

PARTNERING FOR THRIVING COMMUNITIES SKILLS AND EDUCATION CONTINUED

PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Our partnership with the International Youth Foundation (IYF) aims to help students at South Africa's technical and vocational colleges become more work-ready and provide them with valuable work experience to enhance their skills further.

The 'Skills for the Future' programme is aimed at strengthening the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges near our Venetia mine in Limpopo province.

The programme is being run in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and involves a wide range of other stakeholders including the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism. It aims to support at least 10 per cent of the 12,000 students that will benefit from the programme to find jobs – through internships, traineeships or other means. TVET colleges serve about 740,000 students in 50 colleges across South Africa. The majority of students are from disadvantaged backgrounds and more than half (53 per cent) are young women.

Work-to-date under the partnership has included:

- a skills gap analysis to understand the skills needed by businesses in the region, both now and in the future
- enhanced life skills training for students at Capricorn and Vhembe TVET colleges in Limpopo using IYF's innovative 'Passport to Success' methodology – in 2021 this reached 24,000 students, of which 12,700 were in Limpopo province
- development of content support for diversity and inclusion
- establishment of private sector engagement forum to support students in finding jobs
- production of online lecturer training resources.

In the second phase of the programme, which started in June 2021, we invested US\$1.7million over a three-year period, which IYF will use to:

- continue to build capacity at Capricorn and Vhembe TVET colleges, improving retention rates and preparing young people for the world of work

- engage with a wide range of stakeholders to inform market-driven training that better prepares students for learning and employment.

Due to Covid-19, IYF made its upgraded curriculum content available online in 2021. In an exciting development, the DHET has now given the go-ahead for this new digitised enhanced content to be rolled out to all 50 TVET colleges in 2022. Also in 2021, 40 students received work experience placements, and the IYF has secured support from Google for 70 students at local TVET colleges to study Google IT courses in 2022.

The programme aims to deliver the following outcomes:

- 130 TVET lecturers trained in upgraded curriculum content
- 12,000 students benefiting from upgraded TVET college courses
- 800 students equipped with entrepreneurship skills

- 400 TVET students placed in learnerships
- 1,200 graduates with improved livelihoods (eg employment outcomes and access to further higher education).

DEBSWANA'S GIRLENG PROGRAMME

The GirlEng programme aims to encourage and support female junior and secondary school students to pursue careers in STEM. Programme activities include micro workshops, distribution of branded merchandise, and flash mentoring on WhatsApp and Zoom. The annual target for the programme is to support 200 girls from Mogale JSS, Maiteko JSS, Kgosimpe JSS and Morama JSS.

"IYF South Africa is delighted to avail of a strategic alliance with De Beers Group in the Limpopo Province. Through our partnership with the Department of Higher Education and Training, as well as Capricorn and Vhembe TVET Colleges, we are Building Forever; a value that is embodied in IYF's vision to see young people inspired and equipped to realise the future that they want."

Anusha Naicker
Country Director, IYF SA

40

students received work experience placements in 2021

12,000

students at technical and vocational colleges will benefit from enhanced course content