Gracian Chimwaza

Email: gracian@itoca.org

Website: www.itoca.org

Phone: +27-769171818

Skype: gchimwaza

Gracian Chimwaza (PhD), Executive Director
ITOCA | Information Training & Outreach Centre for Africa
88 Opaal Road, Lyttelton Manor, Centurion 0157, SOUTH AFRICA

Professional profile

A development executive with over 25 years of leadership experience in capacity development, research and project management initiatives in many African countries focusing on information research, ICT's, project monitoring & evaluation, knowledge management and exchange programmes working with Higher Education, CSO's and research & development sectors. Skilled in electronic engineering, business management and marketing. Demonstrated mastery in evaluating requirements for business application integration and service activation. Proven mentor and training with expertise in communicating across organizational levels and with cross-functional teams to drive shared vision and foster culture of excellence.

Career Highlights

- Secretary General of the International Association of Agricultural of Information Specialists (IAALD) -Africa Chapter (2007- current).
- Editorial board member for *New Review of Academic Librarianship (NRAL)* journal *(*2012 - current).
- Editorial board member for *Atlas* programme (2015 - current).
- Board member of Research4Life programmes Executive Council (2007 - current).
- Chairman of International Advisory Group for the Mobilizing Knowledge for Development (MK4D) programme at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, UK (2012-2014).
- Awarded Commonwealth Scholarship to build ITOCA's strategic relationships and organisational capacity with UK academic institutions, (February-April 2012).
- Co-Principal Investigator of a project investigating factors influencing research productivity of agricultural science researchers in research and academic institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa as part of the *Scientific Information for Agricultural Education in Africa* project. Funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (2012-14).

Gracian Chimwaza

Email: gracian@itoca.org

Website: www.itoca.org

Phone: +27-769171818

Skype: gchimwaza

- Principal Investigator of the Strategic Information for Agricultural Tertiary Education in Africa project funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: (2007-2010).
- Consultant for the WorldAgInfo project for Cornell University's funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Foundation, USA (2009-2010).
- Board Member of Cyberplex Africa, (2005 – current)
- Board Member of Empowered Life Trust of Zimbabwe, (2016 – current)

Personal details

Date of Birth	12 January 1967
Gender	Male

Education & qualifications

Educational and professional qualifications:

- PhD in Information Science from University of Pretoria, South Africa (2010-2017).
    - Thesis research: *Factors Affecting the Use of Electronic Information Resources By Postgraduate Students, Information Specialists and Academic Staff in STM disciplines at Universities in Zimbabwe.*
- Masters in Business Administration (MBA) Degree from Thames Valley University of UK (1998-2000)
    - Dissertation research: *An Investigation into Communication Behaviour in Virtual Organisations: A case study of TEEAL Africa.*
- Graduate Marketing Diploma from the Institute of Marketing Management (IMM) of South Africa (1999-2001)
    - Attained Chartered Marketer status in 2001
- Diploma in Electronic Engineering - Instrumentation & Control Systems from the Harare Polytechnic of Zimbabwe

Areas of research interest

- Electronic information resources access and use
- Information behavior
- Knowledge management and exchange
- Digital libraries and open educational resources
- Open data and open science

Email: gracian@itoca.org

Website: www.itoca.org

Phone: +27-769171818

Skype: gchimwaza

Career history

1999-current   **Executive Director**

ITOCA | Information Training & Outreach Centre for Africa

- Leading and directing an organisation from its inception; it started as a single-person consultancy to a reputable international NGO with 10 full-time professional staff and 16 part-time professionals across 28 African countries
- Leading and implementing the organisational visions, namely improving the quality of life and sustainable development in Africa through enhanced research and education
- Developing and implementing the organisational strategy in line with the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, aimed at increasing the adoption of ITOCA programmes in academic and research communities in Africa; *the plan is divided into eight strategies, all of which are interdependent and each of which is critical to support research, learning and development in Africa*
- Designing and implementing M&E programmes with the aim of ensuring adopted strategies and activities produce the expected outputs and outcomes and meet the investment goals

Career history contd.:

- Managing and mentoring staff by actively building their individual skills and building cohesive teams across multi-country development programmes
- Developing and managing multi-country programmes expansion successfully with educational and research programmes in the Sub-Sahara Africa region
- Formulating and implementing successful marketing outreach, training and support for ITOCA's ICT for development projects in the region
- Successfully leveraged the use of ICTs, Open Educational Resources (OER) in order to deliver viable learning programmes and pedagogy in resource poor environments. The underpinning goal being to ensure value for money in all projects investments
- Mobilising resources and implement accountability systems has driven ITOCA to its current levels
- Leading fundraising efforts working with reputable international agencies including Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Elsevier Foundation, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and CTA-Netherlands

Gracian Chimwaza

Email: gracian@itoca.org

Website: www.itoca.org

Phone: +27-769171818

Skype: gchimwaza

Early career

1998-1999	**Managing Director**	
	Africa Online (Pvt) Ltd.	
1996-1998	**Sales & Marketing Manager**	
	Africa Online (Pvt) Ltd.	
1995-1996	**Sales & Marketing Manager (Electronic systems)**	
	Conlog (Pvt) Ltd, Mashonaland Holdings	
1994-1995	**Electronic Systems Engineer**	
	Conlog (Pvt) Ltd, Mashonaland Holdings	

Selected Publications

- CHIMWAZA, G. & KOLSHUS, K. & MORRIS-KNOWER, J. & MISTLEBAUER, H. & OCHS, M. & PAULSON, J. 2017. TEEAL and AGORA: Off-and Online Access to the Scientific Literature of Agriculture for the Developing World. *Library Trends*, vol. 65 no. 3, 2017, pp. 396-413. *Project MUSE*, muse.jhu.edu/article/653639.

- CHIMWAZA, G., CHATAIRA, B., MSENGEZI, C. 2014. Africa: Building on digital libraries' growing momentum. *University World News,* Issue No: 325. 20 June 2014.

- CHIMALIZENI, M., CHIMWAZA, G., CHATAIRA, B, MSENGEZI. C. 2014. Responding to outreach and training challenges in health information: A case study from Africa. *New Review of Academic Librarianship,* 20 (3): 332-338.

- CHIMALIZENI, M., CHIMWAZA, G., CHATAIRA, B., KRKOSKA, B. B, 2012: Digital innovation for food security: a case study of the TEEAL programme and its contribution to agricultural research output in African institutions. Innovation: *Journal of appropriate librarianship and information work in Southern Africa.* Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems. Number 44, June 2012.

- CHIMWAZA, G., NYAREZA, S., PORCIELO, J., PARKER, K. & HUNGWE, V. M. 2010. ICT User Skills Building and the Possibility of Incorporating Intelligent Content in Research4Life Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, *IST-Africa 2010 Conference Proceedings Paul Cunningham and Miriam Cunningham (Eds), IIMC International Information Management Corporation, 2010.*

- GATHONI, N., CHIMWAZA, G., GODBOLT, S., & MSENGEZI, C. 2014. Saving lives through health information: African leadership and partnership. *African Library Summit 2013: The Horizon and Beyond,* Johannesburg, South Africa.

Conference Publications

- CHIMWAZA, G. 2013. Access to Research – the TEEAL experience. *Third Meeting of the Committee on Development Information, Science & Technology (CODIST-III), Economic Commission for Africa,* 12 – 15 March 2013, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- FITZPATRICK, P., CHIMWAZA, G., & DUVIGNEAU S. 2013: Learning By Doing: Lessons from a Facilitated Self-Evaluation Experience; *Australasian Evaluation Society 2013, International Conference,* 2 - 6 September 2013, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

- CHIMWAZA, G., CHATAIRA, B & CHIMALIZENI, M. 2011. Capacity Building in Library Services: Influencing Innovation and Competitiveness, *Committee on Development Information Science and Technology (CODIST-II) "Innovation for Industrial Development in Africa". United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC),* Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2 - 5 May 2011.

- NYAREZA S., CHIMWAZA, G., & HUNGWE, V. M. 2010. Research4Life e-resources programmes: supporting agricultural education and training in Sub-Saharan Africa. *1st International ICST Conference on e-services for Agriculture, Food, Environment & Life Sciences in Africa: Improving the quality of life through ICT*. September 9-10, 2010 - Johannesburg, South Africa.

- CHIMWAZA, G., VENT, O. H., & JOOS, N. K. 2006. Cross-Sectoral Training in Information Capacity Building for Research and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Knowledge Management in Higher Education: A Gateway to Excellence & Innovation in Africa Conference:* 22-24 February 2006, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.

- CHIMWAZA, G. 2005. TEEAL and AGORA for enhancing research and teaching: The view from Africa. *IAALD Congress 2005.* Kentucky, USA May 2005.

- CHIMWAZA, G. 2005. How AGORA Is Improving Access To Up-To-Date Scholarly Literature In Africa. *UKSG 28th Annual Conference*, Herriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, 11-13 April 2005.

- CHIMWAZA, G. 2004. How AGORA is improving access to up-to-date scholarly literature in food, nutrition and agriculture in Africa. *CTA Seminar on Communication Tools in Food Security & Nutrition conference*. 8-12 November, 2004.

- CHIMWAZA, G. Training in Africa: Building User skills on Research4Life Programmes, *Global Health Library Consultation meeting.* WHO, Geneva, 26-27 November 2009.

- CHIMWAZA, G., NYAREZA, S., PORCIELO, J., PARKER, K., HUNGWE V. M. 2010. ICT User Skills Building and the Possibility of Incorporating Intelligent Content in Research4Life Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Cunningham, P. & Cunningham, M. (Eds.) 2010. *IST-Africa 2010 Conference Proceedings IIMC International Information Management Corporation, 2010* ISBN: 978- 1-905824-15-1

Gracian Chimwaza

Email: gracian@itoca.org

Website: www.itoca.org

Phone: +27-769171818

Skype: gchimwaza

References

Prof. Patrick Ngulube (PhD)
Professor, Department of Interdisciplinary Research
of the Unisa College of Graduate Studies (USGS),
University of South Africa (UNISA)
UNISA - Campus
Pretoria 003
Tel: +27 12 429-2832
E-mail: ngulup@unisa.ac.za

Prof. Ina Fourie (DLitt et Phil)
Department of Information Science
University of Pretoria
Lynnwood Road
Ithaca, New York 14853
Pretoria 0002
Tel: +27 12 420-5216
E-mail: Ina.Fourie@up.ac.za

Mary Ochs
Director, A.R. Mann Library
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
USA
Tel: +1-607-255-2795
E-mail: mary.ochs@cornell.edu