

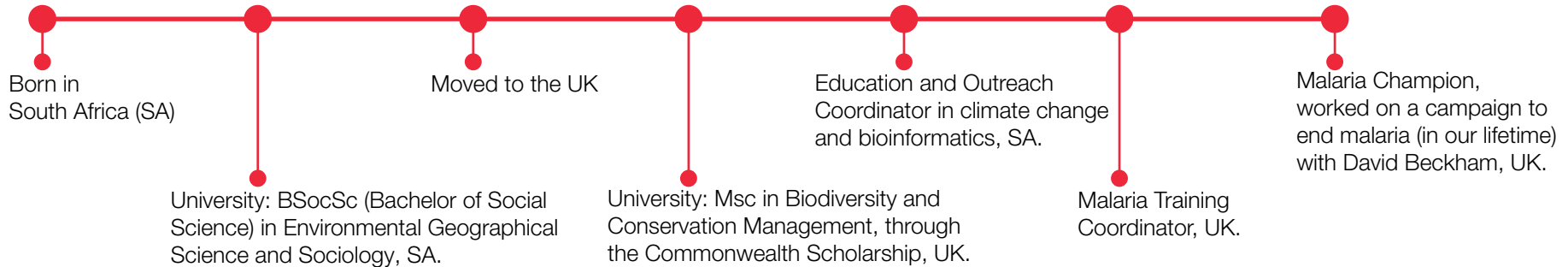


Name:
Paballo Chauke

Job title:
Training Coordinator

What do I do:
I work at the Wellcome Sanger Institute in the Genomic Surveillance Unit (GSU) supporting the Malaria Genomic Epidemiology Network (MalariaGEN). My role includes the collaborative development and delivery of genomic surveillance training courses tailored to the needs of our diverse international community.

My career highlights



What do I enjoy most about my job?
I enjoy interacting with people (virtually and face-to-face) from diverse backgrounds on a global scale. People who are passionate about science and the improvement of global health, through the goal of eradicating malaria in our lifetime! These people really inspire and excite me.

What parts of my job are challenging?
Juggling multiple tasks at once and not being able to speak a language that some people I interact with speak. This can be a barrier during some of our training activities, but there are translators present to support.

Skills I use in my job :



Organisation

I work with a team of people to organise training which includes hackathons and workshops for diverse audiences, both virtual and face-to-face.



Teamwork

I collaborate with international scientists/ partners, mostly from Africa. We work together to try to achieve multiple objectives, such as training the next generation of bioinformatic experts and spreading genomic surveillance.



Communication

I communicate with our course participants and partners as well as attend conferences, which is a great place to network with genomic scientists.



Creativity

Science is a very creative field and one of the ways I express creativity is through report writing and poster creation.

My top tips for students wanting a career in genomics:

- Boldly believe in yourself and your scientific capability and inquisitiveness.
- Do not be ashamed to ask many questions or seek mentors in genomics.
- Never internalise failure: Whether you like it or not, failure is part of life, especially a career in science, sometimes science experiments fail and you need to try again or try something different.

What was my favourite subject at school?

My favourite subject at school was geography, as I always believed the world was my oyster and I love travelling. I also enjoyed biology which is the basis of my career in the bioinformatics/genomics education field.

