



# MERMOZ MARTIAL BOMASSA SONKPA

President at Central African Republic Islamic Youth Association

Mermoz is an IVLP alumnus from the Central African Republic who participated in the Emerging Leaders program in October 2016. Over two weeks, his program met with the Office of Diana DeGette, the League of Women Voters of Colorado, the Aurora Police Department, Channel 9 News, Denver Rescue Mission, and U.S. Representative Candidate Casper Stockham. In addition, he had the opportunity to attend a membership appreciation party, a presidential debate watch party, and a local WorldDinner.

“I will never forget the evening organized in our honor, which allowed me to meet several contacts with whom I continue to maintain a good relationship. I am Denver's ambassador in my country and I hope to be able to return to this incredible city to strengthen my relationship and bond.

After my return from the USA, I set up a group of young people for a program called Leadership for Peace and Development. I work with young people and children from 6 to 17 years old in a children's club that we have set up with the support of World Vision. In addition, I have been working now since 2016 on a project funded by the U.S. Government, called the Central African Interfaith Peacebuilding Partnership.”

**– MERMOZ MARTIAL  
BOMASSA SONKPA**