



About

Busisiwe is an executive leader, practising attorney and senior researcher. She is the Deputy Director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, the first public interest law organisation in South Africa, based at the University of the Witwatersrand. Busisiwe holds an LLM from the University of Witwatersrand with specialisation in Privacy Law, Business and Human Rights Law, Administrative Law and Human Rights Litigation.

She has over nine years' experience in law ranging from research on the protection of public participation to a thriving legal practise in corporate accountability and the developing field of AI and human rights.

Busisiwe Kamolane-Kgadima

Executive Leader,
Practising Attorney, Senior
Researcher

Contact details

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Education & Experience

●	LLB	University of Pretoria	
●	LLM	University of Witwatersrand	
●	Deputy Director	Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witwatersrand	Current
●	Acting Director	Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witwatersrand	January. - June 2024
●	Research and Advocacy Coordinator	Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witwatersrand	January 2021- December 2023
●	Candidate Legal Practitioner	Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witwatersrand	January 2019- December 2020
●	Law Researcher	Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng Office of the Chief Justice	January 2018- December 2018
●	Legal Intern: Assistant prosecutor	National Homebuilders Registration Council	May 2017- November 2017
●	Student consultant	University of Pretoria Law Clinic	January 2016- December 2016
●	Legal Intern	Corruption Watch	July 2015

Professional Membership

Attorney of the High Court of South Africa

Notable Cases & Publications

Journal articles and book chapters

- B Kamolane-Kgadima & C Tomaselli 'Critical minerals vs critical protections: Contours and contradictions of FPIC and anti-SLAPP laws in the protection of environmental human rights defenders in South Africa' (2026) in Human Rights Responding to Planetary Crisis, P Jones, N Reiners, M Saul (eds) Cambridge University Press (Forthcoming)
- B Kamolane-Kgadima & T Kathi 'The Mpumalanga Highveld Air Pollution Crisis: A South African Reparations Framework for Environmental State–Corporate Harm' (2024) International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy, 13(1), pp. 1-13
- B Kamolane-Kgadima, T Kathi, T Moloko, Z Malindi, R Mhiribidi, T Skosana & A Chagopae 'Constitutional Court statistics for the 2020 term' (2021) South African Journal on Human Rights Vol 37(4) 566–577
- B Kamolane-Kgadima, T Kathi, T Moloko, Z Malindi, R Mhiribidi, T Skosana & A Chagopae 'Constitutional Court statistics for the 2019 term' (2021) South African Journal on Human Rights Vol 37(3) 423–436
- T Kathi, R Mhiribidi, N Shezi, B Kamolane, A Makuwa and T Moloko 'Constitutional Court statistics for the 2018 term' (2020) South African Journal on Human Rights Vol 36(1)

Research reports and policy briefs

- B Kamolane-Kgadima, S Mkhize, T Zulu, J Ditshego, N Ndlovu, T Kathi, A Dungulu 'Recommendation for anti-SLAPP legislation in South Africa' (2024) Centre for Applied Legal Studies (policy brief)
- B Kamolane-Kgadima, T Zulu, A Nkamisa, B Zasekhaya & J Ditshego 'Victimisation experiences of activists in South Africa' (2022) 2nd edition Centre for Applied Legal Studies (report)

Cases

- Minister of Social Development & Others v Institute for Economic Justice & Another (Global Centre for AI Governance as Amicus Curiae (Heard 25 August 2026 at Supreme Court of Appeal) - Attorney for Amicus Curiae
- South African Human Rights Commission v Agro Data CC & Another (Afriforum, Centre for Applied Legal Studies and Commission for Gender Equality intervening as Amici Curiae) Boshoff 4 All SA 66 (Supreme Court of Appeal) - Attorney for Amicus Curiae

Awards & Honours

- Mail & Guardian Top 200 Young South Africans, 2026
- Fellow - American Express Leadership Academy, 2023
- Fellow – Bertha Justice Foundation, 2019 and 2020
- Judge of the Constitutional Tribunal of the University of Pretoria, 2016

Busisiwe is an executive leader, practising attorney and senior researcher. She is the Deputy Director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, the first public interest law organisation in South Africa, based at the University of the Witwatersrand. Busisiwe holds an LLM from University of Witwatersrand with specialisation in Privacy Law, Business and Human Rights Law, Administrative Law and Human Rights Litigation. She has over nine years' experience in law ranging from executive management to research and a thriving legal practice.

Throughout her career, Busisiwe has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving her country as well as advancing social justice in South Africa. Her outstanding legal expertise, strategic insight, and strong leadership have earned her appointments to several influential roles including as Acting Director of CALS, Deputy Director of CALS and the Chief Justice's law researcher.

Busisiwe continues to make a significant contribution to the development of the law through her thriving legal practice. She has worked on numerous landmark cases before the courts and made influential legal submissions to Parliament to help shape the development of more just and equitable laws. Her research and areas of legal practice include the protection of public participation, AI governance and human rights, transnational corporate accountability, women's right to land and the environment and the intersection of race, class and gender in poverty and the law. Most recently, she led a case before the Supreme Court of Appeal spotlighting the impact of automation and digitisation on the protection of rights and access to social security in South Africa.

Her leadership style is built on integrity, excellence, strategic thinking and mentorship. She brings extensive strategic leadership experience, with a proven track record of shaping and executing organisational strategy, cultivating high-value partnerships, mobilising resources through strategic fundraising, and driving sustainable organisational growth. Her leadership has contributed to expanding organisational footprint, strengthening institutional positioning and deepening impact across key stakeholders and communities. She brings a distinctive ability to convene diverse stakeholders, navigate complex and competing interests, and foster alignment around shared goals and priorities. Her collaborative and inclusive leadership approach enables her to build trust, broker consensus, and mobilise collective action towards meaningful and sustainable outcomes.

Busisiwe is a highly regarded, purpose-driven leader whose contribution to advancing social change has earned significant national and international recognition. Her inclusion in the Mail & Guardian Top 200 Young South Africans reflects her contribution to positively shaping a more inclusive and progressive South Africa, while her selection in 2023 for the prestigious American Express Leadership Academy Fellowship underscores the calibre and global relevance of her leadership. Together, these distinctions affirm her standing as an influential leader with a demonstrated commitment to social impact and transformative change as well as her capability and vision to drive meaningful change at both organisational and systemic levels.