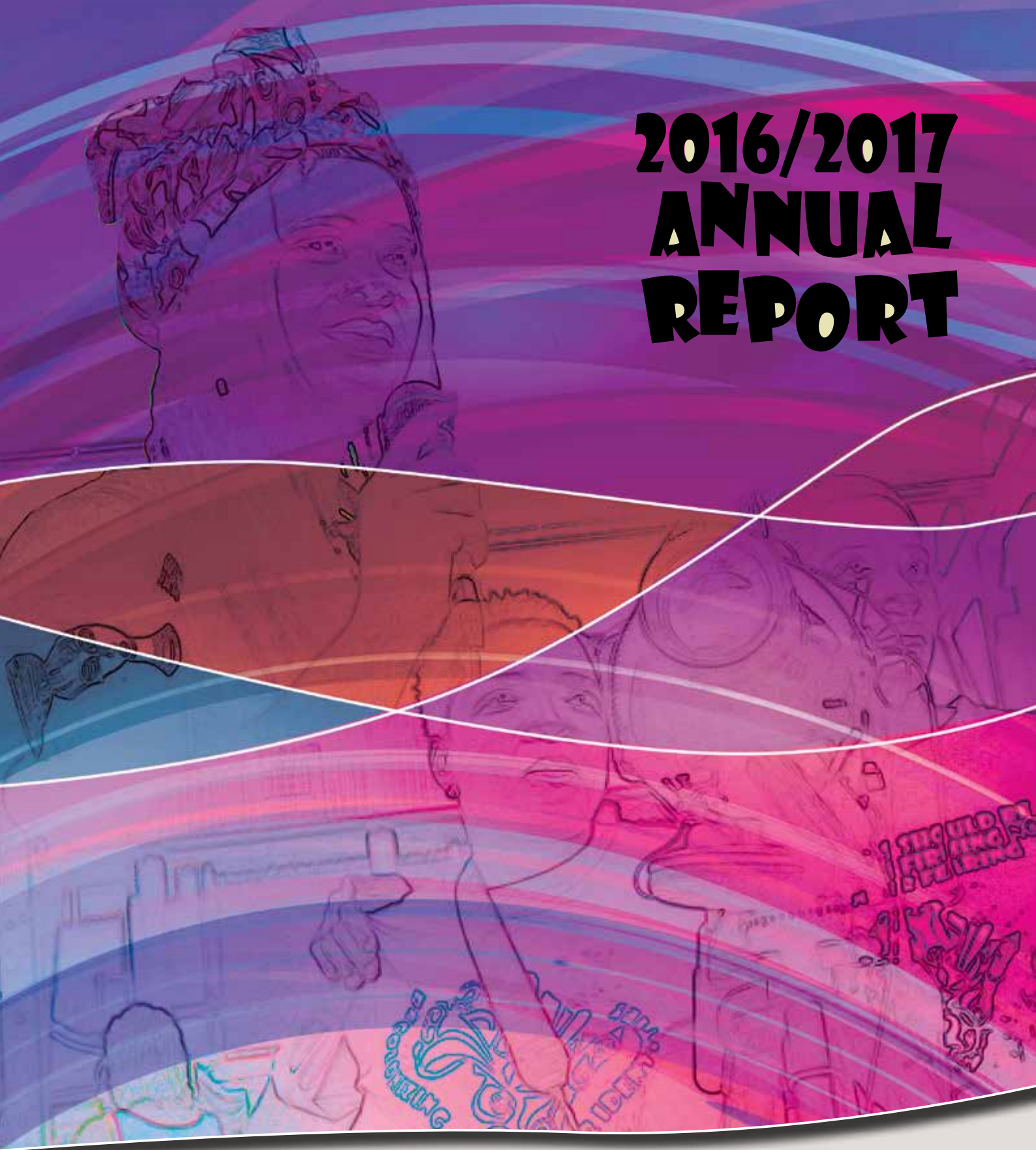


# 2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT



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QUEER VERNACULARS  
VISUAL NARRATIVES



# 2016 to 2017

01 MARCH 2016 to

28 FEBRUARY 2017

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## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear friends and supporters of Iranti-org

It brings me immense pleasure to present our fifth annual report, looking over the past year, March 2016 to February 2017.

This has been an important year for us. As we pass our five-year mark we take time to reflect on how far we have come in our overview, *Five Years and Forward*, which forms part of this report.

Over the years we have continued our partnerships with organisations across South Africa and the rest of the continent through the provision of training and networking opportunities. We have been instrumental in giving support through training to emerging activist groups in South Africa, particularly in Limpopo, North West and Gauteng, through our ZwaKala programme. In addition, we have given logistical support to Pan Africa International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), and are also in the process of resuscitating InterSex South Africa (ISSA).

Iranti-org started in 2012 as a very small organisation that has gone on to achieve international recognition. This has been achievable thanks to our allied organisations, and the many funders who keep us going. Over the past five years, we have made almost 100 short films, between one minute and ten minutes long. These have gone out across the world, through film festivals and our website. We are particularly proud of the fact that our website has over 1.4 million hits in the past financial year.

We have also published booklets that outline the importance of depathologisation of trans and intersex persons, and how the WHO's International Classification of Diseases (ICD) guidelines affect queer Africans.

Under the umbrella of our Africa Queer Media Makers' Network (AQMMN), we hosted a Pan-African script-writing seminar in 2015 to train young queer creatives to tell their stories. Following the training, the second phase of the project has been initiated, where two of the stories were made into films, which will be screened at our fifth anniversary celebration.

In preparing for our fifth anniversary, we have started working on a new strategic vision for the growth of the organisation; developing a new aesthetic for the Iranti-org brand; and bringing new methodology and vigour to our media production work.

We remain committed to our mission to ensure that every queer person feels safe, and free to be who they are, without regret or compromise.

Iranti-org acknowledges the long hours and commitment shown by the staff to the organisation. The Board has, as always, been a tower of strength watching over our development and growth.

**Jabulani Chen Pereira**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD



Emilia Potenza ■ As we approach Iranti-org's five-year anniversary, it is hard to express how important it has been for me to serve as chairperson of the Board. It has been an honour to be a part of an organisation that has achieved so much in so short a space of time; and brought a new vision to the queer advocacy scene – with its focus on documentation and media-creation.

The Iranti-org team is in many respects a family. The bonds formed between members are strong by necessity as the work is challenging, and often thankless. So when Iranti-org achieves a great victory against those who would marginalise queer bodies, the joy that is felt by one staff or one Board member is felt by all of us. Sadly the opposite also holds true – when we lose another life, another battle, the heartbreak is felt by all. The pain felt by the affected communities is our pain because they are our communities.

Regardless of the toll the work takes on everyone, the staff continues to do their best in forwarding the important messages that Iranti-org extends not only in South Africa, but across the continent.

I would like to thank Jabu Pereira for his incredible commitment to getting the job done, and the remarkable and talented team of largely queer people he has employed, who share his vision, and go to any length to make our organisation operate at its very best.

**Emilia Potenza**

## THE IRANTI-ORG BOARD

The Iranti-org Board of Directors provides governance, financial oversight and strategic direction to the organisation.



Monique Solomon ■



Robert Hamblin ■



Thembani Chamane ■



Lorraine Pillay ■



*Iranti-org Media Team member Sandi Dlamini documents the participants at the ZwaKala Annual Learning Event at the Stay City Hotel, Johannesburg.*

## WHO IS IRANTI-ORG?

Iranti-org was founded in January 2012, in order to focus on trans, intersex and lesbian rights, with the intention of building local partnerships and movements, through the use of multimedia as a key platform for lobbying, advocacy and educational interventions, across Africa. Iranti-org does this through training and capacity building in multimedia and documentation skills. Iranti-org's commitment lies in probing and developing a deeper understanding of these gross human right violations and seeking ways to change policies, laws and individual mind sets to end homophobia; intersex phobia; trans phobia; sexism; and patriarchy. Iranti-org participates on national, regional and global advocacy platforms.

### **What is Our Vision?**

*Iranti-org ENVISIONS a just world where everyone lives with dignity, respect and equality and where sexual, gender and bodily diversity is celebrated.*

### **What is Our Mission?**

*Iranti-org is a media advocacy organisation that defends the human rights of lesbian, trans and intersex communities in Africa.*

### **Our Strategic Outcomes**

All activities in Iranti-org are guided and evaluated according to our Strategic Outcomes.

**Strategic Outcome One:** *Growing visibility and immediate redress of human rights violations of lesbians, trans and intersex persons.*

This outcome area includes impactful media reporting and advocacy, real time reporting of those violations and other critical moments and opportunities for shifting public opinion, actions and changing policies and institutions.

**Strategic Outcome Two:** *Building stronger organisations and movements of lesbians, trans and intersex persons working in areas of media, documentation and advocacy.*

This outcome area includes media and documentation training, advocacy strategy development, and start-up support for organisations of lesbians, trans and intersex persons working in these areas.

**Strategic Outcome Three:** *Strengthening of evidence based research, data and documentation that supports effective interventions is strengthened.*

This outcome area focuses on collecting credible data in response to emergency situations that require immediate attention, as well as building a database of evidence to promote effective interventions over the longer term.

**Strategic Objective Four:** *Strengthening regional and global level advocacy initiatives.*

This includes making critical contributions to proposed changes in policies and institutions, including African governments and global institutions such as the United Nations, the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, the Human Rights Council, the World Health Organisation, and the Commission on the Status of Women.

# FIVE YEARS AND FORWARD

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF IRANTI-ORG

“Iranti-org understood the **enormous ethical responsibility** placed on its shoulders. Taking on media advocacy would be a major challenge. There would be none of the parachute-journalism which plagues the mainstream media.”

### Setting the Foundation

Iranti-org was founded by Jabulani Chen Pereira and Neo Musangi in 2012.

In 2012 Iranti-org was simply Jabu and his camera operating from home. Realising that so many queer African narratives were told by non-queer non-Africans, the inspiration for Iranti-org was twofold; to prove the agency of queer Africans in telling their own stories, and document violations which too often went under-reported.

The concept was revolutionary, and indeed alien to many on the activism scene who had focused on advocacy rather than documentation and media production. The organisation's name, Iranti-org, comes from the Yoruba word which means memory. Memory, says Jabu Pereira, was always a key concept that the first pioneers of Iranti-org would come back to, as documentation of queer experiences not only preserves evidence of wrongdoing to assist with the dispensation of justice, but also creates a history, a record, for all to remember what has happened.

In doing so, Iranti-org understood the enormous ethical responsibility placed on its shoulders. Not only was this a media organisation, but also an advocacy one. There could be none of that parachute-journalism which plagues the mainstream media, where a reporter would befall a grieving family or terrified victim of discrimination, cobble together their stories, and vanish without a trace. Wherever possible, Iranti-org would endeavour to follow-up on cases, and support those who needed assistance.

### Foray into the Unknown

Iranti-org's first case came in the form of the brutal murder of Thapelo Makutle in Kuruman, Northern Cape. It was 2012 and the organisation was still young and based at Jabu's house. Travelling to Kuruman with his camera, Jabu's reporting on the young gay man's murder shone a light on the brutality not previously made public. The local South African Police Service (SAPS) had reported that Makutle had died as a result of a 'neck injury'. The truth was that Makutle was partially decapitated, with his own severed genitals forced into his mouth.

Mainstream news soon picked up the information that the murder was far more horrific than many could imagine, and the shockwaves rippled across the globe. The European Union placed extra pressure on the South African government to deal with hate crimes effectively, and though an innocent life was taken, Iranti-org's first victory had come. There would be many more victories, and some setbacks, along the way.

Iranti-org continued to grow, with the addition of Ayanda Msiza and later Gugu Mandla to the media team. Eventually the organisation moved out of Jabu's house and into a space at Khanya College, and after that onto the Soul City Institute, until finally securing its own office space in Braamfontein in 2016.

### Seeking Funding

For its first two years Iranti-org's funding was all but non-existent. There was a certain amount of emergency funding which sustained activities, but growth was always limited. The media production focus also made for a hard sell, with many donors stipulating that money must be used for advocacy and activism only. This was, after all, what was the norm at the time.

As such, Iranti-org had to adapt or die. The organisation now has a fully-fledged Programmes and Advocacy Unit and Media Unit. The Advocacy Unit works on traditional activism and support for queer communities; while liaising directly with the Media Unit to reports on events. Essentially, media had to become a core part of all our advocacy work. One could argue that the most impassioned advocacy in the world means nothing if it cannot be conveyed meaningfully to authorities and the public, through media. Iranti-org's media is no longer simply used for documentation, but is an active tool in generating public support and bringing about change.

Thanks to funding from the European Union, which first took notice of the work of Iranti-org back in 2012, Iranti-org has also been able to empower smaller organisations in Limpopo, North West and Gauteng as part of our ZwaKala programme. The aim is to train new community-based



***Iranti-org Media Team member Ayanda Msiza documents a panel discussion at the Trans Visibility Day.***

organisations (CBOs) in activism, legal matters, and media production. These CBOs form a network, and act as each other's eyes, ears, and helping hands in documenting and fighting against hate crimes. In 2017 the EU's grant to Iranti-org helped supply several CBOs with new cameras, tablets and laptops for the purposes of advocacy and media production.

The many other projects Iranti-org has undertaken, as well as the daily running of the organisation, staff salaries and office rentals would not have been possible without our funders who have had the vision to trust in Iranti-org's mandate, where many others would not. The current list of funders is broad, but Iranti-org has been fortunate to receive continued funding from HIVOS; Astraea Lesbian Foundation; Arcus Foundation; OSISA; Wellspring Foundation; European Union Foundation for Human Rights; Heinrich Boll Foundation; The Other Foundation; RFSL-Forum Syd; The Urgent Action Fund; Arcus; and Mama Cash. Their support has enabled Iranti-org to restructure into a fully-fledged non-governmental organisation (NGO) with a clear mandate and organisational structure.

Iranti-org is ready to take on the world!

## **Growing**

As Iranti-org grew so too did its ambition. In 2012 Iranti-org marked Nelson Mandela's birthday with '67 Minutes of Shame' – and blockaded Luthuli House. A surprised ANC NEC met with activists thereafter and promised to take action to protect queer bodies. However, little has materialised on this front.

Iranti-org continued to cover hate crimes. Following the murder of Thapelo Makutle, there was another murder

of an LGBTI person in Kuruman. Iranti-org realised that documenting of hate crimes was to be a vital part of the organisation's work. In 2014, Iranti-org covered a range of crimes, from the murder of a lesbian in Potchefstroom to the discrimination of a transgender student, by a Limpopo school principal. Iranti-org supported the student through a court case, and a Limpopo court ruled in her favour earlier this year. Over the years Iranti-org has covered many hate crimes.

One thing Iranti-org has always grappled with is whether there is a possibility that increased coverage of events may increase the backlash against LGBTI persons, and thus the organisation has worked in a very sensitive manner when documenting any events.

Now, five years later, Iranti-org is grappling with another realisation. Having advocated for hate crimes legislation since 2012, which now in 2017 is only a few steps from becoming law, the organisation feels that the calls for punitive action against perpetrators aren't enough. With no mechanism to rehabilitate, only to punish, there may not be a reduction in hate crimes, but rather increased violence against the most vulnerable in South Africa.

Based on these experiences, the organisation's focus has turned to matters of depathologisation of queer identities; advocating for better access to healthcare; and clearer guidelines by medical practitioners to more expertly and respectfully administering treatment to transgender, lesbian and intersex individuals. Of intersex individuals specifically, Iranti-org has called for an international ban on Intersex Genital Mutilation (IGM), and has hosted training workshops for doctors to better understand LGBTI medical needs.



“Iranti-org also strongly **supports activist groups** around the continent in their own endeavours. Should Iranti-org continue its current trajectory, it will be among the continent’s best-known queer media advocacy organisations, with more media output, a stronger activist presence, and clearer Pan-African mandate. Iranti-org will continue its work until there is no more work to be done!”

### **Making International Contacts**

Originally confined to South Africa, Jabu had a vision from the start of a Pan-African Iranti-org which would be a key player in the support of lesbian, transgender and intersex persons across borders. The adoption of a West African rather than southern African word in the organisation’s name attests to this.

Through a leadership development meeting in Namibia, organised by Positive Vibes and HIVOS, Iranti-org was able to network with activists from all over Africa, and realised that in terms of media production training, there was a lot that could be shared across the continent.

By 2013, Africa Queer Media Makers’ Network (AQMMN) was born, and Iranti-org was able to bring in guests from countries ranging from Zambia to Liberia, for a script-writing seminar. In total there were four AQMMN workshops where over 150 activists, representing 25 organisations from more than 12 countries in east, west and southern Africa, were trained in a range of media skills.

At the beginning of 2017, the first two episodes of a Trans Web Series were produced, based on the script writing process undertaken through the AQMMN workshops. A second Trans Web Series is planned for later in the year.

Iranti-org also strongly supports activist groups around the continent in their own endeavours; these include Wings to Transcend in Namibia, which has received training and logistical support from Iranti-org; and Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals of Botswana (LEGABIBO), which successfully sued the Botswana government for its right to register as an NGO. Iranti-org also has allies in Seychelles, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique, among others.

### **Where We are Now**

Closer to home, Iranti-org has maintained strong ties with Gender Dynamix in Cape Town with whom the organisation partnered on a recent regional conference on transgender health and wellbeing. Iranti-org has also for many years been the host organisation to Pan African ILGA (PAI), which currently shares office space with Iranti-org in Braamfontein.

Today, Iranti-org continues to advocate for the rights of transgender, intersex and lesbian South Africans, having recently covered the horrific murders of Nonki Smous and

Lerato Tambai. Iranti-org continues to represent the case of a young transgender woman who was evicted from a women’s shelter in Johannesburg. There are many on-going cases of this nature that Iranti-org continues to work on.

Ayanda Msiza, one of the first to join Jabu Pereira on his mission to build Iranti-org, has left us to study filmmaking, and the skills learnt at school will undoubtedly bring new energy and talent to the queer media landscape.

### **Looking Forward**

Iranti-org has taken steps to ensure the mental wellbeing of our staff who work on the frontlines every day – we don’t get our stories from outside sources, we are the source – and continue to train brave new leaders from across the region in media advocacy.

We are so proud to acknowledge that our Media Unit has made almost 100 films – between 1 minute and 15 minutes in length – that have been put onto the Iranti-org Media YouTube channel. We have, this year, also had more than 1.5 million followers on Twitter and more than 1.3 million followers on Facebook. This is remarkable and we are so proud of our achievements.

Meanwhile, Iranti-org is preparing for its fifth anniversary. A new media strategy has been put in place to ensure better content and broader audiences. We are planning a facelift for our website and a revamp of some of our training programmes. Iranti-org is continuously evolving in order to better serve the LTI African community, and by remaining flexible, has not only survived but thrived. Upon reflection, the last five years have been exciting and at times tumultuous, but one thing that has been consistent is that Iranti-org has continued to grow and prevail.

In another five years, it can be said without arrogance or hopefulness, Iranti-org will be among the continent’s best-known queer media advocacy organisations. The organisation will ensure that it will have an increased media output, a stronger activist presence, and a clearer Pan-African mandate.

Iranti-org will continue its work until there is no more work to be done!

Jabu has remained the Director of Iranti-org, and works with a small dedicated team.

## ACTIVITIES BETWEEN 01 MARCH 2016 AND 28 FEBRUARY 2017

Iranti-org continues to advocate for changes within the LGBTI sector across the continent. Over the past financial year the Iranti-org team has continued to document human rights violations; challenge policy around trans and intersex identity and rights; create audio-visual material that challenges normative ideas on gender; and develop an archive of material that focuses on creating a better understanding of sexuality, gender and bodily diversity.

### Media Advocacy

Some highlights have been:

- **Film Production**, 20 short films have been made during the past financial year. The films cover debates within the sector and are used for education and training. All Iranti-org films are shared on social media, through YouTube and the Iranti-org website. Several films have been shown at film festivals. Making films remains a key activity of Iranti-org's work.
- **Shadow Report Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**, co-authored with Gender DynamiX, the Legal Resources Centre, and ARASA, focuses on trans and intersex children. The report was submitted to the 73rd Session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in October 2016 – the latter report, together with other advocacy efforts, resulted in South Africa taking an unprecedented step towards the protection of intersex children with the state representative from the Department of Social Development conceding that government was aware of the need to stop the practice of IGM. The move won the approval of intersex rights activists globally, who noted '*South Africa was the very first state to officially recognise the essentially harmful practices on intersex children at the UN*'. We proudly celebrated Intersex Awareness Day and Intersex Day of Solidarity. In honour of both the days, Abraham and Dimakatso Sebidi, shared their journey from Dimakatso's birth up until today. Father and daughter spoke about how Dimakatso had spent her formative years in hospital undergoing multiple surgeries and the interactions they had with the medical sector, stigma at church; and their visions for the future. They spoke about the urgent need to end IGM once and for all.
- **In My Shoes**, a film the Media Team has embarked on to document the long journey of trans activist Tshepo Kgositau. The story takes us from Tshepo's home village in Botswana, to her position as Executive Director at Gender DynamiX in Cape Town, and her struggle with the Botswana government, around legal gender recognition. The film follows her growing awareness of her gender identity, and the groundbreaking gender marker case she is taking before the Gaborone High Court.
- **'National Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Public Engagement'**, a partnership between Iranti-org and Forum for the Empowerment of Women (FEW), took place in Johannesburg on 11 November 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to get responses to South Africa's draft Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill (HCB). The engagement was hosted by FEW and Iranti-org, and was attended by 158 participants. Topics included the impact of the criminal justice system on black queer communities; the continued criminalisation of sex work; the problems of tokenistic inclusion; and feminist anti-prison approaches to justice in relation to the proposed bill. This culminated in a series of nine submissions from grassroots CBOs on the bill and its various provisions, as well as Iranti-org's own submission.
- **The Hate Crimes & Hate Speech Bill: Conversations**, a five-part series produced by Iranti-org follows the debate around and highlights important issues for activists, communities and the state to consider.
- **'Access to Healthcare'**, a conference in which Iranti-org partnered with Gender DynamiX, and the Gender, Health and Justice Research Unit (GHJRU) based at the University of Cape Town, to host a regional Gender Affirming Healthcare Conference in November 2016. This groundbreaking initiative brought together medical health practitioners from Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho and South Africa, to share knowledge on providing quality gender-affirming care with consideration to local contexts. A total of 33 participants attended, all medical practitioners nominated by, or with recommendation letters from trans-led organisations in their countries. This initiative is focused on addressing the gap that exists in gender affirming care for trans people in southern Africa. Iranti-org also continues its work in challenging the dominance of western understandings of gender diversity through depathologisation, and making discourse accessible to African trans activists.
- **Installation on Depathologisation**, a multi media exhibition was created by Iranti-org for the Third Trans Health, Research and Advocacy Conference in Johannesburg in February 2017. Iranti-org co-hosted the conference with Gender DynamiX.
- **Queer Pride is African Pride**, the first exhibition hosted at the offices of Iranti-org was aimed at disrupting colonial, hetero-normative understandings of African Pride, through asserting the role of queer voices in the struggle for liberation and in the Pan-African and Black Consciousness movements. The exhibition opened with a panel discussion around the crackdown around and attempted commercialisation of Soweto Pride, coordinated yearly by the Forum for Empowerment of Women (FEW).



*Ycer and Jholerina during the opening night of Iranti-org's Depathologise/Decolonise Exhibition at the 3rd Trans Health Conference.*



*Delegates from across the African continent gathered at the opening night of the 3rd Trans Health Conference.*



*Jay Mulucha presents on the state of trans health in Uganda*



A panel of queer activists speak at Iranti-org Exhibition entitled *Queer Pride is African Pride*.



Iranti-org hosted their first exhibition *Queer Pride is African Pride* aimed at disrupting heteronormativity.

- **Free Space**, a new innovative space based at the Johannesburg Iranti-org, for LGBTIQ persons to engage with social issues affecting the community. Various topics on gender diversity and expression, wellbeing and resistance, and patriarchy, are discussed. The first event held, *Free Space: Queer Safe Sex – 'It's time for women to talk about SEX'* focused on topics of consent and sexual pleasure, and the policing of women's bodies.
- **CommsLab**, a dynamic project that Iranti-org was involved in during the past financial year. Established by Astraea, a leader in social justice grant-making for LGBTI people, CommsLab was designed to support participants in movement-building, communication skills, the making of media, healing justice, and holistic security. The first conference was held in Columbia in 2014. Iranti-org was involved in the second phase which was on the African continent. Mandated by Astraea to convene the African phase of the process, Iranti-org set up workshops in Nairobi in 2015, and South Africa in 2016. Both conferences were five days and brought together activists from Kenya and South Africa to discuss strategies particular to our contexts.
- **Friends of Rainka and Trans Bantu Zambia**, two LGBTI organisations based in Zambia, approached Iranti-org to convene media advocacy training and film editing workshops for young LGBTI activists. A total of three workshops of three days each, were run during the past financial year. These were the final workshops in the course, and were held in February 2017 in Lusaka.

A total of 13 young activists were trained in storytelling and its link to human rights as an effective method for social change. During the three-day workshops, activists learned ways in which to engage with the narrative that plays a negative role in perpetuating the stereotypes about LGBTI persons that often lead to discrimination and violence. Activists produced stories and developed advocacy strategies on tackling obstacles around issues such as access to healthcare for trans persons in Zambia.

- **Trans Web Series – the African Queer Media Makers Network (AQMMN)**, script-writing training workshop took place in September 2016. The three-day workshop gave the opportunity for the participants to write stories about their lives and other stories, to be made into films. The workshop resulted in the writing of 11 scripts, which have since been finalised and will be turned into films as the Trans Lives Web Series. Two films have been made, during the past financial year, *I Rise* and *Bruise*.
- **ZwaKala Project**, an EU-funded programme, is aimed at building the capacity of community-based organisations (CBOs), operating in one of three provinces of South Africa – North West, Limpopo and Gauteng, and focuses on LGBTI issues. These three provinces have the highest number of hate crime violations in the country. ZwaKala is a three-year programme, and has completed its second year of the funding agreement. A total of three workshops, one in media training; one in human rights; and one on organisational development were run during the past financial year. A total of 36 activists attended all three training workshops. In addition, there were seven Dialogues, focusing on the South African draft HCB, and hate crimes that took place in the provinces; 812 participants attended these Dialogues. In addition, the ZwaKala Internship Programme, placed interns at organisations in North West and Limpopo provinces, as well as at the Iranti-org head office in Johannesburg.
- **The Annual Learning Event**, a central part of the ZwaKala programme, was held over two days, 12 and 13 November 2016, and provided the opportunity for the organisational partners in the three provinces to share and learn regarding their advocacy programmes; media advocacy strategies; and develop organisational wellness plans.



*Zwakala Co-ordinator, Nomsa Manzini, engages with the participants on the lessons learnt and recommendations for future workshops during the human rights, media advocacy and OD training.*



*Limpopo LGBTI Proudly Out Director Cindy Maotoana presented on the work her organisation does in Limpopo at the Zwakala Annual Learning Event.*

“The ZwaKala Project had a total of **three workshops**, one in media training; one in human rights; and one on organisational development during the past financial year. A total of **36 activists** attended all three training workshops.”

“The ZwaKala Project held **seven Dialogues**, focusing on the South African draft HCB. A total of **812 participants** attended these Dialogues. ”



*Matshidiso Mofokeng from Vosloorus Activators, during group workshop discussions – ZwaKala Media and Advocacy Training.*



*Gay Umbrella member, Thatatoyaone Mongonyane, speaks about the dangers of addressing and revealing personal information on social media platforms - ZwaKala Media and Advocacy Training.*



*Zwakala participants brainstorming ideas during the ZwaKala Learning Event.*

- **Building the Africa Queer Media Makers Network (AQMMN)**, the regional network where queer people on the continent can write and record their stories has been growing during the past financial year. The AQMMN conducted Digital Storytelling Training with 21 activists from 11 different countries in East and southern Africa; has made six Public Service Announcements (PSAs); and made one short film. AQMMN participants have gained digital storytelling, editing and production skills from this endeavour. In the next financial year, the AQMMN will be developed into a fully-fledged Iranti-org project, and take up stories to produce from across the continent.

Iranti-org remains committed to using media to advocate for change in human rights violations experienced by our communities across the continent. Through media and advocacy Iranti-org continues to push the boundaries and create innovative and cutting edge media that contributes to socio-political change.

### **Building Our Networks**

Iranti-org is committed to building a strong trans and intersex network on the continent, and in this way, strengthen the lobby efforts around developing a human rights culture across the continent.



Some of the highlights over the past financial year:

- **Programme Development Workshop**, Iranti-org served as logistical host for the Swedish Federation for LGBT rights, where 20 participants from across east and southern Africa attended a workshop from 16 to 18 November 2016, on the rights of trans people and intersex, in their respective countries.
- **United Nations Human Rights Council LGBTI expert**, Iranti-org played an instrumental role in gathering support for the creation of the SOGI Independent Expert, Vitit Muntarbhorn, when public consultations with civil society, UN agencies, National Human Rights Institutions, and member states in Geneva, were held. Iranti-org staff members are on the SOGI listserv, and are thus in a position to remain informed of global matters pertaining to LGBTI rights, and to disseminate information to local groups through contact training and the Iranti-org website.
- **The Pan Africa ILGA Conference**, a bi-annual conference, where member organisations are mandated to convene conferences for the mother body. During the 2014 conference, held in Nairobi, Kenya, Iranti-org was asked to host the 2016 conference. This was held at the Birchwood Conference Centre in May 2016. The theme was 'African Bodies Breaking Ground Building Bridges'. A total of 200 people from approximately 90 African organisations were represented at the conference. Richard Lusimbo from Uganda and Akudo Oguaghamba from Nigeria were elected as co-chairs for the PAI Board.

Iranti-org remains a committed member of the PAI network, and assists in the development of the PAI office in South Africa, which is located at the Iranti-org offices, where Iranti-org can give both fiscal and developmental support.

- **World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)**, holds a bi-annual conference. Iranti-org, as a member of WPATH, attended the June 2016 Growing: Empowerment, Expertise, Evidence Conference, in Amsterdam. Iranti-org considers WPATH to be an important network, as WPATH releases global standards of care for patients who wish to transition; and to medical systems that are encouraged to adapt to local contexts. The June 2016 conference had a total of 800 delegates, the biggest conference held to date.
- **Global Action for Trans Equality (GATE)**, an international trans rights organisation, pre-conference to WPATH, held over two days with the aim of equipping activists to have better skills to engage with the medical practitioners who dominate WPATH. Iranti-org attended both WPATH and GATE conferences.

It should be noted that there was also a FREEPATH conference, attended by activists, and held concurrently, to challenge the high fees charged for attendance at WPATH. The significance of WPATH, GATE and FREEPATH, is the significant presence of trans and intersex activists from around the world, challenging and influencing the medical world.



*Iranti Regional Manager  
Joshua Sehoole*

## Iranti-org in Pictures



LGBTI activists march at the murder trial of the late Disebo Gift Makau at Ventersdorp Magistrates Court.



Activists at the Johannesburg Peoples Pride March hold up a No One is Illegal sign.





People came in their masses to the Africa Trans Visibility Day.



Durban Pride March 2012.



Nakhane Toure performed at the Pan Africa ILGA Conference 2016.

Pastor Ray Maleme from Gay Umbrella talks on trans issues and religion.



Stephanie Legari entertains the crowd at Africa Trans Visibility Day.



Maintaining close working relationships with trans and intersex organisations across the continent, remains an important aspect of Iranti-org's work.

### **Our Role in Documenting Hate Crimes**

Iranti-org has always been at the forefront of documenting hate crimes; giving support to the family and friends of victims; and assisting with taking these crimes to court. During the past year Iranti-org has addressed a number of cases.

There is a growing concern within the LGBTI community regarding the sharp increase of hate crimes in South Africa despite our pro-LGBTI constitution. Again, despite this violence, South Africa still has no hate crimes legislation (there is a bill in draft form) to guide the South African Police Services (SAPS), on how to identify and prosecute hate crimes. At this point, one has to rely on individual, subjective understandings of what constitutes a hate crime. This results in most cases being treated as conventional murder cases, when in fact they are evidently motivated by anti-queer hate crimes. With each passing month and every LGBTI life lost, Iranti-org is concerned about the safety of LGBTI persons and the lack of structures within government to tackle hate crimes. However, the current draft of the bill has many worried that it will do little to prevent hate crimes, and instead punish perpetrators after the damage is done, and leave many of the poorest, most marginalised South Africans in just as bad a state as before the introduction of the HCB.

It is important that Iranti-org documents and makes public some of the cases it deals with in order to bring awareness to the seriousness of the situation.

“Lesley Makousa’s teacher spoke highly of him and expressed deep regret that he had passed on so soon. Moreover, his classmates remembered Lesley as a bubbly, fun student who loved to take part in talent shows, debate and modelling competitions.”

Cases that Iranti-org documented over the past year include:

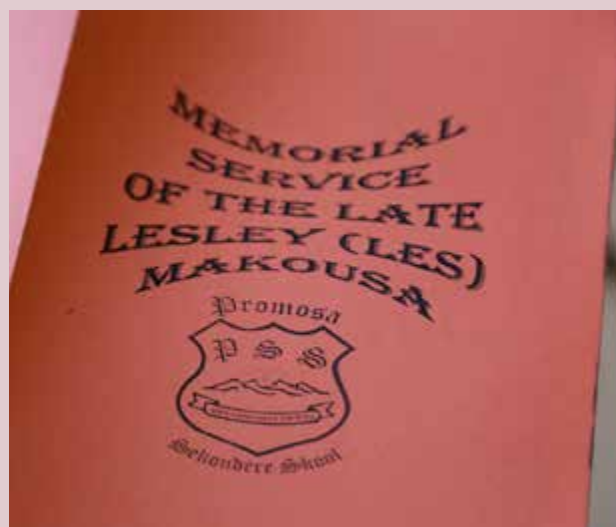
### **Justice for Lesley Makousa**

On Saturday 6 August 2016, the police found the body of 16-year-old Lesley Makousa in a deserted field near Promosa, in South Africa’s North West province. Lesley was a gay grade 10 learner at Promosa Secondary School. He was found lying face down with his shoes neatly placed next his body. Lesley had been strangled with his shoelaces, and his autopsy revealed that he had been raped. On 11 August, Iranti-org attended Lesley’s memorial service which was hosted by Promosa Secondary School. There was a high attendance from bereaved family, schoolmates and the broader community of Promosa.

Lesley’s teacher spoke highly of him and expressed a deep regret that he had passed on so soon. Moreover, his classmates remembered Lesley as a bubbly, fun student who loved to take part in talent shows, debate and modelling competitions. The police arrested a suspect who will be tried for murder in the Potchefstroom Magistrate’s Court. We commend the Potchefstroom police for their efficiency and progress regarding Lesley’s murder.

### **Women in Ventersdorp Terrorised**

Melissa Makau and her friend Koos were walking passed the graveyard in Toevlug, Ventersdorp, a small town in the North West province of South Africa, when a member of the 26s gang threatened her with a gun. He pointed the gun at her and told her friend to run and that he should not attempt to call the police or else his friend life would be in



*Iranti-org attended Lesley Makousa’s memorial service*



*Iranti-org attended the first court case for rape and assault victim Melisa Makau at the Ventersdorp Magistrates Court.*



danger. The perpetrator took her to his backroom, where she was raped at gunpoint.

After the brutal rape, Melissa Makau's attacker said, "Tell your other lesbian friends they are next. I know where they stay and I know their working hours". The perpetrator is known as a dangerous person in the community of Toevlug, Ventersdorp. He has committed several other sexual offences before.

Melissa deserves justice. The Bill of Rights ensures rights of all people in South Africa and calls for the right to freedom and security, including freedom from all violence by both public or private sources, and the right to bodily and psychological integrity.

Two years ago, Disebo Gift Makau, another lesbian woman, was raped and murdered by a member of the same 26s gang. The perpetrator was sentenced to two life terms and 15 years in prison. This gang terrorised Gift Makau's mother who was forced to flee her home. She is back now, but lives in constant fear. The prosecutor assigned to this case has requested another prosecutor to handle the matter of Melissa's rape, stating he fears for his safety.

Iranti-org is shocked to learn how the criminal justice system in the North West province is fearful of this gang. How many women in Ventersdorp will continue to be targeted? We call upon SAPS to thoroughly investigate the 26s gang and to institute safety measures for women and the LGBTI community in Ventersdorp.

## **Iranti stands with LGBTI organisations against Hate Speech In Malawi**

Iranti-org gave support to activists in Malawi when they challenged the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for issuing a discontinuance in the matter against Kenneth Msonda. Msonda has been charged for his 'Kill the Gays' statement on facebook, in early 2016.

The Malawi Law Society, and two human rights non-governmental organisations, CEDEP and CHRR, laid charges against Msonda for breaking the law and inciting hatred and violence. The court found sufficient reasons for Msonda to be appear in court and defend his claims.

Msonda's legal argument and affidavit sent to the court quotes biblical verses on why homosexuality should not be condoned arguing that Msonda has the right to freedom of expression and opinion.

CEDEP Director, Gift Trapence and CHRR Director, Timothy Mtambo, faced Msonda when he appeared in the Blantyre Magistrates court. They argued that Msonda committed a crime as he contradicted the Malawi constitution, which states that every Malawian citizen is guaranteed, 'the right to life'.

Then came the shocking decision by the DPP, to issue a discontinuance. This action was of great concern to the Malawi LGBTI community. Activists asked how the DPP could protect the rights of someone who actively promoted incitement, calling for people to be killed because of their sexual orientation.

A very positive outcome of this unfortunate event was the coming together of civil society leaders from religious, youth and human rights sectors, to collectively review the DPP's decision. These organisations included YOCCRI, CAYO, FND, the Pentecostal Revive Church, and YOCCRI. The groups collectively made a commitment to end hate speech towards all vulnerable groups such as women, youth and the LGBTI community in Malawi.

Iranti-org, in turn, agreed to support the initiative by documenting and reporting on the LGBTI human rights situation in Malawi.

## **In Gauteng**

Within Gauteng, the East Rand and the Vaal region have been mostly affected by incidents of hate crimes. Iranti-org is currently following up and reporting on the murder of Pascalina Malemu in the Vaal; the murder of Tebogo Mkhonto in Vosloorus; and two other cases in Katlehong township; those of Lucia Naidoo and Mabelandile Mohlabi.

Iranti-org documented the murders of Lucia Naidoo and Tebogo Mkhonto. Lucia was murdered outside her house in Vosloorus on her birthday, 19 March 2016, and died in her mother's arms.

About two weeks later, and a few streets away from Lucia's house, a young gay man, Tebogo, was murdered in his home. He had gone out with his friends and returned to five men breaking and entering into his home. Tebogo's property was taken from his home and the four men raped him with a stick, stabbed him to death, and decapitated him. Iranti-org is closely monitoring the cases and working with the SAPS to ensure there is justice for the people who are victims of these horrendous hate crimes. One suspect has been arrested for Lucia's murder and four suspects have been arrested for Tebogo's murder.

Iranti-org is going to release a report to the ministry of justice's national hate-crimes task team highlighting the urgency of governmental intervention regarding LGBTI hate crimes in South Africa. Iranti-org, along with two CBOs, IHAWU and Voslo Activators, are working together on the matter.

“The murder of Tebogo Mkhonto, among others, are murders Iranti-org is monitoring closely and working with the SAPS to ensure there is justice for the people who are victims of these horrendous hate crimes.”



## **Gains made by LGBTI activists and Iranti-org partners across the continent**

### **Botswana**

Since February 2012, Botswana-based LEGABIBO, has fought for their right to be registered as a NGO. The state denied LEGABIBO their right to freedom of assembly, freedom of association, and freedom of expression.

Four years later, on 16 March 2016, the Court of Appeal ruled it was unlawful for the government not to register LEGABIBO and they should be registered immediately.

This is a milestone moment for Botswana and a victory for all queer Africans. We congratulate LEGABIBO on this great victory.

### **Seychelles**

Activists in the Seychelles, through the organisation LGBTI, Sey, have made great strides in LGBTI rights.

On 18 May 2016, the Seychelles parliament decriminalised homosexuality after 14 members voted in favour of decriminalising homosexuality and 14 members abstained. This victory creates a new democratic and human rights path for LGBTI persons in the Seychelles. For LGBTI leader Ronny Arnephy, the challenge going forward is to demand an apology from France and Britain for imposing oppressive colonial laws on LGBTI communities across the continent, and for LGBTI communities to reclaim their own narrative.

The victory in the Seychelles is a victory for all queer Africans.

### **South Africa**

The media team documented the story of Nare Mphela who took the Limpopo Department of Education to court after it failed to intervene in the discrimination she was experiencing at school. In an historic victory in South Africa,

the Limpopo Department of Education was ordered by the Seshago Equality Court to make a financial settlement in compensation to Nare, who started her long battle three years earlier, with the support of Iranti-org. Nare had faced severe discrimination for her gender identity from her school principal, who Nare claimed had instructed students to provoke her, particularly in the school's restrooms. Iranti-org hopes this landmark case will educate people around sensitivity with regard to gender diversity at schools.

### **Kenya**

In Kenya, advocacy group Transgender Education and Advocacy (TEA) successfully sued the government to allow transgender Kenyans to change their names on ID documents without discrimination. The law already ensured every Kenyan the constitutional right to a name change, but the gendered nature of many transgender name changes resulted in rejections by many authorities. Immigration officials already allowed changes of name on passports, but TEA's great work ensures the law will be enforced in all departments.

The Auditor-General of Kenya also announced the formation of a taskforce which would look into the state of intersex rights violations in Kenya, and over the course of 2017 will begin to make recommendations for the ethical treatment of intersex Kenyans by government and medical representatives.

### **Niger**

In May 2017 the African Commission for Human Rights concluded its biennial meeting in Niamey, Niger. Though the statements are only preliminary, Iranti-org is excited at the announcement that the commission will begin to foreground LGBTI rights in Africa. The move was considered controversial, as homosexuality is outlawed in 33 African states, and we look forward to the recommendations.

## **LGBTI activism gains in Africa**

Reach, Impact and Numbers

- 4 years to petition the Botswana government to register LEGABIBO
- 0 members of Seychelles' parliament voted to keep homosexuality criminalised
- Undisclosed settlement by South Africa's Department of Education re gender identity discrimination
- In May 2017 the African Commission for Human Rights made a preliminary statement that they would focus in LGBTI rights in Africa.

## TAKING CRITICAL ISSUES INTO THE FUTURE

### LGBTI Shelters

The need for LGBTI shelters has long been on the Iranti-org agenda, and has been elevated again through a case where a transgender woman had her stay at a shelter in Johannesburg terminated as a result of a series of allegations that had arisen at the shelter. Iranti-org provided emergency support for the individual, however, this is not sustainable and a more durable approach is being discussed with stakeholders. While some countries on the continent have LGBTI shelters, managed by activists in those countries, this is the exception rather than the rule. It is imperative that we mobilise for LGBTI shelters, as LGBTI people often have nowhere to go when they are in a crisis, and may have been the victim of gender-based violence, and as in the case we are dealing with in Johannesburg, receive secondary discrimination from the shelter itself.

### Health and Wellbeing

Health and Wellbeing is something Iranti-org has always promoted. During the past financial year, there have been two important events in this regard. One was the Intimate Partners Retreat from 2 to 4 September 2016, which focused on documenting the experiences of the partners of trans people and strengthening our collective capabilities to deal with issues of safe sex, intimacy and advocacy. This enabled a safe space for the sharing of experiences for trans people and their partners, and initiated a network of support for the partners of trans people.

Another key event was when the Iranti-org Director spoke to this topic on a panel titled Mental 'Health and Wellness' at the 3rd Trans Health, Advocacy and Research Conference in Johannesburg from 23 to 26 February 2017.

Iranti-org also recognises the importance of health and wellness within our own staff, and we have introduced a weekly yoga session at our Johannesburg office. All queer persons in the area are encouraged to join, but it is primarily a mode of wellness for staff that are often on the frontlines of hate crime reporting, dealing with traumatic events which hit close to home. We are looking into the benefits of consistently timed counselling sessions, and encourage all staff to be open about their state of mind and to pursue mental wellness in ways which work best for them.

## PROFILING ACTIVISTS WE WORK WITH ACROSS THE CONTINENT

### Jay Mulucha

Jay Mulucha is a transgender man and trans rights activist with a keen interest in computer science and basketball. Mulucha started his activism work in 2010 as a communications manager at Freedom and Roam Uganda (FEMA), which advocates for protections for lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons. Mulucha's driving passion is making Africa a friendlier place for the LGBTI community. He also manages Uganda's only all-queer basketball team, The Magic Stormers, in a country where homosexuality is a prime target of government officials. Iranti-org regards FEMA as a very important partner in the East African region.

### Jholerina Timbo

Jholerina Timbo is a transgender woman and human rights activist whose main focus is fighting for gender-affirming healthcare and service provision for the transgender community in Namibia. A chef by profession, Jholerina founded *Wings to Transcend* in 2015 with the guidance and support of Iranti-org Director, Jabulani Pereira. Since then, Jholerina and her organisation had a presence at the first ever Pride event at the Namibian coastal town of Swakopmund; met with several government officials to lobby for greater recognition for trans Namibians; and worked closely with Iranti-org and other groups on multiple Pan-African projects.

### Kholoud Bidak

Kholoud Bidak is a gender and sexuality consultant who has worked on numerous cases in the defence of minority rights in Egypt. This includes cases in support of garbage collectors' rights; the defence of religious minorities; and feminist and LGBTI rights. Active within The Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) since 2002, they have also spent time freelancing, and co-founded the MantiQitna Network for gender and sexual minorities in North Africa and the Middle East; the Summer Sexuality School; as well as The Feminist School in Egypt. Their other interests include the environment, digital security and holistic modes of wellbeing. Kholoud has supported the growth of Iranti-org since its inception, and has continuously offered valuable input into how we can engage in the North African region.



*Jay Mulucha*



*Jholerina Tambo*



*Kholoud Bidak*

## OUR IRANTI-ORG INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Iranti-org continues to invest in activists in South Africa, with the aim of growing more young people to work in the field of human rights documentation and media advocacy.

Through the ZwaKala programme Iranti-org strives to empower queer activists in more ways than just the occasional workshop. The ZwaKala Internship Programme employs three activists from Gauteng, Limpopo and the North West who are placed at the respective partner organisations for three months each year. The interns work in the offices and gain experience of running organisations. No two interns receive the same experience as they are placed in a dynamic work environment, and training methods are constantly updated based on their feedback.

Iranti-org believes that by working directly and extensively with interns, the necessary capacity is being developed on the ground, which will result in stronger networks across the three provinces.

Since the ZwaKala programme started six interns have received on-the-job training, including administrative work, organising, campaigning, film and photography, and general advocacy through media training.

Interns include:

- Prudence Sedumedi – Gay Umbrella, North West  
Goitse Nko – Gay Umbrella, North West  
Zachary Shimange – Trans activist, Limpopo
- Cindy Maotoana – Limpopo LGBTI Proudly out, Limpopo
- Mbali Sengwayo – Vaal LGBTI, Gauteng
- Delisile Mavhuso – IHAWU, Gauteng

In addition to the ZwaKala programme, Iranti-org took on two interns at the Johannesburg office for its Media Team and Advocacy Team:

- Kanyanta Kakana – Lusaka, Zambia. She is a trans woman and will undertake an internship with the Advocacy Team.
- Kellyn Botha – South Africa. She is a trans woman who has completed a BA in Journalism at Rhodes University, and has joined the Media Team.



*ZwaKala intern Nxolo Stoff at work with Iranti-org  
ZwaKala Co-ordinator Nomsa Manzini.*



*Zach Shimange interned at Iranti-org and  
now works as a Project Officer at Gender  
Dynamix in Cape Town.*



## PUBLICATIONS

- **Ending Pathological Practices against Trans and Intersex bodies in Africa** is an activists guide aimed at breaking down the meaning of the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases (ICD), its reform process and the activism and advocacy that has taken place globally and regionally. The publication shares the experiences of trans, gender-diverse and intersex activists, and how a pathologising system has consequences on their access to health and legal recognition. This booklet is a useful tool across different queer communities including trans, gender-diverse and intersex activists and communities, family, medical practitioners, researchers, legal bodies, activists and state actors.
- **Shadow Report on Trans and Intersex Rights** to be submitted to the UN Human Rights Committee under the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in South Africa. The report was written together with the Legal Resources Centre (LRC) and Gender Dynamix. Iranti-org has submitted a shadow report on trans and intersex rights.
- **A Report focusing Trans and Intersex rights** was developed in response to South Africa's state report to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) in early 2016, which Iranti-org was involved in.

## ENDING PATHOLOGICAL PRACTICES against Trans and Intersex bodies in Africa



## OUR YEAR IN STATS

<b>Media Training</b>	36 young activists were trained by Iranti-org to tell their own stories.
<b>Human Rights Training</b>	60 young activists were trained in contextualising LGBTI rights within a Human Rights framework
<b>Annual Learning</b>	50 young activists were trained on our annual training programme
<b>Social Dialogues</b>	812 people attended social dialogues around critical issues within the LGBTI sector
<b>Internships</b>	6 young interns from community based organisations in Gauteng, Limpopo and North West, were accommodated by Iranti-org in its internship programme
<b>Colloquium</b>	1 was held during the financial year

<b>Website</b>	<b>Unique visitors</b>	<b>No of visits</b>	<b>No of hits</b>
<b>2012</b>	1,151	1,583	12,010
<b>2013</b>	7,018	13,664	198,173
<b>2014</b>	12,363	22,159	484,122
<b>2015</b>	22,622	42,083	991,313
<b>2016</b>	20,617	43,347	1,301,917

## OUR IRANTI-ORG POET

### Who Told You

by Sandisiwe Dlamini

Who told you, you were a boy pretty flower  
They decided before they even heard your voice  
Never even gave you a chance to make your own choice  
Do they see how precious your soul is young dove?  
Your laughter as light as a feather  
Your voice the subtle sounds of mellow acoustics forming chords and notes  
That creates the melodies of the universe

They cannot decide who you date young stud  
Your heart speaks truths in languages the elderly refuse to understand  
Hold her with pride, bring her close, kiss her passionately and never let go  
They call you a sinner don't they?  
The same Christians that give hundreds to the church and not a single cent to feed the poor  
The adulterers the liars and the thieves  
I say God looks at the condition of your heart  
Not the gender or sexual orientation of your lover

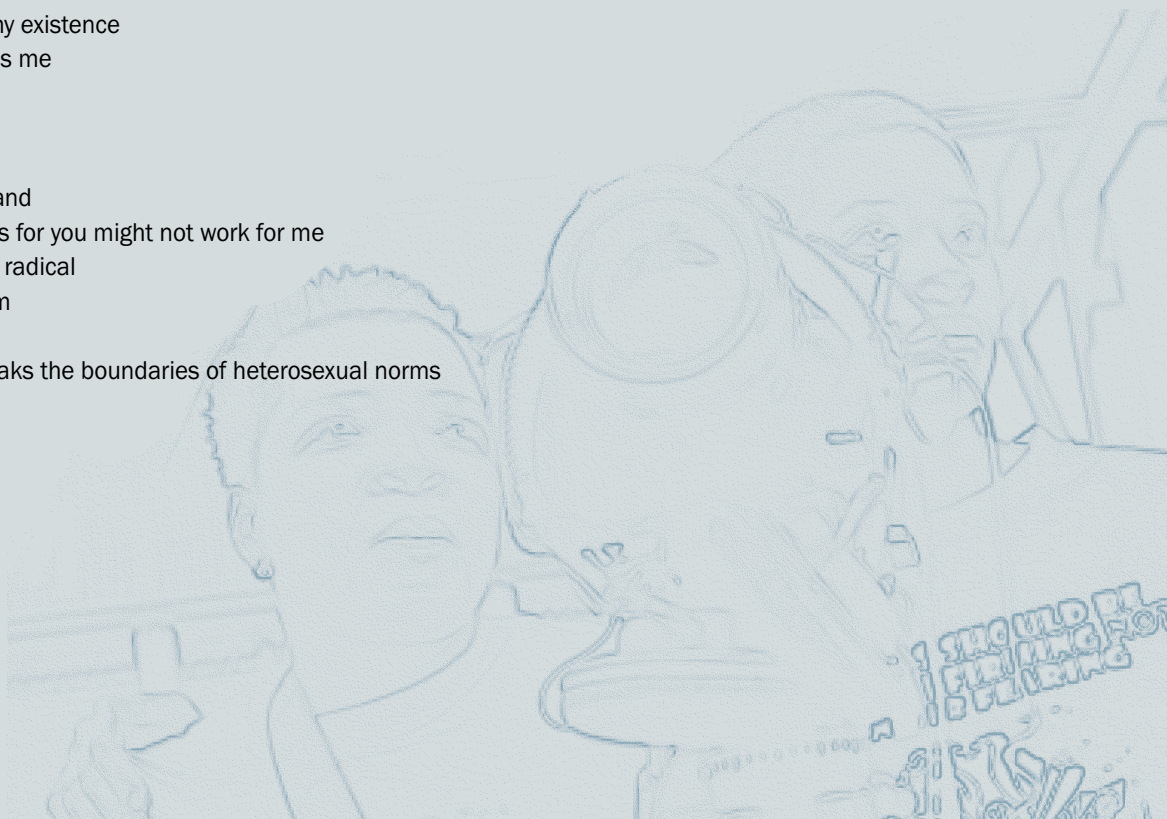
Who told you you were a girl you dare devil  
Buying you barbie's and forcing them into your unknowing hands  
Wear skirts and dresses and use the ladies loo  
I'll decide and you do that too  
But seldom young voices are heard  
And when they are big and strong they are perceived as sassy and rebellious  
Do you not know that this is an unAfrican  
Funny how this is who I am and from Azanian soil I was formed

### Unapologetic

by Sandisiwe Dlamini

I am unapologetic about my existence  
I explain myself if it pleases me  
If you are worth it  
If you are willing to learn  
If you are willing to grow  
You don't have to understand  
But accept that what works for you might not work for me  
These are women that are radical  
Men that refuse to conform

A group of people that breaks the boundaries of heterosexual norms  
We are African  
We are Queer  
And we are here



## IN MEMORIAM

The untimely passing of Jacobus Witbooi, a staff member of PAI, the Pan-African unit of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, staff member left PAI has shocked the Iranti-org staff. The team made a short tribute video which was screened at his memorial services in South Africa and Namibia. Iranti-org staff travelled to Namibia for his funeral. Go safely and go well Jacobus. You will always be greatly missed and always remembered.



## STAFF



Jabulani Pereira	Founder and Director
Nate Brown	Financial Manager
Naseem Noormahomed	Finance Consultant
Joshua Sehoole	Regional Co-ordinator
Bobby Rodwell	Media Associate
Nomsa Manzini	Projects and Admin Officer
Zikhona Gqozo	Finance Administrator
Kellyn Botha	Writer and Social Media Officer
Kanyanta Kakana	Media Advocacy Intern
Sandisiwe Dlamini	Media Editor
Gugu Mandla	Media and Documentations Officer
Ayanda Msiza	Media and Documentations Officer



## **N.HAMID AND COMPANY**

Chartered Accountants (S.A.)  
Registered Auditors  
8-BBEE Registered Auditors

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**8 June 2017**

## **OUR FINANCIALS**

### **Iranti-org's financial outlook**

The organisation has experienced steady growth with ZAR 7 580 168 in revenue for the financial year 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017, with projections of ZAR 10 000 000 in 2020. Below are our audited financial statements for the organisation for the period March 2016 to February 2017.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

### **Report on the Annual Financial Statements**

We have audited the annual financial statements of IRANTI-ORG set out on pages 6 to 13, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 28 February 2017, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in reserves and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Annual Financial Statements**

The organisation's members are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these annual financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, and for such internal control as the members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of annual financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these annual financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the annual financial statements. The procedures selected depend on

the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the annual financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the annual financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the annual financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of IRANTI-ORG as at 28 February 2017, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

### **Other matter**

Without qualifying our opinion we draw attention to the fact that supplementary information set out on pages 14 to 15 do not form part of the annual financial statements and is presented as additional information. We have not audited these schedules and accordingly we do not express an opinion thereon.

*N. Hamid and Company*

N Hamid and Company, Registered Auditors

**IRANTI-ORG****(Registration Number  
118-090NPO)****Annual Financial  
Statements for the year  
ended 28 February 2017**

## MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROVAL

The members are required to maintain adequate accounting records and is responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is his responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements satisfy the financial reporting standards as to form and content and present fairly the statement of financial position, results of operations and business of the organisation, and explain the transactions and financial position of the business of the organisation at the end of the financial year. The annual financial statements are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied throughout the organisation and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The members acknowledge that he is ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the organisation and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the members to meet these responsibilities, the management committee sets standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the organisation and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the organisations business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach.

The focus of risk management in the organisation is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the organisation. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the organisation endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The members are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. The going-concern basis has been adopted in preparing the financial statements. Based on forecasts and available cash resources the members have no reason to believe that the organisation will not be a going concern in the foreseeable future. The financial statements support the viability of the organisation.

The financial statements have been audited by the independent auditing firm, N Hamid and Company, who have been given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data, including minutes of all meetings. The members believe that all representations made to the independent auditor during the audit were valid and appropriate. The external auditors' unqualified audit report is presented on page 3.

The annual financial statements as set out on pages 6 to 13 were approved by the management committee on 29 June 2017 and were signed on its behalf by:

T. Chamane (Chairperson)

# FINANCIALS

<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>			
<b>Figures in R</b>	<b>Note(s)</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	555,454	576,343
Current Assets			
Trade and other receivables	4	139,373	3,425
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,061,086	1,778,134
		2,200,459	1,781,559
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>2,755,913</b>	<b>2,357,902</b>
<b>Reserves and Liabilities</b>			
Reserves			
Accumulated surplus		2,700,300	2,286,219
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	55,613	71,683
<b>Total Reserves and Liabilities</b>		<b>2,755,913</b>	<b>2,357,902</b>

<b>STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
<b>Figures in R</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Other Income	130,984	104,050
Income	7,580,168	6,722,582
Operating costs	(7,363,008)	(5,941,956)
<b>Operating surplus</b>	<b>348,144</b>	<b>884,676</b>
Finance income	65,937	80,170
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>414,081</b>	<b>964,846</b>
Surplus for the year	414,081	964,846
Retained income at 28 February 2017	<b>2,700,300</b>	<b>2,286,219</b>



## **Thank you to our donors**

Iranti-org's work would not have been possible without the backing and support of the LGBTI persons who entrust us with their vulnerabilities and with their resilience. We are proud of our partners within the movement and our donors who have been our strongest allies. The support that we have received has created a space of common solidarity and purpose to end violence and hate. We will continue to strive for a free and equal society in which all persons can enjoy their freedom and human dignity. We thank you!

- AJWS – American Jewish World Service Inc
- ARASA – Aids and Rights Alliance of Southern Africa
- Arcus Foundation
- Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
- European Union
- Foundation for Human Rights
- Heinrich Böll Stiftung
- OSISA – Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa
- The Other Foundation
- IHRF – Intersex Human Rights Fund

## **COLOPHON**

Text: Bobby Rodwell

Editor: Di Stuart

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Design & Layout: Thursday's Cat Media

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