

Annual Impact Report 2025

THE HOPE FACTORY & SAICA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT





OVERVIEW

A Year of Impactful Transformation 2025	2
Who We Are	4
Summary of Impactful Interactions 2025	6

IMPACT-DRIVEN INITIATIVES

Socio Economic Development:

The Hope Factory Flagship Programme	8
-------------------------------------	---

Skills Development:

Chieta 5 Small Business Support Programme	10
Chieta 6 Small Business Support Programme	12
Chieta 7 Small Business Support Programme	14
Chieta 8 Small Business Support Programme	16
Chieta 9 Small Business Support Programme	18
Chieta 10 Small Business Support Programme	20
River North Skills Development Programme	22

Enterprise and Supplier Development:

Enel Green Power SA Financial Excellence Programme	24
Exxaro Resources Financial Excellence Programme	26
Glencore Financial Excellence Programme	28
Golden Valley Windfarm Business Development Programme	30
Graca Machel Women Creating Wealth Programme	32
Gouda Wind Energy Facility Project 1 & 2	34
Lilitha Solar PV Enterprise Development Programme	36
Ninety One Enterprise Development Loan Support	38
Northam Booyseendal Financial Excellence Programme	40
Raise Africa Programme	42
SAICA ED Flagship Cohort 8	44
SAICA ED Flagship Cohort 9	46
SAICA NPO Enterprise Development Programme	48
Sasol 4 & 5 Financial Excellence Programme	50
Sygnia Asset Management Enterprise Development Programme	52
Telkom SA Enterprise Development Programme	54

HIGHLIGHTS

Media Highlights	56
Featured Article For SAICA Enterprise Development	58
Featured Article For The Hope Factory	60
Contribution To Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	62
Legacy Impact	64
Thank You	66
Looking Into The Future	68
Contact Us	70

Overview

A YEAR OF IMPACTFUL TRANSFORMATION 2025



Annie McWalter
CEO of The Hope Factory and SAICA
Enterprise Development

We are honoured to reflect on a year defined by progress, purpose, and meaningful impact across The Hope Factory and SAICA Enterprise Development. The year 2025 demonstrated once again that when partners unite behind a clear mission, transformation becomes not only possible but measurable and impactful.

Our work continues with the belief that empowering entrepreneurs remains one of the most important levers for strengthening South Africa's economy and unlocking long-term, inclusive growth.

Advancing national impact through entrepreneurial empowerment

Throughout 2025, the group collectively supported 546 Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across the country, working closely with 49 SAICA-associated practices to deliver 30 strategic national projects. We also benefited from the contribution of 67 skilled volunteers—professionals, SAICA members, and industry experts—who provided mentorship and guidance in navigating complex and regulated sectors.

Among our most meaningful achievements was the empowerment of 347 women-owned enterprises, demonstrating our commitment to gender equity and the advancement of women-led businesses shaping communities and industries.

Deepening influence across critical South African industries

Our work extended deeply into sectors that are central to South Africa's economic trajectory. In Mining and Resources, we strengthened financial and operational capabilities for businesses integrating into sophisticated supply chains. In Renewable Energy—particularly the wind and solar industries, we contributed to developing enterprises participating in a sector redefining the continent's energy future.

Within Chemical Manufacturing, we reinforced the value of disciplined financial management and sector-tailored Enterprise Development. As these industries evolve, our understanding of the ecosystems required for MSME growth evolves with them. These sectoral engagements illuminated new areas of opportunity for the coming year.

Logistics, a critical support function to Mining, Renewable Energy, and Manufacturing presents a natural extension to feed our offering. With our foundation in Financial Excellence, compliance, and capacity building, we are well positioned to uplift logistics-focused entrepreneurs who will play essential roles in expanding South Africa's supply chains and industrial growth corridors.

Enhanced client portfolio and elevated visibility

2025 also marked significant growth in our partnerships. We proudly welcomed Telkom, Ninety-One, Golden Valley and the Graça Machel Trust while continuing to serve long-standing partners in mining and renewable energy who trusts us with their Enterprise and Supplier Development strategies.

Our organisational visibility expanded through the launch of The Hope Factory website, contributions to the SAICA Biz Podcast, and participation as speakers at the SAICA In-FOR-Sight Summit—platforms that enhance our role in shaping national dialogue around MSME development.

Staying true to our shared vision

At the heart of these achievements lies our unwavering commitment to the core vision of both entities. The Hope Factory continues to champion Socio-Economic and Skills Development activation for unemployed Black South Africans, with a specific focus on women and youth entering early-stage entrepreneurship. SAICA Enterprise Development remains committed to elevating the MSME ecosystem through Financial Excellence and leveraging professional accounting expertise to build resilient, compliant, and sustainable enterprises.

Looking ahead to 2026 with confidence

As we look toward 2026, we do so with optimism. The year ahead is filled with opportunities to innovate, raise the quality of our programmes, and strengthen our presence in sectors aligned with South Africa's development priorities. We remain committed to creating pathways for entrepreneurs to succeed in an economy that requires their agility, innovation, and determination more than ever before.

Appreciation and commitment to continued impact

As we reflect on our achievements, it is important to acknowledge the pivotal role played by SAICA (South African Institute of Accountants) in anchoring both SAICA Enterprise Development and The Hope Factory. As entities belonging to SAICA, we draw strength from the Institute's commitment to transformation, professional excellence, and national development.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our board of directors, colleagues, volunteers, and every stakeholder who has journeyed with us. Your leadership, expertise, and commitment make our impact possible. To the entrepreneurs we serve, you remain our greatest inspiration. Your resilience and ambition continually affirm the importance of our mission and drive us to create opportunities that truly change lives.

Together, we will continue building enterprises, strengthening communities, and shaping a future rooted in hope, excellence, and shared prosperity.

WHO WE ARE



The vision of The Hope Factory Group is to play an active role in Economic transformation through advancing the sustainable growth of entrepreneurial Black-Owned businesses (as per the B-BBEE codes of Good Practice), which in turn will create employment opportunities.

The Hope Factory and SAICA Enterprise Development are separate entities that belong to SAICA that have a strong transformation and developmental focus for the strengthening of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and localised economic development. The Hope Factory's mission is to deliver Socio-Economic and Skills Development Programmes that result in mobilising economic activity for unemployed Black South African citizens.

With a strong emphasis on youth and women, The Hope Factory's intent is to assist individuals in communities to effectively start and operate their own Micro or Small Enterprises (below R1 mill annual turnover).

SAICA Enterprise Development strengthens the MSME (Micro Small Medium Enterprise) ecosystem by leveraging the profession's expertise to promote Financial Excellence in these businesses.

Through tailored, sector-specific support, SAICA ED helps entrepreneurs improve financial management and compliance, enabling stronger business performance and long-term sustainability. The mission of SAICA Enterprise Development is to deliver strategic Enterprise and Supplier Development Programmes and customised projects that grow and transforms South Africa's entrepreneurial sector.

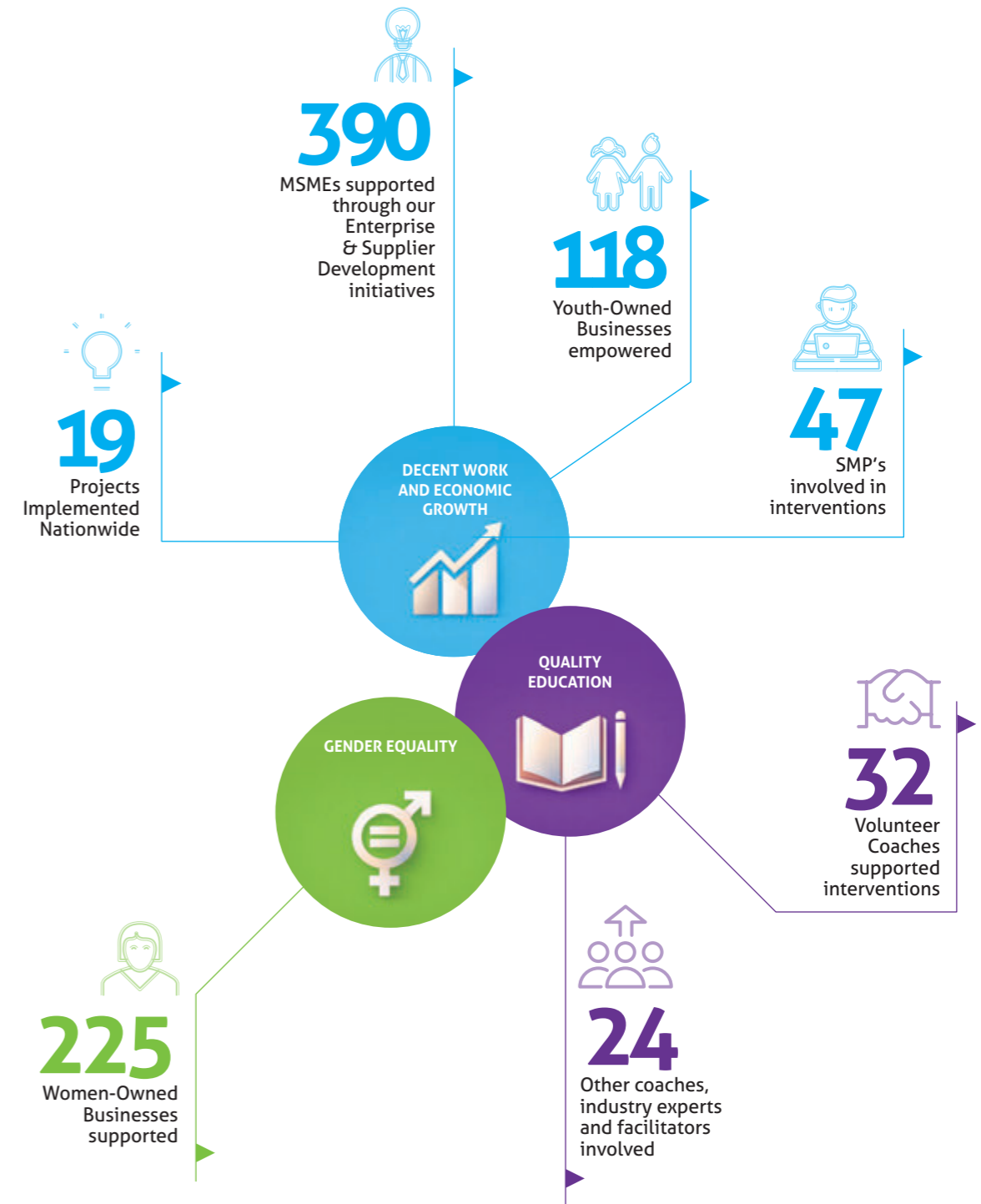
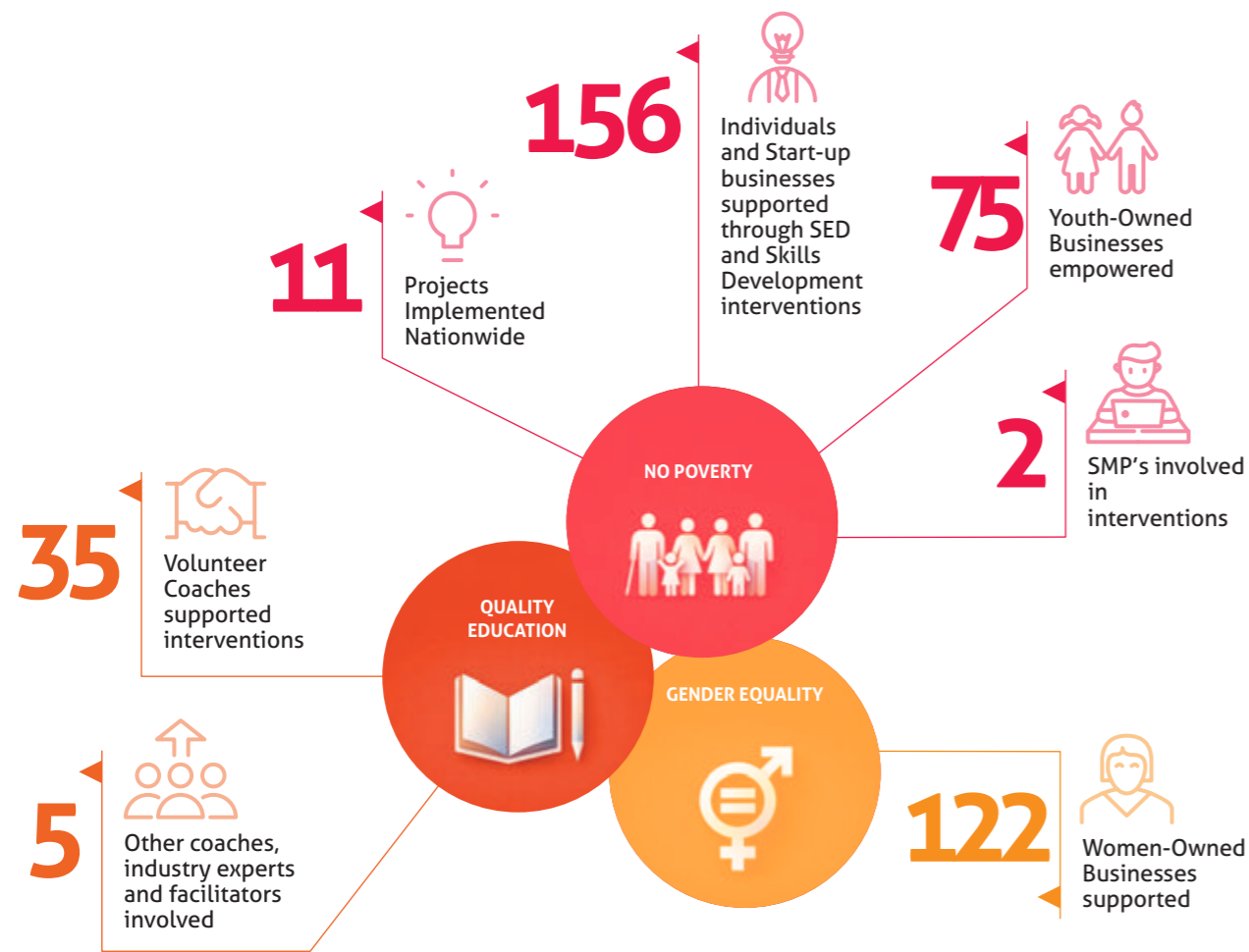


[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

SUMMARY OF IMPACTFUL INTERACTIONS 2025

The Hope Factory delivers impactful Socio-Economic and Skills Development initiatives resulting in mobilising economic activity, by enabling Unemployed Black South African citizens (with a key focus on youth and women) to generate their own income and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of 'No Poverty' (SDG 1), amongst others.

SAICA ED provides strategic Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programmes and customised projects that grow South Africa's entrepreneurial sector. We aim to foster Financial Excellence in entrepreneurs through the Chartered Accountancy profession, and to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of the creation of 'Decent Work and Economic Growth' (SDG 8), amongst others.



Impact-driven Initiatives

THE HOPE FACTORY FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory has implemented its Flagship Socio-Economic Development (SED) Programme as a response to the ongoing need for high-impact entrepreneurial development solutions to ignite start-up small business owners with skills to grow in South Africa. Over the years, the programme has been continuously refined to meet growing demand and to remain aligned with evolving B-BBEE codes, enabling corporates to effectively achieve their Socio-Economic Development (SED) points through meaningful community impact.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

"I am happy to share that I have now completed the program with a registered business and a linked business bank account."
Nomfezeko Silwana



Project Objectives

- Product Enhancement - Well defined product with unique value proposition a business plan & business model canvas in place
- Achieve robust financial Management for the small businesses
- Increase business marketing channels and number of monthly sales/clients
- Enhance the implementation of online marketing and/or online bookkeeping systems.

Project Impact

- 79% class average for Starting Up a Small Business Workshop
- 76% class average for their General Business and Financial Terminology workshop
- 85% class average for Managing a Small Business Workshop
- 81% class average for Bookkeeping and Financial Reporting for Small Businesses
- 94% of our participants now have business plans
- 86% of our participants now have business models in place
- 4 participants have independently registered their own businesses via the CIPC website
- 3 participants have secured short term new business contracts.



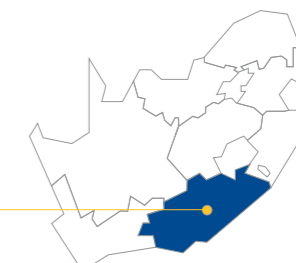
Project Interventions

- Greenlight Assessments
- One-on-One Coaching Workshops
- Introduction to Financial Terminology
- Financial Lit and Decision Making Behaviour and BBOS Information
- Starting a Small Business
- Planning for a Small Business
- Managing a Small Business
- Bookkeeping and Financial Reporting
- Small Business Taxation

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Start-ups that have various business ideas for various sectors and have not yet started their businesses

30
Individuals Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 5 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory in partnership with CHIETA SETA and Tsogo Sun International, implemented the Small Business Support Programme that would provide 10 participants (Women) with the necessary Business and Technical skills to run their enterprises more effectively.



Project Objectives

- Empowering the Women-owned small businesses to generate income from the newly acquired skillset and begin manufacturing perfume independently.



Project Impact

- 100% of the participants were found competent for the New Venture Creation Workbook submission as well as the Final Integrated Summative Assessment. All participants received Perfume manufacturing training that was facilitated by Chemin
- Participants received a startup kit of raw materials to commence their production
- Over 60% of the participants have already commenced trading
- 5 of the participants formed a co-operative with the aim of re-selling their perfumes. This Co-operative as been selected by the Local Economic Development (LED) agency for the international Co-Op Ceremony.

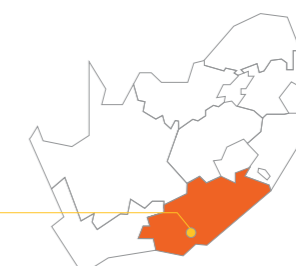
Project Interventions

- Greenlight Assessments completed
- New Venture Creations Accredited Skills programme including the exam submissions
 - Technical skills Training re: Perfume Manufacturing – facilitated by CHEMIN
- Opex support in the form of equipment to commence production.

Industries of participating Individuals on the programme

Individuals that were provided with the technical skills to manufacture their perfume products

10
Individuals Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 6 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory implemented a specialised small-business development programme designed to equip 10 unemployed youth with the entrepreneurial and technical skills required to start and operate businesses within the energy and chemical manufacturing sectors. The initiative combined practical entrepreneurship training with targeted technical instruction in electrification and commercialisation, enabling participants to develop viable business concepts and position themselves as future "Peco Champions." Through this integrated approach, the programme aimed to create sustainable pathways to self-employment and stimulate new enterprise activity in the broader energy value chain.



Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for skills development needed for start-up businesses
- To stimulate the development of entrepreneurship within the Just Energy Transition and chemical sectors
- To advocate for, and bring awareness to, the importance of entrepreneurship and technical skills training in running (managing) and growing a small business. To enhance business and technical capabilities through the transfer of knowledge and skills
- To give Small to Medium sized manufacturing businesses in the Chemical Sector access to a reliable energy solution during loadshedding (thereby enabling them to continue doing business during business hours)
- To encourage digital innovation through access to, and the use of, the Smart Skills Centre.

Project Impact

- 100% of the participants were found competent for the New Venture Creation Workbook submission as well as the Final Integrated Summative Assessment
- All participants received Electrification training that was facilitated by PECO
- Participants received a startup kit in the form of demo power bricks.

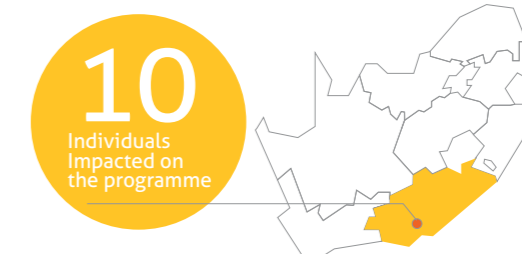


Project Interventions

- Greenlight Assessments
- New Venture Creations Accredited Skills programme including the exam submissions
- Electrification & Commercialisation Training – facilitated by PECO
- Opex support in the form of equipment provided by PECO

Industries of participating Individuals on the programme

Startups/individuals that already have a technical skill set within the welding environment.



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 7 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory, partnered with InnoVenton Nelson Mandela University, implemented an accredited Skills Programme aligned to the New Venture Creation (NVC) framework and industry-specific requirements. The programme is designed to strengthen the technical and entrepreneurial capabilities of emerging businesses through a structured combination of skills development, coaching, and applied technical training. Central to this initiative is the delivery of specialised cosmetic formulation training facilitated by InnoVenton through its Technology Station at Nelson Mandela University.



Project Objectives

- To formalize start-up enterprises by supporting business registration and statutory compliance with CIPC
- Build entrepreneurial and business management capacity through the delivery of an accredited New Venture Creation Skills Programme aligned to NQF Level 2 standards
- Strengthen industry-specific technical competence by providing cosmetic formulation training through InnoVenton's Technology Station at Nelson Mandela University
- Support enterprise sustainability and growth, enabling start-up businesses to operate compliantly.

Project Impact

- Start-up businesses are formally registered with CIPC
- 18 existing businesses achieve full statutory compliance through the submission of outstanding annual returns
- Participating enterprises possess valid and up-to-date CIPC documentation, improving legal standing and credibility
- Participants demonstrate improved understanding of basic business principles, venture creation processes, and enterprise management.



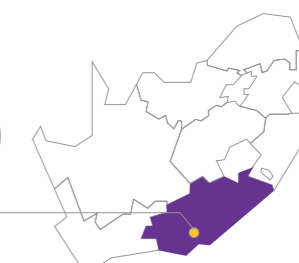
Project Interventions

- Registration new start-up businesses with CIPC
 - Support to existing businesses to file outstanding annual returns
- Ensuring participating enterprises have up-to-date and compliant CIPC documentation
- Training 50 start-up businesses in foundational entrepreneurship and venture creation skills

Industries of participating Individuals on the programme

Startups/individuals that already have a technical skill set within cosmetics

50
Individuals
Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 8 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory, in partnership with CHIETA implemented a specialized skills development initiative aimed at strengthening technical and entrepreneurial capabilities within the welding sector. The project specifically targets startups and individuals who already possess foundational technical abilities within the welding environment. To further develop these capabilities, participants are enrolled in an accredited New Venture Creation (NVC) Skills Programme, supplemented by industry-specific training that aligns with current sector demands.



Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for skills development needed for start-up businesses
- To advocate for, and bring awareness to, the importance of entrepreneurship and technical skills training in running (managing) and growing a small business. To enhance business and technical capabilities through the transfer of knowledge and skills.

Project Impact

- All 9 participants successfully completed the New Venture Creation Accredited Workshop Training
- 100% of participants were found competent in both the New Venture Creation Workbooks and the Final Integrated Summative Assessment
- All 9 participants received three group Industry Expert coaching sessions. 100% business registration for all nine participants.
- All participants have opened business bank accounts
- Product Development & Sales: A few participants have started selling welded gates within their communities, showcasing early entrepreneurial activity and income generation.



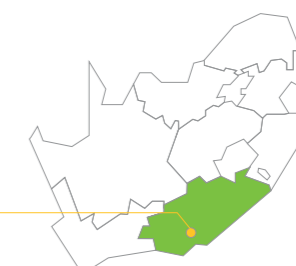
Project Interventions

- New Venture Creations Accredited Skills programme including the exam submissions
- Industry specific workshops & coaching
- Opex support in the form of a PPE Start-Up Kit

Industries of participating Individuals on the programme

Startups/individuals that already have a technical skill set within the welding environment

9
Individuals Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 9 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory, in partnership with the Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority (CHIETA) and the Amakhala Emoyeni Community Fund Trust, is implemented a skills development initiative aimed at empowering emerging entrepreneurs in the cosmetic-manufacturing sector. The programme targets start-ups that have already received foundational technical training in the production of cosmetic products, building on this foundation by equipping them with essential entrepreneurship and business-management skills.

Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for skills development needed for start-up businesses
- To advocate for, and bring awareness to, the importance of entrepreneurship and technical skills training in running (managing) and growing a small business
- To enhance business and technical capabilities through the transfer of knowledge and skills.

Project Impact

- All participants successfully completed the New Venture Creation Accredited Workshop Training
- 100% competency achieved in both the New Venture Creation workbooks and the Final Integrated Summative Assessment
- All participants attended the 5-day Cosmetic Training at Nelson Mandela University. All participants participated in Finance and Marketing coaching sessions
- All participants (100%) have successfully registered their businesses
- Training Participation: 99% of participants attended the Cosmetics Training facilitated by Innovention
- Business Development Support: 70% of individuals participated in Marketing and Financial Coaching Sessions
- Marketing Implementation: participants have actively implemented marketing strategies to promote their products within their local communities, leveraging social media platforms to increase visibility and engagement
- Product Certification: 1 small business has successfully obtained SABS Approval for her Household Chemical Detergents, marking a significant milestone in product quality assurance
- Business Equipment Acquisition: 5 out of 10 participants independently acquired essential business equipment, enhancing their operational capabilities
- Income Generation: 3 out of 10 participants are now generating income independently, having started producing and selling their products
- All 10 participants received Operational equipment to manufacture their own products. All 10 participants received branded labelling for their products.

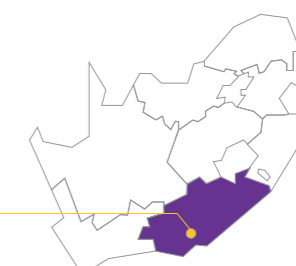
Project Interventions

- New Venture Creations Accredited Skills programme including the exam submissions
- Industry specific workshops & coaching
- Opex support in the form of equipment to start production of their products.

Industries of participating individuals on the programme

Individuals that were provided with the technical skills to manufacture Cosmetic products.

10
Individuals Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

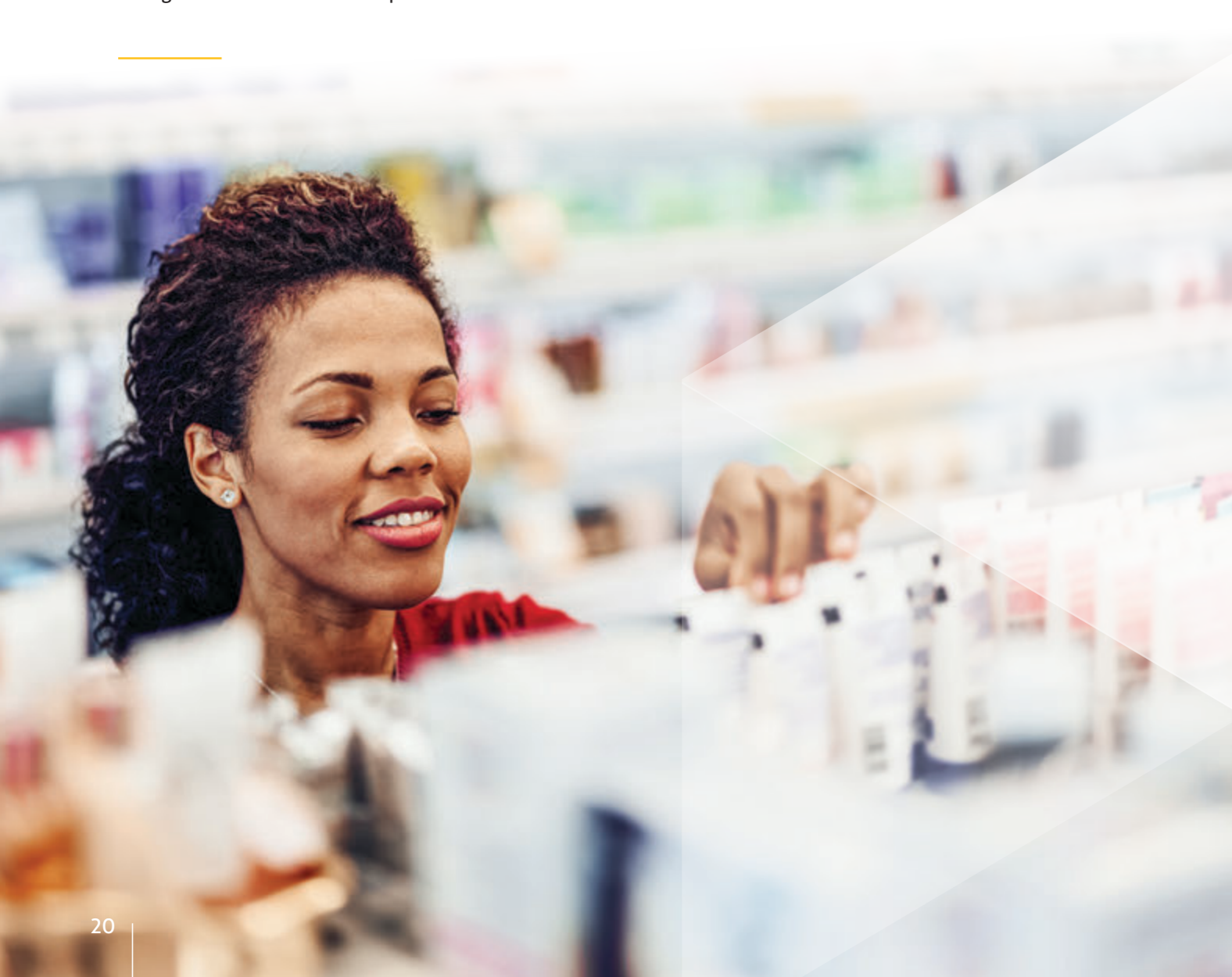
[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

CHIETA 10 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Hope Factory, in partnership with the Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority (CHIETA) and the Tsitsikamma Community Fund Trust, is implementing a targeted Skills Development Programme designed to empower women entrepreneurs over the age of 40 who are operating start-ups or early-stage businesses. This programme supports women who have already taken steps in their entrepreneurial journeys and are seeking structured training to strengthen and scale their enterprises.



Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for skills development needed for start-up businesses
- To advocate for, and bring awareness to, the importance of entrepreneurship and technical skills training in running (managing) and growing a small business
- To enhance business and technical capabilities through the transfer of knowledge and skills.

Project Impact

- All participants successfully completed the New Venture Creation Accredited Workshop Training. 100% competency achieved in both the New Venture Creation workbooks and the Final Integrated Summative Assessment
- All participants completed Greenlight Poverty Baseline Assessments
- All participants attended a 5-day Cosmetics Manufacturing Training facilitated by Innoventon, where they manufactured body wash, body cream/butter, and body lotions
- Group Coaching: 7 participants received Finance and Marketing group coaching sessions (3 sessions each)
- Individual Coaching: 3 participants received Finance and Marketing individual coaching sessions (2 sessions each)
- All participants received Operational Investment from Innoventon. All participants finalized and received product labels
- All participants received an Operational Equipment Toolkit
- Business Registration: 100% of participants successfully registered their businesses. Seven participants registered a private company together and are currently renovating a property to manufacture and trade their products
- Training Participation: 100% of participants attended the Cosmetics Training facilitated by Innoventon. Business Development Support: 83% of participants participated in Marketing and Financial Coaching Sessions
- Marketing Implementation: participants actively implemented marketing strategies within their local communities, leveraging social media platforms to increase visibility and engagement
- Manufacturing Capability: All participants are now fully equipped to manufacture their own cosmetic products.

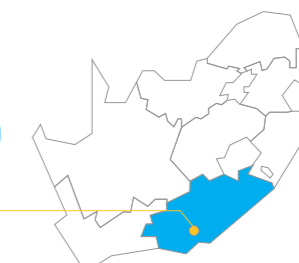


Project Interventions

- New Venture Creations Accredited
- Skills programme including the exam submissions Industry specific workshops & coaching
- Opex support in the form of equipment to start production of their products.

Industries of participating individuals on the programme

Individuals that were provided with the technical skills to manufacture Cosmetic products.



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

RIVER NORTH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The project is designed to support River North Trading in meeting its B-BBEE Skills Development requirements by implementing an accredited training programme aligned to Category E of the scorecard. Through this initiative, River North aimed to strengthen entrepreneurial capacity within the tourism sector by enabling participants to access the New Venture Creation Skills Programme delivered by The Hope Factory.



Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for the growth and development of sustainable small businesses
- To advocate for and bring awareness to the importance of Financial Excellence in running, Managing and growing business enterprises
- To enhance financial literacy and business capability through the transfer of knowledge and Skills
- To ensure financial and industry compliance is always adhered to
- To develop financial excellence reporting standards in MSMEs businesses
- To provide third party grant investments (on behalf of the client) for scale.

Project Impact

- All participants successfully completed the New Venture Creation Accredited Workshop Training
- 100% competency achieved in both the New Venture Creation workbooks and the Final Integrated Summative Assessment.

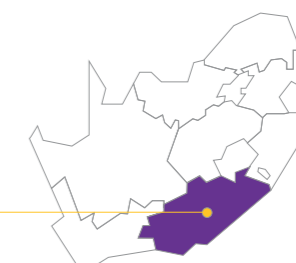


Project Interventions

- The project focusing on equipping emerging and aspiring tourism entrepreneurs with essential business and financial management skills to support the growth and sustainability of their ventures
- To achieve this, The Hope Factory undertook the recruitment and selection of two participants, either active tourism operators or unemployed tourism graduates—and enrolled them in the structured New Venture Creation programme
- The training schedule required full participant availability, ensuring that beneficiaries were actively engaged throughout the learning process.

Industries of participating individuals on the programme
Tourism

2
Individuals Impacted



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

ENEL GREEN POWER SA FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

Project Background

A leading renewable energy provider in South Africa, appointed SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) as the implementation partner responsible for delivering its Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programme. SAICA ED was specifically acquired to design, implement, and manage a fully structured ESD programme that focuses on strengthening small businesses linked to their value chain and communities of operation.

Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for the growth and development of sustainable small businesses
- To advocate for and bring awareness to the importance of Financial Excellence in running, Managing and growing business enterprises
- To enhance financial literacy and business capability through the transfer of knowledge and Skills
- To ensure financial and industry compliance is always adhered to
- To develop financial excellence reporting standards in MSMEs businesses
- To provide third party grant investments (on behalf of the client) for scale.

Project Impact

- 17 MSMEs improved in the skills capacity of the owner
- Number of MSMEs that improved in the compliance and regulatory requirements of the business-21 (13 fully compliant with SARS requirements)
- 92 new Jobs created
- 7 MSMEs received procurement opportunities
- 20 MSMEs received funding opportunities
- 10 MSMEs increased in Turnover
- 10 MSMEs increased in Net Profit.



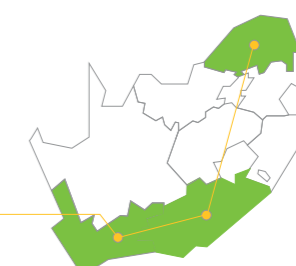
Project Interventions

- Diagnostic Assessments & Bespoke Development Plans
 - Business and Finance Coaching
 - Leadership Workshops
- Operational Investments Accounting and Compliance Support

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Automotive Tyre Fitness, Brick Making, carpentry, cleaning services, clothing, construction (Tree Felling, General Maintenance), Farming (Vegetable Crops), Food, internet, cafe/printing, poultry, security services, transport, waste management

21
MSMEs Impacted



Project Location

Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Limpopo

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

EXXARO RESOURCES FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

Project Background

Exxaro's ongoing partnership with SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) continues to demonstrate the power of collaboration in strengthening entrepreneurial and financial excellence within its Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) strategy. Since the partnership began in 2021, three successful cohorts have completed the Financial Excellence Offering (FEO) programme, which paved the way for the launch of a new group, which commenced late last year.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

"The programme helped us introduce structured accounting systems, align our company with SARS regulations, and address VAT challenges. Our accountant was always available, ensuring our financial framework remained robust."

**Bonginkosi Clement Mashinini and
Ntando Gratitude Mashele
from Leaders in business**

Project Objectives

- **Conduct a Comprehensive Financial Deep Dive:**
To perform an intensive financial diagnostic assessment that establishes a clear and accurate understanding of each business's financial health and operational status
- **Strengthen Financial Management Capability Through Coaching:**
To implement sound financial management structures and build the business owner's financial skills through targeted coaching
- **Monitor and Evaluate Programme Progress and Impact:**
To systematically track all interventions and measure their effectiveness in improving the financial performance.
- **Provide Quality Accounting and Back-Office Support:**
Deliver consistent and high-standard financial processing, including monthly management accounts, tax compliance, and company secretarial compliance.

Project Impact (From Previous 2 Cohorts combined)

- Over a 65% increase in turnover and a 55% rise in net profit across all businesses
- 102 new jobs created, further fuelling economic expansion
- 16 MSMEs secured new contracts, enhancing their business reach
- 17 MSMEs increased their market share, solidifying their presence in their respective industries
- 4 MSMEs obtained loan funding, providing additional resources for growth.

COHORT 4 CURRENTLY ONGOING

Project Milestones achieved thus far in 2026:

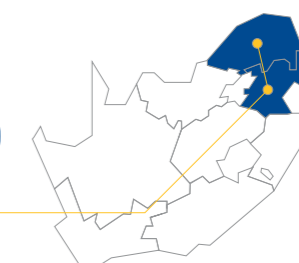
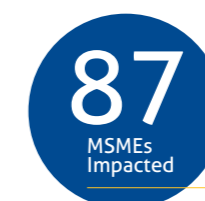
- Only diagnostics have been concluded for all MSMEs. Project is still in early stages. The actual programme will only start running in 2026.

Project Interventions

- Financial Deep Dive assessment:
- Financial Coaching Workshop
- Back-Office and Accounting Support

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Construction, Engineering, Cleaning Services, Manufacturing and supply of mining supplies, Farming, Catering and laundry service.



Project Location

Limpopo and Mpumalanga

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

GLENCORE FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

Project Background

Glencore and SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) ran a pilot project in the period 2023-2025 to render its Financial Excellence Offering (FEO) programme for a selected cohort of businesses within Glencore's Enterprise and Supplier Development strategy, aimed at improving the Financial Management aspects in MSMEs.



Project Objectives

- Financially Astute MSMEs: Optimizing the financial performance of the business that ensures the ability to fulfil services/products and thus impact the overall sustainability
- Credible MSMEs through Accounting and Compliance Support: Adherence to legislation, statutory requirements and industry standards providing the ability to access third party funding
- Expanding MSMEs: Possessing the ability to enter new markets or expand on exiting markets and the ability to perform to the required standards
- Optimizing Business Performance: Develop capabilities in MSMEs thus ensuring they are effective businesses, applying business optimization principles resulting in them becoming reliable and sustainable suppliers in the long term.

Project Impact

- 53% total increase in turnover across 10 supported companies
- 37% increase in net profit across 7 companies
- 20 new jobs created by 6 participating Eastern Limb companies.
- 3 MSMEs received external loan funding
- 58% of MSMEs secured contracts or purchase orders (POs) outside Glencore
- 11% secured contracts or POs directly from Glencore
- 19 MSMEs supported through compliance, coaching, and workshops
- All MSMEs noted that they improved their skills in running a business
- On average 82% of business improved in their compliance and regulatory requirements.

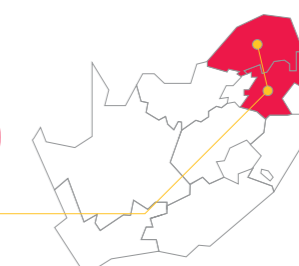
Project Interventions

- Diagnostics assessments and Development Plans
 - One-on-One business and finance coaching
 - Accounting and Compliance Support Workshops
- Technical skills Training re: Perfume Manufacturing – facilitated by CHEMIN
- Opex support in the form of equipment to commence production

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Construction, Engineering, Cleaning Services, Manufacturing

19
MSMEs
Impacted



Project Location

Limpopo and Mpumalanga

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

GOLDEN VALLEY WINDFARM BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) Business Development Programme and Amstilite (RF) Proprietary Limited, also known as Golden Valley Wind Farm (GVWF), partnered to support the growth and development of local MSMEs within the Somerset East community. The project commenced in 2025 and continues to run into this year as part of a sustained commitment to supporting local enterprise development.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

I joined the programme because I wanted to take Gravity Gym to the next level. The support I received helped me better understand how to run my gym and connect with more people. It's made a huge difference in how I operate every day. I have been able to grow my membership, run my group classes more efficiently, and plan for long-term growth. The guidance I received gave me clarity and confidence to build the gym I've always wanted"

Jose Horne - Gravity gym



Project Objectives

- Enable the programme for the growth and development of sustainable businesses
- To advocate for and bring awareness to the importance of Financial Excellence in running, managing and growing business enterprises
- To enhance financial literacy and business capability through the transfer of knowledge and skills
- To ensure financial and industry compliance is always adhered to
- To develop financial excellence reporting standards in MSMEs businesses
- To assist in providing third party grant investments.

Project Milestone achieved thus far in 2026

- All baseline assessments have been completed
- Ongoing coaching, workshop support and Accounting support continues
- 1 MSME has received thirdparty funding whereas 2 MSMEs have applied for funding and await feedback
- Since the start of the programme 75% of MSMEs have received new market opportunities
- 13 new jobs have been created since the start of the programme
- 6 of the 8 MSMEs are actively trading and have financial reporting systems in place
- Of these 6 MSMEs, all have increased their revenue by more than 10%
- All 6 MSMEs have increased in Net Profit
- All 8 MSMEs are compliant with regulatory requirements
- 100% of MSMEs have business models in place
- 100% of MSMEs have completed their business plans
- 63% have completed their sales & marketing strategies with enhanced processes
- 50% of MSMEs are now using a excel automated record keeping system, whilst the other 4 are doing manual recording, with the aim of moving to the excel automated record keeping system
- 50% are now using cashflow budgets as a tool to measure the cash position of the business.

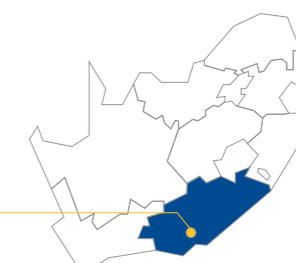


Project Interventions

- Optimizing Business Performance
 - Financially astute Enterprises
- Compliance and Good Governance
 - Scalable Enterprises

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Gym, Beautician, Construction, General Services



Project Location
Eastern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

GRACA MACHEL TRUST WOMEN CREATING WEALTH PROGRAMME

Project Background

As part of this national initiative, the Trust engaged SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) to leverage its credibility, professional networks, and strong linkages to SAICA's Small and Medium Practices (SMP) ecosystem to identify suitable women entrepreneurs within the financial sector. SAICA ED's mandate was to recruit and prepare 80 women-owned MSMEs for onboarding into the Women Creating Wealth (WCW) programme.



Project Objectives

- Identify and Recruit Suitable Women Entrepreneurs in the Financial Sector
- Prepare 80 Women-Owned MSMEs for Programme Onboarding
- Deliver a Complete and Verified Entrepreneur Database
- Support a National Women-Empowerment Initiative
- Strengthen Representation of Women in the Financial Sector.

Project Impact

- Expanded National Reach and Visibility for Women Entrepreneurs
- Strengthened Participation of Women in the Financial Sector
- Recruitment and Preparation of 80 Women-Owned MSMEs
- Creation of a High-Quality, Verified Entrepreneur Database
- Strengthened Foundations for Long-Term Wealth-Creation Pathways
- Enhanced National Coordination of Women-Empowerment Efforts.



Project Interventions

- The project involved conducting desktop screening, assessing supporting documents, and selecting 80 qualifying women-owned MSMEs aligned to programme criteria
- Once screened, SAICA ED provided the validated database to the Graça Machel Trust, who then undertook interviews and final selection
- This focused support ensures that women with real growth potential gain access to a catalytic 10-month development journey designed to build sustainable, wealth-creating businesses

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme
Financial Services Sector



Project Location
National

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

GOUDA WIND ENERGY FACILITY PROJECT 1 & 2

Project Background

SAICA ED launched a pilot entrepreneurial development project, sponsored by Gouda Windfarm, to support MSME's as part of Gouda's ESD/Small Business Support Strategy. This initiative provided the MSMEs with access to a Finance & Business coach. The project included monthly coaching sessions, back-office accounting support, and various workshops covering a wide range of topics. Additionally, SAICA ED assumed the role of Operational Investment support, a function previously managed by Gouda.

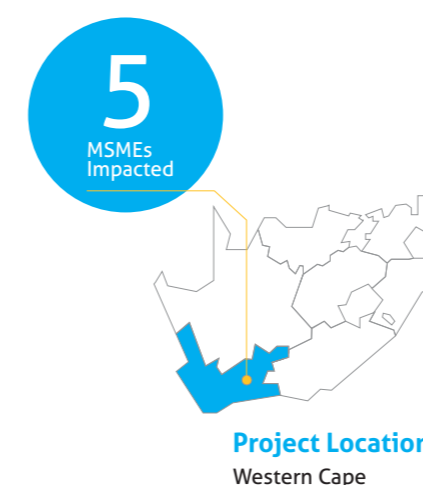


Project Objectives

- Foster the growth and development of sustainable businesses
- Promote the significance of financial and business excellence in managing and expanding your enterprise
- Improve financial literacy and business skills through knowledge and skill transfer
- Ensure continuous adherence to financial and industry compliance standards.

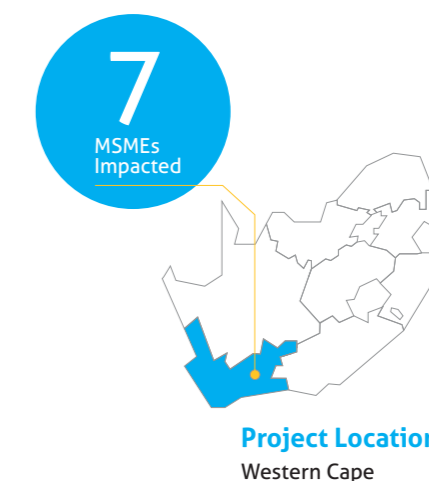
Project Impact (Cohort 1 Concluded in 2025)

- All active trading participants have up to date management accounts
- 100% of the MSMEs Number of MSMEs that improved in the compliance and regulatory requirements of the business
- One of the MSME's was successfully in securing 3 new contracts.



Project Milestone achieved thus far in 2026 (Cohort 2 Currently Ongoing)

- 86% of the MSMEs have increased in Turnover, cumulatively the total cohort has generated R 1,427 million year to date
- 20 jobs are created and sustained thus far
- Of the actively trading MSMEs – all have adopted automated accounting tools and systems
- One of the MSMEs has since secured a new contract valued at R1.3 million.



Project Interventions

- Diagnostic Assessments and Development Plans
One-on-One business and Finance Coaching
Workshops
- Accounting and Business Compliance support
Operational (Opex) Support

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Cattle/ Piggery farming, Laundry, Security Services
Recycling/Fertilizer

LILITHA SOLAR PV ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

Lilitha Solar continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening small businesses within the local renewable-energy ecosystem. The project has focused on enhancing the financial resilience, compliance standards, and operational maturity of Black-owned MSMEs in and around De Aar. Building on the proven success and developmental momentum of previous cohorts, particularly Cohort 5, the programme is now advancing into its next phase which will continue to roll out into 2026.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

“The program helped improve financial management, including salary payments and asset tracking. The coaching session enhanced asset management and introduced an asset register.”
Ekula Trading



Project Objectives

- To provide an enabling programme for the growth and development of sustainable businesses
- To stimulate the development of entrepreneurship
- To advocate for and bring awareness to the importance of business and financial literacy in running (managing) and growing business enterprises
- To reinforce positive behaviors and attitudes through the provision of coaching and mentoring intervention
- To render business skills development, increased economic participation, increased employment, and income generation opportunities through the development of sustainable emerging businesses.

Project Milestones achieved thus far in 2026

- Zayz Unlimited has secured a three-year contract for transporting goods and vehicles and has also acquired a second-hand rollback truck to support operations
- ZinoM has successfully relocated to the CBD, resulting in increased visibility and access to a broader client base
- Blossom Pride secured training project in Askham, which have now been successfully completed
- Ongoing Back-Office Support continues, including the provision of updated management accounts
- One business achieved its highest recorded turnover during this period
- Asset procurement for Tranche 1 has been fully completed
- Two Masterclasses have been successfully delivered.

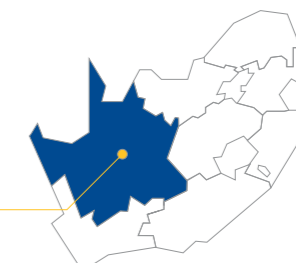


Project Interventions

- Diagnostic Assessments & Bespoke Development Plans
- Business and Finance Coaching Leadership Workshops
 - Operational Investments
- Accounting and Compliance Support

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Logistics & Transport, Steel Works, Manufacturing, Farming, Hospitality, Health & Wellness



Project Location
Northern Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

NINETY ONE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT LOAN SUPPORT

Project Background

As part of Ninety One's Enterprise Development mandate in providing interest-free loans, SAICA ED was onboarded as the implementation partner to source and recruit suitable MSMEs that would be in a position to qualify for Loan Funding Opportunities with Ninety-One.

Project Objectives

- **Strengthen Regulatory Compliance:** This is to ensure that all participating MSMEs achieve full compliance with SARS and CIPC requirements, supported by a review of their Annual Financial Statements
- **Build Internal Financial Capacity Through a Tailored Programme:** Enhance the internal financial management capability of MSMEs through a customised Financial Excellence Programme
- **Provide Specialised One-on-One Coaching for Funding Readiness:** Support MSMEs through personalised coaching aimed at improving their loan-funding readiness, including developing and managing cash-flow forecasts and preparing essential financial documentation
- **Support Funding Applications and Investor Engagement:** Provide hands-on guidance throughout the funding application process and assist MSMEs in preparing compelling pitches to Ninety One as part of their investment consideration.

Project Interventions

- The Ninety-One Loan Application & Support Programme is a structured two-phase initiative designed to prepare MSMEs for institutional funding by strengthening their regulatory compliance, financial management capability, and readiness to secure loans

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Laboratory testing, consulting, and training services, Electronic Security Solutions, Engineering, Construction & Chemicals solutions, Digital marketing Platforms, Advertising, Health and Safety Services

Project Impact

- Total number of applications received - 39
- Number who submitted supporting information - 29
- 27 submitted Annual financial statements (1 submitted Projections but not financials)
- 17 Applicants have a Turnover of R1 000 000
- 15 of these have a positive Net Profit
- All 15 have an accountant
- 7 MSMEs moved into phase 2
- In phase 2 all MSMEs received coaching and compliance support for a period of 3 months
- After Phase 2 – 3 MSMEs were selected to be considered for loan Funding Support from Ninety-One. After a thorough due diligence undertaken by Ninety- One.



Project Location
National

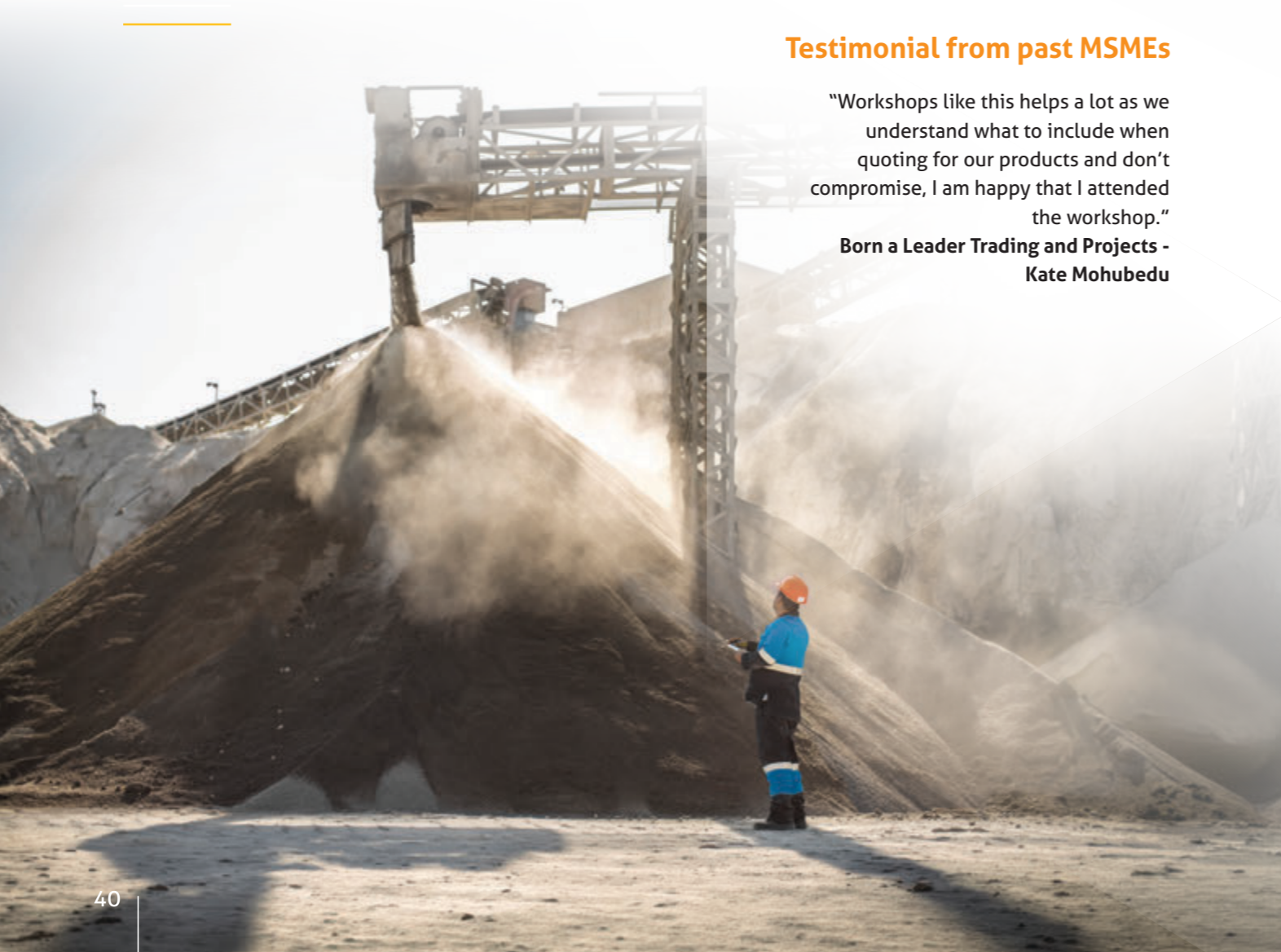
[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

NORTHAM BOOYSENDAL FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

Project Background

SAICA Enterprise Development has entered into a strategic partnership with Northam Platinum Booyseendal Mine to implement a comprehensive Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Financial Excellence Programme. This initiative is designed to enhance the financial management capabilities of participating enterprises, thereby strengthening their long-term sustainability and contribution to the broader supply chain. The project commenced at the beginning of 2025 and reflects a joint commitment to advancing economic development through structured, high-impact support interventions.



Testimonial from past MSMEs

“Workshops like this helps a lot as we understand what to include when quoting for our products and don’t compromise, I am happy that I attended the workshop.”

**Born a Leader Trading and Projects -
Kate Mohubedu**

Project Objectives

- Promote Sustainable Growth of MSMEs: Provide an enabling programme for the growth and development of sustainable businesses
- Advocate for Financial Excellence across the participating MSMEs: Bring awareness to the importance of Financial Excellence in running, managing and growing business enterprises
- Strengthen Financial Literacy and Business Management Capability: Enhance financial literacy and business capability through the transfer of knowledge and skills
- Ensure Ongoing Financial and Regulatory Compliance: Support MSMEs in maintaining consistent financial, statutory, and industry-specific compliance through proactive guidance
- Develop and Institutionalise Financial Reporting Standards for MSMEs Robust financial excellence reporting standards tailored for MSMEs, ensuring clarity, transparency, and improved access to funding, partnerships, and market.

Project Impact

- 100% of diagnostics assessments have been completed
- 67% of MSMEs have opted to utilise the Accounting and Compliance Support intervention
- 57% of MSMEs require assistance with prior years backoffice support
- As we progress with the programme, we continue to support the MSMEs with their compliance related issues, Coaching and Workshop support.



Project Interventions

- 100% of diagnostics assessments have been completed
- 67% of MSMEs have opted to utilise the Accounting and Compliance Support intervention
- 57% of MSMEs require assistance with prior years backoffice support.
- As we progress with the programme, we continue to support the MSMEs with their compliance related issues, Coaching and Workshop support

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Construction, Engineering, Cleaning Services, Manufacturing and supply of mining supplies, Brick Manufacturing, Commercial Logistics, Plant Hire Marketing, Catering, Education, Waste management and Recycling, water supply.

19
MSMEs Impacted



Project Location

Limpopo and Mpumalanga

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

RAISE AFRICA PROGRAMME

Project Background

The RAISEAfrica initiative is an international renewable-energy sector project led by Rez4Africa which supported innovation and entrepreneurial growth among MSMEs operating across the African continent. The project focused on strengthening renewable-energy enterprises in Kenya, Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo, and Ghana, with a cohort of eight MSMEs, consisting of six youth-owned businesses, six male entrepreneurs, and two female entrepreneurs.



Project Objectives

- Strengthen the business sustainability and growth readiness of renewable-energy MSMEs operating across selected African markets
- Provide specialist marketing and sales development support to participating MSMEs
- Enhance the financial management capabilities of early-stage and growth-stage renewable-energy enterprises
- Complement technical renewable-energy expertise provided by Res4Africa with enterprise-building support
- Support youth-owned and under-represented entrepreneurs (including female-owned enterprises) by equipping them with practical business, sales, and financial skills.

Project Interventions

- The project centred on enabling MSMEs in the renewable energy value chain to grow and refine their businesses through structured development support
- Res4Africa contributed deep industry-sector expertise, they sought a credible partner to provide the financial management, marketing, and sales development each enterprise required. SAICA ED delivered specialist marketing and sales coaching, business growth guidance, and financial strengthening interventions tailored to the needs of early-stage and growth-stage enterprises across multiple African markets
- This blend of technical sector knowledge from Rez4Africa and enterprise-building expertise from SAICA ED formed a powerful support model for participating MSMEs.

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

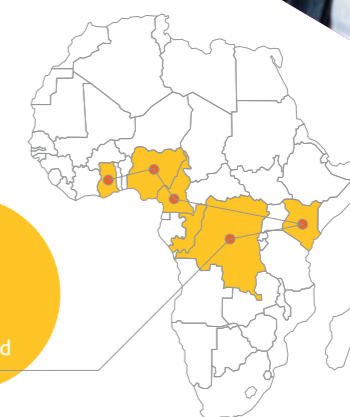
MSMEs in the renewable sector to support their businesses across Africa

Project Impact

- Strengthened Business Competitiveness of MSMEs
- Improved Financial Management and Stability
- Increased Market Visibility and Sales Capability
- Holistic Business Development Through Dual Expertise
- Enhanced Readiness for Growth and Market Expansion
- Contribution to Africa's Renewable-Energy Ecosystem.



8
MSMEs
Impacted



Project Location

Kenya, Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo, and Ghana

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

SAICA ED FLAGSHIP COHORT 8

Project Background

SAICA Enterprise Development, in collaboration with FTI and a collective of independent coaches, continues to advance its mandate of strengthening the MSME ecosystem through the implementation of its Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) virtual programme since 2012. Building on the proven impact and strong outcomes delivered through earlier cohorts. Flagship 9, which commenced in 2025, reflects the sustained momentum and growing demand for high-impact entrepreneurial development initiatives.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

“The programme helped us gain a solid understanding of our business finances through a structured diagnostic process and ongoing guidance from our mentor. The support we received enabled us to assess our business’s true position and its feasibility, while also providing broader business management training through multiple workshops. We are grateful for the valuable insights gained and remain committed to supporting the programme as it continues to empower future cohorts.”

To the moon - Green Golden Group



Project Objectives

- Assess the Current State of Each Business
- Build Financial and Business Management Capability Implement Strong Financial Management Systems Improve Decision-Making Through Coaching Enhance Cash and Budget Management
- Improve Compliance Support Market Access
- Strengthen Funding Readiness.

Project Impact

- The programme supported 31 MSMEs, providing diagnostics, coaching, workshops, and structured development plans. Participating businesses achieved: 13% average revenue growth post-programme
- 14% average profit increase post-programme
- Several MSMEs significantly advanced their business performance, unlocking new potential and experiencing notable success.
- 62 new jobs were created.

Project Milestones achieved thus far in 2026:

- Only diagnostics have been concluded for all MSMEs. Project is still in early stages. The actual programme will only start running in 2026.



Project Interventions

- Deep Dive Diagnostic Development Plan
- Finance and Business Coaching

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

ICT, Manufacturing, Cleaning, Construction, Media & Advertising, Agriculture, Waste Management, Food & Beverage, Digital marketing, Logistics, Transport and Travel.



Project Location
National

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

SAICA ED FLAGSHIP COHORT 9

Project Background

SAICA Enterprise Development, in collaboration with FTI and a collective of independent coaches, continues to advance its mandate of strengthening the MSME ecosystem through the implementation of its Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) virtual programme since 2012. Building on the proven impact and strong outcomes delivered through earlier cohorts. Flagship 9, which commenced in 2025, reflects the sustained momentum and growing demand for high-impact entrepreneurial development initiatives and keeping abreast with evolving B-BBEE codes.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

“Serving in the SAICA ED programme over the past two years has been incredibly fulfilling. I’ve had the privilege of working with driven and passionate entrepreneurs whose commitment and outlook continue to inspire me. Many of the MSMEs I’ve coached have grown into genuine friends who keep in touch even after the programme.”
Refentse Masha

Project Objectives

- Assess the Current State of Each Business
- Build Financial and Business Management Capability Implement Strong Financial Management Systems Improve Decision-Making Through Coaching Enhance Cash and Budget Management
- Improve Compliance Support Market Access
- Strengthen Funding Readiness.

Project Milestones achieved thus far in 2026

- 28 MSME's empowered and are currently under this cohort 35 jobs created thus far
- Diagnostics assessments completed ongoing coaching and workshop support.



Project Interventions

- Deep Dive Diagnostic
- Development Plan
- Finance and Business Coaching

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

ICT, Manufacturing, Cleaning, Construction, Media & Advertising, Agriculture, Waste Management, Food & Beverage, Digital marketing, Logistics, Transport and Travel.



Project Location
National

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

SAICA NPO ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

SAICA Enterprise Development (Pty) Ltd (SAICA ED) launched a 12-month Supplier Development Project, with its main focus on leadership development, in October 2024. The programme aimed to drive economic empowerment and transformation by supporting the development of sustainable small businesses and strengthening preferential procurement initiatives within the SAICA value chain.

Testimonial from past MSMEs

“Thank you for such an informative and life changing development programme. I have learnt so much in the 6 months, and the business has experienced growth. Thank you for the positive impact you are making.”

Nompumelelo Ntimani-Reserved Table



Project Objectives

- **Financially Astute MSMEs:** Optimizing the financial performance of the business that ensures the ability to fulfil services/products and thus impact the overall sustainability
- **Credible MSMEs through Accounting and Compliance Support:** Adherence to legislation, statutory requirements and industry standards providing the ability to access third party funding
- **Expanding MSMEs:** Possessing the ability to enter new markets or expand on existing markets and the ability to perform to the required standards
- **Optimizing Business Performance:** Develop capabilities in MSMEs thus ensuring they are effective businesses, applying business optimization principles resulting in them becoming reliable and sustainable suppliers in the long term.

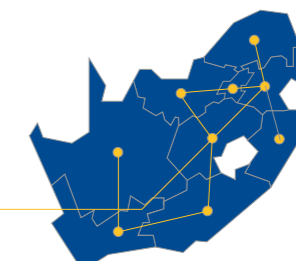
Project Impact

- Empowered 6 MSMEs with diagnostics, tailored development plans, one-on-one coaching, and leadership and operational excellence interventions
- Enabled the creation of 25 new jobs across these enterprises during the programme period
- Strengthened market access, as all participating MSMEs secured new clients in both the private and public sectors
- Improved overall financial resilience and supply chain readiness of the participating businesses, positioning them to scale sustainably.



Project Interventions

- **Enterprise Capability Development:** The programme focuses on developing new capabilities within participating through this bespoke leadership support programme.
- **Asset Procurement Support:** To improve operational efficiency, enterprises receive assistance with small asset procurement.



Project Location
National

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Catering, Events, Camp Site, Clothing Manufacturing

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

SASOL 4 & 5 FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

Project Background

Sasol partnered with SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) to implement a Financial Excellence Offering (FEO) pilot programme across 2023–2024, followed by a second cohort running April 2024 – July 2025.



Project Objectives

- **Conduct a Comprehensive Financial Deep Dive:** To perform an intensive financial diagnostic assessment that establishes a clear and accurate understanding of each business’s financial health and operational status
- **Strengthen Financial Management Capability Through Coaching:** To implement sound financial management structures and build the business owner’s financial skills through targeted coaching
- **Monitor and Evaluate Programme Progress and Impact:** To systematically track all interventions and measure their effectiveness in improving the financial performance
- **Provide Quality Accounting and Back-Office Support:** Deliver consistent and high-standard financial processing, including monthly management accounts, tax compliance, and company secretarial compliance.

Project Interventions

- Financial Deep Dive assessment
 - Financial Coaching
 - Workshops
- Back-Office and Accounting Support.

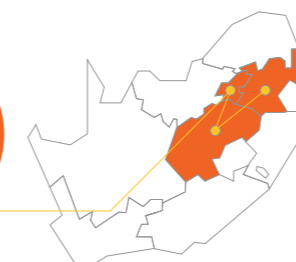
Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

Construction, Engineering, Cleaning Services, Manufacturing and supply of mining supplies, Brick Manufacturing Commercial Logistics, Plant Hire Marketing, IT and Security, Waste management and Recycling

COHORT 4

Project Impact

- 28 MSMEs contributed to the 51% total increase in turnover across the cohort
- 28 MSMEs contributed to a 43% increase in net profit
- 21 MSMEs (38%) increased both turnover and net profit
- 45 new jobs created by 11 MSMEs
- 11 MSMEs received funding; 1 MSME received a grant for licensing/registration
- 7% of MSMEs secured contracts from Sasol
- 42% accessed markets or contracts outside Sasol
- 18% will continue using SAICA ED accounting and coaching services (monthly or ad hoc).

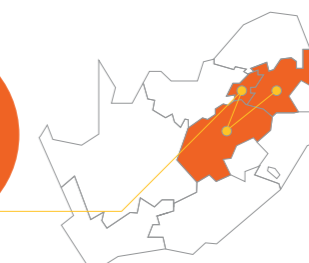


Project Location
Gauteng, Freestate, Mpumalanga

COHORT 5

Project Milestones achieved thus far in 2026

- 17 additional MSME's required additional support in the form of back-office accounting support dating back to prior years
- 4 MSMEs only required Reviews and Compilations preparation
- 5 MSMEs required a total of 90 months of financials to be completed
- 8 MSMEs required a review of their Annual Financial Statements.



Project Location
Gauteng, Freestate, Mpumalanga

Impact-driven Initiatives

SYGNIA ASSET MANAGEMENT ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

Sygnia has partnered with SAICA Enterprise Development as the implementing organisation responsible for delivering the project, that brings specialised expertise in financial excellence, governance strengthening, and enterprise-development support—ensuring that participating MSMEs receive high-quality, structured interventions that align with Sygnia’s developmental goals.



Project Objectives

- Improve financial management and internal controls
- Strengthen compliance with industry and regulatory requirements
- Enhance operational efficiency and workforce capability. Increase procurement, market access and funding readiness
- Sustainable business growth and job preservation/creation
- Structured and scalable operations aligned with the finalised business plan.

Project Impact

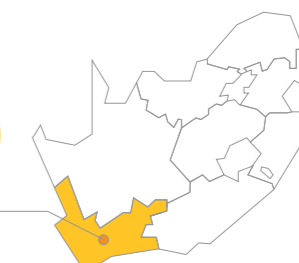
- The business successfully managed January 2026 staff turnover, replacing two resigned employees and stabilising the workforce at 17 employees
- The MSME currently maintains 13 active service contracts in Cape Town, demonstrating operational sustainability and consistent service delivery capacity
- Multiple employees completed critical training programmes, including Fire Fighting, First Aid, Labour Law, Disciplinary Procedures, and Intermediate Excel. These interventions enhanced compliance, administrative efficiency, and supervisory capability
- Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) systems and policies were introduced and are in the process of full implementation, strengthening regulatory compliance and operational risk management
- A comprehensive business plan has been drafted and finalised, providing structured strategic direction and a growth roadmap
- The 2025 Annual Financial Statements were received, with a comparative analysis against the 2024 financial year identified as the next step to assess profitability and growth trends
- A SEFDA funding application has been submitted and is currently pending outcome
- Governance and Contract Structuring: Engagement initiated to formalise employment contracts and refine company terms and conditions to strengthen internal controls was implemented.



Project Interventions

- Financial Management and Accounting System
 - Strengthening Governance and Internal Controls
- Compliance and Regulatory Alignment
- Strategic Business Planning and Growth
- Structuring Workforce Development and Skills Enhancement
- Marketing and Market Positioning

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme
Financial Services



Project Location
Western Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Impact-driven Initiatives

TELKOM SA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Project Background

The Telkom MSME Support Project is an active initiative aimed at strengthening the performance and sustainability of small businesses through a structured diagnostic and developmental approach. The programme currently works with 37 MSMEs, including 19 women-owned enterprises, demonstrating Telkom's commitment to inclusive economic participation and targeted support for women entrepreneurs.



Project Objectives

- The project is intending to focus to conduct comprehensive business diagnostics across all participating MSMEs to identify operational, financial and strategic gaps that may be limiting growth.

Project Milestones achieved thus far

- Strengthened Understanding of MSME Performance Gaps
- Clear Identification of Priority Development Needs
- Tailored Development Plans Supporting Enterprise Growth
- Enhanced Visibility of Women-Owned Enterprises
- Strong Foundation for Subsequent Intervention Phases.



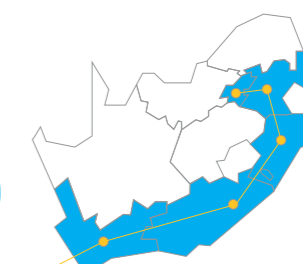
Project Interventions

- Detailed gap analysis to assess priority challenges within each business
- Development of tailored development plans that outline the specific interventions, capacity-building needs and improvement pathways required to strengthen each enterprise.

Industries of participating MSMEs on the programme

All MSME participants came from the ICT industry

37
MSMEs Impacted



Project Location

Eastern Cape, Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Mpumalanga, Western Cape

[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Media Highlights

THE ALL-NEW HOPE FACTORY WEBSITE



We're excited to introduce the new and improved The Hope Factory (THF) website, a fresh and inspiring digital home designed to bring our entrepreneurial development stories to life like never before! Whether you're an entrepreneur, a partner, or simply passionate about economic empowerment, our revamped website invites you to explore the heart of The Hope Factory and the impact we're creating across South Africa.

The Hope Factory (THF) and SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) continue to gain national recognition, with more than 10 articles published across prominent media and on our social media platforms highlighting our success stories, transformational impact, and commitment to building a progressive entrepreneurial nation.



CEO, Annie McWalter, featured on the nationally recognized SAICA Biz Impact Podcast. A platform dedicated to empowering Small businesses nationwide.



The Hope Factory and SAICA Enterprise Development continue to experience growth, with increasing follower engagement and expanding reach driven by success stories and impactful programme highlights .



[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Featured Article for SAICA Enterprise Development

HOW FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE DRIVES LASTING ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

At Exxaro, a thriving Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programme isn't just a corporate obligation — it's a powerful catalyst for economic enhancement.

Fostering entrepreneurial talent and strengthening aspiring and existing suppliers through ESD, South African businesses can build resilient industries and even uplift the communities they serve. Exxaro Resources, a leading force in Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) development, continues to reinforce its commitment to sustainable MSME development through its ongoing partnering with SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED).

At the heart of this collaboration is their Financial Excellence Programme, a transformative initiative designed to empower MSMEs with essential financial management skills. Beyond equipping entrepreneurs with the tools to navigate financial complexities, the Financial Excellence programme also enhances operational efficiency and cultivates long-term sustainability, which are key ingredients for thriving in today's competitive market.

Tangible Results - A Proven Track Record

The impact of the Financial Excellence Programme speaks for itself, with the success of its previous three cohorts. Some of the key achievements from the 87 MSMEs that participated in the programme over the last three years include:

- Over a 65% increase in turnover and a 55% rise in net profit across all businesses.
- 102 new jobs created, further fuelling economic expansion.
- 16 MSMEs secured new contracts, enhancing their business reach.

- 17 MSMEs increased their market share, solidifying their presence in their respective industries.
- 4 MSMEs obtained loan funding, providing additional resources for growth.

These impressive milestones underscore the programme's far-reaching influence and undeniable success in empowering entrepreneurs and fostering financial sustainability.

A Programme That Transforms Businesses

Participants have shared enthusiastic testimonials about the programme's invaluable impact.

"The programme helped us introduce structured accounting systems, align our company with SARS regulations, and address VAT challenges. Our accountant was always available, ensuring our financial framework remained robust." — Bonginkosi Clement Mashinini and Ntando Gratitude Mashele from LEADERS IN BUSINESS, a business that specialises in transportation of explosives, mining and drilling equipment.

"I've learned the importance of tracking performance, recording relevant data, and processing information for better decisionmaking." — Molangoane Chuene Eric from VIDEO PRODUCTION AND PHOTOGRAPHY

"The program has taught me the importance of monitoring the company financial performance and to be always compliant." Hendrick Seleka from MAHENDY TRADING ENTERPRISE(PTY) LTD that specializes in supplying mine equipment and Pest Control Services.

The Journey Continues - Cohort 4 Takes Flight

With such proven success, SAICA Enterprise Development is proud to announce the launch of Cohort 4 (Exxaro 4) of the Financial Excellence programme to offer a group of entrepreneurs the opportunity to sharpen their financial acumen and build prosperous futures.

As this long-term collaboration flourishes in 2025, Exxaro Resources and SAICA ED remain dedicated to driving meaningful economic transformation, empowering MSME, and paving the way for sustained business success.

Featured Article for The Hope Factory

FROM VISION TO VICTORY: LINDELWA'S MICRO ENTERPRISE SUCCESS



Nestled within the Blue Crane Municipality of the Eastern Cape, KwaNojoli is a small town where a remarkable entrepreneurial journey is taking shape. At the heart of this transformation is Lindelwa Hlubikazi Mabila, the visionary founder of Hlubi M, who has grown her small business into a beacon of hope and resilience, empowered by the support of The Hope Factory's Small Business Support Programme.

In partnership with Cennergi Services through the Amakhala Emoyeni Community Fund Trust, The Hope Factory launched an entrepreneurial initiative to spark economic growth in small towns surrounding local windfarms in the Eastern Cape. Centered on manufacturing in the chemical industry, the programme empowers micro and start-up businesses through comprehensive training, mentorship, and strategic guidance.

Year 1 of the programme was co-funded by CHIETA (The Education and Training Authority for the Chemical Industry), who together with Cennergi Services have established MSME, like Lindelwa with operational businesses to the benefit of their own income generation and local economic growth in the region.

The programme's core goal is clear: to equip entrepreneurs with the knowledge and tools needed to build sustainable businesses, generate income, and create meaningful employment to ultimately enable their full participation in the broader economy.

Lindelwa's Leap Forward

For Lindelwa, joining the Small Business Support Programme proved to be a transformative milestone. Her enterprise, Hlubi M, focuses on the manufacturing of essential household cleaning products—including dishwashing liquid, ammoniated surface cleaner, bleach, washing powder, and pine gel. Operating in a region where economic opportunities are scarce, Lindelwa saw the programme as a lifeline for both her business and her community.

Through targeted training and mentorship, she acquired critical skills in business planning, operational management, and financial discipline. "I learnt to plan and manage operations to ensure sustainability and better management of my staff and finances," she reflects. "This has been key to the growth of my business."

When she started with the Small Business Support Programme, she had only two employees. Today, that number has grown to six, an inspiring indicator of both business growth and

community impact. Hlubi M products are supplied in local spaza shops in Bedford and have now expanded reach in Cradock, and Middleburg.

Milestone and Motivation

Amongst the defining moments of her journey, Lindelwa highlights the power of goal setting, sustained motivation, and disciplined financial management. These core principles—nurtured through expert coaching and the structured support of the Small Business Support Programme, have enabled her to face the challenges of entrepreneurship with renewed confidence and strategic clarity.

Now progressing through Year 2 of the programme, Lindelwa stands on the threshold of even greater success. She is on the verge of getting products sold to bigger retail outlets across the Eastern Cape.

A Brighter Future

Her journey isn't just one of personal triumph, it's a beacon for what community-driven, locally funded programmes can achieve. Thanks to The Hope Factory and its partners, businesses like Hlubi M are not only surviving, but they are also uplifting their communities. Such tri-partied; public, private and the development sector collaborations have the potential to create lasting change within even remote South African communities and The Hope Factory look forward to continuing the wonderful work with Cennergi Services and CHIETA.



Highlights

CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The Hope Factory (THF) and SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED), both play a vital role in advancing South Africa's inclusive economic growth agenda.

Through high-impact Enterprise and Supplier Development interventions, mentorship, financial management training, and holistic business support, these organisations directly contribute to several key United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Their combined efforts strengthen small business ecosystems, empower entrepreneurs, and promote long-term Socio-Economic resilience.



[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Highlights

LEGACY IMPACT

SAICA Enterprise Development (SAICA ED) and The Hope Factory (THF) have played a transformative role in shaping South Africa's entrepreneurial landscape.

Through their combined commitment to driving sustainable entrepreneurship development, the two organisations have consistently delivered programmes that uplift individuals, strengthen businesses, and stimulate economic activity across the country. Their efforts continue to generate positive impact in diverse communities, contributing meaningfully to the nation's long-term Socio-Economic growth.

3968
MSMEs /
ENTREPRENEURS
EMPOWERED



2932
SOCIO-ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPANTS
EMPOWERED



459
PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED



477
YOUTH GRADUATES
IMPACTED WITH WORK
EXPERIENCE



271
SMALL/MEDIUM
PRACTICES
INVOLVED



[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Highlights

THANK YOU

For your continued trust and unwavering support throughout this past year. Your commitment to our shared vision of entrepreneurial empowerment has enabled The Hope Factory and SAICA Enterprise Development to deepen our national impact, strengthen hundreds of MSMEs, and advance inclusive economic growth across key sectors.

Your partnership remains central to every milestone we achieve, and we look forward to creating even greater, measurable impact together in the year ahead.



[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)

Highlights

LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE



As we look ahead, The Hope Factory and SAICA Enterprise Development remain steadfast in our commitment to deepening entrepreneurial impact across South Africa. Our achievements in 2025 have laid a strong foundation for continued growth and transformation in the years to come.

The momentum we have built through strengthened national partnerships, expanded sectoral reach, and the success of flagship programmes, from renewable energy and mining to cosmetics, manufacturing, financial services, and women-focused economic empowerment initiatives, demonstrates the scale and effectiveness of our combined approach.

Looking into the future, we are inspired by the clear opportunities emerging across industries that are vital to South Africa's economic ecosystem. In 2026, we will continue elevating our programmes to deliver deeper financial capability, stronger operational excellence, and more robust market readiness interventions for entrepreneurs across the country. Our work is far from finished and the foundation we have built positions us to achieve even greater impact in the years ahead.



CONTACT US



+27 41 484 7400



enquiries@thehopefactory.co.za
enquiries@saicaed.co.za



www.thehopefactory.co.za
SAICA Enterprise Development | SAICA



THE HOPE FACTORY



SAICA Enterprise Development



[BACK TO CONTENTS PAGE](#)