

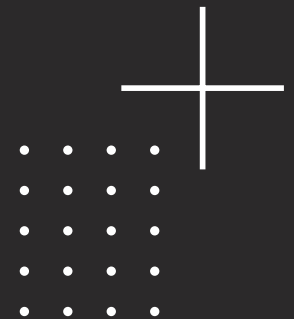
# PROJECT

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## TEAM

Board Members and One Economy Foundation Staff Profiles



# FREE



# MRS MONICA GEINGOS

## EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON

Monica Geingos is a qualified lawyer with extensive corporate experience. Before assuming the First Lady role in 2015, she was a co-shareholder and Managing Director of Namibia's largest private equity fund for over a decade served on the Boards of large public and private sector companies as either Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

Mrs. Geingos was a long-standing member of high-level policy advisory Boards, i.e., the President's Economic Advisory Council, the governing Party's Think Tank, and the National Council of the Namibia Chamber

of Commerce and Industry, with the mandate to advise on national policy formulation and implementation.

As First Lady, Monica has combined her high-level expertise with President Geingob's war on poverty and inequality. Through the One Economy Foundation (ONE), she has initiated numerous programs that focus on sustainably lifting vulnerable populations out of poverty traps. She is currently overseeing the institutionalisation of the #BeFree Movement key learnings into Project #BeFree - a one-stop youth centre of excellence that intends to

provide a continuum of holistic services to meaningfully close service delivery gaps experienced by young people

In recognition of her work for Young Women and Adolescents Girls and leadership in the global agenda to ending AIDS by 2030, Mrs. Geingos was awarded the 'World Without AIDS Award' from the German AIDS Foundation.

## MRS. KAUNAPUA NDILULA

**INDEPENDENT NON-  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Kauna Ndilula is a Development Finance Specialist with a keen interest in the development of financial ecosystems that support the growth of SMEs. In this regard, Kauna has pioneered and developed financial and non-financial interventions that are now the cornerstone of her business and has positively influence policies in Namibia. As the Founder and Managing Director of Business

Financial Solutions, an investment management firm in Namibia, Kauna has established a reputable local boutique firm that continue to innovate SME lending over the past 12 years.

Her demonstrable leadership skills in the social and investment space have impacted sustainable economic development across industries and structures in Namibia. She has served on various board such as Namdeb Holdings, NSX and Nampower. She Chairs the Sanlam Namibia Holdings Board and a Commissioner on the National Planning Commission.

Socially Kauna serves as a Patron of an orphanage and vulnerable children program in Tsumeb (ToV) and as a Director on the First Lady's Foundation, the One Economy Foundation.

Kauna holds a Masters of Development Finance (Massachusetts) and an MBA from the University of Stellenbosch.

## MR. FESTUS MUKUNGU

**INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Windhoek to guard cars and direct shoppers to available parking spots.

Festus has an incisive and curious mind and is a testament to the many intelligent and talented Namibians who were unable to access the necessary academic foundation to harness their potential. Festus provides meaningful and insightful contributions to the Board and strives to educate people about the opportunities available to people from marginalised communities, and hopes to help transform the mindsets of Namibians by encouraging help-seeking behaviour.

Unable to complete his high school due to financial circumstances, Festus applied for the Compulsory Military Training at the South West Africa Territorial Force. Upon completion, he worked as a security guard at a Parastatal and, after nine years, was made redundant. His determination and eagerness to succeed led him to offer his security services to a local supermarket in

## MR. EDMUND KHOASEB

**INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Edmund Khoaseb is an enthusiastic social entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and a communication specialist. Edmund is currently the National Coordinator: Communications and Partnerships at the Namibia Red Cross Society. He was previously employed by the Ministry of Land Reform as well as the Windhoek City Police Service.

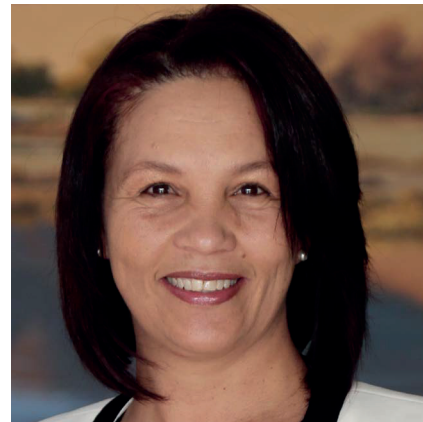
Edmund graduated from the Namibia University of Science and Technology with Honours in Journalism and Media Studies and a Bachelor of Journalism and Communication Technology. He is currently pursuing a Master of Leadership and Change Management from the same university.

Edmund has spent over 13 years in law enforcement, while he has more than five decades of working experience in Public Relations and Communications. He served on the Executive Committee of the Public Relations Institute of Southern Africa, Namibia Chapter (PRISA Namibia), and is currently a board member of One Economy Foundation.

Finally, Edmund is married to Edna Khoases and the father of three boys and a beautiful daughter.

## DR. VERONICA ROSE THERON

**DEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Veronica Theron is a Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Specialist with extensive clinical work experience with children, survivors, and perpetrators of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), victim empowerment, vulnerable witnesses, shelters, trauma, and crisis counselling and social pathologies. Veronica serves on several Professional Councils and has vast experience in capacity building of interdisciplinary teams. She developed an integrated child protection training manual and toolkit for professionals and community-based groups. Her innovation and dedication has contributed to the establishment of safe homes in 11 regions of Namibia.

## MS. BEATHA IILEKA

**INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



As a result, she founded the United Youth Charity Association, a Section 21 company that focuses on creating safe spaces for young people to advocate for young people's challenges freely. Her passion for community development, work as President of the Charity Association, and contribution to Sexual Reproductive Rights dialogues led her to attend the 3rd Southern African Regional Students and Youth Conference on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SARSYC).

Beatha Iileka is a 21-year-old Bachelor of Accounting student at the Namibia University of Science and Technology. She is an Ambassador of the #BeFree Movement and Orange Babies Namibia.

Beatha has lived her entire life in an informal settlement and uses her experience to channel the change she wants to see in her community.

Beatha is also a 2019 African Pathfinder Leaders Initiative (APLI) Fellow and is currently a Finance Trainee at APLI. She graduated with a Gold Merit from the 2019 Youth Leadership Development Programme.

## MR. MACVEREN DONALD KAPUKARE

**INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



He is an innovative thinker committed to utilising his IT and programming acumen to find sustainable solutions, streamline processes, and manage organisations. As a result, Macveren developed the EstApp, a real estate application that helps young people find affordable accommodation.

In recognition of his work, the App was nominated as the best digital solution from Namibia at the World Summit Award 2019. He scooped the ninth (9th) place at the World Robotics Competition along with his PAY team. He also won the University programming competition for three consecutive years.

Macveren is passionate about youth development and working with adolescents. He enjoys helping young people develop soft and technical skills to unleash their full potential and be better equipped to effect meaningful change.

Macveren Kapukare is an energetic and results-driven Software Engineer with experience in IT and programming. He is employed as an Office, CS and CSI Lecturer at the Physically Active Youth (PAY) and is also interning at Green Enterprise Solution. Macveren served as a Robotics Coordinator at FABLAB at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST).

**MRS  
SERETTA LOMBAARD**

**INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Seretta Lombaard is a qualified Chartered Accountant and Alumni Partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers, with audit experience of 24 years. She has her own accounting business and is currently in the Private Sector. She served on the President's Economic Advisory Committee for President Pohamba from 2013 – 2017.

She is currently a director of Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (Namibia) Limited and also serves on the Audit Committee.



## **DR. VERONICA ROSE THERON**

**GENDER AND CHILD PROTECTION SPECIALIST**



Veronica Theron is a Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Specialist with extensive clinical work experience with children, survivors, and perpetrators of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), victim empowerment, vulnerable witnesses, shelters, trauma, and crisis counselling and social pathologies. Veronica serves on several Professional Councils and has vast experience in capacity building of interdisciplinary teams. She developed an integrated child protection training manual and toolkit for professionals and community-based groups. Her innovation and dedication has contributed to the establishment of safe homes in 11 regions of Namibia.

## **MR. BERNARDUS STEVEN HARAGEIB**

**HEAD OF PROGRAMMES**



He served as the Programme Manager for Counselling at LifeLine/ChildLine Namibia, the Strategic Partnership Officer for Namibia Youth Coalition for Climate Change and reserved as the Deputy African Regional Representative at Child Helpline International. Steven is also a co-founding member of the Young Achievers Empowerment Project and has represented Namibia on several international platforms.

Steven Bernardus Harageib is a strong advocate for youth mainstreaming mental health and gender-based violence issues. He is an award-winning international speaker in more than 30 countries. Bernardus, has 10 years' experience in the non-profit sector and educational background in social work.

He is a 2019 Thomson Reuters Foundation Change Maker, Apolitical Public Service Fellows, Mandela Washington Fellow, and a One Young World Ambassador. I have received outstanding accolades from the Preparing Global Leaders' Summit in Macedonia and the YALA citizen journalism program in Jerusalem.

## **MR. SEM MANDELA UUTONI**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



As CEO, Sem is responsible for the implementation of operational policies and strategic plans. This is in addition to overseeing the organisations financial management, spearheading fundraising activities, and leading the entrepreneurship and enterprise development pillar.

At 24 years old, Sem founded the African Pathfinder Leaders Initiative (APLI), which recently earned him the Diana Award for youth development efforts. He served as a Special Assistant to the Chairperson's Ad-

visor on Regional Integration at the African Union Commission (AUC) in Ethiopia, and as the National Development Advisor (United Nations) at the National Planning Commission. Sem also worked as a Senior Social Responsibility Consultant at Old Mutual Namibia, which deepened his understanding of developing a sustainable social investment model. Sem brings a diverse skill set, an intimate understanding of youth and community development, and a stellar work ethic.

Sem holds a Bachelor's Degree in Regional and Rural Development from the Namibia University of Science and Technology and a Master's Degree in Regional Development and Environmental Economics (Summa Cum Laude) from Kaposvar University, Hungary. In November 2016, he received an Excellence Award from the Central Bank of Hungary to recognise his outstanding academic achievements and extramural activities.

## **MS. HILMA PETRUS**

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**



Together with like-minded people, Hilma dedicated her adolescent and young adult years mentoring and advocating for the empowerment of people with Intellectual disabilities at Special Olympics. She represented Namibia at youth activation conferences in the United States of America, Morocco, and South Africa from 2009-2012. With her passion for philanthropy and marketing background, she hopes to help position One Economy Foundation as the ideal social welfare organization.

Hilma Petrus is the Communications Officer for One Economy Foundation. She is responsible for key office and management coordination, stakeholder liaison, and strategic communications. Before her appointment, she served as the Internal Communications Specialist for FNB Namibia.

Hilma holds a Bachelor of Marketing Honours from the Namibian University of Science and Technology (NUST) and a Certificate in Digital Content and Copyright from the Red and Yellow School of Business.



## **MS. MIINA SHAKELA**

**PROGRAMME COORDINATOR**



Before joining One Economy, Miina served as a collection administrator at Old Mutual Namibia, and as a Loan Consultant at Entrepo Finance Namibia. She has extensive hands-on experience in lending, collecting funds, reconciliation, and office administration.

Miina holds an Advanced Diploma in Management from the Southern Business School and a Bachelor of Technology in Economics from Namibia University of Science and Technology (Polytechnic of Namibia/NUST).

Miina Shakela is the Programme Coordinator for the One Nation Fund under the entrepreneurship and enterprise development pillar. Her role includes managing the one nation fund file and monitoring the beneficiaries' accounts, and assisting with the economy's financial management.

## **MS. HEIDI J M ZIMMER**

**ADMINISTRATOR**



Before joining the foundation, Heidi worked as a Church Administrator at the River of Life Community Church in Windhoek. She served as an Administrative/Programme Assistant for more than 15 years in both the Global Fund to Fight TB, Malaria, HIV/AIDS and the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Heidi is a member of the Governing Board of the River of Life Community Church and is actively involved in voluntary charity work.

Heidi assumed the role of Administrator for the Foundation. She has extensive administrative, programme, and events management experience at the local and global levels, having held various positions in international organizations abroad.

## MS. HILYA IMENE

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ SOCIAL WORKER**



Hilya, a Social Worker by profession with youth at heart, served as a Senior Youth Officer before being seconded to the office of the Deputy Minister of Sport Youth and National Service as a Personal Assistant. As a Youth Officer, she was responsible for overseeing psychosocial support services for vulnerable youth by ensuring that young people are empowered to play dynamic roles in their development and communities. It is essential to provide and coordinate leadership and life-skills

while enhancing and promoting positive civic action. Additionally, Hilya is part of a public-private partnership with the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service to assist with the institutionalisation of Project #BeFree.

She has co-facilitated a mentorship programme for underprivileged youth by empowering youth with swimming (promoting fitness and healthy lifestyles) and life-skills through active youth participation. As a Social Worker, Hilya served on the Namibia Association of Social Workers Association (NASWA). She participated in the YALI Regional Leadership Center of Southern Africa (RLC-SA) programme in the Public Management and Governance track, which further earned her an opportunity to serve as a Namibia Chapter Committee member of the YALI RLC-SA Programme.

Hilya is passionate about social change and youth empowerment.

## MR. DAWID GAWASEB “BONNIE”

**SENIOR YOUTH OFFICER**



Dawid Gawaseb “Bonnie” is a passionate, seasoned youth worker with over 16 years of youth development experience. He has made significant contributions in his line of work over the years. His work has solidified his ambition to forge a path in becoming

a leading public policy formulator and implementer with a vast practical experience in public service, particularly youth services.

He is currently working as a Senior Youth Officer with the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, where he is heading the Windhoek Multipurpose Youth Resource Centre. Dawid is also seconded to serve the One Economy Foundation as part of the public-private partnership with the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service. He has a strong background in Integrated Rural Youth Development and is renowned for being determined, hard-working, and target-driven.

## MS. PEFIMBO SHIPUNDA

**SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER**



Pefimbo Shipunda is a qualified Social Worker who has dedicated her energy and resources towards the fight against Gender-Based Violence and protecting children's safety.

As the Senior Social Worker for the One Economy Foundation, Pefimbo's responsibilities include cri-

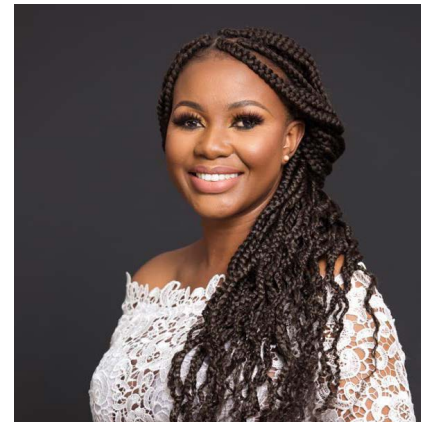
sis intervention, conduct awareness-raising programmes on SGBV in communities, training, and providing psychosocial services to individuals, groups, and families.

She served as a Social Worker at the Gender-Based Violence Protection Unit under the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication, and Social Welfare. Pefimbo brings a wealth of knowledge in the GBV space and will play a key role in addressing systematic issues related to violence against children and women and responding to survivors' needs when they occur.

Pefimbo holds an Honours degree in Social Work from the University of Namibia and is passionate about social movements to create positive change, especially among the youth.

## MS. HELENA NGAIFIWA

**PROJECT OFFICER**



honour individuals who contribute to building a better Namibia Helena is a co-founder of the National Young Women Association and serves as a member of the Southern Africa Youth Forum.

Before joining the One Economy Foundation, Helena served as the Project Coordinator for the Namibia Careers Expo and worked as a consultant for events management and PR services.

Helena spent ten years of her career as a presenter on various radio and television programs. Recognising the need to amplify and spotlight constructive social dialogue, Helena used her experience to establish a first of its kind lifestyle magazine, aimed at creating awareness on gender based violence and other issues affecting young women. The magazine also uses its platform to showcase upcoming young artists and hosts an annual "Simply You Magazine and Lifestyle Awards" to recognise and celebrate local talent and

Helena is not new to the work of the One Economy Foundation as she assisted our work as a paid intern in the Gender Based Violence and education pillar. Helena now uses her voice, experience and passion to support project implementation and public awareness on the work of the One Economy Foundation. Helena is mindful about ensuring that the Foundation's work remains innovative and impactful by focusing on measures which change lives.