



Africa as a Development and Investment Hub

Sunday 12th November 2017

Nile Ritz Carlton Hotel

Cairo - Egypt

www.destination-africa.org

Millicent Njuguna Muthoni

A quality and social systems auditor and a private sector professional, Millicent Njuguna has over 10 years' experience in participatory social auditing.

As a Lead Auditor/Head of Audit East Africa at Intertek, Millicent has delivered over 250 ethical audits on various codes of conducts in horticulture, garment/textile, packaging, Labels, Cotton growers, tea, oil exploration, Fish processing, crafts and services sectors for the UK, Swedish, Dutch and USA retailers and brands including, Adidas Coles Supermarket, Dollar general, Diageo, Ericsson, Statoil, L'Oréal, Johnson and Johnson, Marks and Spencer, Kohls, Unilever, Nestle, The Coca Cola Company, Wal-Mart, MARS, and the GAP among others.

Millicent based in Kenya is a cosmopolitan auditor having audited in East, West and south African countries namely Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Lesotho, South Africa, Ghana and Nigeria. The audits were benchmarked to the ETI SMETA 2 & 4 pillars, ICS, CTPAT, customer's private standards as well as country local laws and regulations.



Millicent has been involved in pilot assessment to gauge applicability of audit programs as well as review of client specific audit program. One of her major achievements was the development of social audit protocol for cotton farmers in Kenya.

Her core professional interests are in opportunities exploration, delivery of ethical audits and trainings that help large, medium and small-scale producers and companies to comply with codes of conducts leading to sustainable business and markets for ethically produced products.

Ahmed Othman

Ahmed Othman is the General Manager for Africa continent at Coats PLC. He has more than 20 years of experiences in multinational companies, Ahmed is a member of the Egyptian Kenyan business Council and he is CMA holder. Coats in Africa has 6 factories, three in North Africa and three in the south of Africa."

Avedis H. Seferian

President & CEO Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP)

Avedis H. Seferian joined WRAP in 2004 and became its President and CEO in 2012. He has extensive knowledge of social responsibility issues within the highly complex worldwide supply chains of the apparel, textile and footwear sectors. A recognized expert in the area of social compliance and responsible sourcing, he often speaks on topics in this field at different forums around the world, and has contributed to many leading trade publications and news outlets. Mr. Seferian serves on the Board of Advisors of the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety, is the Chairman of the Executive Board (and a member of the Stakeholder Board) of the Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA) and sits on the Impartiality Committees of several audit organizations.

Mr. Seferian began his career working for a business research and development organization before migrating over to legal research. Prior to joining WRAP, he was with a small law firm in Washington, DC. Mr. Seferian has also taught in various capacities in the business and legal arenas, including as an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland University College.

He speaks five languages, has lived in four countries and holds three degrees from three continents - a Bachelor's in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University in India; an MBA from the American University of Armenia; and a Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center in the United States, where he was a Law Fellow and made the Dean's List. Mr. Seferian is a member of the American Bar Association and the Virginia State Bar. He resides in Fairfax, Virginia with his wife and their 2 sons.



Christie Daly

Christie Daly is the Director of SAI's Corporate Programs. Christie manages service delivery to SAI's corporate members and partners, including Social Fingerprint evaluations, supplier and supply-chain management training, and multi-stakeholder panels. She is also responsible for the development of capacity building programs for all corporate partners. Prior to joining SAI, Christie worked with the New York City Department of Education in the Office of Public and Community Affairs. She has previously worked with and conducted research for the New York University School of Law Center for Human Rights and Global Justice on a wide range of business and human rights issues.

Christie holds a Master's Degree from New York University Center for Global Affairs with a concentration in Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Skidmore College.

Jaswinder (Jas) Bedi, MBS

Jas graduated as a textile technologist in the UK in 1984 and has over 32 years experience in the manufacturing sector in Kenya. Jas is an industrialist and an entrepreneur who has numerous responsibilities in business and various business member organizations. Over the years, he has attended several executive business courses organized by Harvard Business School, IMD, and IIM to mention a few to his credentials. He is a member of YPO-WPO global network of the Young Presidents Organization (YPO). Jas was also nominated a finalist in the 2016 Africa CEO forum awards and subsequently awarded the 2016 Sikh CEO of the year.

His business acumen has been recognized by Government of Kenya whereby he was appointed a board member at The Export Promotion Council in 2003 and thereafter in 2006 transferred to serve the board of The Export Processing Zones Authority for a period of 6 years until October 2012. Additionally in December 2012, HE President Mwai Kibaki honored Jas with a medal, Moran of the Burning Spear (MBS). Further In 2016 President Kenyatta appointed Jas as the Chairman of the Export Promotion Council to help boost Kenya's exports.

Jas is currently the

- Chairman Export Promotion Council (EPC).
- President of International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF).
- Chairman of the African Cotton & Textile Industries Federation (ACTIF).
- Managing Director of Bedi Investments Limited.
- Executive Director of Fine Spinners Uganda Limited.
- Director of Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA).

Jas has previously also served on the Board of the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) and for a period of 32 months served as Managing Director of Orbit Chemical Industries Limited from 2003 unto 2005. He was also the Chairman of Kenya Apparel Manufacturers Exporters Association (KAMEA) from 2003 unto 2010 and the Vice Chairman of Kenya India Business Council from 2003 unto 2005. In addition, he also served as Co-Chair of the World Bank Cotton Apex committee from 2004 unto 2009.

Besides these positions he served in various trade committees of Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) since 1996 and graduated to serve as Chairman of KAM for 2 years in 2010. Jas has also served the EABC as a Director from 2011 and as Vice Chairman in 2014. In addition he has served Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) as the Chairman of the Trade and Investment committee and as a KEPSA governor from 2010 until 2015.

To conclude, Jas has been tirelessly involved in developing export market opportunities, particularly in trading blocks such as EAC, COMESA, SADC, USA and the European Union.

Muhammad Al-Fouly

Muhammad Al-Fouly is the UN Global Compact network Egypt, Executive Director / Focal Point. Muhammad acts as GCNE National Executive person and as a consultant providing necessary consultancy for the UNGCNE participants as well as policy makers and international development entities. Along with his current position, Muhammad is one of the Egyptian National Experts in Social Responsibility ISO 26000.

Prior to his recent position, Muhammad worked as a managing director for Softcode Consultancy and was a consultant for Global Sustainable consultants for 10 years.

Muhammad's greatest strengths are his creativity, drive and leadership. He thrives on challenges, particularly those that expand the Community and business development reach. His projects involved a strategic partnership between international agencies, the government and the private sector, building on the potential benefits for the private sector business that gets into the lead and demonstrate a real development impact on their related communities.

Muhammad holds a bachelor of business administration (International Relations) from Gordon University, USA - as well as a licence in English literature from Cairo University in Egypt. Apart from the academic university degrees, Muhammad holds other international diplomas in areas of Social development, Value innovations, Risk management, Critical thinking, Negotiation and conflict management strategy creation.



Mr. Olivier Zieschank

Mr. Olivier Zieschank is Economist at ITMF. He is responsible for ITMF's surveys, studies, and publications with the aim to fulfil the federation's mission of keeping its worldwide membership constantly informed. Before joining the ITMF, Mr. Zieschank has worked in different managing positions for various companies, especially at start-up phase. He has a Master in management, a Master in economics, and is about to finish his Ph.D. in Economics.

Peter Van Rooij

Director of ILO Decent Work Team for North Africa and Country Office for Egypt and Eritrea since 15 January, 2015

Prior to his current assignment, Peter Van Rooij worked as Country Director of the ILO Jakarta Office responsible for Indonesia and Timor-leste since 2010.

Since joining ILO in 1995, Mr. Peter Van Rooij has served in development projects and activities related to employment and microfinance and worked as Advisor to the Bureau for Employers' Activities in Geneva.

Before joining the ILO, he worked as Field Implementation Officer at the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in Khartoum, Sudan.

Peter Van Rooij holds a Masters' Degree in Economics from the Wageningen Agriculture University, Netherlands.



Roy Ashrust

Roy has over 40 years experience in the textile and apparel industry, 25 of those years spent in Africa in both manufacturing, sourcing and now advising the Ethiopian Investment Commission on developing a world class textile and apparel industry

Roy started his career in the UK working in manufacturing supplying Marks and Spencer

1989 was the start of his African experience, setting up garment manufacturing in Zimbabwe to supply the USA market, even then we worked a speed model where we imported griegie fabric from Asia but dyed and finished in house then produced cotton woven bottoms for export based on customer demand

Roy returned to the UK in 1992 to continue his career in manufacturing for M&S, with the decline of the UK manufacturing base Roy took on the role of opening up Morocco for his UK based company establishing factories in Casablanca and Rabat

In 2000 Roy moved from manufacturing to production and sourcing and was responsible for establishing a Victoria's Secret Office in Israel before moving to South Africa to open an office for Mast Industries to take advantage of the new AGOA trade agreement

2005 Roy moved to Asia initially with Victorias Secret but then to Ralph Lauren as Vice President for Technical and Quality assurance

In 2012 Roy joined PVH Corp to investigate Africa as a potential supply base, the objective was to find two countries to work with and one to develop, PVH had recently acquired Warnaco and an Egypt office, Roy then opened a sub Sahara office in Kenya before introducing PVH and its supply base to Ethiopia in 2014 establishing an office in Addis Ababa in 2015

2014 PVH brought its supply base to East Africa to look at the potential, Roy had a key role in arranging this and subsequently following up and working closely with the investors and the Ethiopia government to establish Hawassa Industrial Park, Hawassa Industrial Park is the first Green Industrial Park in Africa which has over 50 factory units, over 500,000 sqm of factory floor space, employing in excess of 30,000 workers, employed by more than 20 foreign direct investment companies

Roy is passionate about Africa and its potential as the new textile and apparel hub

Roy is now currently advising the Ethiopian Government on how to develop a best in class sustainable textile and apparel industry

Sophie Preisig

Sophie Preisig is Sedex Stakeholder Forum Manager at Sedex, with responsibility for leading Sedex's engagement through the Sedex Stakeholder Forum, a group of members and stakeholders. With former experience in ethical trade consultancy, she now works together with and manages outputs of the Sedex Stakeholder Forum as well as heading up the Sedex Continuous Improvement Cycle, SMETA amongst others. With a background of Business studies at the University of St Gallen, and since joining Sedex has worked in various roles, she has been working specifically with the Sedex Stakeholder Forum with Sedex for over 6 years.



Steven DiBlasi

Vice President – Global Sourcing Lanier Apparel/a div of Oxford Industries

Biography

In my 25 years with Oxford I have been a Plant Manager and the VP of Manufacturing with responsibility for Product Development, Manufacturing and Sourcing. This position was responsible for design, pattern development, all owned and contract facilities as well as developing and implementing a sourcing transition into Asia.

In 2011, with the growth of international sourcing as a key strategy for Lanier, Steven was promoted to VP – Global Sourcing. Responsibilities currently include compliance, sustainability, cost of goods, logistics and new factory development. He is also responsible for sourcing offices in China and Vietnam. Lanier Clothes is now a global sourcing company with production currently in Mexico, China, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Haiti, Egypt and Italy.

With the addition of Oxford Sportswear in 2015, Steven's role expanded to sourcing knit and woven sportswear in both bottoms and tops. The collection ranges from Opening Price Point big-box stores to high end green grass pro shops.

President of the Southern Chapter of the International Association of Clothing Designers and Executives.

Board Member of the US Fashion Industry Association.

Guest lecturer at University of Georgia – Apparel Technology and Sourcing

Key note speaker at SCOPE

Panelist at multiple MAGIC seminars

Waleed El-Zorba

Managing Director Nile Holding Company

Attended the University of Southern California where he received his Bachelors degree in Economics from the School of Arts and Science.

After Graduation he moved to Cairo, Egypt where he joined his family business Nile Holding. Today his groups of companies are leading the way in ready-made garment exports from Egypt with five companies and over 11,000 employees. Primary markets are leading retailers and importers in the US and Europe.

In 2005 he was appointed to the Export Council of Ready Made Garments and Council of Qualified Industrial Zones by Egypt's Minister of Trade and Industry to help promote and continue the success of the textile industry in Egypt.

2008 - 2010 was an elected member to the American Chamber of Commerce Egypt Board of Governors.

2010-2011 was appointed to the Egypt-US Business Council by Egypt's Minister of Trade and Industry.

In 2012 was once again appointed to the Egypt-US Business Council by Egypt's Minister of Trade and Industry.



Gail W. Strickler

Gail W. Strickler is the President of Global Trade for Brookfield Associates, LLC., a consulting group that helps organizations, governments and businesses develop and coordinate their global trade policy.

She focuses on helping her clients develop integrated supply chains for manufacturing, especially in the textile and apparel sector. She works with textile and apparel manufacturers, brands, retailers and importers on strategic sourcing, with an emphasis on understanding and utilizing preference programs and free trade agreements. Ms. Strickler served as the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Textiles and Apparel from 2009 through the completion of the TPP in October 2015.

She was responsible for supervising negotiations affecting textile and apparel products, advising Ambassador Michael Froman and his predecessor Ron Kirk on policy matters and coordinating interagency efforts for the sector. She was the lead negotiator for the United States for apparel and textiles in the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and TTIP (Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership).

Prior to joining U.S.T.R., Strickler served as a Director of the Institute for Textile and Apparel Product Safety and Sustainability (I.T.A.P.S.) at Philadelphia University (the former Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science) where she oversaw textile research and development programs for the Institute and developed sustainability and environmental strategy programs for brands and retailers.

Ms. Strickler worked for Saxon Textile Corp from 1980 -2007 serving ultimately as its President and CEO until it was acquired by Patriarch Group in 2007 and became a division of Duro Textile LLC., where she served as VP of the Global Apparel Division. Strickler served as president of the Textiles Distributors Association (T.D.A.) for five years. She served on the board of directors of the National Council of Textile Organizations from its inception in 2004-2006 as a member of its Trade Policy committee. She was a board member for the USDA Cotton Board from 2002 until joining USTR, serving as Chairman of the Textile Research Committee. She served on the board of directors at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology's (F.I.T.) Education Foundation from 2002 and its executive committee from 2005, until joining U.S.T.R. Strickler received her B.A. from Clark University and completed programs in Textile Technology and Textile Chemistry from the Fashion Institute of Technology. She continued her research at Philadelphia University with an emphasis on environmental sustainability. She is a native New Yorker, and attended Stuyvesant High School.



Dhyana Van Der Pols

IAF Key Partner Business Development

Dhyana van der Pols of Nash International has been key partner of the IAF since 2012. In this capacity she works closely with the IAF in business development. IAF benefits from Ms. Van der Pols' large network and experience in the world of global apparel sourcing. She has been instrumental in first the establishment and then the development of the relationship of the IAF with several current IAF members. She is a frequent adviser to the IAF Secretary General and she has worked with the IAF on several key projects, notably in Bangladesh and in Ethiopia.

In key words: skills & expertise in fashion industry International business development, strategic buying and outsourcing, risk assessment, corporate supply chain strategy, merchandising & planning, retail budgeting, trade development aid, coaching SME's in emerging markets, import- and outsourcing intelligence, trade statistics, fashion trends translated to product development, e-learning fashion collection creation, export promotion for SME's.



About Nash/ N.I.J BV, part of Nash International BV

Connecting with European fashion brands

Nash International is a Europe-based global garment solutions provider that uses its formidable global network to connect garment industry players from all over the globe with European fashion markets. The firm's clients in Europe include many of the continent's leading brands. Nash International has built its strong position on keen strategic marketing, in-depth garment production knowledge, networking power and a consistent pursuit of excellent solutions.

Establishing successful partnerships with European players

Nash International was founded in 2002 by Dutch fashion expert Dhyana van der Pols, who is recognized by many in the industry as the first person to contact for guidance in crossing national and continental market boundaries. In the last decade, literally hundreds of fashion firms on virtually every continent have called on Nash International for both sales and sourcing solutions. With the global fashion supply chain at the heart of its strategy, the Nash team spends hundreds of days every year selecting and matching potential partners across at least four different continents.

Current activities & network

- Founder & Director Nash International & Nash/N.I.J BV
- G star RAW. Supply chain strategist Board 2017 onwards
- G star RAW. Global Head Product development 2015-2016
- G-star RAW. External consultant for COO. (since February 2015) Strategic research product development- denim excellence – agile supply chain management & 3 D technology
- Premier Vision Paris. Team Denim PV. Design New show: The Sourcing Connection
- Network partner EU sector associations & Trade show organizations: Eurovet (FR), Messe Frankfurt (DE), Dansk Mode (DK), Modint (NL), DTB (Dialog Textil & Bekleidung), Gesamtverband Germany, IAF (International Apparel federation) Ethical Trade Show initiative (DE), UKFT (UK), Dutch Fashion Foundation and Miami International Fashion week.
- WFSGI- World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry: Head of textile innovation, sourcing & manufacturing (November 2014- present)
- IAF International Apparel Federation: key partner
- CBI: Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Present- 2006). Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
External coach garment, fashion & textile industry manufacturers in 14 emerging nations. Coaching SME's.

Recent publications

- Business opportunity report Ethiopia
- Sustainability assessment factories in Ethiopia
- Taiwan ICAC innovative fabrics
- Dhaka Summit: Bangladesh Best Practice
- Documentary on CSR in Bangladesh- TV channel
- Late night Talk show Netherlands on Bangladesh tragedy- April 2013 (on web)
- Global outsourcing insights: KPI Key performing insights in developing countries fashion supply chain
- GT Nexus Fashion & retail summit: "The future of outsourcing" post china-19
- The apparel market for 50+ in the EU
- Denim market in the EU
- Cradle to cradle in the fashion industry
- Natural fibres related to EU consumer likings
- Season less design and sustainable design on shoestring budget
- GSP+ regulation



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