

Alma Gadot-Perez

alma@shelanuadvisors.com

+972-52-707-4050

EXPERIENCE

Shelanu Advisors

Founder and Chief Vision Enabler

Modiin, Israel

5/2013-Today

Shelanu helps a new generation of funders and organizations to define, test drive and execute their own programming, giving and impact investing in innovative ways that set a high bar for excellence. We are “executives on demand” and a brain trust to clients such as giving circles (Natan Fund, NYC); established foundations (Van Leer, NL); and individual philanthropists (UK).

Among the services provided:

- Tailoring a unique grant-making strategy in Israel.
- Designing strategies and programming such as localizing an international program, structuring a scholarships fund and designing panels, visits and gatherings.
- Developing eye-level relationships with grantees, including: grantee mentoring on behalf of funders, regular site visits throughout Israel and calls, providing advice and connections.
- Providing periodical updates on the progress, status, challenges and opportunities related to the funder’s investments.
- Working with the funder’s existing team to streamline and improve all aspects of the grant-making process, including participation in team learning sessions and reviewing grant mechanisms, RFP and LOI processes.
- Providing coaching and expert consulting to grantees including design and implementation of strategic plans, measurement and evaluation dash-boards and fresh thinking about operations and revenue generation.

JDC Institute for Leadership and Governance (Elka)

Jerusalem, Israel

10/2013 – 6/2015

Head of Regional Strategy and Social Investment

The Center for Regional and Municipal Leadership

- Crafted the center’s strategic approach to the future of “regional development clusters” in Israel (project partners: Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Finance.)
- Developed a board level project for regional social finance platforms
- Led exploratory research of innovative models for regional economic and social development.

The Milken Institute

Santa Monica, CA

07/2011-10/2012

Director, Israel Center (USA) and Director General – Israeli NGO

08/2008-06/2011

- Ran and developed all aspects of the Milken Institute’s Israel Center in the United States (HQ) and in Israel (team). Including the management of an international team of salaried employees, freelancers, fellows and colleagues.
- Led the organization’s first international incorporation (as an Israeli nonprofit) and acted as the first director general.
- Supervised and streamlined projects from inception to completion, including: project design, client and partners’ relations, budgeting, team recruitment, training, quality control and delivery.
- Led a strategic redesign of the Center’s anchor program, creating one of Israel’s most prestigious young professional training/research fellowships for up-and-coming Israelis and introducing screening methods that became a gold standard.
- Played a key role in creating partnerships and collaborations with government officials, media, philanthropic and business partners and leading experts resulting in meaningful joint ventures.
- Led applied research projects, including deliverables editing and writing to senior clients such as the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Hands on involvement in crafting marketing materials, op-eds, presentations and project proposals.

 Alma provides not just ‘boots on the ground’ in Israel to advise our giving - she is also a thought partner to us and to our Israeli grantees.

Her network, creativity and experience have proven invaluable to Natan as our philanthropic strategy in Israel has evolved.

And our grantees, most of which are young initiatives, rely on her wisdom and strategic thinking as they develop and expand their work.

Felicia Herman
Executive Director
Natan Fund

 Alma is a true professional. She is a detail-oriented manager, with strong execution skills.

She is an excellent communicator, and by that she helps create a work environment that supports creativity and productivity.

Constantly striving to learn and grow, she enriches the projects she works on by generating new ideas and thinking outside the box.

Her clear goals and solid judgment give her a strong foundation for leadership. Equally as important, she understands the value of a strong network.

Sigal Admony-Ravid,
Consul for Economic Affairs,
Head of Israel Economic
Mission to the West coast,
2009-2013

**Making an Impact: a UCLA, USC and Caltech Net Impact
Consulting partnership for FINCA International
Co-Founder and Project Director**

02-08/2008

- Supervised 33 volunteers (MBA and Ph.D. candidates) located across greater LA, who simultaneously created 3 strategic deliverables that examine new business opportunities, best practices and developed strategic recommendations for FINCA International – a leading global micro-finance lender.
- Led, advised, prioritized and streamlined the work of 8 team leaders.
- Created a quality assurance process through an array of alumni and volunteers.

The Israel Democracy Institute - IDI

Jerusalem, Israel

On-line Content Coordinator and Website Editor

02/2004-07/2006

Research Assistant at the Legislative Information Center (entry position)

- Initiated and designed an innovative, strategic change towards open access and Creative Commons policy at one of Israel's prominent think-tanks. The implementation quadrupled publications sales and total exposure to content multiplied by 6 within few months of implementation.
- Co-authored and co-edited the center's quarterly 'Parliament' which comparatively analyzed emerging topics, trends and core issues, targeting 120 Israeli Knesset members (Israeli parliament) and hundreds of decision makers and educators.

**The Strategic Planning Division, Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs
& Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute for Applied Research**

Jerusalem, Israel

National Project Coordinator and Division Head's Professional Assistant

2003-2004

- Coordinated the 'National Project for Knowledge Management and Organizational Learning in Social Services'.
- Supervised 9 organizational consultants and over 20 teams across the country.
- Successfully planned and executed the first 'National Annual Knowledge Fair' with more than 2,000 visitors, several sponsors and on-site activities.
- Played an active role in designing a strategic planning retreat of all the Ministry's senior staff. Interviewed in-house, academy experts and industry leaders in preparation for the process.

EDUCATION

UCLA Anderson School of Management

Los Angeles, CA

Affiliate

2/2008-2010

- Participated in 3 courses: Strategic Organizing for Consultants, Business and the Environment, and Social Entrepreneurship.
- Active Net Impact member.

The Hebrew University Federmann School of Public Policy and Government

Jerusalem, Israel

M.A. Public Policy (Honors Graduate program)

2006

- Thesis: "Professionalism and Public Participation in Urban Planning". Based on two years of field research of an alternative urban planning process in East-Jerusalem.
- Winner, honorary mention award, the national competition for best political science thesis.

The Open University

Tel Aviv, Israel

B.A. Social Science and Humanities

2002

- Cum laude. Began my studies during my IDF service.

“ Alma did an amazing job working with a variety of individuals to present an exceptional finished product.

She was a pleasure to work with, extremely organized, quality-oriented, and kept everyone motivated to the mission of the project.

Her management style allowed for leadership growth within the team, which is very commendable. I hold Alma in high regard, both personally and professionally, and look forward to collaborating with her again in the future.”

Tala Abbasi,
Chief Financial Officer,
KIPP Academy of Opportunity
(LA).

“ It's not often that a funder offers a grantee access to premium consulting to complement its grant. That's just what happened when Amplifier offered us the opportunity to enjoy Alma's professional expertise as part of our grant benefits.

Alma's extensive experience as well as the creative thinking and professional skills were a huge asset to us.

Keren Baktana was facing the task of creating our measurement and evaluation processes to make sure our growth will be focused and effective.

Alma walked us through the process and helped us do it in a way that met our needs and constraints, but without compromising the quality of the process or the end result. She identified the critical points we had to solve, involved the right people in the process, connect to experts and helped us build a streamlined process.

Sharon Levite-Vaknin,
Executive Director, Keren
Baktana

What else?

- Fluent in English and Hebrew. Basic level of French.
- Israeli citizen.
- Spent 6 years living and working in Canada, US and Belgium.
- Co-authored several peer-reviewed academic papers, academic research reports and a case-based book on the politics of policy making (Hebrew University's Magnes Press).
- Taught university level workshops for graduate and undergraduates, including MA honors program and municipal professionals at 3 leading Israeli universities.
- Schusterman Fellow (cohort 3) and a member of the ROI community.
- Chair of the parents leadership council at Dorot Elementary School, Modiin.
- Harry Potter fan, loves the outdoors, new to running.

“ Through my long-term collaboration with Alma, I have learned a great deal from the way she operates with a sharp eye both for the big picture and the crucial details in advancing an intricate project – an unusual and fruitful combination.

Her devotion to creating and promoting innovative programs and ideas has been both a model and a source of inspiration for me.

Her creativity and analytical skills are augmented by a strong sense of self and ability to step back and diagnose meaning amidst complexity with a charming sense of humor that makes teamwork with Alma a growthful adventure.

Jennifer Lynn Oser, PhD;
Co-author, with Alma and
Prof. Itzhak Galnoor, of
“Political Analysis of Israeli
Public Policy making”
(Magnes Hebrew University
Press)