

Resume



Prof. Louis van der Merwe, Managing Partner, Centre for Innovative Leadership (CIL)

Louis has spent six years in City Government, Fifteen years in Eskom up to 1990 and for the past nineteen years he has been an educator and independent consultant based at different times in Boston, Amsterdam, Dublin and Johannesburg. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Kwazulu-Natal (SA), Leadership Centre, teaching Post Graduates in Scenario based Strategy, Leadership Development and Change Management as well as Masters, Thesis supervision and examination. He is a Fellow of the Colorado State University Institute for Scenario Planning

Louis works in South Africa, Europe and internationally, as a consultant, strategy facilitator, executive-coach and educator. His core competencies are in Scenario based Strategy, Systems Thinking, Leadership Development and working in large organisations at scale. CIL has offices in Amsterdam, and Johannesburg.

He has a passion for developing capacity in general and specifically through personal development planning and developing Scenario-based Strategy practitioners. This is usually done in parallel with his work in large organisational systems, also in start up companies and through coaching individuals. His preferred approach is always to engage with clients and their organisations as a whole system.

His work in South Africa during the transition to the post apartheid period has been recognised in the UK House of Lords by Lord Francis Thurlow and his international Scenario work has been recognised by Shell International-Group Planning in 2003 where he has been invited as “one of the next generation of Scenarists”. He has been a reviewer of the Oxford, Said Business School, teaching in Scenario-based Strategy. He is also a member of the World Economic Forum (WEF), Global Agenda Council on Strategic Foresight.

Past work and clients include among others Royal Dutch Shell. He spent six years with Shell of which three were with Shell Oil (Houston) as an MIT-based support person to top management and then three years working with Royal Dutch Shell in the Shell Europe Oil Products Division across 27 countries in Europe. He has also worked with Irish Life and Permanent HR, New York City Gov.-Parks, Taiwan Cellular Corp., Mobile Telephone Networks (MTN), SABMiller, Randgold Resources Plc-Mali/Cote d’Ivoire/Senegal, The Open University (UK), UNAIDS, The South African Presidency, The UNDP-Southern Africa Capacity Initiative, The Governments of Lesotho and Botswana Public Services, Amnesty International and the World Wildlife Fund. Shell Foundation, Designer of a Pan-African Leadership Development Programme.

He has a Bachelors Degree from Pretoria University majoring in con. Psych. And Ethnology and Masters Degree in Applied Behavior from City University, Seattle, USA. Publications consist of a number of international refereed Journal publications, conference papers and book chapters. Louis is the founder of CIL (est. 1989) Personal and professional references available from: Dr Reuel Khoza (SA), Prof Brenda Gourley (UK)

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