

## Facilitator Biographies



**Elahe Amani** learned about conflict resolution and mediation in 1990, through CSUF Certificate Program of “Managing Multicultural Work Environments”. She completed formal mediation training through Pepperdine School of Law Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution in 1991 and promptly joined the Southern California Mediation Association (SCMA) and published a book review on “Mediation Across Cultures” in SCMA newsletter. In 1992-93 after the Los Angeles riots, Elahe conducted sessions of community mediation between Korean and African Americans in Town Hall settings through a program organized by Los Angeles City Attorney Office. In 2006 Elahe did a presentation at SCMA Salon on "Gender and Mediation" and presented on the panel in the affinity discussion at SCMA’s annual conference at Pepperdine University on "Culture and Mediation."

Elahe has provided several trainings on “Sexual Harassment” particularly building on a cross-cultural perspective. In 2007, she gave a talk addressing “Sexual Harassment in Iranian Community” organized by Iranian- American Bar Association in Berkeley @ UC Berkely. In May 2003, she went to Afghanistan as part of the grassroots delegation of the Women’s Intercultural Network. She has conducted numerous trainings and workshops during her last 13 years at CSUF and community at large on Conflict Resolution Across Cultures in the Workplace and Cross-Cultural Communications in the Workplace through Student Leadership Institute and the University Business Institute. In 2012, she taught at the CSUF Gianneschi Summer School for Nonprofits on conflict resolution. In Jan 2013, she presented on conflict management to the Iranian American Society of Engineer and Architects in Orange County. On May 11, 2013 Elahe presented to the LA Chapter of Mediators Beyond Boards on “Network Organization or an Organization that Networks?” (<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/elahe-amani/24/142/992>)



**Ayo Ayoola-Amale** has been working professionally in the field of law, conflict resolution, mediation and peace building and has had experience working as workplace, family, and community mediator. She has also worked in community development and community relations as trainer, certified mediator, facilitator, peacemaker and peace builder mediating, designing curriculum and facilitating training, engaging with executives, academics, teams, young people in schools and youth organizations and community groups. She also works as Lead, First Conflict Resolution Services and as a conflict coach and facilitator helping people understand the process of reaching their potential and preparing for mediation processes. As a skilled conflict resolution practitioner, Ayo’s services include among others facilitation of workshops, trainings on mediation, conflict resolution, conflict sensitivity, peace education, nonviolent conflict

transformation, community dialogue, effective communication, intercultural communication and self-awareness.



Ayo has lectured on mediation, conflict theory and effective communication, and Law in graduate and undergraduate classes nationally and internationally and was a module leader and head of Law at the Kings University London Met Law programme and other law faculties in Ghana, Senegal and Nigeria. She has been a member of the Ombuds team of Mediators Beyond Borders International. She is member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK and an Accredited Member of Femwise Africa for the AU. Ayo is a lifelong human and peace activist, constantly focused on mediation and peace-building and believes that Peace is a Human Right and culture that we build by educating young people. Peace making and peace building is a lifetime commitment for her and she remains dedicated to speaking out and taking action.



**Catalina Chaux-Echeverri** is a lawyer and a bilingual Certified Coach (English and Spanish) with extensive experience in the public sector, international relations, and working with communities to leverage their potential. This experience has giving her a solid background and an understanding of the development and implementation of public policies allowing her to foresee the importance of mediation and conflict resolution as basic tools to achieve specific social objectives. She used this background and experiences in the different projects she worked with involving rural areas, farmers, small entrepreneurs, communities, settlement and the inclusion of gender perspective, helping to create peace and harmony in urban communities.

She has vast experience working and coaching youth and youth at risk and knows the importance of meeting the client where they are, in order to support them in the process of reaching their potential. She believes in the importance of awareness as a step to look beyond possibilities and finding choices that allow us to achieve the best in us and eventual fulfillment. In her practice, she coaches individuals and corporations, expats, teams, youth and couples. She is passionate about cultures, diversity and inclusion and how those differences can help to build bridges that leverage and enrich the potential of the persons, relations and teams. She earned her Law degree in Colombia and specialized in Economic Law, Alternative Dispute Resolution and has a Master in law (LLM) in ADR. She is trained in NLP, MBTI, TILT, Conflict Coaching and is a facilitator in Cultural Intelligence. She has been a professor and a guest speaker on various topics, including Cultural Intelligence, doing business across cultures, improving communication, culture and conflict, transmissions, working with youth among others. She also a writes columns for magazines and newspapers.



**Lynn Cole** is a Harvard trained, Florida Circuit Civil and internationally certified mediator. She has developed court-related mediation systems since 1990 by first assisting the Florida Supreme Court in the design of Florida's regulatory structure and procedural regulations for the first court-related mediation program in the United States. Since 2005, she has worked as an International Mediation Specialist assisting in the design of court-related mediation programs in Bulgaria, Jordan and Kosovo, including country specific systems for judicial delivery procedures, grievance and ethics elements. Ms. Cole has authored many articles and frequently speaks on the explosive international growth of mediation.



With over 27 years as an *av*-rated trial attorney in commercial litigation, her mediation training is focused in Commercial Mediation (Advanced and Basic); Ethics; and, general civil mediation (Basic and Advanced) and in the Middle East and Southeastern Europe regions. Not only has Ms. Cole served as an ADR Adjunct Professor at Stetson University College of Law, she also teaches mediation courses domestically for Cole Academy and in Universities and Law Schools. Ms. Cole trains mediators and judges in Jordan, Oman, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia Greece and Turkey.

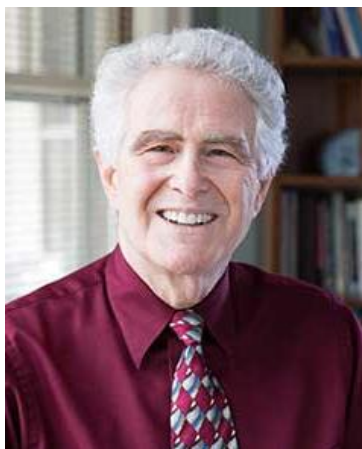
Since March 2011, Ms. Cole also has proudly served as the President of the Board of Directors for Mediators beyond Borders International, (MBB) a non-profit organization dedicated to building a more peace-"able" world. In May 2012, representing one of only two invited NGOs, she spoke to United Nations assembly about MBB's model of building mediation as an effective peace-building tool in local conflicts.



**Steve Goldsmith** organized the Istanbul Congress, and supported the Bucharest Congress also. He is deeply committed to MBB and Rotary and "peace through service" serves as a good motto for him. He has been a long-time restorative justice practitioners and former ED of an organization in LA providing these services. An organization that has received awards for its services under his leadership.

Steve has been working on the strategic alliance between Rotary and MBB through the shared focus of both organizations on - Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding. His extraordinary support, outreach and planning have made this ITI and Rotary Global Grant with the Jakarta club possible. He is also a world traveler, travel planner in a past life, a

film buff and a lifelong human and civil rights activist. He will be co-facilitating a session on program planning and design, as well as making connections with Rotary clubs who might be instrumental in supporting your individual



**Dave Joseph**, MSW, is the Senior Vice President for Program at the Public Conversations Project. He has provided training and consultation in Reflective Structured Dialogue in the US, Nigeria, Liberia, Canada, Greece and Burundi, for more than 10 years. He has designed and facilitated trainings and dialogues about immigration, class, gender, workplace relations, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, marriage equality, domestic violence, political differences and many other issues in the United States. His international work has focused on promoting interfaith coexistence and collaboration; reintegration of former fighters in post-conflict situations; immigration; and restoring and enhancing community resilience in post-conflict situations.

Dave is also an experienced mediator, facilitator and consultant, who has designed meetings, conferences and strategic initiatives within human service organizations and educational institutions. He is a founding member of Mediators Beyond Borders and serves on its Executive Committee. Previously, he cofounded and served as the Executive Director of the Community Mediation Center of Rhode Island. His background also includes having directed mental health and addictions treatment programs at community mental health centers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.





**Shadia Marhaban** Shadia Marhaban is an international mediator, capacity builder and activist from Aceh, Indonesia. She was a member of the Free Aceh Movement's (GAM) peace negotiating team in Helsinki (2005) that ended the 30 years of conflict. Upon her return to Aceh, she co-founded the Aceh Women's League (LINA) to oversee the implementation of the reintegration programmes for women ex-combatants and to provide training for their political participation.

Since then, she has concentrated her activities on consultation for peaceful dialogues in many conflict areas in Southeast Asia, and established contacts with several conflict actors in the region. She studied Political Science and International Relations in Indonesia and is a Fellow of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. Shadia's mediation focuses on political transition of separatist and liberation movements with respect to their identity, religion and dignity exploring models that can be acceptable by both parties. She is a consultant for the UNDP ExpRes (Expert Roster for Rapid Response) and serves as MBBi's Regional Consultant for South East Asia.



**Macarena Mata** has been working professionally in the field of conflict resolution for the past 11 years. She works as an accredited mediator (family, workplace and community) and trainer, engaging with executives, academics, teams and community groups on mediation, conflict resolution and self-awareness training, as well as young people in schools and youth organisations. She also works as an assessor in accredited mediation programmes and as a conflict coach helping people understand how to change their relationship to conflict and prepare for mediation processes. Macarena has lectured on conflict theory and self-awareness and reflective practice at the PgCert and MSc

courses at Birkbeck College and is module leader and tutor at the PgCert on Conflict Resolution and Mediation at Regent's University, UK. She is also a Professional Practice Consultant (PPC) and supervisor to mediators. She has been a member of the Board of Trustees with Mediation Hertfordshire for four years. She is member of the College of Mediators, National Family Mediation, Civil Mediation Council, Mediators Beyond Borders and Association for Conflict Resolution. Macarena was born in Málaga, Spain, and has lived in London for the last 18 years with her husband.



**Mary Montague** has been involved in peace building work from 1975. She is a trained mediator and has had extensive experience working in community development and community relations throughout the many years of conflict in Northern Ireland. She has been an initiator of many programs to build capacity within communities worked with families from all sides of the community divide in Northern Ireland who had directly suffered due to the violence and developed therapeutic programs for children traumatized as a result of the conflict.

In 2001 Mary co-founded TIDES Training a Charitable non-profit Training and Consultancy company. Mary has an established background in



community capacity development with particular interest in mediation and conflict management. She has lectured and trained internationally on many occasions on the themes of conflict management, peace building and reconciliation through community building in countries such as Croatia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Sudan and Pakistan. The programs incorporated the learning from Northern Ireland, the 'Rights Based Approach' and the 'Do no Harm' approach.

Mary is a founding member of Women Waging Peace global network at the John F Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, and Boston, USA. She has been a committee member of the CFNI Communities in Transition Program, and has sat on a number of Boards and Committees including Inter-Church Reconciliation Fund Committee, The Human Rights Commission Working Party for a bill of rights and victims. As an experienced mentor, she advises groups in strategic developmental projects. She offers coaching to many individuals on a one to one basis to further develop their skills in community development, mediation and mediative interventions. She is the author of Relationships to Reconciliation.



**Millicent Otieno** Qualifications: Eastern Mennonite University Virginia/USA, Centre for Justice and Peacebuilding on-going MA on Conflict Transformation; academic and experiential learning, courses undertaken include Trauma Sensitive Programming, Building Communities (2014), Faith-based Peacebuilding, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of Peace programs, Restorative Justice and Building Justice (Transitional Justice in Fragile States) for Training. Studies on Conflict Resolution and Peace Theories at the University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban/South Africa Supervised by Prof. G. Harris; modules include Peace Theories and Issues, Demilitarization/Security Alternatives, Nonviolence philosophy, Conflict Resolution, Research Methods and Alternatives to Violence (AVP Basic, Advanced and Training of Trainers).

**Experience and Skills:** Over twelve years of experience in coordination of an extensive network of trainers, practitioners and interested humanitarian, peace and development organizations working in the region and beyond, services offered include among others facilitation of workshops, trainings of implementers and field practice, training of trainers, coaching, mentoring and accompaniment of over 200 peace-building and 100 media as well as security practitioners/ trainers and partner organizations on conflict sensitivity, peace and community security work, planning workshops, project assessments and evaluations, case studies, documentation, networking and exchange of experiences, developing and updating members database, as well as translation and adaptation of relevant training material on participatory development approaches, conflict sensitivity, peace journalism, nonviolent conflict transformation, community dialogue and mediation processes. Trainer of Trainers on Alternative to Violence Project (AVP) and Master Trainer on Reflecting on Peace Practice as well as the Do No Harm /Conflict Sensitive Approaches and practices.

**Membership and Networks:** Conflict Sensitive Consortium (SWISS PEACE), DO NO HARM (DNH) and REFLECTING ON PEACE PRACTICE trainer/consultant (CDA Learning Projects), National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management Secretariat (NSC) Kenya – Conflict Analysis Group, Alternatives to Violence Project – Durban South Africa Network, Trainer MBBITI.



**Loretta Raider** is principal of The Raider Consulting Group, a global firm focusing on organization development and peacebuilding. She works with organizations to develop and implement effective strategies focused on their goals and preferred future. In 35 years of consulting experience, Loretta has provided a wide-range of expertise to all levels within an organization, in both the public and private sectors.

Loretta's international activities include fifteen years of experience with United Nations staff around the world in Vienna, Geneva, Addis, Nairobi, Rwanda, Santiago, Bangkok and New York delivering programs on Collaborative Negotiations, Global Diversity, Mediation, Team Building and Ethics. Throughout Europe and the United States, she trained and coached over four hundred AstraZeneca executives in state-of-the-art global leadership development programs. At the International Center

for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution (ICCCR) Teachers College, Columbia University, Loretta taught over 500 students playing a significant role in preparing them for careers in peace building.

Loretta leads the Sierra Leone project team of Mediators Beyond Borders International. Having worked in twenty - five countries worldwide, Loretta brings a strong knowledge of group dynamics and organizational behavior that enables transformative change within multicultural environments. Loretta is the past president of WIL, of Greater Philadelphia, *Women Empowering Women as Leaders Globally*.



**Jose Ramon** has extensive experience in developing intervention programs in the social and community areas. He has worked in rural and indigenous communities as well as urban populations, appropriating the best of it, their culture, idiosyncrasies, traditions and rescuing and recognizing their resources and experiences that can be used for the efficient development of programs to implement. Been involved with select this communities, has enabled him to integrate and adapt him to their customs and traditions, he has given an enrichment and personal experience to understand their needs, opportunities for change and facilitate the development of effective self-development. As professor he has extensive experience in training young people and adults, as well he has a high experience in creation, implementation and evaluation of social projects, workshops

and conferences. He believes supports and facilitates different individual processes, believing in a change of capabilities and virtues of people, he believes in personal interests as facilitators of community processes, with its experience he is able to stand out the very best of each social group and person.

He has a degree in psychology, he is also an attorney, and he has master's degrees in psychology social welfare, and a master of health science. Master of clinical psychology and health, mental health and Master of Science in addiction studies He has graduate studies and specialized courses in mediation and conflict resolution, mediation transformative. Community mediation community mediators in fields of comprehensive drug addiction prevention, evaluation and management of problem with drug use, researchers training in alcohol and other psychoactive drugs.



He is a professor, with more than 15 years of experience, he is the co / founder of the first mediation center in Nicaragua, He is facilitator and coach trainer of mediators groups that now make up the DIRAC (Direction of Alternative Conflict Resolution Powered by the Supreme Court of Nicaragua), with extensive experience in implementing mediation programs in urban and rural areas.



**Prabha Sankaranarayan** is a Conflict Transformation Consultant with over twenty-five years of experience in NGO management and program development. This encompasses the design and implementation of clinical and dispute resolution services; strategic planning activities, systems collaboration projects and community organization efforts. She is actively involved in regional, national and international civic activities focused on civil liberties, sexual violence prevention, conflict mitigation & mediation and the recovery & rehabilitation of trauma survivors.

Prabha has designed and facilitated interfaith Dialogues in Asia and Africa and has also facilitated dialogues about the use of community resources, integration of refugee populations, diversity and healthcare services. As a conflict management consultant, her work includes Dialogue, Mediation, Facilitation, Training, and Organizational Development. Her approach is multidisciplinary. Her design and interventions are based on an integration of skills and experience as a therapist, crisis responder and mediator; on extensive training in trauma and resiliency, Dialogue, Conflict Analysis & Mitigation and Restorative Justice Practices. Prabha is an Adjunct Professor at Washington and Jefferson College and she also trains and delivers presentations (nationally and internationally) on the impact of family and community violence, the intersection of trauma and peacebuilding, conflict resolution, mediation and psychosocial health.

Prabha's work at MBBi includes projects focused on the training, rehabilitation and re-integration of former child soldiers, gender focused interventions, cross- border training, Dialogue and community integration activities. She is currently a member of the MBBi Kenya Team, designing and delivering conflict transformation services among Pastoralists.



**Regina Odofle Thompson** is a graduate of Osgoode Hall Law School and holds a Master of Laws with Specialization in Alternative Dispute Resolution. Regina has over 20-years' experience as a mediator in the areas of Human Rights, Family, Child Protection, Community and Civil Mediator and a Certified Adjudicator. She is a trainer, facilitator, presenter, coach and public speaker. As a member of a team of elite ADR trainers, Regina has provided training and coaching services internationally. Regina's international consulting experience includes the design and delivery of a culturally-appropriate mediation processes and procedures for the Uganda Human Rights Commission. Regina is a member of a Canada-based team of elite

trainers who trained Police Officers and Social Workers in member countries of the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM). She designed and delivered a culturally-appropriate mediation training to members of professional and community associations in Accra, Ghana.

Regina has expertise in mainstreaming culture and human rights perspectives into dispute resolution service provision as a diversity, cultural context human rights/workplace and family mediation trainer.





Using multiple lens approaches she has conducted thousands of mediations. Regina uses her unique skills and expertise to expand perspectives on the importance of culture in designing systems and processes for peace management and conflict resolution.

Regina is a sought-after Presenter and Guest Faculty. She has collaborated with various ADR Communities of Practice and Educational Institutions on the importance of inclusive systems design. ADR Communities of Practice: Ontario Association for Family Mediators (OAFM) Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario (ADRIO), Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR). Educational Institutions: Osgoode Hall Law School, Durham College, Humber College, University of Toronto