Executive Sparklers

Sasha Fisher
Co-Founder/ Executive Director
Sasha Fisher moved to East Africa in July 2010 to develop the Spark MicroGrants model. Her previous experiences in South Sudan, South Africa, India, and Uganda have led to her passion for community-led development. Sasha holds a BA from the University of Vermont in Studio Art and a self-designed major of Human Security, a paradigm for development that recognizes the rising legitimacy of non-state actors in securing basic human needs.

Laliteswar Kumar
Global Managing Director
Previously Lalit served as the Africa Managing Director of the Global Innovation Fund. His expertise lies in design and implementation of large scale programs, with government and development partners. He has implemented programs in partnership with governments in Kenya, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Malawi and Uganda. He has also collaborated with partners like BRAC and BASIX.
Shai Fogelson  
**Development Director**

Shai Fogelson has extensive background in public policy, international development, and wildlife conservation. He has a MS in wildlife conservation from Roehampton University in England. He graduated with a second Masters Degree in Public Policy, from the University of Minnesota in 2017. He has worked with Spark for over four years.

Peter Karanja  
**Operations Director**

Peter Karanja lives for a better tomorrow and is passionate about the small wins that make a difference. Professionally, he is a Strategic Finance Specialist, a Technology & Innovation Catalyst, a believer in the Growth and Development of teams and an Operational Efficiency leader. He has a background in Technology, and Project planning and Management, and he has had the benefit of a rich career in multiple sectors both in the for-profit and now nonprofit industry. Peter currently serves as the Operations Director at Spark Microgrants and loves to spend his free time with his family or playing basketball to stay in shape. He aspires to grow his leadership through his networks and learning opportunities to national influence where he can impact millions of lives.