

8.3 Team composition and expertise in the relevant themes of the Concept Note, including approach to supporting and retaining diverse team members throughout the project. (maximum 750 words in English or maximum 900 words in French)

Leslie Bank is currently the strategic lead on livelihoods and education in the Inclusive Economic Development Division (IED) at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC). He joined the HSRC as Deputy Executive Director of the Economic Development and Performance Unit in 2016. He also holds adjunct positions at Walter Sisulu University and the University of Fort Hare (UFH), both are historically black universities in South Africa. Prof Bank has worked at several other South African universities, including the University of Cape Town, the University of the Witwatersrand and Rhodes University. He has been a Ford Foundation Fellow at Cambridge University, a Senior Harry Oppenheimer Fellow at Oxford, and a Senior Fulbright Research Fellow at Emory University in the USA. He has authored 5 book and edited 4 in the past 10 years. Professor Bank is an anthropologist who works on questions of urbanisation, migration, livelihoods, peoples' science, identity politics, heritage, and human economy in Southern Africa. Prof Bank has extensive research and project experience working within urban and rural communities in southern Africa over several decades. His work explores the complex cultural, political and economic relationships between dwelling, building and belonging in different contexts and offers new and critical insights into place-making, livelihoods, land reform, urban settlement, trans-locality and development.

Kathleen Rice is a PhD anthropologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McGill University, where she holds the Canada Research Chair in the Medical Anthropology of Primary Care. Kathleen's theoretical and methodological expertise are in the areas of social theories of power and inequity. Her research aims to expose the underlying discourses, ideologies, and categories that shape healthcare, as well as the relations of power that underpin them. Driven by a commitment to health and social equity, her research program aims to improve the health and wellbeing of marginalized populations in particular, especially those grappling with social and economic change. Her specific areas of topical focus include rural and remote health, gender, generation, human rights, HIV/AIDS, chronic pain, and perinatal care and obstetric violence. Her areas of geographic focus are South Africa and urban and Northern Canada. Kathleen is the author of many scholarly articles, and a forthcoming book which focuses on gendered and generational conflicts about social change in Xhosa communities in the rural Eastern. Her research background in South Africa

dates back to 2007, when she worked as a Gender and Development Officer in the Social Aspects of HIV Unit of the HSRC in Cape Town.

Vuyokazi Sharpley is a Sociologist and the former head of the Department of Social Sciences at Walter Sisulu University. She is a mentor, developer, community engaged researcher, scholar, writer, and innovative academic. She works to driver of social transformation and uBuntu (togetherness). She thrives for teamwork and leadership in management and seeks to champion an inclusive approach to research with communities, government, NGOs and civil society organizations. She is also a specialist in cultural research and indigenous knowledge and has served on the WSU University Council, VC's special project on GBV and has been a leading member of WSU community engagement committee, as well as deal with issues of internationalization at the university. She is an active participant on Higher Education Leadership Management. She has written numerous articles on health and well-being in rural areas and is an activist for women's rights. Most recently, she has also co-authored an international monograph on Covid and Custom in Rural South Africa and has worked in traditional medicine, maternal health, and gender politics.

Ian Assam is a very experienced (over 25 years) and creative strategic planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting and management consulting expert with sound statistical and participatory governance, programme/project and general management, innovation, risk management, HR, advertising/ branding and business and life coaching knowledge and skills derived at a number of with work experience in a number of public and private sector institutions. He occupies various leadership roles at present including being the Deputy Chairperson of the South African Statistics Council, a Development Planning Specialist at ECSECC, assisting and providing strategic support and advice to the Eastern Cape Province in all the provincial development priorities including Covid-19. His formal undergraduate and post-graduate studies include public administration, industrial psychology, economics, coaching, exponential organisations, and futures studies.