Fructuous Consulting

Partnering for Social Impact

COMPANY PROFILE

Applied Research • Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning • Capacity Building

Cape Town, South Africa, 7800

Registration No. 2021 / 154902 / 07

www.fructuousconsulting.africa

ABOUT US

Founded in 2021 and based in Cape Town, South Africa, Fructuous Consulting is a boutique consultancy and capacity-building firm specialising in applied research and evaluation within socio-economic development programming. We work collaboratively with our clients, with the central aim of empowering them to articulate, design and deliver purposeful, evidence-based and sustainable social and economic change for stakeholders at every level.

Fructuous Consulting specialises in international development across multiple African territories, partnering with government departments, embassies, international NGOs, foundations and civil-society networks to strengthen the effectiveness, accountability and learning of their programmes.

6+	19+	17+	9+
Years in Operation	Projects Delivered	Countries Reached	Yrs Specialist PMEL Experience

At a Glance

Founded	2021
Headquarters	Cape Town, South Africa
Registration No.	2021 / 154902 / 07
Core Focus	Applied research, evaluation, MEARL & capacity building
Geographic Reach	17+ countries across Africa and globally
Leadership	10+ years specialist PMEL experience

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

Our Mission

To be a bespoke, outcome- and impact-oriented consultancy, partnering with organisations and fellow consultants to drive sustainable social and economic change across Africa and beyond.

Our Vision

A future in which African organisations and institutions are equipped with the evidence, tools and confidence to lead their own sustainable development.

Our Values

- **Integrity —** we hold ourselves to the highest ethical and professional standards in every engagement.
- **Empowerment —** we build the capacity of clients and stakeholders to own their data, their learning and their impact.
- **Innovation —** we bring creative, context-specific approaches to evaluation and organisational learning.
- **Collaboration —** we work alongside our clients and associates as partners, not outsiders.

WHAT WE DO

Programme Design & Development

Strategic programme design and planning, including stakeholder facilitation in developing tools such as Theory of Change, Outcome Mapping and Logical Frameworks — setting programmes up for measurable, sustainable success.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning (MEARL)

Custom M&E framework design, baseline / midline / endline evaluations, and data-driven, evidence-based performance tracking and impact assessment, using both results-based and outcome-impact-oriented approaches.

Capacity Building

Organisational and staff development, M&E systems strengthening, and hands-on coaching and mentoring so teams can plan, execute and sustain their own monitoring, evaluation and learning practice.

Our Approach

Our solutions promote local ownership and accountability while remaining context-specific and responsive to the unique needs of our clients and the environments in which they operate. Building a learning organisation is at the core of what we do; we focus on innovative, contemporary and creative approaches to learning — both for ourselves and for our clients.

ABOUT OUR FOUNDER

Miriam Chikwanda

Founder & Director | PMERL Consultant

Miriam Chikwanda is an independent applied research and evaluation consultant and the founder of Fructuous Consulting. She began her career as a statutory social worker, holding a Bachelor of Social Work, and spent four years working in underserved communities across Cape Town, South Africa. She then advanced her studies to obtain a Master of Development Studies degree— the beginning of her mission to contribute to social justice, equity and sustainability through programme research and evaluation.

With more than nine years of experience in programme design, planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning (PMEL), Miriam is well-equipped to lead all phases of a project across multiple sectors. This includes facilitating stakeholders through the development of planning tools such as Theory of Change, Outcome Mapping and Logical Frameworks. Her monitoring work extends to building the capacity of stakeholders to properly execute and adjust M&E activities, and she has led the delivery of M&E on multiple projects using results-based and outcome-impact-oriented approaches.

Miriam's extensive experience in data collection, analysis and report writing — using both qualitative and quantitative methods — is a strong asset to her consultancy work. She has managed and conducted fieldwork across the Southern African region, producing high-quality evaluation reports for clients, and pairs report writing with feedback and learning sessions that help stakeholders translate findings into lessons learned. Her work is guided by high standards and a participatory approach that fosters ownership and creates an environment conducive to quality delivery. As a generalist evaluator, she adapts quickly to new sectors and contexts, and enjoys a healthy balance of independent and team-based work.

Credentials

Education	MA in Development Studies; BA Social Work
Memberships	SAMEA (South African M&E Association); SACSSP
Core Expertise	Programme design & planning tools (ToC, Outcome Mapping, LogFrames); MEARL systems; qualitative & quantitative analysis; report writing & learning facilitation; stakeholder capacity building

OUR NETWORK

Fructuous Consulting is affiliated with a global network of associates with deep experience in applied research and programme planning, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning (PMERL). Associates are selected for their thematic expertise and demonstrated capacity to deliver on specific research and evaluation assignments — including thematic specialists, local consultants and in-country evaluators.

This model allows Fructuous Consulting to scale flexibly and assemble the right team for every engagement, wherever it is located, while maintaining consistent quality and a single point of accountability for our clients.

TRACK RECORD — SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Since 2021, Fructuous Consulting's Lead Consultant, Miriam Chikwanda, has delivered applied research, monitoring and evaluation assignments for government departments, embassies, international NGOs and civil-society networks across 17+ countries. This record is updated as new engagements are completed — the highlighted row at the foot of the table is a ready-to-use template for logging the next project.

Sector	Client	Assignment	Location	Duration	Reference
Women Empowerment in Early Childhood Development	**GW Foundation t/a Grow ECD**	Rapid Formative Evaluation of the ECD Centers: Breaking Employment Barriers, project funded by Jobs Fund under reference 12/1216-2	**South Africa** (KZN, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Gauteng provinces	September 2026	Zani Lamb, Head of Monitoring and Evaluation, zani@tcb.org.za
Livelihoods strengthening	**TCB Clothing Redistribution t/a Taking Care of Business (TCB)**	Rapid Formative Evaluation of the Breaking Barriers: Growing Informal Enterprise, Project funded under Jobs Fund ref 12/1214-2	**South Africa** (KZN, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Gauteng provinces	September 2026	Zani Lamb, Head of Monitoring and Evaluation, zani@tcb.org.za
Community Capacity Strengthening and youth empowerment	**NIF - The Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports**	External Evaluation of the Regional Refugee Sport for Development Programme in Southern Africa (2023 -2027)	**Zimbabwe** – Tongogara Refugee Camp **Malawi** – Dzakeka Refugee Camp **Zambia** – Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp	September - December 2026	To be requested after completion (project ongoing)
Community Empowerment	**Blomeyer & Sanz for Corruption Watch, Social Change Assistance Trust & Transparency International**	End-of-project evaluation of the Strengthening Against Corruption Action (SAAC) project.	**South Africa** (Eastern Cape)	June 2026 – Current	Available on completion (project ongoing)

Sector	Client	Assignment	Location	Duration	Reference
Food Security	**Embassy of France in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi**	Final external evaluation of the Food and Microbiota in Africa (FAMA) project.	**South Africa** (EC and KZN) and **Senegal** (Dakar)	Nov 2025 – September 2026	Arlène ALPHA Project Coordinator Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement arlene.alpha@cirad.fr
Resilience Building & Climate Adaptation	**Embassy of France in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi**	Final external evaluation of the Managed Aquifer Recharge and the Microbiome project (MARem), 2023–2026.	**South Africa** (Western Cape)	Sept 2025 – Present	Available on completion (project ongoing)
Livelihoods, Food Security & Nutrition, AAP & Protection	**Transparency International Secretariat**	Endline evaluation of Land and Corruption in Africa, Phase 2 (2021–2026).	**Global** — Madagascar, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Cameroon	Sept 2025 – Jan 2026	To be requested upon requirement
Conflict-Affected Community Resilience & Women's Empowerment	**Norwegian People's Aid, South Sudan**	Baseline study for the Partnership for Building Resilience and Enhancing Livelihoods (BREL) of conflict-affected households, Phase 2.	**South Sudan** — Central Equatoria, Lakes State & Eastern Equatoria	June – Sept 2025	Eddington Wadzanai Chinyoka, Head of Humanitarian & Resilience Programme, NPA South Sudan eddchi562@npaid.org | +211 92 582 2296
Women's Empowerment & Development in Journalism	**Women in News (WAN-IFRA) / Alliance de la Presse d'Information Générale**	Tailored data analysis training (six modules), coaching and mentoring for the WAN-IFRA monitoring, evaluation and learning team.	**Global** — Malawi, Ukraine, New Zealand, Zambia	Feb – June 2025	Molly Chimhanda, Director: Impacts & Insights molly.chimhanda@womeninnews.org
Education & Skills Development	**Embassy of France in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi**	External evaluation of "French Language in Malawi": strengthening the teaching and learning of French in Malawi.	**Malawi**	Nov 2024 – May 2025	Johann Robinet Education and French language Attache Regional Coordinator of Alliances francaises in Southern Africa +27124251720 johann.robinet@diplomatie.gouv.fr

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Youth Empowerment	**Western Cape Government**	Data cleaning and analysis for the Year Beyond youth and after-school programme (c. 3,640 records) to calculate youth access to opportunities in 2023.	**South Africa**	May 2024	William Crawford, Manager: Data, YearBeyond Programme william.crawford@westerncape.gov.za | +27 21 483 8355
Capacity Strengthening — Environmental Justice, Feminism & SRHR	**Afrikagrupperna (Africa Groups of Sweden)**	Midterm review of the 2022–2024 Strategy (SRHR, food sovereignty, land rights, natural resource preservation, human rights); 38 interviews.	**Angola**, **Mozambique**, **South Africa**, **Namibia**, **Zimbabwe** (Southern Africa)	Oct 2024 – Feb 2025	Dean van Rooy, Regional Coordinator, dean.van.rooy@afrikagrupperna.se Jenny Nilsson, Int'l Programme Manager, jenny.nilsson@afrikagrupperna.se
Youth & Women's Inclusion in Economic Growth	**Democracy Works Foundation**	Rapid end-of-project evaluation of "Putting Youth and Women at the Centre of Inclusive Economic Growth" (PYWEIG), aligned with EU guidelines; 82 participants.	**Lesotho** (Leribe, Butha-Buthe, Maseru)	November 2024	Kahisano Kolobe, Lesotho Project Manager & Country Lead kkolobe@democracyworksfoundation.org
Social Justice for Persons in Crisis	**Talk to Loop**	Review and redevelopment of Talk to Loop's MEAL system, including a Theory of Change review and MEL framework development.	Remote (global team of 7)	Aug 2024 – Current	Alex Ross, Founder & Lead alex@talktoloop.org
Agriculture, Youth Empowerment & Skills Development	**GenEx**	Final evaluation of the GenEx CDP project, "Strengthening Rural Communal and Commercial Farmer Cooperative Competitiveness"; 6 cooperatives, 100 surveys, 23 interviews.	**South Africa** (Eastern Cape, Limpopo, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal)	June – Aug 2024	Lieb Venter, Chief of Party, GenEx Cooperative Development Program SA lieb@farmvision.co.za
Labour Movement, Policy Influence, Advocacy & Gender Transformation	**Blomeyer & Sanz**	Country partner for the evaluation of the Palmer Center's CSO Programme (2020–2024); 9 organisations, 18 interviews.	**South Africa** (Western & Eastern Cape) and Namibia	Feb – Apr 2024	Elma Paulauskaitė, Director elma@policyimpactlab.com
Sexual Reproductive Health Rights & Organisational Capacity Building	**Embassy of France in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi**	Evaluation of "Strengthening the Prevention of Unintentional Early Pregnancy"; 13 interviews, 8 focus group discussions.	**Malawi and South Africa**	Jan – July 2024	Cecelia Kok, Programme Manager cecelia.kok@diplomatie.gouv.fr

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Education & Skills Development	**African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) Rwanda & Mastercard Foundation**	Endline evaluation of the Teacher Training Programme, surveying STEM teachers and learners across nine districts.	**Rwanda** (9 districts)	May 2023 – Jan 2024	Joseph Ndiritu, Associate Director: Programs Delivery & Reporting jndiritu@nexteinstein.org
Education & Skills Development	**Concern Worldwide**	Evaluation of Pathway, Concern's Management Development Programme delivery format; 26 semi-structured interviews.	Global (25 countries)	Jan 2022 – June 2023	Louise Platt, Programme Manager louise.platt@concern.net
Youth Employment	**Go for Gold**	Assessment of the outcomes of the second-phase Go for Gold Education-to-Employment Initiative.	**South Africa** (Cape Town & Johannesburg)	Aug 2018 – Jan 2019	Karen Rademeyer karen@goforgold.org.za
Women's Empowerment	**Tearfund CAR**	Endline evaluation of the "Increasing Household Income and Livelihood Security for Women" project; 444 survey respondents, 12 FGDs, 15 interviews.	**Central African Republic** (Bangui, Ombella-M'Poko, Lobaye)	Nov 2020 – Jan 2021	Benoit Barutwanayo, Programme Manager irbenoit.barutwanayo@gmail.com
Urban Planning & Climate Change	**ICLEI — Local Governments for Sustainability Africa**	MEAL advisory support for the Reflecting Cities project; 5 interviews, 32 surveys, 13 video interviews.	**Uganda** (Kampala, Entebbe) and **Malawi** (Lilongwe, Blantyre)	May 2019 – Jan 2020	Jessica Kavonic, Cities Biodiversity Centre jessica.kavonic@iclei.org

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LET'S WORK TOGETHER

We welcome the opportunity to discuss how Fructuous Consulting can partner with your organisation.

Miriam Chikwanda — Founder & Director

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Web: www.fructuousconsulting.africa