**Mohammed Dhalech**

My passion for many years since I was a teenager is the outdoors, living in one of the most beautiful parts of the UK, in Cumbria. I have been passionate about engaging Ethnic Minority communities to access the countryside and outdoors for over 30 years. In 2019 I was awarded the Churchill Fellowship and my research was focussed around the BAME/BIPOC engagement in the outdoors, and I visited North America to explore their approaches to engagement. I continue my research back in the UK, exploring several initiatives including how the sector engage with Race Equality.

Recently I have been working with partners on promoting safety in the outdoors and am a volunteer with the Yorkshire Dales National Park. I am an OS Get Outdoors Champion, and I serve on the National Outdoors for All Working Group and Chair BMC Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. I am pursuing a PhD in Race and Rurality with the University of Leicester and describe myself as a “Pracademic”. My current role is Equality, Diversity and inclusion Manager with the Fire and Rescue Service in Cumbria, and previously I was managing support for witnesses attending Court in criminal trials, to provide a smooth journey for witnesses. I am an Independent Advisor on race and religious issues, with the Cumbria Constabulary and the NW Counter Terrorism Community Advisory Group.