

Dear reader

Social investment has been around for decades. In the early days, the practice usually involved identifying worthy projects and making grants. For some companies, this is still the case. Although there is nothing inherently wrong with this approach, we are increasingly seeing a more innovative and strategic approach to the way companies contribute to society.

New forms of collaboration are being tested and companies are starting to invest in thought leadership and high impact projects to ensure that sustainable and long-term social change is realised. When one thinks of the scale of societal need and the power of corporations to make a difference, thinking out of the box is to be welcomed. Most encouragingly, companies are now recognising that CSI is just one element of a complex relationship with society and that integrated and shared-value thinking are fast becoming the norm.

Enjoy the read!

1 NEW ON THE TRIALOGUE KNOWLEDGE HUB



Learn more about the potential of the [social enterprises](#) model to ensure that non-profits and small businesses are sustainable, while

still maintaining their social purpose.

[Read more here](#)

2 CSI THAT LEAVES A LASTING LEGACY

In early 2018, Trialogue partnered with the Vodacom Foundation to present a forum that focused on how corporate donors could help to ensure the sustainability of the projects that they fund, through capacity-building and other non-financial means of support.

[Read more here](#)

3 HOW COMPANIES CAN HELP TO REALISE SYSTEMIC CHANGE

As global and local debates about how to build more equitable societies gain traction, we are also seeing a growing number of companies thinking about their developmental work in more strategic ways and questioning the long-term impact of their efforts. This year's Trialogue Business in Society Conference explored why companies should be compelled to help make the societies in which they operate more equitable and sustainable; some of the risks associated with supporting social justice work, and how these can be mitigated.



[Read more here](#)

4 DEMYSTIFYING MONITORING AND EVALUATION

For most development practitioners, the term 'monitoring and evaluation' (M&E) doesn't require an extensive introduction. The importance of organisational measurement cannot be overstated in the world of CSI, in which millions of rands are spent annually on social development programmes that yield little systemic change or sustained impact. In the current edition of The Trialogue Business in Society Handbook, Jennifer Bisgard, co-founder of M&E consultancy Khulisa Management Services, writes about why M&E needs more rigorous design and consistent implementation.

[Read more here](#)

5 NEWS FROM THE GLOBAL EXCHANGE



Trialogue is the Southern Africa Local Authority of the CECP Global Exchange, uniting country-based, mission-driven corporate societal engagement organisations to advance the corporate sector as a force for good around the world. Three organisations have recently joined the Global Exchange: The

Conference Board of Canada, the Corporate Social Responsibility Association of Turkey, and the Donors Forum Russia.

[Read more about the CECP Global exchange here](#)

6 FEATURE IN THE NEXT TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY HANDBOOK

This widely-referenced publication provides comprehensive and reliable data and thought leadership on corporate social investment and broader responsible business issues. It is distributed to a wide range of funders of social development, including companies, state-owned enterprises, provincial and national government departments and universities. Registered NPOs are invited to list in the 21st edition of the Handbook, to ensure visibility to corporate funders of social development. NPOs listed in this edition will also be featured on The Trialogue Knowledge Hub.

[Read more here](#) or contact **Mahlo Maku** for more information: mahlo@trialogue.co.za.

7 HONE YOUR CSI SKILLS

Trialogue invites Cape Town-based CSI practitioners looking to develop their skills, to an interactive two-day workshop on 26 and 27 September 2018. The workshop will be facilitated by Trialogue founder and managing director, Nick Rockey.

Contact **Mahlo Maku** to book your place: mahlo@trialogue.co.za

8 NPO COLLABORATION



The Western Cape Collaboration Dialogue, a knowledge-sharing platform for NPOs, will host a session on challenges in collaboration, on 13 September.

[Read more here.](#)

