

### Managing Director, Shaun Samuels

Shaun started his working career in the NGO sector and spent most of his youth and working life fighting for change, equality and justice in South Africa and continues to do so. He worked for the Government of South Africa post 1994; and has been consulting for over 20 years for a number of client institutions in South Africa, in the African Continent and globally. He consults to national, provincial and local government in South Africa, governments in the region, Regional Economic Commissions such as EAC, SADC and SADC Parliamentary Forum; Donor agencies, the United Nations (at country, regional and global levels), national and international NGOs; and the private sector. He works with European and American funding Foundations and has facilitated many global processes. He has worked in the field of building community philanthropy in South Africa and advancing African giving in the continent. He has also collaborated with large consulting agencies on a number of projects and works in conjunction with a number of associates in the fields of HIV and AIDS, education, social justice, constitutionalism and philanthropy.

Shaun has acquired expertise and experience in organisational development, change management, strategy development and business planning, human resource development, facilitation processes and skills training, monitoring and evaluation, grant making and business process reengineering. He works extensively with results based planning and monitoring processes and is an advocate for the assets orientation to development. He

has been integral to many transformation programs and processes in government in South Africa during the last fifteen years. Over the last ten years he has invested much time in HIV and AIDS processes in the continent including drafting national development plans for countries, for the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADCPF), the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC); and for regional and national organisations of civil society. Shaun is the co- coordinator of the Constitutionalism Fund, a US\$ 25 million collaboration fund that promotes and advances Constitutionalism in South Africa.



### Executive Director, Judy Maharaj

Judy has over 20 years of experience in project planning, executive management and creative design for various institutions. She holds a National Diploma in Textile Design and is currently completing a post graduate diploma in Business Practice Management at the Henley Business School.

Judy manages the flagship project of SGS – the Technical Support and Dialogue Platform (TSDP) that is funded by the CS Mott Foundation. The TSDP offers technical support to the grantees of funding agencies and serves as a field builder in the Civil Society sector with specific reference to social justice and community philanthropy. The TSDP fulfils a convener role and facilitates national conversations and learning opportunities within and across sectors such as social movements, and multisector institutions and organisations in the access to social justice for the poor and community philanthropy fields in South Africa.

Judy is involved in establishing and growing "giving circles" and pledge-based giving platforms in South Africa. She is also the fund administrator for the

Constitutionalism Fund, a US\$ 25 million collaboration fund that promotes and advances constitutionalism in South Africa.

Prior to joining SGS consulting Judy was Head of Design for media and design agency, Cut2black. Her involvement included marketing, design and project management for the clients of Cut2black.



### Writer, Lisa-Anne Julien

For the last 12 years Lisa-Anne Julien has been involved in the development sector in South Africa as a writer and consultant. Lisa moved to South Africa from the UK after completing her Masters degree in Social Policy and Planning in Development Countries at the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2002. She worked for the Commission for Gender Equality and the Heinrich Boell Foundation before becoming an independent consultant. In the last 10 years Lisa-Anne has worked with Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre to End Violence Against Women, Sonke Gender Justice, the SADC HIV and AIDS Unit, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the Nelson Mandela Foundation, among others.

Lisa-Anne has also worked as an editor on a number of high level reports including the SADC Framework for Orphans and Vulnerable Children as well as the The Joint UN Programme of Support for HIV Response for Ethiopia. In addition to writing high level reports, policy briefs, individual profiles, funding proposals and donor reports for clients, Lisa-Anne has also written a number of articles which have been published in commercial publications as well as peer-review journals.



### Programmes Manager, Olwethu Sizani

After completing a BCom Honours degree in Mathematical Statistics at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, Olwethu joined African Enterprise as a volunteer in their Foxfire team,

that specialises in youth ministry. During this year she had the opportunity to work with various groups of young people, facilitating Life Skills in a number of schools in KwaZulu Natal. Through this experience she discovered her love for people, communities and advancing access to social justice for the poor in South Africa. Olwethu started her working career as an intern at SGS Consulting in 2013.

Olwethu now leads and coordinates the work linked to growing youth philanthropy in South Africa and the region; and manages a youth Givers Circle as a prototype of youth giving. She is also working on the promotion and adoption of the Youth Bank model (youth giving through grant making) in the country as well as creating a consolidated voice and platform for African youth giving on the continent.

In addition, she leads all the monitoring and evaluation assignments within the education sector and is the M&E lead in the Kagiso Shanduka Trust (KST) school improvement program involving 428 schools in the Free State province.



### Office Administrator, Ntombekhaya Gxumisa

Ntombi works as an office administrator at SGS Consulting. Her tasks include paper filing, management of travel bookings, setting up meetings and assuring that the office is well kept. She joined SGS Consulting in January 2015 after working at Supercare Hygiene & Contract Cleaning Services for a period of three years.

Since joining SGS Consulting, Ntombekhaya has acquired skills such as telephone communication and etiquette, drawing up budgets and project evaluation. In December 2015, Ntombekhaya headed the Giver's Circle Grannies' Treat Itinerary Project where six disadvantaged grandmothers were identified in the Alexander location and presented with shopping vouchers to buy essentials for their households with assistance from the SGS Consulting team.

She looks forward to the year ahead and sees it as an opportunity to continue growing through acquiring more knowledge and skills in the development space.



### Programmes Coordinator, Yolisa Shugu

Yolisa has completed a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Arts in Development Studies both at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth. After completing her studies, she was accepted as a graduate fellow at the Foundation for Professional Development in September 2014 where she spent a year. Yolisa formally joined SGS Consulting in April 2015 as an intern and has since become more involved in the education aspect, largely with the Kagiso Shanduka Trust and Maths Centre

school intervention programmes and project evaluations. Recently, she has become more involved in youth philanthropy work, working to establish youth banks in South Africa and is part of a youth giver's circle that looks to give back to the less fortunate, and encourage other young people to do the same.

She looks forward to learning more about issues and processes within the development space and expanding her pool of knowledge and skills, and hopes to be a positive influence and a source of inspiration to other young people within and without of her field.

