addressing sustainable development challenges across Latin America and the Caribbean, facilitating clean energy transitions in over 30 countries. Transitioning from her leadership role as the former head of the Latino engagement program, EcoMadres, at Moms Clean Air Force (affiliated with the Environmental Defense Fund) from 2022 to 2023, Carolina gained a profound understanding of the legislative process, public policy development, and environmental justice, fostering close collaboration with congressional offices. In 2023, Carolina received a nomination as one of the "100 Latinos Most Committed to Climate Action" supported by various organizations. This recognition celebrates individuals for their commitment to areas such as climate activism, communications, environmental rights, sustainable policies, science, and corporate impact. Carolina seamlessly combines sustainability, workforce development, and health equity in her work. With a strong professional background, she emphasizes the importance of everyday sustainable choices and how individual commitment can make a great difference. Carolina believes that sustainability isn't just a personal value but also a smart business move.

[Link to complete team bios](#)

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