



THE 6TH ANNUAL **Green Youth** indaba 2019

#GYI2019



"Sustainable Development and youth unemployment eradication through green skills."



FOREWORD

In June 2019, Green Youth Network hosted yet another inspiring event, the 6th Annual Green Youth Indaba which took place in Pretoria, South Africa under the firm corporation of the official sponsors Standard Bank & the City of Tshwane. The programme saw a number of young people from different walks of life engaging in discussions about their participation and roles in fighting against climate change, as well as pitching green ideas through the Green Innovator's 6.0 pitch. This event represented a milestone in the green economy industry because of the involvement of these young people, entrepreneurs, and numerous industry experts.

Considering the current climate of energy challenges that we are faced within our country, refocusing on renewable energy sources is critical for long term sustainable supply of energy for economic growth and development. At the same time, it is important for us to protect the environment and the ecosystem so as to ensure that future generations' development is sustained. The Green Youth Indaba, in its sixth installment, has once again proven that through preserving the environment, the world can be a better place for everyone and how easily young people can eradicate unemployment by just being innovative.

Initiatives like the Green Youth Indaba assist in accelerating the government's impetus in advocating the aspirations of the youth by enabling them to seize opportunities that will advance their livelihoods, in addition to fast-tracking entrepreneurship and economic development. As the Green Youth Network team, we feel that this initiative will go a long way in deepening the implementation of Vision 2030 as enshrined in the National Development Plan. This is the government's plan to achieve economic development by developing infrastructure, creating employment, improving education and training innovations, as well as accelerating integrated and inclusive economic development.

Our primary objectives for this year's indaba included; building closer relationships within our green youth network, engaging with partners, sharing knowledge, and further developing a community of practice and learning within the sphere of youth 'eco-preneurship.' We aim to have

a green skills development programme which focuses on high school learners from previously disadvantaged backgrounds, university students, and young entrepreneurs.

This year's indaba was celebrated under the theme: *"Sustainable Development and youth unemployment eradication through green skills"* by ensuring that everyone in attendance gets to leave the conference as environmental champions.

The event connected young people with greening and entrepreneurial specialists, where they shared their knowledge, experiences, and expertise, as well as their many challenges. It also created opportunities for knowledge-sharing, networking, and skills transference. Green Youth Owned SMME's were given the opportunity to benefit from the green economy sector; industry experts, businesses and different government officials.



Green Youth Indaba
co-founder - Sanele Zulu

The conference was an opportunity not only to address the challenges affecting the young unemployed youth in South Africa but to publicize the extraordinary work that our young ecopreneurs and innovators are doing to overcome these obstacles. The commitment and determination of our partners to help under-served young innovators, researchers and entrepreneurs were given a significant boost by our very proud sponsors.

These young entrepreneurs are now even more determined to turn their aspirations and green ideas into reality and to spread the awareness of green skills and opportunities to the youth of South Africa.

Many thanks go to our sponsors: The Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries, Energy & Water SETA, the Water Research Council, Department of Trade & Industry, Agricultural Research Council, and many others.

Finally, I would like to say a very big 'thank you' to everyone who attended and contributed towards our wonderfully successful 6th Annual Green Youth Indaba 2019.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the 18th – 19th June 2019, Green Youth Network in partnership with Standard Bank, the City of Tshwane, Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries, FP&M SETA, EWSETA and the Water Research Commission hosted the 6th Annual Green Youth Indaba which was held at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria, under the theme: *“Sustainable Development and youth unemployment eradication through green skills”*.

The Green Youth Indaba drew over 700 participants from the green economy and environmental sector - industry experts and practitioners from national, provincial, and local spheres of government, as well as high school learners, university students and young professionals, all from the different provinces.

The objective of this year’s Green Youth Indaba was to go beyond exploring opportunities for young people within the green economy, it was to effectively explore and unpack the necessary

strategies required to enable easy access for supporting and funding green innovation and the skills transference needed to eradicate youth unemployment and poverty. This is aligned with our theme for 2019: *“Sustainable Development and youth unemployment eradication through green skills”*.

The Green Youth Indaba does not only educate young people about the do’s and don’ts associated with looking after the environment, agriculture, solar power, and everything green, but also provides them with ample opportunities they can attain within these fields. In the same manner; the Indaba generates/practical ideas that may decrease poverty and elevate employment. This spectacular event invited entrepreneurs and speakers from different provinces to motivate and instil a sense of independence, as well as confidence, in the youth through several workshops that were held over the two days.



Green Youth Indaba 2019 Key Pillars of Discussion:

1. Youth Unemployment
2. Waste Management & Recycling
3. Skills Development
4. Water Conservation & Wetlands Management
5. Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
6. Sustainable mobility & Transport
7. 4th Industrial Revolution



EVENT ACTIVITIES

Exhibitions

Different organisations, both from the private and public sector manned exhibition stands where they educated people in attendance on what their organisations deal with and what they offer with regards to growing the green economy.

There were 25 exhibitors at the Green Youth Indaba 2019, mostly were from corporate, government and civil society.

Green Youth Indaba 2019 Exhibitors:

1. Standard Bank
2. The City of Tshwane
3. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
4. National Metrology Institute of South Africa (NMISA)
5. Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA)
6. Transnet
7. Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)
8. Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA)
9. Department of Trade & Industry
10. Department of Environment of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries EPIP
11. Water Research Council
12. Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
13. Green Matter
14. Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA)
15. Aflu-Gardens
16. GAD Consulting Services
17. Chickens for Africa
18. South African National Accreditation System (SANAS)
19. Voila! Feel Beautiful
20. Grow a Tree
21. Eskom Expo for Young Scientists
22. Department of Science & Technology
23. Agricultural Research Council
24. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
25. Alex Industrials



CSIR International Convention



The Main Event



Day 1: 28 June 2019

The 6th Annual Green Youth Indaba was wonderfully directed by the programme director of the day, Weza Matomane a young corporate MC, voice-over artist, etc. The Acting Mayor of the City of Tshwane on the day, MMC for utility services Cllr. Abel Tau officially welcomed all in attendance at the conference.

Since this year's Indaba sought to advance sustainable development not only in the country but in Africa as a whole, it included Prof. Siphamandla Zondi, the Head of Political Science at the University of Pretoria.

Ms. Zanele Thwala, the CEO of one of the event's headline sponsors, Standard Bank's Tutwa Foundation was the first to give an official partner's address and strongly expressed how excited Standard Bank was regarding how the event talks to some of the key topics they are passionate about. She also mentioned how the Green Youth Indaba provides the bank with an opportunity to contribute and invest in solutions that create jobs for young people.

In her presentation, the Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries' EPAC Director, Carina Malherbe talked about how 15.8 million people between the ages of 18 and 65 years are not economically active, however, the department is trying to change this by assisting youth through upskilling and training them in various fields including construction, dressmaking, gardening & fishing.

The Acting CEO of EWSETA, Ms. Mpho Mookapele also addressed the youth of South Africa on how to contribute towards a sustainable SA. EWSETA has shown this commitment by partnering with the GYN for the past 5 years, helping run the Green Youth Indaba. She emphasised how young people should come to the organisation with ideas and solutions, and not only to seek funding as EWSETA will assist everyone so they can help each other move South Africa forward.

Still in the spirit of eradicating youth unemployment, Mr Dhesigan Naidoo, Water Research Council CEO, stressed how the country needs radical transformation by having more women entrepreneurial representatives as the green economy is essentially one of the most lucrative economies in the world with opportunities that can be leveraged by young aspiring entrepreneurs, more so females.





The event was also graced by royalty, where His Royal Highness Prince Entornam Attipoe of the Anlo Kingdom in Ghana, shared his entrepreneurship journey as a young African, the challenges around it and the rewards thereof.

Mr. Hritik Mitha, a 16-years-old high school learner from the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists, gave a presentation on his project Improving the Harnessing of Solar Energy using a Hybrid Photovoltaic Thermal System. The project emphasised on increasing energy efficiency through solar energy and his project prototype was also exhibited at the Indaba.



There was a parallel session after tea break where we had the high school learners in attendance getting informed of and helped to understand the Sustainability Development Goals through WESSA's SDG board games which gave them insight on how the global aims impact the youth and what they can do daily to assist in achieving the 17 Goals by 2030.

In addition to the numerous presentations, we had different panel discussions where delegates used this as an opportunity to ask questions and to find inspiration and solutions. The discussions were very interactive and gave practical solutions to the delegates' queries.





Day 2: 29 June 2019



The second day started on a very high note courtesy of our MC for the day, the very graceful Dineo Molokoane. A young business professional, accredited facilitator and a professional speaker who has an incredible love for social development.

We had Mr. Sello Mphaga, City of Tshwane's City Sustainability Divisional Head as the first speaker and he shared the municipality's plans of ensuring that the city goes completely green.

Mr. Kobela Mokgohloa, a young Executive Director of an agricultural farming business, Korema Farms gave a short presentation on their agricultural business, the challenges, lessons, and success of running it. The objective of the session was to expose delegates to great innovations and businesses owned by young people in order to inspire more youth to have innovative ideas in growing green businesses while allowing potential funders in attendance to see funder ready projects and/or businesses.

In addition to all the young innovators that graced the Indaba, Keira van Niekerk, a high school learner and one of the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists' silver medallists, presented on her project the Transfer of Electricity Using Induction Coils which was also exhibited at the Indaba's exhibition area. The innovation explains the scientific process and sustainable benefits of using Kinetic energy as an alternative source of energy.

Our special guest and keynote speaker, Dr. Liaqat Alli Azam alongside Ms. Camila Motani gave a high-spirited address and challenged the youth to lead like Mandela through transformational values-based leadership skills. On the same wavelength, they also opened an extended invitation for the young people in attendance to join them and other youth contributing towards change around the globe at the Global Youth Summit to be hosted in April 2020 in Johannesburg. Dr. Liaqat is the Director of Leading Like Mandela, while Ms, Camila Motani is the Secretary-General of the Global Youth Sustainable Development Goals Assembly.

Three-panel discussions ran consecutively as per the day's programme. *Access to Training & Funding for Green SMMEs* panel facilitated by Ekasi Entrepreneur CEO Mr. Elvis Sekhaolelo, was the most welcomed discussion and young people heavily engaged with the panelists while they (panelists) gave practical solutions to these engagements and identified opportunities within their different sectors.

EWSETA's Ms. Tsholofelo also gave a brief presentation on skills development programmes, critical skills shortages and opportunities for youth within the energy sector especially for young SMEs to work with the organisation. Ms. Pinky Mokwena, One Of 4 Miss Earth South Africa 2018/19 Ambassadors (Miss Water)'s stellar presentation, provided emphasis on linking skills and knowledge to grow the green economy. Her presentation was on *multi-disciplinary vocational interlinking to drive the message of the green economy building* which emphasised how young people shouldn't only focus on one thing to create their own cumulative career in the green business by including everything that is of interest to them.

Green Matter, Transnet & NYDA also explored Green Skills Development and entrepreneurship opportunities that exist in the green economy. They did this in a panel discussion facilitated by Mr. Chamuware Ketano, a greening ambassador.

As part of the programme, the Green Youth Indaba had announced a call for Research Papers in March, where young researchers, innovators, and consultants were given an opportunity to submit abstracts on their research papers, concentrated on the Green Youth Indaba 2019 focus area of discussion. This saw two successful applicants get the chance to be part of a panel discussion that allowed them to discuss their papers, resulting in obtaining input from experts and specialists in their respective chosen focus area.

The delegates later dispersed for different breakaway sessions as per below:

1. The Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries' Youth Employment and Skills
2. Standard Bank's Green Financing
3. Water Research Commissions' Contribution to Agricultural Economy







GREEN INNOVATOR'S 6.0 PITCH COMPETITION

The Green Innovator's Pitch 6.0 competition took place on the 18th June 2019, with a Pre-Pitch Bootcamp on the 10th & 12th June 2019 respectively.

Every year, as part of the Green Youth Indaba, young South African inventors, innovators, green entrepreneurs, green start-up companies, green small companies, universities, students, and science councils, are invited to showcase their Green Technology Businesses and green ideas. This takes place at the Green Innovators Pitch, as part of the Green Youth Indaba.

This year's pitching brought together a large group of vibrant young entrepreneurs from various sectors of the green economy, who were determined to put their businesses on the map. The pitches represented high-potential enterprises in the ideation, prototyping and high-growth quadrants. The quality of the experience was assured by the high-level panel of adjudicators who were sourced from banking institutions, state SMME agencies, chartered accountants, sectorial education training authorities (SETAs) and SMME network bodies.

The journey began with a call for applications being made through various media channels, youth, and SMME networks. The call yielded a positive response with over 200 applications received, which were narrowed to 100 of the most promising entrepreneurs.

Due to a large pool of applicants, this year's Bootcamp had to be separated into two days and the venues were based on where most applicants reside. On the 10th June 2019, at the City of Tshwane's Es'kia Mphahlele Hall, some of the 100 screened hopefuls gathered for a one-day pitching boot camp where they were tasked with preparing a three-minute elevator pre-pitch, which they were to present on the day. Then on the 12th June 2019, at BAT Centre in Durban, another portion of the 100 gathered for a similar session. Prior to their presentations, the adjudicators gave a talk aligned to their field of expertise from a business advisory perspective and furthermore gave tips to the entrepreneurs on how to best present their business case.

The day was dedicated to the presentations and constructive feedback from the adjudicators, after which the entrepreneurs were scored accordingly. Other Entrepreneurs were given a chance to send their 3 minutes pre-pitch videos on the respective days should they not be able to attend the Bootcamps. This allowed for entrepreneurs to stand a chance to be part of the Green Innovators' Pitch 6.0 Top 10 finalists at the main event.

After much deliberations from both Bootcamps and WhatsApp videos, the top ten finalists advanced to the final stage of the competition, where they presented a refined version of their business case to a credible panel of adjudicators.

At the main event, the top ten finalists competed through their refined pitches for the first, second and third positions. This saw all hopefuls eagerly competing for the main prize on the first day of the Indaba on the 18th June 2019 at the CSIR Convention Centre, Pretoria.

The announcement of the winner and prizegiving were made on the 19th during the plenary session, directed by Dr. Roche Mamabolo, founder and CEO of LORA Centre of Innovation. This saw 2018's Green Innovator's Pitch Runner-up, Palesa Pads who spoke on their experience as prize recipients, mentorship benefits, challenges faced and also gave a bit of advice to the young people in attendance.

Emphasis was made on how young people should move with the times and upskill themselves for the 4th Industrial Revolution because current times require a unique use of our technical qualifications to solve unaddressed problems in society. This includes being innovative, coming up with solutions for sustainable development and eradicating unemployment.

*Dr Mamabolo went on to announce the winners whose prizes were presented by **Green Youth Network CEO Mr. Sanele Zulu**, with the winners being as follows:*

 <p>first place</p>	 <p>second place</p>	 <p>third place</p>
<p>The Green Bar, manufactures produce and supplies smokeless fire (coal) and fire extinguishing products made from recycled agricultural by-products (no animal waste) specifically treated to eliminate any harmful toxins.</p>	<p>Siya Buddy, aims to manufacture bricks and roof tiles from plastic.</p>	<p>Umzamo Wethu, produces and sells fresh Tomatoes to major supermarkets in the community.</p>



AFTER CARE PROGRAMME

As part of their prize, the three winners received mentorships post the event.

They had a conversation with Entrepreneurial Specialist Dr Mamabolo. This conversation was to best understand what they do in their respective business, their challenges and solutions to tackle those challenges.

1

Green Bar (Tebele Ramonyai)

Tebele works as a procurement official at the Department of Correctional Services.

He has a couple of businesses he runs which include:

- Envirotrim: Branding products including water, juice and wines bottles to event organisers so they can put a brand behind their products
- Distribution of waterless fire-extinguishers
- The Green Bar is the latest product that he is involved in.

While Tebele is not a shareholder in the business that develops the Green Bar, he has an MoU with the Green Bar manufacturer to sell the brick.

These business activities are run part time, which includes selling the Green Bar at R45 per brick, resulting in less than 20% of the profit margin.

2

Siyabuddy (Nomuntu Ndhlovu)

Siyabuddy was established by 2 partners in a recycling and buy-back centre in Mpumalanga.

Highest sales of the business have been about R300,000 per month, the average sales range between R250,000 and R300,000.

The business is not profitable yet, Nomuntu and her business partner have since been allocated a Business Mentor as part of the SAB Foundation competition prize that they won.

At the moment, the business is renting premises at the local municipality on a 5 years lease.

They have 21 staff members, 9 full time employees and 12 other employees on 1-year contracts. Both partners are full-time participants in the business.

Siyabuddy has 4 trucks they secured via an IDC loan and have signed financial statements.

3

Umzamo Wethu Cooperative (Nothile Dhlodhlo & Zakhele)

This is a 6 members cooperative that runs a farm which has so far planted tomatoes, green pepper and cucumber on 4 tunnels.

The cooperative has also planted spinach, cabbage and onion on outside spaces [outside of the tunnels]

For the months of May, July, July and August had made roughly R12,000 and one of their clients includes Spar in Ethekwini.

The market is wide open and they have additional space in the farm.

EVENT MILESTONES

Delegates had an opportunity to network with industry experts, entrepreneurs, and government officials from well-known organisations around the country.

The turnout was good – well attended and the event was dominated by youth.

- The event was a huge success.
- Delegates accumulated knowledge and insights on the opportunities available within the green economy.
- Providing ongoing mentorships for the Green Innovators Pitch 6.0 Prize Winners.

