

Founder's Biography

Ms. Josina Z. Machel holds an MSc degree in Sociology (Gender) from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a Bachelor of Social Science, Sociology and Political Science from the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Ms. Machel's entrance into the business world was in response to the challenges of HIV/Aids and gender disparities in the workplace. After providing strategic insight as into these issues as a Human Resources Officer at Anglo-American, Josina started Pfukani (Ltd) in 2007. It was the first company in Mozambique to design, coordinate and manage wellness and communication tools for HIV/Aids programmes in the workplace. She later joined the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), where she worked to enhance the Governance and AIDS programme, by providing research and analyses. During this time, she led the programme to address the role of political actors in the AIDS pandemic space.

She serves on a number of international boards, including the Graça Machel Trust, the Emerald Group in Dubai, the Zizile Institute for Child Development, and also serves as Director at the Samora Machel Documentation Centre. She has given a

number of presentations at national and international conferences on issues relating to youth, gender, culture and HIV/AIDS. She also has published works on the same topics.

Recently Ms. Machel established the Kuhluka Movement, an initiative set up to empower women survivors of abuse. Founded on the principals Advocacy and Mitigation, Kuhluka bridges the gap between giving a voice to women survivors, whilst providing them with a safe haven in their time of need. Through this initiative she seeks to find a platform that prevents abuse of women by bringing custodians of culture together to find ways that interrogate practices and traditions, and questions the behaviours that foster an environment that tolerates violence towards women. Not content with becoming an outspoken advocate, Josina will also use Kuhluka to establish shelters for women that offer comprehensive services to help restore women and rehabilitate them to once again become independent members of society who are able take control and make their own life choices going forward.



