

TRANSNET



Foundation

**Transnet Foundation - working for a
healthy, productive, sustainable
South Africa**



About the Transnet Foundation:

Investing in the people of South Africa

The Transnet Foundation is the corporate social investment (CSI) division of the Transnet Group. The Foundation's responsibility is to implement socioeconomic development projects on behalf of the company.

Transnet is one of South Africa's top corporate citizens, with five divisions that form the core of the country's transport and logistics network: Transnet National Ports Authority, Transnet Port Terminals, Transnet Rail Engineering, Transnet Pipelines and Transnet Freight Rail.

The company's vision for business success is linked to a healthier, skilled and safer society. The Foundation focuses on five strategic areas: education, health, sports, arts and culture, and containerised assistance to strengthen service delivery.

Staffed by a talented and passionate team of professionals, the Foundation is determined to contribute to a healthier, well-educated and skilled population that can contribute to South Africa's economic success. In 2009/10 the Foundation spent R89.4 million on CSI projects.

Where opportunities exist to strengthen development projects, the Foundation will consider entering into partnerships with other organisations. The Foundation also provides once-off discretionary funding for deserving communities and non-profit organisations working in the Foundation's focus areas.

This brochure provides a brief introduction to our work. To find out more, please contact us. See the back cover for details.



All aboard the health train

Phelophepa means “good clean health”, which is exactly what Transnet’s travelling health clinic provides. The train visits rural areas adjacent to railway lines on a nine-month journey that spreads hope from station to station. The 18-coach train provides a general health clinic, optometry and dental care, as well as a pharmacy and psychological counselling.

Since Phelophepa began riding the rails in 1994, it has brought primary health care to some 18 million disadvantaged South Africans. Each person is treated with respect. As health portfolio manager Lynette Coetzee says: “We are not chasing numbers, we treat everyone with dignity and respect.” The project aims to educate and empower communities so that people are more aware of their health and can take better care of themselves. The train also provides a valuable learning experience for the health care workers and students who make the journey. In 2008, Phelophepa received the United Nations Public Service Award in the category of improving the delivery of services.

Vision for the nation

Every year the number of patients needing optometry increases, with over 20 869 patients registering for the Phelopepa eye clinic in 2009. The clinic provides eye tests, spectacles, and the diagnosis of and referral for various eye conditions. These visits have lasting impact on people’s lives. As one patient said, “I was struggling to see, but now that I have got glasses, I will see everything.”



Getting ahead through learning

Science, Engineering and technology skills are in short supply in South Africa. The Transnet Foundation's Sharp Minds! Get Ahead in Life project, launched in 2007, aims to improve the quality of education in these fields, encouraging learners to get excited about Maths and Science as subjects required for the careers in these fields. The project targets Grades 10 to 12 learners.

In 2008/09, 400 learners and 160 Maths and Science educators were selected for the two-year programme. Participants attend Saturday classes to prepare for the National Senior Certificate exams. The project achieved a 92% pass rate out of 367 Grade 12 learners who sat for the matric national examinations in November 2009. Sharp Minds! also supports learners with career guidance and assistance with applications and bursaries for tertiary institutions. At a teaching level, Sharp Minds! addresses the lack of curriculum knowledge with an educator development programme. The Transnet Foundation has provided additional support to the project with new buildings or infrastructure upgrades at four learning centres in Free State, North West, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo. These state of the art facilities provide learning hubs for schools in the target districts. The programme continues to grow, with two new centres in Durban South in KwaZulu-Natal and Saldanha in the Western Cape.

A success story of sharp minds!

Nondumiso Ndlovu and Welile Mlambo are one of the many success stories of Sharp Minds! Nondumiso and Welile live in a village in KwaZulu Natal. They are cousins and very close. They attended the same school, and joined Sharp Minds! at the same time. Through perseverance, hard work and motivating each other they were determined to succeed against all odds. They wrote matric in November 2009 and both got 4 distinctions in Maths, English, Life Sciences and isiZulu and performed above 60% in other subjects. Nondumiso and Welile received Transnet bursaries to study engineering. Welile is studying towards a Bachelor degree in electrical engineering (heavy current) at the university of KZN and Nondumiso is registered for Bachelor Degree in Metallurgy at Wits University. "I thank Transnet Foundation for having confidence in me, when I did not have confidence in my abilities", said Nondumiso. "The Sharp Minds! programme was a blessing from God for me because it encouraged me to take my studies seriously and excel in everything I do. I can now see the light at the end of the tunnel!" concluded Welile.

Kicking off a healthy future

Sport plays a vital role in developing healthy bodies and healthy minds. The Transnet Foundation is increasing its investment in sports programmes to address social problems and build self-confidence among disadvantaged young South Africans.

The Foundation's rural and farm schools programme provides coaching and umpiring training courses at rural schools where academic performance has lagged. This initiative is currently focused in Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, the Free State and North West. The programme reached 15 000 learners in 2009 with initiatives in soccer, netball and athletics, and 90 educators were trained as professional coaches. In addition, life skills training programmes give learners a valuable set of skills to be successful in the future. This project has received national recognition, winning the Mail & Guardian Investing in the Future award in 2008. The Foundation also provides continuing support to the SAFA Transnet Football School of Excellence, which aims to nurture talented soccer players from all provinces.

Investing in positive values

The Foundation's life skills workshops, alongside its sports development programmes, help to build self-confidence and self-discipline. A recent two-day workshop in QwaQwa, Free State, provided participants with leadership and communication skills, self-empowerment and crucial information on HIV/Aids, teen pregnancy and drug abuse. Transnet invests in the future by instilling positive values in the leaders of tomorrow.



Arts and culture for the nation

South Africa's rich and diverse culture needs to be promoted to survive and flourish. The Transnet Foundation supports the growth and development of local artists, and disadvantaged communities' access to the arts. Our initiatives encourage the growth of cultural industries, along with the development of individual talent to enhance our country's contributions to world culture.

The programme's main focus is on creating economic opportunities for artists through enabling access to the arts. The Foundation invests in Village Green Fair at the ever-popular Grahamstown National Arts Festival, which showcases the breadth of our national talent. To support this annual event, Transnet provides craftspeople with sustainable resources and on-site infrastructure, as well as aid and practical assistance to disadvantaged crafters, teaching them valuable entrepreneurial skills.

Every year Transnet sponsors an Internal Choirs Competition for its employees and community members, developing young artists and building company spirit. This competition has produced professional-class soloists.

All the world's a stage

The Playhouse Company Theatre is Ethekwini's leading theatre organisation. In partnership with the Playhouse, one of five partnerships with theatres across the country, Transnet's Theatre Trucks bring the performing arts to hundreds of thousands of people every year. These mobile stages are an affordable, original way of nurturing community-based artists and the performing arts, reaching new audiences for a more culturally enriched society.



Infrastructure for a safer society

Transnet Foundation has developed a unique containerised infrastructure programme. One of the key focus areas is crime. Crime is a national issue, but it is in disadvantaged communities, where services are often poor, that help is most needed. An innovative Transnet Foundation programme, in partnership with the South African Police Service (SAPS), supports the fight against crime in these communities. We provide refurbished shipping containers, fully fitted with lighting and computers, to serve as office and meeting spaces to improve safety and security, and to boost residents' communication with SAPS. The programme is being enhanced to support the expansion of other community services.

Containers against crime

The Kagisho, Northern Cape police station benefited from the installation of containerised infrastructure with five containers in March 2009. The containers have increased police productivity and improved community access, resulting in an increase in crime reporting. The installation of five containerised police offices in crime-ridden Dundee in KwaZulu-Natal has been a success, with a sharp increase in the number of community members using police services.

A boost for social services

The Nkomazi-Mgobodzi multipurpose centre provides social services for previously neglected communities near Malelane in Mpumalanga. Thanks to Transnet's provision of containerised infrastructure with eight containers, people no longer have to travel over 60km to access welfare services. The centre, opened in March 2009, hosts social workers and trauma counsellors, and provides welfare grant application assistance and home-based care for HIV/Aids sufferers.





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