



IASP

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PUBLICAFRICA DIVISION PUBLICATION



HIGHLIGHTS

- NEW CLASS OF ENTREPRENEURS MARKS PRESENCE IN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION
- 72 PERCENT OF KONZA TECHNOPOLIS' PHASE ONE TAKEN UP BY INVESTORS
- SHOWCASING BOTSWANA INNOVATIONS AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

IASP MEMBERS



Find IASP member science parks, innovation districts and other areas of innovation by browsing via country, technology sector or IASP membership category.

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A famous African adage says a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. Indeed, this issue - the first edition of 2022 – echoes the very strides of a journey that the IASP publication is undertaking while seeking to showcase what our areas of innovations and science parks are doing.

So far, the IASP publication has offered a platform to tell our stories. It is increasingly becoming a unifying unit in our continent's science parks and areas of innovation. From this, I am delighted as the President of this division to appreciate the good work that you are doing. You are making us proud.

At the beginning of this year, we were glad to note that several innovation hubs have continued to scale up their work. From South Africa to Kenya to Botswana, a lot of work has happened.

During the period under review, seventeen entrepreneurs from South Africa's Innovation Hub graduated from The Innovation Hub's Business Incubation Programmes. The companies seek to become leaders in diverse fields ranging from ICT and manufacturing to the green economy. Is this not impressive?

Apart from this milestone, the innovation hub managed to have the eWaste Africa – emerge as a winner of the Gauteng Accelerator programme Green category. These

milestones call for more actions in providing solutions for our people and advancing the solutions to global standards. All is possible.

As that happened, we noted some great strides from Kenya's Konza Technopolis, which managed to sell seventy-two percent of land available for investment in Phase 1 (One). The milestone represents 106 out of 147 land parcels demarcated for uptake by investors in Phase 1 (One).

Similarly, Konza Technopolis was ranked third in the 2021 International Association of Science Parks (IASP) Inspiring Solutions Program meant to recognise excellence within science parks and areas of innovation management and give visibility to the best projects and initiatives.

**Collaboration,
partnerships
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for solutions
need to
dominate our
conversations.**

The award brings to fore the aspect of recognizing our innovation hubs. As we advance, we may explore this in our division, working together with our leaders.

As this happened during the period under review, we noted the Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) showcasing its innovations at the Dubai 2020 Expo. Through this, it is good to note that the innovation hub managed to seize the opportunity to showcase its work to the world.

Interestingly, the innovation's hub innovators participated in a Pitch session at the Expo intending to accord Botswana Innovators an

opportunity to showcase their ideas, concepts, and solutions to the global community, such as venture capitalists, angel investors and potential investor's partners. As an innovation hub that also participated in this Expo, I should mention that this is the way to go.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we look ahead to a successful year, some aspects remain critical in our engagements. Collaboration, partnerships and "hunger" for solutions need to dominate our conversations.

During the period under review, Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) and Angel Network Botswana (ANB) collaborated to host a Deal Day (pitch day) scouting talent from BDIH innovators who have received technical and business interventions throughout their incubation/acceleration journey. The Deal Day exposed innovators to over 20+ investors & potential markets, partners, coaches and investors through the ANB & BDIH partnership.

Similarly, the Botswana Digital Innovation Hub, in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), conducted a Technology & Innovation Support Centre programme [TISC] refresher workshop, which enabled the participating stakeholders to learn, share experiences and pick key lessons as they grow.

With that said, 2022 presents many opportunities to us. It's upon our endeavours to grab them and utilize them as we aspire to propel IASP ahead. The effort will ultimately advance our economies to levels we all aspire to have in the coming days.

**Eng. John Tanui,
President, IASP Africa Division,
CEO, Konza Technopolis
Development Authority (KoTDA)**



NEW CLASS OF ENTREPRENEURS MARKS PRESENCE IN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Seventeen entrepreneurs with innovative start-up businesses graduated from The Innovation Hub's Business Incubation Programmes at the end of November 2021. With creative solutions to local needs and challenges, these companies look set to become leaders in diverse fields ranging from ICT and

manufacturing to the green economy and the township economy, notes the Innovation Hub Acting CEO Tsietsi Maleho.

"As the innovation agency of Gauteng, The Innovation Hub strives to assist start-ups and small businesses grow and flourish into sustainable

companies by providing critical skills training, business development support, mentoring, and access to funding opportunities," said Maleho.

To graduate from its various Business Incubation Programmes, companies are evaluated on the growth of the start-up in relation to job creation, commercialisation, income growth, and overall business management.

"These are vital requirements for ensuring that start-ups remain sustainable once they have exited our incubation programmes. We have been extremely proud to see the progress that these entrepreneurs and their companies have made during their time at the Hub, and we feel privileged to have experienced and played a part in developing this level of innovation within our country," says Maleho.

Notably, according to the National Development Plan, it is hoped that small, micro, and medium enterprises (SMMEs) will generate 90% of the 11 million new jobs targeted by government's economic strategy.

Pointing to these figures, Maleho adds that The Innovation Hub's Business Incubation Programmes specifically focus on start-ups with the potential to drive significant positive social impact and positively influence the environment.

"Innovative thinking is the key to finding new and exciting solutions to the problems South Africans face with regards to the environment, technology and job creation. In this space, the 2021 pool of graduates stand out as entrepreneurs to watch."

The Business Incubator

Programme Class of 2021: The Innovation Hub offers five flagship Business Incubator Programmes, including the Maxum Smart programme targeting the ICT and advanced manufacturing sector; the Biopark@Gauteng programme targeting the health, agro-processing and industrial sectors; the green economy programme by the Climate Innovation Centre South Africa (CISCA); and the eKasiLabs programme which focusses on entrepreneurs in operating in township economies.

The companies that graduated from the Maxum Smart programme are:

iFOUNDiT: Offers a shopping app which rewards users with points for visiting stores, scanning barcodes, and uploading receipts on the app following purchases.

Shape: Provides novel and innovative medical products, devices, and mobile applications for the healthcare industry.

Lepsta: Developed a Space decode, or a software product that enables software developers to build, test, and continually deploy application

updates using a single tool, and without having to manually set up hosting infrastructure such as servers for their applications.

Westudio: Offers gaming and software development services for clients. This business has also established a gaming studio that has launched several titles in entertainment gaming.

eKasiGaming: Exposes disadvantaged youth from townships to gaming and the world of e-Sports.

The companies that graduated from the Biopark@Gauteng programme are:

African Applied Chemicals: Manufactures yarn hiking socks that are designed to slowly release liquid actives such as repellents over an extended period.

Cabblow Studios: A Proudly South African medical animation and illustration company.

The graduates from the CICSAs green economy programme are: Kusini water: Developed industrial solar-powered Polyvinylidene Difluoride (PVDF) filters for fully automated water treatment systems for use within the African continent. Technotherm: A company specializing in Waste to Energy ("W2E") plants that offer a clear solution for the disposal of waste, and the generation of renewable energy.

The companies that graduated from eKasiLabs are:

I am Emerge: Offers bulk purchasing for spaza shops via its Vuleka app, which provides an easy purchasing platform. I am Emerge began in Alexandra, and is currently expanding to Soweto.

Eco Fineness: Manufactures and supplies health and hygiene products. These products include cleaning detergents, hand and body lotion, hair products, and hand sanitisers.

Artero: A service-focused ICT company with expertise in computer networking. This company strives to maintain service excellence, and is focussed on building mutually beneficial relationships with customers and suppliers.

Mokati Cleaning Chemicals: Manufactures and supplies cleaning chemicals.

Teayehm Holdings: Offers a wide range of services including energy consulting, renewable energy and energy efficiency advice, water management, roof refurbishments, and electrical installations and maintenance. Teayehm also manufactures a roof paint that is environmentally friendly and keeps the house both cool in summer and warm in winter.

LooAfrique: Manufactures advanced toilet technology products in the water and sanitation sector. The company aims to improve sanitation measures including by saving water. The products are made of plastic material which is durable and environmentally friendly.

Alex Industries: Manufactures products that are developed using hybrid cycles and machines.

Deaf Language Training and Projects (VOICEOUT): An agricultural company founded by deaf community members that produces organic crops and vegetables. Following their graduation, these companies will each be invited to join The Innovation Hub's alumni programme, which provides business support services through either a 12-month pre-commercial programme, or a 36-month post-commercialisation programme.

"As both The Innovation Hub and as fellow South Africans, we look forward to seeing what the next chapter for these companies holds as they make their mark on the local business scene," concludes Maleho.

NEWS

Seventy two percent of land available for investment in the Phase 1 (One) of the Konza Technopolis project has been taken up by investors for development.

This represents 106 out of 147 land parcels demarcated for uptake by investors in the Phase 1 (One), which comprises of 1,703 acres of land including wildlife and nature parks.

This comes at a time when the development of Phase 1(One)'s horizontal infrastructure is set to be completed by the end of 2022. The completion of the works, which entail the construction of streetscapes and drainage works, paves way for the vertical construction works to be undertaken by the private sector.

According to the Eng. John Tanui, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA), the agency mandated with the development of Konza Technopolis, the Authority is now focusing to complete the horizontal infrastructure which entails servicing the land parcels with key amenities.

"For the horizontal infrastructure, we expect within this year to move and reach over 95 percent with the remaining scope of work being the development of verticals among them a police command center, fire station, welcome center, safety shelter for screening vehicles and power distribution station as well as Konza furnished apartments. In 2021, we recorded over 70 percent completion and our focus is to complete this as we accelerate investor's uptake," said Eng. Tanui, who was speaking during an investor's tour at Konza Technopolis.

The CEO added: "In respect to investor uptake of the Phase One, we expect that the entire land parcels available will be taken up by June 2022. We are already in discussion

72 PERCENT OF KONZA TECHNOLIS' PHASE ONE TAKEN UP BY INVESTORS

with the Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning to have more land demarcated for manufacturing since the parcels which had been set aside have been fully taken up," he said.

Phase One of the Konza Technopolis project is designed as a mixed-use community, comprising of commercial, residential, public, and hospitality amenities. Upon completion, Phase One is expected to attract 30,000 residents, 7,500 knowledge workers and 16,700 other workers.

Speaking during the investor's tour, Investor Mohammed Omar, Director at Odese International Limited lauded the progress of the Technopolis, terming the ongoing works as a true reflection of the dream of a smart city in Kenya.

He said: "For a long period, we were in a limbo on what was happening at Konza Technopolis but upon my visit today, I am surprised that a lot is going on, especially on the horizontal infrastructure development. I think what I have seen here proves that as a nation, we are moving forward and this is how countries like South Korea were build."

Mr. Omar also noted that the country has taken a good trajectory in developing other flagship projects such as Lamu Port and the New Kipevu Oil Terminal Project.

On his part, Eng. Mbugua Kamau, a real estate developer, who was part of the delegation noted that Konza Technopolis has made great progress in the last one year, especially in the development of service tunnels and roads.

He said: "I am very impressed with the quality of work and particularly the service tunnels which covers six kilometres. The master plan is well thought out and it is good to note that investors are taking this project seriously."

As part of its strategic priorities under the second strategic plan (2021-2025), Konza Technopolis Development Authority is actively engaging both local and international investors. Private sector players are also taking up the offerings of Konza National Data Centre, which is offering cloud computing services to both private and public organisations.



NEWS

November was the month of Innovation at the Expo 2020 Dubai. Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) as a driver of the Innovation agenda and a player in the ecosystem, seized the opportunity to expose the work of some of our innovators. BDIH clients; Leverage Point, Qflo, PG Software and Pyro Carbon Energy showcased their solutions and were front and centre, showcasing Botswana's progress in Research, Science, Innovation and Technology (RSIT).

Our Innovators participated in a Pitch session at the Expo. The objective of the pitch session was to accord Botswana Innovators an opportunity to showcase their ideas, concepts, and solutions to the global community such as venture capitalists, angel investors and potential partners.



1. Leverage Point

Leverage Point is a Botswana based Information and Communication Technology (ICT) company offering custom software development, website development, desktop and infrastructure support, mobile App development, project management and animation and graphic design. They have a flagship ERP software solution called Business Point that is aimed at digital transformation of SMEs. The solution continues to win awards in Botswana (SAIS & Botswana Innovation Fun) and Malawi (Malawi Innovation Challenge). BusinessPoint utilises SaaS model

SHOWCASING BOTSWANA INNOVATIONS AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI



and can be deployed on premises through integration with existing solution. The solution offers CRM, Sales, Accounting, Inventory & Stock Control, Human Resource Management & Employee Self Service, Customer Support and comprehensive Dashboards & Reports modules.

2. Creative Insights/QFlo

Creative Insights have developed a QFlo App that enables end users to book a spot in a queue virtually through Whatsapp, Facebook Messenger and SMS. The end user receives a virtual ticket confirming their spot in the queue with a QRCode which they scan once they arrive at the service provider. QFlo allows organisations to better control the flow of clients to and at their premises. It also allows clients to manage their time and safeguards their health and safety. Beyond COVID 19, QFlo will help organisations manage their customer flow more efficiently, ultimately improving customer experience.

3. Pyro Carbon Energy

The solution is a containerised plant that will convert poultry litter into high value products, namely; biochar, bio-oil and biogas, while simultaneously providing cost effective, environmentally friendly and safe waste disposal. The products can be readily used as fertiliser equivalent to Nitrogen Phosphorus Potassium (NPK) and biofuel for burners and electricity generators.

4. PCG Software

PCG is a digital solutions firm specializing in tailor-made mobile development and web-based projects. The company has developed various software's but not limited to 'Mogwebi Cyber Plaza'- a virtual networking and trade platform that connects businesses to an unlimited online audience to support business continuity.

"The pitch session demonstrates Botswana's aspirations to embrace challenge driven approach to



innovation and seek partnerships to enhance our capacities as well as networks to promote home grown solutions. The pitch event positioned Botswana as an investment destination for innovation and technology in Africa and beyond." Giving a keynote address at the Innovation Pitch, the Assistant Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology – Honourable Ronald Machana Shamukuni.

NEWS

Kusini Water and Livestock Wealth was recently featured in the Daily Maverik online magazine as the 2021's most exciting startups.

The recent graduate of Business Incubation programme, Mr Murendeni Mafumo founder of Kusini Water developed an interest in Chemistry at an early age.

It was until later in his life while studying at Yale University that he used his love for science to create a solution to the water challenges that the country was facing.

The innovative macadamia nut shell water filtration system that he developed is now being used across the country. His goal is to expand nationwide and be able to reach five million people by 2025.

The Founder of the Livestock Wealth has received many awards for his ground breaking innovative approach to cattle farming by giving people across the globe access to cattle farming as a form of investment.

To date Livestock wealth has invested R100- million in more than 70 partner farmers. The growth potential of this company is limitless.

KUSINI WATERS AND LIVESTOCK WEALTH FEATURED ON SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST EXCITING STARTUPS 2021 EDITION



KONZA TECHNOPOLIS WINS BRONZE AWARD IN THE 2021 IASP INSPIRING SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME



Konza Technopolis was ranked third in the 2021 International Association of Science Parks (IASP) Inspiring Solutions Program meant to recognise excellence within science parks and areas of innovation management and give visibility to the best projects and initiatives.

IASP, which boasts of 350 members and 115,000 companies in 78 countries globally, selects the best top 10 solutions deployed by its members annually. The 10 finalists are selected by an expert panel, before IASP members vote for the three winners, who are announced live at the IASP World Conference.

The Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) was recognized for establishing the Konza Innovation Ecosystem Initiative (KIEI), which brings together the Government,

Academia, Private sector, and non-state actors to champion the Technopolis innovation agenda resulting in the creation of new enterprises.

A total of 20 new companies owned by the youth have been created and are now commercializing because of the KIEI approach. Further, 200 children between the age of 9 and 15 have been trained on innovation while over 1000 youth have been supported to develop new ventures.

KoTDA Chief Executive Officer, Eng. John Tanui – who is also the President of IASP Africa Division, has hailed the Award as a recognition of the KIEI's role in nurturing an innovation culture in Kenya's economy, terming it as a game changer in how the innovation ecosystem operates in Kenya.

"This initiative has addressed the gaps that were in the innovation ecosystem

by ensuring there is co-ordination within the innovation ecosystem and providing a programme to innovators to channel their ideas and solutions to be able to turn them into start-ups." Eng. Tanui said.

He added, "Through the programme, we've got impressive innovations on healthcare, logistics and quality work. This has created a model we can replicate across Africa and ensure that the partnerships we have established with various stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem continue to grow."

Eng. Tanui spoke on the sidelines of the IASP's International Board Meeting which was held in Malaga, Spain. The two-day Board meeting discussed the association's future strategy and to outline the path for IASP to follow as we adjust to a post-pandemic world.



NEWS

One out of three schools in South Africa doesn't have access to safe drinking water and clean sanitation. This World Water Day, commemorated on 22 March, two local innovators from The Innovation Hubs' Climate Innovation Centre SA do their part to improve the water and sanitation standards of local schools. Children aged six to 18 are most affected and most at risk of contracting waterborne diseases and are in danger of unsafe sanitation. Polluted water leads to bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases like typhoid, cholera, encephalitis (swelling of the brain), polio, hepatitis, skin infection and gastrointestinal illnesses. This could be prevented by the installation of safe water treatment facilities and processes.

Kusini Water's macadamia nut shell filtration system "Over 15 million South Africans lack access to secure water and sanitation services," says Murendeni Mafumo, Founder of Kusini Water, a project incubated at The Innovation Hub.

"We aim to change that statistic – starting with local schools," he adds. Kusini Water have invented a water filtration system that uses macadamia nut shells to filter water. "Globally, charcoal or coconut shells are the standard for water filtration, but after months of research, we found that not only are macadamia nut shells freely available in South Africa, but they carry similar properties to the abovementioned materials," says Mafumo.

The filtration system is solar-powered, saving on electricity costs, making it a sustainable project to run at local schools (energy contributes up to 40% of water treatment costs of operation).

CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS' WATER-RELATED PROBLEMS



Kusini Water's solar-powered water filtration system

This reduces the cost of production, and minimises the amount of fossil fuel in water production.

Kusini Water will be launching their site this World Water Day at Reneilwe Primary School in Temba, Hammanskraal. The launch unveils the new water treatment plant that provides clean and safe water for the community of Temba in partnership with DuPont, and the US Embassy

South Africa. They chose Hammanskraal for their water purification plant as the water contains high levels of nitrates and phosphates and it is currently not fit for human consumption.

Eco-V's GreenTower manufactured microgrids improve energy and water security in large communities such as old age homes and schools by harvesting solar energy and alternative water sources.

They aim to provide energy, water and health security as a service at 1 000 large South African urban high schools within the next five years.

"GreenTower technology conserves potable water using treated borehole water where possible and recycling greywater for toilet and garden use. Purified ozone-treated water improves health naturally by oxygenation along with microbe, fungus, bacteria and virus disinfection for drinking, cleaning and bathing," says Andre Nel, Founder of Eco-V.

GreenTower microgrids reduce utility water and electricity consumption significantly, helping local schools save on their monthly utility expenses.

"Water scarcity and pollution are major problems, not only for South Africans and our environment, but for our economy as well," says Advocate Pieter Holl, CEO of The Innovation Hub. "Innovations from entrepreneurs such as Kusini Water and Eco-V are prime examples of customised solutions to tackle South Africa's water-related problems," he adds.

The Climate Innovation Centre South Africa (CICSA) supports entrepreneurs in the clean energy, waste, water and sanitation sector and it is a collaboration with the World Bank's InfoDev Climate Technology Programme.

(<http://www.infodev.org/>).



Eco-V's GreenTower technology

INVESTMENT OPPURTUTNIES FOR LOCAL START UPS

Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) and Angel Network Botswana (ANB) collaborated to host a Deal Day (pitch day) scouting talent from BDIH innovators who have received technical and business interventions throughout their incubation/acceleration journey. The Deal Day exposed innovators to over 20+ investors & potential markets, partners, coaches and investors through the ANB & BDIH partnership.

The Deal Day featured the following 8 companies offering different solutions;

- Corrugated Minds "ShareAride": a mobile and web application solution that makes it easy to access public transport and book a seat, thereby eliminating long queues at travel times.
- Doctors E- Consult: an online doctor consultation mobile application, which is a doctor-patient consulting room on a phone or device.
- Skymartbw: an e-commerce online marketplace that is transforming the local and regional industry.

- IoT Communications: a Low Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) service that will make it affordable for individuals and enterprises to monitor the operational and safety status of their assets from the comfort of their homes.
- Ipachi Mobile Application: uses machine learning to deliver an intelligent financial management system which can seamlessly fit the lifestyle of the user.
- Scoot Logistics: provides transport and delivery solutions through a technology-based platform.
- Ked Liphi: a fully automated machine with facial recognition capabilities, auto sanitation features, auto thermal temperature detection including a unique in-built mobile application and an ID /passport scanning port for border access control and security profiling.
- Sign Coach: An assistive mobile app technology for bridging the communication barrier between the hearing and the impaired hearing members of our society.

The BDIH selected a pool of companies to participate in the Deal Day based on their solution's value and societal impact in addressing at least one of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs). The solution's stage of development with at least a working prototype, the originality of the idea and its potential to scale coupled with knowledge and capability of the team formed part of the selection criteria.

Commenting on the Deal Day, Acting CEO of Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub, Tshepo Tsheko said, "We value the importance of Angel investors in the innovation ecosystem, they provide more than money. They are hands-on investors who contribute their skills, expertise, knowledge and contacts in the businesses they invest in. We are delighted to work with ANB to support the innovators' growth and wealth creation".

Angel Network Botswana Chairperson, Mythri Sambasivan-George said, "Our very first entry into the startup ecosystem was under the auspices of BDIH (then BIH) in late 2019. Since then, ANB was formally incorporated and the board and its members, now in excess of 50 private investors, have worked passionately to build mutually impactful partnerships such as with BDIH, which we are proud of. We will continue to deliver measurable change, value and progress through mentorship, networks and quality deal-flow. We see a high potential, growing private sector in Botswana and beyond."

NEWS

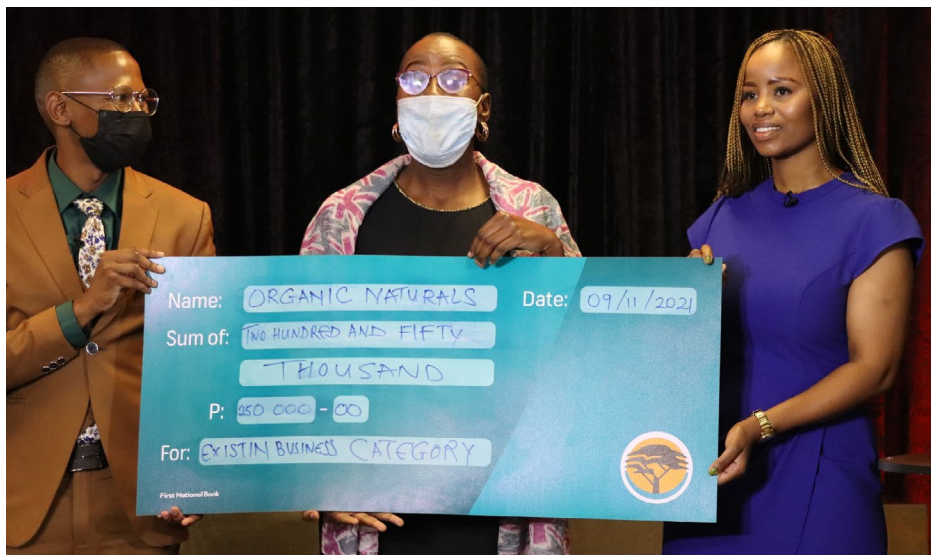
Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) entered a partnership with FNBB Foundation to support and develop Botswana homegrown innovative solutions. This partnership was initiated to provide funding opportunities to eligible entities and encourage participation of start-ups in solving new challenges posed by Covid-19.

11 start-ups were selected from a pool of start-ups within the BDIH Incubation and Acceleration Programme where they benefit from a number of interventions such as; technical advice, coaching, mentorship, access to markets, access to partner programmes, office space, subsidised corporate tax, special dispensation of the import of skilled personnel and many other tailored interventions to help them grow.

Existing Business Category:
P250,000.00

Scooping a whopping P250,000 first prize under the Existing business category was Organic Naturals Skincare. The Founder; Didintle Moreki wowed the judges with her 3 minutes pitch. Organic Natural Skincare manufactures organic, toxic-free skincare products using indigenous plants oils found in Sub-Saharan Africa. The products range from beauty, cosmetic to personal care. Organic Natural Skin Care, a brand that exists to empower an African Woman to stand Confident.

The second prize of P100,000 went to Angular Creatives Labs represented by the ever-confident Founder; Thato Kasongo. Angular Creatives is a digital marketing and advertising company that has developed a solution called Mohiri. Mohiri is a personalised job alerts service that connect low-medium skilled workers to opportunities for work by sending them alerts on their phones whenever there is a vacancy that matches their profile. Mohiri sends out job alerts to



a pool of registered members who depend on the application as a source of vacancy announcements and other career-related opportunities and content.

Startups with Prototype Category: P50,000.00

Under the Startups with Prototype Category, Doctors E-Consult won the P50,000.00 prize money. Doctors E-Consult was represented by the ever-energetic Co-Founder Loatile Nkala. Doctor E-Consult developed an Online Doctor Consultation mobile application, which is a doctor- patient consulting room on a phone or device. Online Doctor Consultation aims to reduce congestion in medical facilities and allow for effective social distancing. Beyond COVID 19, the App will reduce the burden of travelling to access a doctor. Doctors E-Consult takes convenience and confidentiality to a whole new level as it is easily accessed within the comfort of one's home.

“We acknowledge that innovation is a critical catalyst in driving Botswana’s Transformation Agenda, hence, supporting innovations requires collaborations between diverse stakeholders. We are glad to have partnered with FNBB Foundation as a notable player in the national innovation ecosystem to support innovators with funding and Market access opportunities” said Tshepo Tsheko, BDIH, acting CEO.



NEWS

There is a growing toxic threat in the world that has come with the digitization of the World. According to research many South Africans do not electronic waste because they are still unaware of the magnitude of electronic waste and pollution.

eWaste Africa a winner of the Gauteng Accelerator programme Green category 2017 recently launched their new ISO accredited electronic waste and electronic equipment recycling facility.

“The journey of eWaste Africa began when I posed the question, how does South Africa manage its eWaste,

to my surprise most lighting and electronic waste was going to normal landfill site,” says Mr Pravesh Naidoo, Founder of eWaste Africa

Electronic waste contains toxic elements that are a danger to human health and also to the environment. In conceptualising a solution to this growing problem eWaste Africa established two lighting waste recycling facilities. One in Boxburg and another in Petermaritz burg KwaZulu Natal. Both facilities have been licensed with the department of forestry and fisheries.

Adv Pieter Holl CEO of The Innovation Hub was the keynote speaker on the eWaste Launch that took place on 14th of October 2021. Adv. Holl spoke to the growing need to support companies such as eWaste Africa as they have the capability to create thousands of jobs as well as provide a positive environmental solution.

“I am very encouraged ladies and gentleman to see what eWaste Africa has done and what they plan to do for their 2030 vision. This launch is proof that it is possible in this Socio-economic Climate, adds Adv Pieter Holl.



Pravashen Naidoo, CEO, EWaste Africa

NEWS

KONZA TECHNOPOLIS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY HOLDS INAUGURAL ROUNDTABLE WITH THE T.D. JAKES FOUNDATION

The Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) has embarked on a series of engagements with the T.D. Jakes Foundation, in a move that will see the Authority tap into a global partnership network that will propel the Technopolis forward.

Speaking shortly after the inaugural meeting, KoTDA Chief Executive Officer, Eng. John Tanui termed the engagement as successful, saying it marked the start of the building of a deeper relationship between the Authority and the T.D. Jakes Foundation.

Eng. Tanui said, "We are looking at deepening our engagement with the T.D. Jakes Foundation through

quarterly meetings that will help build our relationship towards a long-term partnership in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)."

STEAM represents one of the fastest growing and highest-paid job sectors in the world.

"Through this engagement, we at Konza Technopolis are looking forward to being a platform that will not only impact Kenya but the rest of the world." Eng. Tanui added.

On her part, the President and CEO of the T.D. Jakes Foundation, Hattie Hill said the Foundation will focus on building its relationship with Konza Technopolis with a view to supporting the Technopolis' exposure to a global audience through film.

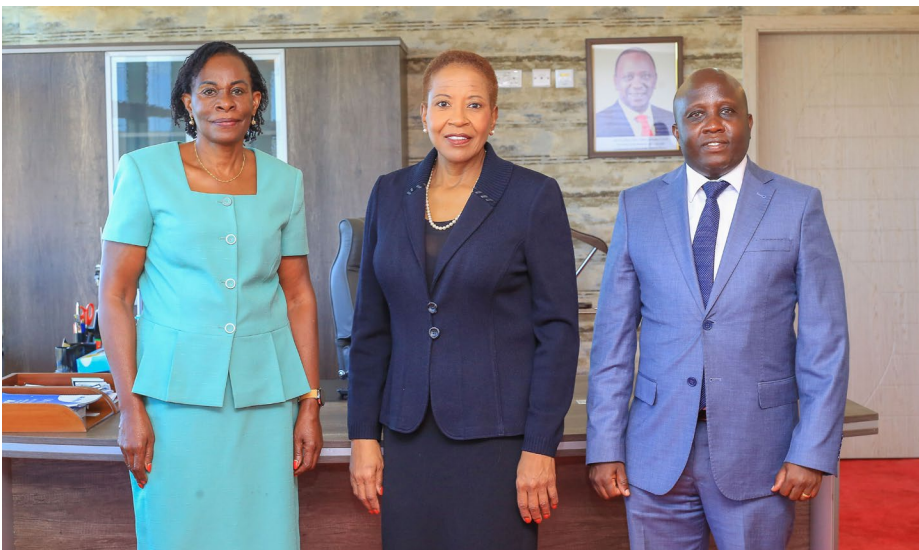
"We look forward to not only building a great relationship with Konza Technopolis Development Authority but also helping the Technopolis get the exposure it requires globally.

"In addition to film, we hope to stimulate interest in Kenya's natural product sectors which include Kenya's world-renown tourism product." The T.D. Foundation CEO added.

Speaking virtually from Dallas, Texas, Bishop T.D. Jakes described Kenya as a best kept secret that needs to be explored, adding that film is an opportunity to help stimulate conversations and shape the narrative around Kenya's opportunities.

The first roundtable meeting, which was held both virtually and physically at the Konza Complex, was also attended by the ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs Cabinet Secretary, Joe Mucheru, the Chairman of the T.D. Jakes Foundation, Bishop T.D. Jakes. A cross-section of leaders from across Kenya's business community and the academia also attended the event.

They included KCB Group CEO, Joshua Oigara, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) Director-General Professor Walter Oyawa and Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndirangu Kioni. The T.D. Jakes Foundation is a workforce development and community building foundation that is committed to building bridges to opportunity in the United States of America and around the world.



KoTDA Director, Pamela Tutui (L), T.D. Jakes Foundation President and CEO, Hattie Hill (Centre) and KoTDA CEO, Eng. John Tanui shortly after a roundtable meeting.



KoTDA Chairman Arch. Dr. Reuben Mutiso (centre) addressing some of the investors who toured Konza Technopolis for investment seeking trip.

NEWS

eKasiLabs Sebokeng has had a very exciting quarter with their entrepreneurs thriving and winning in their business ventures.

As a programme eKasiLabs Sebokeng successfully hosted an entrepreneurship workshop with the department of Trade industry and competition (DTIC) and the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), on the 15 October 2021.

The workshop was attended by 50 entrepreneurs. In the workshop entrepreneurs learned about the SPII Programme, Agro-Processing Programme, KIPP and the SEDA their trending Township and Rural Entrepreneur programme (TREP). SEDA has committed to return so as it to assist interested entrepreneurs with applications for the schemes most relevant to their business offering

Female entrepreneurs within eKasiLabs Sebokeng have been working hard to elevate their businesses and there have surley done so by winning competitions and seed money to assist them grow their businesses. LeRaw home and crafts founded by Lesego Mpshe entered the #EmpoweringHer competition sponsored by Hollywood Bets which ran from the 9th-23rd August 2021. On the 15th of September the Female lead company was notified by Nomzamo Mbatha that they had won R100 000 from the competition.

Bread is known to have dietary benefits to the body but has recently received a bad reputation for the carbohydrate load that comes from eating bread. However, incubated company Bread Shack Bakery has infused much needed nutrients. The company produced bread products infused with the Moringa plant. Bread Shack Bakery which is ran by young dynamic women entered the Shoprite

eKasiLabs SEBOKENG ENTREPRENEURS WIN EXCITING PRIZES AND AWARDS.



LeRaw Home and Crafts

Hustle competition with dreams of creating employment opportunities for others. Their dream of building up their community and creating jobs was well received by the judges and they won R50 000 cash prize and a business development programme that is worth R30 000.

The team at eKasiLabs was very excited for the incubated companies that won all these prizes and is looking forward to seeing more of their entrepreneurs winning and shinning in their entrepreneurship journey.

“It is always amazing to hear our name as The Innovation Hub eKasiLabs programme being mentioned by one of our entrepreneurs as they are thankful for the assistance that they have received from us through being part of our business incubation programme. On the 14th of October Gontse Selacoe founder of all day Jam was live on Lesedi FM and mentioned the work that we do. It motivates us to continue to do what we do as we can see the difference it is making to other people”, says James Segooa, Area Innovation Manager, Mohlakeng/ Sebokeng.

NEWS

KoTDA PARTICIPATES IN THE WORLD EXPO 2020, DUBAI

The World Expos are a global gathering of nations dedicated to finding solutions to fundamental challenges facing humanity by offering a journey inside a chosen theme through engaging and immersive activities.

The Expos are organized and facilitated by governments and bringing together countries and international organisations i.e., official participants.

The World Expos take place every 5 years since 1851 and are explicitly organised around a theme that attempts to improve humankind's knowledge, taking into account human and social aspirations and highlights scientific, technological, economic and social progress.

For 170 years, World Expos have provided a platform to showcase the greatest innovations that have shaped the world we live in today. Expo 2020 Dubai would run from 1st October 2021 until 31st March 2022.

The event was initially planned to be held in 2020 but was postponed due

to the Covid-19 pandemic. Konza Technopolis Development Authority participated in the event from 12th December 2021 to 19th December 2021. Through its theme, "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future", and its three subthemes – Expo 2020 attracted 192 countries which all had their pavilions, including Kenya. The event has Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability – Expo 2020 Dubai is the world's most impactful global incubator for new ideas. So far attracted over 17 million visitors and it has brought together countries providing investment opportunities and countries looking for investment destinations in addition to showcasing the latest innovations across the globe.

Konza Technopolis participated under the Kenyan Pavilion – within the Opportunity district positioning Konza as an upcoming smart city to the world and an attractive investment location.

Konza's mandate includes the generation of additional economic activities, attraction of investors and

development of smart Infrastructural facilities. KoTDA team pursued their interest to interact with the exhibiting countries, visitors and stakeholders of the Expo 2020 Dubai Expo and they achieved the following:

Created awareness on the investment opportunities in Konza Technopolis and positioned KT as Africa's smart city, an innovation Hub and the preferred investment destination in Africa.

Connected and networked with a huge pool of potential clients from different countries. Participated in the B2B meetings with lead companies/institutions e.g., Sharjah Media City, XAD Technologies LLC, Gains Education Group, Universiti Malaysia Saba, Smart Readers worldwide SDN BHD, Unversiti Teknologi Malaysia, NiveSal, VITRONIC, Estonia, Knightx, Lumen Spei (Croatia). Gained more knowledge on attracting and retaining investors.

Initiated deals will benefit Konza as well as the country.



Eng. John Tanui, CEO KoTDA receiving a gift from Dr. Khalid Omar, Chairman, Sharjah Media City in Dubai. Looking onto is Mr. Gideon Mwangi, Deputy Consul, General/HOC.

In early November Botswana Digital Innovation Hub in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) conducted a Technology & Innovation Support Centre programme [TISC] refresher workshop.

Organizations in attendance included Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI), Botswana International University of Science & Technology (BIUST),

Botswana College of Engineering and Technology (BCET), Botho University and University of Botswana (UB). The progress of the Technology & Innovation Support Centre Programme [TISC] included the following milestones:

- Launch of TISC at BITRI (Nov 2018)
- Certification of Scientists at BITRI, as IP professionals (Nov 2018)

- Training of core staff at BCET, on Patent searches (2019)

The purpose of the workshop was to resuscitate the programme within Botswana with each host organization. This in reference to the Service Level Agreement (SLA) signed with WIPO in 2018. Topics covered included general knowledge on IP, its commercialisation strategies, and case studies.





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