

# SHAPING THE FUTURE

Interviewed By Samia Deparis

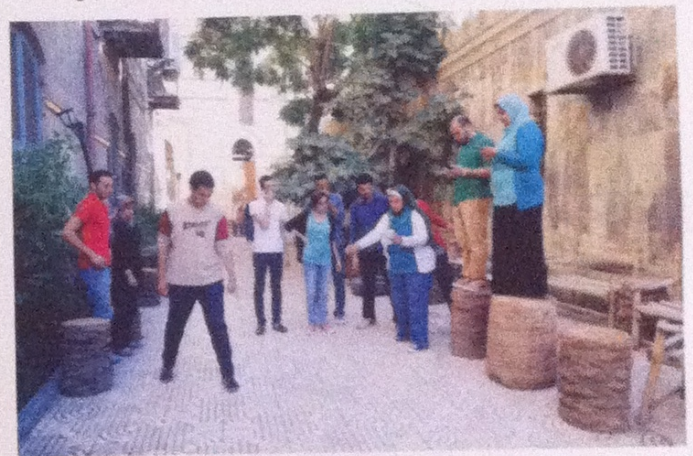
*A healthy society through self-empowered people!  
"There is a space between right-doing and wrong-doing. I'd love to meet you there". - Rumi!*

## • WHEN WAS YOUR FIRST VISIT TO EGYPT?

Funny enough, my ever first flight was to Egypt when I was 9. Afterwards I came back several times as a tourist. I fell in love with the country and its diversity.

## • WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO COME BACK TO EGYPT AS A TRAINER?

When I was running leadership courses internationally, through a friend I was connected to Gudran, an alliance of artists in Alexandria. Together we realised the opportunity to share values through leadership training. Therefore I started running pilot projects in leadership in Egypt.



## • WHAT ARE THESE VALUES? AND CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THESE PILOT PROJECTS?

My working experience as a consultant in government and business in The Netherlands, brought me to understand that the essential leadership quality, that distinguishes any person and business, is leading through inclusive Service. It is the only way to a sustainable future. At that point, we started developing courses, in which we created an environment, where people figured it out themselves through different practical skills and knowledge that could make their visions manifest.

## SO THIS IS WHAT WE CALL PLANTING THE SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE?

Yes, when speaking of knowledge with a big K, which is knowledge of life. This is about deep individual realisations that have a lasting positive impact through people on society. I feel that people that believe they can live meaningful lives and change things for the better, are the ones that can. Therefore in these courses, we focus on removing the internal blocks that prevent us from believing that we matter, that we can be powerful, that we can lead ourselves and others. It is impossible not to have an impact, but most often we are unaware, that we feel we have no control over how things unfold.



## DARIA OFMAN

Daria Ofman is a coach and trainer of 25 years old, originally working as a creative consultant in the public sector in the Netherlands. She studied political science and obtained a master in international law. She now works as an international trainer in leadership development and capacity building. In 2011 she co-founded Sunyise, a leadership foundation that develops content, organises trainings and lectures on leadership. She facilitates workshops in Greece, England, Scotland, Egypt and the Netherlands. She works through [www.unbranded.org](http://www.unbranded.org). Since 2012 she started visiting Egypt regularly to develop leadership projects.