

Susan Levin Bio Statement

Susan Levin is a facilitator, trainer, coach, mediator and organization development consultant. She has worked with thousands of employees from a variety of organizations in the United States and abroad for more than 30 years. She focuses on maximizing individual and organizational strengths to bring out the most effective skills and approaches. She uses an appreciative approach to help her clients leverage their best practices to achieve their future vision. Whether abroad or in the US, she's mindful of making sure her work is culturally relevant.



Susan facilitates strategic planning and teambuilding for a variety of organizations, including nonprofit organizations, federal agencies and corporations. Her approach is to guide a client to identify what's working in the organization and what strengths employees can apply to get great results. This approach sets Susan apart from many consultants. Often, a group begins with what's wrong and what problems are they grappling with. Then they go into a problem-solving approach to plan their future direction. Susan's appreciative approach starts with the reality that in every system, there are things that are working. The key is to use that as a foundation and build on it to tackle challenges and achieve the best results.

Internationally, Susan has led strategic planning and leadership development for the United Nations Secretariat, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and UN Population Fund in Colombia, Timor Leste, Haiti, Liberia, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Rome and New York. She has also consulted with the US Agency for International Development facilitating strategic planning, teambuilding, training and conflict resolution in missions across the globe. In addition, she facilitated a strategic planning process in Geneva for the Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology Observations Programme Support Centre. And she has worked closely to develop strategic direction for Management Sciences International, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Management Sciences for Health, Social Impact, University Research Corporation, Abt Associates, John Snow and the White House Executive Office.

Susan uses engaging, interactive methods that generate closer bonds within groups, and develop ways to interact and work together better than ever. She has used that approach leading training on harassment issues, including sexual harassment. For the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences of the National Institutes of Health, Susan led training on sexual harassment. She led similar training for Transition Dynamics, Inc., after conducting staff interviews and completing an assessment.

Additionally, Susan led workshops and dialogue on diversity awareness and management, and white privilege. Clients included U.S. Department of Justice Community Policing Consortium; Montgomery College Diversity Management Institute; International Association of Firefighters; and the National MultiCultural Institute. As part of series for National Public Radio, she wrote a guidebook on affirmative action and diversity in the workplace to help organizations attract, hire and retain a diverse workforce. She designed and delivered facilitation training for dialogue groups on issues of race, age, ability, culture, gender and violence at the University of Virginia.

Susan has led other strategic planning efforts for nonprofit organizations such as the Society for Conservation Biology, which is dedicated to conserving biodiversity; and the Rights and

Resources Initiative, which supports local communities and indigenous people in their struggle against poverty by securing their right to own and benefit from natural resources, land and forests. Additionally, she has worked with another nonprofit organization, the Institute of International Education, which focuses on international student exchange and aid, foreign affairs, and international peace and security. IIE creates programs of study and training for students, educators and professionals from various sectors.

Susan has a master's degree in international affairs from The George Washington University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida focused on the impact of culture on international development, after transferring from Tufts University. She has taught at American University, consulted with the University of Maryland and was a guest speaker at Johns Hopkins University. As a certified mediator for the Supreme Court of Virginia, Susan facilitates dialogue between people in conflict so that they can find new ways to resolve their mutual problems. The intention is to create an opportunity to transform their relationship and the way they deal with conflict in the future.