New Fellows Announcement

Please join us in celebrating the election of these leading social entrepreneurs, elected as Ashoka Fellows in 2009. Read on to learn about their system-changing and innovative work. Click here for past Ashoka Fellows elected in 2009 and stay tuned for further news about newly elected Ashoka Fellows.

Human Rights

Ximena Carrera, Ecuador, Fellow

Ximena, who has used hearing aids half of her life, promotes the full inclusion of deaf people in society through a combination of innovative tools, including an exchange program between deaf and hearing students. Read more here.

Paulo Rogério Nunes, Brazil, Fellow

Recognizing the power of media to promote diversity, Paulo challenges the Apartheid structure of Brazilian media by changing how media professionals understand and depict the country’s diverse population. Read more here.

Jerry White, USA, Member

Through creating a worldwide peer-to-peer support network for conflict survivors, Jerry’s Survivor Corps is transforming passive victims into active survivors and leaders. Read more here.

Health

Luh Putu Upadisari, Indonesia, Fellow

Luh “Sari”, a medical doctor, is improving the sexual and reproductive health of women market vendors by setting up health clinics with affordable services in public marketplaces. Read more here.

Economic Development

Jean-François Archambault, Canada, Fellow

Jean-François is combating hunger and introducing culinary autonomy to underserved populations by engaging chefs as educators and leaders in the food management process. Read more here.

Jennifer Dordor, Ghana, Fellow

In order to access larger markets, Jennifer teaches rural women to think beyond subsistence farming and employ underutilized local resources to create and sell previously outsourced consumer products. Read more here.
Sonam Jorgyes, India, Fellow

By combining local resources with new technologies and training a new generation of rural innovation engineers, Sonam is empowering rural farmers by helping them to expand their market reach. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Adarsh Kumar, India, Fellow

Schooled in economics, Adarsh is providing the first venture capital to small agricultural and craft producers who have lifted themselves out of poverty through microfinance. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Daphne Nederhorst, Canada, Fellow

Daphne is combating poverty in the world’s poorest countries by identifying grassroots leaders and using new media technologies to spread their stories and projects to local and global audiences. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Ladji Niangane, Mali, Senior Fellow

Ladji, who has worked with farming communities for over thirty years, is developing a network of entrepreneurial farmers to protect the Senegal River and respond to threats of climate change. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Rana Sengupta, India, Fellow

In regions reliant on India’s mining industry, Rana is reorganizing the cooperative movement of stone quarry workers so that they can bid for their own contracts and protect their rights in exploitative environments. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Tonya Surman, Canada, Fellow

Tonya is empowering the citizen sector by bringing a diverse group of citizen sector organizations together in a shared space that fosters innovation and collaboration. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Michael Turner, USA, Fellow

By improving the transparency and availability of existing financial data, Michael is leading one of the first attempts to get true access to capital and credit to the unbanked. Read more [here](http://www.ashoka.org).

Learning/Education
M. Syafi‘i Anwar, Indonesia, Fellow

To counter radical movements in Indonesia that threaten a peaceful, pluralistic society, Syafi‘i reforms local Islamic boarding schools by introducing the Internet and customizing education to be locally relevant and tolerant. Read more here.

Urvashi Sahni and Randolph Wang, India, Fellows

In poor and rural schools where inferior education threatens India’s competitive edge, Urvashi and Randolph overcome the shortage of qualified teachers by spreading a system of video instruction from the country’s best teachers. Read more here and here.

Civic Engagement

Luis Aguilar, Guatemala, Fellow

Having experienced firsthand the challenges tied to emigrating, Luis is reviving villages through an online news portal that maintains social connections and delivers news between Diasporas and their home communities. Read more here.

Ilona Dougherty, Canada, Fellow

Ilona is breaking patterns of apathy among disengaged youth by enhancing their political literacy through the tools of music, art and new media. Read more here.

Mohamed El Sawy, Egypt, Fellow

Mohamed, who turned a garbage dump into Cairo's main cultural hub, is normalizing the idea of social activism among Egyptians, setting the path for other non-governmental cultural centers to come. Read more here.

Dennis Karpes, Netherlands, Senior Fellow

Dennis has built one of the world’s most powerful global brands, “Dance4Life”, and through it, is engaging hundreds of thousands of young people globally to take action in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Read more here.

Stefan Kasper, Peru, Fellow

Stefan opens up new opportunities for information-marginalized citizens by spreading a network of “Microcinemas” through the Andean Region, proving that films and documentaries are powerful tools for social change. Read more here.

Annette Mbaye Derneville, Senegal, Senior Fellow

The first female journalist in Senegal, Annette started the first women's museum in Africa which continues to shape the national dialogue around the rights of women since Senegalese independence. Read more here.

Lexy Rambadetta, Indonesia, Fellow

A documentary filmmaker, Lexy is training youth journalists on-the-job and distributing documentaries to develop civic and political awareness in post-press and media censored communities. Read more here.
Muchlis L. Usman, Indonesia, Fellow

Following the success of a radio station that he co-founded, Muchlis encourages active citizenship by pioneering a movement towards quality community television broadcast across Indonesia. Read more here.

Environment

Toto Sugito, Indonesia, Fellow

An avid cyclist since childhood, Toto is engaging the citizens and government of Jakarta to adopt bicycling as a viable alternative in a society where the typical year has only 18 “good air” days. Read more here.

Heri Valentinus, Indonesia, Fellow

Heri is developing the first network of formal honey businesses in the local forest community, allowing indigenous forest dwellers to use forest resources while preserving natural biodiversity. Read more here.