



SOUTH AFRICA ANNUAL REPORT 2021

In 2021, the Accountability Lab team was focused on consolidating our work in South Africa as well as our operational and growth strategy. We have grown our profile as subject experts in social and public sector accountability in South Africa through our invited participation in various knowledge communities organised around social and public sector accountability. We have sharpened our focus on supporting youth communities to participate directly in civic space and be heard. We continue to support South Africa's whole-of-society response to corruption through our flagship Integrity Icon campaign to name and fame public service excellence, as well as through our membership to strategic policy development and coordination communities.

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INTEGRITY ICON



Integrity Icon continues to be our flagship campaign in South Africa. It continues to be well-received as an integral component of building a culture of accountability taking personal responsibility by public servants and their communities alike. Owing to capacity constraints and the impact of the restrictive Covid-19 public health measures, we were not able to produce substantial growth in the traction of the campaign from 2020. As has come to be the case year-on-year, however, the calibre of our nominees and final Integrity Icons for 2021 was high. In 2021, we named and famed 6 (2 joint and 4 individual) winners of the honour at a ceremony held in Johannesburg. Our 2021 winners, together with Icons named in previous years participated in the Everyone a Leader leadership program convened by our partners at the Nelson Mandela Foundation. The 2021 People’s Choice winners were Professor Ziyaad Dangor and Dr Kavita Makan – both health workers who each led aspects of the local and national Covid-19 public health response from the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital. This is also where 2020 Icon, Dr Sadhna Balton, works. In addition to introducing political scientist and Open Society Democracy Fellow, Dr Sithembile Mbete, on our judging panel, we also welcomed former Commissioner responsible for Youth Development at the National Planning Commission, Tessa Dooms, as keynote speaker at the award ceremony.

NUMBERS OF INTEGRITY ICON

3772

votes

62

nominations
(54 online + 8 WhatsApp)

8

volunteers across
5 provinces

9084

people reached
on Facebook*

1367

people reached
on Instagram*

20,400

people reached
on Twitter*



*over 4 months

OUR WINNERS

INTEGRITY ICON	GENDER	PROVINCE	DEPARTMENT	VOTES
Carmelita Kok	Woman	Western Cape	City Of Cape Town Department of Health	358
Mncedi Mtengwana	Man	Eastern Cape	Eastern Cape Department of Education	833
Vuyokazi Langbooi	Woman	Eastern Cape	Eastern Cape Department of Social Development	599
Joyce Buthelezi	Woman	Eastern Cape	Kwa-Zulu Natal Provincial Department of Education	402
Joint Winner - Professor Ziyaad Dangor	Man	Gauteng	Gauteng Provincial Department of Health	1580
Joint Winner - Dr Kavita Makan	Woman			
Total				3772

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- 2020 Integrity Icon, Adv. Constance Moitse was promoted to Deputy Director-General – Countercorruption and Security in the National Department of Home Affairs.
- 2020 Integrity Icon, Sarah Dhlamini’s writing on ethics and integrity is now featured on national news and information platforms.
- 2020 Integrity Icon and People’s Choice winner, Unathi Filita, now guest lectures in the Social Work Department at the Nelson Mandela University and provides community facilitation support and mentorship to third-year students on their practical learning component.
- 2020 Integrity Icon, Sadna Balton, was profiled among the M&G Powerful Women winners for 2021. She featured alongside 2021 Integrity Icon, Vuyokazi Langbooi.
- 2018 Integrity Icons, Joselin Flank and Deon Esau, continue to build community response capacity through their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and are developing aspirant firefighters to join the service through the firefighting cadet program they convene through their non-profit SAFYDA.

COVERAGE OF INTEGRITY ICON 2021 BY EXTERNAL MEDIA

[Here](#) is the link to all articles.





Impact

- 2021 Integrity Film Fellow, Faith Riyano, has gone on to support the [Rivonia Circle](#) with the audiovisual documentation of their community outreach programs. This is supported by AL SA through her continued access to the AL SA Mobile Film Library.
- 2020 Integrity Film Fellow, Gomolemo Khasebe, supported the documentation of an occupation of the National Arts Council by artists protesting maladministration and corruption in the disbursement of the Covid-19 [Presidential Employment Stimulus Package](#) in early 2021. This was supported by AL SA. She went on to join the production crew of a popular South African telenovela. She has now been awarded a commission to produce a film for a major local entertainment network.
- 2020 Integrity Film Fellow Sibabalwe Mhluzi, continues to make films through his [production company](#). He was recently [profiled](#) alongside fellow 2020 Film Fellow Nandipha Dyibishe and another Precious Harry from Nigeria on social-impact filmmakers changing the world by entertainment journalist and African cultural curator, Edward Sylvan for Authority Magazine.

FILM FELLOWSHIP

The Integrity Film Fellowship has grown in both interest and impact in its third year. The 2021 Cohort comprised 3 women, one trans-man, and one gender non-binary person selected from 132 total applications. Over a three-month program consisting of a structured social impact visual story-telling curriculum, shooting and directing the Integrity Icon films on location with experienced filmmakers and ongoing mentorship, each produced solutions-driven [short films](#) about the challenges in their respective communities. These ranged in subject, showcasing people and initiatives responding to substance abuse and hunger, entrepreneurial young people starting small businesses in their communities, and the impact being made by innovative community workers and unlikely gender-justice advocates.

Working with ALSA as a fellow was a big privilege since I am an aspiring filmmaker. I have always dreamt of producing my own work as a filmmaker. It was wonderful to have been given an opportunity to make a film that could potentially call for the government's intervention in problems that my community faces.

Faith Riyano

IMPACT BY NUMBERS

132

applications

5

film fellows

2

provinces



YOUTH4CIVICCHANGE

In 2021 We led electoral participation work with young people convened in youth clubs through our Youth4CivicChange initiative with the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation and Activate! Change Drivers ahead of the local government elections. Through this partnership, we worked with young people between the ages of 13 and 26 who are either first-time voters and/or have disengaged from formal participatory processes. This was done through a structured workshop focusing on 3 topics namely: the role and purpose of local government, what young people can expect from their respective municipalities and the role of their ward councillors, and how to hold them accountable. The learning was consolidated through guided discussions grounding the content in the issues arising in their respective community contexts where workshops were held. These young people took their learning into their communities to encourage their peers and parents to register to vote. At the end of the cycle, we put out a call to participants to reflect on the workshops and local government elections in the form of op-eds or reported pieces. These will be packaged into a series for publication on a national youth-driven news and information outlet in early 2022. Y4CC Workshop photographs and videos [here](#)

As a young person who is deeply concerned about the development of my community, I am confident now that I can hold my own when engaging with office bearers, relevant officials and stakeholders in calling for change and accountability

Linomtha Maliti 13 from Lawley

IMPACT BY NUMBERS

1

province

10

communities

10

workshops

131

participants

71

voters



VOICES OF THE YOUTH

Following the unprecedented riots of July 2021, AL SA noted that among the numerous commentators and constituencies which had been afforded the platforms to make meaning of the events, few-to-none among them targeted the youth constituency. We undertook a listening campaign within this key constituency to hear what young people thought about the riots, why they believed they were happening and what should be done in response. We solicited written responses and audio clips from 15 young people across South Africa to respond to a set of structured questions with the view of bringing youth perspectives and proposals to South Africa's governance and accountability challenges following the July 2021 riots. These responses were formatted into an op-ed series, with the audio clips being published in a podcast series through which we launched our [Accountabili-TEA South Africa](#) podcast. The media package was published through a partnership with the national youth-driven news and information outlet [The Daily Vox](#).

VOICES OF THE YOUTH PROJECTS BY NUMBERS IN 2021

15

contributors

7

op-eds

9

podcasts 38
listeners in 3 weeks

1725

views of the
articles in 3 weeks



LOOKING TOWARDS 2022

In 2022, we intend on continuing our work in supporting young people to participate directly in governance and social and public sector accountability initiatives and be heard. Developing the capacity and confidence of young people to shape the future they want is central to our vision of deepening the values which support accountability as a norm and expected behaviour.

We will be launching two new program lines which we hope will ground our work more directly in communities. These are the [CivActs program](#), which seeks to build civic capacity and civic power to engage and influence municipal level governance processes, as well as an activist media incubator that will support communities to do impact storytelling and drive community-developed and

BUDGET

3

grants

3

staff

8

volunteers

ZAR 2,844,219.00

budget for 2021

community-owned advocacy initiatives. We will also present South Africa's first cohort to the Virtual Accountability Incubator which supports social accountapreneurs working on innovative solutions to local accountability challenges to take them to the next level.

We will continue to support South Africa's whole-of-society response to corruption through our membership of the [National Anti-Corruption Strategy Reference Group](#), as well as continue to contribute to and support the knowledge communities we have been a part of, including the annual Ethical Leadership Seminar and related initiatives convened by the [Public Service Commission of South Africa](#).

