

Tholakele Nene
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Bio

Project Coordinator with 10 years of multi-stakeholder relationship management, project management and strategic communications experience. I specialize in developing communication strategies, building communities, developing partnerships, and strengthening NGO collaborations across borders. I have proven expertise in leading diverse teams and implementing impactful social projects in the environmental, civic technology and media space. I'm a proud advocate of open governance, civic technology, environmental and social justice.

Career and Work Experience

Regional Community Coordinator for WanaData & Hacks/Hackers Africa Code for Africa

- Led the coordination of [WanaData](#) and [Hacks/Hackers Africa](#) across 9 African nations, establishing robust community engagement
- Developed and implemented inclusive communication strategies for multilingual audiences, improving outreach in Francophone countries
- Designed and rolled out successful communication content, enhancing the visibility of community brands across digital platforms
- Facilitated effective use of online communication tools including Medium and Slack, improving cross-channel collaboration
- Coordinated and moderated engaging webinars and events, fostering a collaborative environment

Regional Coordinator (Mpumalanga Province, South Africa)

Click Learning

- Led a dynamic team, including 3 Regional Administrators and over 20 lab administrators, enhancing educational programme delivery
- Facilitated effective communication with school principals and departments to streamline project implementation
- Provided technical training and support, ensuring seamless operations between stakeholders
- Orchestrated regional programmes in schools, driving significant improvements in educational outcomes
- Managed logistics and operations, establishing and nurturing beneficial stakeholder relationships

Project Manager

Oxpeckers Investigative Environmental Journalism Centre

- Built the #MineAlert tool in collaboration with designers and vendors, enhancing proactive media engagement opportunities
- Established strong global partnerships, enhancing media, funder, and community relations
- Crafted strategic media opportunities, boosting advocacy and awareness campaigns
- Outlined and delivered project progress reports, ensuring transparency and accountability to funders
- Formulated and executed communication strategies, amplifying project impact
- Engaged with a variety of stakeholders, delivering targeted training sessions that maximized project reach

Skills:

Project management

Project development
Project coordination
Partnership development
Product training
Multi-stakeholder coordination
Cross-cultural Communication strategy development
Resource allocation
Team leadership

Technical tools

Microsoft Suite
Google Workspace
Teams Platform
Adobe XD
Slack
Airtable
Asana
Canva pro
CMS Platforms
Notion
Trello
Hub spot
Miro
Mailchimp

Content production

Website & social media content creation
Technical writing
Social media branding
Blogging
News writing
Digital Campaigns
Webinar hosting
Copyediting

Also fluent in

Community relations management
Digital events coordination
Facilitation
Public speaking
Research
Data Management
Media Relations

Here's a glimpse of my writing journey over the years..

- Promotional article for #MineAlert
Link: <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/so-africa-minealert-tool-gives-communities-greater-access-to-information-on-mining-applications-operations/>
- EDI | #MineAlert
Link: <https://environmentaldemocracyindex.org/node/13982.html>
- SciBraai | Climate change
Link: <https://scibraai.co.za/free-solar-power-for-n-cape-households/>

- EJN | Climate change
Link: <https://earthjournalism.net/stories/parys-calls-on-paris-to-come-clean>
- Access initiative | #MineAlert
Link: <https://accessinitiative.org/blog/mandatory-disclosure-can-make-natural-resources-work-for-the-people/>
- Mail&Guardian |
Link: <https://mg.co.za/article/2016-10-03-00-mining-discontent-how-women-miners-are-raped-and-become-sex-skivvies-to-get-ahead/>
- Oxpeckers
<https://oxpeckers.org/2017/09/progress-through-partnerships/>
- Huffington post: https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/datamustfall-the-high-cost-of-data-has-created-a-new-digital_uk_5c7e8e58e4b078abc6c09824

Check out some of the projects I've spearheaded over the years..

Oxpeckers | #MineAlert
<https://oxpeckers.org/mine-alert-africa/>

Urban Earth | Durban Climate Change Strategy Phase 1
<https://urbanearth.co.za/>

Code for Africa | Hacks/Hackers & WanaData
<https://codeforafrica.org/>
WanaData online community |& Hacks/Hackers Africa
<https://medium.com/wanadata-africa/a-champion-for-champions-meet-our-new-hackshackers-wanadata-pan-african-champion-tholakele-nene-d5dd5246637>

String Communications
Spark Newsletter
https://static.pmg.org.za/schedule/spark8_0.pdf
Delivery, Mobility, and Change Mudanca magazine

Awards:

Honoured in the 2016 Mail & Guardian 200 young South Africans list for outstanding contributions to environmental justice.

Public speaking & Training (to feature pics/ posters)

1. Mining and Environmental Justice Community event training on #MineAlert
2. 2017 | 10th GIJC | <https://gijc17.sched.com/event/CWzS/digging-into-extractive-industries>
3. 2024 | South African Institute of physics | <https://nithecs.ac.za/external-events/>
4. <https://charter.africa/en/knowledge/news/recap-storysprint>