

# STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES

#### **David Akinin Benarroch**



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Originally from Venezuela, David is a developer-entrepreneur, founder of Atenu Developments and Emanya Capital Group.

Through Atenu, David has been building affordable housing and school blocks since 2014. Atenu builds privately-funded, affordable housing projects in towns around Namibia targeting civil servants and first-time home buyers. On the education front, Atenu builds classroom blocks for underserved schools around the nation, partnered with the Pupkewitz Foundation. Emanya Capital is the private equity arm of his operations. Before moving to Namibia, David Akinin worked for Credit Suisse in NYC as an Investment Banker in the Energy industry, and later covering Latin America from Chile and NY. Previous to CS, he held positions at Google in California, Clarteza in Chicago/Paris, Fundacion Don Juan De Borbon in Madrid, and Rallytel (startup). Fluent in six languages, Akinin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Chicago, and coursework at Harvard University and Paris VII-Diderot.

# **Shireen Amos**



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Shereen Amos is Managing Director of Sugarbird Studios - its core business to help corporates and state-owned companies mobilise their stakeholders around strategic ideas and collaborative future design. Shereen believes that story, conversation and experience are critical to making sense of these exponential times we live in, and powerful too in forging new innovative collaborations to solve problems, to co-create and do those jobs that customers and citizens need to get done.

Before Sugarbird Studios, Shereen has worked as a Strategic Director for agencies and as an independent, consulting on brand and stakeholder strategy to the financial services and petrochemical sectors, government and state-owned enterprises. It was out of this experience that she designed her unique stakeholder inquiry process and documentary film making skill, as well as a capacity to design and produce thought-provoking concept experiences and thinking tools for more dynamic stakeholder engagement and future co-creation.

#### **Thato Bereng**



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Thato Bereng began her career in investment banking in the Treasury and Specialised Finance team at Investec Ltd, then moved on to RMB Morgan Stanley's Institutional Equity Research Sales team focusing on emerging African equity markets.

Thato then moved to Visio Capital Management, one of SA's biggest Hedge Funds, as a Product and Business Development specialist. Thato holds a postgraduate degree in Development Economics from Wits University and an Economics undergraduate from the University of Cape Town. She is currently a Project Manager at UCT GSB's Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Yannick Butorano



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Yannick is a Rwandan-South African from a supportive family of six, enrolled in the MPhil Inclusive Innovation programme. Having schooled in Pietermaritzburg and Newcastle, he moved to Cape Town to pursue a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering at UCT, graduating in 2014. He went on to join j5 International Ltd, a multi-national Operations Management software company with its development and engineering base in Cape Town, where he works as a software engineer. Outside of his job, Yannick volunteers on the board of Loaves and Fishes, a second-phase homeless and rehabilitation centre for destitute adults in Observatory, Cape Town, founded by a coalition of nearby churches. His aim through the programme is to use technology to develop innovations that directly benefit the marginalised and oppressed.

**Nawaal Deane** 



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Nawaal Deane is currently the Head of the Digital Media Unit at UCT's Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching (CILT). Her unit is responsible for all video content creation for online courses, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS) and automated recording services. The protests have put pressure on CILT for all courses to be available online.

Her department is involved in ongoing debates around free higher education and the need for the university to look at decolonization and transformation issues.

Prior to this position, Nawaal has worked as a print journalist for the Mail&Guardian and video producer for eNCA and CNBC Africa respectively. She owned her own digital video production company where she worked for clients to produce and manage internal YouTube channels. Nawaal describes herself foremost as a visual storyteller. She believes the impact of storytelling can change the world.

**Tammy Dlamini** 



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My name is Tammy Muzi Dlamini, and I currently work as the Agribusiness Manager for the National Agricultural Marketing Board of Swaziland. My main role in this position is to spearhead farmer development for commercial market opportunities, and to help farmers access both local and export markets.

I have a background in Agricultural Sciences, where I majored in crop production for my BSc, and also completed a certificate of marketing with the University of Cape Town and in 2016 a Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing with UCT.

My passion is in product creation, ranging from helping people start new enterprises, creating new variants from existing products and markets. I am also a part time farmer, running a small goat, chicken and maize farm. I believe that the MPhil in Inclusive Innovations will help me to become a leader in a number of fronts, especially in the area of creativity. I therefore look forward to better knowing both my colleagues, and lecturers and sharing valuable experiences.

# Kim Grimwood



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Kim graduated from the University of Cape Town with an honours in Business Science, with an Actuarial Science major, in 2003. She went on to qualify as an Associate actuary from the Institute of Actuaries, London, UK, in 2004. From 2004, she has worked in leading local (South African) and global firms within the Financial industry (insurance and reinsurance in particular). She has decided to pursue the Master's in Inclusive Innovation to practically implement change through an interwoven application of two of her passions: creativity and structure. She has lived in London, New York, Johannesburg, and is currently living in her birth-town: Cape Town

## **Patty Hamann**



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After having finished school in Johannesburg I completed undergraduate studies in English and Psychology and postgraduate studies in Psychology. I travelled and worked abroad for the next few years before studying and practicing alternative healing modalities. During this time I opened and managed a small health shop.

Moving to Cape Town a short while later, I chose to be a stay-at-home mom to our 2 children. I did this for the next 8 years. Towards the end of this time I participated in life coaching as a client and then chose to study coaching. I currently work as a life coach using somatic and emotional lines of intelligence to better understand the psyche and to foster a greater connection to the self. I also use art and literature to this same end. I find nourishment in the creative process, movement, being in nature, writing and reading.

#### **Kay Lala-Sides**



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I have worked in the corporate world across a range of industries (manufacturing, mining, telecoms, energy, financial services) for 20 + years. This has been in the capacity of a management consultant where I worked with shop floor operators through to executives. And for the past 10 years, I worked within a corporate, as an executive responsible for Strategy Integration at Sanlam Investments. I have increasingly been reflecting on what next for me professionally. What has emerged is the strong desire to leverage my deep corporate experience and apply what I have learnt into a sector that I am passionate about. As part of that I've decided to bolster my experience with research and insights and the Mphil in Inclusive Innovation programme ticked all the boxes for me.

On a personal level, I am married, have an 8 year old son and also 2 step sons. We are "foodies" who enjoy cooking and eating out at unusual spots. We love being outdoors with camping a firm favourite. I practice yoga to develop calm and strength in both mind and body.

#### **Christine Lara**



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Christine Lara has spent more than a decade pushing towards the edge of social impact design. As a trained architect, she has worked on multidisciplinary development projects, broad in typology and scale, across the global south with renowned non-profits, Partners In Health, Architecture for Humanity, MASS Design and Build Change.

In 2016, Christine took a dive into social entrepreneurship by completing the PG Dip at the UCT GSB and has since founded a design consultancy and an architectural residency program for students with a keen interest in the development sector. With a key focus on the changing nature of employability, Christine looks forward to researching new business models that create more equitable opportunities for entrepreneurship during the MPhil in Inclusive Innovation.

#### Sarika Mahadeo-Diercks

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Sarika an Organisation Development (OD) professional with a particular passion for Change Management. She is also a skilled and innovative facilitator. Her career history spans management consulting for a global organisation with experience across multiple projects and industries, and Human Resources experience for large national and multinational organisations. She has spoken at conferences on various OD topics for over the past few years. She is also a keen advocate of mindfulness and integrating it into the workplace.

On a personal level, Sarika feels strongly about family time with her husband and 14-month old son. She is passionate about developing people having mentored a number of young professionals. She is also an integral life coach and is currently in the process of establishing a bespoke coaching programme for moms.

Sarika holds a Social Science Degree in Psychology, Post Graduate qualifications in Human Resources and Business Management, and an Associate Coaching Certificate.

# Phumeza Mgxashe

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Phumeza Mgxashe is a marketing and communications professional with two decades' experience and has been employed in various roles in both the private and public sector.

She is passionate about brand and employee communications in particular, as well as giving back to the community.

For over a decade, Phumeza has been a member of the Businesswomen's Association (BWA), a nationwide organization for women in business. She has also written for women's magazines such as Oprah and True Love, and currently is a freelancer for Destiny magazine.

Giving back is very important to her and to this end, she joined the Partners for Possibility (PfP) as a business leader and was matched with a school principal at a no-fee primary school in Retreat, Cape Town. She has now joined PfP as a Business Developer, in charge of recruiting business leaders to join the programme.

She enjoys reading African literature and magazines.

# **Sngaye Mkhize**



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S'ngaye Mkhize was born in 1983 in Durban. He is a lover of the outdoors who likes to keep active by running and hiking every chance he gets. He is passionate about Ballroom Dancing.

He is an aspiring change agent who is passionate about continuous improvement, bringing parallels to knowledge, quality and risk management using systems enhancement, people management and mature leadership. Demonstrated achiever with exceptional knowledge of workforce Management, operational business practices, and customer service with 15 years working experience. He is the eldest brother of 2 siblings and has a healthy social life.

#### Anele Mkuzo



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Anele Mkuzo has worked in the Enterprise Development space for a number of years. Her experience began at the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS) where she designed programmes for entrepreneurs from various sectors such as; ICT, construction, manufacturing, engineering and financial services. Among those she received an award for designing the National Home Builders Regulatory Council Women Empowerment Programme at the 2015 South African Construction Awards; which recognize excellence across Africa.

In 2016, Anele was nominated as one of Mail & Guardian's Top 200 Young South Africans in the Education category. A huge achievement, which gave her the much-needed courage to leave full time employment and start her own business.

Anele is the founder and Managing Director of Zinde (Pty) Ltd t/a African Entrepreneurship Initiative (AEi). AEi is a consulting and entrepreneurship education training company with a focus on the youth within townships and peri-urban areas.

Some of her achievements to date include:

- Cmpleting her Post Diploma in Business Administration at GIBS 2016;
- Winning the Fairlady Women of the Future Rising Star award 2017;
- Facilitating Design Thinking on enterprise development programmes for youth start-ups and scale-up businesses.

#### Maurisa Moloto



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Maurisa graduated with a distinction in BSc. Speech-Language Pathologies (UCT), receiving leadership awards including the AB Klemmens award for her research. Her expertise includes special needs and learning difficulties, gaining experience at various schools for learners with special education needs, including Eros School.

Maurisa gained significant expertise in the area of counselling and course development pursuing her passion for community empowerment when she was employed as the head of care and counselling at Gracepoint Church (Johannesburg). This motivated her to study Social Entrepreneurship at the GIBS (UP), as a FIX scholar. She has consulted for various NGO's and social conscious businesses such as Data Innovator, where she facilitated strategic workshops and team coaching.

Maurisa founded The Lesedi Project, a play-based language and literacy programme which facilitates asset-based community development. Through the social enterprise she aims to improve the quality of early learning programmes and positively impact childhood development in Africa.

# Hital Muraj



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Hital Muraj is an ICT4D specialist, passionate about integrating technology for social impact in emerging economies. She is dedicated to the betterment of our world through promoting the education of women and youth by developing their technology skills. She is responsible for Cisco's Corporate Social Investments in East and Central Southern Africa. She continues to establish innovative programs to help empower young people with technology skills. She successfully launched the first Cisco Networking Academy for the deaf in the world, which has enabled a traditionally forgotten group of people, to get access to ICT Education and jobs to improve their economic status. She is currently implementing a TeleHealth initiative that is providing access to quality health care to rural communities. Her hard work and dedication has earned her several awards such as Global Ambassador for Youth from Usher's New Look Foundation, Inclusion and Diversity Ambassador for Middle East and Africa for Cisco, Catalyst Award from Cisco, Champion Award from Cisco among many others. She has also received many awards from Microsoft. She has been nominated as Kenya's Top 40 Most Powerful Women Under 40 for 2 consecutive years. She has also been selected by the Acumen Foundation, as an East African Fellow for 2013.

# Agathamarie Mushi



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Agathamarie is a pro-poor a market systems development professional, with 7 years experience in project management, and market research for strategy, policy, products and business development for inclusive financial markets. Agathamarie is extremely passionate about customer centric research, and application of innovative, technology and market driven solutions in building more inclusive financial markets, and broader private sector in Tanzania. Based out of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Agathamarie works as an independent technical consultant on Mastercard Foundations' Savings at the Frontier Program that aims to establish a business case for linking informal savings groups to the formal financial sector, and FSD Africa's DMAC project that is focused on deepening financial inclusion in sub-saharan Africa using evidence based decision-making project implementation. Agathamarie previously worked for FSD Tanzania, and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Other previous clients include CARE Tanzania, Caribou Digital, Insights2Impact, BFA-FIBR, ENCLUDE, and UN Women. Agathamarie has a PGDip in Development Finance from University of Stellenbosch, South Africa and a Bachelors Degree in Economics from University of Richmond, United States.

# Malusi Ndlovu



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Malusi M Ndlovu is third generation entrepreneur with interests in various industries currently accepted to study MPhil in Inclusive Innovation at the GSB. He was previously in the employ of the National Government for the past 7 years. His last job was the Chief of Staff for the Ministry of Energy.

He is interested in social entrepreneurship as it fills the gap between business and government needs. Malusi is also University of KwaZulu-Natal graduate with a Social Science degree in Psychology.

#### **Ashley Newell**



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Ashley is a seasoned Community Development Professional, with 8 years' experience delivering successful and sustainable projects in complex, socially charged contexts within Southern Africa. Having completed her undergraduate degree in Psychology and Sociology at the University of California Santa Cruz, she has a particular passion for youth development, education, and connecting under resourced communities to new technologies. Ashley currently works with Learning Innovation Design Lab managing after school edutech programmes and co-founded the social enterprise Impilo Yethu; expanding inclusive tourism opportunities in her community. She also enjoys photography, yoga and volleyball.

# **Bradley Nitsckie**



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Bradley is a senior leader in Supply Chain and is a divisional executive of a South African retail business. His experience across multiple industries including Rail, Engineering, FMCG and Retail and spanning 20 years. An education including having graduated from University of the Western Cape with B.Com Honours (Cum laude) in Business Administration, an International Leadership Development Programme from Gordon Institute of Business and Penn State's SMEAL College. A member of the SAPICS professional body, a proud father and a innovative leader who is passionate about growing supply chain professionals. Driving innovation in supply chain is his purpose and is currently leading large scale supply chain transformation programmes.

# Ncedisa Nkonyeni

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With an academic background in Clinical and Research Psychology (UCT and UCKAR respectively), Ncedisa's work and research experience spans a variety of sectors from social innovation (current) to film policy analysis, popular culture and oral history, gender and Identity.

A project manager (social systems innovation) at the Bertha Centre, she is curious about what happens at the intersection of Social Justice and Systems Thinking, with a particular interest in the potential for counternarratives to shift the values and beliefs that uphold unjust systems.

# Farhana Parker

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Farhana, has spent more than a decade of service in the social sector, and obtained a degree in Social Work and two postgraduate degrees in Psychology and Social Policy and Management from UCT. She has a passionate determination to empower every woman she comes across. She has served the most vulnerable communities as a Social Worker, worked as a Project Manager for the the Minister for Social Development leading key projects in the Western Cape namely, Youth Cafes. She completed a postgraduate degree in Social Innovation Management from the Amani Institute in Sao Paulo, Brazil and heads up the Global Shapers Cape Town Hub of the World Economic Forum. She is a fellow of UNLEASH, a global innovation lab for the UN Sustainable Development goals.

She founded The Social Makeover, an enterprise with a special focus on the rights, development and advancement of women. She has demonstrated a commitment to pursuing a sustainable development pathway with a special focus on women and is pursuing a Masters in Philosophy specialising in Inclusive Innovation at UCT Graduate School of Business to realise this vision.

#### **Shrashtant Patara**



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Shrashtant Patara is an architect by training. He has been with the Development Alternatives Group since 1988, providing research expertise, management capability and strategic direction to teams working in the areas of Habitat, Renewable Energy, Water and Sanitation, Waste Recycling and Livelihood Support Systems.

His work is at the forefront of designing participatory approaches to the resolution of complex problems and facilitating the evolution of multipartner networks aimed at promoting sustainable service delivery mechanisms that are directed towards regeneration of the environment and greater social equity.

Patara has been instrumental in the establishment of several social businesses within the DA Group and currently leads the team that is incubating "TARAurja", a renewable energy based micro-utility business and the Indian Micro Enterprises Development Foundation, a platform to promote entrepreneurship at scale. He is a Fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation's Global Program on Social Innovation.

#### **Ronnie Phala**



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Roni is a management consultant with over 20 years' experience in the areas of large-scale programme and change management, strategy development, process design, and systems integration.

He obtained a degree in Economic Sciences from the University of the

He obtained a degree in Economic Sciences from the University of the Western Cape and started his career at Accenture (formerly Andersen Consulting). Roni has consulted in a wide range of industries within Financial Services, Retail, Energy, Logistics, and the Public Sector.

His career has afforded him a unique understanding of organisations at both the detailed and strategic levels. First through end-to-end process design and systems integration, and later through work in organisation-wide change management and strategy development.

In his current venture, Roni is working with a colleague to develop a mobile audiobooks application for school literature.

His MPhil research topic, "Governance and The Quantified Child", aims to draw on his experience to map out a new approach to child governance for developing countries.

# **Kuven Pillay**



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I have an Honours in Biological Sciences and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management and Marketing. I love using these two disciplines in my job as an R&D Manager at Unilever; working to bridge the gap between technical and commercial by leading the development of innovative products that delight consumers around Africa.

My work over the last 10 years has been focussed on product development for Africa, but I have also worked in the UK, involved in global product design. In this 18-month secondment, I realised the wealth of opportunities which existed in Africa and was keen to return to be part of this amazing time in our region.

I am excited about learning about Inclusive Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship and using this to make a dent in our part of the world.

# **Justin Prozesky**



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Justin is a CA(SA) living and working in Johannesburg for Standard Bank Group. He is an Executive in the group's Corporate Development team that handles the M&A activities of the group, and researches and executes various strategic projects, in South Africa, on the African continent and in other countries where Standard Bank had, or retains, a corporate presence. His role involves working in cross-functional teams with senior local and regional executives and board members to understand complex, technical issues with outcomes that carry significant financial and reputational consequences and to develop solutions for these.

Justin has been with Standard Bank since 2008, having previously worked for PwC for 10 years in Johannesburg and in London, initially as a trainee CA and then as a management consultant in the firm's Financial Services Advisory practice.

Justin is married with two children, is a member of Toastmaster and enjoys hiking, cycling and travel.

## Lidia Rauch



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Lidia is the Executive Support Officer to the Mayoral Committee Member of Finance at the City of Cape Town. She is actively involved in the Democratic Alliance and serves as the Cape Town CBD branch chairperson, on the Metro Executive and as a member of the DA Federal Council.

Lidia is the International Federation of Liberal Youth regional bureau member for Africa. She is a member of the Africa Liberal Youth Executive and holds the position of Southern Africa coordinator. Lidia is an alumna of both the Democratic Alliance Young Leaders programme and Brightest Young Minds.

She graduated from the University of Stellenbosch, with a degree in Political Science and Psychology and a Post-graduate diploma in HIV/AIDS Management.

#### **Chad Robertson**



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I'm a social entrepreneur from Cape Town. I grew up in the in the Cape Flats and ever since I can remember, I always wanted to be a positive change maker. I graduated from the University of the Western Cape and completed my B.Com Honours in Information Systems. I then spent two years in corporate developing software, working on projects for local and international companies. I thoroughly enjoyed my time, however, I knew it wasn't for me.

Today, I'm focused on my business, Regenize. Regenize is a recycle-tech company that's focused on creating a recycling culture in South Africa. We created our own recycling virtual currency that our recyclers earn. The currency is called Remali and earned based on the weight of the recyclables.

I'm blessed to have various experiences, education and exposure. I want to use my blessings to focus on solving some of world's greatest problems.

# Sackie Shilongo



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My name is Sackie Shilongo, born and raised in a small village in the north central part of Namibia. I graduated with a BSc Hon (Civil Engineering) degree from the University of Namibia and I have more than five (5) years experience in the Built Environment.

I am currently employed full-time as a Project Engineer and the Roads Authority of Namibia. My job entails having the overall responsibility of overseeing design and construction work, as well as project management of various road construction projects.

I am very passionate about entrepreneurship. While working full-time, I run a part-time business under the name Frontier Multi Industries which specializes in engineering services, property development as well as manufacturing. My overall aim is to identify social problems as well as economic challenges in the communities and transform them into potential business opportunities for the benefit of our people.

## Celeste Stewart



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My name is Celeste Stewart and I am a learning strategist and am an ambassador for curiosity. I believe that with the right conditions, all people can have their best thinking. And if everything starts with a thought, then our thinking is an essential skill to be shaped and continuously improved. My passion is learning and development and I firmly believe that in today's disruptive world, the best gift we can give learners (as parents, educators, facilitators, leaders) is the ability to think for themselves.

My business is called Bold Curiosity (meaningful learning experiences) and I partner with clients to design and implement a range of learning solutions that help to integrate and grow talent in organisations. My work includes graduate development, personal mastery, leadership and professional development. In addition to these formal learning solutions, I am a mentor and motivational speaker.

## **Max Stoffberg**



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I am a visual artist working in the fields of drawing, painting, photography, videography and graphic design. I am one third of a group of multidisciplinary artists called Question Mark Kaffy. We have a website by the same name which promotes our art and acts as a public platform to showcase different aspects of Cape Town Culture. Since 2016, I, in collaboration with friends have written a book titled Inner Child/grownUp World, developed the brand, started the website, produced multiple short films for Facebook, featured on CTV, and co-directed a segment for CTV.

Our ambition is that QMK becomes the largest digital hub of CPT talent and a directory for positive places in the Cape Flats. I come from Colorado park in Mitchells Plain. I graduated in architecture at UCT, worked at ACG & CCNI Architects, and qualified as a top 100 finalist in the continental ABSA/Barclays L'Atelier competition.

# Nyasha Chimhandamba



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Nyasha Chimhandamba is a dynamic student who has completed her Honors in Molecular and Cell Biology at UCT.

She is passionate about merging academia and industry, particularly within scientific research as it fosters an entrepreneurial culture. This passion was ignited when she began working on a feminine hygiene product idea in her third year of her undergraduate degree.

Nyasha looks forward to gaining new insights on ways she can make her innovation more inclusive of her intended market. She is passionate about creating a social impact and scaling that to propel a significant social change.

# **Grace Waichigo**



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Wanjiru G. Waichigo is passionate about women and development in Africa.

Wanjiru has over 7 years-experience in qualitative research, project management and communications. She has worked with women and youth in Kenya, Namibia, Botswana and Swaziland on issues relating to economic empowerment and sexual and reproductive health rights.

She has a Masters degree in African Literature from Wits University, South Africa, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology & Literature and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

# **Christine Williams**



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Originally hailing from Port Elizabeth, Christine moved to Cape Town and graduated from UCT with a BSc in 2009. Thereafter, she spent five years working in the environmental industry and simultaneously completed her Honours in Community Psychology through UNISA. After a stirring in her heart to make a bigger difference with her life, she moved into the Dunoon township for two years. From her experience living there she founded the community upliftment NGO, myDunoon.

Christine currently functions as the director of myDunoon, and NGO that focuses on broad community development, concentrating on the community as a whole, it looks at ways to support lasting change. She is passionate about problem solving in local communities so that the people that live within them can experience the equality our country is striving for.