



## Petra Rees - Director

### Education:

BSc.(Hon), University of London, UK

MBA, Open University, UK

### Career Highlights:

- Founder and COO of KaiConnect impact fund serving mining, energy, automotive and manufacturing industries
- Founded and successfully exited two startups/scale-ups, namely LEAP, a human capital development consultancy, and Why Toyz, an award-winning 3D printing ed-tech company
- Board / Executive / Steering Committee experience with international non-profits such as the Entrepreneurs Organization (EO), South African Chapter of the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) and the Institute of Inventors and Innovators (III)
- Recognised as a winner of Inspiring50 for her work in promoting more girls into STEM-related fields
- Global speaker at several multinational events, often in different languages (English, Czech, German)

### WRO History:

Petra joined the WRO Board of Directors in 2025, bringing her passion for leveraging exponential technologies like 3D printing, robotics, and AI to inspire youth and drive sustainable innovation. She is particularly focused on increasing participation from girls and underserved communities, ensuring WRO continues to empower future generations globally.

### Current Position:

Co-Founder and COO, KaiConnect (Pty) Ltd, South Africa

Ambassador, Women in 3D Printing