

ATHALIA ZWARTZ

Athalia Zwartz was the Executive Officer for Initiatives of Change (IofC) Australia from 2014 – 2020.

In this role, her focus was on organisational change, including the cultural and structural changes required to transition IofC Australia into a new era. Following an in-depth review of challenges facing IofC Australia in 2013, in which she played a central role, Athalia built a team to lead solidly through all the changes needed to establish clear and effective operational policies and processes. Athalia remains very much engaged with IofC and its work of 'building trust and respect, and bringing healing and transformation in the world, through real relationships, caring for people, listening to others, and seeking a deeper and higher wisdom'.



Previously she was Executive Director of Sports without Borders which used sport as a way of addressing social needs. She has a background in research, training and project management. She has worked internationally and in Australia with youth and women and in the multicultural sector. She has designed and delivered many leadership and community programs. Her interest in how individual change affects systemic change has been a focus of the training she has delivered internationally with IofC in Switzerland, India, Lebanon and Ukraine.

She is currently studying a Masters of Social Ecology, and she has BA (Hons) from the University of Melbourne, majoring in Islamic studies. She has co-authored the national report '*Freedom of Religion and Belief in Australia*' and '*Social Cohesion: Beyond the Theory in Diverse Nations, Diverse Responses: Approaches to Social Cohesion in Immigrant Societies*'.