

MILENA LOPES | DESIGN & COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

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Creative design professional with 20+ years of experience developing visual communication for international organisations, government institutions and private-sector organisations. Strong background in graphic design, editorial design, visual identities, digital content, web design and presentation materials. Experienced in translating complex information into clear and engaging visual products across print and digital formats, from reports and publications to social media, websites, campaigns and institutional materials. PhD in Human-Computer Interaction and fluent in Portuguese, English and Spanish.

EDUCATION

PhD in Computer Science | Trinity College Dublin (2015 - 2021)

Master's in Communication | Pompeu Fabra University (2010 - 2011)

Bachelor's in Design | University of Brasilia (2002 - 2007)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (native), French (basic), German (basic), Italian (basic).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Communications Analyst | UNDP

Oct 2023 – Present

- Develop visual communication products for the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), including publications, reports, presentations, newsletters, social media content, infographics, templates and institutional materials.
- Develop and apply visual identities, layouts and graphic systems for projects, campaigns, events and international cooperation initiatives, ensuring visual consistency across formats and channels.
- Design digital content for websites, SharePoint, social media and other communication platforms, adapting materials to different audiences, formats and technical requirements.
- Developed and implemented ABC's social media communication strategy, contributing to +95% followers, +587% reach and +511% views on Instagram in 2025, with 172 posts, 17 design projects and 7 newsletters delivered.
- Work with multidisciplinary teams and subject-matter experts to transform complex technical information into clear visual and editorial products.

User Experience Consultant | Behave

Sep 2022 – Sep 2023

- Designed digital experiences and interfaces for web and other digital platforms, combining UX research, information architecture, interaction design and visual design.
- Developed wireframes, prototypes, user flows and visual solutions based on user research and organisational requirements.
- Created presentations, reports and visual materials to communicate research findings and design recommendations to clients and stakeholders.

- Worked across different digital projects and audiences, adapting design solutions to specific content, platforms and user needs.

Design and Communication Strategist | Intuí

Oct 2020 – Sep 2023

- Developed visual and graphic solutions for educational products and initiatives for children and adolescents, including an educational card game reaching 1,000+ students.
- Created visual identities, layouts, illustrations, presentation materials, templates and other communication assets for projects and products.
- Translated complex educational content into accessible and engaging visual formats for different audiences.
- Worked with stakeholders to develop and refine visual concepts, ensuring consistency between content, objectives and visual communication.

Design Thinking Workshop Facilitator | Matres

Jul 2020 – Jun 2023

- Facilitated 30+ innovation and communication workshops with UN agencies, GIZ and governments worldwide, engaging groups of over 3,000 participants.
- Designed workshop presentations, templates, visual materials and collaborative resources for different audiences and formats.
- Developed visual approaches to support knowledge sharing, co-creation and communication of complex topics.

PhD Candidate | Trinity College Dublin

Sep 2015 – Jun 2020

- Developed visual and communication materials to present research findings to academic and multidisciplinary audiences.
- Conducted mixed-methods research involving 300+ participants and resulting in 10+ publications.
- Translated complex research findings into clear visual narratives, presentations and publications.

UX/UI Lecturer | IESB University

Aug 2013 – Aug 2015

- Developed and taught postgraduate courses in UX/UI, visual communication and digital design.
- Created teaching materials, presentations and practical design exercises and supervised student projects.

UX/UI Designer | Nokia

Mar 2008 – Aug 2010

- Designed mobile interfaces, interaction patterns and icon systems for products developed across Europe and Latin America.
- Developed graphic and visual assets for digital products, including icons, interface elements and promotional materials.
- Designed mobile phone packaging and other printed promotional materials, including materials developed with commercial partners.
- Adapted visual solutions to different products, markets, formats and technical requirements, working with multidisciplinary teams.
- Increased UI deliveries by over 400% for telecom operators worldwide.

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Graphic & Editorial Design

- Graphic Design & Layout
- Editorial Design & Publication Design
- Visual Identity & Branding
- Reports, Publications & Institutional Materials
- Presentations, Templates & Newsletters
- Infographics & Data Visualisation

Digital Design & Content

- Web Design & Digital Interfaces
- Social Media Design & Content
- Digital Campaigns & Communication Materials
- Image Treatment & Visual Adaptation
- Visual Storytelling
- UX/UI Design & Prototyping

Production & Coordination

- Brand Guidelines & Visual Standards
- Print & Digital Production
- File Preparation & Asset Organisation
- Multi-format Content Adaptation
- Stakeholder Collaboration
- Quality Review & Visual Consistency

TOOLS

Adobe Creative Cloud: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro

Design & Digital: Canva, Figma, Miro

Digital Communications: SharePoint, Hootsuite, Meta Business Suite, Google Analytics

Productivity & Collaboration: Microsoft Office, Trello, Slack, Notion

AI: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Awards: Science Without Borders Scholarship (2015 - 2019), Nokia Innovation Award (2010), Scientific Development Fellowship (2004 - 2005)

Additional training: AI Foundations, AI for UX, Digital Accessibility, Workshop Facilitation, Virtual Facilitation, Experimental Interaction Design, Mobile App Development, Public Speaking, Visual Design

Study exchange: University of Barcelona (2005)

Professional engagement: Interaction Design Association local leader, Brasilia (2008 - 2009)