

IN BRIEF

ISSUE 33 | MARCH 2023



**Remembering the
late Dr Tate Makgoe**

**Activating Civil Society for
Social Transformation!**

**Civil Society Vigilance
in the Age of the 4IR:
a New Assignment**

**Transforming and
Disrupting the Property
Sector**

**SCALING
FOR IMPACT**

OUR IDENTITY

OUR VISION

A prosperous, peaceful, equitable and just society

OUR MISSION

To contribute to development through sustainable funding, with like-minded partnerships and innovative scalable development models

OUR VALUES

- Integrity
- Accountability
- Passion for Development
- Hands On, Bottom Up Approach

4IR

Committed to developing and implementing technological innovation

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS:

- **EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PILLAR**
To extend educational development programmes
- **SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PILLAR**
To promote and support socio-economic development
- **INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING PILLAR**
To support strategic institutional capability development for sustainability
- **FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY PILLAR**
To ensure financial sustainability of Kagiso Charitable Trust



KT & AB4IR & Technology Expo: BNSDP learners in the Sekhukhune, playing a virtual reality game.

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The first quarter of 2023 has seen good news, sad news and important developments nationally and globally, all of which impact KT as an organisation.

On a national and organisational level, education provided one of the most positive pieces of news in the first few weeks of 2023 with the announcement of the matric results. The national pass rate of 80.1% for the class of 2022 (up from 76.4% for 2021) was encouraging news and a testament to the hard work put in by learners and teachers in recovering from the COVID-19 backlog. It was particularly gratifying for KT to see the Free State once again placed as the top-performing province (84.4% pass rate) and the Limpopo Province improving by 5.6% over 2021, proving the enduring value of BNSDP (Beyers Naude Schools Development Programme).

Sadly, this news was tempered by the passing of the Free State MEC for Education, DR PHT Makgoe. The late MEC was one of the key drivers behind the Free State's education successes. His passing has come as a great blow to Kagiso Trust as well as the Free State Department of Education, the Department of Basic Education and the education fraternity at large. We have dedicated a tribute to the late MEC in this issue.

One area of the economy that KT has identified as having a significant opportunity for transformation is the property sector. Through its SED (Socio-Economic Development) pillar, KT has developed a programme to accelerate the development of black property entrepreneurs through its ProPreneurX accelerator programme. In this issue, we look at the latest iteration of this programme.

Globally, the recent release of, and the unprecedented adoption of AI (Artificial Intelligence) technologies, such as Chat GPT, has shown clearly the profound impact these technologies are going to have on society. This development has an immediate and direct impact on development organisations such as KT. To remain relevant

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in the development space, development initiatives must embrace these technologies if their programmes and models are to meaningfully empower their beneficiaries. This In Brief will look at the role of civil society in the era of the fourth industrial revolution and the role it could or should be playing in ensuring that 4IR technologies benefit the disadvantaged.

Finally, load-shedding remains one of South Africa's most pressing and damaging issues. We, along with the rest of the country hope that the recent cabinet reshuffle and appointment of the new electricity minister offer some meaningful solutions. The negative impact load-shedding has on the economy adds just another layer of pressure on an already resource-stretched development sector.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and remind you that each one of us can contribute towards building a better South Africa. Remain steadfast in the knowledge that your efforts make a difference.



Mandisa Tselane.

REMEMBERING THE LATE DR TATE MAKGOE

An inspirational leader dedicated to upliftment through education.

By Mandisa Tselane, Kagiso Trust Communications and Marketing Head

The South African education sector suffered a huge loss with the passing of Dr Tate Makgoe in March this year. The late Free State MEC for Education was a driving force in the education sector. He was a passionate and visionary leader who held firm in the belief that education had the power to transform lives and had the potential to break the cycle of poverty.

Kagiso Trust enjoyed a long and productive working relationship with Dr Makgoe through the development of the BNSDP (Beyers Naude Schools Development Programme) in the Free State. He was instrumental in ensuring its success, giving it his full support and actively engaging in the various aspects of the programme.

Dr Makgoe had a deep understanding of the education process. He recognised that effective education required the participation of the community at large, endorsing the sentiment of the African proverb Kagiso Trust holds dear that 'it takes a village to educate a child'. He recognised the crucial role of teachers and school support staff, investing

in their development and encouraging commitment and dedication.

He was a great motivator and leader. To acknowledge and reward exceptional performance, he incorporated performance standards for schools in the Free State, celebrating and rewarding top performers.

Dr Makgoe had wonderful humility and an ability to connect with people at all levels. He was a hands-on leader who was intimately involved with his projects. By way of example, Dr Makgoe would take part in the exams of the Yearly Maths Festival organised by the Free State Department of Education, ESKOM and KT.

His passion and dedication towards improving education and his unwavering belief in the potential of every learner has changed the course of education in the Free State. The results speak for themselves, under his tenure, the Free State province's matric pass rates have risen steadily from 69.4% in 2009 to a remarkable 88% in 2022 – the country's top-performing province.



The Free State MEC for Education, Tate Makgoe.

“He was a great motivator and leader. To acknowledge and reward exceptional performance, he incorporated performance standards for schools in the Free State, celebrating and rewarding top performers.”

the innovation which has yielded great results. I am saddened by his passing.”

Dr Makgoe walked the talk as far as education was concerned as he held multiple degrees, including Chemical Engineering, a Bachelor of Commerce, an Honours degree in Bachelor of Commerce, and a Master’s in Business Leadership. He was registered for a PhD in Education Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of the Free State at the time of his passing.

Dr Makgoe’s leadership, passion and dedication towards improving education together with his unwavering belief in the potential of every learner, has changed the course of education in the Free State.

His legacy will continue to inspire us to work towards ensuring that every child has access to quality education and the opportunity to fulfil their dreams and that no one is left behind.

Kagiso Trust extends its condolences to Dr Makgoe’s family, friends, and colleagues. His legacy lives on.

National Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga had this to say about the late MEC *“The success of the province in education can be attributed mainly to his leadership, dedication, understanding of the sector and*



ACTIVATING CIVIL SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION!



Youth Activist Circle: Special Interest Conversation.

Kagiso Trust recognises that we live in a time of turbulence and crisis. COVID-19 highlighted and exacerbated the challenges of poverty, inequality, unemployment, and other social justice challenges afflicting communities throughout South Africa, and indeed, the world over.

*By Boichoko Dithake, Kagiso Trust
Civil Society Support Programme Project Manager*

Through the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP), Kagiso Trust explores how Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) can enhance the pace and momentum towards moving more rapidly to the just and equitable society envisioned in the country's Reconstruction and Development Programme, National Development Plan, and most importantly, the Constitution.

Great challenges are facing communities but there are also great opportunities for meaningful change. The CSSP places Kagiso Trust's social change agenda at a new level by scaling up its work in strengthening civil society. Unlocking the Trust's convening power, its dialogue facilitation skills and thought leadership, we are enhancing coordination and increasing resilience within civil society and the communities they serve. Building on strong foundations, we have taken account of the new transformational impulse brought about by a changing context.

Kagiso Trust has a well-canvassed vision of realising social justice through supporting the actions and power of people whose lives are most affected by continued inter-generational inequalities, injustices, and continuing exclusion. Achieving social justice demands people's power and self-activity to drive systemic and transformational change. We support this by strengthening civil society across struggles and geographic locations, as well as in supporting efforts to amplify people's voices. Over the past decade, Kagiso Trust has purposefully repositioned its role and relationship with civil society in South Africa, consolidating the CSSP as the engine room through which its commitment is realised. The Strategic Goal of the programme is to "Facilitate active and meaningful citizen participation in development through social activism" and is grounded in 5 key strategies anchoring Kagiso Trust's current 5-year Strategic Plan, namely:

Scale and Impact | Innovation | Agile Delivery | Incorporated Technology | Youth Impact | Integrated Development

CSSP has identified self-organisation, informed and evidence-based advocacy as well as enhanced coordination and improved capacities as some of the critical intervention areas for support. Using our limited resources, a critical and innovative process was mapped to attain the required outcomes.

The planning was based on clear direction from the sector and various actors, such as Parliament and NEDLAC, which emerged from various dialogues and public engagements on a wide range of critical topics (Anti-Corruption; Youth; Community Resilience; Typologies of the NPO sector; etc.)

It must be noted that the CSSP implements a range of interventions which informs its current positioning and key focal points:

- **Participatory Engagement:** Roundtables, seminars, webinars and dialogues.
- **Studies and Research:** Community Resilience; Typology Study; Non-Profit Policy Framework; NPO Capacity Building Framework; State-Civil Society Compacting; etc.
- **Strategic Engagements and Partnerships:** Nikela Trust; Global Alliance of Foundations; Presidential Social Sector Summit; NEDLAC; Department of Social Development; etc.

- **Sector Advocacy:** NPO Amendment Bill Working Group; General Laws Amendment Bill (Financing Terrorism & Money Laundering)

- **Enhanced Coordination:** Youth and Anti-Corruption

These activities all contributed to and shaped the National Civil Society Consultative Conference. A year ago (January 2022) the programme, mindful of the urgency attached by stakeholders to redefine and re-energise civil society's role, issued the "Call to Action", which boldly stated:

"Without active and independent self-agency on our part as civil society, we will remain locked out of the arena of policy-making and responding reactively to each new aspect of our crisis. We can no longer remain spectators in the destiny of the nation; we can no longer sit on the sideline hoping for the outcome of the game to change. We need to enter the field of play as full participants, capable of controlling our own destiny as a community of common interests. A new ecosystem needs to be created ..."

More than 40 organisations rallied to the call, and established a Steering Committee, which guided the convening of the National Civil Society Consultative Conference (#CivilSocietyUnmuted). The conference was held in November 2022, gathering in person a total of more than 170 representatives from all 9 provinces and various sectors, as well as more than 200 online participants.

They purposefully contributed to:

- The development of an interactive, participatory programme design, which created action-reflection spaces.
- Highlighting the need to be solution-focused in the conference and to go beyond a mere diagnosis of problems by co-creating meaningful and purposeful solutions.
- Elevating the roles of women and youth participation.
- Responding to immediate issues (such as the NPO legislation) as well as engaging more deeply in the national political discourse.

Significantly, the Conference, in its programme, design, participants and deliberations highlighted the following, with special emphasis on youth and women leadership:

- Re-building organised Civil Society
- Collaboration and Communication
- Campaigns, Mobilisation, Advocacy and Lobbying (Policy and Legislative Reform)
- Thought Leadership, Research, Data Collection, Case Studies

The Outcomes Framework and National Consultative Conference Narrative Report helped structure a complex range of issues and needs emerging from the conference. Given the inclusive nature of this process, it is not surprising that the outcome of the Conference has found widespread support in the civil society sector. Other initiatives, such



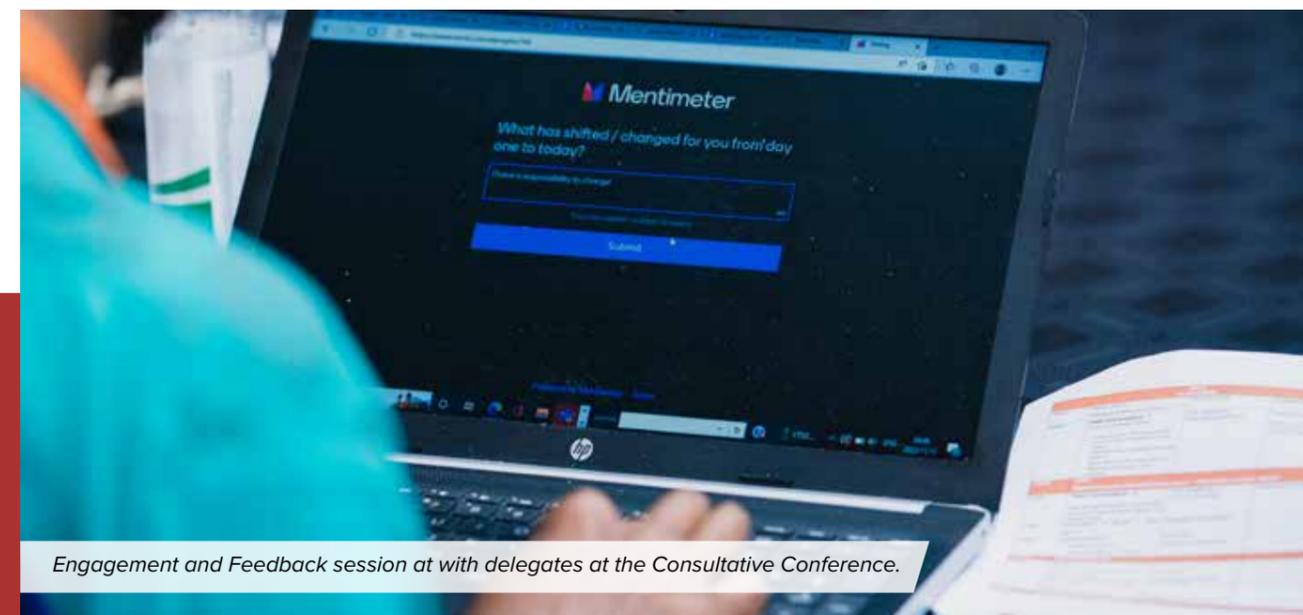
Makhanda Youth at the CSSP Youth Roundtable.

as the Social Justice Assembly (held January 2023), have actively sort to coordinate its efforts with the process. In addition, with the spirit of creating self-reliance and self-organisation, the youth and mining-affected communities have been recognised for capacity-building initiatives which are already in progress.

These areas find concrete expression in Action Items related to supporting the development of a national Civil Society Movement in the next year and in convening a National Gathering of Civil Society within 18 months. With a focus and direction that is supported across sectors, provinces and movements, it is clear that a new energy and spirit of renewal will grow within civil society at this critical time of our country's history. Kagiso Trust is proud once more to be in the trenches supporting positive change for meaningful impact!



Delegates at the KT CSSP Anti-Corruption Dialogue joined by Lechesa, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (far left); Prof Thuli Madonsela, former Public Protector of South Africa (3rd from left); Prof Mantzaris, Researcher at the Inclusive Society Institute (centre); Mankodi, KT CEO (3rd from right) and Adv Kholeka Gcaleka, Deputy Public Protector of South Africa.



Engagement and Feedback session at with delegates at the Consultative Conference.

CIVIL SOCIETY VIGILANCE IN THE AGE OF THE 4IR: A NEW ASSIGNMENT

The role of civil society organisations in promoting the welfare of marginalised populations has always been significant. However, with the advent of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), this role has become increasingly important and has been redefined.

By Cassious Matibidi Manager: Research, Strategy & Knowledge Management

The World Economic Forum (WEF) acknowledges that civil society must recognise new roles in responding to existing and new societal challenges as the 4IR advances.

While industrial revolutions play a crucial role in promoting socio-economic development, they also pose inherent risks. The WEF notes that the 4IR is not an exception. The civil society sector must, therefore, recognise the risks of technological developments, which disproportionately affect marginalised populations.

Role of Civil Society in the Fourth Industrial Revolution:

As the WEF notes, civil society should make investments in several areas to lead the way in modelling key elements of a human centred Fourth Industrial Revolution. Civil society organisations can advocate for responsible practices regarding the application of digital technologies and advocate for equitable access to these technologies. As a leading development agency in South Africa, Kagiso Trust is well positioned to advocate for a policy landscape that promotes equitable socio-economic status for all societal members, especially historically disadvantaged or marginalised populations.

Challenges of Playing a Watchdog Role: One of the main challenges facing civil society in playing a watchdog role in the 4IR is the new territory it presents for the sector.

Grounded comprehension is not yet established, and it is unclear how well-equipped the sector is for this assignment. Kagiso Trust's approach has been to focus on an area aligned with its programmatic work and vision that patently displays inadequacies in policy implementation and then intervening with initiatives to close the gap. Through this approach, the Trust has drawn lessons that inform its policy development and the implementation of its digital strategy.

Emerging Negative Trends: Several emerging negative trends associated with the widespread application and diffusion of digital technologies are worth watching. One such trend is the digital divide, which results in inequitable access to digital tools and content necessary for development, especially in the education sector. Access to education is a constitutional right, and the inequitable access to education through the lack of digital technologies tramples on the justice of those affected.

Another negative trend is the threat to democracy posed by digital tools. Social media platforms are being used for nefarious means of eroding democratic processes, spreading disinformation and misinformation (i.e., fake news) to mould public perceptions and affect democratic decision-making.



The staple food of artificial intelligence is data. However, the collection of data and its application tend to have consequential societal problems that entities behind these activities, often large global technologies corporates, overlook in the narrow pursuit of profits. Such societal problems include privacy invasion, surveillance, and distrust.

“The civil society sector must, therefore, recognise the risks of technological developments, which disproportionately affect marginalised populations.”

The 4IR also poses a significant humanitarian risk, according to WEF. It has the potential to increase income inequality, where highly skilled individuals have more job opportunities and earn much higher than low-skilled individuals. This increased inequality may lead to an increase in social tensions.

Policy Lag (recognition, implementation, and impact):

The propensity for inclusive development and responsible practices becomes higher where policymakers are swift to address policy gaps (e.g., regulatory) before threats are posed. The crucial factor to take into consideration here is that policy lags (which take varied forms) are not inconsequential. Such lags may relate to the period it takes before there is recognition for a policy need, the time it takes for a requisite to be developed, and even the time it takes before the policy makes an impact, intended or otherwise.

Indeed, the demeanour of profit driven corporates, is often to fight policies that are deemed to negatively affect their bottom line. Notwithstanding the evidence of damage caused, which may increase the lag times – history is awash with such examples. For instance, one needs only to look at the policy lags in the climate change issue, where addressing greenhouse emissions was delayed for decades, despite evidence of global warming since the 1950s.

In conclusion, the civil society sector must remain vigilant and play a watchdog role in the 4IR to address risks and advance equity. Kagiso Trust intends to play a key role in this undertaking, including urging other civil society organisations to join in this effort.



TRANSFORMING AND DISRUPTING THE PROPERTY SECTOR

Kagiso Trust's SED (Socio-Economic Development) pillar looks to entrepreneurship as a critical transformational driver and an upliftment vehicle for South Africa's previously disadvantaged. The property sector with an estimated listed-property value of R500bn, is one of the sectors most underrepresented by black entrepreneurs. Thus, being identified by KT as offering significant opportunities for transformation and socio-economic empowerment.

By Tebogo Mokgoadi, Socio-Economic Development Head

Direct property ownership is dominated by institutional investors, collective investment schemes, property loan stocks and listed property entities. The commercially driven activities surrounding property, including development, management and sales, rests largely in white-owned hands. There is limited participation by black people, women and black women (in particular), in ownership and control of these entities. In light of this, as with many other sectors of the economy, the property sector is expected to play its part in addressing historical imbalances, injustices, inequalities, disparities, unfairness and unequal distribution of properties and wealth created by the apartheid regime.

There are two approaches that can be taken in addressing the issue outlined above. The one is to simply identify and mobilise required resources to affected communities. However, this approach would likely require massive funding and may not necessarily address the underlying issues and promote lasting solutions. The other approach is to address some of the underlying impediments to meaningful participation within the sector. This would include skills development, market access assistance, mentoring and financing assistance, thus creating a sustainable, long-term solution.



Images sourced from @KasiEconomy <https://twitter.com/KasiEconomy/status/1399753975591809028>

The objective of Kagiso Trust's Socio-Economic Development pillar is to promote sustainable development through entrepreneurship by supporting black businesses to meaningfully participate in the economy. Kagiso Trust has adopted a hybrid approach in addressing the various issues in the property sector. KT had previously, implemented a property accelerator programme, named *PROPreneurX*. The programme was launched in November 2019, with the objective of capacitating black property entrepreneurs with the skills and capabilities needed to take advantage of opportunities presented to them in the property sector.

Post the two successful *PROPreneurX* intakes, on completing these, KT conducted an impact evaluation. The outcome of this evaluation has been to redevelop a programme that is aligned with property developers in the residential market with a specific focus on entrepreneurs that lack investment capital. The redeveloped concept is premised on the following fundamental issues/elements:

OWNERSHIP

One of the main objectives of the programme is to advance ownership of property within designated groups such as blacks, youth, women and people with physical disabilities.

BALANCE SHEET

The aim of the programme is to help black property entrepreneurs build their property portfolios and therefore take advantage of a capital growth opportunity.

VALUE CHAIN APPROACH

In addition to advancing property ownership, the programme will also aim to promote and develop black entrepreneurs along the value chain of the property sector. This will enhance the reach of the programme as well as the pace at which it can transform the industry.

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships will be governed by the value proposition for all parties. For KT, it will include alignment with social impact, governance and climate.

SUB-SECTORAL FOCUS

The programme will support emerging black entrepreneurs within the affordable residential property market. In addition, it will include a focus on retail property markets and socio-economic impact (for example, ESG):

Affordable Accommodation

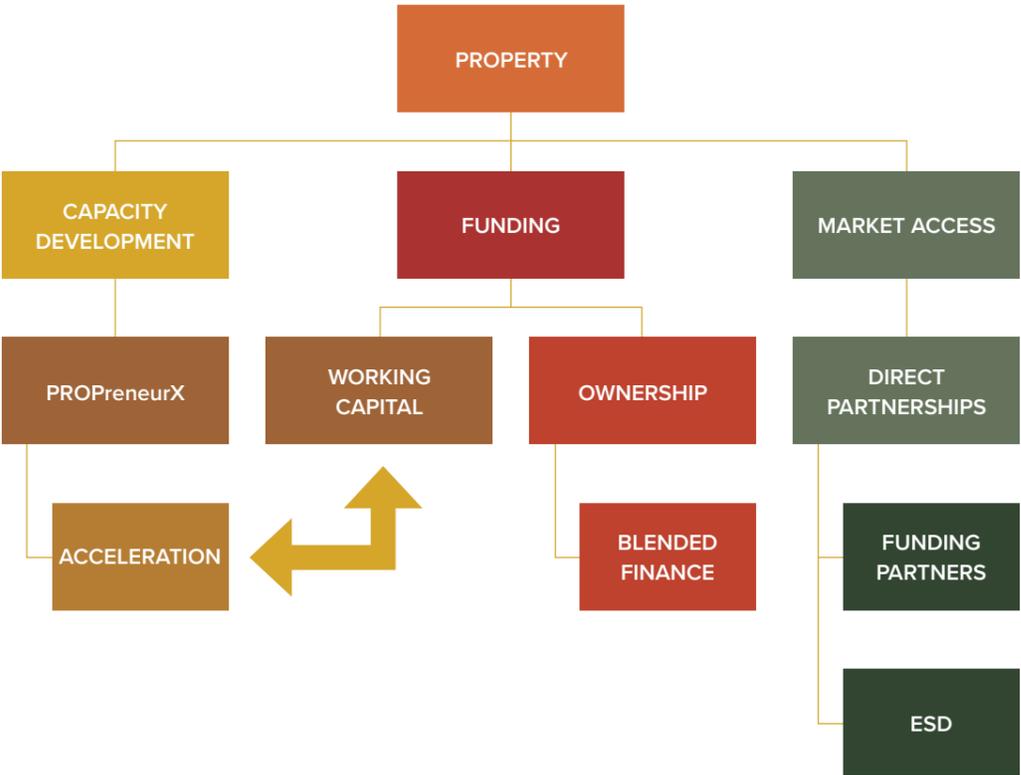
The affordable residential market offers an opportunity to address housing and human settlements while simultaneously uplifting black entrepreneurship and transforming the sector. It may take the form of backyard housing units in townships and rural areas. It may also include inner city accommodation for students and young professionals.

Retail Property

Inadequate access to business premises is often cited among the major challenges faced by black entrepreneurs. This intervention therefore represents an opportunity to address this issue while simultaneously developing black property entrepreneurs and transforming the property industry.

Many townships and rural areas are saturated with idle retail and industrial properties. Many of these were vandalised or simply neglected during the advent of democracy. The intervention provides an opportunity to revive these economies while developing a new class of black property entrepreneurs.

INTERVENTION STRUCTURE



Affordable housing development.

FUNDING (ACCESS TO FINANCE)

Funding will take the form of blended finance for property acquisition. This is to be achieved through partnerships with existing property funds. Priority will be given to potential partners that have a national footprint. The basic principle of this partnership would be that KT’s capital should be catalytic and deployed under clear conditions of social impact. For instance, equity in property development financing for previously disadvantaged individuals in South Africa still remains a massive barrier of entry in the property market, as it is not financed 100% through credit providers. Therefore, Kagiso Trust will be dealing with this barrier that targets such developers to increase participation of black property developers in the property sector.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Continuous skills development through an accelerator/mentorship programme. Mobilising alumni of all previous accelerator/mentorship programmes for the purpose of networking and sharing of opportunities.

The desired outcome of this intervention will be the transformation of the property sector, to be inclusive of the previously marginalised, through job and wealth creation.

OUR FOOTPRINT

Limpopo

KST:

- 60 Anglo American Schools Project

PMO:

- University of Limpopo Research partnership

BNSDP:

- 243 schools in Sekhukhune East

SED:

- Spar Mopani Rural Hub Initiative

North West

PMO:

- North West University Research Partnership

SED:

- BPI Funding

Northern Cape

KST:

- 25 Anglo American Schools Project

Free State

BNSDP:

- 166 schools in Thabo Mofantsanyaya

KST:

- 323 schools in Motheo & Fezile Dabi

EMSP:

- 51 Students, including 2018 intake of 15 students

PMO:

- UFS Research partnership

Western Cape

PMO:

- Stellenbosch and Western Cape Universities Research partnerships

Eastern Cape

KTC:

- CoGTA

Local Government Support Programme:

- Makana Municipality

SED:

- Groendal Workers Trust

Gauteng

Leadership Conference

- Faculty of Education, UJ
- National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT)

Kagiso Trust Consulting:

- CoGTA

PMO:

- Thabo Mbeki Foundation
- Human Science Research Council
- South African Human Rights Commission
- Africa Beyond 4IR
- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

SED:

- PROPreneurX

Mpumalanga

KST:

- 25 Anglo American Schools Project

KwaZulu-Natal

Beyers Naude Memorial Lecture:

- University of Zululand

SED:

- Funding through – For Farmers East for yellow maize crops and Sebenzangamandla Pty (Ltd)

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