SEF IMPACT REPORT 2026



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ABOUT PLANACT

Planact is a Johannesburg-based non-profit organisation established in 1985. The organisation is dedicated to empowering communities in vulnerable conditions to play an active role in local governance.

It amplifies community voices, holds municipalities accountable and promotes meaningful participation of marginalised groups in shaping local government policies, plans, implementation processes and livelihoods.

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PLANACT'S SEF PROJECT

The SEF is a publicly funded initiative aimed at tackling unemployment through strengthening partnerships with a wide range of social and civic partners, enabling them to create 'whole of society' initiatives for greater scale and impact across South Africa.

Since 2023, Planact has created over 3000 jobs in the provinces of Gauteng and Mpumalanga, under the Sustainable Livelihood Initiative programme. Our model for sustainable livelihoods advocates building on community assets through the programme's catalytic funding mechanism, designed to be flexible, supporting locally driven initiatives.

This asset-based community development methodology focuses on identifying and amplifying existing strengths, successes, and meaningful achievements, shifting away from deficit-based narratives that portray communities as lacking or dependent.

Planact's sustainable livelihood initiative programme aims to link marginalised communities to local economic opportunities and processes within government development programmes in an effort to promote equitable resource and opportunity distribution.

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FACES BEHIND THE SEF IMPACT



Phulusho Tshivhenga
SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Lawley Station



Nonhlanhla Mabunga
SEF Food Security Team Leader in Lawley Station



Patricia Mtshali
SEF Greening and Supervisor Environment in Kuvuki



Victoria Morapa
SEF Health and Wellness Supervisor in Winnie Mandela



Tendani Munyai
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Winnie Mandela



Nompumelelo Hlope
SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Kuvuki

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FACES BEHIND THE SEF IMPACT



Ingrid Seroroke
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Skoonplaas



Sindisiwe Thabethe
SEF Health and Wellness Supervisor in Bertrams



Zolani Nkanjeni Former
SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Bertrams



Simangele Vilakazi
SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Mkhancwa



Florence Tsopo
SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Skoonplaas



Petunia Mabuza
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Phomolong

FACES BEHIND THE SEF IMPACT



Uzuzingce Mbida SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Lawley Station



Ambani Sandani
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Choba



Godfrey Mamogale
SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Masakhane



Thulane Nkosi
SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Bertrams



Thabo Nkosi
SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Bertrams



Nomfundo Ndlovu
SEF Health and Wellness Supervisor in Masakhane

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FACES BEHIND THE SEF IMPACT



Maria Madisha SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Choba



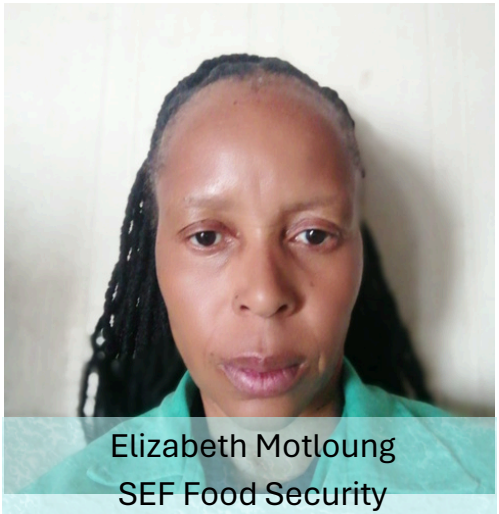
Lebogang Mathabethe
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Bundu Inn



Linky Maphutha
SEF Greening and Environment Team Leader in Phomolong



Khomotjo Mokitlane
SEF Digital Addressing Supervisor in Bundu Inn



Elizabeth Motloung
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Masakhane



Banele Sefadi SEF Greening and Environement Supervisor in Wattville

FACES BEHIND THE SEF IMPACT



Thulani Mlotshwa
SEF Health and Wellness Supervisor in Wattville



Percy Mashinini
SEF Health and Wellness Team Leader In Wattville



Albert Mkhabela
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Skoonplaas



Mohau Ntamo
SEF Food Security Supervisor in Lawley Station



Stoan Mohlala
Former SEF Community Safety Supervisor in Skoonplaas



Elvis Maremane
SEF Greening and Environment Supervisor in Rabie Ridge

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Lawley Station







Nourishing Young Lives Through Community Food Security

The Lawley Food Security Team has transformed the lives of hundreds of children by establishing a weekly soup kitchen that provides warm, nutritious meals to school-going children facing food insecurity.

Recognising that many children in the Lawley Station community return home to households with little or no food, the team created a sustainable initiative to ensure that vulnerable learners receive an additional nutritious meal after school. Every week, approximately 100 children benefit from the programme, arriving by school buses to receive a warm meal in a safe and welcoming environment.

The success of the initiative is driven by the dedication of the SEF Food Security team, who cultivate fresh vegetables in community gardens and harvest the produce for use in the soup kitchen. To supplement the fresh ingredients, local supermarkets generously donate essential food items, enabling the team to prepare balanced and nourishing meals for the children.

The weekly soup kitchen has become a vital source of nutrition for approximately 100 children, many of whom would otherwise go hungry after leaving school. By providing regular, healthy meals, the initiative helps improve children's nutrition, supports their physical growth and well-being, and enables them to concentrate better at school.

Beyond addressing hunger, the programme offers children a caring and supportive environment where they are welcomed with dignity and compassion. It has strengthened community partnerships by bringing together volunteers, local businesses, and residents to work towards a common goal of ending child hunger.

The Lawley Food Security team has demonstrated that sustainable, community-led solutions can have a profound impact on the lives of vulnerable children. Through commitment, collaboration, and the effective use of locally grown produce, the team continues to restore hope, improve food security, and invest in the future of the Lawley community one warm meal at a time.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Soup Kitchen Established | **Benefits Approximately 100 Children** | **Collaboration**

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CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Lawley Station

From Cleaning Illegal Dumping Sites to Creating a Greener and More Active Community in Lawley Station

For Uzuzingce Mbhida, a Greening and Environment Supervisor in Lawley Station, participation in the Social Employment Fund (SEF) programme has provided an opportunity to contribute to a cleaner and healthier community while gaining practical environmental skills.

The recycling team continues to collect recyclable materials, including cans and bottles, from local taverns and other areas in the community. Through their work, participants have developed practical skills in collecting and sorting recyclable materials, helping them better understand the importance of recycling and responsible waste management.

The team's work has also extended to addressing illegal dumping in the community. Participants helped transform areas that had previously been used for illegal dumping, an intervention that has been recognised and appreciated by community members.

The impact of the programme has not been limited to environmental activities. The Operations and Maintenance team also identified an opportunity to support young people through sport. They constructed a Netball Court in the community, creating a space where children can participate in sport and spend their time in a positive and productive environment.

Building on this achievement, the participants are now considering establishing a Local Netball Team to ensure that the court continues to be used and that young people remain engaged in sport.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Safer cleaner spaces | **Constructed a Netball Court** | **Gained skills**









CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Lawley Station





Phulusho, the SEF Community Safety Supervisor at Lawley Station, has had the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the safety within his community.

Through their work, Phulusho and the Community Safety team have gained the trust of residents, who have expressed their appreciation for the services they provide. One of the areas where the team has made a significant difference is in ensuring the safety of children who use the school bus in the mornings and afternoons.

Parents have come to rely on the team to help monitor the safety of their children as they travel to and from school. Their involvement has also extended beyond safety patrols.

When parents raised concerns about the condition and reliability of the school bus, which would sometimes break down and cause children to arrive late at school, the team assisted them in writing a petition to raise the issue with the relevant authorities.

The growing relationship between the team and the community has also resulted in residents viewing them as a first point of contact when crime occurs. According to Phulusho, the team's commitment to the community has helped them respond to and assist in resolving several cases.

The team has become part of the community's support network, helping residents raise concerns, respond to safety challenges and create a safer environment for children.Phulusho says the team is committed to continuing its work and ensuring that the community and its children remain safe.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Increased Community Trust | **Children Protected** | **Community Concerns Addressed**

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CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Tjovitjo

Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Intervention

The Tjovitjo Community safety Team responded to a child protection case involving an 11-year-old girl who was allegedly sexually assaulted on multiple occasions by her great-uncle. According to the family, the suspect threatened to kill the child if she disclosed the abuse, leaving her fearful and traumatised.
The child's grandmother became concerned after noticing changes in the girl's behaviour, including frequent crying, emotional distress, and fear of going to school. Recognising these as possible signs of abuse, she sought assistance from the Bertrams Wellness Team.

The Community safety Team responded immediately by ensuring that the case was reported to the South African Police Service (SAPS). A team member accompanied the grandmother and the child to the police station to open a criminal case and then to the hospital for a medical examination.
The child was subsequently referred to a social worker for counselling and ongoing psychosocial support. The alleged perpetrator was arrested by SAPS and later released on bail while the criminal investigation and court proceedings continue.

Case Number: 90/04/2026
The intervention ensured that the abuse was reported without delay, enabling the child to access critical medical, legal, and psychosocial support services. The prompt response protected the child from further harm and ensured that the alleged offender was brought into the criminal justice system.

The child is now receiving professional support from a social worker to assist with her emotional recovery and help her cope with the trauma she experienced. The case also empowered the family to seek justice and reinforced the importance of reporting child abuse as soon as it is suspected.

This intervention demonstrates the essential role of the Tjovitjo Safety Team in safeguarding vulnerable children, supporting survivors of gender-based violence, and working collaboratively with SAPS, healthcare providers, and social services to ensure that victims receive comprehensive care and protection.

Although the criminal case is still before the courts, the coordinated response by the Tjovitjo Safety Team ensured that the survivor received immediate protection and access to essential services. The case reflects the importance of community-based interventions in identifying abuse, supporting affected families, and contributing to the protection and well-being of children.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Access to Justice	Abuse Reported	Immediate Response





CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Bertrams





Swift Community Response Leads to Arrest of Hijacking Suspects

The Bertrams Community Safety team played a vital role in assisting a young e-hailing driver who was the victim of a violent hijacking in Bertrams.

The driver had accepted what appeared to be a routine trip, unaware that the passengers intended to hijack his vehicle. During the incident, he was overpowered, tied up, and locked in the boot of his vehicle. The suspects later dumped him on Hunter Street before fleeing with the vehicle.

Disorientated but determined to seek help, the driver encountered a Bertrams community patroller. After listening to the driver's account of the incident, the patroller immediately contacted the South African Police Service (SAPS) at Jeppe Police Station and requested urgent assistance.

Jeppe SAPS responded swiftly to the scene.

Through the coordinated efforts of the Bertrams Community Safety team, community patrollers, and SAPS, the stolen vehicle was located approximately one hour later near Bertrams SPAR. The suspects were successfully apprehended and arrested.

The rapid response and effective collaboration between the Bertrams Community Safety team, community patrollers, and SAPS ensured that the victim received immediate assistance and that the stolen vehicle was recovered within a short period. Most importantly, the swift action led to the arrest of the alleged hijackers, preventing them from potentially targeting other members of the community.

This incident demonstrates the value of strong partnerships between community safety structures and law enforcement. It also highlights the important role played by community patrollers, whose vigilance and quick action contributed directly to a successful law enforcement outcome. The case strengthened community confidence in local safety initiatives and reinforced the message that timely reporting and coordinated responses are essential in combating crime.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Rapid Response	Strong Partnerships	Recovered Vehicle	Suspects Arrested

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Bertrams

Restoring Hope to a Displaced Family

On 30 April 2026, the Bertrams Community Safety team responded to an emergency involving a mother and her five children who had been evicted from their home and left stranded on the street with nowhere to go. Faced with homelessness and uncertainty, the family approached the Planact Safety team seeking urgent assistance.

Recognising the immediate risk to the family's safety and well-being, the team acted without delay. One of the community patrollers opened their own home to provide temporary accommodation for the family, ensuring they had a safe place to stay while longer-term solutions were explored.

The Community Safety team also worked closely with the Ward Councillor to secure an emergency food parcel, ensuring that the family's immediate nutritional needs were met. To support a sustainable solution, the case was referred to the Department of Social Development for assessment and assistance with permanent accommodation and other social support services.

Understanding that long-term stability required an income, the team further assisted the mother by facilitating her recruitment into the Social Employment Fund (SEF) programme, providing her with temporary employment and the opportunity to earn an income to support her children. The child is now receiving professional support from a social worker to assist with her emotional recovery and help her cope with the trauma she experienced. The case also empowered the family to seek justice and reinforced the importance of reporting child abuse as soon as it is suspected.

The intervention prevented a vulnerable family from remaining homeless and exposed to the dangers associated with living on the streets. Through the compassion and commitment of the Bertrams Safety team and community partners, the family received immediate shelter, food security, and access to government support services.

By helping the mother secure employment through the SEF project, the intervention restored her ability to provide for her children and reduced the family's dependence on emergency assistance. The support not only addressed their immediate crisis but also created a pathway towards stability, self-reliance, and hope for a better future.

This case highlights the power of coordinated community action and demonstrates how timely intervention can transform a crisis into an opportunity for recovery, resilience, and renewed dignity.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Safe Shelter Created | **Employment Opportunity** | **Community Unison**





CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Bertrams



Building Access, Restoring Independence

The Bertrams SEF teams demonstrated that community service extends beyond environmental stewardship by responding to the needs of a vulnerable family in Bertrams.

The team was approached to assist an 11-year-old girl living with a physical disability who uses a wheelchair. Her family faced daily challenges because their home had no wheelchair-accessible ramp, making it extremely difficult for her to leave the house to attend school, access healthcare services, or participate in community life. Financial constraints meant that the family could not afford the materials or labour needed to build a suitable access ramp.

Recognising the urgency of the situation, community leaders donated the necessary building materials, while the Bertrams SEF teams volunteered their time, skills, and labour to design and construct a safe, wheelchair-friendly ramp. Despite having limited resources, the team worked with dedication, creativity, and determination to complete the project successfully.

The completed ramp has transformed the young girl's daily life. She can now leave her home safely and independently to attend school and participate in everyday activities without the physical barriers she previously faced. The ramp has restored her dignity, improved her mobility, and increased her independence, allowing her to experience greater inclusion within her community.

For her family, the intervention has reduced the physical and emotional burden of carrying her in and out of the house, while providing peace of mind that she can move safely. The project also demonstrated the power of collaboration between community leaders and the SEF teams, proving that practical, community-driven solutions can make a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable residents

This initiative is a powerful example of how acts of service and community solidarity can remove barriers, promote inclusion, and create opportunities for people living with disabilities to live with dignity and hope.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Independence Restored

Ramp Built

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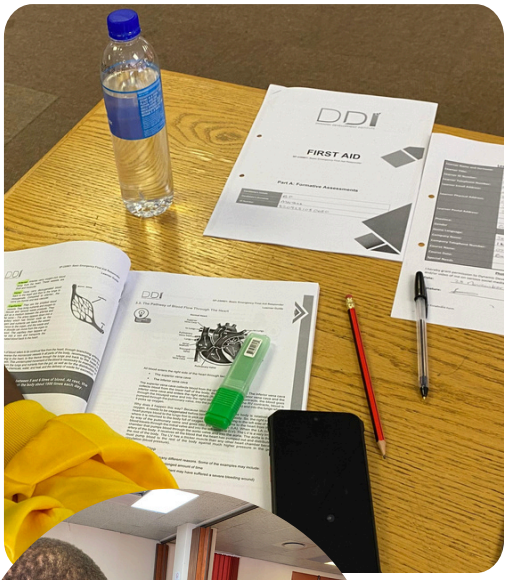
SEF Impact in Bertrams





Community Patroller Safely Delivers Baby Girl During Emergency

In *a* remarkable demonstration of courage, professionalism, and community service, a Bertrams Community Safety Patroller, Jabulile, helped bring a healthy baby girl into the world when a medical emergency unfolded before emergency services could arrive.

A heavily pregnant woman went into labour but was unable to reach the hospital in time. While emergency medical services had been contacted, their arrival was delayed, and it became clear that the baby would be born before professional medical assistance could reach the scene.

Drawing on the knowledge and confidence gained through her First Aid Training, Jabulile remained calm and took immediate action. She safely assisted the mother throughout the delivery, ensuring that both mother and baby were cared for until emergency medical personnel arrived.

Following the successful birth, the mother and her newborn daughter were transported to hospital for further medical assessment and observation. Both were reported to be in good health.

In recognition of the compassion, bravery, and life-saving assistance provided during this unforgettable moment, the grateful mother chose to name her baby girl Jabulile after the community safety patroller who helped deliver her.

Jabulile's quick thinking and application of her first aid training ensured the safe delivery of a healthy baby under extremely challenging circumstances. Her actions prevented what could have become a life-threatening emergency for both mother and child.

This extraordinary intervention highlights the value of investing in first aid training for community safety teams and demonstrates the critical role community patrollers play in responding to emergencies beyond crime prevention. It also strengthened trust between the community and the Bertrams Safety team, showing that community patrollers are not only protectors of public safety but also compassionate first responders who can make a life-changing difference when every second counts.

The naming of the baby after Jabulile stands as a lasting symbol of gratitude and the profound impact that dedicated community service can have on the lives of others.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Baby Safely Delivered | **First Aid skills Applied** | **Trust Built**

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SEF Impact in Bertrams

From SEF Community Safety Participant to Employment in the Security Sector

For Zolani Nkanjeni, participating in the Social Employment Fund (SEF) Community Safety programme in Bertrams opened a pathway to formal employment in the security sector.

Zolani, who served as a Community Safety supervisor, completed Grade E, C and D security training alongside five other participants. The training provided the participants with additional skills and qualifications that could help them pursue opportunities beyond the SEF programme.

Zolani secured employment with Claurece Future Security Company, one of the stakeholders that worked closely with the SEF participants to combat crime in Bertrams.

The partnership between the participants and Claurece Future Security Company also strengthened the community's response to crime.

The security company and participants shared a radio communication channel, allowing them to communicate directly and respond quickly when assistance was needed.

The collaboration also extended to responding to panic-button alerts, enabling the different safety actors to work together when incidents were reported.

The participants are also committed to maintaining this collaboration beyond the SEF programme. They plan to continue working with Claurece Future Security Company and the Community Policing Forum (CPF) to contribute to crime prevention and community safety in Bertrams.

Zolani's journey demonstrates how the SEF programme can create pathways from temporary employment and skills development to longer-term employment opportunities. There looks to a be room for employment opportunities for the other 5 participants that have completed the Grade E,C, and D from Claurece Future Security Company.

His employment with Claurece Future Security Company has also opened the possibility of further employment opportunities for the five other participants who completed their Grade E, C and D security training.

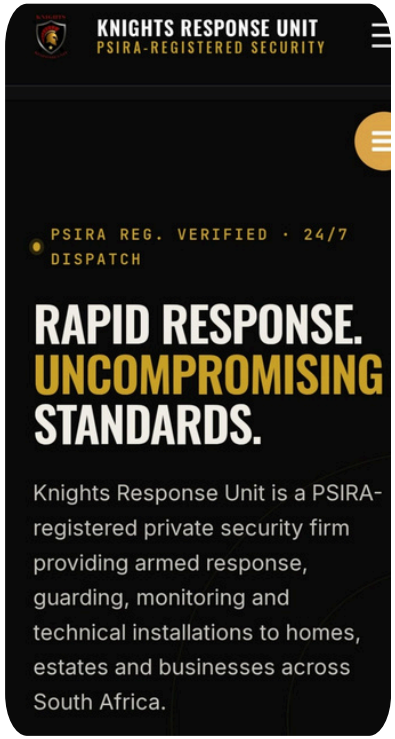


IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Employment Opportunity Created | **Partnerships Created** | **Security Skills Creating Opportunities**

CITY OF EKURHULENI

SEF Impact in Skoonplaas



Through the training received from the Social Employment Fund (SEF) project, Albert Mkhabela decided to use the skills and certificates he obtained to build a sustainable livelihood while creating opportunities for others in his community.

Albert established a security company, Knights Response Unit, and has taken important steps towards growing the business. The company is registered, and Albert is also PSiRA registered, enabling him to pursue opportunities within the private security sector.

His journey from being a SEF participant to an emerging entrepreneur demonstrates how the project has helped create opportunities that extend beyond the duration of the programme. Rather than using his training solely to seek employment, Albert has taken the initiative to establish his own business and build a future around the skills he acquired.

He continues to receive support from Joel Malele, the facilitator who provided the security training through SEF and founder of Unbeatable Security Services. Joel has supported Albert beyond the training by providing guidance on marketing his company, building his professional profile and positioning Knights Response Unit for potential opportunities.

Albert's vision extends beyond his own livelihood. Once Knights Response Unit secures sites, he plans to create employment opportunities for other participants from the Skoonplaas Commnutiy Safety team.

https://knightsresponseunit.co.za/

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Security Company Established | **Livelihood Opportunity**

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CITY OF EKURHULENI

SEF Impact in Skoonplaas

"I would like to extend my gratitude to Planact for the opportunity they provided us with." For Stoan, the opportunity provided through Planact's Social Employment Fund (SEF) project, became the starting point for a journey towards establishing a community-led security initiative.

On 16 January 2026, Stoan resigned from his position and, together with a new group that included two former SEF participants, moved to patrolling in Eastvale. The team, now consisting of 15 members, began conducting community patrols in the area.

Their work soon gained recognition from both the Eastvale community and the South African Police Service (SAPS), who noticed the team's commitment to keeping the community safe. Before the team started patrolling, there would five (5) break-in within the Eastvale community. Residents began to recognise the value of the team's presence and decided to contribute financially towards their services.

However, this success also brought challenges. Existing security companies operating in the area opened a case against Stoan and his team, as residents choosing to support the community patrols meant that the private security companies were losing business. Despite these challenges, the Eastvale residents continued supporting the team.

They agreed to contribute towards the establishment of a formal security company and to assist with the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSiRA) registration process.

The application is currently in progress through support from Xolani from the Moja Love programme Sizokthola, who assisted them with their PSiRA application.
The initiative has continued to grow. A donor from Dubai provided the team with security uniforms.The team did not only do community patrolling but are also guarding Eastvale shopping centre, the now team has an office at the shopping centre, and Stoan is now the centre manager of the shopping complex.

To sustain the initiative, residents have established a community contribution system, with approximately 107 households contributing R200 per households each month towards the patrollers. This community support provides the team with an opportunity to generate an income while continuing to provide a security service that residents value.

Stoan's journey demonstrates how an employment opportunity can develop into a longer-term community-led initiative. He started as a SEF participant and has evolved into a growing security initiative supported by residents, creating opportunities for the team while contributing to safety in Eastvale.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Security Company Established | **Livelihood Opportunity** | **Partnerships Created**





CITY OF EKURHULENI

SEF Impact in Skoonplaas





Through their participation in the Social Employment Fund (SEF) project, the Food Security team in Skoonplaas have taken the skills and experience gained through the project and turned them into an initiative that responds to the needs of their community.

The Food Security team established an organisation called Ntsako Centre, which has been registered as an NPO with the Department of Social Development. Although the organisation is still awaiting its official registration certificate and has currently received a letter of acknowledgement, the team has already begun putting the organisation into operation.

Ntsako Centre is providing practical support to children in the Skoonplaas community by providing food every two weeks. The team has also extended its support to young girls by raising and donating sanitary pads, responding to an important need within the community.

The team is also working to strengthen and expand its activities. They are currently in discussions with Impala Platinum mine regarding potential donations of gardening materials, which could help them expand their food-security activities and strengthen the organisation's ability to support the community.

The impact of Ntsako Centre is therefore not only in the food and sanitary products already provided, but also in the community ownership and initiative that has emerged from the project. The team is building a structure that can continue responding to community needs and potentially supply local supermarkets with their fresh produce.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

NPO Established | **Strengtherned Collaborations** | **Responding to Community Needs**

CITY OF EKURHULENI

SEF Impact in Kuvuki





From a Community Meeting to New Partnerships in Kuvuki

What started as a community meeting about the Ekurhuleni New Life (ENL) Disciplinary Camp opened new partnership opportunities for the SEF Community Safety Team in Kuvuki.

The team's active participation and commitment caught the attention of Selby Sibanyoni, founder of the Second Chance Recovery Centre, who encouraged them to register an NPO so they could work together.

This led to the Drug Abuse Awareness Campaign hosted by the team on 16 July, bringing together ENL facilitators, the Department of Social Development, the Ward Committee and Second Chance Recovery Centre team. The centre supported the event by donating food and posters.

Through the SEF training, including Grade E, D and C security training, has strengthened their skills and marketability, while the new partnerships are creating opportunities for continued community work.

Going forward the team has plans of registering an NPO as advised by Selby Sibanyoni so they could continue working together uplifting their community.

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CITY OF EKURHULENI

SEF Impact in Wattville

From Community Clean-Ups to Sustainable Opportunities in Wattville.

Through the Social Employment Fund (SEF), participants in Wattville have turned their skills and community work into opportunities for local enterprise and environmental improvement.

The participants have established eight cooperatives covering sewing, livestock, four (4) in agriculture, grass cutting and tourism. Some are already operational, while others are engaging with the municipality around funding. The cooperatives are incubated by Heritage Environment Tourism and Agriculture Forum, providing participants with support to develop their initiatives.

Their environmental work has also created visible change. The team transformed an illegal dumping site next to a graveyard on Xaba Street into a park, with community members now helping to maintain the space. After seeing the work, Monarch committed to providing greening materials to further improve the area.

The team also received recycling training from PETCO, strengthening their ability to continue recycling as a business and improving their business operations and management skills.

The impact is extending into employment opportunities. SEF participant Mduduzi, together with two local companies, has partnered with Unbeatable Security Services to work at an Eskom site in Wattville as electricity infrastructure is being installed in the community.

From cleaning the community to creating businesses and accessing work opportunities, the participants are turning their SEF experience into longer-term community impact.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Community Spaces Tranformed	Livelihood Opportunity	Cooperatives Created





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CITY OF TSHWANE

SEF Impact in Choba

Choba Residents Gain Access to Refuse Bags

For many years, residents of Choba Settlement struggled to access household refuse bags, making it difficult for families to dispose of their waste properly. The lack of refuse bags contributed to illegal dumping and the growth of informal dumpsites in the community.

Recognising the impact this was having on the community, SEF participants and volunteers worked with residents to raise their concerns and advocate for a solution. Through continuous engagement and community complaints, the issue was brought to the attention of the City of Tshwane.

Their advocacy contributed to a positive response from the municipality, which allocated a budget to include Choba in its household plastic bag distribution programme. As a result, each household in Choba now receives four refuse bags per month, giving residents a more accessible way to dispose of their household waste responsibly.

The initiative is expected to contribute to reducing illegal dumping, improving cleanliness and encouraging responsible waste management in the settlement. More importantly, it demonstrates the value of community members working collectively to raise issues and engage government on challenges affecting their daily lives.

The initiative has also strengthened the relationship between Choba residents, SEF participants and the City of Tshwane, showing how community participation and advocacy can contribute to tangible improvements in service delivery.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Service Improved

Cleaner Community





CITY OF TSHWANE

SEF Impact in Phomolong





Modupadi's Contribution to a Cleaner Phomolong

For Modupadi Papudi, participating in Planact's Asivikelane campaign and the Social Employment Fund (SEF) has provided an opportunity to contribute to the transformation of her community while improving the wellbeing of her household.

Modupadi, 48, has lived in Phomolong for 13 years and has been involved with Planact for three years. Through her participation in the Greening and Environment activities, she has played an active role in cleaning illegal dumpsites and promoting a cleaner environment in the community.

Her efforts, together with those of other participants, have contributed to a noticeable improvement in the cleanliness of Phomolong. Residents have increasingly taken responsibility for keeping their yards and streets clean, helping to build a stronger sense of community ownership.

One of the achievements she is particularly proud of is helping transform spaces that were once used as illegal dumping sites into gardens, parks and soccer fields.

These changes have not only improved the appearance of the community but have also created spaces that residents and children can use and enjoy.

The impact of the programme has also extended to Modupadi's household. The SEF stipend has provided much-needed financial relief, helping her contribute towards household expenses and ensure that basic needs, including food, are met.

For Modupadi, the income has brought a greater sense of stability and dignity to her household, while her participation has given her an opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the community she has called home for more than a decade.

Modupadi's story demonstrates how community-based employment can create a dual impact: improving the environment while providing households with income to meet their basic needs. Her experience also shows how transforming neglected spaces can encourage residents to take greater responsibility for the places where they live.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Household Income

Improved Clean Environment

EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

SEF Impact in Masakhane





The impact of the Social Employment Fund (SEF) programme in Masakhane has extended beyond the employment opportunities provided to participants. The programme has given young people an opportunity to gain practical experience, develop their skills and consider new possibilities for their future.

Mam Nkadimeng, the owner of the centre where the participants worked, expressed her appreciation for the project and the contribution made by the participants during their time there. She highlighted the importance of the 10-month employment opportunity, particularly for young people who were given the chance to gain work experience and broaden their perspectives.

“The youth had an opportunity that has opened their minds.”

For the participants, the experience has also encouraged them to think beyond the programme and explore ways of creating sustainable opportunities for themselves. A group of participants is currently in the process of establishing a cooperative that will allow them to continue providing the services and doing the work they were involved in during their participation in SEF.

Although the cooperative is still going through the process of being formally established, the participants have remained committed to the work. While waiting for the registration and other processes to be finalised, they continue working in the field and providing services within the community.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Cleaner Environment

Skills Gained on Environmental Awareness



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