

Title Page

Research Fellows and Research Projects

Department of Science and Technology (DST) – National Research Foundation (NRF) Centre in
Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS)

RESEARCH FOCUS AREA: FOOD SECURITY



Full Name: Sithandiwe Linda Khoza

Country of Research: South Africa

Research Topic: Investigating the potential of moringa oleifera to combat child malnutrition

Institutional Affiliation: UKZN

Research Supervisor: Dr Kolanisi

Research Background/Summary

My research interests are on exploring the potential of using locally available natural resources to improve the food and nutrition security of vulnerable groups in rural communities while diversifying livelihood options and entrepreneurship opportunities. Community engagement in research (before, during and after research) as well as education through training has the

potential to capacitate resource-limited communities with knowledge which could assist in improving food and nutrition security, livelihood options and coping strategies. Malnutrition is the leading cause of death during childhood, consequently affecting the future health and socio-economic development and productive potential of the society. Nutritional analysis has shown that *Moringa Oleifera* is extremely nutritious, it is composed of proteins, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates and fats. Considering the plants nutritional value, the study aims to investigate the potential of moringa oleifera to combat child malnutrition.

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