

MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2025
ONE-DAY SYMPOSIUM
ON SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
This programme contains the latest information received by COB, 17 January 2025

PARTICIPANTS:

KAGISO HUB ENTREPRENEURS
Led by Shawn Theunissen and Desigan Chetty

SOSHUNGUVE MECHANICS
Led by Khabo Cars owner Dr. Isaac Bashomane

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS TRAINING
Led by Sanette Mostert

PINK PRINT FARM PRODUCTS
Led by owner Nokwanda Mchunu

PROGRAMME:

- 9:30 a.m. Participants assemble at Kagiso Hub for coffee and informal introductions
- 10:30 a.m. WELCOME REMARKS BY MCs SHAWN THEUNISSEN and MARTHA DEACON
- 10:45 a.m. 30-minute presentation by KAGISO HUB – **6 total participants**
15-minute Q + A
- 11:30 a.m. 30-minute presentation by SOSHUNGUVE MECHANICS – **6 total participants**
15-minute Q + A
- 12:15 p.m. Break for catered lunch at the venue
- 1:30 p.m. RECONVENE with sum up of morning and introduction of afternoon session
- 1:45 p.m. 30-minute presentation by EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS TRAINING – **3 total participants**
15-minute Q + A
- 2:30 p.m. 30-minute presentation by PINK PRINT FARM PRODUCE – **2 total participants**
15-minute Q + A
- 3:15 p.m. PLENARY – What have we learned? How can we assist each other?
- 4:00 p.m. MIX AND MINGLE – DEPARTURE BY 4:30 p.m.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS AND PARTICIPANTS/PRESENTERS:

KAGISO HUB

Property Point provides skills, training, and personal development support to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) across South Africa to encourage their growth and independence in their various sectors of operation. Through its Enterprise and Supplier Development Programmes, Property Point partners with entrepreneurs to grow their SMMEs into sustainable businesses that will further increase community upliftment through job creation. Property Point has partnered with the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) to unlock opportunities for growth in the township economies through the establishment of the Kagiso Incubation Hub, located in Kagiso Township, Mogale City.

The establishment of the Kagiso Incubation Hub was centred around the notion of increasing the incubation network in rural and township areas of South Africa to improve the provision of business development and technical support to base start-ups, small, medium, micro, and cooperative enterprises following a structured support continuum. The Hub provides business development support services to entrepreneurs in Kagiso, Mohlakeng, Roodepoort, and the broader West Rand region, with a particular focus on entrepreneurs specializing in the plumbing, electrical and diesel mechanic trades. Since 2023, the Kagiso Township hub has supported 11 businesses including 5 plumbers, 3 diesel mechanics and 3 electricians, generating a collective revenue of R6 073 021,08 and accessing contracts valued at R1,154,747.21. The programme has created 32 jobs created while 19 jobs were sustained. Impressively, 45% of these businesses are women-owned, reflecting a strong commitment to gender inclusivity. The Townships Project has provided specific financial support towards the sustainability of the hub and empowerment of the women and youth-owned plumbing businesses since 2023.

SOSHUNGUVE MECHANICS

Since 2010, Dr. Isaac Boshomane and his business, Kgabo Cars, have trained 160 automotive mechanic candidates, all of whom have earned the internationally compatible Automotive Motor Mechanic Artisan National Certificate from the Department of Higher Education and Training, Science & Technology of South Africa. Each candidate follows a rigorous 3-year course. Of the 178 candidates trained to date, 55 are women.

Until Dr. Boshomane opened his Kgabo Cars training facility in Soshanguve Township just north of Pretoria, it was not possible

- i) To find practical training in townships or rural areas;
- ii) To find apprenticeship training **except** after graduating through the TVET (Technical Vocational Education Training) government system and finding a job with an auto manufacturer or large dealer; or
- iii) To earn the National Certificate without first qualifying through the TVET course system.

In 2021, Dr. Boshomane decided that all future candidates for his training would be taken from two groups: women, who are severely under-represented in the trades which lead to better pay and better jobs, and “academically challenged candidates”, who are not qualified for admission to the national TVET college system in South Africa.

The TVET system provides the theoretical but not the “hands-on” practical training required for an automotive motor mechanic. For that practical training, Dr. Bashomane approached The Townships Project for assistance in obtaining the NUDLE Virtual Reality software system in August 2024. NUDLE mimics the experience of working on a real car engine. Each student learns at his/her own speed and is required to master each step before proceeding to the next step. It is a game-changer for this training academy, which is, in and of itself, unique in South Africa. The Townships Project, NUDLE, Dr. Bashomane and Kgabo Cars are all hopeful that it will be a game-changer for mechanics learning their trade in townships areas in South Africa.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS TRAINING

Since 2019, Sesego Foundation has been offering an Early Childhood Development business training program that serves a dual purpose: it equips entrepreneurs and ECD owners with the skills necessary to run a successful business, while also imparting essential proficiencies for operating a safe and thriving ECD centre tailored to the needs of young children. The significant aspect of the project is that the learners will be given accredited certificates that they can use to further their careers, in so doing creating a growth path for the candidates. ECD centres in poor townships all have some social, environmental and educational challenges. Many of these issues can be tackled with a ground-up approach by giving staff and practitioners the opportunity to gain useful skills and workable solutions to their problems. The long-term sustainability of these centres also depends on giving practitioners a greater sense of ownership that comes with running a properly-managed business that is formalised and generates a predictable income, even if it starts from a small base. Giving staff and practitioners the opportunity of becoming agents of change with positive values boosts their confidence and self-esteem as well as equipping them with practical operational and financial skills. Practitioners have the added benefit of being coaches to their teams, which builds morale and positivity in the centres. The children are the biggest beneficiaries, but parents also welcome these changes because their children are in the hands of capable and qualified people. The Townships Project has been partnering with Sesego Foundation since 2020 to provide this training. It is widely recognized that spending on ECD is one of the most effective ways of improving lifelong economic and health outcomes for children.

PINK PRINT FARM PRODUCE

Pink Print Farm Produce is a small meat produce business in Mapumulo, Kwa-Zulu Natal, that was founded by the vibrant and fierce, Nokwanda Mchunu. At age 25, she opened her first high-end premises, two years after launching her business out of her family home. Nokwanda wanted to be involved in farming from early childhood. She participated in the SAB Foundation Tholoana Programme which helped her make some important changes to her business, including receiving new equipment and help launching new premises. The Tholoana Programme is aimed at youth in rural areas, as well as at entrepreneurs who have a disability and who show potential and commitment to grow a business and create jobs. It is a two-year business support programme which provides participants with seed-funding and assistance with access to markets.

In 2022, Nokwanda’s business suffered catastrophic damage in April floods. During 2023 she immediately began to rebuild her business and approached The Townships Project for assistance in replacing machinery which had been ruined. The Townships Project had previously awarded her an entrepreneurship cash prize which she had used to purchase machinery. Nokwanda also took this opportunity to upgrade her business to comply with health and building requirements. She employs a number of local women as butchers.

BIOGRAPHIES OF PARTICIPANTS AND PRESENTERS:

KAGISO INCUBATION HUB:



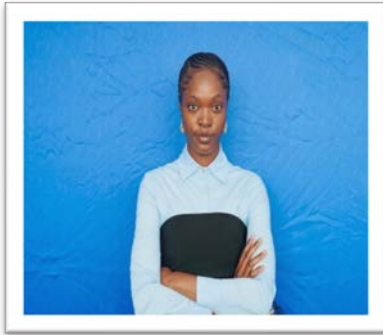
The Kagiso Hub is the brainchild of **SHAWN THEUNISSEN** and his team. Shawn is the Head of Corporate Social Responsibility and Transformation at Growthpoint Properties, with direct responsibility in the organization to drive business growth. Growthpoint Properties is the largest listed property company in South Africa with an asset portfolio of over R 100 billion. In his drive for corporate social responsibility and transformation, Shawn is also the Founder at Property Point and Entrepreneurship To the Point. Shawn's international recognition includes being named Chair of the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs, a global network supporting small and growing businesses in developing economies as a tool for building inclusive prosperity.



DESIGAN CHETTY is Chief Operations Officer of Property Point and thus directly responsible for the Kagiso Hub. Desigan is an economic transformation strategist who focuses on economic inclusion, empowerment financing, enterprise and supplier development (ESD) and BBBEE. Desigan leads initiatives to promote economic inclusion for small and growing businesses. He collaborates with public, private, and international partners to enhance access to finance, markets, and business development support, with an emphasis on gender equity, local economic development, and the green economy. Desigan is actively involved in the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE), serving as a Regional Chapter Steering Committee Member. He also contributes his expertise as an Expert Advisor to ANDE's Township Economy Project, which aims to foster entrepreneurship in developing economies. He is the direct liaison with The Townships Project in Canada.

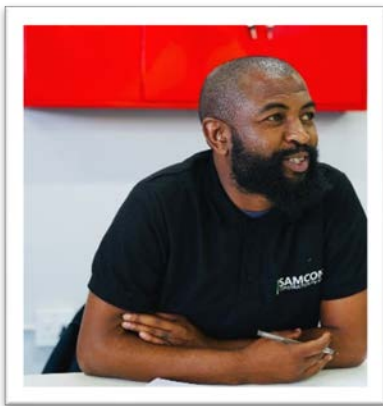


NTSAKO NGOMANA is the Head of Local Economic Development and Stakeholder Management at Property Point, and in this role, she is dedicated to fostering economic inclusion and sustainability within the property sector. Her expertise and dedication make her a key player in the field of economic development and stakeholder management. Ntsako also doubles as the Centre Manager at the Kagiso Incubation Hub, where together with her team, facilitate the development and empowerment of the small businesses from the Kagiso township, whilst working towards creating avenues to permeate the township economy. Ntsako is a seasoned professional with over 15 years of experience in the construction industry as a quantity surveyor. She obtained her Honours Degree from Wits University and later went on to pursue a master's in construction project management.



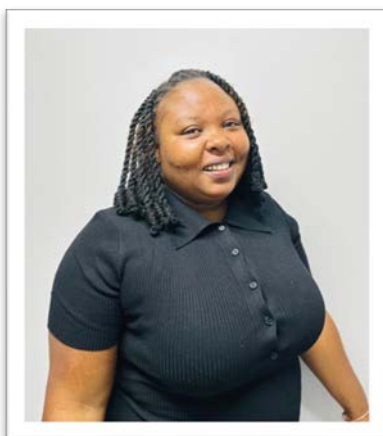
MMAPULA MANGENA is a developmentalist at heart. She started her career in the public sector, focusing on monitoring and evaluation. With more than 5 years of combined public and private sector experience, she now oversees the implementation of an Enterprise Development Programme at the Kagiso Incubation Hub in Kagiso Township as a Programme Manager. She holds a Post Graduate diploma in Public health from the University of Pretoria and an Honours in Development Studies from the University of Johannesburg. Mmapula is passionate about contributing toward making a tangible impact in people's lives and bringing about meaningful change through

the effective and efficient implementation of projects and programmes worldwide. Empowering SMMEs to reach their fullest potential and assisting them to build sustainable businesses is what currently fulfils her in life.



SAMUEL MOKGOTHU, a 35-year-old entrepreneur and a qualified plumber residing in Randfontein, Johannesburg, founded Samcon Construction in 2012. His motivation for starting Samcon Construction stemmed from growing up in an entrepreneurial family, where his father was a hand-man that serviced his local community. The goal of Samcon Construction is to become the leading plumbing company in Gauteng, focusing on offering plumbing services with a green solution. At present, the company caters to the banking, commercial, retail and finance sectors. As an emerging leader, Samuel is passionately dedicated to community upliftment, especially in helping young individuals become skilled professionals and entrepreneurs. He joined the Kagiso Incubation Programme to seek support to grow his business sustainably. In addition,

Samuel has been actively using the field vehicle to complete emergency plumbing services for his clients.



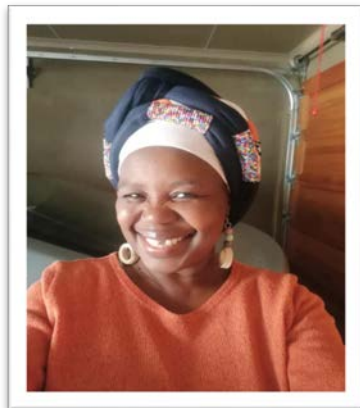
Tsotello General and Projects was established in 2019 by a 36-year-old **LERATO RIKHOTSO** after identifying a gap in the number of female-owned businesses in the plumbing industry. The company aims to offer comprehensive and eco-friendly plumbing services tailored to meet the client's needs. Lerato aims to establish a reputable and sustainable business that will inspire aspiring female entrepreneurs residing in the Kagiso Township. When she joined the Kagiso Incubation Programme, Lerato lacked formal plumbing qualifications but had relevant experience, hence, one of the supports she received from the programme was to enroll on a basic plumbing course to enhance her knowledge and strengthen her company's profile for future opportunities.

SOSHUNGUVE MECHANICS



DR. ISAAC BOSHOMANE is the owner of Kgabo Cars, which trains the Soshanguve mechanics. He is also the Rotary Community Corps District Chair and Past President. **VICTORIA BOSHOMANE** is "his boss", as he says, and will attend with him. Kgabo Isaac Boshomane is a qualified Automotive Mechanical Engineer with a PhD from Logos University USA. His knowledge and experience in the automotive industry (vehicle services, repairs & maintenance) and in education (Educator, Technical High School, TVET College & University of Technology) provided the foundation for his automotive repair workshop and training centre, qualifying youth to become national artisans in Motor Mechanics in a Township. This

Township youth development centre has developed 178 Automotive Motor artisans, 55 of whom are women in a male dominated industry. Dr. Boshomane believes 'there is no dustbin for a human being' and that every individual has the potential to thrive with attention and support. Kgabo Cars YouTube channel shows workshops for grades 8 and 9 in career awareness, career development and career guidance to help students make good choices in grade 10.



ANNIETJIE RAMATLHAPE is the full-time teaching volunteer for the Soshanguve mechanics to learn the English necessary for their trade. She also teaches their children English and maths after school hours. She is the current Rotary Community Corps President.



TUMELO KUBYANA, at left and below, has been twice a record-breaking graduate in mechanics and is a Rotary Community Corps member.

OFENTSE LEDINGOANE and **QUEEN MOGALE**, seen below, are both female mechanics in training at Kgabo Cars in Soshanguve and members of the Rotary Community Corps.



Pictured on the left: Ofentse Ledingoane; Dr. Isaac Boshomane; Queen Mogale; Annetjie Ramatlhape

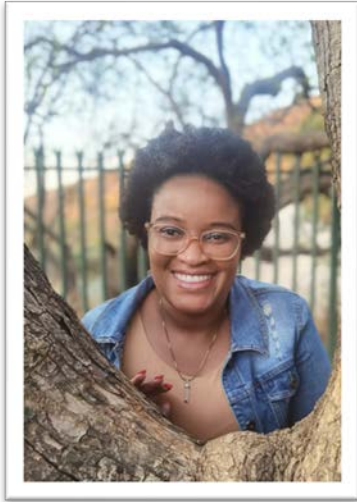
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS TRAINING



SANETTE MOSTERT is President of Rotary E-Club of Eagle Canyon and a Habitual Coach. Sanette achieves optimal performance through specific focussed training and development programs. Her expertise includes completion of a Honours Degree in Sport Science to corporate coaching and life coaching. She offer strategic coaching solutions to dramatically enhance individuals performance and team dynamics and dedicates herself in transforming individuals towards their elevated future.



VANESSA THANDEKA MOKOENA resides at Tossing and is 21 years of age. She helps run her mum's day care centre, Sisonke Day Care.



SIBONGILE CHIFAMUNA is a young and dynamic entrepreneur who is making a meaningful impact in her community. As the owner of a thriving preschool Best Beginners Preschool. Sibongile is passionate about providing high-quality early childhood education and care to young children. Driven by a deep commitment to helping those in need, Sibongile is dedicated to supporting underprivileged children and families. Through her preschool, she offers scholarships and support services to families who cannot afford them.

MBUDZENI THOVA is an attendee from Mila.

EVENS MALATJI is an attendee from Mila.



PINK PRINT FARM PRODUCE

NOKWANDA MCHUNU is 29-years-old and lives in Maphumulo. She holds a National Diploma in agriculture from Cedara College of Agriculture as well as relevant experience in the field. Nokwanda a passionate woman and a change agent with a social side that wants to bring a change in the community where she is based, by creating job opportunities for young people within the community. Living in a rural community has many disadvantages, one of which includes unavailability of a source of quality meat supply as a source of protein to low income earning families. Nokwanda chose to solve that problem by starting her own meat processing business in the community. She wanted to contribute to food security in rural communities, the people would have access to these products without having to travel long distances to town and receive it at a good price as

they will be purchasing directly from the producer.

ZOE MHLONGO is a marketing specialist at Pink Print Farm Produce.

SPECIAL GUESTS:



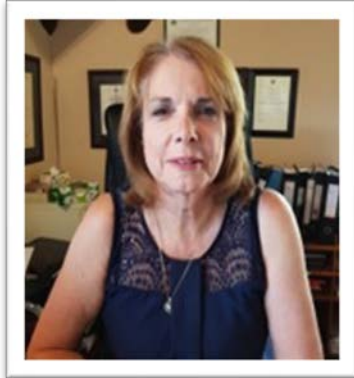
DR. GEORGE SENOSHA was recognized for his work with an Honorary Doctorate from UNISA in 2022. George joined the Rotary Club Waterkloof in 2014 and became its first black South African President from 2019 to 2021, at which time he became the District Chairman of Rotary Community Corps, which champions the formation of Rotary Clubs in townships and rural villages. Although Rotary has existed since 1905 internationally and since 1921 in Africa, its impact in those areas has been negligible to date. George believes Rotary has the power to transform the communities in which it takes root. The objective of The Townships Project, to eradicate poverty by empowering entrepreneurs, aligns with the objectives of Rotary. George comes from a family of nine siblings. His parents were farm labourers and life was challenging. He attended Hotel School and joined the hospitality industry.

In 1997 he entered the retail business with Pick n Pay. In 2002, he became the first black African to own a Pick n Pay franchise. The black clientele increased dramatically; they even took the bus to come to his store. But George wanted to do more: he wanted to open a Pick n Pay in the townships. Again, he was too early. Management was not ready to bet on the townships, and the townships people thought that Pick n Pay was too expensive. George set out to break both barriers. On 15 September 2005, George opened the very first Pick n Pay franchise store in the Township of Soshanguve. George's store became the Pick n pay flagship in the townships and opened the door for many black South Africans and foreign African nationals to own their own stores. He has developed more than 120 individuals in the circles of Pick n Pay who are now "Black Diamonds".



ANNEMARIE MOSTERT is a social entrepreneur committed to empowering youth, women, and children through structured skills, sustainability, and enterprise-development initiatives. She has received multiple awards including The United Nations Responsible Business Owner in the world in 2016 in New York, and the Woman of Stature 2024 Overall winner of 12 categories and winner of Education and Skills transfer. Annemarie has been a performing arts educator in Gauteng and Natal, founder of The National Eisteddfod Academy, and Head of Protocol and Public Relations at ABSA Bank Barclays Africa. She is the founding member, CEO, and shareholder of Mila Services PTY LTD and Mila Academy. She has served on the Rand Water Foundation, Sesego Foundation, and in different roles within Rotary International. She is an Ambassador for the

Institute for Economics and Peace, a technical advisor for The Rotary Foundation, a member of the Artificial Intelligence Fellowship and a founding member of Refugees Beyond Borders. She is the incoming Rotary Intercountry Committee Global Chairperson for the Executive Board 2026-2028.



RIANA PRETORIUS was Past District Governor, Rotary D9400 and has been involved with The Townships Project since 2019. She served as the DG of D9400 in the year 2023-2024 and is the Chair of the Rotary Action Group for Community Economic Development in South Africa. Riana's Financial Services Provider company, Exponential Financial Service, was established in 2007.



MARTHA DEACON founded The Townships Project in late 1998 in response to then President Nelson Mandela's challenge to do something about the poverty in his country. Since then, The Townships Project has worked with local micro-finance organizations, government departments, universities, Rotary Clubs and others in South Africa to start or expand small businesses. Prior to starting The Townships Project, Martha was an entrepreneur, an investment banker and a corporate solicitor in Toronto and Vancouver, Canada.

Questions for participants from The Townships Project board members:

To be answered, as relevant, for each project:

1. Why did you decide to go into business for yourself?
2. Who introduced you to The Townships Project?
3. Where do you hope to take your business in the future?
4. What advice would you give other entrepreneurs?
5. Describe the impact of The Townships Project support in your business and in your local community (e.g. providing employment)