

1. Personal Information

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NRF Rating: Y1

2. Publications and Research Contributions

Publications

Books

- Mkwananzi, F. & Cin, M. (Eds). (2022). *Post-conflict Participatory Arts: Socially engaged development*. London: Routledge.
- Mkwananzi, F. (2019). *Higher Education, Youth and Migration in Contexts of Disadvantage: Understanding Aspirations and Capabilities*. London: Palgrave MacMillan.

Book Chapters

- Mkwananzi, F. (2022). Imagining possible selves: Perceptions of higher education among young asylum-seeking women in South Africa. In, A, North & E, Chase (Eds). 'Education, Migration and International Development: Critical perspectives in a moving world'. London: Bloomsbury. Chapter 12.
- Chikozho, J., Muntanga, W., Marovah, T and Mkwananzi, F. (2022). Collaboration in research: Insights from a participatory art project in Zimbabwe. In, F, Mkwananzi. & M, Cin. (Eds) *Post-conflict Participatory Arts: Socially engaged development*. London: Routledge. Pp.137-152
- Chamberlain, L., Buckler, A. and Mkwananzi, F. (2021) Building a case for inclusive ways of knowing through a case study of a cross-cultural research project of out-of-school girls' aspirations in Zimbabwe: practitioners' perspectives', in A. Fox, H. Busher and C. Capewell (Eds) *Thinking critically and ethically about research for education: Engaging with Voice and Empowerment in international contexts*, London: Routledge, pp. Chapter 3.
- Ncube, A. and Mkwananzi, F. (2021). Conceptualizing a Win-Win in the Refugee and Higher Education Enigma: Insights from Southern Africa. In, I, Barreto (2021) (Ed). *Handbook of Research on Promoting Social Justice for Immigrants and Refugees Through Active Citizenship and Intercultural Education*. pp, 328-348.
- Mkwananzi, F. (2021). Transitioning capitals in international student mobility. In, J, Kurzwelly. & L.E., D'Angles (Eds). *Migrants, Thinkers, Storytellers: Negotiating Meaning and Making Life in Bloemfontein, South Africa*. Capetown: HSRC Press. pp, 173-195.
- Marovah, T. & Mkwananzi, F. (2020). Graffiti as a Participatory Method Fostering Epistemic Justice and Collective Capabilities among Rural Youth: A Case Study in Zimbabwe. In, M, Walker. & A, Boni. (Eds) 'Participatory Research, Capabilities and Epistemic Justice'. Palgrave. 215-241.
- Ncube, A. & Mkwananzi, F. (2020). Gendered labour migration in South Africa: A capability approach lens. In, F.T. Seiger., C, Timmerman., N.B. Salazar & J, Wets. (Eds). *Migration at Work: Aspirations, Imaginaries & Structures of Mobility*. Leuven: Leuven University Press, 65-90. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv16km21f>
- Mkwananzi, F. & Wilson-Strydom, M. (2018). Conceptualising higher education aspiration formation among marginalised migrant youth', In, E, Sengupta & P, Blessinger (Eds). 'Language, Teaching and Pedagogy for Refugee Education: Innovations in Higher Education Teaching and Learning', Volume 15, 27–41. Bingley: Emerald Group Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1108/S2055-36412018000015004>

Peer reviewed journal articles

- Mkwananzi, F. Cin, F.M. & Marovah, T. (2023): Transformative youth development through heritage projects: connecting political, creative, and cultural capabilities, *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/13527258.2023.2209058](https://doi.org/10.1080/13527258.2023.2209058)
- Ozmantar, Z.K. Cin, M.F. & Mkwananzi, F. (2023): Becoming a Teacher: The Liminal Identities and Political Agency of Refugee Teachers, *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, DOI: [10.1080/19452829.2023.2227108](https://doi.org/10.1080/19452829.2023.2227108)
- Mkwananzi, F., Cin, M. and Marovah, T. (2021). Participatory arts for navigating political capabilities and aspirations among rural youth in Zimbabwe. *Third World Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2021.1977620>
- Buckler, A., Chamberlain, L., Mkwananzi, F., Dean, C., and Chigodora, O. (2021). Out-of-school girls' lives in Zimbabwe: what can we learn from a storytelling research approach, *Cambridge Journal of Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0305764X.2021.1970718>
- Mkwananzi, F & Cin, F.M. (2020). From Streets to Developing Aspirations: How Does Collective Agency for Education Change Marginalised Migrant Youths' Lives? *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19452829.2020.1801609>
- Walker, M., Martinez, C. and Mkwananzi, F. (2019). Participatory action research: towards (non-ideal) epistemic justice in a university in South Africa. *Journal of Global Ethics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17449626.2019.1661269>
- Mkwananzi, F. & Mukwambo P. (2019). Widening Participation in Higher Education for Marginalised Migrant Youth Through Flexible Teaching and Learning Mechanisms, *Journal of Widening Participation and Lifelong Learning*, 21 (2). <https://doi.org/10.5456/WPLL.21.2.100>
- Martinez-Vergas C., Walker, M. & Mkwananzi, F. (2019). Access to higher education in South Africa: Expanding capabilities in and through an undergraduate photovoice project. *Educational Action Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09650792.2019.1612767>
- Mkwananzi, F. & Wilson-Strydom, M. (2018). Multidimensional disadvantages and educational aspirations of marginalised migrant youth: Insights from the Global South, *Journal of Global Ethics*, 14 (1), 71-94. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17449626.2018.1496349>
- Mkwananzi, F. & Wilson-Strydom, M. (2018). Capabilities expansion for marginalised migrant youths in Johannesburg: The case of Albert Street School, *HTS Theological Studies Journal*, 74,(3), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.4102/hts.v74i3.5041>
- Walker, M. & Mkwananzi, F. (2015). Challenges in accessing higher education: A case study of marginalised young people in one South African informal settlement. *International Journal of Educational Development*, (40), 40-49.
- Walker, M. & Mkwananzi, F. (2015). Theorizing vulnerable young people's challenges in accessing higher education. *Perspectives in Education*, (33), 1.

Book Reviews

- Mkwananzi, F. Youth, Gender and the Capabilities Approach to Development: Rethinking Opportunities and Agency from a Human Development Perspective. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, (February 2019).
- Buckler, A. & Mkwananzi F. Unfolding Narratives of Ubuntu in Southern Africa, *Compare*, (March 2019).

Blogs

- Buckler, A., & Mkwananzi, F. '[Out-of-school girls': do we need to re-think the terminology?](#) UKFIET/BAICE (March 2023).

Buckler, A., Agbaire, J.J., Wheeler, J., Mkwanzani, F. & Price, Y. [Storytelling research in international education and development studies: a resistance to, or reproduction of coloniality?](#) UKFIET, (February 2022).

Mkwanzani, F & Cin, M. [Equal research partnerships are a myth – but we can change that](#). Times Higher Education, (October 2021).

Mkwanzani, F. & Cin, M. [What does a decolonised research culture look like?](#) *Research Professional News*, (June 2020).

Opinion Pieces

Mkwanzani, F. & Mathebula M. [Participatory research illuminating complexities of poverty, the potential of youth fighting it](#). *University of the Free State*, (October 2022).

Radio Interviews

Power FM South Africa, 27 October 2023. Interview on: *Participatory research illuminating complexities of poverty, the potential of youth fighting it*.

Research

Research thematic expertise

Higher education, migration, youth and development in Sub Saharan Africa; education in conflicts; gender and education; participatory research methods; stakeholder engagement; educational technology; education and social entrepreneurship; refugee education.

Theoretical expertise

Human development; capability approach

Research methods expertise

Interviews; oral histories; focus groups; photovoice; participatory approaches; storytelling; arts-based methods; literature reviews

Analytical and technical skills

Thematic analysis; content analysis; narrative analysis; document and policy analysis; intermediate quantitative analyses; Nvivo12; MS Office

Geographical working knowledge

Nigeria, South Africa, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe

Languages

Fluent English, Native IsiNdebele/IsiZulu

3. Research Funding

2022– 2023 PI: ***Mapping higher education beyond Agenda 2030: International students and digital learning in South Africa***. National Research Foundation (NRF) Thuthuka Funded Project. R201 621
Design and facilitate research design and methods.

2022– 2023 Co-I: ***Ibali: Storying new discourses of educational inclusion/exclusion in the UK, Nigeria, and South Africa***. AHRC Funded Project. £610,000
-Co-design and facilitation of participatory storytelling workshops; visual coding, content sourcing, co-lead on knowledge Hub and communications strategy.

- 2022-2023 PI: ***African International students in South African Higher Education: A multi-university study on e-learning experiences.*** UFS Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and SARCHI CHAIR funded. R97,000.
Co- plan, conduct, code and manage qualitative data; design and facilitate focus group discussions and the storytelling strand; produce quality research outputs and conduct public engagement activities.
- 2022 PI: ***Transnational and intergenerational exploration of ecological heritage with youth in Southern Africa – gathering data for moringa commercialisation.*** AHRC-GCRF ECR funding of CTS Network Plus. £23,846
- 2022 PI: ***Pursuing higher education in contexts of socio-spatial exclusion: a scoping study of the educational trajectories of youth from informal settlements.*** Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE). £5,000
- 2022 Co-I: ***Universities as Sustainable Communities.*** Economic and Social Research Council Network Funding of the Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures (TESF)us scheme. £30,000
- 2020 –2021 PI: ***Youth agency, civic engagement, and sustainable development: Ideas for Southern Africa.*** AHRC-GCRF ECR funding of CTS Network Plus. £22,237.77
- planned, conducted, coded and managed qualitative data; facilitated participatory workshops; planned public exhibition; conducted public engagement activities
- 2019 Co-I: ***Street art to promote representation and epistemic justice among marginalized rural Zimbabwean youth.*** AHRC-GCRF ECR funding of CTS Network Plus. £29,875
-planned, conducted, coded and managed qualitative data; oversaw graffiti workshop; planned public exhibition; produced high quality academic outputs
- 2018-2019 Co-I: ***SARCHI Chair Funded Project: Access to Higher Education: Aspirations, Choices, and Opportunities.***
- planned, conducted, coded and managed qualitative data (recordings and transcripts of life history interviews, group discussions etc.); designed and facilitated student group discussions and participatory workshops (photovoice; imagined futures workshops); planned public exhibition and other stakeholder and engagement activities; liaised research team and with research participants; produced high quality research reports. R180,000 (£9,528)
- 2018-2019 Co-I: ***Ubuntu Chain.*** University of the Free State. R50,000 (~£2,645)
- 2018-2019 Co-I: ***South African Alumni Tracking Qualitative Study.*** Institute of International Education (IIE). \$30,000 (~£23,020)

4. Other Research Experience

- 2021-2022 Researcher: ***Embedding and Enabling Creative Economy in Marginalised Societies: Creative Skills for Peace.*** AHRC Follow on funding for Impact.
- 2019-2022 Researcher: ***Supporting Adolescent Girl's Education- Mapping the aspirations and educational needs of 'out-of-school' girls in Zimbabwe.*** Open University.
- 2020-2021 Research Assistant: ***Midlands State University: Contextualising peace education: A case study in rural Zimbabwe.***

- 2019 Researcher: **Use of Mobile Technologies as an informal learning tool among Refugee Youth in South Africa.** Lancaster University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Research.
- 2017-2021 Postdoctoral Fellow: **Exploring the lives and educational aspirations of marginalised migrant youth: A case study in Johannesburg, South Africa.** National Research Foundation.
- 2015 Research Assistant: **Graduate Employability in Sub-Saharan Africa.** British Council.
- 2013-2014 Research Assistant: **Gender, empowerment, and agency in Higher Education (GEAHE).** SARChI Chair.

5. Consultancies

- 2017 –2018 Co-Investigator: **South African Alumni Tracking Qualitative Study.** International Education, New York (Ford Foundation International Fellowship Programme (IFP))
- 2017 Researcher: The deterrent effect of the Competition Commission's competition enforcement regime, Impact Research International (for the Competition Commission, South Africa)
- 2017 Research Analyst: **An Assessment of the Quality of the Data Reported by Beneficiaries receiving Funding from the National Lotteries Commission across three sectors of Arts, Charities and Sports in Free State, Limpopo, and Northwest Provinces).** Impact Research International (for the National Lotteries Commission, South Africa)
- 2017 Data Analyst: **A Special Study on Gender Norms Transformation for the Changing the River's Flow for Young People Project in Zimbabwe.** Impact Research International (for SAFAIDS)
- 2017 Researcher- **Baseline Evaluation of the Choma Dreams Café project in Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal.** TK Research (for HIVSA).
- 2017 Data Analyst- **Broadband for All – Implementation Evaluation.** TK Research (for the Department of Social Development, South Africa)

6. Relevant Professional Experience

- 2021 – Present** Senior Researcher
University of the Free State, South Africa
- Undertake collaborative research with academic and practitioner partners in the Global North and the Global South
 - Generate research income to support the Centre's strategic growth
 - Produce high quality publications and disseminate research findings to wider academic and non-academic communities
 - Supervise Postgraduate students
- 2017 – 2021** Postdoctoral researcher
University of the Free State, South Africa

- Identified opportunities for (and led) new projects.
- Published academic articles and presented these at national and international conferences.
- Organized seminars and workshops in line with the Centre's objectives.

2018 – Jan 2019 **Consultant Lecturer**
University of the Free State, South Africa

- Planned and delivered lectures on “Approaches to Development: Underdevelopment and Poverty” for a module in Masters in Development Studies
- Assessed student's assignments and provided feedback on ways to improve

7. Teaching Experience

- 2022- **Course Facilitator**
University of the Free State, South Africa
- Deliver First Year Module on Literacy in Natural and Agricultural Sciences
 - Assess Students work

8. Education

- 2016 PhD, Development Studies
University of the Free State, South Africa
- 2013 Master of Development Studies
University of the Free State
- 2010 Bachelor of Public Administration (Honors)
University of the Free State
- 2008 Bachelor of Administration
University of the Free State

Occasional Studies

- 2022 Certificate in Science Communication
University of Stellenbosch
- 2022 Gender Theory Course
University of Capetown
- 2022 Grant Writing Course
University of Capetown

9. Presentations

Invited Papers

- ‘Equitable Partnerships in Research?’ Writing International Student Migration in Africa - Workshop, online. *11 November 2021.*
- ‘The complexity of educational aspirations formation among young asylum seekers in South Africa: Intersecting agency and conversion factors.’ Faculty of Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies, The Open University, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, *22 May 2018.*

- 'Re-thinking refugee youths' educational aspirations: A Global South Perspective.' Department of Educational Research, Lancaster University, Lancaster, United Kingdom, 09 May 2018.

Seminars

- 'Street art to promote Representation and Epistemic Justice among Marginalised Rural Zimbabwean Youth'. European Association of Development Research/Oxfam, Online, 16 July 2020.
- 'Un-learning, learning, and re-learning during the research process.' Institute of Education, University College London, London, United Kingdom, 14 May 2018.

International Conferences

- 'Decolonizing peace education: Theoretical and methodological insights from Zimbabwe' Building Back Better in Education and Training? Reimagining, Reorienting and Redistributing, UKFIET Virtual Conference. 15 September 2021.
- 'Fostering sustainable academic environments through intra and inter collaborative research spaces', Education for Sustainable Development: Building Africa through Higher Education for Sustainable Development, International Virtual Conference. 12 August 2021, Online, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
- 'Imagining sustainable communities through peace education: A case study in Midlands Province, Zimbabwe', Education for Sustainable Development: Building Africa through Higher Education for Sustainable Development, International Virtual Conference. 12 August 2021, Online, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
- 'Students' agency and activism in creating sustainable institutions: The case of the Ubuntu Chain Initiative in South Africa', Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA). 30 June-2 July 2020, Online, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 'Inclusive ways of knowing? Problematising the relationship between research and the design of inclusive education through a case study of storytelling-research with out-of-school girls in Zimbabwe', (UKFIET). 17-19 September 2019, University of Oxford, United Kingdom.
- 'Street art as a way to promote recognition and build collective capabilities. Human Development and Capability Association Conference (HDCA). 9-11 September, 2019, University College London, United Kingdom.
- 'Education for sustainable development: What can we learn from refugee experiences?' Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Conference, 14-18 April, 2019, San Francisco, USA.
- 'Agency, education and social justice in contexts of migration: What this may mean for SDGs,' British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE) Conference, 12-14 September 2018, University of York, United Kingdom.
- 'How a church-based intervention altered young marginalised migrants' educational trajectories: Insights from the South,' Boundary Crossing: Refugee and Social Justice Conference, 3-4 September 2018, University of Winchester, United Kingdom.
- 'Conceptualising higher education aspiration formation among marginalised migrant youth in Johannesburg, South Africa,' Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA) Conference, 6-8 September 2017, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 'Educational aspirations of young migrant women in Johannesburg, South Africa,' One World: University of Sussex Migration Graduate Conference, 14-15 March 2016, Brighton, United Kingdom.

- 'Educational aspirations of marginalised migrant youth in South Africa,' Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA) Conference, 10-13 September 2015, Georgetown University, Washington, USA.
- 'Higher education aspirations of refugee youth in South Africa,' Child and Youth Migrants: Global and Interdisciplinary Perspectives, UCL Migration Research Unit Student Conference, 14 June 2014, London, United Kingdom.
- 'In pursuit of an oppression free society: Protecting our children through education,' Child Sensitive Social Policies (CSSP) Conference, 19-20 February 2014, Harare, Zimbabwe.

10. Postgraduate Supervision

Doctoral

- *Enhancing Human Development through Social Entrepreneurship: The Case of Enactus in South African Higher Education Institutions.* (Supervisor 2023-2025)
- *Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage through higher education in Zambia.* (Supervisor, 2023-2025)
- *The role of environmental education in fostering agents of environmental sustainability in Zambia: a capability approach.* (Supervisor, 2022-2024)
- *Exploring education 5.0 in the advancement of human development: A case of one Zimbabwean university.* (Supervisor, 2022-2024)
- *Capabilities for media graduate employability: the case of private higher education.* (Co-Supervisor, 2018-2020)
- *The role of technical and vocational education and training in women's empowerment: a capabilities perspective.* (Co-Supervisor, 2017- 2019)

Masters

- *Assessing academic success among off-campus students: A Case Study of Majuba Technical, Vocational Educational and Training College, Centre for People's Development Campus, South Africa.* (Supervisor, 2022)
- *Evaluating the effectiveness of SAWEN programme in women empowerment in Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality: A capability approach* (Supervisor, 2018-2019).
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11. Postgraduate Examining

- PhD Thesis, *Children moving across borders: Equitable access to education for undocumented migrants in South Africa*, School of Education, University of the Witwatersrand, 2023.
- PhD Thesis, *A Critical Exploration of the Effects of English Language Instruction in Colombian Higher Education on Low-income Students' Capability Formation*, PhD in Educational Research, Lancaster University, 2021.
- Masters Dissertation, *Economic empowerment challenges and opportunities women face: The case of Orange Farm, Gauteng*, Masters in Development Studies, University of the Free State, 2021.
- PhD Thesis, *'The Synergy between gender relations, child labour and disability in Post-war Acholi sub-region of Northern Uganda'*, PhD in Development Studies, University of the Western Cape, 2020.
- MA Thesis, *'Shattering the glass ceiling: women progressing into leadership positions at secondary schools in South Africa'*, Masters in Education, University of Pretoria, 2020.
- MA Thesis, *'Unlocking human agency through youth development programmes: An exploratory*

study of a selected NGO working in youth development on the Cape Flats’, Masters in Development Studies, University of the Western Cape, 2019.

- MA Thesis, *‘Communication mechanisms and community participation in the planning and implementation of community development projects: A case study of a girls’ education project in Malawi’*, Masters in Development Studies, University of the Free State, 2019.
- MA Thesis, *‘Empowerment of girls through public participation: The role of Non-Government Organizations’*, Masters in Development Studies, University of the Free State, 2019.
- MA Thesis, *‘Underemployment of migrant women’*, Masters in Gender Studies, University of the Free State, 2017.
- MA Thesis, *‘The effectiveness of the Lesotho child grants programme in the Berea District’* Masters in Development Studies, University of the Free State, 2017.
- MA Thesis, *‘Factors impacting on teenage pregnancy and available support structures for pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers in Mongu District, Zambia’*, Masters in Development Studies, University of the Free State, 2017.

12. Scholarly engagement

- **Member**, Research Committee, Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, University of the Free State
- **Convener**, Education Thematic Group, Human Development and Capability Association 2019-2022
- **Conference Committee Member**, 2021 and 2022 Human Development and Capability Association-Antwerp, Belgium.

13. Reviewed for the Following Journals

- Journal of Human Development and Capabilities
- Compare (Comparative and International Education)
- CriStal
- Action Research Journal
- Journal of Action Research
- Migration and Ethnic Minorities