



**Africa**  
promoting the power  
of facilitation worldwide

# IAF AFRICA FACILITATION CONFERENCE



**HELD AT TANGAZA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**NAIROBI, KENYA**

**OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> 2016**

**In Collaboration with**



## **Overview**

The Africa Facilitation Conference was organised and hosted by the IAF Kenya chapter, in collaboration with its partners [Chemchemi ya Ukweli](#) (who hosted the Secretariat), [Tangaza University College](#) (who hosted the Conference) and [Village Care International](#) (who generously gave funds to support the process). It was the first IAF conference to be held in Africa since 2008 (organised by IAF South Africa) and came about as a result of the current members' desire to showcase participatory facilitation methods on a larger stage as well as creating the opportunity for members and other facilitators to come together, learn from each other and "celebrate" their passion for facilitation.

The overall conference theme was **"How will we create opportunities for participatory growth in Africa and beyond?"** and with the specific aim ***"to show how the power of facilitation can be used to significantly improve societal and organisational outcomes and performance."***

A total of 60 people participated in the two day conference, of which 31 were female and 29 were male, representing 16 different countries from 4 continents, including 12 IAF members. A total of 23 people facilitated during the conference in 14 concurrent sessions and 3 plenary sessions.



## **About IAF**

The International Association of Facilitators (IAF) is the global association for process facilitators founded in 1994. Currently, there are almost 1700 members on all continents and 39 chapters or facilitator communities. In Africa, there are two chapters (in Kenya and Rwanda) with a total of 45 members, including others in Ghana, Cameroon, Togo, Nigeria, South Africa, Mozambique and Uganda. For more information, please visit [www.iaf-world.org](http://www.iaf-world.org)

## Conference Process

### **Day One – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

**Opening session** – Story of the Conference, Intro. to IAF, Logistics

John Cornwell, Esther Owido, Otieno Ombok & Judith Stermerdink-Herret (IAF Kenya / Africa)

**Diversity Ice-breaker®** – Sue Canney Davison & Judith Stermerdink-Herret (UK/Kenya & Austria)

**World Café session** – How is participatory growth already happening in your communities?

Judith Stermerdink-Herret & Michelle Mashonganyika (Austria & Kenya)

#### **Concurrent Sessions (1):**

- **Appreciative Inquiry** – Winston Churchill & Richard Mabala (Tanzania)
- **Cultural Sustainability** – Simeon Ries (Germany)
- **Global Career Choices** – Vera Reimann (Germany)
- **Non-Violent Conflict Transformation** – Anne Awino & John Onyango (Kenya)
- **Youth and Development** – Jacob Odongo (Kenya)

**Plenary session** – Highlights of the day

Ombok Otieno (Kenya)





## **Day Two – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

**Opening session** – Austin Menya (Kenya)

### **Concurrent Sessions (2):**

- **Music, Dance and Poetry in Facilitation** – Ombok Otieno (Kenya)
- **Collective Story-Telling & Gender-Based Violence**  
Michelle Mashonganyika & Bikundo Onyari (Kenya)
- **Inclusive Neighbourhood Spaces** – Susan Waruingi & Gerishon Were (Kenya)
- **Life Lenses TM** – Lee-Ann Ragan (Canada)
- **Social Inclusion and Disability** – Joyce Kalee (Kenya)

### **Concurrent Sessions (3):**

- **Gender Equality and Inclusion** – Nancy Biwott & Joyce Kalee (Kenya)
- **Global Citizenship** – Elisha Mwaringa & Mary Bada (Kenya)
- **Facilitator's Core Competencies** – Zuber Ahmed (Mozambique)
- **Participatory Growth through Umunthu** – Rodger Phiri (Malawi)

**Plenary session (using Open Space Technology)** – How will we co-create more inclusive growth?  
Johnstone Shisanya & Judith Stemerding-Herret (Kenya & Austria)

**Closing session** – Austin Menya & John Cornwell (Kenya & UK/Kenya)



## **WHAT THE CONFERENCE ACHIEVED**

- ❖ The first facilitation conference in the region for 8 years brought together many members of the facilitation family / community to spend two positive, energizing and memorable days together
- ❖ A wide and diverse range of participatory tools and methods were used and shared in an open and inclusive peer learning environment; and excellence in facilitation was well demonstrated
- ❖ A committed team of volunteers were enhanced by the engagement of a full-time Co-ordinator, which made a significant impact on the smooth running of the conference
- ❖ Commitment made to running the next conference in Arusha, Tanzania during International Facilitation Week in October 2017



❖ Conference fees were kept intentionally low to ensure access and inclusion; financially, the conference eventually was very successful and we are grateful to all the facilitators who willingly volunteered to share their skills and experience

- ❖ It provided a valuable networking opportunity and set the stage for further co-operation. The exchange beyond countries increased the desire for representation of professional facilitation in Africa with the support of IAF
- ❖ The experience of process facilitation allowed a deeper understanding of the collective wisdom in more inclusive and participatory methods

*Warm Thanks to:*

*All our participants and facilitators*

*Our organising team - Ombok, Susan, Judith, John, Austin, Gabi, George, Alfayo, Esther, Mariam, Jessica, Dola & Sasaka*

*Our volunteers, rapporteurs and documentation team*

*Our partners - ChemChemi ya Ukweli, Tangaza University College (C·U·E·A·), Village Care International and I·A·F· (Kenya Chapter, Board & other members)*

SEE YOU IN ARUSHA-OCTOBER 2017



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