



Mildred
Nakkungu

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of Birth: 15 July 1993
Languages: English (Excellent)
Years' Experience: 9 years
Countries worked in: South Africa

CONTACT INFO

Mobile: +27 60 308 2704
Email: mildred@pdg.co.za

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

- MPhil in Philosophy (Urban studies), University of Cape Town, Cape Town, 2022
- PGDip in Sustainable Development, University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch, 2019
- Bachelors in Architectural Studies, Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, 2016

FIELD OF SPECIALISATION

Mildred's expertise sits at the intersection of urban governance, the built environment, and sustainable development, with a particular focus on how cities are planned, governed, and implemented across institutional and spatial systems. With an academic background spanning architecture, sustainable development, and urban studies, she brings a strong understanding of cities both in their physical form and in the legislative, political, and institutional arrangements that shape them. At PDG, she has worked across all three spheres of government on projects spanning municipal governance, energy, sustainability, social development, education, and climate transitions, demonstrating her ability to bridge sectors and thematic areas. Her skill set combines technical capabilities in sustainable building design (including thermal, solar, and daylight analysis) with strong qualitative research expertise. She draws on this integrated skillset to analyse municipal performance, intergovernmental relations, service delivery across government sectors.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Jan 23 – present

PDG, Cape Town, South Africa
Consultant

Aug 21 – May 22

Yale University, Connecticut, United States
Yale Fox International Fellow

Mar 22 – May 22

Cornell University, New York, United States
Researcher

Sep 21

University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
Researcher

Jan 16 – Jan 20

PJC and Partners, Cape Town, South Africa.
Green Building Consultant

KEY PROJECTS

2025: Develop Section 48 report for the Department of Cooperative Governance. Conducted a large-scale analysis of municipal financial and service delivery data to prepare a consolidated national performance report – Section 48 Report. Analysed trends in fiscal sustainability, service delivery, and institutional performance across all municipalities, contributing to evidence-based oversight and monitoring frameworks.

2025: EDI Reform Roadmap. Contributed to the Electricity Distribution Industry (EDI) Reform Roadmap, commissioned by NECOM. Authored two analytical papers documenting parallel reform processes occurring alongside the EDI restructuring and reviewing existing and past EDI models in South Africa. Supported analysis of local EDI reform experiences and parallel reforms in other sectors.

2025: Zululand District Municipality Section 78. Contributed to the S78 Assessment Report for Zululand District Municipality (ZDM). Conducted Financial Analysis on the ZDM and Abaqulusi Local Municipality Water and Sanitation Department.

2023-2025: Implementation evaluation of the Foster Care Programme (National DSD). Team lead. A Design and Implementation Evaluation on the National Foster Care Programme. The purpose of the evaluation is to appraise and determine possible solutions that can strengthen the foster care programme and improve the systemic arrangements (i.e. systems, mechanisms, and resources), minimising the persistent challenges experience in the implementation of the foster care services. Providing project management support, as well collaborating on literature review.

2024: JET Compilation of Baselines, Milestones, and Core Indicators. The project entailed the provision technical assistance to the Just Energy Transition (JET)- Project Management Unit (PMU) in the Presidency for the Compilation of Baselines, Milestones, and Core Indicators for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the JET Implementation Plan. My role on the project was contributing to the development of indicator definitions for a set of impact indicators included in the implementation plan.

2023: M&E Framework for a Just Transition in South Africa (Presidential Climate Commission and ICAT). Team member. A framework for the monitoring and evaluation of the Just Transition. To be based on the Just Transition Framework produced by the PCC. Engaged in research, engaged in theory of change production and report writing alongside the team. PDG is sub consulting to Sustainable Energy Africa for this work.

2023-24: UNESCO Education Spotlight Report in South Africa. The UNESCO Spotlight Series showcases African countries' education systems and their efforts towards universal basic education. The South African report focuses on mathematics in grades 3 and 6 and specifically on curriculum and textbooks; teacher support; and learning assessment as components of the education system. Participated fieldwork for the project in 8 schools across two provinces, interviewing principals, teachers, and school governing board members of each school.

2023: An Exploratory Study on the Role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) as Peacemakers During the Social Unrest in South Africa. The National Development Agency commissioned research support that outlined CSOs role in times of social unrest as a response to the July 2021 unrest in South Africa. Reviewed the literature on protest. Engaged in qualitative analysis of secondary and primary data. Conducted focus groups and interview

with key stakeholders. Produced a comprehensive report and presented findings to the client and wider audience.

2023: Municipal Boundary Redetermination. Conducted studies on cases for municipal boundary redeterminations across three provinces – Gauteng, Northwest, and the Free State. Assessed and reported on several cases for determination and redetermination of municipal boundaries covering all applicable objectives and criteria for demarcation as per sections 24 and 25 of the Municipal Demarcation Act (MDA), section 2 of the Municipal Structures Act (MSA), and municipal capacity in terms of section 85(4)(a) of the MSA.

2022: Cornell University's Global City Leaders' Survey. Interpreting municipal websites to help PI identify city leaders, including contact information. Contacted professional networks in order to collaborate with stakeholders in 6 South African local governments to convey to them the purpose of the survey, answer questions and encourage participation.

2021: University of Cape Town, Case Study and Review of ICT policies on the African Continent. Produced a 14-page report outlining 16 ICT policies implemented on the African continent; 16 investment initiatives into ICT infrastructure by national governments, bilateral and multilateral coalitions, public-private partnerships, and private institutions.

2018/19: 117 on Strand, City of Cape Town. Acted as sustainable consulting project lead on this project, managing the sustainable initiatives on the project

2018: SANS 10400-XA Revision, City of Cape Town. Provided technical assistance to the National Building Regulatory Authority, to guide the drafting of the latest revision of the South African regulations/policy on Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability in Building

2018: UCT D-School, City of Cape Town. Provided initial thermal comfort and energy efficiency analysis at the design stage of project.

2017: 84 Harrington Street , City of Cape Town. Worked on initial thermal comfort analysis during the design period of this innovative building design which included using Hemp as a structural and insulation material. This building is the tallest Hempcrete building in the World.

2016: Century City Urban Square, Cape Town. Did thermal and energy efficiency analysis for the Urban Precinct, as part of the Green Star Certification process.