

NISAN ZERAI KESETE

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- PROFILE** |
- Human rights lawyer with widely transferable skills;
 - Experienced researcher on various issues, including women's rights and migration;
 - Experienced in project, programme and budget management;
 - Experienced in successful funding applications from different donors including the European Union;
 - Highly professional, with a strong sense of ethics and integrity;
 - Very organized, detail oriented and able to work independently as well as part of a team.

- EDUCATION** | **University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa**
Master of Laws (LLM) in Human Rights Specializing in Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights (2006 – 2007)
Addis Ababa University, Faculty of Law, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (1998 – 2003)

- EXPERIENCE** | **UK PROGRAMMES MANAGER FORWARD UK**
MAY 2015 – NOVEMBER 2016
- Responsible for managing the delivery of all the projects within the UK Programmes;
 - Responsible for managing 10 members of staff including; recruitment of staff members and consultants;
 - Managed the budget of all the projects in the Programme and worked with the Finance Officer to produce quarterly financial reports for the Board of Directors and the CEO;
 - Overall responsible for the regular liaisons, updates and reports produced to different funders – European Union, Foundations, Government Ministries and Local Councils;
 - Managed grants allocated through FORWARD to smaller partner organisations in various parts of the UK;
 - Wrote successful grant proposals securing funding from existing and new funders;
 - As a country expert in the UK, contributed to a European report on FGM ([*Female Genital Mutilation in Europe: An analysis of court cases – 2015*](#));
 - Made sure that all activities of UK Programmes complied with current statutory and regulatory requirements e.g. child protection policies, vulnerable adults policy and anti-discrimination legislations.
- LEAD RESEARCHER EAVES**
OCTOBER 2013 - MAY 2015
- Designed a multi-methodological two years research project and secured £200,000 funding from the European Union to deliver the project;
 - To supplement the above research applied and secured over £100,000 funding from a Local Council;

- Led the research project which looked into the challenges and barriers migrant women face when they come to the UK on spousal/partner visas. ([Settling In: Experiences of Migrant Women on Spousal Visas in the UK – 2015](#));
- Carried out an extensive qualitative and quantitative data gathering with over 100 women and 60 professionals in the UK;
- Point of contact for the research advisory group consisting of internationally renowned academicians and policy experts on the issue of gender and migration;
- Responsible for communication with funders and providing funding reports throughout the project;
- Worked with the Home Office and key officials at the UK Visas and Immigrations to convert the research findings and recommendations into policy development and practical support for migrant women.

PROJECT OFFICER EAVES

SEPTEMBER 2012 - SEPTEMBER 2013

- Led on a research project which monitors the overall implementation and effectiveness of a new UK Government Scheme that protects migrant women who are victims of domestic violence ([Destitution Domestic Violence Concession Scheme: Monitoring Research Project – 2013](#));
- Carried out an extensive qualitative and quantitative research gathering and analyzing data from over 100 women and 60 professionals across the Southeast of England and London;
- Designed and delivered training on the new scheme, to relevant audiences across the UK notably social services, police, probation officers and representatives of women's organisations;
- Responsible for communications and regular reports to funders;
- Invited at funder's annual strategic meeting to input on priority areas for funding;
- Established an effective working relationship with relevant Government departments, entrusted with the implementation of the scheme;
- Worked with the Home Office and key officials at the UK Visas and Immigrations to convert the research findings and recommendations into policy development and practical support for migrant women.

BEST PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER EAVES

MARCH 2009 - AUGUST 2012

- Wrote various Government Consultations policy reports on numerous issues related to women's rights;
- Closely worked with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Prostitution and the Global Sex Trade to change the law, making it a criminal offence to buy sexual services from anyone who is coerced (*Policing and Crime Act (2009)*);
- Through the *Demand Change!* campaign did intensive lobbying and policy influencing work, putting together the necessary information and research findings and drafting briefings on issues relating to prostitution and trafficking (www.demandchange.eu/campaign);

- Chaired and coordinated the Sexual Violence Action and Awareness Network (SVAAN) of over 100 voluntary and statutory organizations in the UK;
- Produced a weekly newsletter (*Women's Weekly News*) on violence against women's issues which had a worldwide distribution;
- Organised various events and conferences;

UNHCR REFUGEE STATUS DETERMINATION (RSD) UNIT TEL AVIV, ISRAEL (AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2008)

- Worked with asylum seekers mostly women who cannot speak for themselves due to language and cultural barriers
- Worked with women in prison and their children assisting them in their claims for asylum
- Worked within the RDS unit in analysing the different information and data gathered from asylum seekers
- Translated Official documents in assisting asylum seekers

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY, FACULTY OF LAW
(APRIL 2007 - JANUARY 2008) **SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**
DEPARTMENT OF LAW (AUGUST 2003 - JANUARY 2006)

- Lectured in the area of various areas of law; family law, inheritance law, labour/employment law and business law;
- Prepared and wrote teaching materials for distance education students;
- Advised students with their research work, including giving them practical support around the areas of research, materials and research methodology.

AFRICAN INITIATIVE FOR A DEMOCRATIC WORLD ORDER (AIDWO)
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA (February - April 2005)

- As a Gender Officer planned and implemented an integrated gender approach to the working of the organisation;
- Prepared project proposals for awareness raising (on legal rights) campaigns for women in poor and marginalised communities;
- Produced 'Know your right' booklets; easily accessible and understandable materials discussing women's family, reproductive and employment rights.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Object (June 2012 – October 2014)
Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (January 2014 – May 2015)

LANGUAGES

Fluent: English, Amharic and Tigrinya
Basic: Hebrew