Participant Bios for the Uganda/South Africa Gender and Internet Governance Exchange (gigX), Durban, South Africa, 10 October 2016

Harriet Susan Atim – Program Assistant at Women of Uganda Network

Susan is a technically astute person and has a keen interest in technology especially in how it can be used to address societal issues. She holds a BA in Social Sciences (Major in International Relations) and a Post Grad Diploma in Community Development. Currently, she works at Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) as a Program Assistant for Information Sharing and Networking Program. She is very passionate and interested in how Nations relate in various spaces and in particular how women are included in them. Twitter: @Zooogle (https://twitter.com/zooogle)

Juliet N. Nanfuka

Juliet has a background in journalism and has worked in the fields of communications strategy, publicity, branding and market research across East and Southern Africa. A lot of her work has involved the exploration of avenues for African development through the intersection of heritage, rights and digital technologies. She has utilised these skills in the advocacy of online rights. More recently she explores connections between these rights and social innovation in Africa. She holds a BJourn with specialisation in Digital Media (Rhodes University, South Africa) and is currently in the Kenya cohort of the 2016 Post Graduate Certificate in Social Innovation Management with the Amani Institute.

@ChewingStones @cipesaug
Sherifah Tumusiime

Sherifah is the CEO of Zimba Group, a startup tech company providing technical and software solutions for SME’s. Zimba Group Ltd.’s flagship project Zimba Women seeks to establish a business environment that provides full support of women entrepreneurs using technology. She is passionate about entrepreneurship in Africa and using technology to build strong SME’s.

With over 8 years of technology experience, Sherifah is also the founder of thebabystoreug.com, the first specialty retail e-commerce site for baby products and apparel in Uganda. Prior to this, She worked for Wipro Technologies, a global information technology, consulting and outsourcing company with 170,000+ workforce serving clients in 175+ cities across 6 continents as a Tools and Data Center Monitoring Team Lead.

With proven abilities in web development, project management, communications, and IT services, she is an enthusiastic and high-achieving IT professional with a Bachelor of Computer Science from Makerere University and various industry certifications from organizations such as Africa Network Operators Group and Microsoft. She is a certified Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt and a 2015 Mandela Washington Fellow.

Twitter handle : @sherrytums

Mauricia Abdol

Mauricia is from Cape Town, South Africa and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Child and Family Studies. She has a B.A Degree in Psychology, Women & Gender Studies and Language & Communication, as well as an Honours Degree in Psychology. Mauricia serves as Secretary-General at Waumbe Youth Development. She is also an Innovation scholar at the National Research Foundation. Additionally, a previous member of the Crafting Change Agents Program which focuses on international engagement in dialect on identity and race and a current team member of the South Africa - Washington International Program, a program geared at supporting young leaders for ethical servant leadership, her passion for the protection of human rights and youth development are evident. Finally, Mauricia is also an alum of the summer internship program at the International Center for Missing and exploited children, an organisation dedicated to making the world a safer place for children by eradicating child abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation with specialized projects addressing child protection against cyber crime and legislation around data retention.

Twitter handle : @MauriciaAbdol
Ms. Irene Kagoya, Communications & Advocacy Officer Akina Mama wa Afrika

Ms. Irene Kagoya hails from Bugiri District in the Eastern Region of Uganda. She holds Bachelor’s Degree in Law from Makerere University Uganda and a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Centre (Uganda) in addition to other certificate trainings in leadership, human rights and social media.

Inspired by her passion for women’s rights, Irene is currently the Communications & Advocacy Officer at Akina Mama wa Afrika, a Pan African feminist organisation based in Kampala Uganda; where she manages the organization’s communications & advocacy initiatives coupled with support in programming and project implementation.

Over the past 12 years, Irene has accumulated vast experience in gender equality and human rights advocacy having served as the African Representative in Residence Manhattanville College New York USA (2005-2007). While in New York, Irene coordinated the Global Student Leadership Program (GSL) focused on empowering young women through leadership. She later relocated to University of Dar es salaam (UDSM) in 2007 where she supported the establishment of GSL African Program at the UDSM Gender Centre. From 2010-2012, Irene worked as the Leadership Program Coordinator at the Akliah Institute for Women in Kigali Rwanda where she managed the Institute leadership programs, ensuring that the young women were well trained, confident and equipped with the necessary leadership skills and knowledge to lead and succeed in the Hospitality Industry.

Irene possesses great facilitation, communication, and leadership skills; she aspires to become a Member of Parliament in the near future. She enjoys hanging out with friends and meeting new people. As a first born of 5, Irene is proud of many achievements, one being the ability to support her parents and contribute to her sibling’s successful completion of university education. She is a hardworking woman and true African feminist who strongly believes that change starts with the self.

Twitter: I_Kagoya
Tracy Kganakga

I have over 10 years in both IT Governance and IT Auditing experience and worked at companies such as Gobodo Forensic & Investigative Auditing and Ngubane & Co. I also have CoBIT5 and Project Management in IT environment experience. I am a seasoned IT Governance and IT Audit practitioner with a diverse background in carrying out an independent appraisal of the effectiveness of the policies, procedures and standards by which organization’s physical and information resources are managed.

I have worn a few hats in my career; as a result have a unique ability to navigate complex technological challenges. But actual experience has taught me that my professional value boils down to the following:

• I run towards fires
• I make people feel at ease
• I seek first to understand, then be understood
• I aim to add value, not find fault
• I view audits as opportunities to get to know people and processes

I love making new professional acquaintances

I am currently Head of Information Technology at ZA Central Registry.

Prudence Nyamishana

Prudence is a blogger and communications specialist. She has been an author at Global Voices since 2013, she runs a blog (prunyamishana.org), and is a founding partner of Kweeta Consulting Ltd. She has worked in the industry since 2010 and her experience covers communication, human rights and gender. With a wealth of experience, Prudence has worked with numerous organizations in and outside Uganda. She has consulted for a
number of organizations including UN Women, Centre for Public Interest law-Uganda, HIVOs – providing technical assistance to design media strategies.

Prudence has spearheaded a number of online campaigns including, #ThisisFreedom, #StateofJudicuaryUG #EndpoliceBrutalityUG establishing herself as an influencer on the Ugandan online spaces.

Christy Zinn

Christy is a feminist and life-long learner who thinks with her body. She is also recently the project coordinator for Women'sNet, South Africa, and insists that gender justice can prevail in spaces of tech. Before her position at Women'sNet, she was working at the African Centre for Cities as an assistant researcher on feminist engagements with housing struggles in the greater Cape Town area, as well as in communications as an editor, blog-writer, and social media manager for UrbanAfrica.net. Christy is currently completing her Masters in Inclusive Innovation at the Graduate School of Business in Cape Town. She is also a practitioner of capoeira and competitive jiu-jitsu, and continues to explore how authentically safe spaces for women in martial arts academies can be created and sustained on the African continent.
Moses Owiny

Moses is the Program Manager for Information Sharing and Networking at WOUGNET. His most recent work regarding women in the online space includes the Universal Periodic Review document “Women's Rights and the internet in Uganda” co-authored with CIPESA and the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) and a policy brief entitled: Cyber infrastructure; A women's Issue too! – Advancing a gender sensitive approach to ICT policy and decision making in Uganda” which highlights internet freedoms and cyber security issues as relates to women and girls and why participation of women and girls in the internet governance discourse is significant. He is the 2011 Recipient of the US State Department's Community Solutions Program, based at the Young Women Christian Association of Genesee County, Batavia, New York, United States – where he was responsible for building capacity of low income women of the Upstate New York on how to use ICTs to improve on their career prospects. Currently, Moses is the Global Youth Catalyst – for the Gender in Agriculture Partnership (GAP); GAP is, a multi-stakeholder partnership coordinated by Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR) and many international agencies including UN Women, FAO, World Bank, WFP, YPARD and FANPRAN for greater involvement of rural women and youth in development. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Arts (Social Sciences), Postgraduate studies in Public Policy Management and currently pursuing Graduate studies on International Relations and Diplomatic Studies.
Goretti Amuriat

I am currently a Program Manager for the Gender and ICT Policy Advocacy program at the Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET). I am a gender and technology advocate, with specialty in rural development, ICT4D, Policy Advocacy, gender, women rights and Entrepreneurship. I am currently spearheading a campaign to mainstream gender in ICT Policies and programs in Uganda. I am also a coordinator of ICT in governance and accountability projects based in Eastern and Northern Uganda and entrepreneurship. I have wide experience in Using ICTs for development both in rural and urban areas and for the last 14 years I have developed and implemented ICT for development projects, and also led a campaign of integrating gender into ICT policies and programs.

I have a Masters in Arts in Agriculture and Rural Development, a Bachelors’ degree in Social Sciences, Economics and Rural Economy and a Post Graduate Diploma in Gender and Local Economic Development. I am a Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) Certified trainer by ILO and a Mentor. I have fifteen years of working with Civil Society Organizations.
Elizabeth Kasujja

Elizabeth Kasujja is an electronic entrepreneur with a deep passion for technology, and serves as the Programs Manager of Alibeth Consults which supports action by governments, social partners and the multilateral system to address the youth employment challenge and promote decent work for youth at national, regional and global levels, through use of ICTs.

Elizabeth is intrigued by the power that technology has to transform the way business is done in Uganda and to change people’s lives. She is currently pursuing an MBA-International Business which will contribute to the strategy for positioning Alibeth Consults for the global market. She has various industry certifications from organizations such as the International Labor Organization, APMG UK and the John Hopkins and Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Elizabeth’s vision of contributing to Uganda’s technological development and desire to disrupt things has also led her into the start-up scene and she is currently working with other young people across the region to build what they envision the future of East Africa to be; connected, African and smart.

Twitter handle: @ekasujja
Nonhlanhla Chanza

Ms Nonhlanhla Chanza holds a Social Science Masters Degree in Political Science from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. She has over 8 years of advocacy and research experience on governance systems, participatory governance and strengthening of democratic institutions in particular, Parliament. As an activist with the Right to Know Campaign she is currently working on advocacy campaigns on access to information and free flow of information, right to communicate, right to protest, media freedom and diversity and secrecy and surveillance issues. She also serves in various NGO Boards where she contributes towards improving good governance systems within the NGO sector. She is also a popular education student, and is currently learning about internet governance. She is based in South Africa.