

## Camila Tapias

### Global Disaster Resilience Specialist, SPIN Global

#### Speaker Bio:

Camila Tapias is a Global Disaster Resilience Specialist at SPIN Global, a public benefit company that exists to disrupt disasters from neighborhoods to nations. She leads the Global practice area and coordinates the Community Disaster Resilience Fund, channeling private equity investment toward resilient infrastructure projects. She serves on the UNDRR ARISE Global Board, the UN's largest private sector alliance for disaster resilient societies. Camila is a researcher, course designer, and instructor and has delivered Department of Homeland Security (DHS) course materials and taught courses for FEMA. Before her current role, she worked as a Disaster Risk Management Consultant at The World Bank. Camila earned a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Sciences and a master's in public administration and Crisis and Emergency Management from The George Washington University (GWU). She also has a rich athletic history, having served as the captain of the GWU Division 1 women's basketball team and representing the Colombian women's basketball national team for a decade. Additionally, Camila serves as a Board of Trustee member at her alma mater.

#### Presentation Title:

### ***Bouncing from Basketball to Emergency Management***

Growing up in Bogota, Colombia, basketball was not just a game; it was a way of life. From my earliest memories of shooting hoops in the neighborhood to representing my country on the international stage, the sport shaped my identity and aspirations. The George Washington University's Women's Basketball Team taught me invaluable lessons in resilience, adaptability, leadership, and teamwork. I've brought those with me into professional life. I believe emergency management is not just a profession; it is the *ultimate* team sport.