

## Contact

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(LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

Leadership Development Coaching  
Counseling Psychology  
Emotional Intelligence

## Languages

English (Full Professional)  
Afrikaans (Full Professional)  
Italian (Limited Working)

# Deon van der Westhuizen

Integrated Governance and Risk | Integrated Reporting |  
Psychological safety | Oil and gas and ESG | Supply Chain  
Sustainability | Artificial Intelligence | | Leadership Development and  
Coaching |

Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

## Summary

Associated partners in our group: Institute for Technology and Society, PlanNet, Next Step Academy, Watermark Assurance Services, MuniratingSA, Agile Online Learning, Shaping the future, AI Certs, PsyCampus, NextCPD, West Media Marketing, EnergyTech, TTROCA(SA), CIA - Deloitte, Haskins and Sells. SA Reserve Bank - Bank Supervision. Involved in the Masterbond, Cape Investment Bank and Pretoria Bank liquidation processes. Forensic Auditor. Watermark Assurance Services - consulting in accounting and auditing space. Host of Shaping the future, our professional network channel where industry leaders share knowledge and skills for free. Extensive experience in Governance, Risk Assessment and Management, Internal Auditing, Supply Chain Management, Performance Auditing. Head of Internal Auditing or technical advisor for local and international clients. ESG projects - Fiber to the shack partnerships, developing leaders of the future. Food factories, Circular economies, Re-engineering of processes. Owner of ESG now. Consulting in the supply chain sustainability space. Risk management processes with a specific focus on ESG and AI. Preferred international trainer. Specialist in the field of governance, risk and control. Project manager for Commonwealth, USAID, EU, GIZ, Hans Seidell Foundation focusing on governance, revenue enhancement, combined assurance and risk management, sustainability of local government and Local Economic Development processes. MuniratingSA - web-based vehicle analyzing financial/operational performance of local municipalities. Associate at University of Stellenbosch School for Public Leadership. Next Step Academy - Accredited training. Professional service provider to SAICA, IIA(SA), HPCSA, IRMSA, CIGFARO, IOD. Owner of Next CPD, Next Psy with a focus on trauma, burnout, emotional intelligence and employee wellness. Mentorship programs to enhance gender equality. Agile Online Learning - Digital e-learning

platform with eight faculties providing skills to the C-suite executives, Boards of Directors, process managers, Risk Managers and Auditors.AI

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## Experience

### Agile Group of Companies

8 years 6 months

Business Owner - GRC, ESG and AI specialist

September 2018 - Present (7 years 10 months)

South Africa

Led international projects focused on governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) across Sub-Saharan countries. Specific focus on oil and gas and energy transition projects. Clients include KJO, KA Care, Harmony, Exxaro. Designed and implemented Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) frameworks in Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa, and Tanzania. Collaborated with local stakeholders to ensure project alignment with regional regulations and best practices. Specific focus on coal and mining industry and energy transition programs. Enhanced organizational risk posture, contributing to improved decision-making and strategic planning.

### Technical Specialist: Integrated Governance

April 2020 - Present (6 years 3 months)

Paarl

Organizational redesign to enhance integrated governance, focussing on c-suite executives. Theme of intervention - How do you as CEO | CFO | COO | CIA | CRO | CAE | CCO become the most influential voice in the boardroom.

### Turnaround Specialist - Skills development

January 2018 - Present (8 years 6 months)

Cape Town Area, South Africa

Spearheaded initiatives to convert an accredited e-learning college into a private university, enhancing educational offerings. Developed and implemented effective tutoring programs, significantly increasing conversion rates from grade 12 to degree status. Achieved accreditation for three qualifications, contributing to a growing student base and establishing partnerships with DHET, LGSETA, and TETASETA. Associated with Saolusi University, ICL and ITS.

next.cpd

### Business owner

January 2018 - Present (8 years 6 months)

South Africa

Psychological safety in the workplace, Mindfulness, Burnout, Emotional intelligence. We provide coaching, mentorship, webinars and continuous professional development through our team of psychologists.

### Watermark Assurance Services

Project Specialist

January 1999 - Present (27 years 6 months)

City of Cape Town

Provided independent consultancy services in governance, risk, and control to key decision-makers. Led the redesign of District Municipalities for the Western Cape Government to enhance operational efficiency. Conducted a comprehensive financial evaluation of local municipalities for Munitratings, improving transparency and accountability. Developed and implemented combined assurance frameworks within municipal environments, strengthening risk management practices.

### Advantage Training

International Speaker: Governance, combined assurance and risk management

January 2019 - August 2025 (6 years 8 months)

South Africa

International conferences for Marcus Evans, IIA Botswana, IIA Malaysia, African Governance Conference, Governance(20 times) Risk management conference, . Day chairperson on international conferences. Speaker on the Energy Conference in Saudi Arabia. Delivered engaging presentations on governance, combined assurance, and risk management across Africa, including Cape Town, Johannesburg, Tanzania, and Namibia. Facilitated workshops aimed at transforming dysfunctional boards into effective risk leaders, enhancing decision-making processes. Developed tailored training programs that improved board members' understanding of risk management, leading to a 30% increase in board effectiveness ratings.

### ESG now

Technical specialist: ESG and risk management

January 2022 - July 2025 (3 years 7 months)

South Africa

Designed and implemented bankable ESG projects, enhancing sustainability in supply chains. Facilitated strategic interventions in companies for effective

ESG reporting and compliance. Coordinated with local government and private sectors to promote ESG initiatives, strengthening community ties.

### Next.PSY

Health and Wellness Business Owner

February 2021 - July 2025 (4 years 6 months)

City of Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

Specialist online training academy providing accredited, efficient and cost-effective training for psychologists, medical professionals and social workers. Focusing on burnout, emotional intelligence, mindfulness and the role of artificial intelligence in the medical space.

### Stellenbosch University

22 years

Municipal Financial Management Expert

June 2019 - December 2024 (5 years 7 months)

Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

Two year contract facilitating risk management, internal audit, governance, revenue management, budgeting and supply chain management to the Executive Management of CTICC.

Governance, risk and compliance expert

January 2003 - October 2021 (18 years 10 months)

Western Cape, South Africa

University of Stellenbosch School for Public Leadership in conjunction with Watermark Assurance Services. USB Faculty Member. AARC/NSA accredited training - several research projects onto new revenue models for municipalities, sustainability of district municipalities, and governance processes within the public sector.

### The Commonwealth

Risk Management Specialist

April 2021 - June 2024 (3 years 3 months)

Gaborone, South-East, Botswana

- Conducted ongoing reviews of the COSO-based ERM process to enhance risk management effectiveness across 38 ministries and departments.
- Revised policies and frameworks to ensure alignment with strategic decision-making models, impacting performance outcomes.
- Designed an embedded organogram to facilitate risk and performance integration, capacitating 500 staff members in ERM implementation.

## Next Step Academy (Pty) Ltd - "NSA"

Governance, Risk and ESG - Oil and Gas and Energy Transition  
March 2017 - December 2023 (6 years 10 months)

South Africa

Leadership development and strategic interventions - Facilitation of strategic planning and ERM sessions for KJO, KA Care, Aramco, SENTECH, EnergyTech, Harmony, Exxaro, Stellenbosch University, AGRISA, Lesotho Petroleum Fund, Botswana and Lesotho Government, , TTRO, EMORA, Rand Water, Hochschule Kehl, Institute for Corporate Learning, Institute for Technology and Society.

## Next Step Academy (Pty) Ltd

Technical Expert - Municipal Financial Management  
March 2010 - October 2022 (12 years 8 months)

South Africa

I played a pivotal role in transforming municipal financial management practices across several regions in South Africa.

- Spearheaded initiatives that improved governance and risk management, fostering a culture of accountability.
- Enhanced internal audit frameworks that led to a 20% reduction in financial discrepancies.
- Streamlined supply chain processes, resulting in improved cash flow and resource allocation.

## Petroleum Fund

Risk Management Specialist  
February 2022 - June 2022 (5 months)

Maseru District, Lesotho

Review of ERM Policy and Framework, with a specific focus on the impact of digitalization and the Russian Ukrainian war on oil prices and supply.

## MuniratingSA

Business Specialist  
April 2015 - June 2021 (6 years 3 months)

Cape Town Area, South Africa

- Conducted comprehensive assessments of municipalities in South Africa to enhance service delivery effectiveness.
- Collaborated with the Western Cape Government to benchmark service delivery across 24 local municipalities.

- Spearheaded the automation of financial and operational analyses for all municipalities, improving data accessibility and decision-making.

## USB Executive Development Ltd

Anchor faculty - Masterclasses in municipal management

November 2015 - November 2019 (4 years 1 month)

Western Cape

- Spearheaded initiatives in revenue management and enhancement, optimizing valuation rolls and automating revenue collection processes.
- Conducted thorough financial analyses and audits of indigent registers, leading to improved cash flow management.
- Specialized in GRAP compliance and combined assurance design, ensuring adherence to COSO and King IV standards within the municipal environment.

## Engen

Technical Advisor

February 2014 - September 2019 (5 years 8 months)

Risk based auditing, Root cause analysis. Auditing Strategy and Values, Data mining and IT Auditing. Financial Analysis, Ethics audit.

## The Institute of Internal Auditors South Africa

28 years

Service provider - lecturing and quality assurance

1990 - December 2018 (28 years)

Internationally

Performance of quality assurance reviews and technical training for more than 25 years. Performance auditing, risk based auditing, financial auditing, MSCOA processes, IT auditing for non-IT auditing. International speaker at Malaysia, Singapore, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Botswana on topics of governance, risk and control.

## Training and Development Specialist

March 2002 - September 2018 (16 years 7 months)

Gauteng, South Africa

Development and training of courses relating to supply chain management, COSO, ERM, mSCOA, Financial Auditing, Risk based auditing, control risk self assessment, combined assurance.

## Western Cape Government

Anchor faculty

November 2015 - September 2017 (1 year 11 months)

## Stellenbosch

Design and consulting to assist with the implementation of COSO, King IV. Focus on the 17 principles and the distribution of responsibilities between the first, second and third line of defense. Focusing on the ongoing monitoring benefit flowing through to the Audit Committee, the Accounting Officer and the Councillors as oversight.

## Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Project Specialist

June 2011 - February 2017 (5 years 9 months)

South Africa

1. Redesign of Revenue Management within local authorities.

## European Union

Project Specialist

January 2010 - July 2015 (5 years 7 months)

South Africa

- Managed revenue operations across 23 municipalities in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, and Free State, optimizing financial performance.
- Redesigned the risk management framework to integrate combined assurance and the three lines of defense model, enhancing organizational resilience.
- Led the overhaul of risk and internal audit frameworks under the FMIP III program, ensuring compliance and operational efficiency.

## EY

Chief Technical Advisor

2006 - 2010 (4 years)

Eastern Cape, South Africa

Development of the internal audit unit of Department of Health and Education for contracted period of 4 years.

## USAID

Project leader

2006 - 2009 (3 years)

Pretoria region

Project leader on turn around strategy for 23 municipalities in financial difficulty. Main focus on Local economic development and revenue enhancement.

## Andisa Capital

Project manager on US AID funded projects

January 2005 - December 2007 (3 years)

Enhancing revenue collection in municipalities, facilitating local economic development activities with US AID funds.

## Western Cape Government

Head of Internal Audit

January 1995 - October 1998 (3 years 10 months)

Cape Town

Establishing the internal audit unit, as well as a forensic audit unit. Established the first audit committee. Developed the risk assessment framework.

## South African Reserve Bank

5 years 11 months

Audit manager

January 1987 - November 1992 (5 years 11 months)

Managed the audit team that focussed on the financial markets.

## Manager - Bank Supervision

1989 - 1992 (3 years)

Implementation of the Banks Act, Monitoring of bank risks, closing down process of banks that failed.

## Deloitte South Africa

Manager

1984 - 1986 (2 years)

Pretoria and Johannesburg

External Audit

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## Education

University of Stellenbosch

UNISA

B Compt Hons, Accounting and auditing · (1985 - 1986)

University of Pretoria/Universiteit van Pretoria

B Com, B COMpt (Hons) CA(SA) CIA, Accounting and auditing · (1980 - 1984)

Institute of Internal Auditors  
Certified Internal Auditor · (2003)

South African Institute of Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Accountant, Auditing · (January 1986)