

iNDABA



NDA
National
Development
Agency

AUGUST 2014 | VOL 1

**SURAYA
"BIBI"
KHAN**
AWARDED THE
ORDER OF
THE BAOBAB

SPECIAL FEATURE
POST OFFICE
DELIVERING SOLUTIONS

**EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT**
IS ABOUT DEVELOPING
COMMUNITIES

Yvonne Chaka Chaka

Princess of African development

**MAKHOSAZANE'S
GREEN FINGERS**



Securing food
for many

**BATHABILE
DLAMINI**
MINISTER OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT



Closing the
inequality gap

**DR VUYELWA
NHLAPO**
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OF THE NDA



New voice of
development



RE-DEFINING WASTE STREAM MANAGEMENT

The gradual increase of waste generated in South Africa has brought to the fore the inadequate nature of existing waste management services – leading to an increasingly polluted environment in which South Africans, particularly those in the informal sector, are forced to live.

Numerous challenges are currently being faced in the areas of waste management infrastructure, facilities as well as the maintenance thereof.

The legacy of landfill waste disposal has placed municipalities under increasing pressure and the need for a solution for the maintenance and management of waste as well as finding suitable land for waste disposal has reached critical proportions.

The challenge has left the country with no other option other than to seek measures to divert waste away from landfills to other waste management options such as the reuse, recycling and recovery of products, as well as energy generation.

While urbanisation has contributed to economic growth, rapid growth in the population has on the other hand overwhelmed the capacity of most municipalities to provide basic services for their communities.

Municipalities are constitutionally mandated to provide waste management services. Whilst endeavouring to provide services of storage, collection, transportation and disposal, they are also faced with challenges in the patterns of growth in the country, as well as the capacity to pay for, plan for and effectively manage waste throughout its life cycle.

Therefore it's important that there is a shift to the waste management hierarchy, this is where REDISA's (Recycling Economic Development Initiative of South Africa) tyre waste management plan comes into play. REDISA uses the waste into worth concept of taking old tyres through the recycling process and finally turning it into a product of value.

Since implementation about nine months ago, REDISA has gone full force on its operations which has led to the processing of 18 085 tonnes of waste tyres. In addition, through the roll-out of tyre waste depots, REDISA transporters will remove tyre waste from approximately 900 tyre retailers nationally in 2014.

REDISA is committed to developing this new waste management industry during which it also aims to create 10 000 new job opportunities in this sector over a five-year period.

WWW.REDISA.ORG.ZA

The Recycling and Economic Development Initiative of South Africa (REDISA) is a non-profit organisation whose aim it is to develop a sustainable South African tyre recycling industry through an Integrated Industry Waste Tyre Management Plan (IIWTMP).

**WE CAN DO SO MUCH
WITH REPURPOSED
WASTE TYRES**



**WASTE
INTO
WORTH**



REDISA^{NPC}
RECYCLING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA



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CAMPAIGNS FUNDING ADVICE KNOWLEDGE



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Princess of African development



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The South African Post Office

Six million books, one logistics solution



NDA
National
Development
Agency



Lunga Mangcu



Lesego Ranchu

NDA EDITORIAL BOARD

Editorial Director Lunga Mangcu

Editorial Assistant Lesego Ranchu

CONTACT

indabaeditor@nda.org.za
011 018 5516

UHURU EDITORIAL TEAM Publisher

Desmond Sampson
Email: desmond@uhurucom.co.za

Editor

Joseph Aranes
Email: joseph@uhurucom.co.za

CONTRIBUTORS

Angus Flowers, Shimoney Regter,
Tamsyn Coerecius, Lesego Ranchu,
Anton Ressel

DESIGN TEAM Art Director Design

Paul Sampson
Craig D'Oliveira, Mario Demas

Picture Researcher

Shadwick Daniels

Production Co-ordinator

Neriza Heeger

ADVERTISING SALES

Funeka Ntsume
Tel +27 21 657 4800
Cell +27 76 919 4705

STAKEHOLDERS RELATIONS

Kwena Methe
Cell +27 73 664 4781
Email: kwena@uhurucom.co.za

CEO

Thomas Sampson

ADMINISTRATION Accounts

Monique Fontaine

Subscriptions / Distribution

Viola Josephs
Email: viola@uhurucom.co.za

DESIGN BY

Uhuru Design Studio



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Uhuru Printers



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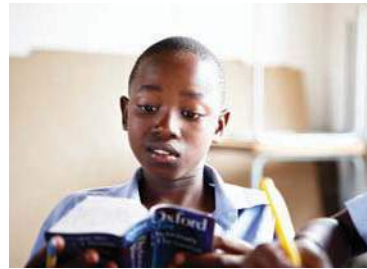
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Using community development to fast track South Africa's progress



“Community development must encourage economic development, but it also has to promote social development or self confidence of local people to justify its existence.” *Brokensha, David; Hodge, Peter (1969), Community Development; An Interpretation*

I call upon private sector corporate social investment representatives, parastatals, municipalities, civil society organisations and communities at large to start thinking of how, as a country, we could close the inequality gap.



It is my pleasure to launch this inaugural issue of *iNDAbA*, a publication that will serve as the voice of community development in South Africa, and hopefully, beyond our borders as well. As the Minister of Social Development, I continuously deal with community development issues across the country. I get to see the very vulnerable members of our society – women, children and people living with disabilities – facing development challenges every day. I know that there is a lot that we can do as a country to better the lives of our communities through the various development programmes that we all run, both in the public and private sectors.

This publication is the mouthpiece of grassroots development. I encourage all those involved in community development to use it as a platform to bring issues of mutual interest to the attention of readers of this publication. We all need to put our shoulders to the wheel and drive away the scourge of poverty, unemployment and inequality. It is through working together that we can move South Africa forward.

WHAT DOES DEVELOPMENT MEAN?

To me, it means building our societies together. It means getting involved in programmes that will leave a lasting legacy, such as investing in the education of our nation; starting with early childhood

development. It means assisting communities that are still lagging behind to join the mainstream 21st century in terms of using technology to fast-track development. It is about conceptualising community development programmes together to ensure long-term sustainability and community buy-in. Most importantly, it means ensuring that no child goes to bed hungry in a country endowed with so many natural resources.

I call upon private sector corporate social investment representatives, parastatals, municipalities, civil society organisations and communities at large to start thinking of how, as a country, we could close the inequality gap. Community development is critical to stability in our country.

This is your publication, your community development mouthpiece, use it to exchange ideas on how we can speed up the transformation process and close the gap between the rich and poor. Research shows that inequality is one of the causes of unstable societies.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the National Development Agency for coming up with a publication that will serve as the mouthpiece of community development.

I look forward to reading about various development issues and suggestions to move South Africa forward. ☺

Ms Bathabile Olive Dlamini
Minister of Social Development



You never know who the next Madiba will be.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, there is an estimated 125 deaths for every 1000 children under the age of 5. With only four children's hospitals in Africa, these are not enough to care for the health needs of our children. But with your compassion and spirit of giving, we can build the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital and improve our children's wellbeing so that they too can lead a nation.



Giving expression to the work of the development sector



© SCNPD



also a product of several years of listening to the expressions of our stakeholders and to increase awareness of the NDA brand. Over the recent past, the cry for such a platform has grown increasingly louder. We have therefore undertaken and commit ourselves quarterly to bringing to the front of our conversations and perspectives in the development sector through the launch of this product.

The theme of this edition is women empowerment, and to borrow from the 2014 international theme “inspiring change”. This edition will profile women and the different hats they wear in society to make an impact and bring about change. We find that women-led initiatives, including the projects we fund, have longevity and are sustainable. This is largely influenced by the fact that women are survivors, hard-workers and they demonstrate endurance – these are the big attributes in achieving developmental work.

There are women all over the world that are making strides to pursue their vision and are defining their future in their current situations. While women issues are universal, we African women need to work harder to find our own solutions that respond to our environment and contextual to our circumstances. The NDA is favourable to the empowerment of women; this is demonstrated in all our leadership structures. While we are not where we want to be, we have strategies and plans in place that will ensure that the female leadership profile is raised.

I hope that you will enjoy the offerings of this magazine – this is not our voice, it's a conversation we are starting with you wherever you are. ☺

Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo.

Welcome to the first edition of *iNDABA* – the voice of everything developmental. The content of this magazine will affect you in some way or another. The articles will cover a broad scope of topics and issues of interest and knowledge but most importantly, the articles require insight and action from you and me, and if we all contribute – it will result in improved and equal communities and society as a whole.

As a development agency, we are strategically positioned to share credible news and to connect relevant bodies to contribute to finding African solutions to our developmental challenges. Several developments define the month of August in South Africa but most significant is the annual 9th of August celebration of Women's Day, a public holiday that pays homage to the women of our nation who fought tirelessly against the oppression of the apartheid government.

iNDABA has been in the pipeline for some time and the launch was always going to be well timed and

memorable. It is for this reason we singled out August because it has an interesting date configuration. August 2014 has five Fridays, five Saturdays, and five Sundays. The next time the 2014 calendar repeats itself will be in the year 2025, 11 years from now – at this time, *iNDABA* will be the best development publication in the SADC region and beyond.

The magazine is aimed at the torch-bearers of the development sector, CSOs across our country, who everyday dedicate themselves to bridging the gap between the haves and have nots through their various initiatives; whom we are privileged to serve and from whom we continue to draw inspiration. Coupled with that, we want to reach the public and private sectors to partner and raise resources to reach more needy communities facing challenges in areas of food security, income generation, capacity building and early childhood development.

Lastly, we believe that every citizen of this country has time, skills and resources to make a contribution to development in their immediate environment. *iNDABA* is

MAKE
THINGS
HAPPEN



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MAKE

INFRASTRUCTURE
DEVELOPMENT

HAPPEN



By supporting the public sector that lets our communities thrive.

Through a sound understanding of and partnership with the public sector, Nedbank provides the funding and banking expertise needed to help the country achieve its corporate social investment targets. Just one of the ways we embrace our responsibilities to make a difference.

For more information email us at publicsector@nedbank.co.za



The NDA has reason to celebrate and be proud



South Africa has much to celebrate and to be proud of, but too often our achievements get lost in the hurly-burly of the news milieu across the country. And the old newspaper adage of “bad news sells” still takes preference over the good work ordinary people and agencies are doing to improve the lot of the needy and marginalised.

With the introduction of the *iNDABA* magazine, we want to pull back the layers of this rich tapestry that is South Africa and Africa and expose the great work being done, the achievements and stories of selfless people quietly going around doing their thing. We will unveil the smorgasbord of people, places and institutions that are making us as a nation and continent proud. The articles and editorials will be informative and accurate and the magazine will give a voice and

commentary to the work being done towards moving the country forward. It will act as an inspiration and a source of pride as it is presented to keep the public-at-large informed. *iNDABA* will strive, with the necessary bias, to reflect the inner workings of the NDA. The magazine will be a platform to showcase their financial performance, flagship projects, people management and skills development, as well as major achievements and accolades. It will become the NDA’s “official” source of information dedicated to highlighting the progress being made and challenges being overcome. It is hoped that by giving the public the information relating to the activities and operations of the NDA, they will have a better understanding of how the work impacts on their lives and they too can contribute and make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

As *iNDABA* will contribute to the development of sustainable projects in South Africa over and above those of the NDA, the publication will therefore be designed to speak to civil society at large and it is hoped will contribute in the ongoing campaigns and social cohesion among all our communities.

From an *iNDABA* perspective, we foresee that this will make our news and information gathering a whole lot easier going forward. We believe that our endeavours to depict these uplifting stories of the work being done across the country and continent and the inspiration drawn from the various role models depicted on the pages of the magazine will go a long way in correcting the skewed media coverage the developmental sector is getting. So join us as we embark on this journey of adventure and exploration in bringing home the “everyday heroes”. ☺



iNDABA will strive, with the necessary bias, to reflect the inner workings of the NDA.



iNDAbA

READER SURVEY

This is the launch edition of *iNDAbA* magazine – the official publication of the National Development Agency. Your feedback is important to us as we move forward. Please indicate on our website or Facebook page if you enjoyed reading the magazine and if you will continue to do so in the future.

<http://www.uhurucom.co.za/survey-form.html>

Please respond

FEEDBACK REQUIRED!!!

yes or no



Email: indabaeditor@nda.org.za | www.nda.org.za

Tel: +27 11 018-5500

<https://www.facebook.com/indabamagazine>



SOUTH AFRICAN EARLY CHILDHOOD AWARDS FIND A NEW HOME AT THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The annual South African Early Childhood Development Awards (SA ECD Awards) will be hosted in March 2015 by the new custodians, the National Development Agency (NDA). Entries of the competition open in August and close at the end of September for provincial and national categories.

The Awards, which reached their 10-year milestone in 2014, have for the past decade recognised best practices and outstanding participation in ECD through five categories:

- Best ECD Centre of the Year
- Best ECD Practitioner of the Year
- Best ECD Trainer of the Year
- Best Publication of the Year
- Best ECD Training and Intervention Programme of the Year

A new category, sponsored by UNICEF, Best ECD Programme Supporting Babies and Young Children with Disabilities, will be introduced this year.

ABSA are the previous custodians of the SA ECD Awards and have since inception been at the forefront of co-ordinating and sponsoring the Awards. Their departure is based on the corporate social investment shift that now focuses on youth skills development. The NDA, already a partner and sponsor of the Awards, took the opportunity to take over the Awards because ECD is a priority focus area of their operations.

"Our response to taking over the SA ECD Awards was a natural progression. The government has since 1994 prioritised ECD as an integral part of addressing and breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty. As the agency mandated to eradicate poverty, ECD has been on our books and focus since day one. Huge investments have been made in this area and we continue to do so. This financial year, 40% of our total grant funding budget has been allocated to ECD," says Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo, chief executive officer of the NDA.



Mr Gideon Serfontein, head of citizenship at Absa hands Mr Zolile Ngcakani, NDA board member, the token of goodwill.

The government has since 1994 prioritised ECD as an integral part of addressing and breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty.

The NDA already funds a considerable number of ECDs in areas of infrastructure, institutional capacity building, the training of practitioners and the establishment of food gardens. Last year, the NDA launched the Adopt-an-ECD Campaign that facilitates resource flows to unsupported and disadvantaged ECD centres in South Africa. So far, R500 000 has been raised and is being distributed to address basic ECD centre requirements. The centres are profiled and their needs listed on a portal available on www.ndacampaigns.co.za

Oversight of the SA ECD Awards is provided by a national steering committee,



Mr Gideon Serfontein and Mr Zolile Ngcakani light a candle to symbolise an eternal burning flame of success over the SA ECD Awards.

continued on page 12



Adopt-an-ECD campaign thank-you LETTER

We are pleased to share with you that the Adopt-an-ECD Campaign has been deemed a success by the National Development Agency (NDA) because of partnerships formed with the following organisations:

- Lego Education
- 10 Branding & Design
- KEV Accurate Measuring
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- Ascul
- BHP Billiton
- McCarthy
- Ithala Limited
- Old Mutual
- PSA
- Toys for Africa
- Standard Bank
- SALGA
- Tri-Star
- Umcebo Projects
- DS Radio
- MSW Engineering & Project Management Consultants
- SANEDI
- Sanlam

The campaign is aimed at increasing resource flows to early childhood development centres (ECDs) based throughout the country, not funded by the NDA due to limited resources. We have to date received, not only monetary contributions and educational materials, but also a further uptake of other ECDs that were not profiled on our portal – an indication of faith and the need for the campaign.

This campaign would not be a resounding success that it is without your involvement and partnership. On behalf of the NDA Board of Directors, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your commitment to making the launch a success. It was the vision of the Board of Directors and the Planning Committee to create awareness, establish partnerships and raise funds as well as educational tools for the underprivileged

early childhood centres. Your generous contribution has helped to make our vision a reality by helping to offset “an early start to a better future” and new opportunities for all the children who will benefit from the campaign.

As we continue with the roll-out of the campaign, please know that partnerships with our sponsors are vital to the achievement of the deliverables we have set for ourselves. Without the support of people like you, we would not be able to reach our goals.

Thank you once again for your generous support of our campaign. The campaign has been launched provincially in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and Gauteng. ☺

Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo

www.ndacampaigns.co.za



Bongani Magongo, executive director of research and development.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT POWERS NDA TO TRAIN 1 568 REGISTERED NPOs

The revitalised National Development

Agency's Capacity Building Programme received a financial boost from five provincial Departments of Social Development offices across the country to train 1 470 registered non-profit organisations (NPOs) on their databases. The target was exceeded and a total of 1 568 NPOs were trained in Limpopo, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape and North West.

The programme offers tuition in governance, financial, project and conflict management as well as resource mobilisation using manuals which are accredited by HWESETA. The National Development Agency Act mandates the Agency to "strengthen the institutional capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) involved in direct service provision to poor communities".

"We are pleased that the project was accomplished on time albeit the very tight deadlines. The faith shown by the department to delivering boosts our confidence and has provided a good pilot of what we can achieve in line with our strategy that wants to

sell this service to the rest of government, private sector, civil society and to the general public," explains Bongani Magongo, the NDA's executive director for research and development.

The undertaking of this project demonstrates the new strategic direction of the NDA; previously capacity building was limited to NDA-funded projects only. The overall aim and core product of the NDA is to strengthen NPOs skills on daily management operations and one of the new operations features is after-care support, evaluation and measurement of the training.

Nozibele Mkutswana of the Zamani Training Centre in the Eastern Cape had this to say about the training, "The training was helpful. We are more confident in our dealings now and our reporting has improved since we were trained in financial and project management. The project has not been trained in a long time as it costs a lot of money. We were happy to receive free training." ☺

... SOUTH AFRICAN EARLY CHILDHOOD AWARDS FIND A NEW HOME AT THE NDA

chaired by the NDA, which consists of the South African Congress for ECD, Departments of Social Development and Basic Education and UNICEF. ABSA remains on board as an advisory partner for the transition year. This partnership is based on a representation of crucial players in the ECD sector that can ensure that the format of the Awards is developmental and that it is in-line with government outcomes.

The Awards are currently only sponsored by the NDA (Best Centre) and UNICEF (Best Publication and Best Disability Programme). Other categories are still open for sponsorship where a sponsor who funds a cash prize will hold exclusive naming rights to the category. ☺

Entry forms are available from ECD networks in all 9 provinces; NDA and all partner organisations websites; NDA Advisory offices; NDA mobile libraries. Updates will be made via media platforms.

Send your interesting news and events to

iNDAbA



Email: indabaeditor@nda.org.za

www.nda.org.za



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY TRIPLES SERVICE POINT FOOTPRINT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Eighteen Advisory Offices have been

opened across the country to extend the services offered by the National Development Agency (NDA). Previously, only one office existed in each province now each province has 3 service points to serve civil society organisations (CSOs) with advisory services such as access to developmental information, registration of CSOs and basic online operational support.

“The move to expand our services was brought about by an outcry from our stakeholders of how inaccessible we were to the rural communities that we serve. As a responsive organisation, we decided to set up offices in two remote areas in each province where communities can come in and access information that will empower them and their situations,” explains Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo – CEO of NDA.

Advisory Centres are walk-in places where trained personnel provide information, counselling support, guidance, and referral services to members of the public, including women and youth. Trained personnel at Advisory Centres will also assist stakeholders with ideas on business plan development, access to finance, cooperative support as well as on how to use a computer (technology support). These centres make computers available for stakeholders to access internet information. They will also serve as resource centres where users can have access to reference materials such



CEO and DMD executive of the NDA with advisory officers during their induction.

books and journals. They are places where networking can also take place.

Morne Slippers visited a centre in Bethlehem and had the following to say, “I was impressed at the level of professionalism given to me by the lady employed at the Centre. She was knowledgeable, well spoken and explained everything in a patient matter. The reason for my visit was to enquire about ECD regulations and registrations.”

“The Advisory Centre located in Greenpoint, Northern Cape, is not particularly busy as people do not know what the office is about. We have initiated a programme that involves the community. For instance over the June holidays, we kept young children off the streets by engaging them in educational activities during a time that they would

ordinarily be at home with no stimulation,” says Moroese Mohlahli, Advisory Officer.

The Advisory Centres carry information on: ECD Training and Development, Food security, Enterprise Development (Income Generation), Capacity Building and resource materials. “The NDA aims to be seen, not only as a grant funding organisation, but as a resource that caters for the needs of communities and responds to the needs of individuals and organisations that do not have access to resources, much like the CSOs that we serve,” concludes Dr Nhlapo.

So far, the Advisory Centre located in Maponya Mall seems to be generating the most traffic. The locations and contact details of other Advisory Centres are available on www.nda.org.za

Helping hand for Tshwane crèches

The City of Tshwane has awarded 70 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres in and around the city at R100 000 each. The city said the once-off payment was meant to be spent on food, toys and training of ECD practitioners, among other things.

Every year, the City of Tshwane sets aside money to assist ECDs. The crèches have been identified as crucial in the holistic

development of children, laying the foundation for the rest of their journey through the school system.

Speaking at the handing over of cheques to ECD centres, the council’s deputy director in the early childhood development office, Natalie Mnisi, called on the practitioners to use the money for its intended purpose. In the past five years, access to

ECD services has been broadened significantly. The number of children in ECD centres directly subsidised by government has also increased from 432 727 to more than 545 347 in 2013. Earlier this year, Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini said more than one million children were accessing ECD services throughout the country.

– **SAnews.gov.za**

Princess of African development

BY ANGUS FLOWERS



Yvonne Chaka Chaka, renowned South African musician, and known to many as the “Princess of Africa” may be silent from the music industry but this has not kept her from spreading her wings elsewhere.

She today holds many portfolios, from UNICEF’s Special Ambassador on malaria in eastern and southern Africa to the global Roll-Back Goodwill Ambassador, to name but a few. But for Chaka Chaka, stopping the scourge of malaria is her main focus right now, as she goes around the world trying to secure funding from developed nations.

This inspirational lady has made her life’s mission the saving of lives of those on the African continent who cannot fend for themselves. Born in Dobsonville in Soweto, she was the first black child to appear on South African television in the 1981 talent show *Sugar Shack*. From there her career and admiration by the South African public grew by leaps and bounds.

But this songstress knows all too well about hardships and had a tough life growing up. Her father died when she was 11 and her mother, a domestic worker, raised her and her two sisters on a meagre salary. But that has not stopped her from







In Brussels advocating and raising funds for the GAVI



“My work as a goodwill ambassador is not only aimed at educating and informing communities about the prevalence of malaria, but also generating funds for the fight against the disease.



World Health Organisation’s facts about Malaria

- Malaria is caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected mosquitoes
- Every minute, a child dies of Malaria
- Early diagnosis and treatment of malaria prevents deaths
- Emerging artemisinin resistance is a major concern
- Sleeping under insecticidal nets protects against malaria
- Indoor residual spraying is the most effective way to rapidly reduce malaria transmission
- Pregnant women are particularly at risk of malaria
- Malaria causes significant economic losses in high-burden countries

achieving two diplomas from the University of South Africa, one in adult education and another in local government, management and administration. She also studied speech and drama at Trinity College, London, qualifying in 1997.

Apart from being a performer and an entrepreneur, she is a world-class motivational speaker with a passion for the importance of supporting women in business and the development of women. Since her appointment by UNICEF, Chaka Chaka has been a tireless campaigner for children, ensuring that her voice, unique talents and well-known personality are used to draw global attention to the terrible impact of malaria on Africa’s children.

In this role, she has travelled to several African countries to call upon policy makers to commit greater human and financial resources towards the fight to eradicate

malaria, and to communities where, through her interaction with ordinary people, she has positively influenced for the use of preventive tools, such as insecticide-treated nets.

Even though widespread use of insecticide-treated nets, indoor spraying and potent malaria medications have been credited with dramatically reducing malaria deaths in Africa, experts believe the disease still kills some 660 000 people each year – most of them young African children.

But Chaka Chaka’s commitment to social issues also extends to her untiring fundraising efforts and commitment to orphans, people living with HIV, illiteracy, terminal illness, abuse and poverty. “Malaria is a reality in Africa and even with the advances in medical technology, no vaccine for the disease has been found



Musical cast advocates at the world economic Forum 2013

yet. Even though there are medications that can treat people, if it is detected too late, they can die from the disease," Chaka Chaka says.

"My work as a goodwill ambassador is not only aimed at educating and informing communities about the prevalence of malaria, but also generating funds for the fight against the disease. When I go out and speak to communities about malaria, many people today still complain about access to medical treatment for the disease.

"Many of these people, especially those living in rural communities, have to walk many kilometres to the nearest clinic, and when they get there, they get faced with a shortage of medication. It is clear that many of our community members become despondent. My words to them always is to remember even though they did not get the first time, it does not mean that they will not get the medication to ensure their complete recovery," she added.

One of her other missions is generating funding for the work done to combat the fight against malaria. "I also very often speak to prospective donors about what their funds would mean to the fight against malaria, and how this, would be able to save the lives of those on the African continent," she stated. One thing she says however, which is very reassuring, is that from her experience, governments and especially those across Africa are trying their best to combat the scourge.

Her message to the people of Africa is simple: "Communities should become self-reliant. They should take the health and well-being of their fellow community members into their own hands. Our people





.....

“We need to give our people the knowledge they deserve in order to prosper. We need to give them what we promised, to educate them and to ensure their health because a healthy nation becomes a prosperous nation.”



should learn to go for immunisation. Make sure that your children are protected against these diseases, and that you work with community leaders too, and in so doing, carry the message over to the masses.”

In the meantime, a promising next-generation drug has been approved to move to Phase 1 human trials. The development was announced by researchers at a conference on malaria that also presented efforts to stop growing resistance by malaria parasites to artemisinin in southeast Asia.

She is adamant that the knowledge which she has gathered needs to be passed onto others so that we can use it to

save the lives of others. “We need to give our people the knowledge they deserve in order to prosper. We need to give them what we promised, to educate them and to ensure their health because a healthy nation becomes a prosperous nation.”

Today, the voice of legendary Chaka Chaka has also become the voice for these who suffer injustice and disease. Her wisdom and insight, combined with common sense and good judgment, have become evident in the dignity, poise, and courage she radiates especially with guiding and supporting those in need.

It is said that the only way to have a friend is to be one, and the Princess of Africa lives this principle. She has embraced an array of people from every walk of life. The diversity and quality of Chaka Chaka’s relationships are like her music – different notes blending together to create the perfect sound. This belief in the human family is at the core of her beliefs: “I would love for all people to be equal in the world and just to know that God loves us all.” ☺



Speaking in Brussels for the (GAVI) Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization Summit – 19 May 2014.

SIX MILLION BOOKS, ONE LOGISTICS SOLUTION

iNDaba talks to Post Office Logistics about their project to deliver six million school books in the Limpopo province, in time for the 2014 academic year.

The Limpopo province is enormous – almost 126 000 square kilometres in size. What were the challenges facing Post Office Logistics when you had to deliver text books to schools at the end of 2013?

Not only is the Limpopo province huge, it includes many rural areas. And of course, where there are people, there are schools. In these areas it is really crucial to deliver the books, because people who live there do not have easy access to shops. Ironically these are the areas that are poorly mapped, with rocky dirt roads and unmarked streets providing the only access. We did very extensive groundwork before starting with the project to make sure we got the routes and quantities of books right before we started.

How did Post Office Logistics cope under these circumstances?

We have access to the Post Office network, with 2500 points of presence all over South Africa. There is hardly a village without a Post Office presence, so we were able to use this network at grassroots level to make sure we plan our delivery schedule appropriately and realistically.

Some of the deliveries had to be done using 4x4 vehicles.

What numbers are we talking about for this delivery assignment?

We delivered roughly six million school books to 3 928 school province wide. To achieve this, we deployed eight very experienced permanent logistics employees from Cape Town and Gauteng to the project in Polokwane. These were very talented, dedicated employees who were determined that the project would succeed.



Colleen Gray, who oversaw the warehousing of the Limpopo textbook delivery project, says the team spirit of the people working on the project was exemplary. Here she appears with the men who made sure the forklift is stacked.

We deployed 250 local people from Polokwane as drivers, controllers, data capturers, van assistants, pickers and sorters. It was particularly gratifying that this also created local employment for the duration of the project.

We allocated a dedicated fleet of 50 vehicles and two forklifts to the project and this fleet was reduced as the project progressed.

The Lithotec textbook software system was used for this project. This is software for the tracking of the books giving tracking and status of the books through ISBN number, title, grade, publisher, component and school allocation. As a result, we always knew exactly what had been done and what still remained to be done.

In what space of time did you deliver the books?

SA Post Office Logistics delivered roughly six million textbooks within five weeks. This was followed by a mopping-up operation to deliver any outstanding items.

Are the text-book delivery projects an important part of your activities?

The SA Post Office Group is currently diversifying its sources of income and the delivery of textbooks forms part of these plans to diversify. It is also particularly



Two forklifts and 50 trucks were deployed specially for the school book delivery project.

gratifying to complete a project that really makes South Africa a better place.

Are there any other projects for income diversification at the SA Post Office Group?

We have proven with this project that we can successfully complete enormous logistics projects and we certainly strive to do more work of this nature. As far as mail volumes are concerned, we do see a drop in letter volumes, but parcel volumes are rising because online shopping is becoming more popular. We are also expanding our electronic communication offering, and it includes unique functions such as traffic fine payments.

One project by which businesses can benefit is our Trust Centre. It is the only homegrown, fully accredited solution for online verification of identity and transactions. ☺



SA Post Office Logistics acquired 26 new Mercedes-Benz and Fuso trucks at the end of 2012, making a huge improvement to the coverage and reliability of its fleet.

Post Office Logistics –

Whether you want to send a parcel overnight, make sure your bulk cargo is delivered securely, safely and on time, or start an online shop, the Post Office Logistics group can design a solution perfect for you.

"If you need to courier an item to its destination the next day – even a tiny town or village – we can do it. If you need to move bulk items in secure containers, we can also do that," says Nhlanhla Dube of SA Post Office Logistics. The reason for this broad range of products is the fact that the Logistics unit consists of XPS couriers, Speed Services Couriers and PX freight company.

Dube says the unique advantage of Post Office Logistics is its ability to design special solutions. "One of our more unusual operations is delivering tiny citrus moths from the Lowveld, where they hatch, to citrus farmers in the Western Cape," he says. "The moths fertilise flowering citrus trees

and without them, there would be no fruit production. We are able to transport them in special containers where their wellbeing is not impacted in any way."

On an altogether less fragile level, SA Logistics delivered the 2013 budget supplements for newspapers countrywide overnight from Cape Town where they were printed. This was done under strict security measures and delivery was done overnight, in time for inclusion with newspapers nationally.

Similarly, it delivered more than 41 million items for the national census in 2011 to be conducted, and returned the completed material to Stats SA – entirely within deadline.

But Post Office Logistics can be flexible even for individual retail customers. Speed Services Couriers focuses on retail customers and is available at all Post Office counters. It offers the most affordable courier service in South Africa in

Contact details for Post Office Logistics:
Speed Services: 0860 023 133
PX and XPS: 0860 000 977



Speedy processing is essential for all courier products. This conveyor belt is in the Speed Services hub at OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg.



PX-delivers-census36

from a letter to bulk frozen freight

the form of its counter-to-counter service. A courier item can be handed in more than 2,000 Post Office counters across the country for delivery the next day. For account holders, Speed Services will pick up items from the customer's door for next-day delivery. Both sender and receiver can track items via the web, a call centre or by sending an sms.

Speed Services Couriers recently introduced a cash-on-delivery facility for business owners. This eliminates stand-offs where consumers are wary about paying online for an item they have not yet received, and the business runs the risk of cash flow problems where consumers are slow to pay their orders. With this option, the customer pays at the post office counter when he receives the item. The money is paid over to the sender within 24 hours.

XPS couriers, a subsidiary of SA Post Office Logistics, focuses on the business-to-business market. Reaching 3,200

destinations daily, the company offers peace of mind through delivery confirmation documents that are electronically captured. Clients can choose to receive images of proofs of delivery as hard copies, on CD or on XPS website.

Thanks to the web access, proof of delivery can be checked from any smart phone, tablet or computer worldwide.

The subsidiary PX targets mainly the niche freight market made up of retailers and related business sectors. It focuses on moving consolidated loads of up to three tons in tailor-made containers right to the client's doorstep, offering a three-day loose consignment service.

Post Office Logistics has forged alliances with postal operators in neighbouring countries for courier services, including Swaziland, Botswana and Namibia, making it possible to offer a particularly cost-effective service.





PX used its high-security container system to transport the items for Census 2012.

Post Office Logistics –

Individual retail customers also deserve flexibility. Speed Services Couriers, available at all Post Office counters, offers the most affordable counter-to-counter courier service in South Africa. A courier item can be handed in at more than 2,000 Post Office counters for delivery the next day. And for account holders, Speed Services Couriers will collect items from the customer's door for next-day delivery. Both sender and receiver can track items via the web, call centre or sms.

During the past financial year, the Courier and Freight Group (CFG) – consisting of PX, XPS and Docex – showed a 5% growth in revenue year on year.

Nhlanhla Dube of Post Office Logistics attributes this to improved client relations. "We make sure our clients receive personal service," he says. "Dedicated account managers

focus on the needs of our major account holders. I believe this is why we were awarded more Government projects in the recent past."

Not only that, the Group also uses a quality control system where all problems – such as late departures of aeroplane flights and roadworks that delay road transport – are logged. Logistics experts then immediately develop solutions that can help recover lost time.

"This is why our delivery statistics show we now deliver more than 97% on time," says Dube. It needs to be borne in mind that this is measured over a vast national network that includes remote and rural destinations.

All delivery documents are electronically captured, which improves efficiency and helps to reduce theft and fraud.

Contact details for Post Office Logistics:
Speed Services: 0860 023 133
PX and XPS: 0860 000 977



All items sent via the Post Office Logistics group are scanned at each point where they are handled and can therefore be tracked throughout their delivery route. This employee is scanning items at the Speed Services processing hub at OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg.



PX delivered 42 million items on time for the previous census.

in partnership with local government

Clients can receive proof of delivery as hard copy or on the CFG website.

The website also makes it possible for clients to track their items on line from collection to delivery, and to check the status of their account at any time. This makes financial control much easier.

Supported by an extensive countrywide network, CFG is making use of its unrivalled reach via its holding company, the South African Post Office, to distribute antiretroviral medication to hospitals and clinics throughout the country.

The organisation continues to partner government in other important respects, such as the delivery of school books in the Northern Cape and, for the 2014 school year, also in Limpopo. The group delivered school books in the

provinces before the schools opened for the 2014 school year, with only mop-up operations left to do where issues became apparent during the course of the academic year.

Limpopo is a vast province with schools in very remote, isolated areas. The Post Office Group was able to fulfil the delivery requirements largely because of the network of post offices throughout rural areas. As a result the group always has representation at grassroots level and is also able to use existing delivery routes where applicable.

“These projects are an indication of our commitment to help government fulfil its service delivery obligation,” says Dube. “And it’s a philosophy we are wholeheartedly supporting. It’s not only about cost, it’s also about being a good citizen.”



Queen Mother Semane Molotlegi

BY LESEGO RANCHU



The Royal Bafokeng Nation is the homeland of the Bafokeng people, a Setswana-speaking traditional community. The monarchy covers some ground in the North West Province of South Africa. The capital is Phokeng, near Rustenburg. “Bafokeng” is used to refer to both the tribal grouping as well as the land its members inhabit. The Kingdom’s current ruler is Kgosi (King) Leruo Molotlegi, who has reigned since 2000.

In celebrating Women’s month, we saw it fitting to sit down with the Queen Mother of the Bafokeng nation – a nation rich with traditions, culture and self-reliance. Mmemogolo (Our Great Mother, as she is fondly named) is an image of tranquility, grace and humility. One cannot help but feel charmed by her presence. The business of the day is to engage and speak about matters close to Mmemogolo’s heart and soul.

Several symbols start drawing a picture of the core of the Royal Bafokeng community: their flag/logo bears an illustration of a crocodile (the Bafokeng are originally Bakwena people and they still honour the crocodile as their totem). The crocodile of peace has

long been the recognised totem of the Bafokeng people: the short tail and only two legs, is representative of a human being. The short tail, and closed mouth, also emphasises non-aggression as the Bafokeng people believe that a long tail would imply aggressiveness. The posture of the crocodile denotes movement towards water, which the Bafokeng believe to be a sign of contentment. This results in a common expression, used at meetings, “A e wele mo Metsing”, loosely translated means “Let there be peace”.

Her Majesty speaks of these very values when asked about what defines them as a nation. “The Bafokeng are a hard-working nation that takes their fate into their hands. As a nation we have achieved much, including improving our road and public service infrastructures. We simply augment what the government has already done and where we have taken initiative, we invite government to govern. For instance, we have built schools, however, we cannot run them and therefore rely on the partnerships we have with government to ensure sustainability. We are no different from anyone. All that we do is for the benefit



Her Royal Majesty Queen Mother Semane Molotlegi with Lesego Ranchu.

of everyone – if you live among us, you are one of us”.

It is recorded that in 1925, the world’s largest deposits of platinum group metals were discovered on Bafokeng lands. Mining companies now pay royalties to the royal Bafokeng Nation in exchange to mine the platinum metals. Royal Bafokeng Holdings, the investment entity of the Nation’s wealth fund, is responsible for overseeing the growth and maintenance of the community’s income streams. It is considered to be Africa’s most progressive community investment model. RBN is invested in royalties and dividends in a number of projects, civic administration and social services.

Rustenburg is a mining area and is flavoured by the mixture of immigrants throughout the country and beyond borders. Her Majesty emphasises that all resources are available to everyone, equally. “The very unfortunate incident at Marikana gave us an opportunity to rally

together to find solutions. People lost their fathers, brothers, husbands – together we must make sure that it never happens again. We appreciate the rallying together of organisations and civilians in the support we received from the South African community.”

Selflessness and adaptability are two attributes that cannot be separated from any community development practitioner or foot soldier. “Community development lies deeply in my heart and is something I dedicate much time to. I wake up in the morning for a meeting, I then visit a clinic, later I am in the food gardens with women in my community – in other words, it means one wears many hats in one day to build communities” explains Her Majesty. She also believes that leadership has nothing to do with gender, “A leader is a leader. Different scenarios and situations allow everyone to be a leader, how you respond will determine whether you are a leader in that situation or not. My advice to other current and future leaders is that they always display integrity, the value of the position and apologise when situations call for it. Leaders are not dressed in costumes; they too are human and are

open to making mistakes. However, it is important to respond appropriately and even in those situations, continue to lead and be exemplary”.

Mmemogolo holds many positions of leadership and believes that a leader who cannot take decisions is not leading effectively. “Job descriptions, in my view, sometimes stifle community development work. Decisions need to be taken on the ground, as and when they happen. A community worker doesn’t have a job description – they do what needs to be done at the time to improve the situation at hand.”

Mmemogolo in her relaxed time enjoys choral music, spending time with her grandchildren and imparting knowledge as much as she can. She spends many days at the home and royal residences in Phokeng. She is a busy lady, the work of a development practitioner is never finished, but never busy to lend an ear and allow iNDABA an opportunity for an interview! “Development starts somewhere, we have to harness the little things as they form, how do they get big if never from small,” concludes Her Majesty. ☺

Madiba's dream to become a reality



Even when he couldn't remember most things, the one thing that the late former President Nelson Mandela constantly asked was: "Where are we with the children's hospital?" And as the icon's health continued to deteriorate in recent years, he continuously conveyed his wish for South Africa to have a state-of-the-art children's hospital that would pay attention to the health needs of children in Southern Africa.

Recently the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund CEO Sibongile Mkhabela, as the world prepared to celebrate Madiba's birthday on 18 July, six months after his death, announced that construction had finally begun and the hospital was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2016. The Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital is being built in Parktown, Johannesburg.

There could not have been a better birthday gift for the man who loved children dearly and had given up part of his salary as President to a fund he had set up to help needy children across South Africa.

"We are very excited. This has been Tata's passion. His last activity with us was dedicating a site on which the hospital will be built. We have now broken ground. It's exciting. We are starting and we are on schedule to open our doors in 2016," said Mkhabela.

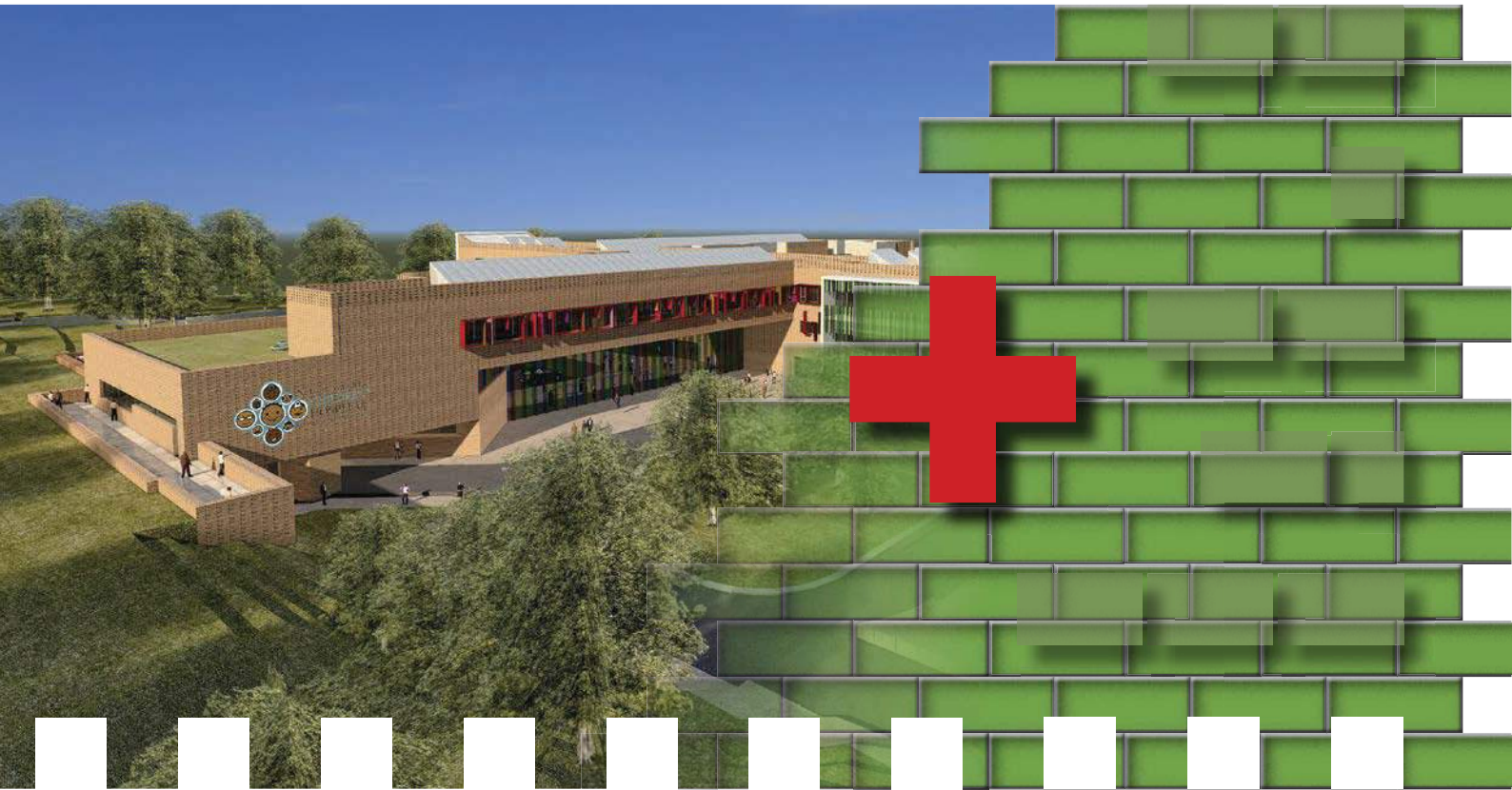
As seen in his many interviews throughout his presidency, children were very close to Mandela's heart. When he spoke about children, it was a father talking more than a distinguished President. He had not seen children for 27 years while he was incarcerated. He was not there to bury his teenage son who died in the late 60s. He was also absent when his daughters grew up, and the youngest of them Zinzi was only allowed to see her father when she turned 16.

"It was a personal thing for him. His time with children was something he felt was taken away from him for a very long time. So when he established the Children's Fund, he talked about his vision for the children of this country. He felt if we built a society where children are puzzled by

warmth and love, we've got it wrong. He created an organisation that would ensure that the children are treated the way they should be treated. He then wanted to ensure their health was taken care of – hence the idea of the children's hospital."

There are only four children's hospitals in the entire African continent and for an economy of its size; Mkhabela says it's always been "baffling" that South Africa has only one dedicated child health institution – that being the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town.

The Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital is expected to employ around 150 doctors and 451 paediatric nursing professionals. "It's a Southern African hospital. It is important that we work in the children's hospital as a Mandela legacy. His view was for any country or continent to be strong, it has to have its own knowledge base and having children cared for is one thing but building up on how we treat them when they are sick is very important," said Mkhabela.



Sibongile Mkhabela, CEO of Nelson Mandela Children's Fund



“It’s a Southern African hospital. It is important that we work in the children’s hospital as a Mandela legacy.”



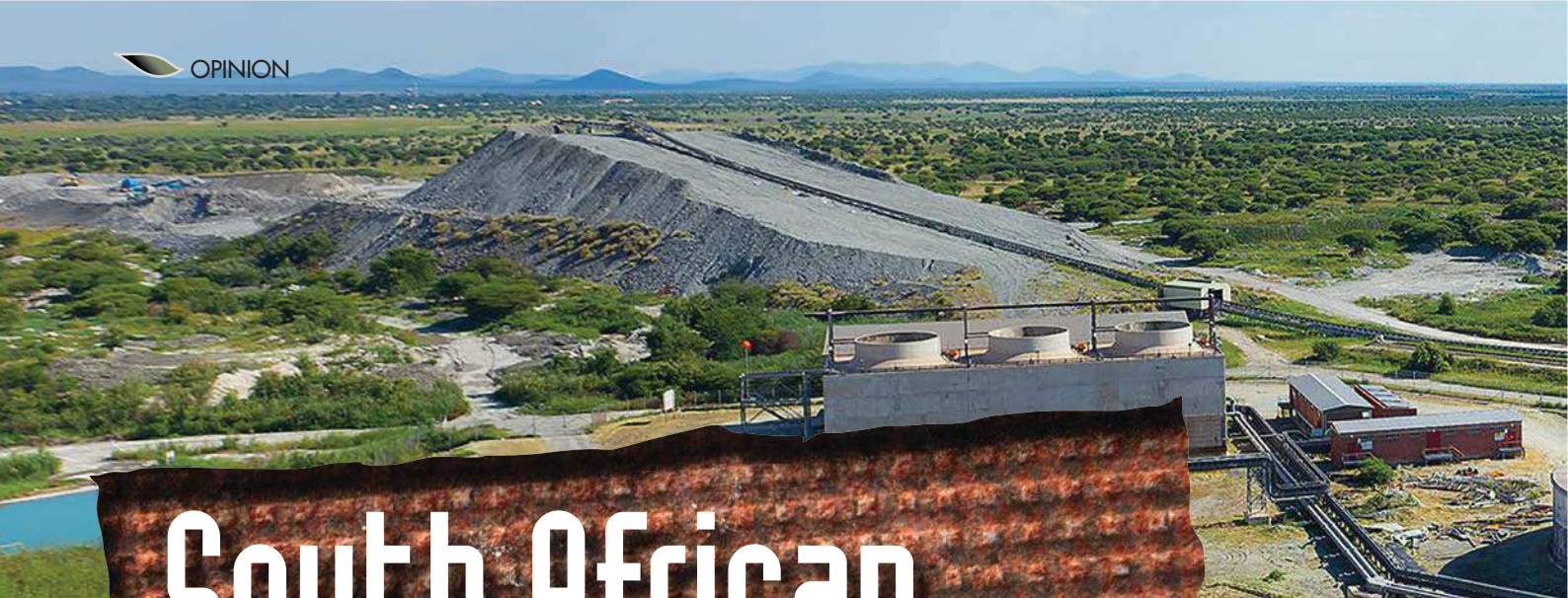
Currently, the biggest issue in the agenda of the United Nations concerning children is that greater care be taken to ensure that they survive the first 1 000 days of their lives. South Africa is among five countries that are least performing when it comes to child maternal survival. The paediatric healthcare system is behind all documented health-related Millennium Development Goals to reduce child mortality. The creation of a tertiary and quaternary paediatric facility is in line with the national Health Department’s “modernisation of tertiary services” plan.

Mkhabela says the establishment of the Nelson Mandela Children’s Hospital will further assist the government by freeing much needed funding required for primary and secondary healthcare.

“We had to be thorough in our research leading up to the establishment of this institution. From the time he dedicated the site, we spent a lot of time in building a business case making sure that all partners were on board. We had to have the national Department of Health on board because we will be providing tertiary services that are under their ministry.”

But it hasn’t been an easy journey for fundraisers. Initially, the project was estimated to cost around R1 billion. That figure was scaled down to around R750 million after specialists from healthcare group Medi-clinic revisited all the plans and architectural drawings for the project.

More than R570 million has been raised and of that amount, R100 million came from Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation. But, it’s also worth noting that a number of commitments were also made at Mandela’s passing, by those who wanted to make sure that his wish for the hospital was fulfilled. – **SAnews.gov.za**



South African Mines

Mine researchers speaks up

BY TAMSYN COERECIUS

Did you know that South Africa dominated the production of gold in the 20th century and in 1970 the country accounted for 79% of the world's production?

In 1867, the first ever documented diamond was found on the banks of the Orange River in South Africa. This was when South Africa was put on the map as a country known for its large scale and profitable mining. Today more than 200 years after the first discovery of a chunk of coal which turned into a masterpiece, South Africa still fulfils the role as a cornucopia of exuberant mineral treasures.

The mining sector has over the years helped create hundreds of thousands of jobs and the economy of South Africa. The Chamber of Mines, an organisation recognised as the voice of mining in South Africa, stated that the mining industry accounts for more than 500 000 direct and 500 000 indirect jobs.

The National Development Agency, a state-owned entity whose main mission is to contribute towards the eradication of poverty and elimination of its causes, fully supports the eight pillars of the Millennium Development Goals which are: the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/malaria, ensuring environmental stability and global partnership for development.

As the mining sector takes top position in ensuring the continued flourishing of the economy in South Africa, the recent strike on the Platinum Belt had become a huge concern because of potential negative impact on the overall economic development of the country.

An article in the *Mail and Guardian* recently stated that the mining industry saw a decrease of 88% in profits, following



Melody Kweba

the recent five-month platinum strike. Terry Bell, a labour columnist at *Fin24* and *City Press* says that the eminent sale of the Amplats mines poses great concern for the mine workers. "The biggest concern will evidently be job losses. Stakeholders and directors will continue to benefit and profits will continue to be made, but it will be at the expense of greater suffering as a result of joblessness for mineworkers." Bell adds that this may also increase the potential for more social instability.



.....

“It is impossible to be productive if you are living in a zinc shack in an informal settlement and you are underfed and you work in the appalling health and safety conditions found in South African mines ...”

Melody Kweba, President of the South African Women in Mining Association (SAWIMA) says that during the recent strike, women and children of those mineworkers suffered the most. “They were completely dependent on income generated and for five months they received nothing.”

David van Wyk, lead researcher for the Bench Marks Foundation said many strikes have their genesis in the huge wage gaps between the workers and the owners and that this strife would continue until it was resolved in a manner which was acceptable to all the relevant parties.

Van Wyk says that the Chamber of Mines states that Australian mine workers are much more productive than local mine workers. The organisation also stated that Australian mines are much more capital intensive and that their mining costs are much lower than in South Africa.

The researcher who has been doing research and reports on mines since 2005 says that there are many factors that can influence the way South African mine workers work in comparison with the work produced by their counterparts. “It is impossible to be productive if you are living in a zinc shack in an informal settlement



David van Wyk

and you are underfed and you work in the appalling safety conditions found in South African mines.”

Kweba agrees that mine workers need to be taken care of. “In South Africa there is a Mining Charter and one of the pillars is better living conditions for mine workers. If these mine workers are taken care of, their attention will not be divided.”

Van Wyk often speaks about the salary gap between mining bosses who rake in big bucks and the peanuts earned by the workers. “Why is it that countries like Canada and Australia, with similar histories both in development and mining as our own, are able to pay their mine workers more? If CEOs can earn globally competitive incomes, why not our workers?” He says the lack of management by these

CEOs is partly the reason why there are continued strikes.

He adds that although unhappiness in any workplace is evident, much can be done in terms of the strikes. He says that proper and affordable rental accommodation needs to be provided to these mine workers. Their living and working environments, in terms of health and safety, also need to be improved. He urges that in each job, career pathing needs to be seen and mine workers also need to know if they have a future.

Kweba says that the wages of these mine workers are ludicrous, compared to what their bosses earn. “It will take a mine worker more than a lifetime to get to half of what those top managers get.”

As a woman in a predominantly male industry, Kweba believes that women should be empowered in this industry. She says SAWIMA is taking the necessary steps to ensure women understand the mining industry better. “We organise workshops, conferences and mine visits so that women can understand the industry better.”

Van Wyk believes that mining should be slowed down as the country’s mineral resources will be depleted before it migrates to a higher level of economics.

In terms of South Africa being more in control, he says nationalisation and socialisation are great options. He believes the hard work of these mine workers needs to be taken into account and only then will productivity grow and economic growth will be seen. “The dignity of South African workers needs to be respected and their output and contribution properly rewarded.”



TOWARDS PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT

BY LONWABO GANELO

The National Development Plan (NDP) has been lauded as one of South Africa's crucial documents in giving insight and direction to a South Africa desired by all by 2030. Artistically, it depicts a picture of a South Africa desired by all, and in actuality the NDP delegates the different roles and responsibilities that need to be played by the different sectors of society in order to paint the perfect picture.

The key objective of the plan is to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. Trevor Manuel, chairperson of the National Planning Commission, says this plan will realise this and other secondary objectives by "drawing on the energies of South Africans, growing an

inclusive economy, building capabilities, enhancing the capacity of the state and promoting leadership and partnerships throughout society".

The NDP contends that 18 years into democracy, the country remains a highly unequal society where too many people live in poverty and too few are employed. The quality of school education for most black learners is poor. The apartheid spatial divide continues to dominate the landscape. A large proportion of young people feel that the odds are stacked against them and the legacy of apartheid continues to determine the life opportunities for the vast majority.

The continuous challenge of inequality calls for renewed efforts to address this

legacy by civil society, the government and various sectors in society. The National Development Agency (NDA) Act of 1998 encourages the NDA to contribute towards the eradication of poverty and its causes by granting funds to civil society organisations and strengthening of civil society organisations' capacities involved in direct service provision to poor communities.

It is for this fundamental reason that the NDA regards the NDP as a crucial guide to promulgating its core mandate. The mandate requires the NDA to build and enhance capacities of these organisations through well-designed and efficiently executed capacity building interventions to strengthen organisational efficiency,



Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo

operational excellence and sustainability to better deliver services to poor communities.

The NDA, in its years of existence, has gained experience by working with civil society organisations in rural and poor communities. This has enabled the NDA to invest in processes, infrastructure and capacity-building models to support non-profit organisations (NPOs) in the country. Since its initiation, the NDA has managed to contribute towards poverty alleviation through providing grant funding to civil society organisations to the value of R1.1 billion.

“This amount does not begin to address the tip of the challenge of poverty in poor communities. The NDA therefore acknowledges limited funding

from the government that has prevented it from expanding its footprint to all poor communities. It is for this reason that the NDA has identified, as part of its strategic thrust, mobilising resources and building partnerships with other development partners,” says Dr Vuyelwa Nhlapo, the NDA’s chief executive officer.

Just like the NDP and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the NDA recognises the crucial role of CSOs (civil society organisations) in the development of South Africa, a role that stems from the Reconstruction and Development Plan (RDP), which states: “Many social movements and community-based organisations (CBOs) will be faced with the challenge of transforming their activities

from a largely oppositional mode into a more developmental one.

“To play their full potential role, these formations will require capacity building assistance. This should be developed with democratic government facilitation and funded through a variety of sources. A set of rigorous criteria must be established to ensure that the beneficiaries deserve the assistance and use it for the designated purposes. Every effort must be made to extend organisations into marginalised communities and sectors like rural black women ...” (ANC 1994:131).

The NDA’s strategy contributes to the NDP in programmes related to early childhood development, food security, income generation and capacity-building.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Food Security

CAPACITY BUILDING

INCOME GENERATION



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The NDA strives to ensure that children in ECD centres access nutritious food through funding of food gardens. In order to fulfil this function effectively, the NDA has to work very closely with the Department of Health to identify what constitutes nutritious food particularly for children.

In addition to food gardens, the NDA continues to provide capacity building to the ECDs. In particular, this capacity building looks at strengthening the institutional, leadership and management capacity of ECD sites. To ensure that children in rural areas and informal settlements, where there are infrastructure challenges, access ECD, the NDA works with the provincial Departments of Social Development to roll out mobile ECD libraries. These mobile ECDs engage remote areas which do not have access to ECD facilities. On designated days, qualified practitioners visit and teach through various stimulating and educational programmes.

FOOD SECURITY

The NDA funds agricultural projects through grant provision to food security related community-based projects. These projects particularly target communities with high levels of malnutrition and hunger. In achieving this, the NDA works in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Experience has shown that youth is not interested in agriculture, deeming it

as "uncool and dirty". However, efforts have been made to target youth and women to work in these food gardens with the aim of also identifying employment opportunities and strengthening their skills in food security interventions.

The NDA further contributes to food security through continuous research on the status of food security in the country. Policy development, lobbying and advocacy feature high on the agenda of food security as a contribution of the NDA to the National Development Plan.

INCOME GENERATION

As a way of addressing unemployment, the NDA funds income generation projects and programmes that will see resourcing sustainable innovation projects. The NDA targets women, youth and people with disabilities to enable participation in the mainstream economy. The NDP has put a target of 11 million jobs created by 2030. In the medium-term expenditure framework, the NDA will contribute to this number by 1 549 jobs and will continue to put targets that will see the NDA contributing significantly.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The NDA has been providing structured capacity-building interventions for its funded NPOs since its inception. The NDA over the years has invested in processes, infrastructure and capacity-building models to support NPOs in the country. Following the NPO summit held in August 2012, the

Ministerial Council (MINMEC) resolved that NDA would provide capacity building to NPOs.

This provides an opportunity for the NDA to contribute particularly in addressing the capabilities and skills required to address the challenges espoused in the NDP. The capacity building approach, which was developed by the NDA in 2013, is anchored on grant funding and capacity building. The grant funding component will focus on funding NPOs operating in the areas of income generation, food security and early childhood development from the NDA grant funding allocation.

The capacity-building component will provide a range of skill interventions aimed at all NPOs that require capacity strengthening based on assessments of needs. For the NDA, the NDP along with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have played a crucial role in how development on a broader prospect should be approached.

The NDA recognises the crucial and urgent need for civil society, the private sector and the government to have extensive interventions to ensure that development does indeed take place. "Poverty cannot be alleviated in isolation. Through partnerships and further empowering of civil society organisations, the vision of the NDP can and will be realised much sooner than 2030," concludes Dr Nhlapo. *ew*

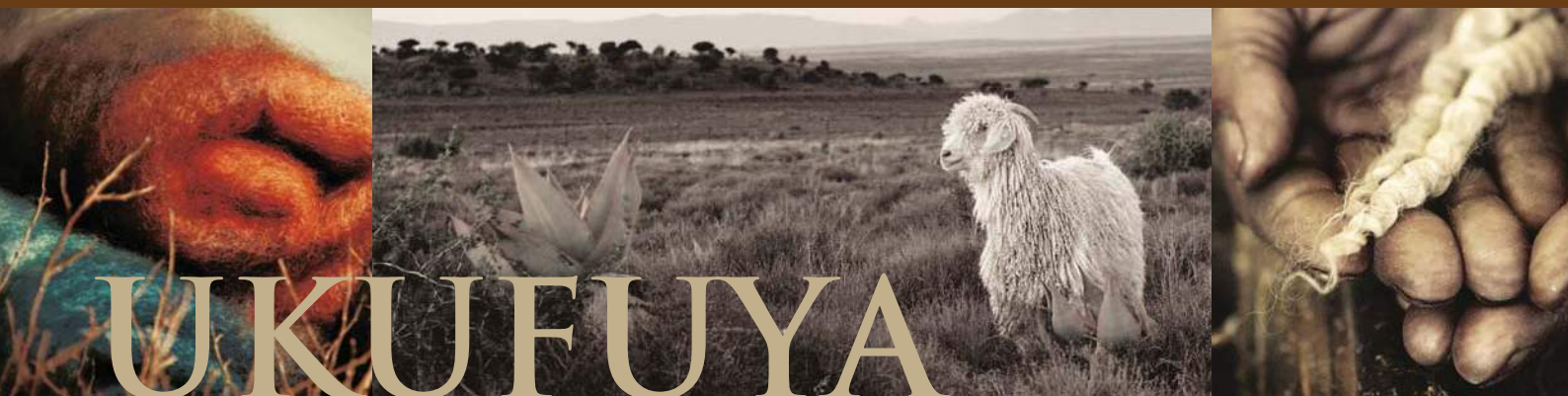


MOHAIR EMPOWERMENT TRUST

THE EMPOWERMENT TRUST OF THE MOHAIR INDUSTRY

Established proudly to promote Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) within the Mohair Industry, The Empowerment Trust seeks to provide training and support to the small holder mohair farmers in order to improve capacity to start and manage agricultural operations. The main business activity of the Trust is aimed at ensuring that previously disadvantaged individuals are empowered and may gain access to the benefits offered by the industry. The ultimate goal is to establish them (Small holder farmers) as commercial mohair producers that are financially independent, running profitable and sustainable Angora goat operations.

The Empowerment Trust collaborates closely with the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Department of Agriculture Provincial Government of the Western Cape, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and Local and National Government in seeking the promotion of BEE within the Mohair Industry. Funding from Government Departments, Private Sector, industry role players and international donors will make this initiative possible.



INVOLVEMENT OF THE EMPOWERMENT TRUST

The Empowerment Trust is involved in BEE projects grouped as follows:

- Mohair Training Centres
- Commonage Farmers
- Black Commercial farmers
- Communal Farmers

WHAT THE EMPOWERMENT TRUST PROVIDES

- Training, Mentorship and Skills transfer.
- Facilitates the supply of Angora goats, dips and doses.
- Facilitates the supply of farm infrastructure through Partnership Agreements with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture for the development of Angora goat farmers as well as commodity training initiatives, particularly in the Eastern and Western Regions.



LONG TERM OBJECTIVE

The long term objective of the Empowerment Trust is to see **successful** small holder farmers and commercial farmers living next to each other as good **neighbours**.

OUR NEEDS

- Mohair training farm
- Donor funding for projects

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Development Officer: **Mr. Bongani Ndhlovu**
Tel: 041 487 1386 • Fax: 041 487 1336
E-mail : bongani@mohairempower.co.za



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

is about developing communities

BY ANGUS FLOWERS



before when the child is born, until when the child enters Grade 1.

Atmore believes, despite the concept not being unique to South Africa, the extended care of both the mother and the child, both pre and post birth, has its roots in Africa. "Early childhood development in Africa has for many years been more than just a few lessons taught to a child before he or she enters the schooling system. The government today prides itself in caring for a mother before the birth of the child and provides free healthcare for that child until the age of six," he stated.

"International research has shown that a child, who has quality early childhood development, is likely to perform better, is less likely to get involved in drugs and gangsterism, is more likely to become employable as an adult, and with regards to teenage girls – are less likely to fall pregnant. They are also socially, educationally and economically more beneficial to society," adds Atmore.

A study conducted by the High-Score Educational Research Foundation in the United States, found during a cross benefit analysis, that for each US \$1 ploughed

The concept of early childhood development is more than just that of a child attending a crèche.

It has to do with the holistic development of the child, and related to healthcare, the child's social skills, as well as his or her development.

Eric Atmore, a leading childhood development expert and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Social Development at the University of Cape Town and Director of the Centre for Early Childhood Development, says despite the theory being questioned before, it's now accepted that childhood development ranges from





Professor Eric Atmore



into an early childhood development programmes, US \$16 is the return on investment reaped by society once these children have grown up.

Leonard Saul, CEO of the South African Congress for Early Childhood Development, agrees saying there are three main options they support. "The first would be that the mother rears the child, but due to economic circumstances, this is not always possible. The next best option would be that the child enters an ECD programme where the child would be exposed to social development skills and his or her intellectual capacity can be built. Another advantage would be that the child's nutritional needs are seen to and that the child is protected during the day. If this is however not possible, children could participate in supervised play groups, to ensure the development of these skills," Saul adds.

"Today, we have huge challenges facing South Africa. There is a vast shortage of skills, especially among young people following the completion or their dropout from school. "These young people are ill-equipped for the world of work and lack the necessary skills which would allow them to even study further. This is but one of the reasons why we have unemployment of close to five million people in South Africa. They lack basic foundational numeracy and literacy," Atmore stated.

Atmore believes the equation is simple. The better early childhood

development a young person receives, the better qualified they will be.

The proof of this is in the amount of children who pass Matric on a yearly basis, in comparison to those who enrolled 12 years prior. "For every 100 children who enrol in Grade 1, a mere 33% of them will eventually go on to complete their schooling. Of them even a smaller fraction will go onto study a vocation or trade," Atmore added.

In this country, he says, unfortunately one's socio economic status often determines your success in life. But this, he adds is busy changing. Through government initiatives, the government is fulfilling its promises entrenched in the Children's Act and various other white papers spelling out provisions for the protection of children and their rights. With only 2% of the annual education budget being spent on early childhood and pre-schools, more still needs to be done.

Saul seems to agree with this statement. "There are many factors which bear down on ECDs. Here we need to look at the type of care giver or teacher we train. The actual facilities where children are minded at, the access this gives them to basic education as well as the financing around ECDs. Government will need to make a concerted effort to increase funding to ECDs. Currently a learner attending an ECD centre receives a subsidy of R15 per day," Saul adds. He says from this a stipend must go to the teacher and this subsidy must also see to the child's daily nutritional and educational needs.

NGOs are the main supporters and providers of home-based Early Childhood Development programmes in South Africa. Through interventions, such as the nourishment of mothers before the birth of their children and free healthcare for children till the age of six, we have ensured a drop in infant, child and maternal mortality in South Africa.

"As long as government keeps its promises to keep their part and parents create an enabling learning environment at home, and with support of communities, we will together be able to greatly improve the concept of 'it takes a community to raise a child', through working together." *ω*



Leonard Saul

“For every 100 children who enrol in Grade 1, a mere 33% of them will eventually go on to complete their schooling.”





The award won by the co-operative in August 2013 for "Top Women Awards".



Marcel de Jong – Mentor from Belgium assigned to assist Ikhwezi co-operative with Makhosazane Sambo – Ikhwezi project manager.



Makhosazane's green fingers

secure food to many in Mpumalanga



Awards such as Female Farmer of the Year, Top Women in Civil Society Awards are a testament of the quality of products produced at the farm.



Ikhwezi Vegetable and Poultry Farming Co-operative is a women-led, multi-award-winning community development project located on the banks of Komati River in Skhwahlane village, Mpumalanga. At the helm of this 18 hectare empire, since inception in 1996, is Makhosazane Sambo – who was groomed from a young age to farm while growing up in the same village.

Loosely translated her name means “women”, and true to her name, she has brought together many more women to team up, work, learn and to make a valuable contribution to their livelihoods and the progression of the farm. She oversees

the entire farm operations to ensure efficiency and profitability.

The farm produces a wide variety of basic vegetables as well as chillies, tomatoes, green beans, green peppers, brinjals, green beans, sugar beans and mielies to mention a few. A crop rotation system that ensures that crops are available for sale throughout the year is used.

A number of organisations including the National Development Agency and Productivity SA as well as the Departments of Social Development, Education and Trade and Industry have been instrumental in the success of this co-operative through funding, training

and mentorship programmes. Ikhwezi supplies their produce weekly to the Spar and market in Malelane; Pick ‘n Pay and Woolworths through supply to Lowveld Sugar and many other supermarkets. Their brand is rapidly growing and recognisable on the shelves as displayed on various vegetable products. Their facilities include two 3-ton cold rooms, a packer house, office space and storage rooms.

Awards such as Female Farmer of the Year, Top Women Civil Society Awards are a testament of the quality of products produced at the farm. It is Makhosazane’s vision to expand their market and export to Johannesburg and Cape Town.



home. We work together and there is a lot of commitment in achieving our goals every day. One of the things we pride ourselves in is that our brand is well-known and we have trained so many more co-operatives and students from AGRISETA and the Department of Agriculture in agricultural activities,” says Makhosazane.

The co-operative has been profitable for the past five years; their books are managed by an external accountant. Their pricing is in-line with those of the surrounding commercial farmers.

Asked if she thought farming was made for men and had she faced any challenges based on the fact that she was a woman leading the farm, she responded and said: “There is no difference. I grew up farming and my brothers grew up farming. Leadership is not male or female specific, it is based on respect. If a leader respects the workers, the soil and themselves they will be able to deal with team dynamics with ease.”

Makhosazane’s advice to women wanting to pursue farming is simple: “You have to have a passion for farming as it takes up a lot of your time and effort. Without commitment and patience one will not make it. Farming has many challenges; there are many obstacles to contend with such as severe weather conditions, pest and crop controls.”

She lists her ability to manage people, providing livelihoods to her workers, uniting women and producing quality products as her achievements and her driving force. ☺



“One of the things we pride ourselves in is that our brand is well-known and we have trained so many more co-operatives and students from AGRISETA and the Department of Agriculture in agricultural activities,” says Makhosazane.

“We would like to expand our operations significantly in the next five years in terms of production, distribution and more permanent jobs. We would also like further training for the management as we progress we realise the needs for technical and advanced management skills. We would particularly want to focus on courses for health, cleanliness and safety; packaging and use of machinery,” says Makhosazane.

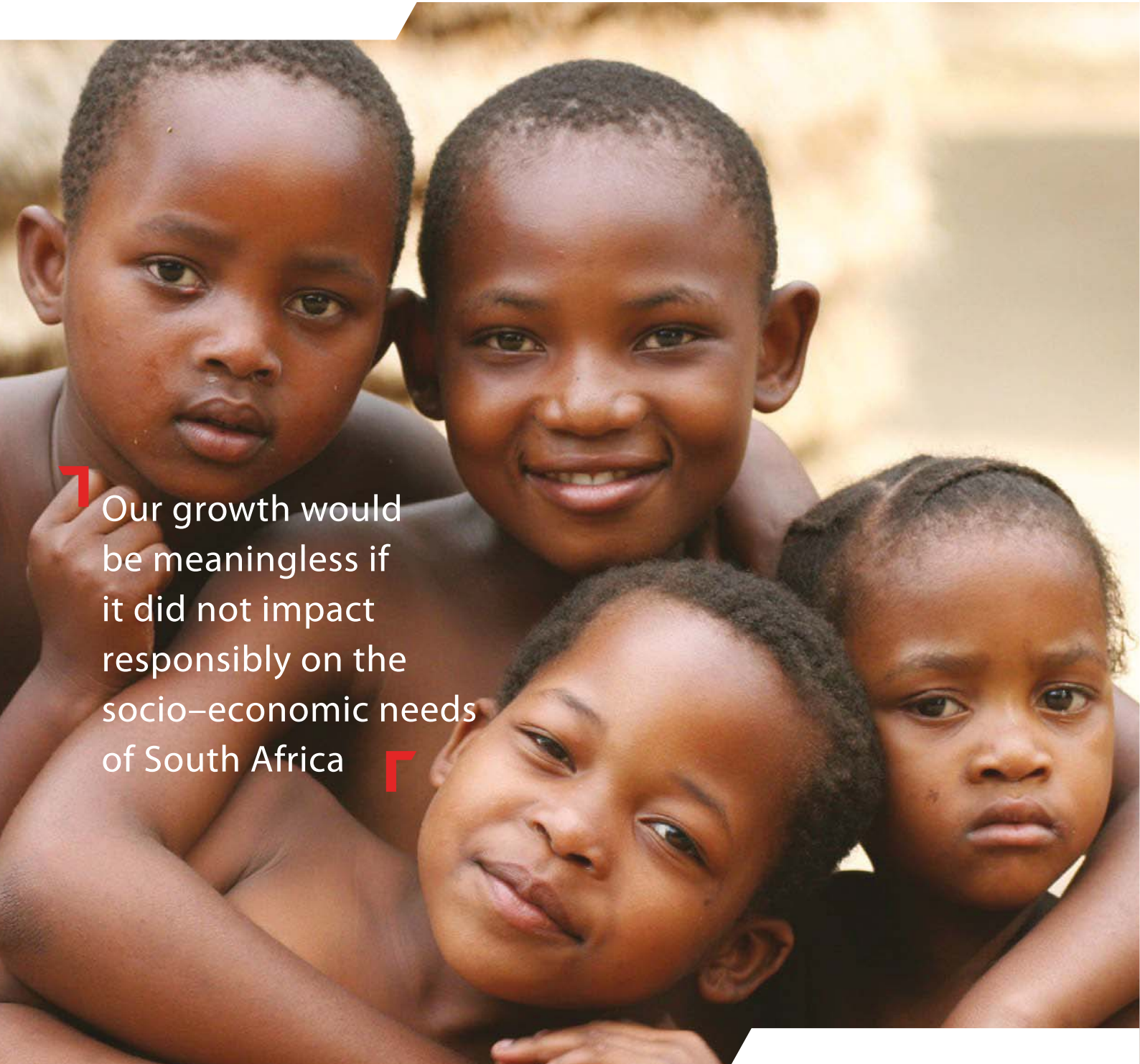
The co-operative employs 50 staff members, who are mainly located in the immediate area of Nkomazi Municipality and who are responsible for all activities up to packing and transporting of products to market. Many are women; the men are responsible for the more technical aspect of running the operations.

“Working with women is a pleasure – coming here feels like a home away from



Makhosazane Sambo

MAKING A SUSTAINABLE DIFFERENCE



Our growth would be meaningless if it did not impact responsibly on the socio-economic needs of South Africa

Read more about our commitment to society and the various projects we support at www.transnetfoundation.co.za

TRANSNET



Improving education the Mauritian way

BY SHIMONEY REGTER

Aspirations to be the future heads of state, doctors, teachers and lawyers would seem impossible for underprivileged children. Locked in poverty, little may be expected from them, but there is a glimpse of hope amidst a history of injustice.

At the Centre de L'Amitie in Bambous in the region of Black River in Mauritius this is most evident. The Centre was opened by Bernadette Camoin who in 2003 received a Badge of Honour of the Republic of Mauritius. She said that they started the centre with 20 children in the late 1990s with the assistance of the government, who made funds available to non-governmental organisations. Construction started on the new building and the present school opened in 2001. Known as the Mother Theresa of Bambous, she was also able to open a nursery which accommodated toddlers.

Against a backdrop of socio-economic challenges, this organisation along with

the Mauritian government and various institutions have prioritised educational development in their country, so that it will serve beyond economic growth and ultimately break the shackles of poverty.

In securing success, the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions are given a monthly allowance of R750 – Mauritian Rupees - to assist families who have a low income. For many children who live in remote areas on the island, attending school becomes challenging and their absence often means missing out on important class work. This means that they are more likely to fail during an examination as they have missed class. Learners are now able to travel to school without cost since 2005. This initiative has been made possible by the Mauritian government.

In 2003, the government took it a step further and established the Priority

Education Zone, called "Zone Education Prioritaire" (ZEP) programme to address these issues. Children receive free school uniforms, lunch packs and are able to work within quality schooling environments with well-trained education professionals.

A report submitted by the Indian Ocean Childs Right Observatory (ODEROI) and commissioned by the Mauritian Ministry of Education in 2008, states that ZEP aims at integrating the school with its environment, as the development of the school is seen to be directly linked to the overall development of the community. It further states that the philosophy of the ZEP project is based on the premise that positive reinforcement is required to create favourable learning conditions for children living in the less developed regions.

ZEP has been adopted in many countries including England, France and America among others and proved to make a significant and lasting difference. This project aims to eradicate poverty while



ECD centres play an integral role in the development of children worldwide.



Education is clearly the heart of a nation, but so too is a good home and a supportive community. For the many hundreds of children who come from disadvantaged communities, a better life is gradually becoming a reality.



educating children from a disadvantaged background. This initiative has now become a partnership between the private sector and the Ministry of Education in Mauritius.

Businesses in the private sector contribute money on a monthly basis towards various projects that improve the circumstances of children at underprivileged schools. A few of these projects include emotional support by recruiting social workers and psychologist, employing teachers to assist learners with disabilities, extra classes, upgrading the schooling environment among various other projects and initiatives.

While ensuring that the children have all their tools in place, development has also been prioritised. Fondation pour l'Enfance Terre de Paix, is one of many NGOs that are laying the foundations for the Mauritian future. The organisation was founded by Julien Lourdes in 1978, to help underprivileged individuals, their aim being to combat poverty and its resulting

consequences on the most vulnerable groups of society, particularly children, in a non-discriminatory manner.

Many of the programmes are also put in place to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals. The country provides free primary and secondary schooling, free healthcare and free bus transport to students including the elderly.

These interventions are important as they combat the issues that prevent progress and economic growth. A lack of discipline, absenteeism and at times a lack of participation from parents are a few of the challenges that the government and institutions are constantly working towards improving.

Education is clearly the heart of a nation, but so too is a good home and a supportive community. For the many hundreds of children who come from disadvantaged communities, a better life is gradually becoming a reality. Much is to be done to ensure that these programmes are successful and that the children are better equipped than their predecessors.

The future clearly does not only rely on the programmes planned by government. Its success relies on every individual and every organisation within the community. The many programmes in Mauritius have become a shining example of a community working together towards a better future and an educated nation. This is surely the way, as American industrialist Henry Ford said: "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." ¹⁰



CREATING THE CHANGE SHE WANTS TO SEE

BY TAMSYN COERECIUS



Gugu Nkosi, a woman who isn't afraid to extend a helping hand.

Oprah Winfrey once said: "Women of South Africa are some of the most powerful people on Earth." Gugu Nkosi is a woman who perfectly embodies this sentiment. She is a strong, powerful, independent and intelligent woman who is not afraid to share her success and riches with those who are in need.

She recently gave R100 000 towards seven early childhood development centres (ECDs) in Mpumalanga as part of the National Development Agency's Adopt-an-ECD campaign. The campaign, which was launched by the state-owned entity, has taken the role as catalyst to develop and improve ECD centres across the country. The NDA hopes that through this campaign more children will receive the education they deserve. Gugu's contribution was able to change seven ECD centres and the lives of many children.

The mother of three grew up in a middle-class family on the dusty streets of Nkomazi in Schoemansdal, Mpumalanga. Here she was constantly entertained as her whole extended family lived together under one roof. From her mother, sisters, cousins,

uncles and aunts, all of them lived in a close-knit cocoon with her grandmother in the family house.

She says that every day in her house was a joyous celebration. "It was always exciting being surrounded by my family members. There were many characters and we learned a lot from each other, because everyone always had something to say," she says. Though her family life was a bit hectic she always remained an academic achiever throughout her school career.

She says that her timid spirit and reserved personality led her to become quite the bookworm. "I excelled in most of my subjects. It was not easy living in a house full of people, but I managed to do it." Growing up she never enjoyed the party scene as many of her friends did. Weekends were spent at home where she utilised her time to dive into her books and escape to "a world of information" as she calls it.

She says that education was a big thing for her family. Her family members were a great element of support and encouragement when it came to her studies. "My cousins and I were all about



Gugu Nkosi donated R100 000 to ECD centres in Nkomazi (Mpumalanga). Pictured with her is former MEC for Social Development, Candith Mashego-Dlamini and NDA CEO.

the same age and we sat together for hours studying during the week. Education was utterly important to my family."

When Gugu started secondary school, her mother found a job at Busco Marketing in Nelspruit and she and her two sisters moved with their mother to a new home. Here the "quiet" environment led her to concentrate even more on her school work, ultimately resulting in excellent results during her matric year. "My mother was a very hardworking woman. She earned a good living and taught me the importance of pursuing and taking ownership of my dreams."

She reminisces about her childhood dreams of becoming a lawyer and fighting for the unjust. She completed that dream

and worked at a law firm for a few years, while still studying part-time for her LLB degree through the University of South Africa. She later on took a leap of faith and left the world of attorneys and entered the business world as a young entrepreneur.

In the year 2005, with the help of her mother's financial support, she opened a business called Umcebo Projects, which today is a successful construction company based in Mpumalanga. She later completed a Diploma in Project Management and Business Management. Today she plays the role as director and owner of her company.

"My mother is the one who made all of this possible. She supported me emotionally when I sat up late at night with my books, and financially when I started this business. All that I have is because of her," Gugu says.

The ECD centres Gugu assisted financially are based in Nkomazi and do not have the necessary funds to sustain themselves. Many of the centres often do not have outdoor equipment, mattresses and blankets for the children, food or educational necessities. "I grew up in this

community and it was only right that I reach out and extend a helping hand to those who are close to me. I feel honoured that I could create some change," she says.

She believes that empowering children and helping with their educational needs will build a greater future. "I believe in education and think the more you pour your heart into the education of children, the bigger change you'll see."

This is exactly what she teaches her children and especially hopes women will learn to realise this in South Africa. "There are many women who we can look up to and get inspiration from. I think it's time that we all start being some form of inspiration to others."

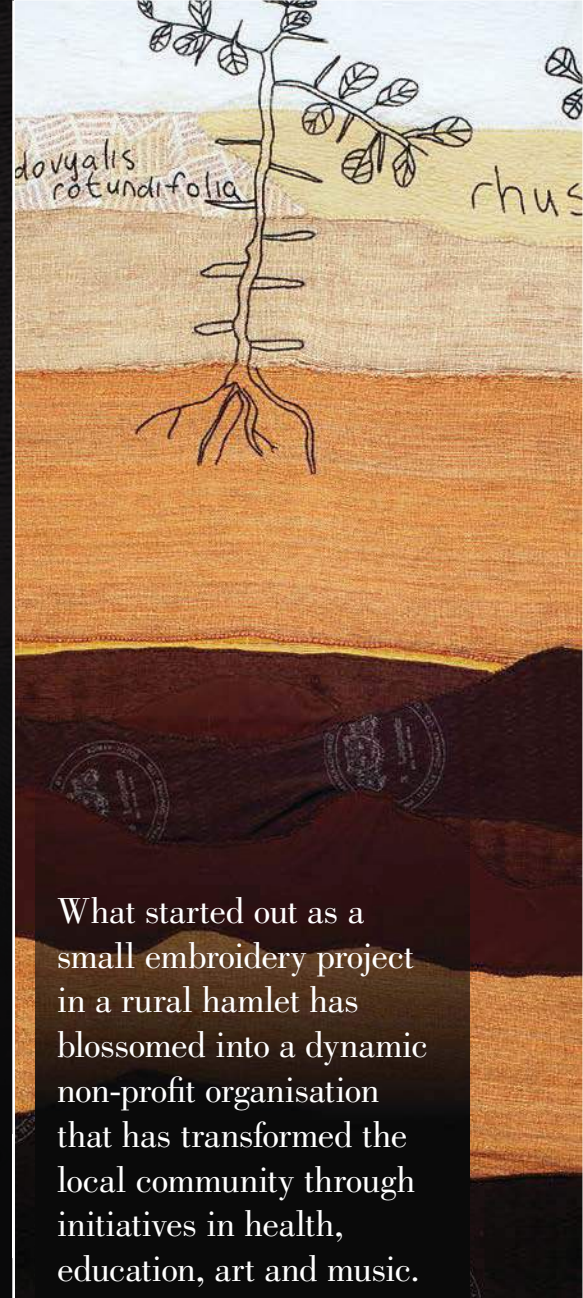
Her hopes for the future include becoming one of South Africa's most successful businesswomen. She says that she will strive in future to do even better and to give even more. She hopes to empower other women to do the same.

"I believe women must be empowered. By empowering a woman, you are empowering a community. Women must stand up for themselves, work harder and then doors will open." ❧



© Keiskamma Trust

Gogo day in Hamburg, celebrating the resilience of Grandmothers.



What started out as a small embroidery project in a rural hamlet has blossomed into a dynamic non-profit organisation that has transformed the local community through initiatives in health, education, art and music.

Planting a seed

THE KEISKAMMA TRUST

BY ANTON RESSEL

All great journeys, they say, begin with a first step. When medical doctor and fine artist Carol Hofmeyr began teaching embroidery skills to a small group of women in the impoverished Eastern Cape village of Hamburg a little over a decade ago, she had no inkling that she was planting a seed that would grow into an internationally recognised, best-practice example of sustainable community development and upliftment.

QUITE A JOURNEY

"My husband and I moved to the Eastern Cape in 2000. We were both doctors but I was not then practising medicine – I was planning to make my own art work and live peacefully in Hamburg. I was confronted

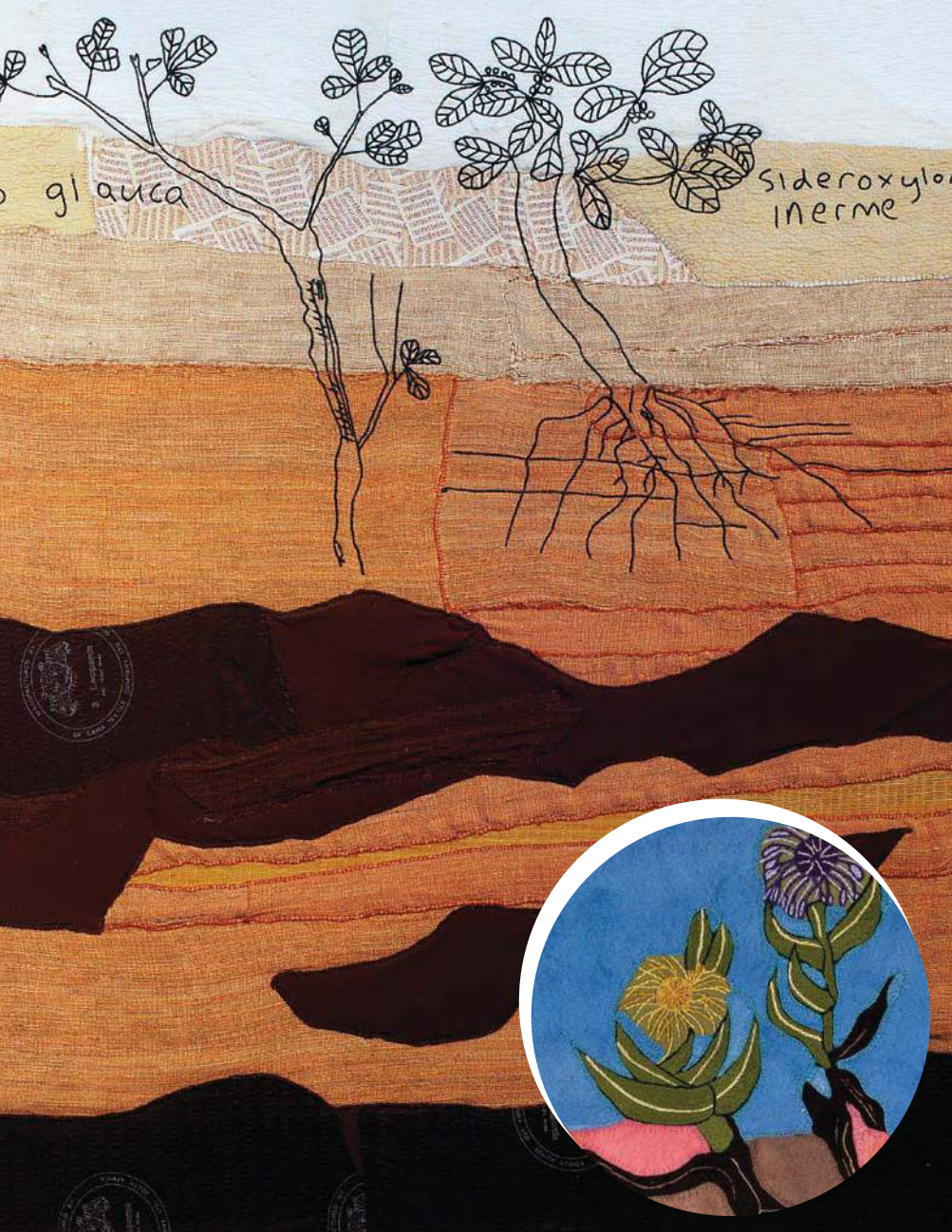
by the poverty in this community, and it became impossible to enjoy the beauty of the place without in some way addressing this. So I embarked on a journey that began as an insignificant embroidery project, teaching a handful of local women the skill as a means of helping them cope with the hardships they faced in their daily lives," she explains.

"I had no skills in finance, management or development and had to learn them on the run! The project grew quickly. I had advice from people in development and we formed an NGO involving about 50 members from the local Xhosa community. Facing the high rate of infection with HIV/AIDS, we started a health initiative, which also grew fast and became, through necessity, an advocate for TB and HIV care

in our village and soon also in surrounding villages. This is how the Keiskamma Trust came about. It has been quite a journey indeed!" she adds.

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Having started out as a means of encouraging and harnessing creativity through embroidery skills, artistic expression remains a key element of the Trust through their Keiskamma Art Project. Internationally renowned for their large tapestries, including the iconic Keiskamma Altarpiece, the Art Project currently provides employment to over 100 men and women from Hamburg and surrounding villages across a range of creative media including textiles, ceramics, wirework, beadwork and sewing.



centres in the villages of Hamburg, Mgababa and Lovers Twist, which collectively address the educational and nutritional needs of over 400 orphaned, vulnerable and impoverished children.

Their health programme includes an Aids Treatment Centre in Hamburg, as well as an active outreach and antiretroviral management programme that employs 40 monitors and serves over 200 people living with HIV/Aids. A dynamic and growing music programme run through the Keiskamma Music Academy, several skills development programmes and the renowned art project complete the picture.

“Our vision is to create a healthy community in all respects. We strive to do this through our creative programmes, educational initiatives and through partnerships. We are fortunate to have a large network of friends, including Keiskamma Friends UK, support from Norway and Keiskamma Canada, but keeping our diverse programmes running is always a challenge and we are immensely grateful for support, whether orders for our products, donations of equipment or funding. The reality is that the need is great in our region, there is always more to be done,” explains author and General Manager of the Keiskamma Trust Annette Woudstra.

Challenges notwithstanding, it is clear that the various initiatives being run under the auspices of the Trust have had a massive impact in the area. While these efforts have led to numerous awards and accolades for the founder and her team, it is at a grassroots level where the real effects are felt.

“I have never studied art, but I am an artist by birth. I am sending messages about the fight against HIV and Aids to the world by changing words into pictures. I am employed by the Art Project, I have a good income and the people support me there,” says designer and artist Nozeti Makhubalo.

Clearly, the seed planted by the founder a little more than a decade ago has borne a bountiful harvest. ☺

The range is diverse and includes cushion covers, shopping bags, dolls, felt scarves, bowls, pots and of course their in-demand tapestries, which are generally personalised according to client needs.

“We recently completed a set of three themed tapestries for the Duke of Buccleuch, based on Broughton Castle, while past commissions have included works for the Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban, a 22 m long piece for Rhodes University and orders for several corporate clients. Our tapestries are on permanent display at the Houses of Parliament in Cape Town, UNISA Gallery in Pretoria, Dune Walk in East London and the Murray & Roberts head office in Johannesburg,” explains Art Project Manager Florence Danais.

“Our work has also been exhibited in Canada, the USA and England, and this year we will feature at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, the Venice Biennale and the Amtsgericht in Kassel, Germany. We also completed a large order of cushion covers and wall hangings for US-based retailer Anthropologie in 2008, which was very well received,” she adds proudly.

These are some major accomplishments for a group of crafters from one of the most rural areas of South Africa, one has to say.

HOLISTIC APPROACH

The genesis of the Keiskamma Trust has evolved out of necessity and need in the community. They manage three after-care

During the 80s Khan became involved in the Women's Movement and the formation of the Lenasia Women's Congress



President Jacob Zuma recently awarded Suraya "Bibi" Khan with the Order of the Baobab.

AN AWARD IN PERFECT ORDER



Order of the Baobab

Suraya "Bibi" Khan has been awarded with the Order of the Baobab in Bronze from The Presidency – an order awarded to South African citizens for distinguished service that is well above and beyond the call of duty. Her selflessness and outstanding contribution to the upliftment of disadvantaged communities in South Africa and abroad lie closest to her heart and make her a worthy recipient of this Award. She is known for her love of voluntary work in the communities of the Southern Forums and Lenasia, where she resides.

"Aunt Bibi", as she is fondly addressed, has a keen sense of justice that has seen her fighting for worthy causes in South Africa and internationally. Born in Sophiatown 1952 in the Bhyat family, during the forced segregation, Khan was

raised by a nurturing dressmaker mother and a father who was a watchmaker. It was during the notorious forced removals of the Group Areas Act of apartheid that the family was uprooted, causing some children to be separated and the father losing his small business.

During a period where equality of races was unheard of in South Africa, Khan grew up fighting for equality and justice for all. Her motto in life is that one must live by the courage of one's conviction. She proved it when she joined the courageous men and women who went to Iraq as human shields in 2003 at the age of 51.

Khan is an exceptionally dedicated activist and grassroots organiser who has shown her deep commitment to community development and empowering women to become agents of their own development.

In her long and inspiring career, Khan has dedicated her life to empowering grassroots communities by informing them of their rights. During the 80s, Khan became involved in the Women's Movement and the formation of the Lenasia Women's Congress, part of the Federation of Transvaal Women (FEDTRAW) and therein part of the United Democratic Front. Married in 1968, she is gifted with a daughter and two sons.

She has worked in the NGO sector since joining the Development Resource Centre, (DRC) at its implementation phase as head of administration and finance. The DRC was responsible for the NPO Bill, which was designed to create an enabling environment for NGOs. She has also worked for the Public Services International, the South African Grant makers Association (SAGA), SANGONeT and Women'sNet.

In 1991, Khan was elected to the executive of the Lenasia Civic Association, part of the Civic Association

on Johannesburg (CAJ), with activism in housing, health, education, transport and crime prevention. She was involved in capacity building of civil society groups that assisted communities in understanding the importance of active participatory developmental democracy between 1995 and 1997.

Between 1992 and 1994, Khan was involved in initiating the Lenasia Community Police Forum in which she was elected to serve. She initiated and mobilised women from Lenasia, to establish feeding schemes for five primary schools during 1990 to 1999 – providing hot meals once a week to around 1 500 children in need, identified by teachers. During this period the Southern Areas Commuters Association (SACRA) was established as the representative structure for bus commuters with activists from the civic movement. Khan was elected as chair.

In 1993, Khan was part of the consultative process for the establishment

of the Women's Institute for Leadership, Development and Democracy (WILDD) established in 1994. She also assisted with the Call of Islam, a Lenasia group that fought for justice of 11 workers killed in the factory fire in 2001.

"The work I have undertaken over the years was not for recognition; I am humbled at receiving the Presidential Award. It has allowed me to reflect on my life and my future. I can only hope that my work encourages others to serve their communities because in serving humanity, one also serves our Creator" says Khan.

Today she still works with South African Women in Dialogue – Southern forums Region G of Johannesburg at grassroots and serves in the CSO sector as the SAWID representative in the PWMSA. Khan also sits and serves on the National Development Agency's Board of Directors. «

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NDA PROFILE

Provincial managers keep NDA on track

Yolisa Ndima has been appointed

as the new provincial manager in KwaZulu-Natal. She replaces Thamo Mzobe, who has since been appointed as the NDA's stakeholder and partnership manager. Ndima, who has an honours degree in sociology, with a special focus on gender and sociology of medicine, and a master of business leadership with corporate governance as a special focus, brings a wealth of experience with her.

"I am in the process of writing my exam to qualify as a certified fraud examiner and also in the process of qualifying to be an ethics officer. By the end of the year, I will have to defend my proposal towards a doctor of business leadership qualification."

She has worked in the private sector; in various companies and at the SABC

as an account executive doing sales and marketing. She joined the NDA as she saw it as an opportunity to make a difference in the quality of lives of underprivileged people. "I prefer helping to transform people and give them a hand up, instead of giving them handouts. I have seen many good but unco-ordinated government interventions failing to make a sustainable impact. I identified the NDA as a place where I'd be able to assist the government to co-ordinate their efforts in eradicating poverty, achieving economic and social emancipation of the majority of South Africans and improving the quality of lives."

Ndima says she believes women in most cases are vision bearers, and because of their ability to multi-task, they are able to implement the vision and



Yolisa Ndima

see it to fruition. "Thus my feeling is that women must always be at the forefront of development, especially because they have an ability to lift as they rise. Also, I belong to a team that is equally passionate about development and the people they serve. And the NDA has the ability to be the glue that binds all government interventions, ensuring that the arrow hits its mark and therefore sustainable impact is achieved."

Gauteng's leading light

Between being a parent and

caring for her mother, Mapule Phora manages the NDA's Gauteng provincial office with aplomb. She constantly juggles a range of activities and puts her success down to her supportive family and her experiences.

"I have been working as a mother since the age of 27, so I suppose it comes with the territory. I have received lots of help from my family and extended relatives and a full time helper who assists me."

With a flurry of tasks which range from managing stakeholders to ensuring that all management functions are well co-ordinated, she is sowing seeds for development and change in her province.



Mapule Phora

While she has only been at the NDA for over a year now, Phora has her eyes set on the socio-challenges that will affect the development of the people within Gauteng. "Gauteng is one of the richest provinces, everyone flocks here and

the problem is that there are not enough resources. People come to the province with high hopes."

The education enthusiast expressed her concerns about children who do not have access to ECD centres within the province. "It can be challenging to create a safety net for the children especially when they have no address or documentation."

With the high rate of urbanisation and diminishing resources, programmes such as the ECD campaign are set to alleviate poverty and produce an educated nation.

Phora aspires to be the best version of herself and to make a lasting difference despite challenges. "Sometimes you don't see the results of your work immediately and it can become discouraging but when you do see the results, it is always worth it."

Developing tomorrow's leaders

From Project Officer to a

Provincial Manager, Nokulunga Skeyi is opening the gateway for all women to soar to unimaginable heights. She is a dreamer, a visionary and a respected colleague within the National Development Agency.

A decade ago, she started off as a project officer assessing various projects for the Eastern Cape Province, but it was only the beginning. "My job title as a Project Officer later changed as our titles were changed to Development Managers." This became a doorway for growth.

Skeyi is now the Provincial Manager in the province after she applied for the position. To add to her success, three of her projects are provincial flagship projects. These include:

- Sakisizwe: Livestock Improvement
- Maqashu: Sorghum Belt

• Delindladla: Farming corporative
Achieving these goals required determination and a spirit of perseverance. "There are challenges but I have very supportive colleagues and I often encourage them," she said. She is a leader before she is a manager and believes in empowering and inspiring others and in equal participation within the workplace.

Skeyi wishes for all women to celebrate their accomplishments and those of their predecessors. In the same breath, she urges all women to reach out to the most vulnerable in society. "The needy and vulnerable are looking up to us for help, support and motivation. We are the key pillars of strength to those without hope and whose lives are devastated. Let's pray for the women in Darfur, Nigeria and Palestine who are witnessing brutal attacks." ☺



Nokulunga Skeyi

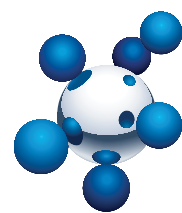
COLLECTIVE ACTION DRIVING SUSTAINABLE WATER SOLUTIONS

Sasol Water Sense puts the power of collective action to work. Together with our partners, the Emfuleni Local Municipality has seen 4.4 million cubic meters of water saved so far – that is the equivalent of 1 800 Olympic size swimming pools. 26 Water Warriors have interacted with the community to inform and educate people about how to use less water. About 90 000 households and 76 schools in Evaton and Sebokeng participate in a water meter monitoring and leak-fixing programme, whereby 70 000 leaking taps and toilets have been repaired by 60 plumbers.

This is the power of collective action and the results speak for themselves.

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A strong economy relies on developing small businesses and giving them the opportunities to thrive. Total South Africa celebrates the achievements of businesses like Makwande Supply and Distribution, and Anax Logistics who, through tenacity and ambition, have grown their businesses. The Total Siyakhula Programme gives selected SMEs, such as Makwande and Anax the help they need to establish themselves and expand their networks, supporting those who truly harness the energy of people to fuel their full potential.

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Eric Mgqibelo: CEO Anax Logistics

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