



**VULAMASANGO**  
OPEN GATES

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## **CURRICULUM VITAE OF FLORIAN KRAEMER**

### **General Information and Qualifications:**

Name:	Florian Kraemer
Date Of Birth:	24th of September 1972
Nationality:	German
Qualification:	BA/SS (Bachelor of Arts of Social Science), UNISA (University of South Africa) Majoring in Social Work and Psychology, with additional training in Individual- and Group Counselling and Marriage Guidance
Certificates:	- Youth Network For Africa's Future - Int. Youth Conference (IFM – SEI) - Enhancement of Capacity Programme, Project Management (Comm. Chest)

### **Curriculum Vitae:**

<b>1979 – 1992:</b>	Attended a Waldorf School in Ueberlingen (Germany), successfully completing “Abitur” (the German equivalent of Matric or the British A-Levels) in July 1992.
<b>May – Jun. 1988:</b>	First experiences in social work, working in a home for physically and mentally handicapped adults as part of a practical.
<b>Jun. – Dec. 1988:</b>	First visit to South Africa as an exchange student for six months.
<b>1992 – 1996:</b>	Extensive travels in Asia (India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand) and Africa (Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe). As a witness to extreme poverty, Aids and the beginning civil wars in Rwanda and what was then Zaire developed the wish to work as a Social Worker with disadvantaged communities in Africa.
<b>Jan. 1997:</b>	Moved to Cape Town to enrol at the University of South Africa (UNISA) for a degree in Social Science, majoring in Social Work and Psychology.

- Mar. – Nov. 1998:** Practical work at Haven Homes in Woodstock (residential care facility for destitute, former street people), conducting group and casework interviews and running workshops for the elderly.
- 2001 – 2002:** Practical work at Highway Home in Maitland (residential care facility for street children), running Aids awareness workshops, facilitating a community development project, co-founding and running a bridging programme for street children and conducting person-centred individual and group therapy sessions with mentally challenged, sexually and physically abused, disabled and otherwise underprivileged children.
- Nov. 2002:** Successfully completed the BA/SS (Bachelor of Arts of Social Science) degree through UNISA.
- Mar. – Dec. 2003:** Founded the charity organisation **POSITIV LEBEN e.V.** (LIVING POSITIVE) in Germany, raising funds for the project **INDAWO YENTSIKELELO**, giving public talks and newspaper interviews, raising public awareness for the situation in South Africa, etc.
- Jan. – Oct. 2004:** Laid the groundwork for the launch of **INDAWO YENTSIKELELO** in Cape Town.
- Oct. '04 – Feb '09:** Executive Director (Management) of the project "**INDAWO YENTSIKELELO – A Place of Blessing**".
- 2006:** Co-Founder of the Youth Choir „**ZABALAZA**", later renamed "**VULINGOMA**", together with co-workers Xolisa Majambe and Bongiwe Majambe
- July 2008:** Founded the Orphan Project **VULAMASANGO**.
- Sep. 08 – Feb. 09:** Chairperson of the Board of **VULAMASANGO** (Open Gates).
- Since Mar. 2009:** CEO (Chief Executive Officer) von **VULAMASANGO**.
- 2007 – 2018:** Tours through Europe (Germany, Switzerland, Austria, England and Belgium) seven times for 8 weeks at a time with **ZABALAZA** and later **VULINGOMA**:
- 2007    ZABALAZA – Songs of Hope**
- 2008    ZABALAZA – Songs of Freedom**
- 2010    ZABALAZA – African Spirit**
- 2012    ZABALAZA – Voices of Africa**
- 2014    ZABALAZA – Mandela Tribute**
- 2016    VULINGOMA – A New Song**
- 2018    VULINGOMA – Amandla**
- 2017:** Travels to Sao Paulo/Brazil, with the Vulingoma Youth Choir, for a two week intercultural collaboration with the youth of the Favela project **Favela Monte Azul** (Associação Comunitária Monte Azul).
- Since 2015:** Active participant in the World Social Initiative Forums (WSIF).