



## International Training Program for Leadership in Human Development

# Meet the Participants



**Fisser Mupuka**  
Training and Finance Manager  
Itereleng Institute of Cultural  
Affairs South Africa

Fisser Mupuka was born in a small Mining town of Chinhoyi in the Mashonaland West Province 100 km west of Harare in Zimbabwe on the 19 September 1968. After receiving his primary education at Shackleton Mine, he was sent to Professional College of some repute where he matriculated. He then enrolled at the Harare Polytechnic for Higher National Diploma in Accounts. Fisser joined the Institute of Cultural Affairs Zimbabwe from 2000 to 2006 as Finance and Administration Manager. He is currently working with Itereleng Institute of Cultural Affairs South Africa as Training and Finance person. Fisser is currently studying for a Degree of Bachelor of Arts specializing in Development studies with the University of UNISA South Africa.



**Laura Matamala**  
Trainer/Facilitator  
ICA Chile

Laura Matamala studied Family Counselling at the National Institute of Professional Capability ( 1997-1999 ). She has diplomas on Family Intervention and Law at the University of Valparaíso. Laura was trained in the ICA Methods at Phoenix, Colorado on 2005. She works now as trainer and coordinator on ICA Methods on the Leader's Training Participation Programme in Antofagasta Chile, and in social courses for SENCE and SOFOFA, Chile.



**Assem Kamal**  
Executive Director  
ICA MENA  
(Middle East and North Africa)

Assem Kamal has a fresh business perspective with many years of experience in banking and finance. He also has a long-standing involvement in Development, in particular SME's and economic development initiatives. Prior to joining ICA MENA, Assem was the Assistant vice president & manager direct sales at the Headquarters of the Islamic Force Al-Wifaq finance company in Abu Dhabi. He was a Board member and marketing consultant for the Union for Economic Development Associations in Egypt (an NGO supporting the SMES). Assem has a Bachelor of Commerce in Business Administration from Cairo University.



**Naimul Hassan**  
Manager (Volunteer)  
ICA Bangladesh

Naimul Hassan is the volunteer Manager at ICA Bangladesh. He has received ToP training on Facilitating Strategic Processes and Leadership Development in Organizations, as well as Proposal Writing and Fundraising. Naimul is a Media Engineer at Bangladesh Open University, where he works in audio-visual educational program production and broadcast engineering; multimedia educational materials; operational in the field of “audio & video production engineering”, broadcast engineering, networking, electronics studio control, electronic field production and electronic news gathering, audio & video studio engineering, electronics maintenance, radio & tv directly transmission & electronics related microwave link and functioning.



**Benoit Ndameu**  
Executive Director  
ICA Cameroon

Benoit Anthony Ndameu is a Cameroonian and a social scientist with legal training from the University of Yaoundé II. Since 1997, Benoit has focused on participatory approaches to forest and natural resources management, and has worked with the Centre for Environment and Development (also known as Friends of the Earth Cameroon). He left CED in 2002 and started consultation services with many national and international NGOs and other institutions. This work has included research on social and environmental issues, and carrying out monitoring and evaluation of programs that address the relationships between forests and people.

In September 2007, Benoit started discussions with the ICA International Secretariat regarding the objective of reactivating ICA in Cameroon, which was originally established in 2000. As the new Executive Director, his vision is very simple: putting human development at the forefront of our daily action, whether in the management of natural resources or in helping local people from remote areas to achieve other development goals. Also, Benoit’s personal challenge as the leader of ICA in Cameroon will consist of making the organisation strong and active in the coming years. Benoit intends to work in close collaboration with the ICA International Secretariat and other ICAs to make ICA Cameroon an effective, recognized organisation.



**Atma Ram Timsina**  
Training Co-ordinator  
ICA Nepal

Atma has been with ICA Nepal since its inception in 1998. He is the Training Co-ordinator at ICA Nepal, responsible for the Professional Career Development Training (PCDT) professional training program for young people and development practitioners interested in developing their facilitation skills. Atma also develops proposals for in-house training for other organizations report on the training program. Atma is an executive member of Facilitators Association of Nepal (FAN) and also a member of Rotary Community Corps/Rudramati.





**Marina Safarova**

Executive Director  
ICA EHIO  
Empowerment for Human  
Involvement Organization,  
Tajikistan

Marina Safarova graduated faculty of philology of Moscow State University and was a graduate student of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences in Moscow. She taught psychology, pedagogic, conflictology in State Universities of Tajikistan. In 1999 she established Women Public Union "Health, Rights and Society", and at present she is a Chairman of the organization's Board of Trustees. Within the organization's activity Marina was trained in the Third International Summer Law University in Human Rights of Soros Foundation, Almaty, Kazakhstan. She attended in a training of Women School of Political Leadership (IFES, AED, USAID). Implementation of projects on women reproductive rights, prevention of drug addiction, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases among youth and women, financed by Soros Foundation, Global Fund for Women (USA, San-Francisco), allowed her to take part in the Forum of Women NGOs, grant recipients of Global Fund for Women in Central Asia region, to become member of this network, and later Advisor of Global Fund for Women in Tajikistan. Marina Safarova is the author and manager of a project on legal and socially-economic support of old lonely women from national minorities, living in the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan. The given project has been implemented by financial support of the Mama Cash Fund for Women (Netherlands).

Marina Safarova has international certificates of a trainer/facilitator (USAID/the Pragma Corporation, ICA I), she is an author of number of manuals on business planning for women- entrepreneurs, on prevention of drug addiction and HIV/AIDS for schoolgirls and high school students; she is also an editor of scientific-popular literature on gender issues.



Hemant Pokhrel joined ICA Nepal in 2001, after working as a Community Development Worker with the Society for Participatory Cultural Education (SPACE) for seven years. Hemant is involved in every aspect of community development at ICA Nepal, including proposal writing and fund raising, implementation of project activities, report writing, networking/coordination with other NGOs/INGOS and concerned government departments, monitoring and evaluation of field level of work, and capacity/leadership development training to community people. Hemant is also a member of the Facilitators Association of Nepal (FAN).

**Hemant Pokhrel**

Director, Community  
Development  
ICA Nepal



Comfort Hassan graduated from the University of Ibadan in 1992 with a degree in Forestry and in 2000, Agricultural Extension and Rural Development. She has over 12 years NGO work experience, having worked with the Country Women Association of Nigeria, a non-governmental rural women organisation between 1995-1998, and then joined the Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team NEST in 2000, first as Programme Officer - Gender and later Deputy Programme Director till 2007 when she left the organisation.

She has competences in conducting research, specifically qualitative analysis - FGDs and IDIs, gender analysis and mainstreaming in programmes and projects. Through the years she has been involved in working on microcredit programmes for rural women, group mobilization for community development projects, environmental issues such as climate change, forestry, and environmental education.

**Omolara Comfort Hassan**

Executive Director  
NIRADO





### **Mohammad Azizur Rahman**

Executive Director (Honourary)  
ICA Bangladesh

Aziz Rahman is the Honourary Executive Director at ICA Bangladesh and Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology and Police Science at Mawlana Bhashani Science & Technology University. Aziz has a Master's degree in Regional Development Planning from the University of Dortmund in Germany and the University of the Philippines, as well as a Master's degree in Sociology from the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology in Bangladesh. Aziz has written papers on MDGs and access to land and informal settlements, as well as a number of other development-related topics.



### **Muzikayifani "Muzi" Mbonani**

Programme and Marketing Manager  
Itereleng Institute of Cultural Affairs  
South Africa

Muzi Mbonani first had contact with ICA in October 2004 and was immediately drawn to the YFL programme. He organised members of the peer education team from a school to take part in a two-day training and now they utilise their facilitation skills to develop school workshops. Muzi received intensive training in ToP methods from Itereleng: ICA in 2005. Since then he has been continually applying these methods in both his personal life and working environment. Muzi has had practical experience of facilitating these methods, in and outside the South African borders, with NGO, corporate and youth organisations.

One of Muzi's goals for YFL is to be recognised as one of the major youth programmes in South Africa. The long-term vision is to tackle the complicated HIV/AIDS situation and other major issues in the country by using the creativity and energy that young people are so famous for.



### **Nino Tillman**

Executive Director  
ICA USA

A native Chicagoan, Nino Tillman brings nearly 20 years of professional operations and strategic event planning experience to ICA USA. He was Senior Finance and Operations Director for the 2006 Gay Games and Project Manager for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and has been an Executive Director of non-profit organizations in Atlanta and Miami. He has received several awards for his efforts, including: the award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Development and the Community Service and Leadership Awards from the City of Atlanta and Miami respectively. He lives in Chicago with his wife and their two children. In December, 2005, earned his MBA from The Kellogg Graduate School of Business.



Waiting  
for  
Photo

**Shimanyane “Shimmy” Kgaje**

Human Resources and Administration Manager  
Itereleng Institute of Cultural Affairs South Africa

Waiting  
for  
Photo

**Henry Kwesi Akley**

Project Officer  
ICA Ghana

Waiting  
for  
Photo

**Saodat Giyasova**

Project Manager and Trainer/Facilitator  
ICA EHIO  
Empowerment for Human Involvement  
Organization, Tajikistan



**Limota Gororo Giwa**

Executive Director  
International Women  
Communication Centre  
Nigeria

Limota Goroso Giwa, born in Ilorin, in Kwara state of Nigeria, was raised by fishing grandparents. Her father, an imam (leader for Muslim prayers), died when she was 11. She studied human rights at the University of Columbia and obtained her masters in social planning. A senior advocate on women’s rights and coordinator of women and fishery projects in riverine communities in Nigeria, she occupies several humanitarian posts, among them coordinator of the Pan-African and West African Women. In addition, Goroso Giwa addresses issues around the trafficking of Kwara women to Saudi Arabia.

Goroso Gewa Limota lived in a state where the situation was always tense between Muslims and Christians. After the events of 1999-2000 when many died and many houses were burnt, thanks to her determination and her involvement the two religious communities came to live in peace. She has written several books and articles for the local and international media, for example: Women in the working world since 1988; Women in Nigeria in the year 2000. Limota has received several honours, among them the ASOKO prize for social enterprise in 2001; she was also part of a group of eight notable Nigerians who received the GEM prize for sustained development. It was during the celebration of Women’s Day in 2003 that the Institute of International Affairs rewarded her great contribution. Limota is one of the 1000 Women nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005 by PeaceWomen Across the Globe.

