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## SAMPLE BIO

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This Berlitz cultural consultant is a Certified Systemic Organisation Development, Business Coaching and Mentoring Practitioner with over 19 years experience working across Southern, East and West Africa. Since gaining his MSc in Sociology from the University of Calabar, he has worked with academic, civil society/NGO, Government (from Local to State), community and private sector organisations in Africa, demonstrating an ability to communicate and negotiate with a wide range of stakeholders at all levels. He has an excellent understanding of the social, economic and political situation in Africa, including the needs of and opportunities for civil society, small and medium scale enterprises, and consulting.

He is the Chief Executive Officer of Akada Konsults Limited, an OD Consultancy firm with a well-established reputation for high quality consultancy in Africa, and is Nigeria's # 1 Organization Development Consultancy Services Providers. He also has an in-depth understanding of the civil society context in Africa through his numerous consultancy assignments with Nigerian NGOs/CSOs including HIV/AIDS NGOs, Church and religious groups, microcredit organisations, conservation groups and human rights groups. He has undertaken numerous NGO training programmes in areas such as fundraising, leadership, change management, multicultural project management, financial management, team building, proposal writing, conflict resolution and peace building training as well as training of trainers and facilitators, consultants and practitioners in OD across Africa.

He is skilled in various OD techniques, including a highly developed facilitation capacity, experience in Strategic Planning Processes, Change Management strategies, Cross-cultural and multicultural work teams, managing horizontal work groups in different locations including virtual teams, needs assessment techniques, and multiple stakeholder consultations. In addition to his wealth of experience in OD, Ben Arikpo is also highly familiar with the donor community context in Africa, having worked on numerous DFID funded assignments. He also has in-depth knowledge of USAID having worked as an FSN for USAID Nigeria and consulted for various implementing partners of USAID.

He has experience in Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Togo, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique, Chile, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada.