

GROWING THE ECONOMY, INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITIES



"We exist for something bigger than ourselves, we carry the hopes and dreams of this region" - ELIDZ CEO Simphiwe Kondlo

LEADING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - EST. 2002

The East London IDZ's (ELIDZ) efforts to attract strategic investments have been met with tremendous support from all three spheres of government. As a state-owned entity the ELIDZ was allocated 465 hectors of land by the local Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality to develop.

Supported by the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism for operational costs and the Department of Trade and Industry for capital projects, the ELIDZ has laid a fertile ground for investments to land and thrive. **To date, the organisation has attracted 40 operational investors worth R8 billion into seven thriving sectors.**

Designated in 2002 to champion economic development in the Eastern Cape, the story of the ELIDZ is one of triumph. At the time of designation, little was known about the IDZ programme, how it would unfold and deliver on the mandate. However, with ailing regional Industrial Parks and the rising unemployment rate at the time, government needed a change agent and that is how the growth-inspired ELIDZ was born.

"We were given a provisional permit to operate back in 2002; we knew that our mandate was far greater than what was presented to us. We carried the hopes and dreams of our people. However, we were going to act as implementation agents of a programme that was new and we were to convince investors to come locate within our Zone," said ELIDZ Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Simphiwe Kondlo.

At the time, the ELIDZ had to identify an anchor sector, which they would locate investments in. The thriving sector at the time was the automotive sector with various other promising sectors, such as agroprocessing and aquaculture. "We had to go for a sector that would support government efforts to revive the economy of the province as well as make us attractive to foreign investors. We approached various companies including Mercedes Benz South Africa, East London Plant for a needs analysis and possible synergies. In our efforts, we had to ensure that we provide solutions to challenges facing the local automotive industry," said Kondlo.

Converting a greenfield site into a world-class industrial estate took a considerable time with the ELIDZ completing the infrastructure development phase in 2005. In the same year, the ELIDZ also welcomed its first three investors worth R_{188} million.

Fast forward to 2014, the investment value had grown from R600 million in 2009 to more than R4,2 billion with 28 operational investors and 2497 full time employees. "At the time we had intensified our efforts to attract strategic investments into the Zone, following our diversification into other sectors in 2008," said Kondlo.

In the same year, the Zone was a hive of activity with five facilities under construction in the Zone 1A precinct of the IDZ. The five investments paved the way for 25 more investors that landed between 2006 – 2011, almost trebling the value of secured private sector investment from R1.2 billion to R3.4 billion.



Growth inspiring investments that landed in the Zone in the past five years

DIAMOND CUTTING AND POLISHING INVESTMENT

Meek Mines South Africa Pty Ltd, a 100% black-owned company, which cuts and polishes diamonds mined in Africa for supply to both domestic and foreign markets, will be investing R423 million into the Eastern Cape's economy. Meek Mines will export 80% of its product to Belgium and the Middle East while the remainder will be supplied to the local jewellery industry. The company took over an existing facility within the ELIDZ and is placed within the General Manufacturing sector. The company plans to create 150 job opportunities.

LATEX MANUFACTURING

Nulatex Condoms South Africa, a 100% black-owned pharmaceutical company which will be manufacturing male and female condoms and other latex products from a facility in Zone 1A of the ELIDZ, is investing R79 million into the provincial economy and plans to create 300 direct jobs. This first investor in the ELIDZ's pharmaceutical cluster has already signed an offtake agreement with the Provincial Department of Health for the supply of their latex products.

YEKANI MANUFACTURING

In 2018, Yekani Manufacturing launched a R1 billion smart factory into the ELIDZ Information Communication and Technology & Business Process Outsourcing sector. The manufacturer of an array of signature electronic devices and supplier of Samsung, Panasonic and Multi-Choice, is the first black industrialist to locate within the IDZ's Zone 1B precinct. Additionally, the company is the beneficiary of the DTI's Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Fund and Black Industrialist Scheme (BIS), the government's financial support programmes aimed at accelerating growth of manufacturing in the country.

With a noticeable youthful and reportedly 90% female employ, Yekani Manufacturing has set themselves a target of over 1000 jobs in a phased-approached over the next two years.

CLARITER SOUTH AFRICA

Clariter South Africa, an innovative global group with more than 14 years of operational experience, opened its pilot plant in the Zone. The joint investment with the Industrial Development Corporation is valued at R290 million. With a wide range of patented technology and clean-tech solutions for the world, the company seeks to address the plastic waste problem facing South Africa. The company will convert plastic into a family of solvents, oils and waxes, and is in-line with the highest industry standards.

As part of its Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises development, Clariter SA will source the raw material from emerging businesses around East London.

INVESTMENT **ATTRACTION TRENDS AND THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

The current ELIDZ investment pipeline has more than 60 potential investors with an investment value estimated at **R13 billion** (bn), an employment potential of 7,921 direct jobs and a land requirement of **200 hectares**.

Despite the gloomy local economic outlook, the ELIDZ remains attractive to potential investors looking to locate or establish their operations in East London. The company continues to implement various initiatives to increase its competitiveness and appeal to this market, as such plans are afoot to ensure that a considerable number of the 60 plus potential investors locate their operations within the Zone. Although this is not an easy task and will be a phased-approach, during 2018/19 five investment agreements were concluded with an estimated investment value of R 819,5 m. The plans have started yielding success for the IDZ.

As part of the expansion of the Automotive Supplier Park, the ELIDZ Board has approved seven new projects to the value of R2.1 bn. These projects will create a total of 1240 direct manufacturing and services jobs and will take up **91 000 m²** of factory space.



CHAMPIONING GOOD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Good corporate governance is the foundation for sustainable value creation and has over the years proven to contribute to long-term equity out performance.

The ELIDZ firmly believes that compliance with legislation and the application of best practice principles is integral to effective corporate governance. The positive spinoffs of these principles are value creation through improved reporting to shareholders, greater transparency and disclosure, improved quality of management and accountability.

However, the organisation notes the heightened focus on governance of state-owned entities (SOEs) by investors, media, interested groups and rating agencies. To that end, the ELIDZ's governance practices are robust and on par with international standards.

According to the ELIDZ's Chief Executive Officer, Simphiwe Kondlo: "The ELIDZ's approach to governance extends beyond regulatory compliance, with open, frank and balanced disclosure being at the foundation of our governance framework."

Beaming the light on the last five years, the ELIDZ has been a worthy recipient of globally recognised certificates from globally acclaimed International Organisation for Standardization (ISO). ISO is an independent, non-governmental international organisation with a membership of 164 national standards bodies.

As a responsible corporate citizen, the ELIDZ has over the years subjected its processes to ISO accredited and appointed audit firms, which were certified to be on par with international standards.

These certificates include:

- Quality Management System QMS ISO 9001:2015
- Environmental Management System EMS ISO 14001:2015
- Occupational Health and Safety Management System
 OHSAS ISO 45001:2018
- Information Security Management System ISMS ISO 27001:2013

"We operate in an environment where SOEs are put under the magnifying glass by the media and civil organisations for unscrupulous practices. It is therefore imperative that we subject ourselves to these audits in order to streamline our processes, root out any malpractices and ultimately improve stakeholder relationships," said Kondlo.

Meanwhile, he added that the notable positive spinoff of the ISO audits and subsequent certification is the consistency in clean audits received from the Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA) by the ELIDZ. A clean audit relates to three aspects; the financial statements are free from material misstatements, there are no findings on the annual performance report and lastly, there are also no findings on non-compliance with key legislation.

"Just like many SOEs we are required by law to subject our operations and processes to AGSA. As such, the ELIDZ Non-Executive Board of Directors decided that we needed to find practical and efficient measures, which would ensure that our processes are on par with the government mandate from taxpayers," he added.

In 2017, the Black Management Forum (BMF) honoured the ELIDZ with the 2017 Board of the Year Award for epitomizing excellence in their business dealings. This was testament to the Board's unwavering commitment to the three Es of Effective Board Leadership, engage, enable and encourage.



ENGINEERING GROUND-BREAKING SOLUTIONS TO GROW INDUSTRY



The ELIDZ Science & Technology Park (STP), an entity which exists to coordinate innovation initiatives through supporting start-ups and incubation, has kept its pledge to facilitate links between research and industrial communities and stimulate the development of knowledge-based businesses through the incubation of techno-preneurship and high-tech enterprises as well as target sector specific businesses.

This science park forges ahead with its mission to elevate the Eastern Cape Province into a regional hub for innovation and technology development. To that end, the STP has cultivated a fertile ground for innovation and technology ecosystem to thrive, and continues to evolve its service offerings in a bid to help regional innovators stand amongst the best in the world.

The STP channels supportive initiatives and resources to seven major sectors, i.e. renewable energy, electronics, pharmaceuticals and chemicals, information and communication technology, manufacturing, agro-processing and aquaculture. From the seven mentioned above, the technology clusters contribute to devising innovative solutions for technology and renewable energy based challenges.

"The first science park to be attached to an IDZ in the country is host to three business incubators. Two of these focus on Information & Communication Technology businesses and the other on emerging enterprises in the Chemical Industry," said STP Operations Manager, Ludwe Macingwane.

Through the science park's incubation programme a number of new renewable energy technologies have been innovated. *[See side bar on the right]*

The STP's three-year-long incubation programme has assisted more than 300 incubatees. These incubatees are housed within the STP.

The STP support provided to SMMEs include the following:

- Access to markets through networking events hosted by the STP
- Funding facilitation through networks with funders
- Training on certification, IP management, business management, corporate governance and other business-related initiatives to build them for the future
- Links to research and development through the partnerships that the STP has with the local and international institutions of higher learning.

"Our support to these emerging entities is not limited to what we can do for them but what the programme through other STP-associated organisations can do for them. We are registered with the International Association of Science Parks (IASP). The IASP platform allows us to gain international best practice on supporting entrepreneurs, which also assists companies associated with our science park," said Macingwane.

Macingwane added that partnerships forged with other science parks in the country are aimed at helping incubates in the programme access additional support such as mentorship in technical and business acumen.

TWERLY - a Renewable Energy Source that is powered by a Vertical Axis Wind Turbine and PV Panel. The Twerly can be used as a street light, a Wi-Fi hotspot for businesses, universities and schools, or to house a surveillance camera for use in the security industry.



THE HEAT RAIDER - is a waste heat harvester from existing refrigeration and cooling system and is designed for commercial applications to make the cooling process more efficient, saves energy and produces free hot water, therefore takes the geyser off the grid.



THE HOT SPOT - a geyser sleeve manufactured from EPVC/ SPVC plastisol that is fitted over any geyser-heating element to transfer hot water from the bottom of the geyser to the top using the thermosiphon principle. The sleeve is fitted over the hot element with normal temperature ranging from 30-60 degrees Celsius.



THE CAS LAB

The STP also houses a Consulting and Analytical Laboratory - the ELIDZ CAS Laboratory. The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) accredited Lab offers businesses and municipalities premium water, microbiology testing and analysis. The laboratory has also recently expanded its service offering to 14 accredited methods including food testing.

THE DESIGN CENTRE

This science park is also home to a design centre fully equipped with the latest technologies in 3D drawing and printing.

"The 3D Design Centre was established with the sole aim of assisting both established and emerging entrepreneurs, researchers and industry with rapid prototyping. The facility offers premium support services, through laser cutting and engraving, 3D printing and machine milling," said Macingwane.

She added that the design centre has since establishment been utilised by ELIDZ investors, individuals and businesses from the region. "This centre has attracted a lot of attention from schools and institutions of higher learning as well. As such, the University of Fort Hare uses these facilities to conduct practicals for their students."

IMPILOYETHU BIOMETRIC APPLICATION

Impiloyethu biometric application is a portable medical biometric devise and software that will be linked to a cloud database to give doctors or registered users access to subscribed members full medical history and personal information. Impiloyethu biometric application will be available on handset mobile devices.

Assistance to be provided by Impiloyethu biometric application varies from adding patients on the database, scheduling appointments, updating medical history information and retrieving it from the cloud storage via a cellphone, biometric devise or desktop webpage.



SAFE PASS

The Safe Pass gives drivers a clear view of the road ahead of a slow moving obstructive vehicle, such as trucks and buses, allowing them to overtake safely. Having a clear view of what is ahead will help people make better decisions on when to make a safe pass.

This innovative system utilizes a proprietary camera that is fitted onto obstructive vehicles. The camera then transmits live video feed of the road ahead. With a vehicle-based receiver and screen or the use of a smart device with the Safe Pass application, drivers wishing to overtake vehicles will be able to sync with the video stream to be able to see the road ahead, without putting themselves or other road users at risk, before attempting the overtaking manoeuvre.



AT THE FOREFRONT OF PIONEERING NEW SKILLS

The ELIDZ Centre of Excellence, located at the STP, serves as a platform for innovation and skills development in the renewable energy sector.

The centre supports research, development and innovation in the energy sector, informing and influencing policy decisions and supporting human capital development in the region.

The centre continues to produce the required personnel needed for the expansion of the green economy, thus giving promise to the steady positive transformation of the skills profile of the province and region in particular. Since establishment and through the partnership with the Master Artisans Academy of South Africa (MAASA), the centre offers various internationally accredited training programmes to support the growing renewable energy sector.

"The partnership with an accredited institution has seen the centre reach its full potential and beyond. As such, through MAASA we offer training programmes guaranteed to give young South Africans a chance at contributing to the economy of the province and widen the skills base. These programmes include:

- Training electricians and electrical engineers in the installation of photovoltaic systems
- Solarteur Training Programme, an internationally accredited 18-month programme for renewable energy professions offered only at the centre," said STP Operations Manager, Ludwe Macingwane.

Over a period of five years, the blissful marriage between the two like-minded institutions has seen over 400 students exit the programme as certified Artisans in different disciplines.

"This centre also houses a Smart Laboratory, one of two Energy Simulation Laboratories in the country that has a capacity of simulating Electric, Solar and Wind energy sources. The Lab is well-positioned to assist relevant energy roleplayers to take advantage of the advent of Independent Power Producers (IPPs). It will also act as a hub for skills development in the region, offering specialised training and research opportunities to students from partnering institutions of higher learning like University of Fort Hare, Walter Sisulu University, Buffalo City College as well as industries," added Macingwane.

The centre is testament to the strong collaboration among academia, the private sector, and government in the area of renewable energy. To this end, the Centre of Excellence is in line with the ELIDZ's strategy to unlock existing investment potential of the region and to tactically position the province to attract more strategic investments.

OVER



BROADENING EC'S ECONOMIC BASE THROUGH SMME DEVELOPMENT



The ELIDZ's coordinated effort towards broadening the economic base of the Eastern Cape Province continues to yield positive results for Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs).

Through the organisation's progressive and inclusive policies, the ELIDZ has over the last five years awarded growth-propelling contracts to emerging businesses.

According to ELIDZ Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Gift Matengambiri following an SMME empowerment analysis conducted by the organisation in line with target sectors, the organisation developed an SMME guide to assist in the process of acquisition of goods and services. "Through the various documents that we developed to support this guide, we undertook to promote, empower and support local business enterprises as well as persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination," he said.

Matengambiri added that the state-owned enterprise aligns its efforts to those of local, provincial and national government. "Our government needs all the support it can get from business and as such, we aim to do our bid in growing the economic base and participation of SMMEs in the process," added Matengambiri.

Furthermore, the organisation adheres to all regulatory prescripts and legislation governing how SOEs should issue and enter into contracts with third parties. To this end, the company established a supplier database for all companies interested in doing business with the ELIDZ. An interested entity can collect a supplier database form at the ELIDZ reception or download it online.

Meanwhile, the ELIDZ contracts awarded to SMMEs over the past five years amount to more than R290 million, a 38% spend on emerging businesses in the region. Matengambiri says the negative economic growth rate of the republic in the years under review fostered budget constraints in many companies.

"The country faced various challenges, including disinvestments and credit downgrades, which left the economy relatively unattractive to foreign direct investment.

Despite this gloomy economic outlook, through our procurement unit, we were able to award meaningful and growth propelling contracts to emerging businesses. This is but one arm of the support given to SMMEs in the region. The other arm is offered through our Science & Technology Park where we offer more comprehensive support to qualifying SMMEs," said Matengambiri.



A word from the SMMEs CEENO SOLUTIONS PTY LTD

The ELIDZ's SMME development efforts are not limited to direct transactions from the business to an emerging entity, but also include subcontracting on major contracts received by big industry players.

This was the case with Ceeno Solutions PTY Ltd, a 100% black owned and female owned Information and Communication Technology (ICT) company.

In 2016, Ceeno Solutions formed a partnership with a multi-national ICT company through their Enterprise Development Programme, which is meant to provide the necessary business development support and access to market. At the time, the respective multi-national company had been awarded a contract by the ELIDZ and chief amongst the conditions of the contract was SMME development.

"As a result we were awarded a growth propelling three-year professional services contract for provision of various technical services in the areas of network infrastructure. This includes providing resources as and when required for various projects during the contract period," said Ceeno Solutions Managing Director: Ziyanda Tshoni.

Tshoni added that the contract between the two big entities benefitted her company through training of its employees and development of their technicians.

The company has since grown its client base to include University of Fort Hare, Buffalo City Metro Municipality, Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, Eastern Cape Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

"We currently have four staff members under our employ and our core services include End User Computing, Service Desk, Microsoft Services, Email Support, Applications Support, Networks Installations and Support, Audio Visual Support and Maintenance. However, through collaboration with the client we are able to customise our services to offer a more solutions-driven service to suit the needs of our client." she said.

Tshoni is determined to grow her business to become one of the big players in ICT in the region and one that will provide affordable IT solutions to emerging businesses. "ICT companies tend to forget about the promising SMME market and focus their attention on big contracts. We will obviously focus our efforts on those, but will also offer customised solutions to growing businesses in the Eastern Cape Province," she concluded.

LUNIKA INVESTMENTS

Lunika Investments, a family-owned SMME business founded in 2012 by the Mxunyelwa brothers (Siyabonga, Samkelo and Buhle) has been making remarkable strides with their building and civil construction holding companies.

One of the three managing directors in the company, Buhle Mxunyelwa said: "The main area of focus for the building construction and civil construction holding company is being a specialised entity in the trades we undertake and to deliver the required quality on time."

He added that one of the most important missions for the company is to ensure clients are always happy with the organisation's quality output.

Through its holding company, Lunika Construction, the company has a staff compliment of 60 people. With the third phase expansion of the Automotive Supplier Park, Lunika Construction has secured contracts at the ELIDZ.

"As a growing company we pride ourselves on certain specialised trades, especially those in civil works. As such, most of the jobs that we have created have been in civil construction. With our upward facing trajectory amidst challenges in the SMME sector, we are more than hopeful that we will increase these employment numbers," said Mxunyelwa.

"The current projects at ELIDZ are fantastic for local SMME contractors because they provide a platform for enterprises to grow their expertise," he added.

LEADING JOB CREATION IN OUR REGION



FRANCIS NKANDU YEKANI MANUFACTURING

When Zambian-born Francis Nkandu, 27, moved to South Africa in 2011, he carried with him hopes and dreams for a brighter tomorrow. Understanding the impetus education has towards achieving one's dream, Nkandu enrolled with the Buffalo City College in East London for National Certificate Vocationals (NCVs) in Electrical Engineering where he obtained his N6 Qualification.

In September 2018, following a successful launch of Yekani Manufacturing in June of the same year and the subsequent start of production in August, Nkandu was employed as one of the operators at the state-of-the-art plant. His responsibilities at the 100% black-owned company included overseeing Solder LCD and PC boards. "Because what we do requires a person with a know-how, I work between two departments – Arris and OEM. These are critical departments for our production lines," he explained. At the launch of the smart factory in June 2018, Yekani Group Chief Executive Officer, Dr Siphiwe Cele revealed that the plant would create 1000 new jobs in a phased-approach over the years. Nkandu said: "I recall reading about this in the newspapers and hoping to be one of those to be employed by the biggest ICT investor in the Zone. At the time I was working for previous employer, little did I know that I would be part of this company," added Nkandu.

"I am grateful for the confidence Yekani Manufacturing has shown in my ability to carry out my duties effectively, efficiently and diligently without constant interference. In a production-driven plant, interference from superiors comes as a second nature but not at this plant. They have given me a job and an opportunity to grow," he concluded.



DAVID HAMMOND YEKANI MANUFACTURING

Family man, David Hammond relishes the opportunity he was granted by Yekani Manufacturing in March 2019 to lead a team of like-minded individuals. This loving father assumed his responsibilities as a Quality Supervisor at the East London-based ICT Smart Plant at the beginning of March.

"Having been a resident of the City for the past 38 years, I somewhat grew accustomed to types of jobs that are available in the market. With factories closing down in the city, the job market is dwindling and the prospects of obtaining a quality job are next to none. However, that outlook changed when I got this job, it was not all too bad after all," he said.

At the plant, Hammond is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the company maintains quality output on all its products. "One would understand that in a manufacturing environment, we all have to put our best foot forward to ensure a state of being free from defects, deficiencies and significant variations is maintained. As such we adhere to strict international standards that ensure that we achieve

uniformity of a product in order to satisfy specific customer and user requirements," he said.

He added that his functions also entail overseeing, coordinating and investigating. "The boundaries for these responsibilities extend into almost all areas of Yekani Manufacturing," added Hammond.

When this dedicated family man is not at work, he enjoys spending time with his family or looking after the sea creatures at the beach. "I am passionate about the environment and all that surrounds it."

Meanwhile, he mentioned that none of this would have been possible had he been unemployed. "My employment at Yekani has afforded me a number of opportunities, from personal growth to job satisfaction. Having the opportunity to work alongside colleagues who share the same goal in a world-class environment is fulfilling. Yekani, through the ELIDZ, directly support my well-being. The same is then transferred through to my family," he concluded.



YANDISA MNGUNI KGI BPO

With youth unemployment in South Africa estimated at 54.7% as at the end of the fourth quarter of 2018 by Trading Economics, the chances of finding fulltime employment are becoming smaller by the day. This is the dilemma KGI BPO's Campaign Manager, Yandisa Mnguni, was faced with early in 2018 as he recounts his story.

"Growing up in Alice like any other child I had high hopes for the future. After matriculating at Adelaide Gymnasium, I enrolled for a National Diploma in Business Management at Damelin College. Whilst busy with my studies a thought came to me that I needed to get a job to support myself. I started talking to people and that is when I learned of the job openings at KGI BPO," said Mnguni.

In September 2018, he was employed as a service consultant and was later in the year promoted to

Campaign Manager. Mnguni said his management philosophy of putting people first and recognising their dynamism has been the main contributor to his team's success."I share the same philosophy with most of my peers and it has been the foundation of our motivation," added Mnguni

This young and dynamic leader is appreciative of the opportunity to lead a team and grow his skills as manager in the fast growing field of business process outsourcing. "This employment has opened doors for me in terms of growth and learning and continues to unravel character traits of a good leader."



LUTHO MNYANDA KGI BPO

Master of Educational Psychology graduate and Campaign Manager, Lutho Mnyanda shares the story of determination and triumph.

"I was part of a pool of unemployed graduates until I learned of Harambee youth accelerator for unemployed youth in the region," he said.

The timing was perfect as untimely frustrations were starting to fill heads, he said. "I got an opportunity to form part of the programme that offered many of us hope. At this point one had to forget that they were in position of a formal qualification but grab the opportunity with both hands as we were taken through an eight weeks bridging programme."

At the time, KGI BPO, the first business process outsourcing company in the Zone 1B precinct of the ELIDZ had just opened its doors for business and was on a recruitment drive for call centre agents. "The training gave me as well as others a competitive edge as we were employed as service consultants in September 2018," he said. Through hard work and commitment, Mnyanda quickly moved up the ranks to Team Leader and Campaign Manager responsible for one of the BPO's campaigns. His responsibilities entail leading a team of 10 service consultants and making sure that the company optimises on its most important resource, its people.

"Being employed has had a positive impact on my life in several ways. The most important one is obviously getting a salary every month."

Mnyanda lauds the company for giving him an opportunity to grow his knowledge and skillset as well as interact with other likeminded individuals at the ELIDZ Science & Technology Park.

"Working in this environment allows me to meet new people every day, engage and expand my circle. This is especially beneficial because creating networks is important and having relationships to be able to grow personally and business wise," he concluded.

THE ELIDZ PROGRESSIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

As part of the ELIDZ's programmatic approach to skills development in the province also lies a need to make experiential learning opportunities available to young deserving graduates from the Eastern Cape Province.

The ELIDZ's internship programme is aimed at providing graduates of up to 35 years of age with an opportunity to get the much needed industry experience in different fields, build relationships and demonstrate value to potential employers.

Since inception of the programme, the organisation has granted an experiential learning opportunity to over 180 graduates from the province. Moreover, the programme continues to contribute towards growing the pool of experienced graduates in the province.

This growth-inspired programme is two-fold, the first year serves as an introductory phase where the respective interns receive on-the-job training and are assigned experienced mentors. The second phase, Junior Professional, is centred on allocation of more responsibilities and the intern works independent of the mentor.

Because the organisation understands the needs of young graduates, it also offers these budding professionals an opportunity to obtain their driver's licenses. This offers the graduates a competitive edge in an already competitive job market.

What the current interns have to say...

PANGOMSA NTONJANE:

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PARK INTERN

I was without employment for a year, so this pportunity couldn't have come at a better time t is a kick-start towards my career."

Ntonjane has grown with great strides since starting out as an intern in February 2018 and is now in the second phase of the internship programme.

"The ELIDZ internship programme is a great initiative which affords unemployed graduates an opportunity to gain valuable work experience," concluded Ntonjane.

NOMAXHOSA MQABA: PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INTERN

"It was my first job interview ever and I remember being so nervous, but I refused to let my nerves get the better of me. I knew what the opportunity meant for me as a young graduate, more especially living in a country with high numbers of unemployed graduates," she said.

Furthermore, she said being afforded the opportunity to be part of this growth-propelling programme has granted her an opportunity to learn about other critical aspects of industrial properties.



GRADUATES HAVE GAINED EXPERIENTIAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH OUR INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



GRADUATES HAVE BEEN Employed By the Elidz

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What the former interns have to say...

ASIVE NOAH:

FORMER COMMUNICATION INTERN

Former ELIDZ Corporate Communications ar Marketing: Intern and Junior Professional, Asive Noah, now plies her trade as Lovedale College's Marketing and Communications Officer. This is one of many graduates to go through the programme who is also passionate about imparting knowledge onto others and is being paid for doing what she loves.



Reflecting on her internship journey at the ELIDZ, Asive said she values the knowledge and skills transferred to her by her mentor and the whole Corporate Communications and Marketing team as a who

"My internship prepared me for where I am now and am grateful that I formed part of such a small team, where I was not only limited to marketing duties but also got to assist in various other aspects for efficiency and effectiveness of the sub-unit."

YOLANDA MNIKINA: FORMER LABORATORY INTERN

FURIMER LABORATURY INTERN

I he ELID2 internship programme provides a number of benefits for its recipients and one of those is to identify future job opportunities and turn the internship into a full-time employment. That was the case for one former ELIDZ Laboratory intern, Yolanda Mnikina who was just five months into her internship when she was employed by the ELIDZ as a laboratory assistant.

"Since the beginning of the internship, I had always hoped that I would ultimately be a full time employee of the organisation. I just never anticipated that it would happen so soon."

Mnikina says her mentor encouraged her to apply for the internal position which she saw as a vote of confidence in her abilities to perform the required duties.

"My mentor exposed me to all aspects of lab work. On the onset, I was hands on – I got involved in verification of equipment and capturing sample results and preparation for analysis, to mention a few," said Yolanda.

OUR CSI INITIATIVES

Corporate Social Investment (CSI) occurs when businesses use money or resources for projects that improve the world around them, without a direct financial benefit to the company. The ELIDZ has not been an exception to what other corporations are doing across the globe.

As the front-runner, the ELIDZ has aligned its efforts of attracting investors into the region with those of ensuring that the environment is not compromised in the process and communities reap rewards. To ensure that there is no deviation from this commitment, in 2006, the organisation approved a CSI Policy, which outlines the organisation's areas of support and acts as a guide. The areas include education, social and community development, sport and youth development as well as enterprise development.

Guided by this policy, over the past five years the ELIDZ has delivered key CSI projects, which sought to address the social needs of communities. This support has amounted to over **R3.5 million**.

According to ELIDZ Executive Manager: Corporate Affairs and CSI Committee Chairperson, Nomsa Makhoba, over the past years, 75% of the CSI budget has gone towards education.

"Our programme focus areas are informed by the needs of the community. Our CSI support is facilitated through a collaborative effort with the Ward 46 Councillor and the ward committee members. As such, annual calendar events focusing on Ward 46 are informed by requests that come through the Ward 46 leadership and it happens that education still ranks amongst the greatest areas that need support in this area", she said.

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"These annual events include a bursary programme, back to school campaign for local schools, support to day care centres as well as the annual Rally to Read Campaign for schools in the greater Eastern CapeProvince," said Makhoba.

The remaining spend is then distributed amongst the other focus areas by improving community-based infrastructure, enhancing social cohesion and projects directed at food security and poverty alleviation, supporting sporting tournaments and providing for youth development programmes in terms of skills and entrepreneurship development.

> Day Care Centre

EMPOWERING A LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUB

Troubled by the challenges that face in-school and out of school youth in the Leaches Bay community in Ward 46, a group of concerned community members started a football club in a bid to provide an alternative for the local youth after school. This is the story of the Diplomas Football Club (Diplomas FC), a club that now represents the Leaches Bay community in the SAB League.

According to the Diplomas FC Manager, Thozamile Sigonyela, the soccer team has become a great revelation for youth and sport in the community. "Even though the team was started due to a clarion call from community members, we have since introduced junior teams with hopes to introduce a female team for young girls," said Sigonyela. He added that Leaches Bay is known for boxing but not every young person has the heart to take a jab for a living, he laughed.

In August 2018, Diplomas FC were recipients of a full soccer kit and training equipment from the ELIDZ. The sponsorship formed part of the organisation's focus on youth and sport development through its CSI programme.

"In the history of this club we have never received any kind of sponsorship. As such, it has been very hard for our three teams to honour football fixtures as we only depended on one kit for all three. What the ELIDZ did for us will not only benefit the immediate two communities (Sunnyridge and Leaches Bay), but it will have a ripple effect to all surrounding communities," he said.

Sigonyela praised the ELIDZ's efforts and contribution towards social cohesion as sports plays a pivotal role in uniting communities.

Furthermore, speaking on behalf of the players, the club's captain and striker, Sisonke Mkhatu, said the sponsorship was a good investment towards sports development in the community. "The gesture eased the burden on our football club manger as he always had to devise means to ensure that the kit is clean before any of our teams take to the filed," said Mkhatu.

ELIDZ EXTENDS A HELPING HAND TO THE COMMUNITY

Community development is not only a responsibility of government but other keen role players as well. This critical human-centric duty is what drove community members in Gompo - a township outside of East London - to start the Masivuke Community Development Project.

The non-profit-organisation supports 300 people including orphans, the elderly, vulnerable children and their families. Its work includes teaching hygiene, HIV/ Aids awareness and vegetable gardening. During the week the organisation runs a soup kitchen for children and the elderly from the township. The centre through its volunteers also capacitates both the elderly and out of school youth with entrepreneurial skills such as beading and sewing.

In July 2018 and as part of the ELIDZ's Nelson Mandela Month CSI initiative, the Masivuke Community Development Project was identified as one of the organisations to receive support as it embodies the late Statesman's vision.

On the day, ELIDZ employees and the state-owned-entity's Board of Directors swapped their corporate wear for more suitable casual clothing as they lended a helping hand. The activities of the day included laying out of a lawn, cooking for the elderly and children, and playing indigenous games with the community members that came to show their support. Additionally, the organisation donated a fridge, sewing machine, yoga mats and weights as requested by the non-profit organisation.



Masivuke Community Development Project, Project Manager Phumeza Kwababa said the organisation's service bouquet is growing by the day owing to the increasing social ills in Gompo and surrounding communities.

"We appreciate organisations that have opened up their hands to support this noble cause. This to us means that there are many organisations that care for surrounding communities," she said.

Furthermore, ELIDZ Board Chairperson, Professor Mlungisi Makalima emphasised the importance of supporting the development efforts of such organisations. "Needless to say, basic human needs such as healthcare and education are one of the key sectors we could use to foster socio-economic development within our communities. As the ELIDZ, it gives us great pleasure to be able to support our children and the elderly," said Makalima.

ELIDZ BURSARY PROGRAMME

Central to its mandate of attracting foreign direct investment in order to grow the economy of the province, the ELIDZ established a bursary programme.



The objective of the bursary scheme is to encourage Mathematics, Science and Technology-related higher education within the province and contribute towards building scarce resources in the region.

Currently in its sixth year, the bursary scheme supports matriculants who have excelled in their studies and wish to pursue studies in Mathematics, Science and Technology-related fields. The minimum requirement for the Eastern Cape born hopefuls is 60% in Mathematics and Science subjects.

Through this bursary programme the organisation commits to providing deserving matriculants with a bursary worth R50 000 to study at a higher institution of learning of their choice.

Through the Corporate Social Investment (CSI) wing, the ELIDZ awards new bursaries every year based on academic excellence and financial need.

In its endeavour to ensure effectiveness of the programme, the ELIDZ partnered with the Mathematics, Science and Technology (MST) Skills Development Foundation to ensure a smooth implementation of the bursary scheme. The MST is an initiative by Amahlumela Research, Sustainability and Education Foundation and South African Black Technical and Allied Careers Organisation in the Eastern Cape together with the Department of Education in the province.

While the aim is to reach out to the province, special attention is also given to immediate neighbouring communities in Ward 46 in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, which covers, inter alia, Greenfields, Orange Groove and Leaches Bay.

Since its inception in 2014, the organisation has spent more than R2.5 million on the bursary scheme, produced five graduates and currently supports 11 students studying towards a wide variety of disciplines focusing on rare skills-related to Mathematics, Science and Technology. Such include Analytical Chemistry, BSc Medical Laboratory Science, BEng Mechatronics, BSc Geosciences and Actuarial Mathematics.

This bursary scheme requires students to maintain a minimum average of 60% for the organisation to continue funding their studies.



Usisipho Mzimba BEng Mechatronics 2nd year student

When Usisipho Mzimba moved from Ngqamakhwe to East London with her family in 2009, she was worried that the change in environment would affect her academic performance, however, that was not the case. Instead, she excelled, raking in a few academic awards.

Mzimba, who describes herself as a very outspoken and determined young lady, said she has always been a hard worker. In 2017, she completed her matric at the East London Science College and was declared as one of the top performers at the school.

"Because I knew the cost of tertiary education in South Africa and how my family would struggle if they were to take me through school. During the year, when I was busy with my studies I started sending out bursary applications to few bursary schemes in the country. However, my efforts were fruitless," said Mzimba.

However, this second year student was not about to give up. "I am one who is not easily discouraged, I continued with my quest for financial assistance until I heard on the radio that the ELIDZ bursary scheme was calling on matriculants to submit their applications," she added.

In 2018, Mzimba was admitted into the ELIDZ bursary programme and started her journey to becoming a qualified mechatronics engineer, a scarce skill in the Eastern Cape Province. This as she enrolled with the Nelson Mandela University for a Bachelor of Engineering in Mechatronics.

"Being mindful of the challenges afflicting rural and township students such as marginalisation, I am very grateful to organisations such as the ELIDZ for doing their bid to reverse the trend."



Xhanti Milisa Majova BSc Actuarial Science 2nd year student

Xhanti Milisa Majova from Mt Frere is one of many students who were presented with a life-changing opportunity by the ELIDZ, a chance at obtaining a tertiary education.

Majova was awarded the ELIDZ bursary in 2018 after completing his matric at Umtata High School in 2017 and says it was a huge relief for his family.

"I really thank the ELIDZ for granting my family and I a chance at a prosperous life," said Majova.

The 2nd year BSc Actuarial Science student at the University of Cape Town (UCT) says receiving the bursary motivated him to work harder so as to retain his funding and make the company proud.

"I am very dedicated to my studies and promise to return with excellent results that will gratify and signify my appreciation for the opportunity I have been given. I hope to make, not only my family proud, but the organisation as well," he concluded.



Siviwe Tyobeka B.Com: Accounting graduate

Raised by both parents in Sunnyridge, East London, a community within the Ward 46 area and matriculating from George Randell High School in 2014, Siviwe Tyobeka is a young woman enroute to achieving her dreams.

Tyobeka said she was excited about her new journey and that she had always dreamt of becoming one of the few female black Charted Accountants (CAs) in South Africa.

"That was the inspiration behind my choice of study. I enrolled for a three year degree programme (B.Com Accounting) at the Nelson Mandela University with intentions of also furthering and completing the Honour's programme, as it is one of the requirements for qualifying as a CA (SA)."

Towards the end of her first year in university, she learnt of the ELIDZ bursary scheme through a family friend and that she should apply. Following a mandatory interview, her application was successful and was subsequently awarded the bursary.

Upon receiving the financial support, she saw this as a lifetime opportunity demanding of her to grab it with both hands. "I knew I had to play my part by working hard and completing my studies," she said.

After completing her first degree, she furthered her studies and obtained an Honours degree at the same university.

This young vibrant professional is currently in training as Trainee Accountant at one of the big audit firms, Deloitte.

"I am closer to reaching my dream as I will qualify as a CA (SA) at the end of my training contract. This wouldn't have been possible had it not been for the ELIDZ bursary scheme which played a vital role in my career development," she concluded.



Qaphela Magaqa BSc Geoscience graduate

A young man from Dutywa completes, arguably, one of the academically demanding qualifications in the 21st century, Bachelor of Science (BSc): Geoscience.

Elated ELIDZ bursary beneficiary Qaphela Magaqa was conferred his BSc Geoscience degree at the Nelson Mandela University on the April 9, 2019 in a ceremony that was attended by both his proud parents.

Magaqa joined the ELIDZ's bursary scheme after completing his matric at the respected St John's College in Mthatha.

Magaqa thought to try his luck with the IDZ's bursary scheme seeing that he met the minimum requirements. This young lad was only too pleased when he received the great news.

"Being awarded the bursary alleviated a lot of strain from my family and it inspired me to work even harder and make my family proud," he said.

He added that even though he was elated with the news, he started thinking of how the tertiary environment would be like for a person that relied on his parents and teachers for support. "I knew the change would not be easy, as one would have to be responsible for both their actions and time. However, the MST Skills Foundation made this transition seamless through their round-the-clock support," he added.

"Even though I was faced with difficulties in my final year, their support sustained my sanity."

Meanwhile, he describes that moment of walking up the stairs onto the stage to receive his degree as his greatest, thus far and says he was blessed to have his family present.

AERIAL MAP OF THE EAST LONDON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE













TI Automotive



MC –Synchro The company assembles tyres and rims for supply to Mercedes Benz South Africa

Feltex Autmotive Trim A leading supplier of a wide range of quality automotive acoustic and trim component which include moulded carpets, sound insulators, sun visors, wheel house liners, boot

packages for Original Equipment

Manufacturers (OEM). **Feltex Fehrer** Produces seat pads and head rests

for Mercedes Benz South Africa.

Auria Feltex

Manufactures tuffed carpets for supply to sister companies, Feltex Trim and Caravelle Carpets, who supply Mercedes Benz South Africa.

TI Brake and Fuel Pipes Assembles brake and fuel pipes for Mercedes Benz South Africa.

ELIDZ TENANTS











Feltex Caravelle

Manufactures loose-lay carpets for supply to OEMs including Mercedes-Benz South Africa, VW and Toyota.

Foxtec-Ikhwezi

Supplies high volume Forged nonferrous products for automotive and engineering industries.

Yanfeng Automotive Interiors Produces Cockpits, Overhead Systems and Door panels for the Automotive Industry.

Linde+Wiemann

Manufacture and supply seat frames, seat slides, height adjusters, recliner mechanisms, as well as metal surface treatment in the automotive sector.

TI Automotive Fuel Systems Assembly of fuel tanks for Mercedes Benz South Africa.



voestalpine ONE STEP AHEAD.



















voestalpine Manufacture cold-formed structural parts and assemblies for the automotive industry.

Molan Pino Manufacturers of polypropylene foam components, cold cured polyurethane components and cut foams for OEMs.

ZF Lemförder SA Manufacturers of axle sets for the automotive industry

Vehicle Delivery Service VDS utilises the East London IDZ state of the art Vehicle Storage Centre. The facility has the capacity to store 2 500 vehicles under cover and a further 1154 in open parking.

ILB Helios Spanish company producing solar panels units.

Clariter

Converts plastic waste into high-grade chemical liquids of outstanding purity.

Yekani

Produces kit assemblies, along with complete component procurement, CKD and SKD production within the ICT sector.

Sundale Dairy

Established in 1981, Sundale Dairy produces dairy products such as milk, maas, cheese and yoghurt for distribution throughout the Eastern Cape Province.

Nulatex SA

Manufacturing of latex products (condoms) for the pharmaceutical sector.

Meek Mines SA

Cuts and polishes diamonds mined in Africa for supply to both the domestic and foreign markets.

RGbrose

















RG BROSE

German Based company manufacturing door systems for MBSA W205.

BOYSEN

Boysen develops and manufactures exhaust manifolds, catalytic converter silencers and exhaust systems.

Automould (Pty) Ltd

AUTOMOULD specialises in high quality technical plastic injection moulding and ancillary operations for the Motor Industry and other OEM's

Milltrans

Milltrans is one of the leading competitors in the freight transport industry. The company has a fleet of 28 trucks and 78 trailers.

Bigfoot Express Freight

An independent express distribution company offering distribution & fulfillment solutions to clients throughout South Africa.

DSV

Logistics and supply chain management services.

Mediterranean Shipping

Company (MSC) Depots (Pty) Ltd Responsible for container handling facilities in Southern Africa. The depot is responsible for the movement and storage MSC containers.

Frotek

Manufacturing of plastic products for the automotive and ICT sectors.

Reinforcing Steel Contractors

RSC provides reinforcing solutions to the building, civil, mining and engineering markets, including the supply, cut, bend, delivery and fixing of reinforcing steel.



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The East London IDZ Science and Technology Park has established a 3D Design Centre that is aimed at assisting entrepreneurs, researchers and industry in rapid prototyping. The facility offers premium support services, through laser cutting and engraving, 3D printing and machine milling. Our services, capability and capacity are as follows:

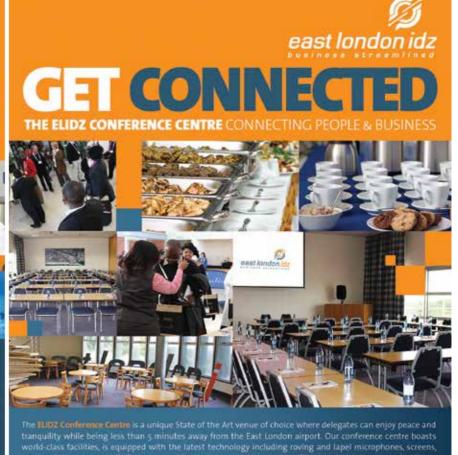
LASER CUTTING/ ENGRAVING

Our machinery can laser cut up to 8mm thick Acrylic and engrave on almost any colour. Typical materials used are; MDF (Supawood), Commercial Plywood, Samboo, Laminated Hardboard with Wood Fin

CNC LATHE MACHINING

Our machine utilizes the latest technological innovation and is optimized and engineered to be able to handle small to large volume runs, without compromising speed or quality of your product. Materials include, alloy Steels aluminium, brass, bronze alloys, carbon steel, fron, stainless steel, plastics etc.





The **EUD2 Conference Centre** is a unique State of the Art venue of choice where delegates can enjoy peace and tranquility while being less than 5 minutes away from the East London airport. Our conference centre boasts world-class facilities, is equipped with the latest technology including roving and lapel microphones, screens, overhead projectors and DVD equipment. Our in-house catering service offers hearty à la carte meals, African Cuisine and standard conference packages. Our conference facility also offers a serene venue ideal for business seminars, corporate conferences, company launches, executive planning sessions etc.



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