



Ms. Bridgette Gasas (Managing Director: The Elilox Pty Ltd)

Professional Qualifications:

GASAS holds a Bachelor of Building Arts in Architecture (University of Port Elizabeth), a cum-laude Post-graduate Diploma in Project Management from the Training for Management College (Newport University), a Certificate in Project Management in the Public Sector (University of Stellenbosch), a Masters Degree in Project Management (University of Natal), a Construction Management Programme qualification (University of Stellenbosch) and a Global Executive Development Programme certificate through the Gordon's Institute of Business Science (GIBS). She is currently reading towards her PhD in Construction Management.

Leadership Involvement:

Bridgette is an Architectural practitioner registered with the South African Council for Architectural Professions. She is affiliated with many well-known professional associations, which include Project Management South Africa (PMSA); she is both a Fellow member of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB Africa) as well as its President for the African continent. Bridgette is also affiliated with the American Academy of Project Management as a Fellow member and recognized Master of Project Management. She holds board membership with the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa and also chairs its Human Resources and Remuneration subcommittee of the Board. She previously held board membership with the Project Management Chamber of the Services SETA and sat on advisory committees of Road Infrastructure Research with the then Transportek Division of the CSIR and the Building Science Department of Tshwane University of Technology.

Work Experience:

GASAS started off her career as an architectural designer for practices in KwaZulu Natal and Port Elizabeth respectively. She was then recruited by the National Department of Public Works where she was responsible for the provision of accommodation solutions for state departments and effecting infrastructure development, maintenance and upgrading of built facilities. Bridgette was then seconded to the private sector to work with Fluor Daniel Engineers as a Cost Engineer on the US\$1 billion Secunda Natural Gas project on behalf of Sasol. Her most phenomenal contributions have been with the Construction Industry Development Board and the Coega Development Corporation. With both these institutions she held executive management posts responsible for leading research and innovation for the development and implementation of a variety of initiatives ranging from improving public sector delivery capacity and infrastructure development. Bridgette has partnered with National Treasury, built environment contractors and consultants in spearheading the design of strategic and innovative programmes that are to-date successfully implemented throughout government departments in South Africa. One programme that particularly stands out is the Infrastructure Delivery Improvement Programme (IDIP) which she helped develop from concept stage and which was ultimately established nation-wide in 2004. Together with the National Treasury she trained senior management of both national and provincial departments on IDIP's benefits and applications. Bridgette has managed the implementation of large infrastructure projects, a portfolio of roads, culverts and bridges construction, water & sanitation projects and industrial facilities, all totaling R 4 billion in value.

Current Occupation:

Bridgette is widely traveled and has covered Africa, South East Asia, the Far and Middle East and Europe extensively. Her most recent portfolio with the Coega Development Corporation (other than developing 11500 hectares of Industrial Development Zone land) was centered around socio-economic development through construction contracts using relevant procurement methodologies and as a result advancing the participation of SMME's within various levels of built environment skills. In December of 2008 she resigned from full time employment and is currently focused on her

research work at the moment which looks at the utilization of a tool that would improve the competitiveness of small businesses participating within the above-mentioned sector. Simultaneously, she has established a company (The Elilox Group) which amongst other things focuses on programme and project management training as well as infrastructure development.

Societal Responsibilities:

GASA also spearheaded a number of social responsibility initiatives most of which involve training of Project Managers from various professions including: Information Technology, Construction and Services. During the period of 2003 – 2005 and as the Vice-President for Technical and Education of the PMSA, she arranged and delivered technical seminars to the registered members whose desire it was to enhance their on-the-job knowledge and skills in Project Management. *Pro bono*, Bridgette also taught modules on Construction Procurement and Project Management to the University of Pretoria – (Vista Campus) between the years of 2002 – 2005. In 2008 she was appointed as a mentor to the 2008 fellows of the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, Eastern Cape.

Bridgette GASA is the 2008 recipient of the Department of Science & Technology Award for a Leading Woman Scientist in Industry. She was also unanimously nominated as the first-ever female and first-ever african President of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) during the year 2008. The CIOB is a 175-year old institution.