



LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISATION INDABA _____ 2023



“STRONG PARTNERSHIPS FOR RESTORING TRUST IN A CAPABLE AND DEVELOPMENTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT: A CLARION CALL TO DRIVE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISATION AGENDA”

Programme

8 - 10 March 2023



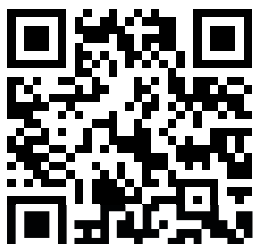
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Centre for Leadership and Governance



LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISATION INDABA

8 – 10 March 2023
Hybrid Event – Radisson Hotel &
Convention Centre - OR Tambo,
Kempton Park Johannesburg

“Strong Partnerships for Restoring Trust in A Capable and Developmental Local Government: A Clarion Call to Drive the Local Government Professionalisation Agenda”



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Mr Rio Nolutshungu:
Acting Chief Executive
Officer, SALGA

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM SALGA ACTING CEO

SALGA is honoured to convene multi-sectoral stakeholders as partners in the realization of a professional local government sector. The journey of professionalising local government commenced with the establishment of the local government as a distinct sphere of government, expressed in terms of the White Paper on Local Government (1998). Local Government has returned numerous gains as demonstrated, inter alia, in the expansion of quality and sustainable services to local communities, the set requirements for the appointment of senior municipal management and the establishment of learning programmes tailored for the local government system. However, the promises of the White Paper continue to pale against the current realities which plague our sector and infringe on the aspirations of a capable and developmental local government.

Esteemed delegates, the business case for professionalising local government is well known to us all. Media reports, academic research, auditor-general findings, and the lived experiences of communities often point glaringly towards the characteristics of a sector that needs to improve the upholding of professional ethics and standards. The intention of this gathering is to depart from the known challenges and begin to co-create an implementation pathway informed by the commitments of various constituencies and role-players in this journey.

Indeed, the theme for this Indaba captures the thrust of our efforts. It embraces a far more inclusive partnering approach that seeks to incorporate actors beyond those that are customary, to foster successful implementation of the multifaceted, repurposed local government professionalisation model pillars. Stressing on the need to enhance mutual accountability and transparency in the use of development resources, and to building a resilient municipal administration committed to ethical governance – thereby improving the reputation and image of local government. Furthermore, it seeks to provide appropriate professional designation, accreditation and continuous professional development to local government employees as well as promoting adherence to ethical standards and the enforcement of applicable consequence management.

The logic of the programme design expresses our intention to be consultative, informed and agile in our course of action to repurpose the implementation model of professionalisation. I trust that your participation as a delegate will be meaningful in this endeavour. I look forward to the Local Government Professionalisation Compact which will result from the deliberations of the three-day programme.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISATION INDABA BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) is convening a Local Government Professionalisation Indaba (LGPI) as a modality towards repurposing the implementation model of the Local Government Professionalisation Framework (2013) for the achievement of the developmental objectives of local government and sustainable service delivery. The objective is to pursue a multi-sectoral social compact that symbolically binds all social partners including government departments, professional bodies, communities, and organized labour to meaningfully work together in professionalizing the local government sector.

The LGPI programme consists of a combination of presentations based on research papers, panel discussions and invited speakers representing stakeholders in the local government professionalisation agenda.

The LGPI is one key activity driven by SALGA that aims to create a platform for municipalities, public sector regulators, professional bodies & other relevant stakeholders (e.g., academic institutions) to give meaningful effect to an implementation model for the professionalisation of the local government sector. This programme addresses the host of governance related issues that impair the ability of municipalities to deliver sustainable services and erode trust between municipalities and the citizens they service. These issues range from poor oversight and performance management systems to non-compliance with appointment regulations for senior management.



The premise of the Local Government Professionalisation Framework (2013) is that these challenges can be overcome by a system of checks and balances that ensure standards of competence, sound work practices, good ethos, ethical behaviour, and servant-leadership based attitudes. However, the current interpretation of the Local Government Professionalisation Framework cannot be assumed solely by municipalities as a silver-bullet to remedy the challenges of the sector. Rather, it requires a repurposed implementation model that sets out clear roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and measurable milestones for the achievement of a professionalised system of local government.

Therefore, the LGPI is conceptualised as one of the modalities towards the implementation of a repurposed Local Government Professionalisation Model set out below.

REPURPOSED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISATION IMPLEMENTATION MODEL





Indaba Objectives

To secure constituency buy-in and implementation adoption of the Local Government Professionalisation Framework by municipalities, regulators, professional bodies, institutions of higher education, community representatives, and organized labour.

To develop and affirm a compact between all stakeholders on how to work together and give meaningful effect to an impactful Local Government Professionalisation Implementation Model.

To reassert SALGA as a champion for local government professionalisation, building partnerships with regulators, professional bodies & other relevant stakeholders.

To create an enabling environment for effective advocacy and constituency immersion on the local government professionalisation implementation model.

To create an enabling environment for effective advocacy and constituency immersion on the local government professionalisation implementation model.

To create an opportunity for paper presentations and in-depth discussions with scholars in the emerging field of local government professionalisation.

To create an open reflective opportunity for municipalities, regulators, thought leaders, policymakers, institutes of higher learning, research institutes and other partners in local government to identify gaps and offer recommendations for embedding professionalism in the sector.

To develop a body of knowledge and generate sector intelligence on the institutionalization of the local government professionalisation implementation model, for monitoring and evaluating the transformation of the sector in empirical terms.



Indaba Sub-Themes

1

Establishing and upholding standards of professional ethics and integrity

2

Attracting and retaining high-calibre leaders for local government

3

Upscaling outcomes of learning programmes for institutional professionalism

4

Revisiting legislation, regulations and policy underpinning local government professionalism

5

Improving citizen perceptions to rebuild institutional trust

6

Leveraging professional bodies as custodians of good governance

7

Strengthening the political-administrative interface

8

Developing systems, structures, and performance metrics for professionalisation



Programme

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Programme

Pre-Indaba Physical Registration

07 MARCH 2023

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
17h00- 20h00	Delegates Registration	

DAY ONE

08 MARCH 2023

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
07h00– 09h00	Delegates Registration (Virtual log-on opens 08h30)	





Programme

PROGRAMME DIRECTORS:

Mr Tim Modise: Media Veteran

Dr Thina Nzo: Senior Researcher - Public Affairs Research Institute

09h00 - 09h10	Formal Opening of the Local Government Professionalisation Indaba (South African National Anthem)	
09h10 – 09h25	Setting the Scene for the Local Government Professionalisation Indaba	Cllr Pule Shayi: National Executive Committee Member - SALGA
09h25- 09h45	Welcome Address	Cllr Bheke Stofile: President - SALGA
09h45– 10h05	Keynote Address	Ms Thembisile Nkademeng: Deputy Minister - Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs (COGTA)

SESSION 1: THE IMPETUS FOR PROFESSIONALISING LOCAL GOVERNMENT





Programme

10h05- 10h25	Building a Development Oriented, Capable & Ethical State – Implications for Professionalisation of Local Government	Dr Miriam Altman: Director of Altman Advisory & Commissioner - National Planning Commission (NPC)
10h25 – 10h45	Public Sector Professionalisation – A Macro Perspective	Prof Busani Ngcaweni: Principal - National School of Government (NSG)
10h45 - 11h15	Imperatives for Establishing a Statutory Council for Local Government	Ms Nyaradzai Mukari: Professional Bodies Manager - South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)
11h15 – 11h45	Research Paper: The Impetus to Professionalise Local Government in South Africa: Issues, Trends & Options	Prof Sam Koma: School of Economics & Management Director - University of Limpopo
11h45 – 12h15	Q&A	

PLENARY

SESSION 2: LEVERAGING PROFESSIONAL BODIES AS CUSTODIANS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

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TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
12h20-12h40	Research Paper : Structured Candidacy Programme as an Enabler Towards Local Government Professionalisation: A Case of the South African Built Environment	Dr Msizi Myeza: Chief Executive Officer - Council for the Built Environment
12h40 -13h00	Research Paper: Professionalisation Perspectives: Public Sector Career Mobility for South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) Members	Mr Msizi Gwala: Project Director - South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA)
13h00– 13h45	LUNCH BREAK	
SESSION 3: REVISITING LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND POLICY UNDERPINNING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALISM		
13h45 -14h30	PANEL DISCUSSION: Revitalising the Legislative Frameworks & Policy Provisions Towards Entrenched Standards of Local Government Professionalism	MODERATOR: Mr Dumisani Hlophe: Deputy Director General - Department of Public Service & Administration (DPSA)

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		<p>PANELISTS:</p> <p>Mr Gershon Sibinda: MFMA Capacity Building & Training Director - National Treasury</p> <p>Prof Mpilo Ngubane: Municipal Academy Chief Learning Officer - Thekwini Metropolitan Municipality & Professionalisation Workstream Head – Institute of Local Government Management (IGLM)</p> <p>Ms Fikile Tshabangu: Municipal Human Resources and Organisational Development Senior Manager - SALGA</p> <p>Mr Nyiko Mabunda: Chief Director - Department of Public Service & Administration (DPSA)</p>
14h35 – 16h00	Commissions for Establishing the Foundation for the Local Government Professionalisation Compact	
16h00 – 16h30	CLOSING REMARKS ON COMMISSIONS AND FORMAL PROCEEDINGS OF DAY 1	



Programme

EVENING PROGRAMME : NETWORKING EVENT

PROGRAMME DIRECTORS:

Dr Dan Raseluma: Human Resources, Labour Relations & Dispute Resolution Senior Advisor- SALGA
Ms Concelia Choma: Knowledge Management & Research Intern -SALGA

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
18h00 – 18h30	Arrival of Guests	
18h30 – 18h35	Welcome of Guests & Opening Remarks	Programme Director
18h35 – 18h50	ENTERTAINMENT ITEM	
18h50 – 19h10	Motivational Address	Mr Lehlohonolo Mazindo: Registered Counsellor & Motivational Speaker
19h10- 19h25	Vote of Thanks	Ms Rebecca Matsie: Senior Researcher-SALGA
19h25 - 22h00	NETWORKING & ENTERTAINMENT	
12	END OF EVENING SESSION	



Programme

09 MARCH 2023		
PLENARY		
TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
PROGRAMME DIRECTORS: <i>Mr Tim Modise: Media Veteran</i> <i>Dr Thina Nzo: Senior Researcher - Public Affairs Research Institute</i>		
08h30 – 09h00	Welcome & Reflections from Day 1	Programme Director
SESSION 4: IMPROVING CITIZEN PERCEPTIONS TO REBUILD INSTITUTIONAL TRUST		
09h00 – 09h25	Research Paper: Building Citizen Trust & Strengthening Professionalisation Through Co-Production Strategies	Ms Harsha Dayal: Research & Knowledge Management Director – Department of Planning Monitoring & Evaluation (DPME)



Programme

09h25 - 10h00	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: Developing a Community Orientation in Administrative Capacity to Inform a Reliable and Quality Service to Local Communities</p>	<p>MODERATOR: Ms Lindiwe Ndlela: Executive Director – Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI)</p> <p>PANELISTS: Mr Fred Kusambiza-Kiingi: Executive Director -Planact</p> <p>Dr Thina Nzo: Senior Researcher- Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI)</p> <p>Ms Mirjam van Donk: Director – Isandla Institute</p>
PLENARY		
SESSION 5: STRENGTHENING THE POLITICAL- ADMINISTRATIVE INTERFACE & UPHOLDING STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND INTEGRITY		
10h00 - 10h25	<p>Research Paper: Outcomes of the Local Government Ethical Leadership Initiative</p>	<p>Mr Kris Dobie: Organisational Ethics Senior Manager - The Ethics Institute</p>



Programme

<p>10h45 - 11h15</p>	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: Establishing Ongoing Measures to Mitigate Against Political Patronage in Administrative Duties within Municipalities</p>	<p>MODERATOR: Mr Zolani Zonyane: Head of Editorial - Municipal Edge</p> <p>PANELISTS: Prof Themba Maseko: Executive Education Director - Wits School of Governance</p> <p>Prof Vain Jarbandhan: Centre for Public Management and Governance Director – University of Johannesburg</p> <p>Dr Marianne Camerer: Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance Senior Lecturer – University of Cape Town</p>
<p>SESSION 6: UPSCALING OUTCOMES OF LEARNING PROGRAMMES FOR INSTITUTIONAL PROFESSIONALISM</p>		
<p>11h15 - 12h00</p>	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: Municipalities as Learning Organisations for Institutional Professionalism</p>	<p>MODERATOR: Ms Josie Singaram: Strategy & Planning Acting Executive – Local Government Sector Education & Training Authority (LGSETA)</p>

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		<p>Dr Yul Derek Davids: Developmental, Capable and Ethical State Research Director – Human Science Research Council (HSRC)</p> <p>Dr Christina Maunye: Organisational Development Acting Director- City of Joburg</p> <p>Prof Nico Schutte: Full Professor & Director – North-West University</p> <p>Mr Solly Kahn: Transformational Coach - The Guardian Institute</p> <p>Ms Yuri Ramkissoo: Senior Researcher - South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)</p>
12h00 - 13h30	Commissions for the Development of the Local Government Professionalisation Compact	
13h30- 13h45	CLOSING REMARKS ON COMMISSIONS AND FORMAL PROCEEDINGS OF DAY 2	
LUNCH BREAK		



Programme

DAY THREE

10 MARCH 2023

PLENARY

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
PROGRAMME DIRECTORS: <i>Mr Tim Modise: Media Veteran</i> <i>Dr Thina Nzo: Senior Researcher - Public Affairs Research Institute</i>		
08H30 – 08h45	Welcome & Reflections from Day 2	Programme Director
SESSION 7: DEVELOPING SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES & PERFORMANCE METRICS FOR PROFESSIONALISATION		
09h00- 09h20	Research Paper: Design & Development of Professionalisation Readiness & Assessment Model (PRAM) for the South African Local Government	Dr Olu Ajay: President - Institute for Productivity, Resource Efficiency & Service Excellence (IPRES)
09h20 -09h45	Research Paper: Enhancing the Professionalisation of Local Government in South African: Implementation Lessons from Canada	Mr Thamsanqa Buys: PhD Candidate - Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)

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09h45 – 10h10	COMFORT BREAK	
SESSION 8: MULTI SECTORAL PATHWAYS TOWARDS THE PROFESSIONALISATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
10h10 - 10h55	<p>Presentation of Constituency Commitments to the Local Government Professionalisation Compact (LGPC) – Feedback from Commissions</p>	<p>MODERATOR: Prof Nicolene Barkhuizen: Industrial Psychology & People Management Professor - University of Johannesburg</p> <p>PANELISTS: Representatives From Various Constituencies (Municipalities, Civil Society, Organized Labour, Professional Bodies, Academic Institutions, Organised Business)</p>
11h00-11h20	<p>Potential Benefits to the Local Professionalisation Programme Flowing from The Public Service Commission’s Envisaged Mandate Extension</p>	<p>Prof Somadoda Fikeni: Chairperson - Public Service Commission (PSC)</p>



Programme

11h20 -11h45	Adoption & Pledge-Signing of the Local Government Professionalisation Compact (LGPC)	Mr Rio Nolutshungu: Municipal Capabilities & Governance Chief Officer - SALGA
11h45 - 12h00	Delegate Feedback & Evaluation	Programme Director
12h00 – 12h15	Closing Remarks & Vote of Thanks	Ms Sibongile Santi: LG Professionalisation Indaba Project Manager - SALGA
12h15	LUNCH & DEPARTURE	

Speaker Profiles

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Mr Tim Modise – Media Veteran

Tim is a veteran African journalist, broadcaster, public speaker and philanthropist boasts over thirty years in broadcast media and journalism. He has worked for various radio and TV stations for the SABC, M-Net, Prime-media, BBC and Power FM across different formats from music, current affairs and talk shows. Tim's experience in broadcasting and both the business and sporting arena's have ensured that he is also a sought after MC and speaker. His professionalism, coupled with his knowledge of current issues always add a touch of class and interest to every event he attends. Tim Modise has also worked as a political analyst for AMB Securities & HSBC, a columnist for City Press newspaper and was appointed the founding chairman of Proudly South African by President Thabo Mbeki. He briefly worked as Chief Communications Officer for the 2010 World Cup. He continues to cover South African public affairs and through his company FGPMedia, produces his own TV shows as well as his radio show on @touchdonline.



Dr Thina Nzo: Senior Researcher - Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI)

Dr Nzo holds a PhD in African Studies (University of Edinburgh) and a Masters in Local Government Studies (University of Birmingham). Thina uses an interdisciplinary approach to the study of politics and policy, that is underpinned by her interest in employing qualitative research and organizational ethnography to study local government bureaucracies in South Africa. Such an approach has the potential of significantly contributing to a much needed insight into the complex and multi-dimensional ongoing process of state formation in Africa in general. Her key research interests in local government studies focuses on examining how South African bureaucracies work in practice; the politics of precarity in representative local democracy and its implications of the dialectical relationship between the party and the state from 'below'; and lastly the conceptualisation of partisan bureaucracies that are permeated by the co-existence of formal and informal practices of governance and the impact that such practices have on the implementation of policies and legislation.



Ms Thembisile Nkademeng: Deputy Minister - Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs (GOGTA)

Ms Thembisile Nkademeng was appointed Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs in 2021, after having held various senior positions in the Government and Local Government spheres, amongst which is the SALGA President from 2019-2021. She began her political journey in student politics as a member of COSAS. Ms Nkademeng served in various leadership roles at branch level of the organization. She holds a BA (Hons) qualification from the University of the North, a BPhil from the University of Stellenbosch as well as an Advanced Management Program qualification from Wits Business School.



Cllr Bheke Stofile: President - SALGA

Cllr Bheke Stofile has a working experience spanning over 26 years in both the private and public sector occupying various positions of leadership. During this time he has been nurtured, skilled and capacitated to face numerous areas of complexity and responsibility. During his career, he has performed various political and corporate governance roles. His local government stint started in 2011, and has seen him assuming the positions of Municipal Council Speaker and Executive Mayor for continuous terms of office. Cllr Stofile has certificated qualifications from various institutions of learning such as the GIBS Business School. He has been involved in diverse roles in all the three spheres of Government, being Local, Provincial and National. Because of the depth he has grasped over time, he has been instrumental in leading transformation initiatives within the Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs space. He was also responsible for leading policy reform inputs and debates relating to Local Government legislation. Thus, he is recognised as one of the foremost influential leaders when it comes to representing the interests of local government. Cllr Stofile was elected as the SALGA President at its National Conference in March 2022, having been a member of its National Executive Committee (NEC) since after the 2016 local government elections. On 14 October 2022, the SALGA President was also elected as one of 5 co-presidents of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).



Cllr Pule Shayi: National Executive Committee Member - SALGA

Cllr Pule Shayi has a longstanding career in the Local Government sector and has been re-elected as Executive Mayor of the Mopani District Municipality on more than one occasion. He holds an Honours Degree from UNISA, as well as various Post-graduate qualifications in a legal field. He is currently pursuing studies in LLB as well as MBA. Cllr Shayi is a member of the National Executive Committee of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) where he chairs the National Working Group on Municipal Capability and Institutional Resilience. Cllr Pule Shayi has served in various positions at both national and local government.



Mr Rio Nolutshungu: Chief Officer – SALGA

Rio Phila Nolutshungu is a Chief Officer for a Cluster called Municipal Capabilities and Governance at the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) with responsibilities for enhancing capacity building, municipal human resources management and development for municipal organizational effectiveness and ensuring a labour relations environment in the sector that is conducive to sustainable service delivery, labour peace and stability. His main brief is to drive the professionalization of local government human resources management in the form of value add programmes, institutionalizing processes, procedures, systems, standards and structures to ensure that municipalities are effective institutions repositioned to achieve constitutional imperatives of being citizen centric, customer focused, responsive, compliant & developmental organs of state. He possesses post graduate qualifications in public and development management, labour law and human resources management coupled to certificated exposure to local democracy and governance, media relations, project management, policy development, advanced negotiations in the world of work from the International Training School operating under the auspices of the International Labour Organization (ILO) as well as a Leadership Impact and Innovation Certificate from University of California Berkeley. Apart from being the Chief Negotiator for SALGA in centralized collective bargaining at the SALGBC, he is a past member of the School of Government (the NSG) Advisory Committee and the Essential Services Committee (the ESC) operating under the auspices of the CCMA. He sits on the Boards of the Local Government Sectoral Education and Training Authority (the LGSETA) and the National Fund for Municipal Workers (the NFMW). Previously he has worked in various capacities for organizations such as the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA), the Department of Public Works (DPW), eThekweni Municipality and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) in between a stint as an independent management consultant.



Prof Busani Ngcaweni: Principal - The National School Government

Busani Ngcaweni is the Director-General of the National School of Government since March 2020. Prior to that he was the Head of Policy and Research Services in The Presidency. He was previously Chief of Staff to President and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa since 2014. He also served as Chief of Staff to Deputy Presidents since 2007, having joined the Policy Unit in The Presidency as Senior Policy Analyst since 2005. He was Senior Programme Manager and later Director at Umsobomvu Youth Fund. He is a graduate of the University of Durban-Westville, the University of Natal and UNISA. He is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Johannesburg and Visiting Adjunct Professor at Wits School of Governance and Soochow University (China). His latest co-edited book with Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni is titled *The Contested Idea of South Africa* (Routledge, 2022).



Dr Christina Maunye: Organisational Development Acting Director - City of Joburg

Ms Maunye is currently the Acting Director: Organisational Development at the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Council. She holds a Degree in Master in Business Administration (MBA), a Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA), an Intermediate Diploma: Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrator's, a Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Company Law, and a National Diploma in Human Resources Management. Prior to joining City of Johannesburg, she worked in the consulting space as an Executive Management Consultant in Organisational discipline in the local government sector. In addition, she was recently singled out for high praise following her recent keynote presentations and Facilitation at the Shared Services & Outsourcing Africa Conference, the Institute of Municipal Personnel Practitioners of the Southern Africa International Conference, Department of Cooperative Governance (CoGTA) and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). This has mapped her to be among the top practitioners in the Organisational Development discipline in the Local Government sector. She is currently studying towards obtaining a Doctorate in Business Administration.



Ms Concelia Choma: Knowledge Management & Research Intern - SALGA

At present Ms. Choma is a Research, Knowledge Management & Information Analysis intern in the Municipal Capabilities and Governance Cluster at SALGA. Previously, she has conducted community needs assessments and supervised StatsSA fieldwork for the 2022 Census. In her current role, she supports the EU-funded project COMPACT, SALGA's Customer Satisfaction Survey, the Local Government Risk Profile Tool, and SALGA Mobi. She has also served as a panelist in the 7th African Youth & Governance Convocation where she contributed in the drafting of resolutions. Ms. Choma is passionate about Local Government, social issues, and service delivery. Concelia Choma holds a Social Sciences post-graduate degree, specializing in Political Studies, Policy Analysis, Gender Studies, and Research Methods from the University of Limpopo.



Dr. Dan Raseluma: HR, Labour Relations & Dispute Resolutions Senior Advisor - SALGA

Dr. Dan Raseluma, is a Senior Advisor: HR, Labour Relations and Dispute Resolutions at SALGA Limpopo for 9 years. Part of his responsibilities include being part of the South African Local Government Bargaining Council's Executive Committee. Dr. Raseluma is also recognised in the Labour Relations field in Local Government. He is a natural leader who has made impact in various industries he has been associated with. An innovator, influential and passionate professional. He has always held Senior Positions in the Public Sector, Government Parastatals as well as Non-Profit Organizations



Dr Daniel Rampai: Integrity Commissioner – City of Joburg

Dr Daniel Rampai is currently serving his second term as the Integrity Commissioner for the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality. As the accountability officer, his key role is to ensure that councillors uphold standards of professional ethics and integrity in the performance of their duties and Council exercises ethical and effective leadership to achieve ethical culture, good performance and legitimacy. Dr Rampai has earned the following qualifications: BJuris, LLB, MBA, MPhil (Ethics) and PhD. The title of his doctoral thesis is “The role of the Integrity Commissioner: A Systems approach”. Dr Rampai is also the advocate of the High Court of South Africa.



Mr Dumisani Hlophe: Deputy Director General - Department of Public Service & Administration (DPSA)

Mr Dumisani Hlophe is currently the Deputy Director General of the Department of Public Service & Administration, responsible for the State Capacity Programme. Mr Hlophe holds a master’s degree in Political studies from the University of Natal –KwaZulu-Natal. He is a well-known political analyst and his work covers South African as well as African political economic issues. He has been a manager of research at a number of South African research institutions such as the Centre for Policy Studies (CPS); and the Centre for Development Research (CDR). Hlophe has been a political editor in several media institutions. Dumisani is a well sought after political scientist; public policy development practitioner and analyst; and also sought after on social analysis by various media houses from print, electronic and radio. He has made presentations throughout the world on a number of socio-political and economic issues on South Africa and the continent at large.



Ms Fikile Tshabangu: Municipal Human Resources & Organisational Development Senior Manager - SALGA

Fikile Tshabangu is a Senior Manager at SALGA, tasked with supporting and advising municipalities on Human Resource governance and organizational development matters. Possessing an HR policy development career spanning almost two decades, Fikile joined SALGA in 2010. The portfolio includes facilitating the transformation towards a strategic municipal HR function that responds to the developmental mandate of local government. During her tenure at SALGA, she has supported and advised municipalities by facilitating greater compliance to workplace legislation; researching and recommending leading HRM&D practices within the LG Sector and providing a platform for knowledge sharing and inter municipal learning within the HR community. A key milestone in Fikile's career was the pioneering of the development and advocacy for a Human Resource Management Strategy maturity model with associated implementation model as well as the framework to professionalize local government. She continues to support and advise municipalities to design, develop and execute best practices across all domains of HR and has also been vital in the restructuring of HR governance systems and processes in municipalities owing to the various legislative and policy reform. She is a UNISA graduate in human resource management, labour law as well as leadership development from WITS.



Mr Fred Kusambiza-Kiingi: Executive Director - Planact

Mr Fred Kusambiza-Kiingi holds a Masters Degree in Housing Development and Management from the University of Cape Town, and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Management College of Southern Africa. He joined Planact in January 2013, and as Executive Director responsible for the overall leadership, direction and decision-making toward achieving Planact's vision. Prior to this appointment, he was the Executive Director at Afesis-corporation. Mr Kusambiza-Kiingi is by nature an urban development planner with more than 25 years of experience various aspects of planning and development in the urban and peri-urban forms related to; local governance development processes, alternative settlement development, architectural designing and management, as well as organizational development. During the past 25 years he has been involved in designing methods on citizen inclusion specifically in urban areas and participation in local governance processes and has led teams in negotiations with metropolitan municipalities in various processes.



Gershon Sibinda: Director: MFMA Capacity Building & Training Director - National Treasury

Gershon Sibinda has been with the National Treasury for 15 years, he is currently the Director MFMA Capacity Building and Training responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Municipal Financial Management Internship Programme and the Municipal Regulations on Minimum Competency Levels, Gazette 29967 of June 2007 as amended, among others. Both programmes are funded through the Division of Revenue Act, Financial Management Grant allocations. Prior to this career stint, he has been a university lecturer in Economics for 10 years. He has spearheaded a number of NT projects for LG covering: Budget and Treasury Office structural review; Amendment of the minimum competency levels; support to DCOG on the writing of the Conditions of appointment and service for senior managers; MFMA Circulars; Consequence Management and Accountability Framework and other Donor funded programmes for LG, among others.

He is a Teacher by profession, an Economist by training and a LG financial ETD expert. He has ensured that both the internship programme and the minimum competency levels are institutionalised within municipal processes; he is an LGSETA Verifier for the regulated qualifications and he has facilitated the re-writing of the two regulated qualifications as Occupational Qualifications with QCTO for implementation in the near future.



Ms Harsha Dayal: Director Research & Knowledge Management – Department of Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Department (DPME)

Ms. Dayal is the Director of research at the Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation within the Presidency of South Africa. She is trained in the medical sciences and worked for 14 years as a public health professional (1993-2007), before migrating to the social sciences during her employment at the Human Sciences Research Council (2007-2014). In 2012, she was seconded to the Presidency to manage the high-level Twenty-Year Review. She was then employed full time at DPME in 2014 to provide research support services towards the implementation of South Africa's National Development Plan. In collaborating with the wider research community and the national system of innovation, she developed various strategies to bridge between researchers and policy-makers in brokering data, research and evaluation evidence to inform policy impact. She introduced evidence mapping and synthesis methodology in the public sector to advance policy-relevant research and has further developed processes, systems and infrastructure to build public sector research capacity. She serves on several advisory bodies and reference groups nationally and internationally.



Ms Josie Singaram: Acting Executive Strategy & Planning – LGSETA

Ms Josie Singaram has worked in the field of education and skills development for over twenty-five years, which includes being a Lecturer in Educare at three different Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges, previous known as Technical Colleges; South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA); Education Training and Development Practices SETA (ETDP SETA) – Sector Skills Planning Manager; Local Government SETA – Sector Skills Planning Manager. Currently, Ms Singaram is the Acting Executive: Strategy and Planning at the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA). Ms Singaram has a Teacher's Diploma and Bachelor of Education in Primary Education; Master of Education in Educational Administration, Planning and Social Policy from UCT. Ms Singaram is also pursuing her PhD at the University of the Free State. Her topic is focused on exploring an organisational learning culture that supports service delivery in municipalities. She further holds the professional status of Skills Development Master with the Association for Skills Development in South Africa. Ms Singaram is passionate about people, human resource development, skills development and is an avid lifelong learner.



Mr Kris Dobie: Organisational Ethics Senior Manager – The Ethics Institute

Mr Dobie has been involved in organisational ethics since 2004, and has a special interest in corruption prevention and conflicts of interest. Over the years he has supported the South African Government with numerous policy projects, including the development of the Minimum Anti-Corruption Capacity Guidance, and the 2016 South African Local Government Anti-Corruption Strategy. Kris has initiated and led the Gauteng Municipal Integrity Project, and the Local Government Ethical Leadership Initiative. He is the lead researcher on the South African Citizens' Bribery Survey, as well as the Public Sector Ethics Survey. He co-authored the TEI Ethics Reporting Handbook in 2015, and 2022. He served on the Global Reporting Initiative's anti-corruption working group for the review of the ethics and anti-corruption reporting guidelines for the GRI's G4 reporting standard, and recently served on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Reference Group. He holds a degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Pretoria, as well as MPhil in Workplace Ethics (Cum Laude) from the same institution.



Mr Lehlohonolo Mazindo: Registered Counsellor & Motivational Speaker

Mr Mazindo holds various degrees in the Human Sciences area and is a HPCSA (Health Professions Council of South Africa) Registered Counsellor, Marriage Therapist, and Mental Health Practitioner in Private Practice since 2006. He has 16 years' experience in the psychology, counselling and psychotherapy profession, and he has impacted hundreds of lives nationwide and abroad with his counselling and psychotherapy services. Lehlohonolo has featured on various national television programs and radio stations. He is an honest, passionate and compassionate professional, whose personal life's journey inspires thousands of people across all walks of life. He currently teaches Psychology and Counselling at the South African College of Applied Psychology (SACAP).



Ms Lindiwe Ndlela: Executive Director - Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI)

Lindiwe Ndlela is the Head of Programmes and Co-director at PARI. She has dedicated her career to supporting institutional and leadership development for elected and appointed government officials. She has worked with and for government for more than 25 years. Before joining PARI, Lindiwe the Acting Head of Government Technical Advisory Centre in National Treasury, four years having joined the organisation as the Head of its Technical Consulting Services. In this role she was making a direct contribution to building a capable state and enabling government to function more effectively and efficiently. Her areas of specialisation include local government policy research and analysis, knowledge management, performance management, monitoring and evaluation, inter-governmental relations, strategic planning and capacity development in government. She has worked at all levels of government with organisations including South African Local Government Association (SALGA), Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA) and Palmer Development Group (PDG).



Dr Marianne Camerer: Senior Lecturer - Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance - University of Cape Town

Dr Marianne Camerer is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Cape Town (UCT) where she focuses on ethics, leadership, and accountability. She previously directed the Building Bridges Programme, a leadership development platform, at The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance at the University of Cape Town. In 2014 she initiated the flagship Emerging African Leaders Programme which now has over 100 alumnus from ten African countries. Beyond research and teaching she works with a team of facilitators to develop innovative executive training for senior public officials and social entrepreneurs in Africa, with a particular focus on ethical leadership and accountability. Prior to joining UCT, Marianne co-founded the international anti-corruption NGO Global Integrity and headed anti-corruption research at the Institute for Security Studies. Marianne is passionate about leadership development and qualified as an integral coach through UCT's Centre for Coaching at the Graduate School of Business.



Dr Miriam Altman: Director of Altman Advisory & Commissioner - National Planning Commission (NPC)

Dr. Miriam Altman is a recognised thought leader, strategist and economist. She has deep experience in economic policy research, and, unusually, also at the coal face of major transformation initiatives. Dr Miriam is Director of Altman Advisory where she supports governments and companies in their economic and commercial strategies. To date, this has involved African market development in e-commerce, education technology, electrical hardware, tourism and communications. She is currently lead drafter of the SA Government's National Infrastructure Plan 2050. Previously she served as Chief of Strategy at Telkom (2013-2016), crafting and orchestrating its turnaround. Miriam was a Commissioner in the National Planning Commission (2010-2011) in the SA Presidency. As an Executive Director at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) from 2002 – 2013, her flagship was the HSRC Evidence Based Employment Scenarios that convened top leaders from business, labour, government and academia to find concrete solutions to SA's extreme unemployment challenge. She is a Professor of 4IR Practice in the Dept of Economics, University of Johannesburg. Miriam has economics degrees from McGill University, the University of Cambridge and the University of Manchester. Her publications and blog can be found at www.miriamaltman.com



Ms Mirjam van Donk: Director - Isandla Institute

Ms Mirjam van Donk holds the position of Director of the Isandla Institute. She is an urban land planner with a Master's degree from the Development Planning Unit at University College London. She also holds a Master's degree in Theology from the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam. Mirjam has worked and written extensively on local government, urban governance, human settlements, development planning, gender and HIV/AIDS. She has expertise in managing complex projects and teams, programme design and institutional transformation.



Prof Mpilo Ngubane: Municipal Academy Chief Learning Officer - eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality & Professionalisation Workstream Head - Institute of Local Government Management (IGLM)

Prof Mpilo Ngubane is the Executive Director of Cifal Durban, Chief Learning Officer of the eThekweni Municipal Academy and Adjunct Professor of Research at UNISA's School of Business Leadership (SBL). He is a seasoned Local Government expert having been a consultant, researcher, a writer, analyst and facilitator in the Local Government sector. He has 22 years of local government experience, eight years of which he served as a Municipal Manager. He holds 10 qualifications which include two Masters degrees and two PhD degrees. His forte has been policy development and implementation in the public sector and has done research and presented a number of papers in various national and international conferences and has written numerous Research Articles in Local Government published in International Journals. He is currently serving as the Chairman of the Institute of Local Government Managers Research and Professionalization Committee and is also serving on its National Executive Committee. He has been appointed by the Minister of Public Service and Administration as a member of the Ministerial Advisory Task Team on Professionalization of the Public Service. He has served in a number of structures, boards and professional bodies and is currently a Board member of capacity building institute of the United Cities in Local Government Africa (UCLGA). He is also a registered Professional Executive Coach.



Mr Msizi Gwala: Project Director - South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA)

Mr Gwala is a Project Director in the SAICA Public Sector department, responsible for public sector thought leadership, with a portfolio that focuses on people, risk, and technology. He has worked as a facilitator, academic, auditor and consultant. He is a recipient of the 2017 Mandela Washington Fellowship (public management track) and has served as an audit committee chairperson in local government. He was a member of the University of Zululand capacity building project which resulted in the accreditation of the university accounting offering by SAICA. He also worked on the implementation framework for the CA2025 competency framework. He has been involved in a number of improvement (and change management) projects both at the university and at the AGSA where he has worked. He is a qualified CA (SA) who trained with EY after completing his studies at UCT. He holds a Master of Accountancy degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.



Dr Msizi Myeza: Chief Executive Officer - Council for the Built Environment (CBE)

Dr Msizi Myeza is the Chief Executive Officer since 01 November 2021. Mr Myeza practices what the CBE preaches; he is a Professional Planner, registered with the South African Council for Town and Regional Planners. He holds a Bachelor of Science Honours degree in Town and Regional Planning from Wits University, a Master of Science in Development Planning from the University of Witwatersrand, and completed his PhD Civil Engineering from the University of Johannesburg. Mr Myeza complements his academic qualifications with various certificates in the management & leadership field. Mr Myeza served in the private sector, private practice, and extensively in various positions at provincial and local government in Gauteng



Prof Nico Schutte: Full Professor & Director - North West University

Prof Schutte is a Full Professor and research associate at UJ. He holds two PhD's. His first PhD is in Public Administration where he developed a strategic leadership competency model for government leaders. His second PhD is in Industrial and Organisational Psychology, where he developed a professional competency framework for HR professionals. He is also trained Strengthfinder coach a Creative Problem-Solving coach, and a Tavistock facilitator. He is also a member of COMENSA. Professor Schutte's primary research interests and areas of specialisation evolve around Strategic Leadership, Public Service Professionalisation, Local Government Knowledge Management, Human Resource Management, Online learning, Organisational Behavior, Talent Management, and practice. He received various prestigious awards for his research, such as Most productive senior researcher of the Faculty at North-West University (2014) and multiple awards from the SA Board for People Practices, such as Best Publication in the field of HR research (2015; 2018), and Best Human Resources consulting product (2018) for his community outreach interventions such as Giftback. He also aids government departments in policy interpretation and analysis through guidance and advice in the relevant steps of the policy making process.



Prof Nicolene Barkhuizen: Industrial Psychology & People Management Professor - University of Johannesburg

Prof Nicolene Barkhuizen is currently a Full Professor at the Department of Industrial Psychology and People Management, University of Johannesburg. Nicolene holds the following qualifications: BCom HRM (Cum Laude), BCom Honours Employment Relations (Cum Laude) and MCom Industrial Psychology (Cum Laude) from the former Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education and a PhD in Industrial Psychology from North-West University. Prof Barkhuizen's academic career spans over more than 15 years, where she is globally regarded as a leading author, researcher and practitioner on Talent Management. She occupied various senior management positions such as Dean, Faculty Research Director and Research Entity Director, where she transformed her staff and respective departments towards top achievers throughout her career. Prof Barkhuizen's research outputs have resulted in more than 200 accredited research publications, 2 books and 8 book chapters. She also received various prestigious acknowledgements for her research outputs. In 2018 she won the National Women in Science Award for Distinguished young women researcher in Social Sciences and Humanities. The Minister of Science and Technology presented the award. Prof Barkhuizen was awarded Best Professional HR Standards Academic in South Africa (2018 and 2019) for her work on talent management from the SA Board for People Practices. In addition, she received an award for Best HR Product and Best HR publication in South Africa from the latter institution in 2018. Prof Barkhuizen successfully supervised 140 Masters and 20 Doctoral students. Her students' research is also acknowledged with several notable local and international awards.



Ms Nyaradzai Mukari: Professional Bodies Manager - South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

Nyaradzai Mukari is a Manager: Professional Bodies at the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). She started working at SAQA in 2015 in the Registration and Recognition Unit as a specialist. In 2021 she became the Manager for the Professional Body sub-unit responsible for the recognition of professional bodies and registering professional designations for the purposes of the NQF. Ms Mukari holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Pretoria. She is passionate about education, training and development issues.



Mr Nyiko Mabunda: Chief Director - Department of Public Service & Administration (DPSA)

Mr Mabunda is the Acting Deputy Director General for Human Resource Management and Development (HRMD) at the DPSA. This role sees him managing, overseeing and facilitating human resource planning, employment, performance, development, transformation and workplace environment (norms and standards) across the public service. Mabunda has experience as a project manager at an international development institution, policy management, development and evaluations. As a Policy Advisor and Analyst in the Office of the Premier, Gauteng Province Mabunda was responsible for conducting research on policy issues in support of the Provincial Cabinet. Mabunda has completed degrees with majors in Political Science and Public Administration; Public Policy; International Political Economy and International Relations. These qualifications and experiences enjoins Mabunda with the ability to understand the South Africa's policy landscape and the constraints faced by policy implementers and developers.



Dr Olu Ajayi: President - Institute for Productivity, Resource Efficiency & Service Excellence (IPRES)

Dr Olu Ajayi is the President of the Institute for Productivity, Resource Efficiency and Service Excellence (IPRES) and a Principal at Izovutha (Pty) Ltd. He is passionate about operational and service excellence, climate change mitigation and applied research and development, and has led projects/programs in these areas for more than 2 decades on four continents. He obtained a Master's degree, and a PhD degree from the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria respectively.



Ms Rebecca Matsie-Makhathini: Senior Researcher - SALGA

Ms Matsie - Makhathini is a Sociologist by training, currently working as Senior Researcher at SALGA responsible for the co-ordination of SALGA's Research Agenda under the Municipal Capabilities and Governance Cluster. She has experience in research and advocacy within the fields of urban land/housing, sustainable development and intersectionality (gender, race and class). Her work within local government has advocated for strengthened public participation and inclusive development planning, through policy briefs, research outputs and municipal guides. As an early-career researcher, she served on an expert panel for an international partnership that mobilizes funding for environmental change research, participated in an international student think tank and served on the adjudication panel for the Public Sector Innovation Awards. She is passionate about strengthening how local government supports the needs, ideas and aspirations of its most vulnerable urban citizens through its service delivery programmes. Rebecca holds a BA Hons in Sociology (Cum Laude) from Stellenbosch University and an MA in Sociology (Cum Laude) from the University of Cape Town.



Prof Sam Koma: Economics & Management Director - University of Limpopo

Prof Koma formerly served as a Senior Lecturer affiliated to the School of Public Management and Administration (SPMA) of the University of Pretoria from May 2008 until December 2016. During his tenure he was Head of Research at Milpark Business School. He has participated in thought leadership series and public lectures on audit outcomes for national, provincial and local governments including SOEs and also participated in seminars and webinars organised by South African Local Government Association (SALGA). He participated as a panellist in the Roundtable Discussion on Municipal Systems Amendment Bill (B2-2019) in virtual public hearings convened by the Gauteng Provincial Legislature's Portfolio Committee on COGTA and Human Settlements. Prof Koma delivered over 40 conference papers and published more than 20 articles in accredited and prestigious journals of Public Administration. In addition, he published and contributed to book chapters in the field of Public Administration, Governance and Local Government. He also serve as a research cluster leader in the South African BRICS Think Tank under the National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences. He served as a Research Professor in Afrocentric Governance of Public Affairs (AGoPA), a research entity of the Faculty of Humanities in the North-West University.



Ms Sibongile Santi: Research, Knowledge Management, Innovation & Information Senior Manager - SALGA

Ms Santi is a seasoned Knowledge Management (KM) practitioner who holds a master's degree in Information and Technology (Information Science) from the University of Pretoria. Sibongile has been in the Knowledge Management space for the past 14 years and in that time has developed her technical expertise in the areas of Knowledge and Information Management, Research, Information Technology and Information Analytics. Her key interests involve building learning organisations, project management and change management. Ms Santi finds her role as a KM professional to be exciting and challenging owing to the acceleration of an automated and Artificial Intelligence-driven environment which is being ushered in with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). She is also quite passionate about finding opportunities to mentor interns in the KM field and related spaces, as a person who started out as an intern herself.



Mr Solly Kahn: Transformational Coach - The Guardian Institute

Mr Solly Kahn is a Transformational Coach with the Guardian Institute. He holds an MPA, B. Com, JSED, PGDHE and a PGDipEML, in addition to the NLP model of coaching and the UCT Executive and Management Coaching course. Solly spent over 20 years as principal of a public and independent school. His responsibilities included providing operational and strategic direction. In his leadership role, Solly helped build collegial relationships with teachers, nurtured a culture of professional collaboration and coaching across the school. He also helped teachers discover the qualities that make them great teachers and supported them in their professional practice.



Prof Somadoda Fikeni: Chairperson - Public Service Commission (PSC)

Prof Somadoda Fikeni acquired his BA and BA Honours in politics and social sciences from the then University of Transkei, currently known as Walter Sisulu University. He also studied peace and political studies programme at McMaster University in Canada and obtained his MA in International Politics and Comparative Development at Queens University, followed by his Doctoral Studies or PhD in Comparative Politics and Public Policy Analysis at Michigan State University in the USA. His areas of expertise are policy analysis, comparative politics, research methodology, international politics, political economy and heritage. He is an author, researcher, public speaker and commentator on a range of local and global political, social and heritage as well as economic issues. He held various management and leadership positions which include being the merger manager at the University of Transkei, founding COO and Heritage Manager for the National Heritage Council of South Africa (NHC). Dr Fikeni is also an associate professor to the Unisa Thabo Mbeki School of Public and International Affairs.



Mr Thamsanqa Buys: PhD Candidate - Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)

Mr Thamsanqa Buys holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration obtained through the University of Pretoria and is currently in pursuit of a Doctoral Degree in Public Affairs with the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT). As an aspiring academic, Mr Buys has a key interest in public policy, and although the academic focus has largely been on higher education. Mr Buys is making strides in scholarship around local government with the view to specialize. As a part-time lecturer in the Department of Public Management at TUT, Mr Buys is exposed to literature and passes on his knowledge to future public servants enrolled for a National Diploma in Local Government.



Prof. Themba Maseko: Executive Education Director - Wits School of Governance

Prof. Themba Maseko is the (Adjunct) Professor and Director of Executive Education at the Wits School of Governance. He holds BA LLB (Wits University) and an MBA (De Montfort University). His career in the public service includes roles as the former CEO of the Government Communication and Information Service (GCIS) and Government Spokesperson; Director General in the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA); National Department of Public Works (NDPW), and he was the first Superintendent-General in the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) and a Member of Parliament in 1994. His role in the private sector included short stints as Managing Director of the Damelin Education Group, independent management consultant, and Communications Director at the Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA). He left the public service after 17 years when he became one of the public servants who spoke out against the capture of the South African state and became a witness at the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into State Capture, also known as the Zondo Commission. He holds BA LLB (Wits University) and an MBA (De Montfort University). He is the Author of “For my Country”. He is a Trustee of the Board of the Nelson Mandela Foundation and also serves on the Boards of Corruption Watch and the Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution (CASAC).



Prof Vain Jarbandhan: Public Management & Governance Centre Director – University of Johannesburg

Prof D B (Vain) Jarbandhan is Associate Professor and Director: Centre for Public Management and Governance in the College of Business and Economics, University of Johannesburg. He is a NRF Rated Researcher. His academic interests focuses on, inter alia, public sector human resource management, future-fit leadership and development and climate governance. He has supervised doctoral, masters and honours students to completion. He collaborates with academic staff internationally in the discipline of Public Management and Governance, and has formed numerous international partnerships to promote the discipline. He currently serves on the expert panel of Innovating Governance, an international NGO, based in Vienna, Austria.



Dr Yul Derek Davids: Developmental, Capable and Ethical State Research Director – Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

Dr Yul Derek Davids is a Research Director in the HSRC’s Developmental, Capable & Ethical State (DCES) division and Advisory Member at the Department of Applied Legal Studies at Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). He holds a PhD in Political Studies from the University of Stellenbosch (2010) and MA in Research Psychology from the University of the Western Cape (UWC). Davids specialises in democracy, poverty, wellbeing, and governance (and local government in particular). Before joining the HSRC, Davids worked at the Institute for Democracy (Idasa) from 1999 to 2005, where he managed the Public Opinion Service (POS) and the Afrobarometer survey project. Davids also did consultancy work for Management Systems International (MSI) in Nigeria, USAID in Tanzania as well as for the International Foundation for Elections Systems (IFES) in Uganda. Davids has published extensively in scientific peer-reviewed journals, and produced several research reports, abstracts, and book chapters. He co-edited a book entitled South African Social Attitudes 2nd Report: Reflections on the Age of Hope (2010) and “Paradise Lost: Race and Racism in post-apartheid South Africa” that was published in June in 2022 by Brill Publishers. His upcoming book is on “The BRICS in Africa Promoting Development” co-edited by Funeka Y. April, Modimowabarwa Kanyane, Yul Derek Davids and Krish Chetty.



Ms Yuri Ramkisson: Senior Researcher - South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)

Ms Ramkisson is a Senior Researcher at the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), heading the Economic and Social Rights (ESR) unit. She started at the SAHRC in 2008 as a Senior Researcher, Environmental Rights before taking over the ESR unit. She has a Master of Science (Environmental Science) but monitors a range of rights and the cross-cutting impacts on gender, race and groups categorised as vulnerable in South Africa. Yuri has done much work in the field of environment, business, and human rights, including the right to water and sanitation. She has a particular interest in human rights and climate justice.



Mr Zolani Zonyane: Editorial Head - Municipal Edge

Zolani Zonyane holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management and Administration from University of Stellenbosch Business School, BTech in Internal Auditing from Cape Technikon and several Post Graduate Qualifications from the University of Stellenbosch School of Public Leadership. Zolani has 4 years' experience within the South African Tax system and 17 years of experience in Public Finance Management specializing in Coordination (MFMA Implementation), Provincial Budget Planning, Municipal Finance and Budget Reforms in Africa. He was a Director of Local Government Resource Management in Gauteng Provincial Treasury when he exited the South African Public Service in February 2021. From 1 March 2021 he served as a Public Finance Management Technical Advisor to GIZ focusing on Good Financial Governance. Zolani left GIZ on 30 November 2022 and was appointed in the Capacity as Head of Editorial with Municipal Edge, an intellectual capital hub that enables co-creation of solutions to Public Finance Management challenges facing some of the South African municipalities.



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