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## ABOUT THE EDITORS

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**Meera K. Shah.** Ms. Shah is a development consultant and trainer. She has been working in the development field for over twenty years and has been involved in developing and promoting participatory approaches and processes in natural resources management, local institution development, sustainable livelihoods, post-conflict and disaster rehabilitation, policy research and advocacy including participatory poverty assessments, gender analysis, and monitoring and evaluation. Previously she was with the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP), India, where she helped pioneer, with others, participatory rural appraisal methodology. Meera has co-authored *Voices of the Poor: Crying Out for Change* (2000), co-edited *The Myth of Community: Gender Issues in Participatory Development* (1998) and *Embracing Participation in Development: Wisdom From the Field* (1999).

**Sarah Degnan Kambou, Ph.D.** Dr. Kambou is Director of the HIV/AIDS and Development team at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) in Washington, DC. Her work is centered on influencing policy and practice relating to gender, sexuality and HIV/AIDS. Prior to joining ICRW, Dr. Kambou worked with CARE, serving across sub-Saharan Africa in various field positions. While with CARE, she introduced participatory approaches into CARE reproductive health and HIV/AIDS programs in Togo, Zambia, Rwanda, Somaliland, Sudan, Mali and Côte d'Ivoire. Before CARE, Dr. Kambou held the position of Deputy Director of the Center for International Health at the School of Public Health at Boston University. While at BU, Dr. Kambou worked extensively in South and Southeast Asia. She holds an M.P.H. in Health Services Delivery and a Ph.D. in International Health Policy from Boston University.

**Lakshmi Goparaju, Ph.D.** Dr. Goparaju has many years of experience in applied research, monitoring & evaluation and capacity building. Dr. Goparaju's experience spans over HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, family planning, sexuality, gender, youth, and women's development. She has also developed and delivered training modules on and participatory monitoring & evaluation and sexuality & gender. Dr. Goparaju has worked with community-based organizations, NGOs and international NGOs as well as serving as a M&E Advisor to the CORE Initiative. Currently, Dr. Goparaju is working as a consultant.

**Melissa K. Adams.** Ms. Adams is a Program Associate in the HIV/AIDS and Development team at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) in Washington DC. As Program Associate, Ms. Adams provides technical support to the HIV/AIDS team and the CORE Initiative in the areas of monitoring and evaluation, capacity development, needs assessment, and research design. She has experience with participatory action research with mobile populations and has conducted international trainings on stigma sensitization and participatory research methods and tools. Ms. Adams holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Virginia, and an M.P.H. in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

**James M. Matarazzo, Jr.** Mr. Matarazzo, has been seconded by the World Council of Churches to work as Faith Advisor to the CORE Initiative. As Faith Advisor, he provides support around key faith perspectives concerning the HIV/AIDS pandemic. He received his BA from Bates College and undertook graduate theological studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York. He has over eight years of HIV/AIDS program management experience, including serving as Senior Project Director and Administrator of the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research, a dual campus, National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded, university based research institute. As a licensed minister in the United Church of Christ, he has bivocational background with over ten years of congregational leadership experience, including serving churches as interim pastor.