

Rongedzayi FAMBASAYI (PhD)

Dr. Rongedzayi Fambasayi a passionate champion of children's rights, play-based learning, and inclusive cities. He is an international children's rights lawyer with over a decade of progressive experience leading multi-country and multi-donor projects. He is a holder of a PhD in Law and Development focusing on children's rights within city and urban contexts – obtained under the South African Research Chair in Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability, North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa. Rongedzayi has a global outlook having previously worked with leading intergovernmental organisations such as UNICEF and UN-Habitat, and other international and pan-African child rights organisations driving law reform, campaigns, and advocacy across Africa. Previously, he served as the Managing Director of Play Africa – a pioneering children's museum in southern Africa based in Johannesburg, South Africa, championing the decentralisation of learning-through-play to vulnerable communities.

Dr Fambasayi has a growing publication record and has delivered guest lectures to post-graduate classes to universities such as Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria; North-West University; Stellenbosch University and University of Nairobi. In recognition of his expertise, he was appointed and served as an independent External Expert in the Working Group on Children's Rights and Climate Change of the African Union's Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (2022-2023) advocating for the continental agenda on mainstreaming a child-rights-based approach to climate action and access to climate-justice for children. He is currently a Board Member for the Association of Children's Museums based in the United States of America.
