

Carlos Alberto AFONSO

Born April 07, 1945, married, one son.

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Main studies

- 1964-1969: naval engineering, Escola Politécnica, University of São Paulo, Brazil.
- 1974-1976: Master in Economics, York University, Toronto, Canada.
- 1976-1979: doctoral studies in Social and Political Thought, York University, Toronto, Canada.

Activities

- 1970-1973: industrial projects consultant, Oficina de Planificación Nacional de la Presidencia de la República (ODEPLAN), Santiago, Chile.
 - 1974-1980: co-director, Brazilian Studies/Latin American Research Unit (LARU), Toronto, Canada.
 - 1976-1980: development projects consultant, Division of World Outreach, United Church of Canada, Toronto, Canada.
 - 1981: co-founder, Instituto Brasileiro de Análises Sociais e Econômicas, Ibase, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
 - 1981-1997: co-director, Ibase. during this period, conceived, implemented and managed the AlterNex project, the first computer-based communications and information system in Latin America dedicated to serve civil society organizations. Officially inaugurated in July, 1989, it was also the first Internet services provider in Brazil.
 - 1990: co-founder of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), as Ibase's representative. APC is an international consortium of organizations which share similar objectives in democratizing communications and information through computer networks worldwide. APC has recently joined the UN's Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc).
 - 1991-1992: proposed and coordinated the "UNCED Information Strategy Project in Rio" (UNCED ISP/Rio), first Internet project specifically developed for a UN conference. ISP/Rio's aims were to provide communications and information through the Internet so that organizations which had not been able to come to Rio were able to follow up on the events via the network. The project operated successful Internet telecenters in all main conference spaces as well as helped to enable Brazil's first direct, permanent TCP/IP link to the US Internet.
 - 1995-1997: member of Internet Brazil's Steering Committee.
 - 1996-1998 (February): executive director, Altercom Serviços Ltda, an Ibase company created to operate and develop AlterNex.
 - 1997-1998: chair of the Executive Board, Association for Progressive Communications (APC).
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- 1997-...: non-paid consultant, Informatics 2000 Program, Interamerican Development Bank (IADB).
- 1998 (March): consultant, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Buenos Aires, Argentina – project to develop an Internet-based NGO network including organizations affiliated to the UN.
- 1997-1998: coordinator of the project to adapt and translate a large Intranet software system (Livelihood Intranet from Open Text Corporation) to Portuguese and Spanish.
- 1998 (October-November): consultant, International Development Research Center (IDRC), Canada –assessment of six PAN Asia Internet service providers (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) which have been established with direct support from IDRC. Resulting study to be published by IDRC.
- 1998-...: development director, Information Network for the Third Sector (Rits), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This is a national project to implement a NGO-oriented services and capacity-building network on information and communication technologies using the Internet as its main medium. The project's list of current and past supporters includes, among others, the National Research Network (RNP), *Comunidade Solidária*, the Interamerican Development Bank (IADB), Unesco, Infodev, Ford Foundation and IRDC.
- 1999: consultant, National Research Council of Brazil (CNPq) and UNDP, evaluation of the National Research Network program.
- 1999-...: member of the Board, ABIA (Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association).
- 2000-...: consultant, DATASUS (data processing and communication branch of the Ministry of Health of Brazil), currently participating in the planning of a large network project to connect more than 50,000 health units to the Internet.
- 2000-...: secretary of the Board, Ibase.
- 2002 - ...: consultant, Cemina – Infodev project, to implement a radio program delivery network.

Publications (partial list)

- **Multinationals and Brazil** (Toronto: Brazilian Studies/LARU, 1975), co-author, with Marcos Arruda e Herbert de Souza.
- **State and Capitalist Development in Brazil – The Fiscal Crisis** (Rio: Editora Paz e Terra, 1977), co-author, with Herbert de Souza. Also published in Spanish by UILA, Mexico, 1977.
- **Theory of the State – A Critical Contribution** (Rio: Editora Vozes, 1988).
- "NGO Networking - The Telematic Way", **Development**, journal of the Society for International Development (SID, Roma), 1990:2.
- "Telematics and the NGOs - The Moment of Networking", **Reflexion**, journal of El Taller (Reus, Spain), 1991.
- "The Internet and the Community in Brazil: Background, Issues and Options", **IEEE Communications Magazine**, July, 1996.
- "Au service de l'action politique", **Manière de Voir**, Le Monde Diplomatique, October, 1996.

- **The Internet and Social Strategies**, Corporate Watch Project, San Francisco, California, November, 1996 (<http://www.corpwatch.org/trac/feature/feature1/Afonso.html>).
- **A Report on the Development of Internet Services in Brazil**, prepared for IDRC, December, 1996.
- "How about a Latin American accent for the Net? ", **O Globo**, Rio de Janeiro, February 9, 1998.
- **How the NGOs, with help from the Internet, blocked the MAI**, Canal Web, May, 1998 (<http://www.canalweb.com.br>).
- **Internet and universal access**, Revista Tempo e Presença, Rio de Janeiro, August 1999.
- **Internet in Brazil: is access to everyone possible?**, ILDES Policy Paper, São Paulo, September 2000.
- **Internet for all: so near and so far away**, *No Ponto Notícia & Opinião*, February 12, 2001 (<http://www.no.com.br>).
- Several articles on Internet and universal access in Brazilian newspapers, magazines and information websites during 1999 and 2000.

Speeches, awards etc

- Namur Award, International Federation of Information Processing (IFIP), Namur, Belgium, January, 1996.
- Communications for Development: Applying Information and Communication Technologies to Development Needs – speakers, symposium promoted by Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) and IDRC, October, 1996.
- Global Knowledge '97 – representing APC. Promoted by the World Bank and other agencies, Toronto, June, 1997.
- Informatics 2000 Conference – speaker. Interamerican Development Bank (IADB), Washington, DC, September, 1997.
- 50 th Annual DPI/NGO Conference: Building Partnerships – speaker, United Nations Department of Public Information, New York, September, 1997.
- Salzburg Seminar – faculty member, session 351, "Non-Governmental Organizations: Leadership and Civil Society", Salzburg, Austria, November, 1997.
- PAN Americas Consultation – speaker, IDRC, Montevideo, Uruguay, December, 1997.
- University and New Technologies: Impacts and Applications – speaker on the theme "Citizenship and Networking ", promoted by the Alfa Project of the European Community, São Paulo, Brazil, March, 1998.
- Second Summit of the Americas – speaker, "Informatics and Civil Society", Informatics 2000 Exhibition promoted by the IADB, Santiago, Chile, April, 1998.
- CONIP '98 – speaker, "Internet and Civil Society ", Annual Congress on Public Informatics, São Paulo, Brazil, May, 1998.
- Salzburg Seminar – faculty member, session 358, "Internet and Social Issues", Salzburg, Austria, June, 1998.
- Human Rights and the Internet – speaker, Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, Montréal, Canada, September, 1998.

- Infodev Forum on Information Technology, World Bank, Washington DC, November, 1999.
- Cidadania na Internet (Citizenship on the Internet) – speaker and co-organizer, seminar promoted by the Information Network for the Third Sector (Rits), Rio de Janeiro, december, 1999.
- Global Knowledge II Conference – speaker, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, March, 2000.
- Mercosur en el Siglo XXI: Tecnología de Información para el Desarrollo y la Integración – speaker. Event organized by IADB and the government of Uruguay, Montevideo, July 21-22, 2000.
- Social Science Research Council (SSRC), participant in a specialists' meeting to contribute to the planning of a new scholarship program (Information Technology, International Cooperation and Global Security), San Francisco, California, November 19th-21st, 2001.
- Digital Inclusion Workshop: national policy debate meeting promoted by the Electronic Government Executive Committee of the federal government, with support from the Sampa.org project, Rits and CDI – speaker and co-rapporteur of the final recommendations document, Brasília, May 14th-17th, 2001.
- VII Congress on Public Informatics (CONIP) – speaker on digital inclusion strategies and the role of the State, São Paulo, June 4th-7th, 2001.
- First Regional Meeting of Telecenters – speaker and participant in the debates to formulate a regional support network to digital inclusion projects and the TELELAC program, Quito, Ecuador, July 30th-August 1st, 2001.
- IV Workshop on Human Factors in Computational Systems – speaker at the session "Interfaces for All", Florianópolis, October 15th-16th, 2001.
- Guaranteeing Citizens Participation in the Digital Era: Public Policies and Internet Rights: promoted by APC and ILDES – speaker, Montevideo, November 19th-22th, 2001.
- II World Congress on Citizens Networks – participation in workshops on digital inclusion, Buenos Aires, November 5th-7th, 2001.

Languages

Fluently speaks, reads and writes Portuguese, Spanish and English.
