

IN BRIEF

ISSUE 38 | DECEMBER 2024



*Season's
Greetings*

**IGNITING
CHANGE**

The Power of Rest

Closing the Hunger Gap

The Road to Transforming
Local Governance

Research Policy Brief

Advocating for
Future-Ready Education



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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

OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

- **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
- **SPECIAL PROJECTS**
Text



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Dear KT Stakeholders,

As the year draws to an end, Kagiso Trust reflects on a meaningful and impactful year, one filled with progress and passion for advancing community and youth empowerment. Together, we have made a significant impact in developing communities and none of this would have been possible without your support and collaboration.

This year has been marked by growth, perseverance, and a collective commitment to positive change. A key highlight was celebrating 30 years of democracy in South Africa, an important milestone that reminds us of how far we have come as a nation and how much more work remains to create a truly inclusive, equitable, and just society.

Another key highlight for 2024 is our partnership with the South African Local Governance Association (SALGA), a collaboration built on shared values and a collective vision for a South Africa where no man or woman is left behind. This partnership has reinforced our collective effort towards community development and empowerment, strengthening our dedication to creating sustainable change for the communities we serve.

As we step into the holiday season, we encourage you to take a moment to pause and reflect on the progress we have made together. While the year has been busy and demanding, it has also been rewarding. Take time to celebrate the small and big wins, reconnect with family, and recharge for the opportunities ahead in 2025.

The year ahead is filled with promise, and we are inspired by the momentum of progress and the opportunities that lie before us. It also marks a major milestone for Kagiso Trust, 40 years of Igniting Human Capacity. So, as we celebrate four decades of making a difference, we are more determined than ever to keep pushing forward.

With new partnerships on the way, exciting projects lined up, and plenty of opportunities to strengthen our shared mission, we are ready to take on 2025 with renewed focus and determination.

On behalf of the Board and Executive Management, we thank you for your ongoing commitment to our shared mission, and as we wrap up this year, we look forward to stepping into the new year with renewed energy and determination to continue making a difference.

Wishing you all a joyful, peaceful, and well-deserved holiday season!

A professional portrait of Mandisa Tselane, a Black woman with her hair styled in braids. She is wearing a black blazer over a white top, a pearl necklace, and a watch. She has her arms crossed and is smiling warmly at the camera. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey. There are orange geometric shapes in the top left and a white box containing text on the left side of the image.

The year ahead is filled with promise, and we are excited to continue working together to bring new ideas to life. It also marks a major milestone for Kagiso Trust, 40 years of Igniting Human Capacity.

Mandisa Tselane.



Wrapped up Mental Awareness Month with a Learning Circle on Mental Health Awareness.

THE POWER OF REST: ENDING THE YEAR RECHARGED AND READY

*By Lwanele Khasu, Psychologist (Clinical) and Founder and CEO
– Oasis Mental Wellness Hub*

As the year winds down and the festive season approaches, it presents us with the opportunity to take a break from it all with some healthy rest and relaxation. Yet, many of us find it difficult to embrace true rest. We stay tethered to our work, trying to squeeze every drop of productivity from ourselves, often at the expense of our health and relationships. The cycle, if unchecked, can lead to burnout leaving us physically, emotionally, mentally, and socially depleted.

WHY REST IS ESSENTIAL

Rest is not just about taking a break; it is about creating space to restore your body, mind, and spirit. Without intentional rest, the toll of constant activity begins to ripple through our lives. Physically, fatigue can weaken your immune system. Emotionally, you may feel drained and irritable. Mentally, your decision-making and creativity suffer. Socially, your relationships might strain under the weight of exhaustion.

Prioritising rest ensures that you can return to your responsibilities refreshed, effective, and ready to tackle new challenges. But to make rest meaningful, it must be planned and purposeful.

PLANNING FOR REST

The key to effective rest lies in setting clear goals and creating plans that include periods of downtime. Too often, we keep going simply because we have not defined what “enough” looks like. Measuring success, both professionally and personally, can help us recognise when we’ve accomplished our goals and earned a pause.

Here are some practical ways to incorporate rest into your life as the holidays approach:

- 1. Set Rest Goals:** Treat rest like any other priority by scheduling it into your calendar. Time block periods where you can unwind without guilt. Rest should be part of your broader goals, not an afterthought.
- 2. Wrap Up the Year Intentionally:** The end of the year is a natural point to reflect and close loops. Avoid leaving loose ends that might cause anxiety during your break. Finalise critical transactions, create plans for the new



Lwanele Khasu, Clinical Psychologist and CEO of Oasis Mental Wellness Hub.

year, and organise your tasks so you can start January with clarity. This intentional wrap-up will allow you to truly unplug during the holidays.

- 3. Schedule Restful Activities:** Use your rest period to recharge in ways that bring you joy and energy. Spend time with loved ones who uplift you, engage in hobbies that relax you, and savour moments of solitude. Be disciplined about maintaining boundaries so your rest isn't interrupted by work or unnecessary stress.
- 4. Reserve the Last Two Days:** As your holiday winds down, reserve the final two days for complete stillness. Avoid planning activities during this time. Instead, focus on centring yourself, reflecting on the past year, and preparing mentally for the new one.

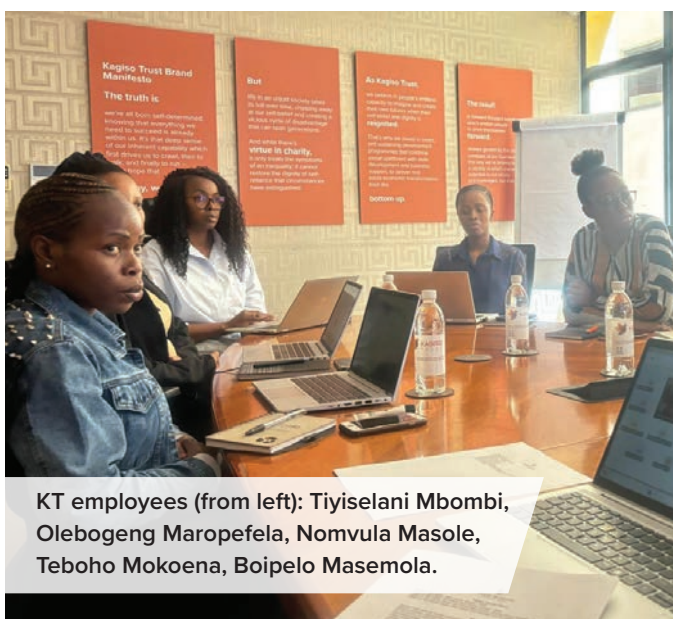
REST WITHOUT GUILT

Rest is not a luxury, it is a necessity. However, guilt often accompanies downtime, particularly for high achievers. Remind yourself that if you have wrapped up the year intentionally, you have earned the right to rest. The work will still be there when you return, and you will be in a much better position to handle it with renewed vigour.

A FRESH START

As you plan for the holiday season, remember that rest is not just about stepping away; it is about stepping back into your life with energy and purpose. By prioritising rest, setting boundaries, and wrapping up the year with intention, you will enter 2025 refreshed, focused, and ready to thrive.

Let this holiday season be a reminder that rest is not an indulgence, it is a strategy for long-term success.



KT employees (from left): Tiyiselani Mbombi, Olebogeng Maropofela, Nomvula Masole, Teboho Mokoena, Boipelo Masemola.



CLOSING THE HUNGER GAP

REFLECTIONS FROM THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SDG ON ZERO HUNGER

Image from www.shutterstock.com

Rising food prices, geopolitical pressures, environmental degradation, supply chain disruptions, droughts, and climate change have exacerbated food insecurity, especially in the low to middle-income sectors in various countries. In South Africa socio-economic inequalities, high unemployment, vulnerability to climate change and lack of agricultural support for small-scale subsistence farming have worsened food insecurity.

By Zanele Mabaso (Head: Policy Development Unit), Boichoko Ditlahke (Head: Civil Society Support), and Luvuyo Sandi (SED Business and Fund Manager)

Despite numerous official commitments to end hunger utilising frameworks like the official Development Plan (NDP 2030) and different social safety nets, South Africa still faces difficulties in reaching SDG 2. According to studies, by 2025, almost half of South Africa's population may experience food insecurity, which would be worsened by increased food costs, socioeconomic disparities and geopolitical pressures.

Therefore, as a result of the stalled progress on addressing hunger and eradication of poverty globally, the 5th International Conference on Social Justice and the Sustainable Development Goal on Hunger united leading voices from academia, governments, the judiciary, transdisciplinary civil society researchers and multilateral agencies dedicated to ending hunger as a fundamental human right on a common purpose at Cape Town's Artscape Theatre Centre, on the 17th of October 2024.

The discussions focused on harvesting and synergising cutting-edge research, best practices and innovative strategies in addressing poverty and hunger. Having been instrumental in the production of South Africa's SDG Peoples Report 2023, Kagiso Trust submitted a research study titled "Closing the Hunger Gap: A Systematic Review of South Africa's SDG 2 Progress and Shortfalls".

The United Nations' (UN) 'Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 Zero Hunger', focusses on creating long-term sustainable solutions to achieve food security and eradicate all forms of hunger by 2030. With more than 600 million people worldwide at risk of facing hunger by 2030, the importance and relevance of this goal is clear.



Kagiso Trust Policy Development Intern, Ledile Bambo presenting at the 5th International Conference on Social Justice.

To analyse and measure South Africa's progress towards achieving the targets set for SDG 2 by 2030, Kagiso Trust, through its paper, has employed a human rights-based approach (HRBA), which framed hunger as a violation of human rights, and as a social justice, equality, and equitable matter. For an enhanced systematic, transparent

and review of the existing literature, KT's study utilised the qualitative research method of the PRISMA-P (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Protocol).

On highlighting the current status quo of SDG 2 in the country, the paper's findings found that selected National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 targets and indicators that centre on food security, rural development, and agricultural production through sustainable practices have been suitably instrumentalised and integrated into SA's policy environment. The indicators include the National Schools Nutrition Program (NSNP) which provides daily meals to millions of school children in underdeveloped areas, including the Agriculture and Agro-Processing Master Plan (AAMP) which provides a social compact to build competitiveness, improve inclusion and sectorial growth.

KT's study acknowledged that South Africa's progress is paradoxical, given that 80% of households had access to food in 2021, (demonstrating that social safety nets have greatly decreased child hunger in low-income and rural areas), yet stunting and child malnutrition continue to be problems. Despite performing better than many sub-Saharan African nations and falling into the "moderate" hunger category (GHI score: 14.0) food availability is worse for women due to frequently being left out of many development initiatives. The highest rates of food insecurity are seen in provinces like KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape, and the Limpopo, owing to their inadequate



Khensani Nyambi – Communications and Marketing Intern, Luvuyo Sandi – Socio-Economic Development Manager, Prof Thuli Madonsela – SU: Professor of Law and Director and Zanele Mabaso – Policy Development Head.

infrastructure, limited market access, and vulnerability to climate change.

The focus of the discussions was on evaluating the progress made so far, determining the factors that contribute to hunger and food insecurity, exchanging best practices that are showing successes, and reaching a consensus on initiatives that will speed up efforts to reduce the gap.

The conference reaffirmed that eradicating hunger requires the cooperation of all parties involved and is a



Global thought leaders committed to bringing an end to hunger by 2030 gathered at the Artscape, Cape Town.



Panel discussion: H.E. Mr Andreas Peschke, H.E. Ms Aysegal Kandas, Mr Corentin Ducroquet, Ms Zoalize Jansen van Rensburg on strengthening international relations in the quest for social justice and food security.

shared responsibility. The multifaceted causes of hunger and food security were one of the conference’s recurring themes. Important barriers to food access were noted, such as the requirement to unlock small-scale subsistence and commercial farming capabilities in order to localise food sovereignty.

Despite the difficulties, South Africa has the potential to accomplish SDG 2 as evidenced by several success stories and best practices. KT suggested adopting the successful strategies from Brazil’s Zero Hunger Program, which combined policies for food security, agricultural growth, and social protection. Family farming and local food purchases are prioritised in this strategy, which has been essential in boosting rural economies and lowering poverty.

KT has recommended numerous suggestions to be embarked upon to accelerate SDG 2 progress, ranging from the strengthening of support for smallholder farmers as it is critical to increase assistance for small farmers, particularly when it comes to increasing their access to credit and financial services and buying from them.

KT further suggested the quickening of equal distribution and land reform, in order to ensure safe land tenure for long-term agricultural investments, the government should facilitate the acquisition of land by underprivileged groups. This will provide farmers the confidence they need to make productive improvements and investments in their land.

In conclusion, by putting in place a number of legislation and programs aimed at eradicating hunger and advancing sustainable agriculture, South Africa has made impressive strides toward accomplishing SDG 2. However, food insecurity is made worse by the existing state of the smallholder and commercial agriculture sectors, especially in rural areas. Additionally, child stunting and malnutrition are serious problems that call for consideration in order to implement a comprehensive nutrition and food security intervention.

To create a more sustainable and inclusive food system, it is imperative to close land reform gaps, give smallholder farmers access to resources, and enhance climate-resilient farming methods.

THE ROAD TO TRANSFORMING LOCAL GOVERNANCE

THE KAGISO TRUST AND SALGA PARTNERSHIP

Kagiso Trust (KT) and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) have joined forces in a five-year partnership aimed at transforming the relationship between municipalities and the communities they serve. This partnership seeks to create a platform for more inclusive, transparent, and sustainable development.

By Khensani Nyambi, Marketing and Communications Intern



Signing of the MoU between KT and SALGA at the Birchwood Hotel OR Tambo Conference Centre, Gauteng, on the 22nd of November 2024.

Paul Smith, Head of Kagiso Trust’s Local Governance Support Programme, highlights the significance of the partnership: “The relationship with SALGA is important because they are a national body with influence, and they provide us with a platform to access councillors across the country.”

Through SALGA’s extensive reach, this partnership aims to accelerate the scaling of the Collaborative Governance Model, which will promote stronger engagement between municipalities and their communities. The goal is to ensure active citizenry in decision-making and building accountability at both the community and municipal levels, empowering citizens to participate in development from the planning to the implementation process.



Panel Discussion: Dr Harlan Cloete, Mr Paul Smith, and Mr Kureish Isaacs on the Tools & Strategies necessary to foster e-Participation as a tool to drive inclusive communities in collaborative governance.

A key objective of the partnership is to develop a toolkit, an online resource that outlines the Collaborative Governance Model, its processes, and the steps municipalities need to follow to achieve key milestones. Smith explains, “We know from KT’s perspective that we do not have the capacity to assist every municipality directly, but what we do have is the capability to build products and toolkits that can allow municipalities to self-help and drive the process forward without KT being present.”

This toolkit will empower municipalities to independently implement the model, which will result in better-informed decisions and improved engagement with local communities. The plan is to expand Kagiso Trust’s impact by providing municipalities with the resources they need, particularly in areas where KT may not be physically present.

This partnership aligns with Kagiso Trust’s mission to empower communities and improve local governance. Smith notes, “The benefit for communities in the long run is that we want them to play a bigger and more important role in designing their own futures and development plans with the municipality.” By enabling communities to actively shape their futures, the collaboration aims to build stronger and more sustainable solutions that are reflective of local needs.

While the road ahead presents challenges, especially in changing the political culture within municipalities, Smith notes: “The biggest challenge is people’s willingness to be collaborative.” Shifting municipalities to a more community-focused approach requires political will and may face some resistance. However, he remains optimistic that through SALGA’s support and the Collaborative Governance Model, municipalities and communities can overcome these challenges and work together as a collective.

Ultimately, this partnership is expected to foster greater support for collaborative governance between municipalities and communities. Smith explains, ‘With SALGA as a partner, it gives us a catalytic partner that will attract others to the table. Beyond this partnership, KT hopes to attract additional funding and implementation partners who will help expand the reach and impact of this initiative across South Africa.

Both organisations are committed to maintaining flexibility. Smith stresses, “We need to remain agile so that our working relationship between SALGA and KT will be fluid.” Moving forward, both KT and SALGA will continue to adapt their strategies to meet the evolving needs of local governance and community development, ensuring lasting, positive change in municipalities across the country.

TRANSFORMING ADULT EDUCATION

A PATHWAY TO SKILLS, OPPORTUNITY AND NATIONAL GROWTH

We at KT have long recognised that education does not end when traditional schooling does. In fact, for millions of South Africans, the most transformative learning journey often begins after leaving the classroom. Our latest policy research reveals a critical opportunity to revolutionise Adult Education Training (AET) – a sector that holds immense potential for individual empowerment and national economic development.

*By Cassious Mathibidi, PMO Research, Strategy
& Knowledge Management Manager*

Imagine a system of adult education that does not just teach, but truly transforms lives. A system that responds to the unique challenges of learners who may have previously been left behind by traditional education paths. This is the vision Kagiso Trust is working to make a reality.

With this in mind, KT has developed a policy brief that presents actionable recommendations for reforming the Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) or Adult Education Training (AET) initiatives in South Africa.*

THE URGENT NEED FOR CHANGE

South Africa faces significant challenges: high unemployment, persistent inequality, and a skills gap that continues to hinder our economic potential. Our current adult education landscape is not adequately addressing these issues. Many adult learners find themselves trapped in a system that doesn't recognise their lived experiences, does not speak their languages, and does not connect meaningfully with their economic aspirations.

In provinces like Limpopo, it has been observed firsthand how misaligned curricula and limited resources can prevent motivated adults from gaining the skills they desperately need. There is a commitment to developing solutions.

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO TRANSFORMATION

Our proposed reforms focus on five key areas:



CURRICULUM REDESIGN

We are advocating for a curriculum that integrates Indigenous Knowledge Systems and directly connects to real-world economic needs. This means learning that is not just academic, but practical and contextually relevant.



TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

Equipping educators with skills to truly engage adult learners. This goes beyond traditional teaching methods, embracing innovative approaches that recognise adults' existing knowledge and learning styles.



MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION

Recognising that language is a critical barrier to learning. We are pushing for educational approaches that embrace linguistic diversity, making learning accessible and meaningful.



RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT

Investing in culturally relevant teaching materials and upgrading educational infrastructures to create supportive learning environments.



GOVERNANCE REFORM

Creating more transparent, accountable systems that truly serve adult learners' needs.

BEYOND EDUCATION: A VISION FOR ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

This is not just about certificates or qualifications. It is about creating pathways to meaningful employment, entrepreneurship, and economic participation. By reforming adult education, we're not just teaching skills – we're unlocking human potential.

The National Development Plan recognises adult education as a critical tool in addressing our triple challenges of inequality, unemployment, and poverty. We're committed to turning this vision into reality.

A CALL TO COLLABORATION

Transforming adult education requires a collective effort. Government, educational institutions, civil society, and the private sector must work together. Everyone has a role to play in creating an education system that truly serves South Africa's diverse and dynamic population.

This is a pivotal moment. The time for small, incremental changes has passed, and bold, holistic approaches that recognise the unique strengths and challenges of adult learners are needed.

At KT, there is a belief in the power of education to change lives. The potential of every adult learner is recognised, and a commitment is made to making that potential a reality.

Together, an adult education system can be built that does not just teach – but truly transforms.

* To view the full proposal [click here](#) or scan this code:



ADVOCATING FOR FUTURE-READY EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS

A CASE FOR BROADBAND INTERNET IN RURAL AND TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

This article argues for the urgent need to provide broadband internet to rural schools as a fundamental step in fostering educational equity and preparing learners for a digitally-driven future.

By Cassious Mathibidi, PMO Research, Strategy & Knowledge Management Manager

THE DIGITAL IMPERATIVE IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

As the world becomes increasingly digital, the teaching and learning landscape is being reshaped by digital modalities that influence pedagogy and content delivery. This transformation extends to the workforce, where evolving skill requirements necessitate corresponding adaptations in educational models. However, equitable access to digital resources continues to reflect the socioeconomic disparities within the country, disproportionately impacting learners from disadvantaged backgrounds and communities.

Central to Kagiso Trust's Education Development pillar is a commitment to addressing the needs of rural and township learners, who frequently encounter significant socio-economic challenges. This commitment compels us to ask: Are the learning experiences in disadvantaged schools adequately preparing these learners for the future? Unfortunately, the answer is often no.

EVALUATING EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTIONS IN A DIGITAL ERA

In evaluating the adequacy of our education intervention delivery modes, KT recognised the immense potential of digital transformation – particularly the ability to extend our impact across more schools using the same resources traditionally dedicated to face-to-face interventions. This realisation led us to ask how much more impactful

our flagship programme, the Beyers Naudé Schools Development Programme (BNSDP), could be if it leveraged digital technologies to expand our reach and enhance teaching and learning. By modernising our processes through the integration of digital tools, KT aims to amplify our reach, providing more learners with the opportunity for a brighter future.

To this end, a learning management system has been developed, alongside the curation of differentiated digital education content aimed at addressing the systemic issues traditionally faced in the basic education space. Additionally, immersive learning solutions, such as virtual reality experiences replicating real science laboratories, are being explored to compensate for the lack of these resources in many schools.

While these steps mark significant progress, it is acknowledged that these digital resources on their own will not resolve the broader systemic challenges facing the country beyond the current areas of intervention. Another key enabler for broader success is broadband internet in schools – a resource that, in theory, could allow the BNSDP to reach every public school in South Africa.

THE CASE FOR BROADBAND IN RURAL SCHOOLS

The lack of broadband internet in rural schools not only perpetuates existing educational inequities but also threatens to entrench long-term socioeconomic disparities.



Image from www.shutterstock.com

Learners in these schools are left ill-equipped to compete in an increasingly digital world, stalling both personal and community development and exacerbating the cycle of poverty.

In today's interconnected world, high-speed internet is not just a tool, it is the backbone of modern education. It facilitates access to digital resources, enables innovative teaching methods, and opens the door to a global network of knowledge and opportunities. The absence of broadband internet in rural and township schools is more than just a technological gap – it is a profound educational inequity that hampers the development of the very learners who need the support. Without broadband, learners in these schools are cut off from the vast digital resources that their peers in better-connected areas take for granted. This disconnect not only limits their access to information but also hinders their ability to engage with the digital learning platforms that are becoming standard in education systems worldwide.

Moreover, the skills gap between learners in connected and disconnected schools is likely to widen as digital literacy becomes a prerequisite for success in nearly every field. By failing to provide broadband access to rural and township schools, we are effectively denying these learners the opportunity to develop the skills they need to thrive in the future workforce. This is not just an educational issue; it is a social justice issue. Regardless of where they live, every child deserves the opportunity to succeed in the digital age.

TELEVISION WHITE SPACE BROADBAND SOLUTION

Kagiso Trust, in collaboration with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), is spearheading the development of a Television White Space (TVWS) broadband network in the Sekhukhune East Education District, where we are currently implementing the BNSDP. The CSIR's contributions to the TVWS project in partnership with Kagiso Trust are marked by their deep local expertise, customised solutions for South African challenges, strong regulatory alignment, and a commitment to community empowerment and sustainable development.

This initiative is a critical component of our broader strategy to modernise education delivery through digital transformation, particularly in underserved rural and township schools. The project aims not only to pilot and validate our digital education initiatives but also to model a scalable solution that can be replicated across other regions, creating a blueprint for nationwide educational reform.

The initial phase of the TVWS project will connect 26 schools and establish seven public Wi-Fi hotspots within the surrounding communities. This network will serve as a backbone for delivering digital content, enabling immersive learning experiences, and facilitating the use of the learning management system. By providing these schools and communities with reliable internet access, one

of the most significant barriers to effective education in these areas – the lack of connectivity – is being addressed.

In our pursuit of the most effective solution, we explored alternative technologies, including satellite broadband. A proof of concept was conducted with satellite solutions, which offered certain benefits, particularly in terms of coverage in remote areas. However, after careful evaluation, the TVWS solution was selected for this phase due to several compelling advantages.

Moreover, the establishment of public Wi-Fi hotspots as part of the project underscores our holistic approach to community empowerment. These hotspots will provide broader community access to the internet, opening opportunities for digital literacy training, access to government services, and economic activities such as e-commerce. This initiative is more than an educational intervention; it is a catalyst for broader socioeconomic development.

THE CONNECTIVITY GAP

The digital transformation of education, as previously discussed, is crucial for preparing learners in rural and township schools for the future. However, the stark reality is that these schools are grappling with a significant connectivity gap that hinders their ability to benefit from modern educational resources and tools. This gap not only exacerbates existing inequalities but also threatens



to leave a generation of learners behind in an increasingly digital world.

The impact of this connectivity gap is particularly pronounced in provinces like Limpopo and the Eastern Cape, where the majority of households also lack access to the internet. Statistics South Africa's 2022 Household Survey highlights that 62.2% of households in Limpopo and 66.9% in the Eastern Cape are without internet access, underscoring the deep-rooted digital divide in these regions. This lack of connectivity extends into the education system, where schools struggle with outdated or non-functional infrastructure, and where internet access, if available, is often limited to administrative tasks rather than teaching and learning.

According to ICASA, only 4,921 out of approximately 23,000 public schools were connected to the internet as of 2023 in terms of its Universal Service and Access Obligations mandate, representing a mere 21% of schools. This leaves nearly 79% of schools, predominantly in rural and township areas, without this critical resource. The government's South Africa Connect (SA Connect) broadband project is an ambitious attempt to tackle this issue, aiming to connect 18,520 schools and provide internet access to 80% of South African households within the next three years. However, this initiative faces significant challenges, including the vast geographic and economic disparities that characterise the country. Without targeted efforts to ensure that these connections are reliable, affordable, and effectively integrated into the education system, the impact of SA Connect may be limited.

A CALL TO ACTION FOR BROADBAND IN SCHOOLS

To bridge the digital divide and promote inclusive development, it is imperative to ensure that rural and township schools have reliable access to broadband internet. This connectivity is not just a technological upgrade – it is a necessary foundation for modern education, economic development, and social inclusion.

Kagiso Trust's TVWS project is a step in the right direction, but more needs to be done. We call for cross-sector partnerships – private, government, and civil society – to advance community development and ensure that every learner can succeed in the digital age. By addressing the connectivity gap, we can empower the next generation to thrive in a rapidly evolving world, ensuring that no one is left behind.

SOMETHING NEW

IS COMING TO WWW.KAGISO.CO.ZA!



We're thrilled to announce that exciting changes are coming to the KT website!

Designed with you in mind, our upcoming update will enhance how you connect with us and stay informed about our impactful work.

Keep an eye out for the big reveal – trust us, this is something *you won't want to miss!*

OUR FOOTPRINT

Limpopo

KST:

- 60 Anglo American Schools Project

PMO:

- University of Limpopo Research partnership

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Teacher Assistant Programme

SED:

- SEDA

Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP):

- Modimolle Local Municipality – Small-Town Rejuvenation Project

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Teacher Assistant Programme
- 243 schools in Sekhukhune East and 10 schools in the Apel District

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

Gauteng

KT – Leadership Conference

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

Kagiso Trust (KTC):

- CoGTA

PMO:

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

SED:

- PROPpreneurX

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

North West

PMO:

- North West University Research Partnership

SED:

- Bophuduchwana Production Incubator (Pty) Ltd (BPI) Funding

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Teacher Assistant Programme

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

Northern Cape

KST:

- Department of Education Northern Cape

BNSDP:

- Skills Teacher Assistant Programme

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

Free State

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Robotics and Coding
- Teacher Assistant Programme

KST:

- 323 schools in Motheo and Fezile Dabi
- Globeleq

EMSP:

- 12 Students

PMO:

- University of Free State Research partnership

Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP):

- Senekal Local Municipality – Small-Town Rejuvenation Projects

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

Western Cape

PMO:

- Stellenbosch and Western Cape Universities Research partnerships

Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP):

- Piketberg Local Municipality – Small-Town Rejuvenation Projects

BNSDP:

- Skills Development Competition

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

Eastern Cape

KTC:

- CoGTA

Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP):

- Makana Local Municipality – Collaborative Governance Model

SED:

- Groendal Workers Trust

KST:

- Globeleq

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Teacher Assistant Programme

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO
- ABCD Youth Project

KwaZulu-Natal

Beysers Naude Memorial Lecture:

- University of Zululand

BNSDP:

- Skills Competition
- Teacher Assistant Programme

SED:

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

CSSP:

- #Unmute CSO

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