

## Contact

+ [REDACTED] (Mobile)

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(LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

Ethics

Cross-functional Team Leadership  
Research and Development (R&D)

## Languages

## Certifications

Fellow

Disrupting Yourself

Business Case Development for  
Infrastructure Projects: International  
Guidance Practitioner Course

PFMA Training

SACDA Member

# Berenice Lue Marais

Governance | Strategy | Performance | Measurement Enablement  
and Optimisation of Results | Enterprise Development | Advocacy |  
Mentoring and Coaching | ~ Innovation, Industrial, Academic, NPO  
Sectors

South Africa

## Summary

Berenice has extensive governance, performance, strategic business development, and international resourcing experience. She has held key positions across several organizations. Previous roles include leading Strategic Alliances, New Business Development, Africa and International portfolios.

Berenice studied at the American University KOGOD School of Business, where she was awarded an MBA in International Business. Under a United Nations Fellowship, Education and Training Program for South Africans she obtained a BA in Economics, specializing in Sub-Saharan African Development.

Berenice is currently the Deputy Chairperson of Save the Children South Africa, and a Member of the REPSSI Country Advisory Board. She served on the Nominations Committee as an Independent Member of the Discovery Medical Health Scheme. Berenice is an Examiner for UCT Graduate School of Business MBA Industry Reports, and serves on the Teaching Faculty of the Da Vinci University of Innovation and Technology. She was appointed to provide technical support to Infrastructure South Africa through the National Business Initiative. Berenice has held various Board leadership positions including; Non Executive Director: National Library of South Africa, Board Member: South African National Accreditation System (SANAS), Appointed by Minister of Trade & Industry; Board Member: Ethics Institute of South Africa; Member: SARS Audit Committee, Appointed by the Minister of Finance; Board Member: HOPE Worldwide, Appointed by Dr Mark Ottenweller; Board Member: African Thought Initiative, Appointed by Mr Govan Mbeki (late); Board Member: The South African Sports Information & Science Agency (SISA), appointed by Minister of Sports and Recreation.

Berenice is a South African national. After living in Washington DC for eight years she moved to live in Pretoria and Cape town, while travelling extensively globally. Berenice relocated for a two-year stint to the Shunyi district, Beijing China, where she continued as a Non Executive Director. Berenice has returned to South Africa where she is involved in governance, contract related assignments, lecturing and mentoring and coaching of businesses, enterprise development, women and youth.

#### Core Competencies:

Governance

Strategy and Execution

Organisational Performance

Market and Business Development

Enterprise Development

International Cooperation; African Development

Stakeholder Engagement, Strategic Alliances and Partnerships

General Management; Key Performance Management; Advocacy,

Communication

Lecturing

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## Experience

Save the Children South Africa

6 years 8 months

Deputy Chairperson

November 2020 - Present (4 years 6 months)

South Africa

Member of the Social and Ethics Committee

January 2025 - Present (4 months)

Sustainability and Integrated Performance

Chair of the Governance, HR and Remuneration Committee, and

Member of the Board of Directors

August 2020 - Present (4 years 9 months)

Chair of the Fundraising, Programmes and HR Committee, and  
Member of the Board of Directors

September 2018 - July 2020 (1 year 11 months)

## Board of Directors Secondment to SCSA

April 2019 - October 2019 (7 months)

Strategy; Governance, International Cooperation, Business Development;  
Stakeholder Engagement; Communications, Marketing, Branding

## Graduate School of Business - University of Cape Town

UCT Graduate School of Business Examiner: MBA Industry Research

January 2024 - Present (1 year 4 months)

Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

## Discovery Limited

Independent Committee Member

January 2022 - Present (3 years 4 months)

Nominations Committee

## REPSSI

3 years 2 months

Non Executive Director

March 2022 - Present (3 years 2 months)

Southern Africa

Governance. Performance. Ethics. Risk

## REPSSI South Africa Country Advisory Board

March 2022 - Present (3 years 2 months)

## BLM GLOBAL

Contractor/Advisor - Strategy, Business Development Enablement  
~Innovation, Industrial, NPO Sectors

October 1997 - Present (27 years 7 months)

Global

Governance Strategy and Performance, Business Development, Advocacy  
and Communication, Enterprise Development, Mentoring and Coaching,  
Stakeholder Engagement

## DaVinci Business School

Teaching Faculty

April 2021 - Present (4 years 1 month)

South Africa

School of Business Leadership

## National Business Initiative

Technical Assistance, Mentorship and Development (TAMDEV)  
February 2021 - Present (4 years 3 months)

The National Business Initiative (NBI) is a voluntary coalition of South African and multinational companies, working towards sustainable growth and development in South Africa and the shaping of a sustainable future through responsible business action, thereby demonstrating business action for sustainable growth. Since our inception in 1995, the NBI has made a distinct impact in, amongst others, the spheres of housing delivery, crime prevention, local economic development, public sector capacity building, further education and training, schooling, public, private partnerships, energy efficiency and climate change.

The NBI is a global network partner of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), a partner of the CEO Water Mandate, We Mean Business (WMB) and of CDP.

The NBI's strategy is addressing issues of Economic and Social Transformation through Thought Leadership, Capacity Building and Collective Action programmes and projects. To achieve our strategic objectives the NBI work is divided into core work streams of strategic projects, environmental sustainability and social sustainability.

WAITRO

20 years

WAITRO Alumni Network

2005 - Present (20 years)

Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

African Regional Representative and SADC Regional Focal Point

May 2005 - July 2016 (11 years 3 months)

South Africa

WAITRO – World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations

National Library of South Africa

Director, Member of the Board, Audit & Risk Committee, Finance, Fundraising & Marketing Committee

December 2018 - December 2021 (3 years 1 month)

Governance, Oversight, Strategy, Risk, Finance, Fundraising

Ethics Institute of South Africa

Board of Directors, and HR & Remuneration Committee  
January 2009 - April 2019 (10 years 4 months)  
South Africa

Governance, Ethics, HR and Remuneration

South African National Accreditation System (SANAS)  
Board of Directors, and Member of the Finance Audit and Risk  
Committee  
January 2010 - December 2018 (9 years)  
South Africa

An agency of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)  
20 years 10 months

GM: Strategic Alliances and Communications  
January 2011 - July 2014 (3 years 7 months)

Group Head: Strategic Partnerships  
January 2011 - December 2012 (2 years)  
Johannesburg Area, South Africa

Strategic Partnerships: Public Sector, Private Sector, State Owned Companies  
and Funding Agencies

Group Manager: Contract Research & Development  
January 2006 - January 2011 (5 years 1 month)

Manager: Strategic Market and Business Development  
June 1996 - June 2006 (10 years 1 month)

Manager: Africa Business Development & Parliamentary Affairs  
October 1993 - October 1996 (3 years 1 month)

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## Education

American University  
Master of Business Administration - MBA, International Business

University of the District of Columbia  
Bachelor of Applied Science - BAsC, Economics

Aspen Global Leadership Network  
Leadership

