

# FONI JOYCE VUNI

## RESEARCH LEAD, REFUGEE-LED RESEARCH HUB



Foni is originally from South Sudan. Her parents fled the southern part of Sudan because of the civil war – her father was a journalist fleeing the state - and sought asylum in Kenya where she was born.

Currently Foni Joyce is a Research Lead at the Refugee-Led Research Hub (RLRH), where she provides research guidance and advice on the Hub's ongoing studies in research and academia. At RLRH, Foni has contributed to the design of a study on refugee-led organisations in Kenya in partnership with Carleton University and the Dadaab Response Association and is also leading a study on access to work permits and business licenses for refugees in Kenya. Foni also has extensive experience with stakeholder engagement and has organised and participated in several policy discussions. She served as the UNHCR Global Youth Advisory Co-Chair for 3 years and is now working with the Global Refugee Youth Network (GRYN), which supports young refugees to develop their capacity to help each other, lead initiatives to respond to their communities' needs and advocate for the changes they feel are important for them and their communities.

Foni has also been part of the Tertiary Refugee Student Network (TRSN) global leadership a group that is advocating for 15% increase of refugees in take in Tertiary education level by 2030, a member of the Refugee Education Council, that is working on Together for Learning campaign by Canada and as a council aims to ensure that solutions and approaches are shaped by the knowledge and experiences of youth advocates, women, teachers, parents and community leaders who are living as refugees, forcibly displaced persons or in communities that host them.