

Wai Yin Choi

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2021 — PRESENT · NEW YORK

Budget Specialist

UNICEF

- Lead cross-functional budget and position work across accounting, grants management, IT, and HR.
 - Build Power BI dashboards and maintain the Python standard-cost model; develop the policy and SOPs around both.
 - Development-team member for UNICEF's SAP Fiori budget formulation tool, replacing a long-standing legacy planning database.
 - Guide field offices on annual, ad-hoc, and multi-year budgeting; review submissions before ERP implementation.
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2015 — 2021 · NEW YORK

Finance Specialist

UNICEF

- Managed HACT transaction support and the eZHACT tool; worked with IT on automated controls that reduced manual checks and support requests.
 - Drafted and reviewed accounting policies and procedures across Finance and IT, aligning them with IPSAS and internal control requirements.
 - Led monthly SAP closures and year-end reconciliation with country offices; trained country and regional teams.
 - Helped shape UNICEF's Global Shared Services Centre, defining SOPs, core deliverables, and cost-recovery inputs.
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SECONDMENT · 2020

Grants Specialist, Donor Management Unit

UNICEF

- Recorded donor conditionality, cleared donor receivables, and managed US-funded reimbursement claims.
 - Built Power BI dashboards for fund-flow monitoring and supported the team's shift from transactional work to oversight.
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2010 — 2015 · PRETORIA

Audit Manager

AUDITOR GENERAL OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Managed a portfolio of government audit engagements and led audit teams.
 - Assessed financial reporting and controls against IFRS and GAAP; presented findings to executives, accounting officers, and audit committees.
 - Authored management and final audit reports; mentored and coached team members.
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SECONDMENT · NEW YORK · 2009 — 2010

Assistant Audit Manager, UN Board of Auditors

AUDITOR GENERAL OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Represented South Africa on the United Nations Board of Auditors, auditing UN entities including peacekeeping operations, UNDP, UNFPA, and UNJSPF.
 - Applied UNSAS and IPSAS; worked with international audit teams and assessed management judgment against UN Financial Regulations and Rules.
 - Conducted field audits in high-risk environments while maintaining audit quality and professional skepticism.
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2006 — 2010 · PRETORIA

Assistant Audit Manager / Auditor

AUDITOR GENERAL OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Led small and medium engagement teams on government entities and agreed-upon procedures.
- Built risk-based audit programmes, reviewed working papers, and mentored junior auditors against IRBA quality requirements.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

2010 **Chartered Accountant (SA)**
South African Institute of Chartered Accountants
SINCE 2010

2026 – 2028 **MSc, Artificial Intelligence**
University of Colorado Boulder
IN PROGRESS

2007 **BCom (Honours), Accounting**
University of South Africa

2002 – 2004 **BCom, Accounting**
University of Pretoria

TOOLKIT

PROGRAMMING & DATA

Python SQL Power Query / ETL Power BI Excel / VBA

ACCOUNTING & COMPLIANCE

IPSAS IFRS GAAP UN Financial Regulations & Rules

FINANCIAL SYSTEMS

SAP / ERP SAP Fiori HACT Budget formulation

AI & AUTOMATION

Local LLMs Agentic workflows Claude Code
DeepSeek Harness Hermes Agent

LANGUAGES English · Mandarin · Cantonese