

1985

Kagiso Trust is Established

Justice, dignity and hope in a time of struggle

Kagiso Trust is established as an anti-apartheid organisation and later receives R1.2 billion from the European Special Commission, serving as a channel to disburse these funds to victims of apartheid.



1986

First Kagiso Trust CEO

Solid roots and strong leadership

Kagiso Trust appoints Achmat Dangor as its first CEO.



1987

Support from Japan

Welcoming new allies

The Japanese government joins as a funder, helping Kagiso Trust continue its work during uncertain times.

1988

Bursaries for Tertiary Education

Unlocking potential for greatness

Kagiso Trust launches its first bursary programme, opening doors to higher education for students who need it most.



1989

Community Education Development

Strengthening grassroots leadership

Kagiso Trust implements a Community Education Development project in collaboration with the University of the Witwatersrand with the aim of further capacitating community leaders through education and skills development.



1992

New Leadership

Success and succession

Achmat Dangor passes the torch to Eric Molobi, who steps in as CEO.

1993

Kagiso Trust Investments

Seeds of a sustainable future

With the EU ceasing to fund NGOs, Kagiso Trust launches Kagiso Trust Investments to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

Creating opportunities in rural communities

Kagiso Trust also helps establish the Mvula Trust to bring clean water and sanitation to rural communities in Limpopo, Gauteng, KZN, and the Eastern Cape.

1995

Funding Cuts and Retrenchments

Facing trying times

The withdrawal of international funding forces Kagiso Trust to retrench staff, however, the organisation's commitment and resolve remains unwavering.

1996

Forming Kagiso Trust Consultancy

Partnering for improved efficacy

Headed by CEO Kgotso Schoeman, Kagiso Trust establishes Kagiso Trust Consultancy to help bolster government effectiveness.

2002

Kagiso Trust Enterprises Rural Private Fund

Creating opportunities in rural communities

Kagiso Trust launches KERPEF to increase employment prospects for young people and women in rural areas.



2004

Beyers Naudé Memorial Lecture Series & Schools Programme

Honouring a legacy of justice

In partnership with universities, Kagiso Trust develops a memorial lecture series honouring the values of Beyers Naudé, which promote social justice and transformation. The organisation also launches its flagship programme, Beyers Naude Schools Development Programme (BNSDP) in Lwamondo Secondary. The programme later expands to eight more Limpopo schools.



2005

Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Investment in FirstRand

Broadening economic empowerment

B-BBEE mechanisms, Kagiso Trust acquires shares in the FirstRand Group as part of its mission to shape a more equitable South African economy.

2007

Eric Molobi Scholarship Programme

Opening opportunities to higher education

The EMSP is launched to support top-performing learners in rural areas who lack the resources to obtain a tertiary education.



2008

First Dividends from Kagiso Trust Investments

A monetary milestone

Having taken the significant step of establishing KTI, Kagiso Trust now begins to reap the rewards by receiving its first dividends.

2011

KTI and Tiso Group Merger

Strength in partnership

To deepen the organisation's investment base and to better support social development, KTI merges with the Tiso Group to create Kagiso Tiso Holdings.



2012

Education Conversations

Dialogues for better education

Partnering with the University of Johannesburg, Kagiso Trust facilitates open dialogues to help find solutions to the challenges facing South Africa's education system.



2013

Kagiso Trust Leverage Fund and Kagiso Shanduka Trust

Backing NGOs and transforming education

Kagiso Trust creates the Kagiso Trust Leverage Fund to help non-profit organisations become more financially sustainable. Together with the Cyril Ramaphosa Foundation, Kagiso Trust launches KST to design an education model that will re-shape public schooling.

2014

Formation of Kagiso Capital

Diversifying for our future

Kagiso Trust establishes Kagiso Capital to diversify and grow its financial assets, better equipping the organisation to effect meaningful change.

2015

30th Anniversary Celebration

Three decades of growth, and a fresh direction

Kagiso Trust celebrates its 30th anniversary by launching a bold new strategic direction and a refreshed logo.

2019

Beyers Naudé Schools Development Programme Expansion

Growing our reach, one school at a time

Through a co-funding model with the Limpopo Department of Education, the BNSDP expands into the Sekhukhune East District.



2020

Launch of Socio-Economic Development

Supporting sustainable self-improvement

Kagiso Trust launches its Socio-Economic Development programme to help transform the property and agriculture sector in South Africa.

2022

First Annual General Meeting

Strengthening our shared commitment

Partners, supporters and stakeholders gather for Kagiso Trust's inaugural AGM, marking a new chapter in collaborative, purpose-driven progress.



2024

Brand Positioning Launch

Refreshing our purpose

Kagiso Trust repositions its brand to better reflect what the organisation has always stood for: Igniting Human Capacity, by unlocking the power of people and communities to drive their own prosperity.



2025

40th Anniversary Celebration

40 years of Igniting Human Capacity

Kagiso Trust proudly celebrates four decades of working alongside communities, partners and changemakers to build a more just, inclusive and empowered South Africa..



1985-2025



Years - and Beyond

Reflecting on our legacy. Reigniting our future.

IGNITING HUMAN CAPACITY FOR

A journey of impact and empowerment