

Briggs Bomba works for TrustAfrica as the project coordinator of the Zimbabwe Alliance, a donor collaborative partnership comprised of TrustAfrica, the Wallace Global Fund, the Schooner Foundation, and the International Development Exchange. Zimbabwe Alliance works to strengthen civil society and promote democracy in Zimbabwe. The Alliance identifies, engages and supports local initiatives through grantmaking, capacity-building, networking, and mobilizing international solidarity. Previously, Mr. Bomba served as Director of Campaigns for Africa Action in Washington, D.C. He holds a Master's degree in Social and Applied Economics from Wright State University (Ohio, USA). He has served on the steering committees of the Zimbabwe Social Forum and Southern Africa Social Forum and currently sits on the board of Jubilee USA. A leading analyst on democracy and economic development in Africa, Mr. Bomba's commentary has appeared on CNN, BBC, WorldFocus, News Hour with Jim Lehrer, CBC, Press TV, Al-Jazeera, Voice of America, Alliance Magazine, Foreign Policy in Focus, and Rev. Jesse Jackson's Keeping Hope Alive show.

Margaret Samuriwo is Director of Zimbabwe Women in Politics and Peace (ZIMWIPAP), an initiative started by women concerned about the gender dynamics of their participation in decision making roles within their political parties and other bodies. In these spaces, patriarchal tendencies often stifle their effectiveness in being agents of social change. Prior to this, she worked in the southern Africa regional office of Oxfam America for almost fourteen years, focusing on addressing gender disparities in the region. Before Oxfam America, she served on the thirteen-member Gender Consultative Group of the World Bank from 1996-1998. She also worked for Southern Africa Research and Documentation Center (SARDC), where one of her key accomplishments was developing a project that brought together countries in the region to share information in preparation for the Beijing Conference in 1994. At Independence in Zimbabwe, she was Coordinator for Zimbabwe Women's Bureau. She is a committed gender activist who feels that Zimbabwean women need to invest more in the empowerment of grassroots activists to bring about change.