

## HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES PROGRAM

### 2016 PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES



#### **NVARD MARGARYAN**

**CHAIRPERSON**  
**PINK ARMENIA**  
**YEREVAN, ARMENIA**

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Nvard has been working for more than five years at PINK Armenia, the largest LGBT community-based organization in Armenia. Elected as Chairperson in 2015, Nvard and her colleagues strive to create a safe space for LGBT people by promoting legal, psychological, and social protection and well-being. She also played a major role in the launching of a unique e-magazine, As You, which presents readers with issues related to human rights, sexuality, gender and other issues. Currently, Nvard is involved in the feminist movement in Armenia and is an active member of feminist platforms including the Feminist Platform of Armenia, the Young Women's Network of South Caucasus, as well as the Coalition to Stop Violence against Women. Nvard earned bachelor's and

master's degrees in social work from Yerevan State University.

#### **AEHSHATOU MANU**

**ADVOCACY OFFICER, LELEWAL FOUNDATION**  
**WOMEN'S COORDINATOR & WOMEN'S WING PRESIDENT, MBOSCUDA**  
**YAOUNDE, CAMEROON**

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Aehshatou is the Advocacy Officer for Lelewal Foundation and the Women's Coordinator and Women's Wing President for Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association (MBOSCUDA), both indigenous peoples' organizations working to improve the quality of life for indigenous peoples of Cameroon. Her areas of expertise are women's and girls' rights, environmental issues (especially climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies related to REDD+), the economic empowerment of women, and girl child education. She participated in the FIMI Global Leadership School of Indigenous Women and attended the United Nations Permanent Forum in 2014. She earned a bachelor's degree in law at the University of Yaounde.



# RAOUL KITUNGANO

DIRECTOR

JUSTICE POUR TOUS

BUKAVU, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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Raoul is the Director of Justice Pour Tous. Over the years, he has developed expertise in investigating natural resource exploitation. With his colleagues at Justice Pour Tous, Raoul highlights the limitations of the Congolese mining code by talking to the local press, delivering speeches, and performing sketches. This kind of work helps local people to understand their legal rights and which new laws are needed to end their exploitation. He has published several papers and research reports and spoken at several international conferences about the relationship between mining armed conflict and human rights abuses in eastern DRC.



# CARLOS SANTOS

PRESIDENT

SALVADORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SURVIVORS OF TORTURE

SAN MIGUEL, EL SALVADOR

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Carlos is the founder and president of the Salvadorian Association for Survivors of Torture, an association that gives psychological care to survivors of torture and their families and investigates various human rights abuses. He is the creator of a webpage called the Yellow Book, which documents the names of victims of injustice and abuse by the state. Carlos has a degree in literature from the Autonomous University of Mexico. Through Scholars at Risk, he studied international law and human right law at the University of York in 2013.

## **JEFFREY WAMBAYA**

**PROGRAM MANAGER**

**ISHTAR-MSM**

**NAIROBI, KENYA**

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Jeffrey works at Ishtar-MSM, a community-based organization that advances the sexual health rights of men who have sex with men to reduce the stigma and discrimination they face by advocating for their rights to access health care, including STI/HIV and AIDS-related care and treatment. Ishtar-MSM is a member group of the Gay & Lesbian Coalition of Kenya (GALCK). As Program Manager at Ishtar-MSM, Jeffrey has taken part in various activities on advocacy, policy and strategy formulation, and analysis. He is experienced in evidence-based HIV and sexual health programming and has sat on a variety of technical working groups at the national level. He has a keen interest in community research and is a Co-Chair of the G10, a research agency at GALCK. He is also a board member of Initiative of Equality and No Discrimination, an organization based in Mombasa that engages people and institutions known to perpetrate violence against gender and sexual minorities.



## **CHHING LAMU SHERPA**

**PROGRAM MANAGER**

**JUST NEPAL FOUNDATION**

**KATHMANDU, NEPAL**

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Chhing is a founding member and Program Manager of Just Nepal Foundation, an organization that promotes education, social justice, and human rights by working within the rural mountain communities of Nepal. Chhing has been working to empower women and extremely marginalized groups in Nepal for the past 30 years. She is one of the founding members, chair, and current advisor of Mountain Spirit, another indigenous people's organization. She has been active in relief efforts after the earthquake in Nepal. Chhing earned a bachelor's degree in Economics, Culture and Literature from Padma Kanya University in 1988, a Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Extension & Women from University of Reading in 1991, and a master's degree in Rural Development in 2016.

## MULSHID MUWONGE

COMMUNICATIONS EXECUTIVE & SECURITY MANAGEMENT TRAINER

DEFENDERS PROTECTION INITIATIVE

KAMPALA, UGANDA

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Mulshid is currently the Communications Executive and Security Management Trainer at Defenders Protection Initiative, a non-profit organization working to strengthen the capacity of human rights defenders to mainstream security, safety and protection management in their work. He has a background in working to protect the rights of sexual minorities in Uganda through the secure documentation of human rights violations and abuses. Mulshid earned a bachelor's degree in business computing from Makerere University in 2014. He has taken several courses in leadership, nonprofit strategy, organizational capacity development and fundraising.



## BETTY LEE ODUR

LEGAL/PROGRAM OFFICER

UGANDA NETWORK ON LAW, ETHIC AND HIV/AIDS (UGANET)

KAMPALA, UGANDA

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Betty is a Legal/Program Officer at Uganda Network on Law, Ethic and HIV/AIDS, an NGO committed to the development and strengthening of policies and ethical responses to HIV/AIDS in Uganda. She has headed the Kampala office since March 2011. She earned a bachelor's of legal laws from Uganda Christian University in June 2008 and a postgraduate diploma in legal practice from the Law Development Center in 2009. An enrolled Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and other subordinate Courts, she is a member of the Uganda Law Society and the East African Law Society.

# SAMUEL MATSIKURE

PROGRAM MANAGER

GAYS AND LESBIANS OF ZIMBABWE (GALZ)

HARARE, ZIMBABWE



Samuel is the Program Manager for Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ). He has dedicated the past 13 years to working within LGBTI communities in a turbulent environment. He is a past chairman of African Men for Sexual Health and Rights, a regional coalition of 19 organizations working on Health and HIV for MSM. He also served on the Global Forum for MSM for eight years. He has extensive experience teaching languages and Art and Design and providing therapy to families. He earned the Bachelor's of Science Honor's Degree in Sociology and Gender Development from Woman's University in Africa. He holds diplomas in Higher Education (University of Zimbabwe) and in Systemic Family Therapy (Connect, the Zimbabwe Institute of Systemic Therapy).

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